

# inFORM

BCM NI Newsletter



## BUSY SCHEDULES, FULL HEARTS

JUDITH ROGERS

*38 children crammed into a Bible Club repeating the memory verse at the top of their lungs, 80 volunteers singing heartily in the barn, the familiar thud as a camper jumps out of a top bunk signalling to their dorm that the camp day has begun – what wonderful sounds!*

Bible Clubs in the Markets, West Belfast and Culcavey; the City Kids' residential weekend in March; and the Camp training weekend at Mullartown are just a few of the things which I have been thrilled to be involved in recently. As all of us in BCM NI relish the return to ministry without restrictions, there is the possibility that our appreciation for the privilege afforded to us will diminish. As our schedules get busier, and we look forward to a full summer, let us not lose our sense of joy as we embrace the honour of sharing Jesus Christ with children and young people.

## MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBER - ANDY SHANKS!

Andy Shanks recently joined the BCM NI Board and is looking forward to meeting many new people over the coming months and seeing how the Lord continues to bless the work of BCM NI. Andy is married to Gillian; they have two teenage daughters. Last year, Andy and his family moved back to Newtownards after spending 16 years in Christian work in County Limerick. They are currently involved in different types of outreach and ministry in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland and have had the privilege of assisting with the Hello Life team in Belfast.



# 30 YEARS LATER: A TESTIMONY TO GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

JENNIFER THOMPSON

I booked in for the **BCM Ladies' Conference** this year - even though I knew no one, the desire to go was greater than my anxiety. At the first meeting, the lady sitting beside me introduced herself as Mae, who previously served at Mullartown as camp nurse. Auntie Mae - that name sounded familiar.

As a girl, I lived just outside Lisburn in a very broken home with a lot of heartache. Just down the road, I attended a kids' club: '**Marjorie's Meetings**'. Here, I heard about camp! At Mullartown, I enjoyed the large gardens, fun activities, and the barn meetings.



On **7th July 1994**, I remember Joan McKinstry speaking on sin separating God and man and that nothing we could do would bridge the gap, but the cross could. In my simplicity, I said to God that I needed Him to fill that gap; I accepted Jesus as my Saviour, repenting and receiving forgiveness of sin. Although it didn't change my circumstances overnight, God was now my father. I hadn't seen my mum for a while and when she picked me up from camp, I said I had something to tell her: "I became a Christian" I said, "so did I" was her response! God was moving and had saved us separately even when we were apart! Shortly after, I moved back in with my mum and God started slowly rebuilding my family. Growing up it was hard, there were many challenges but God was faithful even when I was not. In 5th year, I began to stop caring what others thought of me and started to walk more with the Lord. I met my husband, got married, and we now have 5 sons and 1 daughter. Over the years, I've battled with mental health issues, days when I couldn't face the next, yet God never let me go.

In 2019, my youngest child was diagnosed with Leukaemia. Looking back, I realise that even when my faith fails, He holds me fast. This journey brought me to my knees; over these last few years God has drawn close. Prompted by His Spirit to go to the Ladies' Conference, I heard His voice loudly, as He reminded me that no matter the storm, He is there - **God is faithful, God is good, God will never leave me**. "Auntie Mae" took me under her wing making sure I had someone to sit with. The more we talked the more I saw the Lord's hand. I shared about Marjorie's Meetings, how I got saved and how I hadn't seen Marjorie since. On the Saturday, Mae pointed out Marjorie!

Did Marjorie know the impact opening her home had had? How a little girl was saved, lives rebuilt, a family blessed, and a faith proved? What a day of fellowship we had. My family now attends Family Camp at Mullartown each summer – my kids wouldn't miss it! The fellowship, the friendship, and the shared faith has been a refreshing blessing to my soul. I thank the Lord that people continue to listen to His call, open their doors and plant seeds. God is good and He gives the increase.





# SUMMER CAMP

GEMMA HILL

Here at Mullartown, we could not be more excited about having summer camp in person this year. So far, we have 140 volunteers signed up and just over 500 campers with spaces still left at each of our kids camps. Our theme for this summer is **Fearless Faith**; throughout God's word, we are reminded of the FAITH ordinary people had in Jesus. We will be exploring the Gospel of Matthew to see how some fishermen, a sick woman and a close friend of Jesus learned to trust Him in every situation. Our prayer is that all the leaders and campers will learn to trust God. Below are the dates, ages and leaders in charge of each week of camp. We invite you to join us in praying for these teams as they bring their programmes together.

# OLD WARREN BIBLE CLUB

LAURA WALDRON

Since February, we have been running a children's bible club on Monday afternoons in the Laganview Enterprise Centre in Old Warren. This was following on from outdoor bible clubs we did in the area last summer. The numbers have been varied but we have been encouraged by a consistent core group of children who come regularly and have been really enthusiastic and quick at learning the songs and memory verses in particular. We plan to have a special night for the parents to come to at the end of June. We would appreciate prayer for this upcoming event, that we might make good connections with the parents and have the opportunity to share the Gospel with them.



