

TRINITY & GILLYGOOLEY NEWS



Issue 61

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Gillygooley Walking Club



Walking Club Members before their walk at Loughmacrory. Back L-R Audrey Clements, Diane Mills, Eleanor Connor, Twyla Moffitt, Robert West, Thelma Harkness. Front L-R Veronica Daly, Jacqui Moffitt, Irene West, Susanna McGillian & Wilma Porter. After another successful walking season, the club has now taken a well earned winter break. The Club met every Wednesday night from Easter to Mid September. The final walk was an outing to Enniskillen on Saturday 14th September. A huge thanks to all the leaders for their commitment each week.

1st Omagh BB under 15 football I



Pictured is 1st Omagh Boys Brigade under-15 football team who unfortunately were unable to successfully defend their title losing in the semi finals of this years West Ulster Battalion Competition.

CHILDRENS DAY AT TRINITY

Sunday 2nd June 2013 saw the annual Childrens Day and Presentation of Prizes at Trinity Presbyterian Church. People attending the service were greeted by Oliver Irwin, Adam Magee, Rebekah Reid, Kyle Johnston and Tom Bell at the front whilst Ellie Duncan and Thomas Winters greeted people at the rear entrances. The service started with a Call to Worship which was led by Matthew Patterson and Molly Buchanan followed by the hymn 'I have seen the golden sunshine'. Rachel Patterson and Lucy Reid led the congregation in 'A Psalm of Praise' which was taken from Psalm 113 after which 'The Church is wherever God's people are praising' was sung. Chelsea Johnston then read a prayer and led the congregation in The Lords Prayer. Then it was the turn of the Childrens Choir who sang two wonderful pieces called 'Who's the king of the jungle?' and 'Jesus' love is very wonderful' accompanied by Wendy Irwin on guitar. James Thompson then read John 3:1-16 and 'Spirit of God, unseen as the wind' was sung. Rev Herron gave the Childrens Address which was entitled '...life in its fullest' after which 'Jesus, I will come to you' was sung. Alex Thompson and Katie Buchanan then read an insightful article called 'A day in the life of...' which compared life in a third world country to life here. Oliver Irwin and Harley Folliard then presented a cheque to Rev Herron on behalf of the Sunday School and Bible Class which was in aid of the Uzima project and had been collected throughout the year. 'Prayers for others' was led by Matthew Allen and Graham Carson after which the Childrens Choir sang 'Jesus loves me' accompanied again by Wendy. Luke McFarland, Henry Thompson, Jordan Smyth and Rebecca Stewart lifted the collection whilst a very talented Hannah Patterson played the violin. The 'Offering Prayer' was read by Amy Patterson after which the Rev Herron, along with Adele Donald, presented the children with their respective prizes. Thanks was expressed to all who assisted with the running of the Sunday School and Bible Class during the year and to Wendy for the musical input.

At this stage there was a slight change to the programme as Sammy Gallagher and Gladys Cuthbertson presented Rev Herron and Sheena with gifts to celebrate Rev Herrons 20 years of faithful and loyal service to Trinity Presbyterian Church.

After that, the hymn 'I, the Lord of sea and sky' was sung and the benediction closed the service for another year.



L-R are: Back row: Harley Folliard, James Luna, Tom Bell, Oliver Irwin, Charlie Fenwick & Rebekah Reid.
Front: Ellen Winters, Madison Mc Grew & Emily Irwin.



L-R are: Back row: Lucy Reid, Henry Thompson, Scott Mc Grew, Mark Fenwick & Luke McFarland.
Front row: Thomas Winters, Rachel Patterson, Ellie Duncan & Kyle Johnston.



L-R are: Back row: James Kerr, Matthew Allen, Katie Buchanan, Chelsea Johnston & Alex Thompson.
Front row: Graham Carson, Molly Buchanan, Jack Duncan & James Thompson.



Tom Bell, Oliver Irwin, Rebekah Reid, Adam Magee and Kyle Johnston greeting people at the front whilst being supervised by Emily Irwin!



Hannah Patterson played the violin (rather splendidly!) during the collection.



Thomas Winters and Ellie Duncan greeted people at the rear doors.



Wendy Irwin who tutored and led the childrens choir as they sang their songs.



Rev Herron receives a cheque from the Sunday School/Bible Class in aid of the Uzima Project.



Rev Herron and Sheena receiving their gifts from Sam Gallagher and Gladys Cuthbertson to mark 20 years service to Trinity.

Holiday Bible Club by George Donnell



It was during the week 19th -24th August that holiday Bible club took place. It was called 'The Power Lab' (or in Rev J Nelson's Language it was the Par Lab!! ☺) and it was run by First Omagh Presbyterian Church. There was a mixture of young helpers and older helpers, and lots of children from Gillygooley and Trinity attended. We (the children) were divided into 2 teams, the seals and the dolphins.



Holiday Bible Club was called 'The Power Lab' because we were learning about the power of Jesus. Each night we learnt a memory verse, followed by some songs, a story, some eating and doing some crafts (which included experiments such as making bouncy balls, making chocolate mud, erupting a volcano of coke and even walking on water!). At the end of each night we watched all about Chadder's Science Adventure. Chadder was a talking Chipmunk, who loved to eat M&M's. mmmm! With the help of Prof Wonkenstein, Chadder had the power to defeat Prof. Smardley. This Power came from The Bible, by reading and getting his heart cleaned by the power(par) of Jesus. My favourite part of the club was making the bouncy balls, and Chadder's Science Adventure! Overall everyone made lots of new friends, and I think it's safe to say everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Thanks to all the team who made the Holiday Bible Club happen.



GILLYGOOLEY & TRINITY ANNUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL BARBEQUE AND FUN NIGHT

This annual event took place on Saturday 1st June at Gillygooley Orange Hall. Members of Gillygooley and Trinity congregation came along with their children to enjoy the evening filled with plenty of food and games to keep everyone occupied.

Everyone had plenty to eat while the cooks attended to the endless demand for burgers and hotdogs. The bouncy castle in the hall was entertainment for the younger children whilst the older children played football at the rear of the hall. This was followed by some games later on in the evening where the adults also got involved. For those that didn't escape, the evening ended with plenty of thrill and spills during the water games.

Thanks is expressed to Malcolm and Myrtle McKinley for their continued support of the event and also to those involved in the cooking and organisation of the evening.



The cooks hard at work L-R Shelby Caldwell, Malcolm and Leslie Fleming.



Mervyn and Melanie King enjoying the barbeque.



Young members of Gillygooley and Trinity who showed their skills at football.



Cheering on the football team are L-R Lauren Hunter and Karen King.



