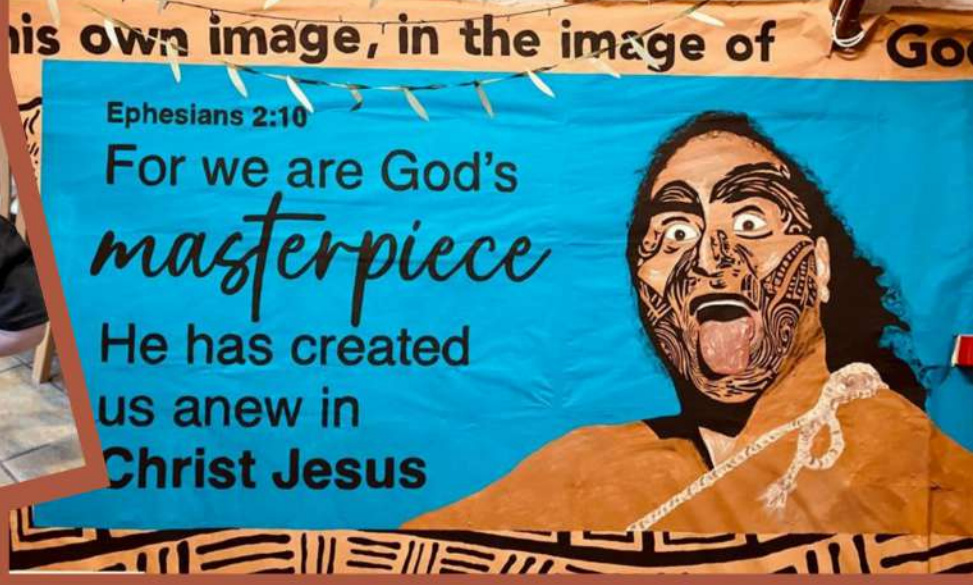


# inFORM

BCM NI Newsletter



THE LORD  
IS GOOD  
JUDITH ROGERS

*“Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name. **For the Lord is good**, his unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation.” Psalm 100 v 4-5*

We came away from our recent Thanksgiving Service with an overwhelming sense that **the Lord is good**. As we watched the summer camp video and appreciated that 570 campers visited Mullartown in the summer, served by 250 volunteers, we could say “**the Lord is good**.” As photos flashed across the screen of children sitting on blue tarps in multiple estates, in 5 towns around the country, listening to Hello Life volunteers explain the Bible to them, we could praise the goodness of God in providing these opportunities to reach children with the Gospel. As we considered how the Lord blessed us with safety, sufficient volunteers, open doors and open hearts, we could echo the Psalmist’s words once again: **the Lord is good**. What a privilege to serve in a country, and at a time, when the summer can be used to bring the good news to those who don’t yet know the Lord, and to disciple young people who have already decided to follow Jesus.

As campers return to normal life, where they are often bombarded with the lies of the world, please pray with us that they would let “*the One who created them be the One who defines them*”. Also pray with us for children and young people who aren’t exposed to the Bible much during term-time, that the Lord might provide opportunities for them to build on what they learnt at camp or at Bible Club, and that he might bring to their remembrance what they heard in the summer.



# A NEW EXPERIENCE - MARY ELLEN SCHOMER

Hello! I am a University student in Lancaster Bible College's children and family ministry program (USA). This summer I was privileged to spend 3 weeks with BCM NI and 2 weeks with BCM Rol.

## Kids Week 1

My first week was hard—traveling solo and integrating into a new culture is not light work. That said I was able to connect with the children at Kids Week 1 and, by God's grace, shine the light of Jesus to them. Part of what made ministry so challenging that first week was feeling like an intruder: How can I welcome these kids into a space I myself have never been to before? The Lord reminded me that hospitality is not bound to a specific setting but can be carried with you. And this made all the difference.

## Family Camp

Over the past years, God has given me a heart for inter-generational ministry, and (even though I was primarily in the kitchen) I loved seeing a glimpse of this in action at Family Camp. Early in the week, Jason asked me to be "Lyn-in-the-bin." Turns out "Lyn" wears an obnoxious wig, hides in a rubbish bin, and tells jokes in front of everyone at evening barn gatherings. Sometimes making a fool of yourself is the best bridge for building relationships; the conversations I had with children and parents because of "Lyn" were a blessing.

## Hello Life Belfast

After appreciating the Kingdom impact of camp ministry, participating in Hello Life Belfast reversed the direction of travel: instead of children leaving their homes and communities for a week, we left ours and visited them. This taught me a valuable ministry skill: how to leave the protection of a Christian environment and interact with people in their brokenness.

Overall, my time with BCM NI has taught me a lot about myself, my God, and His global church.

Thank you!





# NEW ASSISTANT CAMP DIRECTOR!

JASON NICHOLL

For those who don't know me, my name is Jason and I have been the Children's and Youth worker in St Jude's Parish; however, after 4 years and many great memories, the Lord has called me into a new role as the **Assistant Camp Director** at Mullartown house.

