

# St Columbanus

Ballyholme



Garden Party Photos  
Mission News from Palestine  
UHSIANO

*..On the way together..*



# The Parishioner

July / August 2013

The Church is open every weekday morning for private prayer and meditation

## The Rambling Rector

As Ballyholme's 2013 youth and children's summer programme swings into action, the name Jade Irwin needs no introduction, certainly not to any of our regular Sunday worshippers. The mark of Jade's first year as Youth Leader is that she has been such an involved and visible part of our wider parish ministry team, most noticeably on Family Service Sundays. It's fair to say that Jade's natural gift for communication has breathed new life not just into our 10 o'clock service but our 8.30 and 11.30 worship as well. Integration has been Jade's driving concern, side by side with nurturing a new generation of young leaders, especially through a youth Home Group and this year's wonderful crop of teenage Confirmation candidates. Please remember Jade and her team this summer as Jumpin' and Xcess draw in the crowds once more. But don't forget too our new Children's Church leaders as this year's faithful threesome Fiona Oliva, Karen Hunt and Michelle Savage prepare to hand over to Tracey Andreasson, Julie Monaghan, Amanda Thompson and Neil Devlin. We hope the last name on this list will prove the first of many men to take up this crucial role, at least in the modern era!



SED

### UHSIANO July 2013



On the 5th July Kelly, Brooke and Elaine head off to Kenya for our 3 week mission - hoping to bring your love, greetings and money which we have raised during the year for our 2 projects. We will have three days in Kadjiado, have a commissioning service with Bishop Gaddiel, then we all head to Oltiasika for our building of the library and IT suite at Imberikani. This will be extremely rural living and we will have a lot of adapting to do! After five days Elaine will travel to Nairobi to begin a week of work in the slum area of Kyole-helping build or paint a secondary school classroom, while the other girls stay in rural Africa, before meeting up again in Kadjiado for 2 days before returning to Dublin on the 23rd July. PLEASE remember us in your prayers. We are all facing new challenges and will definitely be out of our comfort zones. We are asking for safety with travelling, and working, and building new relationships with Kenyans and our travelling companions. We will also be leaving family behind for quite a length of time. We have so appreciated your support, your interest, and your giving to our various fundraisers and would like to thank you all so much.

With love Elaine, Kelly and Brooke

### Going to Church on Holiday

Every summer in Ballyholme we look forward to the company of tourists, day trippers and holiday makers at many of our Sunday services and we hope to make them all warmly welcome. Welcoming the stranger is one of the most basic expressions of our Christian faith and, the Scriptures make clear, it is also a blessing to us as we welcome them. In exactly the same way when we go on holiday it is up to us to bless other churches with our presence, to give them a chance to welcome us. It is also fascinating to see how other Christians do things; even if language barriers mean we can't follow the whole of the service often there will be a word or a theme for us to take away. If you are making the trip to somewhere further afield this summer the Intercontinental Church Society have a helpful website to point you to the nearest Anglican Sunday service (address below).

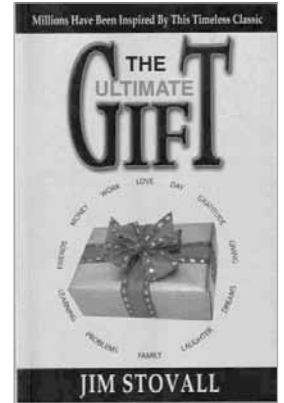
Go on: be brave.  
You'll be glad you made the effort and so will those who greet you!  
[www.ics-uk.org/churches](http://www.ics-uk.org/churches)





This is an inspiring book which gives glimpses of life as it is and as it can be when we change our attitudes. It is about a young twenty-four year old man who has had everything on a plate so far but squandered it.

Then his great uncle dies and leaves him one billion dollars providing he meets all the criteria set out in his will. His year long quest takes him on a remarkable journey which teaches him lessons for life through the gifts of work, money, friends, learning, problems, family, laughter, dreams, giving, gratitude, a day and love.