Enjoying the entertainment and food are L-R Elaine and Rosemary King, Ann Buchanan and Myrtle McKinley.



Young children enjoying the bouncy castle.



Are you boys hungry?
Back L-R Malcolm McKinley, Jack Crawford, Glenn McKinley, George Irwin Front L-R Tyler Donnell, George Donnell, Ryan Crawford, Brenda Caldwell.



I've been sacked!



Daddy said it was easy, Karen King.



Aren't we just lovely! Beverley Fleming, Adele Donald, Amanda Donald.



Do you want sugar Muriel?
Melanie King, Elaine King, Muriel Bell.



The posers! Frazer Caldwell, Matthew Hunter, Neil Hemphill, Adam Porter.



Will we butter? Pansy Fleming, Brenda Caldwell.



Lucy and Oscar Reid enjoying the Bouncy Castle.



Smile Robert! Raymond King, Robbie Bell, Leslie Fleming.



Raring to go. Tyler Donnell, George Donnell, Karen King, Timothy Donnell.

2ND YOUTH 'OUT OF CENTRE' VISIT TO VALERIE & JAMES ROBINSON'S GARDENS IN DUNGANNON



L-R Violet Crosbie & Iris Moffitt-Scott present a Bouquet of Flowers to Valerie & James Robinson while Valerie's mother Ellen McConnell looks on.



Agnes & Alan Kyle (centre) who were celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary being presented with flowers by Violet Crosbie and Iris Moffitt-Scott.



L-R Silvia Noble, Muriel Bell, Valerie Robinson, Nell Dunne, Jean Creery, Dorothy King & Ellen McConnell.



Not doing much Gardening today! L-R Bertie Oliver, Eric Crawford, Philip Elkin & Victor Sayers.

RECORD OF BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGES

(until 8 September 2013)

Baptisms in Trinity

14 Jul Sophie Emma Davis

Baptisms in Gillygooley

23 Jun Riley John Liggett

21 Jul James Ross Duguid

21 Jul Callum Graeme Duguid

21 Jul Daniel William Duguid

"Let the children come to me..." (Mark 10:14)

Marriages in Trinity

3 Jul Brian Scott Nelson & Morna Christina Elizabeth Jardine

5 Jul James Robert Mitchell & Angela Margaret Keys

27 Jul James David Hinks & Gillian Knox

"Love one another as I have loved you..." (John 15:12)

Who's in Trinity's Pews



The politics of running a church! Members of the Congregational Committee in full flow!



There were two former members of Trinity in the pews on Sunday 1st September. They were, recently married Morna Wilson, formerly Morna Jardine, who now lives in Bushmills and Norman Colhoun, now resident in Palmerston North on New Zealand's North Island. Norman was back in Omagh on a 3 week vacation and passed on his best regards to all in Trinity. It's great to see former members returning to the fold. Long may it continue.



Isobel, Peggy and Jim Gilmore.



Karen and Gemma Armstrong
Lila Clyde, Ann Sayers and Ronnie Orr & Alan Duff.



"The reception committee" Gary Milligan, Alfie Sayers, Drew Hamilton and Ronnie Keys.



Dawn and Charlie Graham and Myrtle Bloomfield.



Laura and James Colhoun.

CHILDREN'S DAY AT GILLYGOOLEY

A capacity congregation in Gillygooley Presbyterian Church gathered for the Children's Day service on Sunday 2nd June. The congregation were welcomed by the Rev. Herron and then the service was handed over to the children.

Oliver and Harvey King, Rachel Graham and Lauren Hunter led in the call to worship and a psalm of praise. George Donnell, Matthew Hunter Jason and Karen King led the prayers. Andrew Aiken read verses from the bible. Stephanie Hunter and Stephen Fleming gave a talk on what the life of a Kenya girl was like



Members of the Sunday School and Bible Class who took part in the Children's Day service at Gillygooley.

compared to the life of a Omagh boy. Offering was taken by Kellie Anderson, Jack Crawford, Glenn McKinley and Rebecca Donnell.

The children's choir, who were trained and accompanied by Amanda Graham, sang three gospel songs entitled "God made the world", "Joy in serving Jesus" and "I have seen the golden sunshine".

Hannah Moore and Ryan McFarland made a presentation to Rev. Herron of £155.57 which was the money raised by the Sunday School and Bible Class in aid of UZIMA . Rev. Herron thanked them for their contributions. Prizes were presented to the children by the Rev. Herron, accompanied by Beverley Fleming, Sunday school Superintendent , who also thanked the Sunday School teachers and everyone who assisted throughout the year.

Following the service, the congregation were invited to the hall by members of the Bible Class for tea/coffee and scones. The sum of £266.10 was raised for the Sunday School Funds.



Dorothy King, treasurer receives the Sunday School and Bible class collection from Hannah Moore and Ryan McFarland.



Alistair McKinley and his sons Scott and Aaron.



Enjoying the coffee and scones served by the Bible Class are L-R Irene McCauley, Tom and Anne Patterson.

Gillygooley BEM recipient 'overwhelmed and humbled' by Queen's Birthday Honour



A stalwart community and youth worker from Gillygooley has said he is both 'overwhelmed and humbled' at being honoured with BEM (British Empire Medal) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Mr. Andrew Scott was bestowed with the prestigious accolade for his services to young people and the Gillygooley community in general. A founder member and chairman of Gillygooley Youth and Community Development Association, Andrew has devoted more than four decades to helping to serve his local community through a wide range of local organisations, sourcing and drawing down funding for the benefit of everyone in the greater Gillygooley area and beyond.

He has given advice to other groups up and down the country on community development and funding applications, as well as encouraging cross-community and cross-border activities, and has hosted and delivered presentations at cross-community events.

Having sadly lost his first wife with cancer in 1984 at the age of 34 years, Andrew single-handedly brought up four small children aged 15 months to 8 years. Some years later, he married his wife Iris, in 1994 and together they have a very close family unit which he is 'very proud of.'

Andrew himself was diagnosed with cancer in August last year and has since undergone chemotherapy and radiotherapy treatment. However, despite this he continues to be involved in all aspects of community life.

Born in 1945, the father-of-four has lived all his life at Gillygooley Road, Omagh. His father died aged 54 when Andrew was 19 and his brother Desmond, was 15. Together they continued to farm and built up a very successful dairy herd.

Andrew joined Clanabogan Young Farmers' Club in his late teens and held the position of club leader for four years and under his leadership, the club successfully gained the 'top club' in Co. Tyrone on two consecutive years. He also held the office of county chairman and was a member of the organisation's central executive committee. He is an elder and committee member of Gillygooley Presbyterian Church, and has served as a dedicated editor of Gillygooley Church and community News.