The past 4 years in St Jude's have been a great blessing and I consider it a privilege to have been able to serve the Lord and the church family for that length of time. The decision to leave therefore, has not been one that I have made lightly, but has been one that I have prayerfully considered over some time. I firmly believe that this new role is one that the Lord has placed in front of me and one that He is calling me into.

It's amazing how the Lord works through others to accomplish His plans and purposes, and Mullartown House will always hold a big place in my heart because of how God has used the people and the ministry to shape me into the person I am today. My experience of Mullartown House has been layered, with each layer revealing another side of Mullartown House and ministry that I hadn't experienced before - firstly as a camper, then as a leader and, last but not least, as an intern. The Lord has definitely used the years of Mullartown involvement in ways that I'm sure I don't fully realise.

### **My role:**

In this new role as the Assistant Camp Director I will be working alongside the current Camp Directors, Jason and Gemma Hill, and will be trained as a BCM missionary. In this role, I will be responsible for helping the Camp Directors with the daily running of Mullartown House which will include: maintenance work, admin, group bookings, summer and weekend camps, ministry to children and teens (including supporting church and schools ministry), and a variety of additional responsibilities.

### **Support:**

With BCM being a faith mission, all of their full-time missionaries raise their own salaries through a support team, and as the Assistant Camp Director, I have the privilege of putting together my own support team. I am therefore inviting YOU to prayerfully consider partnering with me in the work of BCM NI. If you would like to speak to me about my new role and how you can support me, please send an email to: [jasonnicholl96@gmail.com](mailto:jasonnicholl96@gmail.com)



**2023**

**City Teens** - 29 Sept - 1st October  
**City Kids** - 20-22nd October  
**Families Reunion** - 27-29th October  
**Seniors Reunion** - 30 Dec - 1st January

## Upcoming Weekend Dates

**2024**

**Merge/Kids Reunion** - 19-21st January  
**City Teens** - 16-18th February  
**City Kids** - 22-24th March  
**Juniors Reunion** - 12-14th April



Wow! A year has come and gone at Mullartown and I absolutely loved every minute of it. This internship has taught me so much and pushed me in ways I did not anticipate.

I have really enjoyed this experience and will forever hold the memories close to my heart. Some of the things that I have enjoyed was getting to serve in **Oaks** and church—the Good News Club and Youth Fellowship. Being able to serve alongside the leaders within these groups was so encouraging and getting to know the different young ones and seeing them grow has touched my heart. Going into the **primary schools** for SU was another highlight - in the States, you don't really get opportunities like that and being able to do it here really assured me that the next generation coming up still has a good foundation to build upon.

God really worked on me this year. One of those ways was through a study we did in Oaks on 1 Peter and particularly ch5v7: "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." I've always been one to worry but this year I was reminded to give it all to the Lord. Throughout the year, Gemma, Jason, Miriam and myself went through a couple of books for staff devotions. One of them was going through all the different Spiritual Disciplines that we as Christians should have. This book really put things into perspective for me pointing out areas of my spiritual walk that needed work.

The internship itself was amazing. Coming into it, I had figured that I would be doing just about anything camp related. I was expecting to give everything to God and trust Him in anything that came my way. The most challenging thing about this year was the stretching out of my comfort zone. God worked on pushing all of my limits in ways I did not think could happen.

This year has been one of many memories. I'm forever grateful that the Lord opened this door, I am thankful for the opportunities God provided for me, the relationships he sent my way, and for the all the ways that he has stretched me from where I was before.



- **Every Tuesday from 19th September**  
Bubbles 1st-4th year girls, 7:30-9pm @Mullartown
- **Every Friday from 22nd September**  
Bubbles 5th-6th year girls, 4-5:30pm @Mullartown
- **Every Monday from 25th September**  
Oaks Bible Study secondary age boys, 8:30-9:30pm @Mullartown
- **Every other Friday 7:30-9pm from 6th October**  
Endure 16+ @BCM Centre Lisburn
- **First Saturday of the month 7:30-9:30pm**  
Deeper Years 9-12 @Sloan Street Presbyterian Church Halls, Lisburn



FOR YOUR DIARY



# A FULL SUMMER - GEMMA HILL

We are so thrilled at how summer 2023 went with **8 jam packed weeks** full of craic, great food, brilliant and creative activities and mostly opportunities sowing seeds (word of God) into the hearts of hundreds of campers. **This summer we had 570 campers, 190 volunteers and 60+ kitchen and dish staff** at camp and saw God evidently work through the teams and programme directors who did a fab job; we are so blessed to have them on board.

Our theme for our kids/merge/family camps was '**made in His image**' and the teen camps looked at '**I AM**'. Our main purpose for the week was that campers would **let the one who created them be the one who defines them**, and the leaders did a great job at putting the lessons across. Over the summer we heard of several kids and teens giving their lives to God and loads more asking great questions.