He must master each gift in turn before he can move on to the next and must achieve them all to obtain the Ultimate Gift.

What is it? I hope that you are intrigued enough to read the book for yourself and find out. *The Ultimate Gift* is published by David Cook and can be purchased on line for £3.21 (DVD), £7.62 (Paperback) and £4.94 (Kindle)

Heather Johnston



### Summer Sundays in Ballyholme

For a number of years friends and neighbours from the local churches in Ballyholme have been meeting together in July and August.

The services last just 30 minutes with a chance for tea and chat afterwards.

We would love you to join us this summer!

**Sunday nights 7.30pm**  
*see Our Worship for venue details*



A BIG word of thanks to all in the Parish who volunteer in any capacity, but as always, we are again asking for more. Karen would especially appreciate volunteers to help with the Sunday Coffee Rota, as for various reasons people have reluctantly had to stand down for a while.

Or if you could offer lifts occasionally for people who need a lift to the Parish Centre, eg. Tuesday cinema club, Friday lunches or the monthly Wednesday Club.

Any of the above would be greatly appreciated.

If you feel you can help in any small way, please ring the Parish Office 91274912.

### Parochial Splendour

I hope when you read this that the weather will have been kind to the wonderful display of Azaleas which we see around our parish centre each year.

Once again we must thank our gentlemen gardeners, Marty and Harry for their hard work in producing such a lovely sight for us to remember.

Keep it up, it definitely keeps you young!

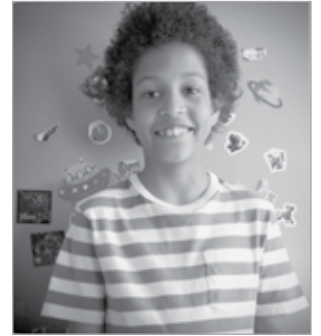


Pat Williamson

## THINGS I LOVE

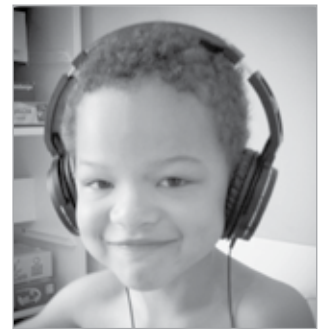
By Karl Andreasson (9 years old)

- 1) I love the long jump, because I am one of the best at it in Athletics practice in school. I also play rugby where I have made new friends, and I like to play tablet games on my Kindle;
- 2) Talking to God. I love praying to God about things and then I feel better afterwards when I have had a good chat with Him;
- 3) Reading. I love books with a bit of history and magic involved. I have a few favourites that I have read many times, such as the BFG and Going Solo by Roald Dahl.
- 4) Travelling. I love to see new places and flying in airplanes. My favourite places so far are Spain, the USA, Sweden and Switzerland.
- 5) Drawing. I love drawing lots of things, like dragons and ninjas. I put lots of details on them. I have also discovered Word Toons.
- 6) Maths. I am always drawing sports tables and other statistics. I even make them for my fantasy races and games. My main subject in school is definitely maths.
- 7) Sleeping. I love to sleep in my cosy, cosy bed surrounded by my teddy bears. They give me good dreams.
- 8) Watching the telly. My favourite shows include Horrible Histories and Total Wipeout. Sometimes I even make tables of the contestants.
- 9) Asking questions. It drives my parents crazy, but I am very curious. They can't answer them all, so they bought me an almanac. I also have them Google answers for me.
- 10) My family. It's kind of obvious, but I love my family. I enjoy travelling to see my faraway relatives, in Spain, Sweden and America. I love spending time with them all.