He joined the Orange Order in his mid-teens and has held all offices at Lodge level, having served as Omagh district LOL master for nine years and held all other main district offices over the years. Andrew has also served on the Central Committee of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. Elsewhere, he was founder member and director of Mid-Tyrone Credit Union, as well as having been a founder member and chairman of Tyrone Orange Vision 2000. Other roles and positions he has held over the past 40 years include director of Derry & Raphoe Action (a group promotion community development and access of funding in rural communities), as well as serving a four year term on Peace II Partnership Strategy Board, and eight years as a member of the Board of Governors at Gillygooley Primary School. He also served 12 years on Omagh High School Board of Governors and five years as chairman of Omagh High School's Parents' Association.

In terms of his service to young people in the area, Andrew formed Gillygooley Youth Club in 1974, acting as club leader from its formation for 10 years and is still on the committee. He also founded Gillygooley Youth and Community Development Association in 1998 and has been its chairman since its inception. He also facilitated the formation of both Gillygooley 2nd Youth (50+ club) and Fairywater Farmers' Group, as well as Gillygooley Community Choir in 2006.

A member of both the Royal British Legion and the club committee, he is also an office-bearer of a group supporting innocent victims of terrorism and which helps provide respite breaks, therapeutic events etc., for widows and children whose husband or father was murdered.

In 2007, Andrew was awarded an individual award by the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland in recognition of his achievement in community development.

Further recognition was bestowed in 2013 under the Community Heroes Awards, organised by Omagh District Council, when he was the first recipient to be awarded "Lifetime Community Achievement Award", Iris Moffitt Scott and Andrea Rennie received this award on behalf of Andrew as he was unable to attend as he was recovering from an operation in Belfast Hospital.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our congratulations to Andrew and to thank him for all his commitment and we pass on our get well wishes.

Kenya by Adam Stevenson

This summer I went to Nairobi with Adam and John Moore (members of Trinity) and around 10 other people. The reason for going out to Kenya was to build a gate house on new land that had been purchased by a charity called Jengana. Jengana is a Northern Ireland based Christian charity that focuses on areas in and around Nairobi. Before leaving for Kenya each member of the group put in a huge amount of effort to help to fund raise funds for building materials and donations for the communities.

For Jengana we were the first group of volunteers that had been to their newly purchased 6 acres of land, it was just a field on the slope of a hill when we got there, but Jengana have big plans for this land, with a farm, school and a guest house. One of the first things that needed to be done was to build a gate house, so that Jengana could employ a local to live and work on the land 24/7.



Our first job was to clear space so that the foundations could be laid, this was not an easy task as trees needed to be cleared and huge boulders lifted out of the ground. All this was done with pure man power and a sledgehammer. It was very tiring work. Once this was done the foundations for the gate house were dug (with a spade). Water for the cement that was needed had to be filled into large drums from a well and carried up the steep hill to the gate house. The bricks that were used had been prepared before we arrived. This was done by digging mud out of the ground, pressing them into shape and simply leaving them in the sun to dry. No kiln was used to harden the bricks, simply just the Kenyan sun.

We were not working on the land everyday as some members of the group would go down into the city and into some of the poorest places in Nairobi, and probably the world. We visited two slums, Kibera and Mikuru on a few occasions; these are places where the poorest people in Africa live. Kibera is the largest urban slum in Africa; it is approximately a 1 mile square and houses around 200,000 people. These slums do not have electricity or sewers. Streams run through the centre of the streets filled with everything from rubbish to human and animal waste. In the slums we visited some of the houses of local people who were in desperate need of help, many could not afford basics like food or shoes and schools fees, some of the woman we spoke to told us that they did not know if they would eat that evening because it depended on whether or not their husband had found work that day. Many of the residents of these slums are sick with diseases such as HIV and AIDS.



In Nairobi there are over 60,000 street children, a lot of these children are orphans, have ran or have been sent away from their home. These street children are always looking for food and money so that they can survive; many of them are addicted to sniffing glue as a way of helping them cope. I saw these children first hand on many occasions as we took a bus around the city to find these children, when we found some we would stop and hand them some bread that we had bought in the shop, they were always so thankful for this small offering and it was a very humbling experience.

One day we visited a home where a man called Ben had started taking in street boys, giving them a bed, food and helping them to get a good education. Ben told us of the struggle of getting these boys to trust him, getting them off glue and helping them adjust to a new life. The boys were very happy to see us and wanted to play us a game of football and I'm proud to say that the pale white Northern Irish beat the African boys 1-0 in the blistering Kenyan sun, of course we had our trainers on and they were playing in bare feet. The Kenyans are never unhappy though and we left them with some donations of clothes and money so that Ben could continue to do his good work.

We also went to some of the tourist attractions around Kenya. We went on a Kenyan Safari where we saw Rhinos, Baboons, Buffalo, Giraffes, Zebras and many other African animals (there were also lions but unfortunately they were hiding from us on this day). We went to Sheldricks elephant orphanage where they save orphaned elephants and look after them until they are old enough to be let back into the wild. Also we went to a world famous restaurant called Carnivore, it's an all you can eat restaurant that serves many different types of meat, and I tried crocodile, ostrich and ox balls (the ox balls were disgusting surprisingly).



I had an fantastic time in Kenya and would recommend it to anyone no matter what age you are. Africa is an amazing place and I am glad I had the chance to experience it. I'd also like to thank everyone who donated to this cause, even though it seems at times someone is always looking for charity money, it is good to know that people generosity never waivers. I have included the website address for Jengana if anyone would like to find out more about the charity. Thank you.

Please visit and support <http://jengana.com>

MY TRIP TO SALT LAKE CITY by Nicola Hemphill

I departed Omagh 4am on Tue 25th June, flying from Dublin to New York with a connecting flight to Salt Lake City, arriving exhausted at 3am NI time.

I met my host family at the airport and went off to their home for a good night's sleep. Next day everyone met up and we had a 'get to know each other' pool party which was great fun. The trip was an amazing experience in many aspects. I was involved in a wide range of activities throughout the project, anything from service projects such as working in a food bank, helping out in a soup kitchen, visiting a retirement home and also assisting in general classroom activities in a special needs school. I also did some conservation work on the Diamond Fork, this involved planting saplings on the river bank, with everyone getting very wet at the end of the day by either going into the river yourself or being thrown in by others!

It wasn't all hard work as I had trips to the Lagoon, an amusement park with a brilliant roller coaster ride and a waterpark. Other activities were Seven Peaks Water Park and Boondocks amusement park.

We had a weekend retreat to Camp Tuttle, where we had a lot of discussions about each other and how we felt about other religions, cultures etc.

