

CONTACT

Volume 4 Issue 3 The Magazine of All Saints' Church, Tullylish

Autumn 2006

The Rector's Letter

I hope you managed to have a good summer break this year. It indeed has been a very busy one for many within our parish, with many age groups being involved in outreach in one form or another.

Croatia was a memorable part of the summer with many experiences which you can read about inside this edition of Contact. Many of you will also have heard some accounts at our church services. It was you, with your financial support, who made it possible and again I would like to thank you for that.

Also we would like to express our thanks for all your prayers during our time in Croatia - it was so important to us knowing you were praying for us when we were away. It was such a privilege to do God's work in that situation and even today to discover the fruit it is bearing for that little church in Koprivnica. and their pastor, Nathaniel.

Churches are facing challenging times and thousands of churches are using various tools for reaching their community with the Good News about Jesus. This summer we carried out a leaflet drop introducing and inviting people to our church family.

We have also embarked upon our own outreach tool called U+1=2 to encourage you, our members, to invite family and friends along to what I hope and pray is a church that speaks their language.

Questions about God have fascinated human beings since time began. Many men and women today experience a real sense of spiritual hunger without having any contact with a church. We long to find ways to enable people to discover the liberating, life-changing power of God, in an atmosphere of love and acceptance.

As a church I hope we are preaching the Good News in a language that people can understand and stripping the Gospel down to its bare essentials. I also hope we are making Christianity accessible to men and women, teenagers and boys and girls of today's culture.

I pray that you will join with me in this work that Jesus calls us to - not only in bringing but also in praying. Encourage one another and BUILD each other UP.

Your friend and Rector,

Arthur

A Parish Library

At the moment we are putting together a Parish Library. It will be located just off the front porch in our church, beneath the stairs which lead to the gallery.

Unlike a standard library, you will be free to hold on to the book for as long (or short) a time as you wish, the only stipulation being that the book will be eventually returned when you have finished with it. The choices on offer will be changed on a regular basis as more books are added to the collection.

Anyone wishing to donate books, please contact Isabel Whiteside.

Women's Fellowship

The opening meeting of the new season was held jointly with the Men's Fellowship on Tuesday, 19th September. Lady Christine Eames OBE, wife of Archbishop Robin Eames, was our guest speaker.

Lady Eames described a journey which has taken her from a young bride of the Rectory in East Belfast to Armagh as wife of the Church of Ireland Primate of All Ireland.

Lady Eames then spoke of her 5 years as World Wide President of the Mother's Union and the poverty she witnessed in Africa and South America.

Her present role as a Commissioner to the NI Human Rights Commission involves her in being the voice of those with Mental Health and Learning Disability problems.

At the end of a most memorable meeting, Lady Eames very competently dealt with the variety of questions which were asked.

Heather Hanna (Secretary)

Women's Fellowship 2006/2007 Programme

19th Sept:	Lady Christine Eames
12th Oct:	Cookery Demonstration:
9th Nov:	Pauline English (A Nun's Story)
14th Dec:	Christmas Outing
11th Jan:	Ted Potts (Travel Talk)
8th Feb:	Home Start
8th March:	Daffodil Tea
10th May:	AGM & Fashion Show
13th May:	Praise Service
May:	Outing (To be arranged)

Men's Fellowship 2006/2007 Programme

19th Sept:	Lady Christine Eames
12th Oct:	Quad Racing at Ballywalter
21st Nov:	Noel Beattie (Round the world in 80 Minutes)
19th Dec:	Christmas Dinner
16th Jan:	Ian Milne (Undertaking Role)
20th Feb:	10 Pin Bowling (Dundonald)
20th March:	Visit to Scarva Stud Farm
21st April:	Outing (To be Arranged)

The Women's Fellowship and the Men's Fellowship warmly invite new members to come along and join them.

It's easy to be the perfect Rector



A recent survey has compiled all the qualities that people expect from the perfect Rector. They are easy to follow:

The perfect Rector preaches for exactly 12 minutes.

