

St Columbanus

Ballyholme



Solar Panels in Kiwoko
X-Cess Report
Simon's US Visit
MU Big Sing

..On the way
together..

The Parishioner

October 2017

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

The Rambling Rector

“Harvest Homecoming” sounds more of an American phrase than an Ulster or African one, but I can think of no better strap-line as we do our annual autumnal stock-take of God’s blessings to us. Twelve years after Ballyholme parishioner Dr Rory Wilson left the Ashley Park Surgery to take up the post of Medical Director at Kiwoko Hospital Uganda, 15 October 2017 marks Rory’s St Columbanus homecoming. It has been a rich harvest indeed for the man with the beard, the shorts and the extensive wardrobe of colourful shirts! He brings back a wonderful wife, an adorable son and a lifetime’s supply of stories on the theme of Christ’s healing love at work in the world. Although Rory, Denise and Gideon have been home since May, they have been on a farewell Sunday tour of their CMS partner churches. 15 October is our turn but the good news is, we’re not saying farewell to the Wilsons, we’re saying welcome home. Please make a special point of joining us this Harvest (morning, evening and our fund-raising missions lunch), as we praise the God by whose Spirit our meagre efforts bear such tangible and eternal fruit. **SED.**



Warm Walls at the Rectory

At the time of writing, the task of water-proofing and insulating the Rectory is well underway, overseen by the Glebewardens. In other parts of the UK and Ireland the approach taken by Blue Build Energy is marketed as ‘Warm Walls’. Its aim is to eliminate the damp/mould problem by sealing the exterior of the house against water penetration and improving insulation, so minimising one of the primary causes of condensation. A new composite front door/window unit has been ordered as the front porch is one of the worst-affected parts of the house (in addition, all the seals have gone in the glass). Work started on 29 August and is scheduled to take around four weeks.



YOU are invited to join
the Mission Committee
at the Annual Harvest Lunch

October 15th at 12.45 pm
in the Parish Centre

proceeds in aid of our
Mission Partners
and
other Mission projects

Please remember to bring back your
smartie tubes





Just Older Youth

Attitude

The longer I live, the more I realise the impact of attitude on life.

Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company... a church... a home.

The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude... I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it.

And so it is with you... we are in charge of our attitudes.

Charles Swindoll

Informal Communion Service

Our next informal Communion service followed by a light lunch is on **Tuesday 24th October at 12.30pm** in the Parish Centre.

All are very welcome and we would really love to see new faces. Lifts can be arranged by ringing me at the Parish Office on 9127 4912.

God bless

Karen

“When Prince Harry met a celebrity...”



Billy Fyffe had the lucky opportunity to meet and chat with Prince Harry on the 7th September in St Anne's Square. After a short chat about what Billy worked as, Prince Harry wished us all well at Ballyholme Parish.

The Wednesday Club



The Wednesday Club had their first meeting of the new year in the Columbanus room with a talk by Helen Davies on beekeeping. She explained she had never had an interest in keeping bees, but when her brother in law said he had a hive of bees he no longer wanted, she decided to give it a go. She went to Greenmount College and duly got her certificate in beekeeping. She now has five or six hives in her garden, and collects the honey for herself and to sell. She explained to us the life of a hive in a year, with the jobs that all the different bees had. “Busy as a bee” is a very good expression, as they never seem to stop. She made it all sound very interesting, and she had also brought some honey to sell, which the ladies took full advantage of.

Lillian Finch was the winner of the usual monthly draw.

See you next month

Sue



Go to Church George!

One Sunday morning a mother called up to her son, “George, it’s Sunday, time to get up for church”.

Under the covers, came mumbles “I don’t want to go to church”.

“What do you mean, that’s silly. Now get up and get dressed and go to church.”

“I’m not going” said George, “I don’t like them and they don’t like me”.

“George there’s two good reasons why you must go to church this morning. One, you’re 42 years old, and secondly you’re the Rector!!”



North Coast Walking

What a brilliant day out! Twenty one of us gathered at Portballintrae for the September walk to the Giants Causeway and back and we couldn't have wished for a better day. It was good to welcome Jem and Stephen Moran and Janey and Ken Sproule again. We even had a lone Typhoon overhead on its way to the Portrush air show. Portballintrae used to be a small fishing

village clustered round the harbour but since the '70s there has been considerable regeneration and new building, much of which are second homes.

