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BCM NI Newsletter



THE END OF AN ERA JUDITH ROGERS

September 2022 has marked the end of an era due to the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, our longest reigning monarch. For BCM NI, September 2022 has also been the end of an era, saying farewell to the Widmans as they headed back to the States after 22 years of serving in Northern Ireland.

120 people gathered on 15th September to give God glory for all that He has done through Scott and Joanna during their time here. God's faithfulness was evident as campers and volunteers, both past and present, joined with the BCM NI Board and staff to celebrate the Widmans' service here. Those who spoke of Scott and Joanna's influence on their life represent an uncountable number of children, young people and adults who have benefitted, either directly or indirectly, from the ministry of Scott and Joanna, both at Mullartown and in other settings.

On a personal level, I have appreciated their support, friendship and partnership in the Gospel over the past few years and I, along with the rest of the staff and Board, will feel their absence from the BCM NI family. However, as they enter this new season of life, we are confident that they will continue to serve the King of Kings faithfully; we in turn will strive to do the same on this side of the Atlantic.

INTERNSHIP REFLECTIONS

KATE MAGINNIS

The internship last year definitely looked different to other years; however, God was still very much at work. Throughout the year, God blessed me with lots of opportunities to serve him, whether that was through youth ministry, practical work at camp, or through serving on summer teams.

Throughout the year I was involved in the Endure (previously Connect) Bible study, where myself and 2 other leaders came together weekly with a group of teens aged 16-18 to study God's word. During the year we did studies in Daniel and the Psalms, and we are so thankful to God for His faithfulness in working amongst the great group of teens that came along, as well as growing and pushing us as leaders.



I am so thankful that I also had the opportunity to co-lead Hello Life Lisburn for the past 2 years. This year we had a team of 14, and over the course of a week in August, we ran 5 day clubs and did practical work, as well as doing door to door work, street outreach and team Bible studies. During the week, God blessed us with so many great conversations with the people of Lisburn, as well as good relationships with the kids at the clubs, who were usually very attentive and excited.

I'm so thankful for each opportunity that God provided me with through the internship, for the relationships that have been formed, and for the ways in which He has grown and taught me throughout the year.





A FULL SUMMER TOCCARA BEGGS

This year I had the privilege of being involved with Connect on a Thursday night, Senior Teens, Hello Life and Week 2 Kids Camp during summer. In Connect, I had the opportunity to delve deeper into the Word with Christians my age and grow with them while studying Daniel and the Psalms. We were also able to show relatability and vulnerability throughout this time. At Senior Teens, I learned a lot about what Jesus has planned for us and what our spiritual gifts are and how we can use them to serve - this was a great opportunity to get filled up and to give me confidence before going out to serve in Hello Life and Week 2! At Hello Life, we focused on bringing the gospel to those in the community, which gave me the opportunity to lead talks, memory verses, songs and to go out and do street outreach!! At Kids' Week 2, I was a dorm leader where I had the role of leading quiet times, talks, a hobby and helping with different big days at camp. I built good connections with the children in my dorm and within the camp in general. We were blessed to have so many kids, 10 of whom gave their lives to Jesus!!!

I would really encourage stepping out and serving - there is so much fruitfulness in Mullartown and more to come. Overall, God has taught me that we are only the seeds in His plantings, and that He will be there to grow and nurture them, we just need to be open to scatter the seeds in all we do.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW INTERN: ESTEBAN!

Hi, my name is Esteban Pineda. This summer was my fourth summer working at BCM's Camp Sankanac as a counsellor in Pennsylvania. I have found that my passion for camp ministry has grown a lot and I am looking into pursuing it full time. I will be joining the team at Mullartown House as an intern over the next year. I am looking forward to this internship as it will give me more of an understanding of what camp ministry looks like in other countries and it will help me to grow closer to the Lord. Being moved from my everyday normal, I am hoping to learn exponentially more than I would if I were at home.



This year, I helped as a volunteer for Senior Teens, Hello Life Downpatrick and the May Downpatrick Bible Clubs. Senior Teens '22 was the first Mullartown camp I have ever done and I regret leaving them this late.

I was encouraged seeing the care and God's love shown to the campers, and the spiritual growth shown by the campers in such a short space of time was humbling. Heading back to do ministry in Downpatrick, having helped on the Hello Life team last year, was a wonderful example of seeing the benefit of consistent relational ministry. There is a true sense of spiritual depravity in many areas of Downpatrick, so seeing the same kids from last year (and some new ones) remember the stories and show keenness to know more was humbling and is a clear sign of the glory of God making itself known in Downpatrick.

"Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come." – Hebrews 13:13 - 14



It started off by me getting on a bus; I sat down and basically just played on my phone until we got to Mullartown House. When our bus arrived there, I ran to my dorm: Ben Crom. It's a mountain there with other dorms such as Rocky Mountain, Donard, Meelbeg, Meelmore and more. I was annoyed because we got the smallest room, but it is what it is. We then went to the barn where all of us were welcomed in and announcements about stuff like bedtimes, quiet times (which is where we sit and talk about anything that's on our head, about Jesus and other stuff), breakfast, lunch, dinner etc.