By Victor Andreasson (almost 6 years old)

- 1) My mum, because she lets me play with her Nexus;
- 2) My dad, because he lets me play outside and go to the park with my brother;
- 3) My brother Karl, because he lets me play with him;
- 4) My granny Barbro, because she lets me visit her in Sweden;
- 5) My Auntie Ann, because she came to visit me from Sweden;
- 6) Grandpa "Musse", because he lets me see his artificial leg;
- 7) School, because I get to go there every day;
- 8) Racing, because I get to race with my brother;
- 9) Church, because I always get to sing there;
- 10) Candles and our fireplace, because it lights up the dark and warms the house.



### Hospital/Home visits

Letting the clergy know is crucial through the summer months when the normally reliable lines of communication with the hospitals often

break down – if you haven't told us yourself that someone is sick at home or in hospital you must assume we do not know!



### Store House

On every 1st Sunday of the month, there is a trolley at the back of the church, to collect any donations for the Store House.

All donations of food, nappies etc, are very welcome and needed.

Thank you

## What's on your iPod?

### Peter Farrar

My name is Peter Farrar and I'm dad to Jack (13) who goes to Sullivan Upper and Jodie (11) who's just finishing Ballyholme Primary before starting Glenlola this September.

I was born in Bangor a wee while back, christened in St Columbanus and spent my childhood years getting up to mischief around Ballyholme. I attended Ballyholme Primary and Bangor Grammar and am hoping to move back to Ballyholme this summer.

I have an eclectic taste in music which made the following list all the more difficult to compile...

- |    |                                      |                          |
|----|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1  | What a Wonderful World               | Louis Armstrong          |
| 2  | Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis | Ralph Vaughan Williams   |
| 3  | Mr Blue Sky                          | Electric Light Orchestra |
| 4  | Toccata (Organ)                      | Charles-Marie Widor      |
| 5  | I Will Wait                          | Mumford & Sons           |
| 6  | Piano Concerto No.2                  | Dmitri Shostakovich      |
| 7  | So Good to Me                        | Chris Malinchak          |
| 8  | Spem in Alium                        | Thomas Tallis            |
| 9  | Shine                                | Take That                |
| 10 | Pompeii                              | Bastille                 |



The Rev Aaron Eime, Director of the Heritage Centre at Christ Church Jerusalem, was on deputation with CMJ Ireland and spoke at a meeting in the Kajiado Room on Monday 3rd June.

Aaron, an Australian now living in Jerusalem, shared how he and his wife Michelle became very ill while on holiday at the Dead Sea and ended up at the Christ Church Guest House. There they saw expatriates, Jewish believers in Jesus and Arab Christians living, working and worshipping together in community. Aaron and Michelle became volunteers and now some 14 years later Aaron is an ordained Deacon at Christ Church and the Director of the Heritage Centre leading a small team of believers who explain the history of Christ Church and share their faith with visitors and local Israelis.

He told us how in 1809 a group of Anglicans and several Jewish believers in Jesus founded the London Society for Promoting Christianity Amongst the Jews which today is known as CMJ. They were dedicated to bringing the message of Jesus the Messiah back to the Jewish people and reviving the Hebraic origins of Christianity. The mission built hospitals, workshops and schools for boys and girls, challenging the tradition of denying women an education. The founders overcame numerous obstacles and funded the building of Christ Church the first protestant Church in the Middle East in 1849 and the appointment of Michael Solomon Alexander (a former rabbi) as the first Anglican Bishop of Jerusalem. The Heritage Centre displays many unique artefacts and preserves the important and invaluable influence and contribution that British and European Protestant Christianity has had on the Middle East

Aaron holds a Masters Degree from the Hebrew University and uses his knowledge to teach the Hebraic roots of the Christian Faith. He finished the evening with an uplifting talk on "The Kingdom of Heaven" and what it means for us as Christians today.

If anyone would like information of the work of CMJ please contact Pat Davidson 91451150



### Around the Parish



### Parish Quiz



### Rectory Garden Party



Rectory  
Garden Party





Nablus is a bustling city in the North of Palestine. I have been volunteering here for just over two months with the NGO Project Hope. Project Hope was set up almost ten years ago by a Palestinian and a Canadian as a peace and humanitarian initiative. It provides a wide range of language learning as well as computer, arts and music

lessons. Project Hope has a central base where many of the adult classes take place, but the majority of classes take place in the surrounding villages of Nalus and in the two major refugee camps in the city, Askar and Balata.