He/she frequently condemns sin but never upsets anyone.

He works from 8a.m until midnight and is on call 24/7 but is always relaxed, with time for a coffee with you whenever you like.

He makes £200 a week, wears good clothes, buys good books, drives a good car and gives about £100 a week to the poor.

He is 28 years of age, but has been preaching for 30 years.

He is wonderfully gentle with everyone and always gives people in the church their way but the church is run supremely efficiently.

He is amazingly good-looking and eligible but too committed to your church to want a private life.

He gives of himself completely but never gets too close to anyone to avoid criticism.

He speaks boldly on social issues but never becomes politically involved.

He has outstanding "street cred" with the teenagers, spends many happy hours each week lighting up the lives of the church's senior citizens and is very popular with the mums and tots.

He makes 15 daily calls to church families, visits the house bound and the hospitalised, spends all his time evangelising the unchurched, is something of a notable scholar and is always there when needed.

Told you - it's easy!

P.S. Well, we all know it's not easy, but we all know someone who makes it look as if it is!!

Who do you think you are?

Who do you think you are? - the BBC Family History programme which follows celebrities as they try to find out about their ancestors - should make compulsive viewing for Tullylish parishioners on October 18th as they follow the journey of Oscar Award winning actor, Jeremy Irons as he traces his family tree. This journey will bring him to All Saints where he will learn about his great, great, great grandfather and his connections with the area. So please make a note of the date and time.

B.B.C.1: Wednesday, 18th October, 21.00 - 22.00

Our Croatia Experience

Some of the team who visited Croatia in July describe the effect had on them

Going to Croatia gave me the chance to give something back and also make a difference to a community, both of which were achieved. I was amazed at the level of prosperity but realize that there are also those in society who need our collective help. It also gave me an opportunity to get to know better other members of our church and learn that together we can make a difference.

Jim Bell

As I have been involved with Church Growth in Croatia right from the beginning, I found it a privilege to have the opportunity to visit and give practical help to others less fortunate than ourselves. I was particularly touched by the welcome we received from the boys and girls in the Children's Home.

Heather Hanna

I will always remember the humbling experience we had when a group of us arrived to decorate the home of a member of Nathanael's Church. We could not believe that anyone could live in such conditions. But although the lady had so little, she shared it with us by making us cakes and keeping us supplied with cold drinks while we worked.

Allen Hanna

I was very much touched by the warm welcome we received at the orphanage and for the lovely food which the staff had provided for us.

Richard Collen

I remember the extreme temperatures, high humidity and a group of imperfect human beings reaching out to each other in fellowship. I will always have a lasting memory of the children in the orphanage and the unselfish kindness of the staff who supported us in our daily work. I really do not understand why we do not do something like this more often.

Sharon Lappin

I will always remember when a group of us visited one of Nathanael's church members in her humble home. Because of the intense heat, one of our team felt faint. While all of our group panicked and fussed, not knowing quite what to do, we noticed that the lady we were visiting was standing in silent prayer, obviously praying for our friend. It made us realise the strength of her faith.

Muriel McCracken

One of my most memorable experiences was when we visited one lady whose house was being repaired by our team. I brought her a blanket which I had crocheted. When I gave it to her, she held it up to the sky and with tears running down her cheeks began to pray and thank God. It was humbling to see that something which was made from so little, meant so much to her.

Louise McClory

I was touched by the smiles on the faces and the glow in the children's eyes when we first entered the orphanage.

William Robinson

It was such a blessing to have the All Saints' Church team in Koprivnica. We are all so thankful for their great love and sacrifice. They truly left a great testimony and a tremendous impact in church and town. All Saints' Church, Tullylish - thank you all very much!

Nathanael Spicak



**The Old Tower
Tullylish**

The Old Tower which has stood proudly watching over our worship here in Tullylish since 1827, is now showing signs of its age. The original church on this site was reduced to ruins during the 1641 rebellion and rebuilt in 1695 with the tower being added later. As custodians of this rich heritage, it is our duty to preserve it for those who will follow after us.