I attended a lot of different churches in America, I found them very different to Gillygooley Presbyterian Church but I am glad I had the chance to experience them.

I would like to thank the organisers of The Ulster Project for giving me the opportunity to have this once in a lifetime experience that I will never forget.



Time for a group photo, me (front right).



Showing some of our skills at climbing.

Gillygooley Summer Scheme

Once again Gillygooley Summer Scheme proved to be a big hit with the local young people. The primary scheme commenced on Monday 15th July and for 3 weeks the young people enjoyed trips to the cinema, Lurgeybrack Farm and Jonny Rockos, as well as football coaching, bouncy castles, zumba and even a home grown talent show! Added to this there was plenty of opportunity for arts and crafts, making and decorating buns and fun and games in

Gillygooley Orange Hall. A big thank you to the 2 leaders – Judith Kennedy and Lyndsey Short – and helpers Leanne, Karen and Kirsty Elkin, Carol Fleming and Bronwyn O’Donnell. The senior week commenced on Monday 5th August and was organised and ably led by Jennifer O’Donnell. The teenagers enjoyed archery, a trip to the cinema, bowling, assault courses and especially the day trip to Portrush.



Above: Some of the children who attended the fun day.



Having a Rest L-R: Maria Miller, Jessica Sterritt, Lexie Sterritt, Sophie Boyd, Gareth Forsythe & Anna Liplzynski.



Having a game of pool are Thomas Boyd and Jack Sterritt at Gillygooley Summer Scheme.



Getting ready for a game of football, Gareth Forsythe, Karen King & Jamie Young.



Waiting to use the bouncy castle is Back L-R: Sophie Irvine, Lauren Hunter, Jody Crankshaw, Lucy Kerrigan, Rebecca Stewart. Front: Caleb & Joshua Miller.

ULSTER PROJECT 2013 SALT LAKE CITY by Jack Stevenson

We find that in today's society that Protestants and Catholics are very segregated, when it comes to schools, sports and hobbies. We tend to drift away and stay to our own sides. This makes it very hard for people to meet, talk and generally get on with each other. The Ulster Project redefines all of this and gives today's generation a chance to intertwine with each other in a co-existing relationship. This vital Project reminds us that we can still get on with each other but only if we make the effort.

I was so eager to apply for the Ulster Project this year as I had heard many great stories from my friends and my two older brothers Andrew and Adam who previously took part in the Ulster Project in 2007 and 2009. It was such a relief to be chosen for the Ulster Project and when the time came I started meeting up with my Group on various days, like after school or on a Saturday afternoon. The first meeting I can remember very few people spoke unless they were asked a question, but this soon changed and after a few weeks we were like pees in a pod.

It seemed like no time at all until we were heading off across the Atlantic to our anticipating hosts in Salt Lake City 4495 miles away. When we arrived there it was their afternoon and we had been travelling for 24 hours already, making us extremely tired. I think it was the first time I ever wanted to go to bed at 7:30pm.



My Hosts - The O'Brien Family.

We spent that month participating in many activities such as wall climbing, baseball games, amusement parks, flying, swimming and many other fun activities. Sometimes we went away for a few days to camps. There were two camps, one of which was called Camp Tuttle just outside Salt Lake City and the other was called simply "the river trip" this was in south east Utah which involved a 5 hour bus journey through mountains, forests, lakes and desert terrain. My favourite part of this trip was when we went river rafting, this was also the part of the trip where everybody including myself got burnt.

Besides fun activities and camps away we also went to church services and carried out volunteer work to raise money for next year's Ulster Project. It was the best experience of my life and I have made 27 new friends for life and it has given me an understanding of how other religions function. I strongly advise people willing to take part in the Ulster Project to do so, you will not regret it.

USEFUL CONTACTS

If you require support or information regarding Gillygooley Presbyterian Church or Gillygooley Youth & Community Development Association please contact the following:

| | |
|---|--|
| Gillygooley Presbyterian Church - | Rev. Robert Herron Tel: 8224 3776 |
| Sunday School - | Beverley Tel: 8224 7047 |
| Gillygooley Youth & Community Development Association - | Raymond Tel: 8283 1444 |
| Gillygooley Youth Club - | Alison Tel: 8283 1773 |
| Gillygooley 2nd Youth (50+ club) - | Violet Tel: 8225 7814 |
| Gillygooley Community Choir - | Linda Tel: 07840996922 |
| Gillygooley Community Alert - | Fred Tel: 8224 2708 Eric Tel: 8224 6511 |
| Gillygooley Walking Club - | Diane Tel: 8224 6553 |
| Gillygooley Pipe Band (piping and drumming lessons) - | William Tel: 8224 8494 David Tel: 07754155390 |
| Gillygooley LOL 339 - | Raymond Tel: 8283 1444 |
| Fairy Water Farmers Group - | Mervyn Tel: 8283 1355 |
| Gillygooley Primary School - | Brenda Tel: 8224 2932 |

My Ulster Project Experience by Andrew Stevenson



Back Left - Andrew Stevenson with the teens in Lake Charles.

The Ulster project is a cross community initiative which provides a group of teens the opportunity to embark upon a journey to the United States for an entire month to stay with a host family with a teen of the same age. In 2007 I was selected as a teen to take part on the Ulster project in Salt Lake City. I had a fantastic month in Salt Lake City with my group and my host family. Ever since returning from America in 2007 I have always had an ambition to return as a youth leader when I was old enough.

I finally turned 21 and this allowed me the opportunity to apply as a youth leader for this year's project. As a previous teen I had a fair idea of what to expect from the project, however I was not aware of the time, effort and commitment I would have to dedicate as a youth leader prior to leaving for the States. It involved many hours meeting with the coordinators, teens and parents to ensure everything was in order before we set off. Many of these hours were spent preparing for the annual Ulster Project concert which is a major fundraiser for the project. Once all this was over it was then time to depart for the states.

I had an idea of what Lake Charles might be like from my previous time in America, but I couldn't be more wrong. The culture, landscape, people, food and weather are all so different in comparison; even though it's still the same country. Examples of these differences would include the swamps full of alligators, the tendency to spice up a lot of their meals, the popularity with hunting animals and the sheer humidity of the air. It was an exciting place to visit and was so fortunate to be able to spend a month there.

Each day of the project was action packed with activities and attractions. If there was nothing planned for the teens on a particular day then the families would plan something for them to do. Some teens went to NASA, some to Florida, New Orleans, Houston and many other exciting places. Some of the activities organised by the project included visiting nature reserves where wildlife such as alligators lived, airboat riding, museums, a TV station, meeting the council, pool parties, overnight stays, BBQs, water parks, discoveries, games and attending places of worship. There are many other activities I could mention but the list is endless!