When people hear the words 'refugee camp' it often conjures up images of hundreds of tents with very little infrastructure. The refugee camps here are very different from this image, rather they are areas which began as tents but as time endured they became probably what would be considered the equivalent to a housing estate...packed buildings densely populated with people. The refugees have been living in these camps since 1948 when the state of Israel was created. When you ask the children from these camps where they are from they will answer something like, 'I'm from Askar, originally from Haifa'. Their sense of belonging to the land from which they were expelled is incredibly strong, most refugees still have the keys to their old homes and they all hold an unwavering hope in their return to the land which they used to inhabit.



One of the villages I teach in is called Sawye. Sawye along with two other villages is surrounded by Israeli Settlements. Extremist Zionists tend to be the inhabitants in these complexes and they believe that the land is rightfully theirs and are given large amounts of funding to live in Palestine. They routinely intimidate, harass and make life difficult for the local Palestinians. From attacking schools, to the grabbing of land and the destruction of crops, the Settlements are a huge threat to the small villages dotted around Nablus. These settlements are illegal. However Israel continues to authorize the building of new settlements and whilst they continue it is hard to imagine how peace will ever be possible. The Palestinians in this village



are extremely keen to learn English to improve their ability to communicate with the world about their situation as they are desperate for the international community to recognize the injustices facing them.

The conflict is hugely complex, and each week I am here I feel like I see another facet of the conflict. The thing that has struck me here the most is the lack of freedom of movement. So many people I talk with tell me of their dreams of traveling abroad, but whilst under occupation such dreams will not be realized for the majority of Palestinians. The injustice that the Palestinian people are enduring is undeniable but they never give up hope of living in peace and having their right to the freedom of movement restored. In my two months here I have received the most incredible hospitality and the hearts of the people here are huge. They are so determined to improve their situation and the amount of grassroots projects to the people on the fringes of their own society is humbling. The West Bank is a beautiful place and the Palestinian people are some of the warmest I have ever met which is made all the more astounding when you hear their stories of loss under the Israeli occupation and if you ever get the chance to visit don't think twice about it!

Ruth Elborn



## The Walkers on the Poets' Trail in South Armagh

Probably the most intriguing thing about this walk was seeing in the Creggan Church Visitor Centre the picture of several skulls which had been found in the graveyard.

The churchyard was home to some of Ireland's best known Gaelic poets, thus the name of the walk which took our nineteen strong party including our friends from Ballycrochan Presbyterian, some eight miles on country roads starting at the Church. We had arranged with Muriel Donaldson whose family looks after what is in fact a listed historical building, to have refreshments in the church hall before looking around the visitor centre and the church. She and her husband John



were very hospitable.

The ancient stone wall encloses the 280 year old church and graveyard in which three of the poets, Art MacCooey, Pádraig Mac Aliondain and Séamus Mór MacMurphy are buried. Mac Murphy was the leader of a strong band of outlaws in the area of South Armagh known as The Fewes and met his end by hanging. Here also was found (when a heavy lawnmower was cutting the grass and suddenly depressed the ground) the burial place of some of the Clan O'Neill who invaded South Armagh in the 15<sup>th</sup> century

hence the photograph of the skulls. The other two poets were Séamas dall Mac Cuarta and Peadar Ó Doirín.

It was yet again our fortune to explore a part of the country which was entirely new to most of us, but we did benefit from the local knowledge of two of our members, Colm and Maurice who had grown up in that area. Halfway round we came upon the impressive Norman Roches Castle set commandingly on a rocky promontory. It was built by Englishwoman Rohesia de Verdun who reputedly married the architect but to preserve the architectural secrets, pushed him out the window where he plummeted to his death! The weather was kind except for one downpour and we enjoyed the somewhat hilly terrain on the north side of Slieve Gullion despite finding that the 'quiet country roads' mentioned on the WalkNI website were generally anything but quiet.