The path leaves the village and tracks down to the bridge over the River Bush and then along Runkerry beach towards Runkerry Point. Attractive as the beach and the surf are, Runkerry with its currents and undertow is deadly for swimming and the warning signs are prominent. The path leaves the beach and we headed up to the cliff top past Runkerry House. It was once the home of the barrister Lord Macnaghten and has since been converted into apartments. There were beautiful views across to the Foyle Estuary and Inishowen and round to the Causeway. On then towards the Causeway and down to the stones along with hundreds of others among which were many foreign visitors (probably from the Caribbean Princess docked in Belfast) with mobile phone cameras and selfie sticks. One woman had no qualms about posing for a photo beside Gilbert while he ate his lunch!



Next it was along to the zig zag path and the 156 steps up to the cliff top track back to the Centre and then along the railway track to Portballintrae. We saw no train and the rusty tracks looked as if they hadn't been in use for some time.

The Copper Kettle in Bushmills was our refreshment stop and very helpful the staff were in finding seating for 20 of us. The waitress thought Peter was joking when he asked for 20!

Altogether a lovely day to end the yearly walks programme. Next set of walks will be emailed soon.

Footnote:

Our daughter Alice was in the Mournes. Cloudy and very windy and she wore a thermal and gloves! How lucky were we?

Betty





What do you do when your wife has to go back to work but you have a few more days of leave to take? Never having booked or bought anything on-line, I'm grateful indeed to Heidi for researching and reserving my flights and doing without me for most of a week. As she made her way back to North Down, I took off for New York only wishing she could come too.

Good man that he is, our former curate Alistair was waiting at Newark Airport. Travelling the first part of our onward journey by train, we made our way into New York and Penn Station. The Manhattan skyline is visible almost immediately from Newark Airport and it was amazing how many of the landmarks I

was able to pick out in the distance. With two hours to wait, we trundled my suitcase from Madison Square Gardens across 34th Street and Broadway to the Empire State Building and back via Smash Burgers. Suitably fortified, we made a two hour railway trip up the Hudson to Albany where Alistair had parked his car. Another two hours of driving and we finally pulled in to the Chapel Cottage at Coroga Lake.

You see there's a cat in the Johnstown Rectory and I can't be doing with cats. But every year Laurie takes a service in the Caroga Lake Chapel which is half an hour's drive from Johnstown and receives in return the use of the Chapel Cottage for a week. Cat problem solved. Laurie took the early 8.30 service in Johnstown and then the main morning congregation made their way down from Johnstown to the lake. The selfie which made it onto the cover of the September magazine was taken outside Caroga Lake Chapel on the morning of Sunday 13 August. With the Ballyholme magazine deadline the next day, a wordless picture emailed to the Parish Office was all I could manage so that's all you got!

I did make it to Johnstown for a tour of Laurie's Church and exploration of her parish. So much was the same, so much was different. I met all sorts of interesting people and was royally fed and entertained everywhere. The distances we travelled were startling but a day at a visitors' attraction called The Adirondack Experience was well worth a two hour drive to get there, as was the one hour run to Saratoga Springs – half way through Festival Week. Alistair also brought me to Duaneburg Church, another half hour trip from Johnstown Rectory. A small and very scattered rural congregation, Alistair is in the process of being appointed part-time Priest in Charge which means he can remain based in Johnstown with Laurie and be on call as required.

I've worked with a number of clergy colleagues down the years and we continue to pray for one another from a distance but it always helps if you can visualise where people are and what they're doing. I also wanted to bring Alistair and Laurie our sympathies on the death of Laurie's son Christian. Alistair took me to visit Christian's grave and they have been deeply touched by the many expressions of care and love they received long-distance from Ballyholme.

Don't worry, sermon material was certainly forthcoming, but the fire hydrants and mailboxes were as exciting for me as anything else. Having previously spent a sum total of six hours in America (three hours each way, coming and going from our honeymoon in New Zealand) I was glad to explore a little more of it. I was even more glad however to catch up with someone who was such a loyal and conscientious member of our staff team.