This project is an extraordinary scheme and I would encourage any teens thinking about applying in years to come to grab the opportunity with both hands as they will not regret it and make some fantastic friendships along the way. I hope that this project will continue to do great things for the community and exists for many years to come.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

My name is Linda Trow-Poole (nee: Hemphill, daughter of Margaret and the late Bertie Hemphill from Drumbarley). I left Omagh aged 18 to become a nurse in Belfast. In 1985 I had 'itchy feet' and decided to undertake further training to become a midwife. I had to travel further afield to do this and joined a training school in Worcester, England. I was initially very homesick but my resolve was to complete my course. Although my ultimate aim was to finish my training and move back home to Omagh, I happily met and married Colin (my husband) and settled in Worcester.

I now live and work in Worcester with Colin and the youngest of my four children (Laura) who was 18 this year. She has just completed her 'A' levels and is currently awaiting results. My oldest daughter Rachael is about to commence her 5th and final year at medical school; Caroline, my second daughter, is working as a nurse in Cardiff and my son Mark, is about to enter his 3rd and final year of radiography in September.

As my children have grown older I have myself have also engaged in further education. I have obtained a BSc Honours (2.1) degree in Applied Professional Studies at Worcester University and also a Teaching and Assessing certificate in health enabling me to mentor future students. I continue to work part time as a midwife at the local maternity unit.

I belong to our local church where I have made some great friends. I have recently 'stood down' from the parochial church council due to work and family commitments but I am still very much a part of the church community. I belong to the church choir and have sung at many weddings. I am a volunteer at the church mother and toddler group and was until recently involved in the Sunday school (or "junior church" as it is called here). I am currently learning to become a 'bell ringer' as our church has had some lovely new 'bells' donated from a church in Liverpool. Bell ringing is much harder than I thought but I am enjoying the challenge though and it helps me to keep fit.

My life is very full in Worcester and I have now lived here 28 years which is longer than I lived in Drumbarley but I have happy memories of Gillygooley and wonder what happened to all of the children I played table tennis and football with to name but a few of the activities we participated in at the Youth Club! Many of my friends there are still held with deep affection and I have particularly fond memories of Andrew Scott who selflessly gave his time and energies so all of us could have fun in a safe environment.



Linda 3rd from left with her mother Margaret, husband Colin & Children Rachael, Caroline, Mark & Laura.

YOU NAME IT - GILLYGOOLEY HAS DONE IT!

Photo: Errol Thompson, Omagh District Council Chariman, presents a plague to Sharon McFarland Gillygooley Youth and Community Development Association. Included in the photograph are representatives of the various groups who use the Gillygooley Orange Hall Complex.

The Chairman of Omagh District Council, Errol Thompson, has paid tribute to the members of Gillygooley Youth & Community Development Association at a special reception to mark its 40th Anniversary.

Mr. Thompson said: "The association was born out of the construction of Gillygooley Orange Hall which was built by



the local lodge with a view to making it the hub of the community in addition to the tradition cultural activities associated with the lodge.

The new building soon became the centre of the community with activities for all age groups such as mother and toddler groups, youth clubs and senior citizens. One popular quote associated with Gillygooley Youth & Community Development Association is 'you name it - Gillygooley has done it.'

Added Mr. Thompson : "I understand that there have been four additional extensions to the hall and the growth of the hall has mirrored the increase of services which the Youth and Community Development Association has provided to the people of the area."

Continuing he added: "Gillygooley has always enjoyed cross-community relations and functions organised in the hall would have traditionally attracted cross-community support. This remains the case today with an additional cross-border strand added to its projects. Gillygooley Orange Hall has been held up as a model of best practice in the field of community development, a fact recognised by the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 2007. The Grand Lodge also recognised the contribution which Andrew Scott has made to community life in Gillygooley by presenting him with an individual merit award. Further accolades followed last year in the inaugural Omagh District Council Community Heroes awards when Gillygooley 2nd Youth won Senior Citizen's Club of the Year award, the association were runners-up in the Community Group of the Year award and Iris Moffitt-Scott was recognised individually in the Outstanding Service to the Community category. Rather than being single entity, Gillygooley

Youth & Community Development Association is very much an umbrella for a number of organisations who also do a tremendous amount of work individually participating in many public events. This is obviously engendered a strong sense of community spirit and pride in the area in which you live. I am honoured to have been afforded the opportunity to publicly recognise the work of the association this evening and on behalf of the council, I wish you continued success in the future."

Photo: Enjoying the reception at the council offices are L-R Thelma Harkness & Audrey Clements both members of the Gillygooley Youth & Community Development Association 50+ Club along with Errol Thompson, Chairman of Omagh District Council.



Gospel Concert in Trinity

A most enjoyable evening's entertainment was provided by the North West Gospel Choir in Trinity on Friday 21st June 2013. Drew Hamilton welcomed the choir and the programme proceeded with a range of readings and sacred



Members of North West Gospel Choir.



Members of the congregation.



Drew Hamilton, Alaister Smith and Evelyn Smith.



Members of the Moore and Stevenson families.

pieces such as 'Each step I take' and 'Mansion over the hilltop'. The pianist for the concert was Alaister Smith and his wife Evelyn introduced the items. She also played a number of beautiful solos, such as 'The Old Rugged Cross' on the violin. The congregation were encouraged to join with the choir in singing some of their songs including 'I stand amazed in the presence' and 'To God be the Glory'. At the end of the concert Drew Hamilton proposed a vote of thanks to the choir and everyone was invited for tea in the church hall. A retiring collection was donated to Project Jengana, a Christian charity providing help to people who are living in extreme poverty in Kenya. Two members of Trinity, Johnny and Adam Moore, along with Gillygooley member Adam Stevenson, travelled to Kenya in July to participate in Project Jengana.

Jengana 2013

Adam and Johnny Moore from Trinity and Adam Stevenson from Gillygooley travelled to Kenya in July as part of a team of eighteen volunteers participating in a Jengana project in Nairobi. Jengana is a Christian charity based in Northern Ireland and Nairobi which works with partner organisations to help some of the poorest people in Kenya.

Jengana gets to know the people it helps. It is there for the long term, providing material assistance and support to some of the poorest people in Kenya. What most impressed us was the way in which Jengana gets involved directly with individuals, families and organisations that most need help. All funds raised and materials donated really do go to where they can do most good and seeing the difference that this makes to the lives of people was such a privilege.