However it was good to renew our acquaintance with the Ballycrochan group and our thanks to Brian Hall for making that possible

The next walk is at Whitepark Bay on July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting at 8.45 in the Church car park.

## The Wednesday Club



Well, talk about style – we know all about that, as for our last meeting of this season, we all met up at the Crawfordsburn Inn for a Victorian tea. Thirty-nine of our ladies along with eleven of our driver helpers, and not forgetting Simon and Alistair enjoyed sandwiches, scones and “wee buns”, which all went down a treat.

We had some time to sit outside on the patio area if we wanted, and as the sun was splitting the trees, about half of the ladies did, the remainder just stayed where they were and happily chatted until it was time to go home.

Thanks to all the committee and drivers for their help over the past year, and we hope to all meet up again on the 4<sup>th</sup> September. Have a good summer break. Sue



## REALITY CHECK

### Today's World...

In the words of The Rend Collective;  
 "Twenty first century life,  
 Neon lights and satellites,  
 How do we miss what's before our eyes?  
 The media can freeze ya, into collective  
 amnesia,  
 And I don't want to forget anymore."



Today's world is fast and exciting. Fast cars, MTV, social networks and HD TV speak of forward-thinking, innovation and productivity. We can communicate with friends and relatives on the other side of the world in a matter of seconds. We can catch current international news through a simple Google search. We can watch catch up TV as we walk along the street or travel on a bus thanks to 3G on our Smartphones. These advancements must be positive and beneficial, right?

### Get Real!

Of course there are obvious benefits to technological, social and economic advancement, but there are some striking disadvantages. As a youth worker, I increasingly see the breakdown of genuine, in-person friendships alongside the rise of online friendships. Young people can often feel that the friends they get to know on the internet understand them more effectively than their friends and family who surround them in daily life. Furthermore, real communication is stifled – I often witness young people texting each other when they are sitting in the same room! Advanced technological communications have enabled the global trafficking market to grow to a frightening degree. With the Smartphone being able to receive texts, calls, Facebook notifications, Instagram notifications, Twitter notifications, emails from multiple accounts and so on, it is no wonder that people find it difficult to access any head space at all to think properly, reflect and process.

### The Old Can Be New.

I always feel peaceful in my Grannie's house. When my phone beeps 10 times a minute, and the whirlwind of busy life hits, I know I can find peace and solace on the sofa with my Grannie and a cup of well-brewed tea. Although I am obviously biased, there is no doubt at all that my Grannie is an amazing woman. She has achieved so much in her lifetime, and always puts others before herself. She has also completed several computer courses, and uses shorter short-hand than me in texts! However, and this is the key... she has never become smothered or ruled by fast life. She always knows how to prioritise, when to stop, and how to truly relax. Consequently, she is strong-hearted and wise.

Sometimes, being young has to mean being teachable – an acknowledgment that we do not actually know everything and that the older generations have a lot of wisdom to model to us. Let's arrange to hang out with the people in our lives who are important to us and have real conversations about real things.

Returning to the quote at the beginning of this article, we have a choice to make. We can either let the media numb us to the issues that really matter, and make us care more about what Cheryl Cole is wearing or how many likes our Facebook status has merited, or we can choose to engage with reality. Jesus chose to engage with real people and real issues. He kept his eyes open to the needs all around him. A great example to follow.

## The Quiet Corner

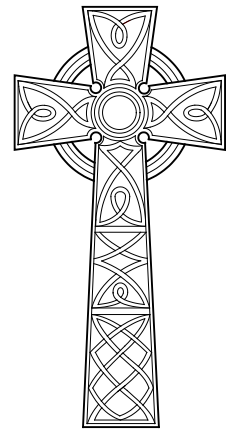
### A New Home Group

“A new Home Group is a gentle, tender thing. We aren’t yet ready to share our progress”.