Camp is such a great training ground for many of our leaders who get opportunities to do talks, memory verses, activities, dishes - the list goes on, in a safe place where mistakes are easily forgiven and they don't feel the same pressure as they would in front of church etc. Reading our leaders' application forms, we saw so many that had said last year was the first they had been involved in leadership and, after having such a good experience of it at Mullartown, they are now serving in their church on a weekly basis, which was so encouraging to us.

There is so much more we could tell you all about the summer: if you're interested in watching a wee clip on YouTube of highlights from the summer you can search *BCM Mullartown House – Summer 2023*.





EXCITING NEW ROLE WITH BCM NI!

# ADMIN & FINANCE ASSISTANT

Do you love facilitating children's  
and youth ministry?

Are you organised and  
motivated?

Then why not consider applying  
for this part-time post?!



For more Information visit:

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

## WEST BELFAST BIBLE CLUBS - RUTH KELSO

During the summer months, we did seven 3-day Bible clubs in 4 different areas of West Belfast: Hannahstown, Turf Lodge, Lower Springfield and Falls. We were well received and the children were enthusiastic. Many of the children listened very well and it was great to see on our return that they had remembered the Bible stories, verses and songs. We have so much to thank God for! We would love to continue over the winter if we can find a good location as some children and one mother were keen that we would come back. Please pray for these children and their parents and pray that we will find a suitable location to continue the Bible clubs.





# HELLO LIFE UPPER BALLINDERRY

EDEN WILSON



This year saw a brand new Hello Life team head to **Upper Ballinderry** (practically the moon if you ask the team members from Belfast). The team lived in luxury being hosted by Keith and Sharon Parker, and worked in some of the nearby areas: Maghaberry, Aghalee, Lower Ballinderry, and Glenavy. We ran three kids' clubs each day, and in total, saw around 40 kids reached with the gospel - some very possibly for the first time.

Our evenings were spent on prayer walks and giving out gospels, focused in Glenavy, as well as time in fellowship - over board games, hot chocolate. Meaningful and Christ-centred friendships were formed which will continue to bless us all even after team has ended. As a result of the kids club taking place in Ballinderry Moravian, we were able to organise a worship night on the Friday. This was a special time of praise and prayer for the area, which was a huge blessing to the team, supporters, and the local congregation.

Additionally, one of our clubs took place at Maghaberry Elim, and we had the opportunity to partner with them in their annual community day where we saw kids from all three clubs come with their families and had meaningful connections and conversations through that day. We are so thankful to BCM and all those who supported us in practicalities and prayer.

## ENGAGE & CITY KIDS EXPERIENCE

CURTIS ROBINSON (AGE 16)

I had an amazing time at **Engage Camp** 2023 in Rostrevor as a camper, and at **City Kids** camp as a junior helper. The leaders and my fellow campers, were very kind, funny and great to be around.

During the talks, I learned a few things: that you were made in God's image, you are unique in your own way, and that you have different talents from other people and God chose them for you. All you need to do is discover them.

While I was at Mullartown, I learned more of the story of Eric Liddell and how God transformed his life. During barn time, I enjoyed listening to the talks, acting in them, and doing the quiz.

There were a few challenges along the way which included trying to get the young campers to bed as they were very excited to be there! As a junior helper, you need to be able to set an example and try not to get too carried away even if that means that you have to go easy on the campers in football.

At Mullartown and at Engage camp, the best thing was seeing non-Christians becoming Christians. That's what it was like for me, thanks to Mullartown, I have been a Christian for 6 years. All in all, I recommend, whether you're Christian or not, to go to Mullartown and Engage camp. You won't regret it!





# MISSIONARY UPDATES

## JASON & GEMMA HILL

The winter season of weekend/midweek groups has started along with Bubbles and church commitments outside of camp. The kids are doing good, Caleb gave his life to God over summer! Please pray for extra help at camp as we are a cleaner and intern down at the moment. Looking forward to Jason Nicholl starting in October.

## MIRIAM REIMER

It is a bitter-sweet season of ending my time here in Northern Ireland in November. It has been such a privilege to serve alongside the wonderful staff of BCM and with all the gracious volunteers for the past two years! My husband and I are moving to Canada (his homeland), doing a documentary in Europe en-route first before landing for the next two years. We are forever grateful to God for letting us be a part of this ministry in this wonderful place. Thank you for welcoming us!



BCM NI STAFF 2023

## NATE HEATER

After a full summer of Hello Life teams and other ministry, I'm sliding right into term time work. Deeper and Oaks are kicking off this month, along with a few Bible study groups, SU/YF work, and regular discipleship meet-ups. Pray for focus, wisdom in pursuing ministry in Downpatrick and Lurgan, and continued joy in the Lord.

## JASON NICHOLL

After finishing up at St Jude's, I have spent the month of September working on support raising - visiting with people and churches. In October, I will be moving to Mullartown to start my new role! Prayer for transition and financial provision.



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