The camaraderie among our group, the welcome we received in Nairobi and the fellowship we shared with the local people that we met and worked with, is something we will never forget. Jengana's leader, the truly remarkable Fransuer, said towards the end of our time in Nairobi that the important thing was not what we did during our time with Jengana, but what we brought home with us. This is so true. Jengana, and Kenya, gave as much to us as we gave to the people we helped.

In this article we would like to share with you some of our experiences of Jengana 2013.

A Nairobi slum

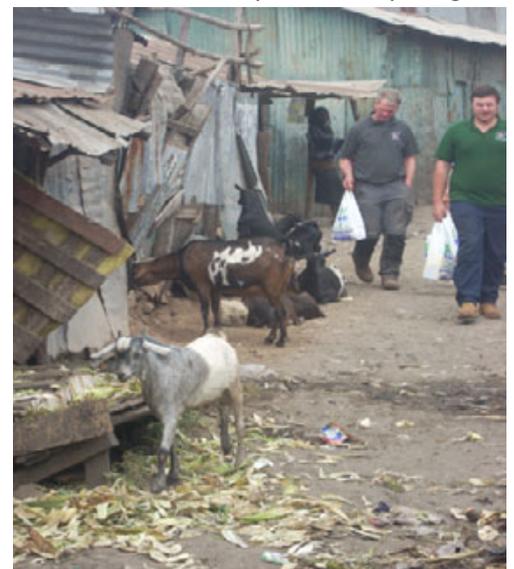


A view of Kibera slum – over a quarter of a million people live here.

Think of the most terrible place you have ever been. A Nairobi slum is worse than that. It is a squalid, confused warren of narrow unpaved alleyways lined by rickety hovels with walls of mud and rusty sheet tin. The whole place gives the impression of having been built on a rubbish heap – and that is because it is – rubbish that has accumulated year after year and is never taken away. In the middle of every thoroughfare is an open drain filled with sludgy grey water and floating refuse. The smell of the place is like the inside of your wheelie bin, overlaid by the pungent aroma of burning plastic from countless smouldering piles of this uncollected rubbish. And this is in the dry season. There are no public services – refuse collection, drains or sewers are absent and the homes do not have any running water or toilets. Municipal provision of healthcare and education does not exist. Electricity supply is haphazard and dangerous, or not there at all.

And yet the place is teeming with life. You are surrounded by the everyday bustle of a cramped, crowded community with everything you can imagine for sale in

shabby shops or stalls, or just displayed by the wayside - clothes, fruit and vegetables, hardware, fast food, cds. You can get your hair cut or styled, watch a movie in a tiny "cinema", or get your ironmongery repaired. People rush by, or stand around shouting at each other or chatting and there are children everywhere. Among all this activity chickens scratch in the rubbish and tethered goats watch you pass by. We visited Kibera and Mukuru slums with Jengana. One slum dweller told us about her life in Kibera. How bread and rice with some vegetables and charcoal to cook it on - enough for one meal for the family - would cost most of a day's earnings. Much of the rest goes on rent. Imagine paying rent for a 10 foot square tin shack – to somebody who doesn't even own the property, and who provides you with no real service at all! We visited slum families with gifts of food; a little rice, flour, sugar, cooking oil and other essentials. We were received into tiny homes, each a single room perhaps lit by one bare forty watt bulb and sparsely furnished with maybe a worn shabby bench and an old sofa, but all scrubbed spotlessly clean. This is where the family sleeps



Jengana team members taking food parcels to families in Kibera slum.

and eats and where all the cooking and washing is done. Water is bought at a public tap and carried home in jerricans. But then there is no kitchen sink, no washing machine, no bath to run and no toilet to flush. Life in a Nairobi slum is hard. It is like nothing like anything we had ever experienced; and no one should have to live in such a place. But half of the population of Nairobi have no choice. It is their home. And yet – there is a vibrancy amid the squalor; and the people have a self-reliance, a cheerful, resilient faith in the future, and a sense of community and of each other that perhaps we have lost. They deserve our admiration, our compassion and most of all they deserve our help.

The Mukuru School



Adam and Johnny say hello to some of the children at Mukuru school. "Are you from New York?" they asked.



Lunch time at the Mukuru school. The children get two meals a day; porridge each morning and rice and vegetables for lunch. It is cooked over a wood fire in the school yard, but it is good food and plentiful. For many children this is all they get to eat on a school day.

One of Jengana's projects is the Mukuru slum school in Nairobi. There are two hundred children between the ages of four and twelve attending this school and the facilities are shockingly poor. But there is no provision for public education in Mukuru at all, and for hundreds of children the only schooling they can get is in privately run schools like this – schools which get no government funding at all. There are eight classrooms in a two storey concrete block and corrugated tin built structure arranged around a tiny courtyard which serves as playground and lunch room. It costs 20 Kenyan shillings (about 15 pence) per day to attend this school, and many children are at risk of losing their places because their families are behind with the fees. Jengana currently sponsors about 120 children, and also provides for two daily meals for all of the children, as well as the wood to cook it and paying a cook to prepare the food and wash up. As you can see from the picture the conditions are extremely primitive, but without this help many of these children would not get a proper meal at all. The Mukuru school children come from some of the poorest families anywhere in Kenya. We visited one family with Laura who is eight and goes to the school, only to meet her brother and sister who do not attend school. The reason for this is that the family can only afford to send one child at a time, so they take it term about. Jengana was able to step in straight away and pay up for all three, so its off to school for Laura and her siblings, at least until they are twelve. We met with the teachers in the school and Johnny got to take a class for a short while (quite a change from South West College). He was offered a job, but the pay at £50 a month didn't appeal. However the enthusiasm of the children did, and the standard of their learning was so impressive – eight year olds who knew their arithmetic, and older children who had never left the slum learning about geography and science. It would put the schools in Northern Ireland to shame!

Makamei Children's Home

One of the most difficult visits we made was to Makamei childrens home outside Nairobi. What we found there was truly heartrending. Makamei is situated in a quiet area near where we were staying and Jengana had been told that they were in need of help. We met Margaret and the twenty children in her care. Her story is absolutely shocking and illustrates the poverty and neglect faced by so many children in Kenya. Margaret used to be a police inspector. In her line of work she often encountered abandoned children and babies on the streets of Nairobi.



The Jengana team visiting Makamei Childrens Home.

The problem was there was nowhere to take them to, so Margaret started to look after them herself. This led to her losing her job, then her husband left and she lost her home too. Now she lives at Makamei, in sole charge of all these abandoned children with the help of two young men from Word of Life mission who visit most days. The most shocking thing is that Margaret and her children get no support at all from the Kenyan authorities. They are simply left to fend for themselves – no medical care, no educational support, no health visitors or inspections from social services – nothing! And they all live in a shabby little bungalow with just three bedrooms. When we arrived they had run out of food and had no money to buy more supplies. Jengana was able to deliver a month’s worth of food straight away, along with donated children’s clothes and some books and toys. It was good to be able to do this, and to be assured that Jengana will keep a look out for Margaret and her children in the future.

