



## GREAT BASOTHO BAKE OFF?!

LINK-AGE is a newly introduced programme run by the LINK staff in Lesotho which is designed to equip young people with some of the necessary skills to face life and its many challenges. This is done through a programme of activities modelled loosely on the scouting movement where youngsters are encouraged to get certificates (like badges). The clubs operate in three different age groups where the skills taught to the youngsters are relevant to their age group. The children and teenagers learn through participating in a range of activities which include canoeing, kayaking, climbing, team games, environmental education, basic computer skills, money management andí baking!

Baking has proved to be great fun and very popular with the participants. They learn basic, simple ways to bake cakes that do not cost a lot of money. And of course they get to eat the results! This particular session is led by a staff member, Likhabiso, and one of the LINK's new instructors, (Lepheane Motsøane) ðRastaö who, it transpires, is also very good at baking!



### WHAT? WHY? WHERE? ó and some of the answers!

If you have ever asked the questions: what is the Durham Lesotho LINK? Why do we have it? Where is it going? we have the man who can give you some of the answers!

Joseph Morenammele, who is the Executive Officer of the LINK in Lesotho, will be visiting the Durham diocese, along with his wife Lineo, from October 4<sup>th</sup> ó 13<sup>th</sup>

You can meet him by kind invitation of Bishop Mark and Elisabeth who are opening their home **Monday October 6<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm** ( not 7pm as previously advertised) .This will be one of our LINK prayer and information gatherings starting with a buffet meal together. Elisabeth has kindly offered to provide refreshments but asks that if you are coming you bring a pudding. It would be helpful for catering purposes if you could e mail Margaret Bianchi on [dleo.bianchi@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:dleo.bianchi@tiscali.co.uk) by October 1<sup>st</sup> to indicate if you intend to be there. We hope you will be ó we are sure you will not be disappointed!

## TWO NEW FACES FOR THE LINK

The trustees of the Durham Lesotho LINK are delighted to announce that they have appointed a new treasurer, Antony Friswell, who takes over the post held by Alan Dent for the past nine years. Antony is married to Rev. Caroline Friswell (priest in charge at St Peter's Byers Green) and can be contacted on 01388609436 or [antony.friswell@btinternet.com](mailto:antony.friswell@btinternet.com)



LINK-AGE members on the Lake

The trustees are also delighted to announce that they have a new minutes secretary, Andrea Pritchard, who volunteered to take over this task from Elisabeth Bryant,

## A DIFFERENT TEST FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

It might come as a shock to readers in Durham to learn that in Lesotho school children get tested for AIDS. What is even more startling is that any child who is 12 years and older is legally allowed to be tested without parental consent. But the reality is that testing and treating adolescents is becoming a critical part of Lesotho's campaign to fight the third highest prevalence in the world. Most new infections are in young women who are up to three times more likely to get infected than young men, this is because the opportunistic nature of the disease makes females more vulnerable than males. Globally AIDS related deaths amongst adolescents increased by 50% between 2005 and 2012.

This does not make for cheerful reading but hopefully it will inspire more informed prayer for the country of Lesotho, its schoolchildren, and also for the work which the LINK does in its AIDS education awareness programmes

## PRAYING FOR LESOTHO

Please pray for the political situation in Lesotho which is currently unstable with the coalition government verging on collapse, with fears of what might follow.

Give thanks for a successful Discipleship Camp Leaders Training Workshop, equipping leaders to run youth camps, and pray that there will be a good take up by young people when the camps are scheduled to run.

Remember in prayer Joseph and Lineo Morenammele that their visit to Durham in October will be productive but also a time for rest and refreshment.

Please pray for the staff and pupils of Ian Ramsey School as they prepare for their visit to Lesotho in October that it will help to cement further their link with Boqate school.

### Contacts

Rob & Margaret Bianchi 0191 4170852

Email [dleo.bianchi@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:dleo.bianchi@tiscali.co.uk)