We then went to breakfast; we had pancakes. I loved it so much! They were the best, literally the best. The only one of my friends there was Thomas but I quickly made friends, it's very easy to make friends because you sleep in the same room and get to talk during quiet times. After that, it was just free time, lunch, barn, activities and dinner but I really enjoyed the Corrie Ten Boom story – she was a Jew that was held hostage by Nazis. After that it was the same, but we did stuff like swimming, going to CoCos, making cheesecake and pizza and even going to the beach! Overall, it was a great time, and I would recommend coming to camp.

- **Every Tuesday from 20th September**
Bubbles 1st-4th year girls, 7-9pm @Mullartown
- **Every Friday from 23rd September**
Bubbles 5th-6th year girls, 4-5:30pm @Mullartown
- **Every Monday from 26th September**
Oaks Bible Study secondary age boys, 8:30-9:30pm @Mullartown
- **Every Thursday 7:30-9pm**
Endure 16+ @BCM Centre Lisburn
- **First Saturday of the month 7:30-9pm**
Deeper Ages 13-15 @Sloan Street Presbyterian Church Halls, Lisburn



FOR YOUR DIARY

UNBELIEVEABLE EXPERIENCE

HANNAH MOXEN

This past summer I did my bible college placement with BCM and, if I had to choose one word to describe my experience, I would choose “**unbelievable**”. God is so incredible and is very evidently working within this organisation.

This summer, I did 4 teams: Hello Life Lurgan, Hello Life Downpatrick, City Kids Camp and Family Camp as well as helping cook a few days in-between. I feel like I could write an essay on how much I learnt and my highlights! Each team that I did was extremely different and I saw God work in very different ways. From the Hello Life teams giving me a shock to the system as I saw first-hand the need for the gospel in people’s lives, to the teens in family camp, hearing of their need for Jesus in times of trial and hurt. God is really doing incredible things in this country through BCM and it was such a privilege to serve with them this summer.

A highlight for me was a camper in my dorm becoming a Christian and seeing her growing realisation of who Jesus is throughout the week at camp. Overall the summer with BCM has really opened my eyes to the work God is doing in this country through them.



ENGAGE CAMP!

RACHEL ANDERSON

This year, BCM began a new venture, called “Engage.” Thirteen campers ages 11-16 spent the last week of August at the Kilbroney Centre in Rostrevor. Our vision for Engage was that it wouldn’t just be a satellite camp of Mullartown, but rather, its own unique camp in a totally new environment. Pioneering something new brought about many challenges, but God was in every detail from start to finish!

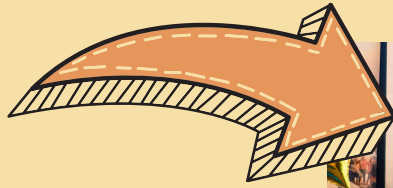
The activities were fantastic, utilizing Kilbroney Centre’s fabulous grounds and forest. All of the leaders were new to helping at a camp, although they had all had previous ministry experience and it was brilliant to see their gifts come alive as they served in new capacities. The kids themselves were an inestimable blessing. Although they came from incredibly diverse backgrounds, the Lord made it clear, He was planting seeds in their hearts that we pray will come into fruition!



MISSIONARY UPDATES

SCOTT & JOANNA WIDMAN

Joanna and I left Northern Ireland on the 23rd September. All the emotions and stress have been overwhelming! We could hardly stay focused on anything for very long. But one thing is absolutely clear, sharp and focused: we have been blessed to be a part of the work of BCM NI, to have met so many wonderful people and to live in one of the most beautiful parts of God's creation! We will miss all of this terribly. Thank you for making us feel a part of the family.



MIRIAM REIMER

Alex and I have returned from a quick trip to the US, to visit my parents, and Canada, to visit Alex's extended family. It was a great time of meeting those dearest to him. I continue to enjoy working in the admin side for BCM NI and am excited about the familiarity of term-time, as now I have been with BCM almost one full year!

NATE HEATER

After an encouraging summer of Hello Life teams and several camps, I'm looking forward to seeing discipleship groups start up again, investing in leaders, and to continuing to build connections and relationships in Downpatrick and Newry. Rachael and I are praying and preparing for our upcoming visa decisions as well.

JASON & GEMMA HILL

We are all keeping well. Absolutely loved having summer camp back in full swing and our hearts are just so full at how God worked in so many lives over the summer, we are now in the winter season of Mullartown and just balancing all that's involved with that.



BCM Centre 41 Seymour Street, Lisburn BT27 4SY
T: 028 9260 3864 E: office@bcmni.org Web: www.bcmni.org
Mullartown Camp & Conference Centre
159 Glassdrumman Road, Annalong BT34 4QL
T: 028 4376 8217 E: mullartown@bcmni.org

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