A Centre for Jengana



It might not look like much, but Jengana’s first building is ready for the roof. Joseph will finish the job.



*Punda Wei Wei! (Go donkey Go!)
No mains water here – this family’s daily water supply is carted almost a mile up the hill every morning. Jengana plans to sink a borehole which will supply the centre and the neighbouring farms and families.*

Jengana have recently acquired a six acre site in a rural location outside Nairobi. Their aim is to develop this as a centre with a school and accommodation for rescued children and their teachers and carers. It is a long term project, but we had the honour of “breaking the sod” – putting up perimeter fencing, clearing away trees and scrub, and building the first house - a gatehouse and home for the watchman who will be employed by Jengana to look after the site.

Thanks from Jengana

Jengana wish to thank all the people from Trinity and Gillygooley who so generously supported the Adams and Johnny and Jengana 13. Thanks to Trinity Church and the North West Gospel Choir and to all who supported this

event in aid of Jengana. And thanks to all who made donations and sent their best wishes and prayers. It is through your help that Jengana is able to operate and to provide care and support to some of the poorest people in Kenya. And the Trinity and Gillygooley trio would like to add our thanks to all our friends and neighbours who supported Jengana. Your generosity exceeded all expectation, and it really was such a privilege to see your donations being used for people who so needed your help.



Adam Moore and Adam Stevenson take a breather along with Michael at the Jengana work site. Back to work lads!



Boys will be boys – neighbouring children strike a pose for the camera at the Jengana site. The bottles are for milk which the children have been sent to buy from the local farmer.

150 Caps for Trinity's Shirley



Shirley McCay is one of the best known hockey players ever to play for Ireland. Earlier this year she earned her 150th “cap” against Scotland. Quite a milestone!! Trinity News caught up with her to get the “inside story”. Here is what she told us:

“It was a great honour and privilege to play my 150th International Test Match for Ireland. The occasion was made all the more special as it was in front of a home crowd in Mossley, with my friends and family in attendance.

I was made captain for the game and we emerged 4-1 winners over visitors Scotland. It was an incredibly proud moment for me and comes as a result of many years of hard work, perseverance and commitment.

I represented Ulster and Ireland at under 16, under 18 and under 21 level, and made my international debut in January 2007 at the age of 18. We travelled to South Africa to play a series of games against Canada, Great Britain, Holland and the hosts.

Since then I have not looked back and my international career has seen me travel the world to play against the top nations in the world. I have been to Canada, New Zealand, Chile, Russia, South Africa, Argentina as well as most of the usual European countries!

Last year we came within one game of qualifying for the London Olympics but unfortunately lost out to Belgium in the final. It was a real low point in my career to have gotten so close yet so far but every disappointment just provides you with the learning mechanisms to facilitate success next time around.

After the disappointment of missing out on London 2012 I decided to save some pennies and travel the world with my best friend Karen. We spent 5 months venturing to pastures new and my hockey stick was nowhere to be seen! It was an amazing experience and a break I welcomed after 7 years of committing my life to hockey.

I came back in January refreshed and keen to get back into playing, which has led to my 150th cap and counting!

Recently I was lucky enough to be offered a new job working as a full time hockey coach with Ulster Hockey based in Belfast. I’m really looking forward to getting started and continuing my International career.” Everyone at Trinity would want to congratulate Shirley and wish her continuing success for the future.



Ulster Project - Lake Charles by Kyle Beattie

My first introduction to the Ulster Project was when my sister Gemma travelled to Salt Lake City in 2007. Her stories of her adventures and experiences convinced me that if the opportunity arose I should apply.

In December 2012 I filled out an application form to be considered for the 2013 project - and in early January 2013 I received notification that I had been successful and included in a party of 12 to travel to Lake Charles, Louisiana.

The period from January to our departure date of 25th June we met regularly to organise various fund raising events and most importantly getting to know our fellow teens who we were to spend a month with in the USA. On touching down in Houston's George Bush International airport and making our way to our onward transport to our host families we immediately got a taste of the beautiful hot weather which continued throughout our stay.

My host family lived in the country about 58 miles from Lake Louise, their home was in a beautiful location, we spent some time each day in their swimming pool which had a diving board and slides.

On most days events were planned, the USA and Irish teens met up to take part in a variety of events which included a visit to the local prison, various receptions with the Churches' in the area, invitation to tea with the Mayor, visits to theme parks, watching baseball, water parks and lots of pool parties. Each weekend we attended church services with our host families followed by group discussions when we would relate our experiences and views and thoughts on a variety of topics including how we felt Northern Ireland was as a country to live in.

The individual views and opinions of some of our members and American teens were not always in harmony but were accepted

I got to learn about other religions and the American culture, as well as tasting new food like 'Gumbo' (Gumbo is a soup or stew, it is the most popular dish in Louisiana).

July 2013 was one of the best months of my life - during my time in America I picked-up new skills and made new friends, I would highly recommend and encourage anyone thinking of applying to take part in the Ulster project to go for it, it's a wonderful opportunity, and I'm sure you will have a brilliant time as I did in Lake Charles.



Church News by Gillygooley Correspondent

Call for Presbyterians to pray for all suffering in Syria

The Clerk, Rev. Dr. Donald Watts, and Overseas Secretary, Rev. Uel Marrs, have written to all ministers asking them to note the General Board's resolution and encourage all their members to pray daily for those who are suffering so terribly due to the on-going and ever worsening civil war in Syria and neighbouring countries.

The Christian community in particular is in a perilous situation but we need to pray for all who are affected by the conflict, and to enable help to be provided for those in most need through our giving to the Syria Crisis Appeal. Presbyterian Moderator Dr. Rob Craig has thanked Presbyterians for their generosity in responding to the appeal launched by his predecessor to assist those working to alleviate to the humanitarian crisis resulting from the conflict in Syria.

To date, £131,056 has been donated by Presbyterian congregations and individuals to be passed on to Tearfund and Christian Aid in support of their partners working on the ground in Syria and on its borders.