My words were earnest and protective, maternal almost. I was anxious about this new creation. But I was wrong. How could a group of people driven by the Holy Spirit to work and learn together be anything other than strong and vibrant? How could we fail? How dare we keep it to ourselves?

So, we are sharing with you that we have come together and the strength of people’s faith is staggering. We won’t grow ourselves in the dark like mushrooms. Neither will we seek ownership of our group; it belongs to all. We are open to ourselves, open to new members and we aren’t afraid of a laugh. We talk about everything and anything as we get to know each other and always we are held within the greatest dynamic of all: the constant interaction of The Trinity. Our time together is supportive and refreshing – we look forward to our meetings. We do, however, try to focus on Timothy Keller’s book as he transforms the Gospel of St Mark from a scholarly text into a thrilling eye witness account. It can be challenging as we pull out the meaning of Keller’s words and sometimes we over-analyse but we keep going. On occasion we just lean back on simple faith; not blind faith but eyes wide open in wonder faith. Our lives are changing. Gentle and tender is good.

Eileen McDonald-Woodhall



As you sail  
through life’s stormy waters  
With the sailing a very hard task  
You’ll still have your pilot beside you  
What more could a good sailor ask

So finally when you make landfall  
And reach the celestial shore  
You’ll sign on the crew of the Master  
With fair winds for evermore.

Basil

### The Church of Ireland

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### The kiss



An honest seven-year-old calmly announced to her parents that Billy Brown had kissed her after church. “How did that happen?” gasped her mother.

“Well, it wasn’t easy,” admitted the young lady, “but three girls helped me catch him.”

# OUR WORSHIP

## July

### 7th Trinity 6

- 8.30 Holy Communion
- 10.30 Family Service
- 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Parish

### 14th Trinity 7

- 8.30 Holy Communion
- 10.30 Holy Communion
- 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Methodist

### 21st Trinity 8

- 8.30 Holy Communion
- 10.30 Morning Service
- 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Presbyterian

### 28th Trinity 9

- 8.30 Holy Communion
- 10.30 Morning Prayer
- 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Parish

## August

### 4th Trinity 10

- 8.30 Holy Communion
- 10.30 Family Service
- 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Presbyterian

### 11th Trinity 11

- 8.30 Holy Communion
- 10.30 Holy Communion
- 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Methodist

### 18th Trinity 12

- 8.30 Holy Communion
- 10.30 Morning Service
- 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Parish

### 25th Trinity 13

- 8.30 Holy Communion
- 10.30 Morning Prayer
- 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Presbyterian



*There will be no creche supervision in July or August, but the creche room will be available for parents and children and a children's table will be at the back of church.*



## July

- 7th Muriel Ryan
- 14th Dorie Nesbitt
- 21st Caroline Jones
- 28th Maureen Johnston

## August

- 4th Mary Moore
- 11th Edna Rosbotham
- 18th Yvonne Manogue
- 25th Marion Milligan



## July

No Coffee in Parish Centre

## August:

- 4th:** Lynsey McDermott, Maikke Harvey, Ann Shaw
- 11th:** Daphne Moore, Jill Owens, Barbara Wallace
- 18th:** Heather Johnston, Maureen Aiken, Fiona Jackson
- 25th:** Tracie Andreasson, Alison Dornan, Charles Robinson

## BAPTISM

**June 9th** – ISABELLA KATHERINE MARY NEWMAN daughter of Richard & Katherine

*Parish Office:* 91274912  
*Rector:* Canon Simon Doogan  
*Rectory:* 91274901  
*Curate:* Rev Alistair Morrison  
*Curatage:* 91271922

*Prayer Line:* 07531806167  
*Transport:* 07599794968  
*Church Readers Rota:*  
 John 91467243  
 or  
 Freda 91467624

## WEDDING

**29th June:** RICHARD GULLEN, 9 Carolhill Park & NICOLA TODD, 8 Millicent Park