Within the family of faith, in the end the world really is a small place. A bit like St John as he signs off the Fourth Gospel, if I were to include everything I saw in Albany, this magazine would not be big enough to contain it.



Around the Parish



Ordination Service



X-Cess & Jumpin



On Saturday 9th September 2017 about 100 members of the MU from Down and Dromore were transported in two coaches to Dublin to take part in The MU Big Sing at the National Concert Hall. Seven members from Ballyholme went along and it was great to meet up with members from other branches, including Bronwyn Dark, wife of our former curate Nicholas on the coach.

Following a survey of members on their favourite hymns the MU Big Sing was held to perform the most popular. Our MC was Bishop Ken Clarke who announced that the top hymn was "How great Thou art", this was the final hymn of the 11 we sang. In between the singing there were guest speakers, including Lynne Tembey (MU World-Wide President), videos and harp music by Anne-Marie O'Farrell who is also a non-stipendiary priest. Everyone present agreed it was an excellent way to celebrate the 130 years of the Mothers' Union in Ireland and the singing was very enjoyable.



After the concert ended we made our way back to the coaches with everyone talking about how much they had enjoyed it. The choir of 125 members and audience of about 1,500 people had produced some great singing and all the hymns were favourites of most members. A fitting way to celebrate this anniversary of the Mothers' Union in Ireland.

To complete our day out we travelled up to the An Grianan Conference Centre at Termonfeckin for dinner and a drink from the bar for anyone who fancied one.

Then it was back on the coach for the final part of our journey back home via Sprucefield, Saintfield and Newtownards. It was a long day but everyone was in agreement that it was a great day out and very uplifting. The Mothers' Union is moving forward, why not come and join us.



SDD



Wellington Cathedral of St Paul

Prayer of the Day on
31 May 2017

Look kindly on our world,
our God, as we suffer
and struggle with one
another.

Look kindly on our
Church driven by the
same necessity.
And may the Light we
have seen in Jesus
illuminate and brighten
all the world.
Amen.



Parent and Toddler Group

has resumed

Thursday Mornings
in Church Centre

Play and games, socialising,
mixing with other children.

Come along and join us.



Unknowingly, William Jeffrey (another one of the candidates to be ordained) and I chose “the road less travelled by” – the scenic route to Rostrevor Benedictine Monastery via Warrenpoint and Carlingford Lough. The water sparkled and winked sunlight at us, as our eyes filled with loveliness and we got a wee bit lost. We arrived safe at the Monastery as “the mountains and hills clapped their hands.” I took Dido, Nelifanet, and Zebedee with me. They always lend me perspective on life; they spent their quiet time on the windowsill, looking at the mountains.

The retreat was a quiet space after frantic days of “my clergy shirt doesn’t fit” and “where can we get more duvets from.” Brother Thierry, one of the monks, talked about his faith journey and about the Monastery that was literally a gift from God. Bishop Harold’s Charge was followed by Communion and the anointing of oil and prayer. Over the weekend, Christina Baxter talked about Shepherds and Shepherding. The silence embraced me.

I went to the monastery services, lay in bed looking at the mountains, and walked in the wilderness. There were times of laughter too. Meals were exceptional (as good as

any restaurant), eaten in silence with Brother Thierry serving us graciously. God’s presence and love was everywhere: the care of the Brothers, the beauty of the sung services, hearing the monks pray daily for each ordinand by name, the wholesome food, the breath-taking landscape, and eloquent silence. The spiritual highlight for me was the daily sung services, filled with God’s restful Spirit and peace. Just before we left there was a wonderful spontaneous moment, as, standing in a circle, we prayed for one another.

Back home - three friends had just arrived from England with high-octane excitement. Wearing the collar felt scary and robing felt very different this time. The ordination service grew emotionally charged as we made promises and declarations before God. The atmosphere was electric with love and kindness: members of Ballyholme parish who reached out and said “welcome,” the congregation of my home Parish of St Thomas’, friends and family. All the ordinands agreed that the reception was



outstanding: jugs of water delicately flavoured by mint leaves, round sandwiches, eclairs still sparkling with the cold, and people with good wishes. Thank you Ballyholme, Simon and the catering team, from all of us, for making it such a special evening of celebration.