## SUMMER SCHEDULE

**2-7TH JULY**

**9-14TH JULY**

**16-21ST JULY**

**WEEK 1 KIDS CAMP**

**FAMILY CAMP**

**SENIOR TEENS CAMP**

Matty & Rebekah  
Reid

Jason & Gemma  
Hill

Zak Nicholls

**23-28TH JULY**

**30 JULY - 4 AUG**

**6-11TH AUG**

**CITY KIDS CAMP**

**MERGE CAMP**

**WEEK 2 KIDS CAMP**

Judith & Stevie  
Rogers

Gary & Julia  
Fletcher

Jonny & Claire  
Martin

**13-18TH AUG**

**20-25TH AUG**

**22-25TH AUG**

**WEEK 3 KIDS CAMP**

**JUNIOR TEENS CAMP**

**ENGAGE CAMP**

Mel & Rob  
Henry

Dan McCready &  
Jemma Gordon

Nathan & Rachel  
Anderson

## NEW CAMP!

We still have space in our new summer camp at Kilbroney!

Sign up at

[www.bcmni.org/engage](http://www.bcmni.org/engage)



*Engage*  
camp

**KILBRONEY CENTRE**

**MON 22ND - THURS 25TH AUGUST**

**AGE 11-15 (YR 8 - 11)**

**COST £115**

BOOK ONLINE:  
[WWW.BCMNI.ORG/ENGAGE](http://WWW.BCMNI.ORG/ENGAGE)

# ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING AN INTERN WITH US?

*Are you thinking about September and considering a gap year; do you love God, have a desire to serve Him, and to deepen your relationship with Him?*

Here at Mullartown, we run an internship programme where you would have the opportunity to live here on site; you would get to help practically with the running of Mullartown and have opportunities to get involved in weekly youth and kids ministries at camp and in the local churches/schools.

If this is you or someone you know, let's chat and we can have a yarn about a few more of the details of what's involved!

**Contact Gemma: 07821573697**

For more information visit [www.bcmni.org/interns](http://www.bcmni.org/interns)



## HELLO LIFE SCHEDULE

Lurgan: 19-24 June

Emily Kane & Adam Hanna

Belfast: 31 July-6 August

Judith Rogers & Sarah McLean

Lisburn: 31 July-6 August

Nathanael McIlveen & Kate Maginnis

Downpatrick: 14-19 August

James Maginnis & Chloe Millen

Carryduff: 15-19 August

Lawrence & Monty McCleery

## HELLO LIFE UPDATE

### NATE HEATER

Hello Life planning is roaring along! Our first ever term-time team, **Lurgan**, kicks off at the end of June, followed in August by teams in **Belfast**, **Lisburn**, **Carryduff**, and **Downpatrick**.

We're excited to have wrapped up a four-week run of clubs in Downpatrick sharing **'Can You Believe It?'** stories from the gospels with over 45 kids (and a few parents) attending throughout May - a special thank you to our Belfast Bible College placement student, **Adam Hanna**, who took on the bulk of the organisation. We'll be back in these estates with Hello Life in August.

Please **pray** for the team leaders and volunteers as they plan for bible clubs, outreach, and other ministries, as well as the practical elements of the weeks. Pray also for team unity and creativity in how they prepare to share the gospel.

## FOR YOUR DIARY

### ➤ **Thursday 15th September**

Join us in celebrating **Scott and Joanna Widman's** years of service  
RSVP at [www.bcmni.org/widmans](http://www.bcmni.org/widmans) (see flyer on back page)

### ➤ **Wednesday 21st September**

Join us for our **Summer Thanksgiving Service** in **Sloan Street Presbyterian @7.30pm**

### ➤ **Every Tuesday in July and August**

Join us in **praying for the summer ministries** of BCM NI, **8-9pm via Zoom**. For Zoom details, please contact: [office@bcmni.org](mailto:office@bcmni.org)

# MISSIONARY UPDATES

## JASON & GEMMA HILL



We are keeping really well and are just loving that the summer camp buzz is really taking off around Mullartown, with extra volunteers being here helping practically and hearing from the programme directors and their excitement of the programmes coming together. We love being at Mullartown all year round, but it is the summer ministry that excites us and makes the hard work all year, seem worthwhile.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the appeal for getting a new climbing frame at Mullartown House! There was over £4000 raised and, needless to say, it will be well and truly used this summer. So thank you!



## SCOTT & JOANNA WIDMAN

Joanna and I (Scott) are looking forward to a full summer of ministry! Joanna will be cooking and cleaning at Mullartown and I'll be heading down south to speak at Castledaly Manor for two weeks. We'll both be helping with our church's holiday Bible club at the beginning of July. Then we team up again to do Hello Life Belfast. I'll finish up helping at our church's teen club before we both begin to sink our teeth into packing up to head to the States. We cherish your prayers during this time!

## MIRIAM REIMER

I have successfully gotten married since the last newsletter and am enjoying settling into a new life with my husband, Alex. I have been busy learning more of the admin and finance role as well as helping with maintenance at Mullartown. I am very excited to experience my first BCM summer, with all the busyness of camps!

## NATE HEATER

I am continuing with overseeing the Hello Life teams, regular work in Downpatrick, and with discipleship groups in Lisburn and Mourne. I'm excited for the opportunities for reaching into new areas this summer with Hello Life, plans for investing in the volunteers throughout the year, and planning for more term-time work in various areas.

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Join us for *Scott + Joanna's*  
*Farewell Party*

THURSDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2022



Annalong Presbyterian  
Church Hall at 7.00pm

Catered by Top Nosh  
£20.00 per person

Book your spot at  
[www.bcmni.org/widmans](http://www.bcmni.org/widmans)