Already there are moves being made to restore the old tower and make it safe. To this end we are looking for help and information that will enable us to put together a portfolio on the tower to assist us in fund raising and eventual repair.

If you have any information on the following items, can you please let us know?

1. Documentation referring to the Old Tower or Old Church;
2. Anecdotal stories about the above, no matter how short or strange;
3. Knowledge of restoration processes (Engineer reports etc.);
4. Knowledge of fund raising (Large fund raising processes).

All information is useful, so please do not think that any little you may have will be of no use. It will, we need all the information we can muster.

So please let us know by speaking to Arthur or Jim (Bell). Even better, jot it down and give it to any vestry member.

You can make the difference.

My Trip to America

This summer I spent a month in America with the CFPNI Project. CFPNI stands for Children's Friendship Project Northern Ireland, which promotes peace and understanding in Northern Ireland amongst Protestant and Roman Catholic teenagers. After applying to participate I was luckily one of the fourteen from Banbridge who was accepted. Overall there were 100 teenagers chosen from the whole of Northern Ireland. Before setting off for America, we had to attend several meetings where I was paired with a partner, Niamh with whom I would spend a whole month.

My host family lived in the City of Falls Church in the State of Virginia, about 15 minutes away from Washington D.C. There were 3 children in the family, Brian 15, Colin 13 and Nora aged 9, also a golden retriever called Shabby. We could not have asked for a nicer family. We were made to feel part of the family and they went out of their way to do everything they could for us.

We had the opportunity to visit well known tourist attractions such as the White House, the Washington Monument, the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials and also Capitol Hill. Here we met many congressmen and women who talked with us and explained how they became involved in politics. They also answered our many questions. We met with Senator Hillary Clinton and were photographed with her.

We also had the opportunity to do something for the community by participating in community service. We were split into groups with each group being given tasks such as making lunches or dinners for the homeless or food drives at a local supermarket to provide food for a shelter for the homeless. The group I was in had to make the lunches which was very rewarding as we were doing something positive for the community.

While I was in America I attended several church services including two Episcopal services which are similar to our Church of Ireland, Mass at the host family's church and a Methodist service. From this I learned much about their culture and religion and saw how the different religions can live peacefully together within their community. At every service we attended we were welcomed, regardless of our background.

I will never forget my time there as I have lots of memories and photographs to remind me. It was a great chance to make new friends both from Northern Ireland and America. In October there will be a reunion to give everyone who took part in the project the chance to meet up and share their experiences. Some members from my host family will be coming over for this and will stay for two days with us in Banbridge.

This will give me a chance to show them around Banbridge and hopefully allow me to give them as good a time as they have given me.

Allison Gray

SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS

Harvest Thanksgiving Services

Sunday, 8th October 2006

Morning: 11.30 a.m.
Preacher: Canon Ronnie Nesbitt

Evening: 6.30 p.m.
Preacher: The Reverend Robert Neill

Monday, 9th October 2006

Evening: 8.00 p.m.
Preacher: The Reverend Robert Miller
Guest Singers: The PSNI Choir

*May the peoples praise you, O God;
may all the peoples praise you.
Then the land will yield its harvest,
and God, our God, will bless us.
Psalm 67:5-6*

DIVINE HEALING SERVICES

Sunday, 3rd September 2006
Dean Roland Hutchinson

Sunday, 5th November 2006
The Reverend Ian Gamble

Sunday, 7th January 2007
Bessie Thompson

Sunday, 4th February 2007
Lorna Quinn

Sunday, 4th March 2007
Brother David Jardine

Sunday, 1st April 2007
The Reverend George Grindale

Sunday, 6th May 2007
The Reverend Dorothy McVeigh

Sunday 3rd June 2007
The Reverend David Brown

All Healing Services will begin at 6.30 p.m.