Back home we raised a glass (or two) and were thankful (with the exception of Luna our collie retriever puppy, who wasn’t amused at being left for so long). The house became a campsite, we slept for 3 hours and then did two airport runs! After all that, Monday was a pure day of much-needed rest.



A great welcome back to MU was enjoyed by our members and one or two newcomers too!! (great to see you) Roberta was a witty caller for our Bountiful Bingo, with an abundance of prizes!! Supper did not disappoint, in fact now that a certain Lynne has exchanged school books for recipe books ...Yummy cupcakes from our very own "Scrumptious Savage!!!" More suppers to delight us this season I hope!!

Next Month we have a Harvest theme with a gentleman sharing his bread making skills!! One not to miss!! Monday 2nd October at 8pm, please come and bring a friend or neighbour!!

Celebration Sunday for our MU stained glass window to be revealed is Sunday 1st October....Please come and join us, it's to be a special Family Gettogether!! At 10.00am we will celebrate, pray, reveal and sing... and at 11.30am we will again celebrate, pray, reveal and sing. In between at 10.45am lets join together in the Parish Centre for HOT DOGS, harvest biscuits, juice, tea & coffee. Please sign up on the lists at back of church or Parish Office, so we know how much celebration to cook!!!

Imagine 2017 means 130 years of MU in Ireland and over 60 of those years here amongst our Ballyholme church family. Our new stained glass window is indeed a fitting tribute to this story.

See you on 1st October at 10.45... Please pass the sauce!!

Many Blessings

Yvonne Manogue.



Children's Church

Children's Church restarted on 10th September with a new team of volunteers, ready and waiting for a fun and exciting year with our wonderful kids! There are lots of familiar faces in our 3 groups, and we are always delighted to see new faces. So kids, if you want to invite your friends along to join us, please let them know that they would be most welcome, it'd be great to see our numbers grow!

I will be leading the Bubbles, and the rest of the team will continue to use the JIGSAW Sunday School Programme for the Splash and Ice groups. JIGSAW has been written especially for the Church of Ireland and aims to help children see how the big picture of God's love fits into their day-to-day lives. All 3 groups enjoy a vibrant mixture of stories, games, songs, crafts and prayers, and it is a joy to see their enthusiasm week by week.

This month we especially look forward to **Harvest Sunday on 15th October**, when our children will have the opportunity to sing and share with the congregation!

Paula Lown



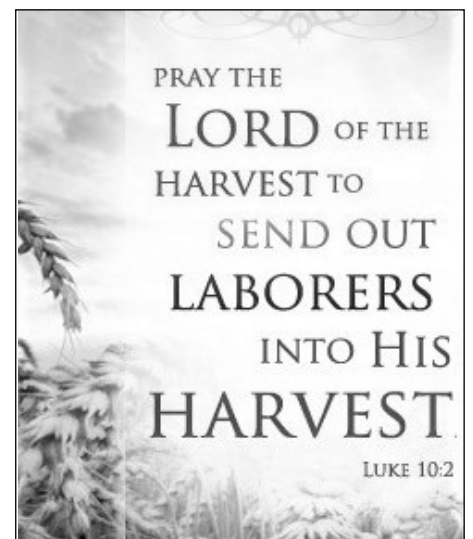
Harvest Homecoming

Rory, Denise and Gideon will be sharing at Ballyholme on Sunday 15th October at both morning services. After the 11.30 service there will be the traditional harvest lunch raising funds for our Missions Partners and other Mission Projects.

Also at 6.00 pm in the church hall there will be a chance to hear a bit more from Rory and Denise for those interested. The informal evening will start with a cup of tea and also have input from Jenny Smyth (CMS Ireland) and Friends of Kiwoko Hospital.

After being around Ballyholme Parish over the summer they are now visiting other churches most Sundays.

They will be travelling around parishes which have supported them while in Kiwoko most Sundays until Advent.





The Church's Ministry Among Jewish People

Each year CMJ has a speaker from Israel come to Ireland to share different aspects of the Ministry in Israel. This year we are delighted to welcome **Cookie Schwaeber-Issan, Managing Director of Makor HaTikvah Messianic School in Jerusalem.**

Makor Hatikvah, meaning "Source of Hope", is the only Messianic school serving the body of believers in Jerusalem and one of only two Messianic schools in the whole country.

