



**Dear Friends and Partners,**  
 Greetings from a somewhat hot Albania ... And it's only June!! The sleepy sea-side resort where we live a minister has suddenly woken up! People are busy re-pairing, painting and preparing for the onslaught of the busy summer season where many of them hope to make some money for the rest of the year!! We are busy too, preparing for our summer ministry, camps and projects. Here's an update since January.

**News!**

**The 'Shkëndijë' Centre**



As many of you know we moved into a new rented space in October. After some modifications and a lot of hard work we made it into a multi functional community centre. It's great to see many faces that we would not normally meet passing thought our centre for different reasons; whether for printing, courses, internet etc.



At the end of January after interviews the chosen candidate Fatjon Suli became the English and Computer course teacher and will be teaching until the courses finish in June.



**Children's ministry in Shengjin**

The afternoon visits and the Friday outreaches have continued weekly as normal, headed up by Valentina. We have also seen over 40 children go through a discipleship course from January – June in response to an invitation linked with the Christmas boxes given out in Dec. At our Easter outreach 17 Children responded to the call and gave their lives to Jesus. This month will see the summer break from the usual routine.

**May Mission & Community Clean Up**

The may mission was postponed due to interested groups looking to do a mission later on in the year. However one of the practical tasks to the mission was to do a community clean up in Shengjin, which we were still able to go ahead with. Many people in the town were commenting and praising the Children. It was a fairly inexpensive yet effective project. We will be looking to expand this project for next year and involve more of the community and add a further educational aspect to it too.



**IETC course**

With Shengjin being a touristic resort we wanted to do something that would be a help and a connection to the business sector of the community, ie hotels, Bar restaurants and shops. For two weeks in April we ran an Intensive English course for 'Tourist communications'. Julie Cowan, a teacher in the UK, kindly prepared the material and then came to teach it. We hope to run it again next year and have a larger intake.



**RrKK - Christian Camping Network**

Recently Rachel has become one of four leaders on a core team helping to develop an Albanian Christian Camping Network that seeks to be an aid and encourage to others in Albania who run camps. Others on team are:  
 Asim Hamzaj  
 Of Torchbearers in Erseka  
 Anila Sinani  
 Of Royal Rangers in Pogradec  
 and Ann Baker of CCI in the UK  
 We have our first meeting together as the new core team this month where we'll be looking at the foundation and future of this network.

**Praise Points**

- The new centre and all the new people that have visited for different reasons.
- All the children that eagerly come each week to the different activities, especially those that now know God and are growing.
- God's faithfulness towards this ministry this decade & the new 'Spark' Foundation.

**Support Details**

<b>UK</b> Ian Wayment 01525 290670	<b>USA</b> Brenda Peacock 1 386 676 5461
Bank: Lloyds TSB Sort : 30-15-53 Nr : 02724427 R.W Albania Acc	Bank: SunTrust 1000016944174 Nr : 252473459 Rachel Wilson

UK gift aid forms can be printed from the web site

**Prayer Points**

- Rachel, Vali & Young team
  - The right Staff and Volunteers
  - Summer ministry  
June Camps  
July Beach Missions  
August Children's Camps
  - Start of a youth ministry in Sept
- In all these things that God's will be done and that fruitfulness will be abounding.**

## News cont'

**Shkëndijë a Registered Foundation**  
Shkëndijë for the past 10 years has been operating under the umbrella of LightForce International (The organisation Rachel originally came out to Albania with in 1993). She served with lightforce until 2000, when Shkëndijë was then launched. We are thankful for LightForce's legal coving over these ten years but we felt the time had come to register Shkëndijë as an Albania Foundation. As of last week we got the court's decision and are now an official Albanian non-profit foundation.

We welcome Agustin Prenga from Albania and David Hillyer from the UK as board members, but will be looking to expand board members over the next year or two. Our relationship and partnership with LightForce will continue as normal.



David

Agustin

### New Sunday meeting

We've been running a trial of Sunday evening meetings in Shengjin in partnership with Robert Cook the pastor of Ishull Lezhe (8km away). Although we as Shkëndijë do not feel called to Adult Church plant, we do see, by the way we work in the community and with parents, that we create a 'ploughed field' for a church plant to start. We as Shkëndijë want to help and facilitate the right person/group that feels called and envisioned to church plant in Shengjin.

## Next!

**June camps:** Next week we have a 4 day youth camp and a 3 day team camp in nature.

**July mission:** Shengjin beach mission 16<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> July in partnership with Campus Crusade. Reaching out to children, youth and families.

**August Summer Camps:** At the LightForce base again in Ishull Lezhe we will be running 2 Children's camps back to back, (8<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> .) There's a team coming out from Retford, UK, to help with the first camp. This year we'll be including the village children from Malecaj in with the other children from churches in the North of Albania.

**September:** Rachel's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday will be used as an excuse for a type of 'This is your life!' Family Outreach.

September also sees the start back of our weekly English and computer courses and Children's ministry.

We have been praying for a number of years for a youth work to start in Shengjin to cater for the older children as they grow out of our children's ministry. In September we are hoping to initially to start a monthly meeting. Ines, from our young team, will take a main role. We are seeking for others to help her.

We would also like to start a mum's weekly outreach 'healthy living'.

### October's Outreach!

Multi purpose mission week from the 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup>. Both practical and spiritual ...something for everyone to have a 'hands on' missions experience!

## Needs!

New members of **staff** are needed from Sept: Albanian Kids worker receptionist/administrator + Computer course teacher

**Photocopier:** Our photocopying needs are increasing with courses and production of children's materials along with the added factor of making it open to the community. Presently we have been doing all our coping in the town of Lezhe which proves expensive.

**Finance:** With the move to the new centre and expansion in activities it has also meant our expenses have increased considerably. We presently have approximately half the annual support needed from our existing faithful supporters and need a further £8000 to break even for our general monthly running costs outside of projects and camps. We would ask you to pray and consider supporting on a regular bases.

## New Opportunities!

### Short term missions:

-There's still time to book in for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Adventure camp in August 13<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>.

-New opportunity has opened up for those wanting to be involved with a weeks mixed mission in October, practical and Spiritual. (23<sup>rd</sup> -30<sup>th</sup>)

### Gap year and long term:

-English teacher from Sep-June to teach children and Adults from beginners to Intermediate.

-Administrator, Project/ Missions assistant.

-Creative illustrator: come and use your artistic skills to advance the gospel whether lesson illustrations, scenery, event posters etc.

-Ladies outreach worker / Children's and Youth worker

### Final greeting...

Thank-you for taking the time to read our news updates. We trust you are encouraged with all that is going on. Do continue to pray for us...Without your prayers, support and encouragement we couldn't do what we do here!

In Him with love Rachel and Vali

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