Cookie will be speaking in the **Kajaido Room on Wednesday 18th October at 8.00pm** to which everyone is welcome.

Cookie was born in Brooklyn, NY and raised as a Jewish believer in the Messiah. She went to live in Israel 24 years where God literally gave her a second chapter after undergoing a great tragedy which left her life in shambles. Fifteen years later, after having lived on a kibbutz, marrying an Israeli, becoming fluent in Hebrew, and being trained in the field of education, she was asked to manage Makor HaTikvah.



She has quite a story to tell about how she came to the school and what the Lord did to totally turn around a failing situation. Today, there are just under 100 students enrolled in this vibrant school. Makor HaTikvah provides a Godly educational alternative to the Israeli public school system, and is equipping and preparing the next generation of Jewish believers to, one day, take their place in Israeli society.

It is a very uplifting message showing that God had an unusual and marvellous plan for her life and will be of interest to those who would like to hear how God is moving in Israel, especially in Jerusalem.

Pat Davidson

WHEN WILL WE GET A CURATE ?

Last month's magazine posed the question 'when will we get a Curate?' and promised more news in this edition.

As we know Ballyholme has traditionally been a two clergy Parish, and a number of exceptional Curates have served over the years. It couldn't be more obvious therefore, as we look forward to a period of innovation and growth following Restoration that we are very much in need of a second resource.

But employing an additional member of staff will be expensive, and as we explained last month we can't depend on legacies and rentals to meet the ongoing costs involved. After much thought, and the setting up of a special Finance sub Committee, your Vestry has concluded that if we are to secure and sustain a Curate each one of us has an important contribution to make.

The leaflet 'Generous Giving' enclosed with this edition of The Parishioner spells out the ways in which you can help. Please read it carefully, pray for our church and its future, and together we will accomplish God's purposes in and through the Parish of Ballyholme.

Leslie Adams

*Start gathering
together your
Bric-A-Brac, Toys,
Books, Unwanted Gifts*

Save the Date
Saturday 25th November 2017
Ballyholme Bazaar

*Cake stall, Games,
Mulled Wine,
Sweets, Tombola,
Light Refreshments*

YOUTH-news

youth [youth] (youths) news [nooz]

What a week X-Cess 2017 was for all who attended! X-Cess is our Parish youth week and it is jam packed with all sorts of fun activities, mountains of tuck shop goodies and all the laughter you can conjure up.

On Monday morning as we prepared registration for the week, we eagerly anticipated the arrival of the 32 young people who had previously signed up. As the doors opened at 2pm, another 40 showed up and we had a hall packed to capacity. The whole Parish Centre was buzzing from start to finish with 70 young people of all ages!



The theme for X-Cess 2017 was TRIBES. A tribe is described as a “group of people who live together, share the same language, culture and history.” We believe that the young people who are associated with Ballyholme Parish share the same language, culture and history in many things but we wanted to instil another language and culture that the young people could share in; the language and culture of love and hope that Jesus has for each one of us. Throughout the week, we had different leaders come and share their stories of love and hope in Jesus Christ and each leader challenged the young people for different reasons on how to live a life that is full and glorifying to God. The theme of ‘Tribes’ and ‘Stories’ is going to be our theme for the year in YF and in our midweek Bible study. We are very excited to get started!

X-Cess had many fun activities planned for our afternoon sessions. On Tuesday we practised our archery skills with Elite Archery Bangor. Joshua Reddy proving to be great with a bow and arrow hitting the jackpot with a great shot. On Wednesday, we welcomed Kinetic Pursuits for an afternoon of Laser Tag and the Boal brothers winning all their games with creative war paint on their faces. Thursday night was the biggest hit with the young people. Soft Arrow Combat is a new game that is a whole lot of fun. Imagine dodgeball meets archery meets paintball. It is chaotic but a lot of fun. The young people loved this so much that we have it back for our youth launch night! Our week ended with a great photo scavenger hunt around Bangor that got the young people out and about the town centre taking photos and being creative in the tasks they had to complete.

Our evening sessions were the highlight of the week for me. Our XS Quiz on the Monday night was a relaxing week to the week but the calm soon ended with our XS Gameshow night on the Tuesday. Filled with messy games, horrible challenges and so much laughter, it was hilarious to watch young people cringe at the thought of eating soggy bread, drinking coke through their sweaty sock or trying to find a jelly baby in a mountain of flour with only their mouth. Our Gameshow night is honestly one of the most fun nights of the year. Perhaps we should have an X-Cess night for the adults of the Parish? Wednesday night is probably the best night of the week as it is our XS Got Talent show. This year we have many amazing acts. Victoria Wills performed an amazing dance, the Boal Brothers performed their own rap, Samantha Smallwood “sang” a tribute to Matty Moore and Darcy Larmour played a beautiful piece on the piano. Our winner this year was the incredible Zara Carroll who battled her nerves and sang a beautiful song and played guitar. She was truly amazing! Thursday night was our first XS Murder Mystery and the task was to find out what happened to the ever present Matty Moore (who sadly couldn’t join us for X-Cess). I was sentenced with the guilty verdict but thankfully Matty showed up on the big screen to show that he was alive and well in Donegal. Friday night was our finale with our XS Oscars where we have some awards, a photobooth, nibbles made by the lovely Karen and Ann and a big rave to finish the week. It was truly a week that I’ll never forget!

We are really excited about the year ahead and already have plans in place to welcome all the young people back each week for our programmes. Please pray for the youth team leadership as we get the youth programme back up and running and for all the young people who will attend each week.

More pictures elsewhere in the magazine.

Billy Fyffe

OUR WORSHIP

Sunday 1st October Trinity 16
8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Good News at Ten - All Age
11.30 Morning Prayer

Wednesday 4th October
10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado Room

Sunday 8th September Trinity 17
8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Good News at Ten
& Children's Church
11.30 Parish Communion
6.30 United Service - Ballyholme
Presbyterian

Wednesday 11th October
10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado Room

FUNERALS

August

19th: Mena Bower, late of
Savoy Appts

23th: June Patton, late of
Ambleside Road

31st: Harold Colgan, late of
Ballycrochan Road

September

2nd: Sheelagh Bates,
formerly of Sunningdale Park

October

1st: Patricia Stubbing

8th: Lillian Ward

15th: Harvest

22nd: Christine Johnstone

29th: Flower Fund

Parish Office: 91274912

Rectory:

91274901

Prayer Line:

07531806167

Transport:

07599794968

Church Readers Rota:

Freda (11.30)

91467624

Thelma (10.00)

91453602 Web Site www.ballyholmeparish.co.uk



Sunday 15th October

Harvest Thanksgiving

8.30 Holy Communion

10.00 Good News at Ten

& Children's Church

11.30 Morning Prayer

6.00 Friends of Kiwoko Service

Parish Centre

Wednesday 18th October

10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado Room

Sunday 22nd October

Trinity 19

8.30 Holy Communion

10.00 Good News at Ten - Communion

& Children's Church

11.30 Morning Prayer

Wednesday 25th October

10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado Room

Sunday 29th October

Trinity 20

8.30 Holy Communion

10.00 Good News at Ten

& Children's Church

11.30 Wholeness and Healing

Children's Church Helpers

October

1st: No Children's Church

8th: Caroline Connolly, Sarah Tweedie,
Allison Jamison and Gillian Young

15th: Karen Toogood, Nichola Hawes, Gillian Jones and
Judith Bell

22nd: Neil Devlin, Gail Kerr, Andrew Cuthbert and Jenny
Campbell

29th: Judith Bell, Deborah Galbraith, Tracie Andreasson
and Jenny McKay Porter



October

1st: Mothers' Union Team

8th: Neil & Jacqui Devlin,
Pat Adair

15th: Mission Lunch

22nd: Gillian & Geoff Young,
Patrick Crothers

29th: Fiona Jackson, Ann
Reynolds, Ella Walker

October

1st: No Creche

8th: Rachel Brittain, Dawn
Shackles and Claire Skelly

15th: Natalie McCartin,
Jenny Beattie and Emma
MacDonald

22th: Christine Rankin,
Ashley Birkett and Nicola
Gullen

29th: No Creche