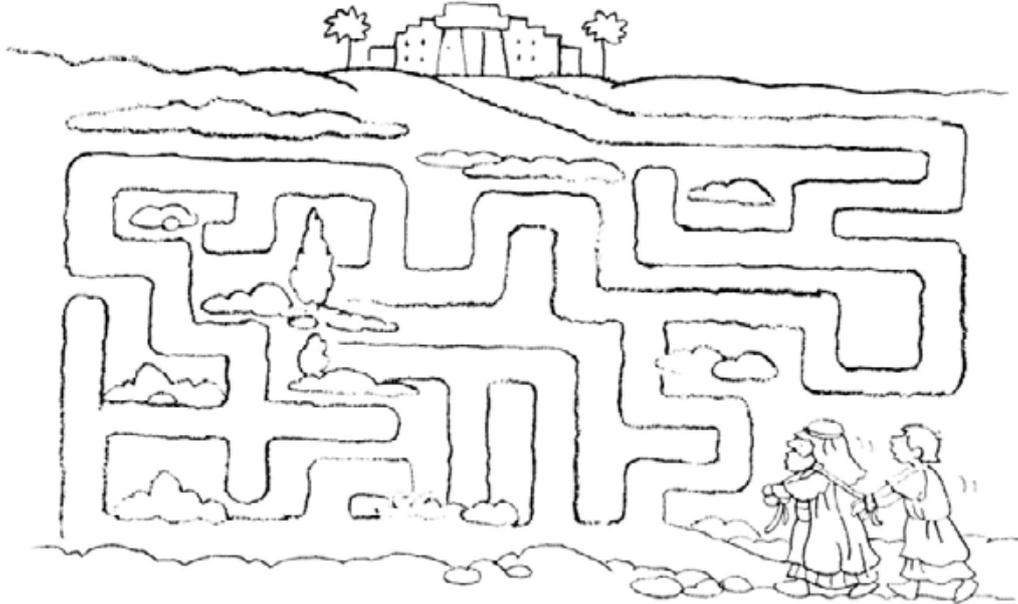
Over 93,000 people have been killed in the conflict. The humanitarian need of those affected by the violence continues to grow. Many displaced families no longer have resources upon which to draw, and they are faced with skyrocketing prices and mounting unemployment.

Alongside the Syrian refugees and internally displaced people are thousands of Palestinian families who have been living in Syria for decades since they became refugees in 1948 and have thus become refugees twice over. There is no doubt that the situation continues to deteriorate and many more people are considered to be at high risk. The funds donated by Presbyterians are being used to help our ACT (Action of Churches Together) Alliance partner support people in Syria affected by the conflict, particularly those who have been forced to leave their homes and flee to other parts of the country. Our partners are also supporting refugees in Lebanon and northern Iraq. New forecasts predict ten million people will face hardship due to the civil war which after three years still shows no sign of abating. Currently 1.64 million Syrians are refugees in Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and Turkey but the UN estimates that figure will double.

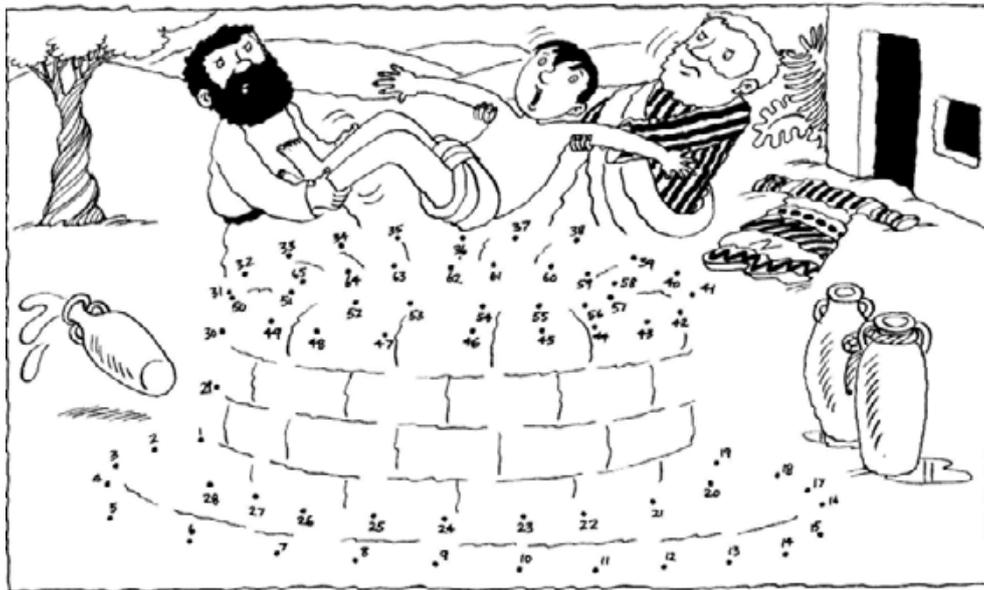
'The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein' Psalm 24 v1



CHILDREN'S PAGE



Joseph's brothers sold him to traders who took him across the desert to Egypt. Help the trader find the path that leads to Egypt. Read this story in Genesis 37:12-28



What is happening to poor Joseph here? Join up the dots to find out and colour in the picture when you are finished. Read this story in Genesis 37:12-28. What happened next?

Please Note: We can only accept Primary School Entrants

Please forward entries to Diane Mills, 46 Thornlea, Omagh, BT9 0EL no later than 4 weeks after publication. If more than one entry is received from either church a draw will be made. Please send in whole page including name and address.

Last issues winners: [Trinity – None] [Gillygooley – None]

**HARVEST
THANKSGIVING
SERVICE**

At

Gillygooley

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, 20 October

10-00 a.m.

Rev Robert Herron

- EVERYONE WELCOME -

**HARVEST
THANKSGIVING
SERVICE**

At

Trinity

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, 20 October

11-30 a.m.

Rev Robert Herron

- EVERYONE WELCOME -

**EVENING HARVEST
THANKSGIVING
SERVICE**

in

TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Sunday, 20 October

7-00 p.m.

Rev John Honeyford

(Moderator of Omagh Presbytery)

- EVERYONE WELCOME -

**Trinity and Gillygooley P.W. 2013
Agenda - Theme: God is Able**

Sept 10: Ruth Hamilton: Delivery from Drink and Drugs.

Oct 8: Desmond Preston: Base Camp Everest,
My Top of the World Experience.

Nov 12: Visitors' Night: Miss Elizabeth Conn: Titanic Talk.

Dec 10: God is Able and Christmas Supper.

Jan 14: Adele Donald: My Fields of Life Trip to Uganda.

Feb 11: God is Able (Resource Pack).

Mar 11: A.G.M. and Morna Nelson: Nutrition.

Special Services in Trinity & Gillygooley

(November, December & January)

Sunday, 10 November 2013
Remembrance Sunday

Sunday, 1 December 2013
World Development Sunday

Sunday, 15 December 2013
Carol Services

Wednesday, 25 December 2013
Christmas Day Service
(11.00 am in First Omagh)

Sunday, 29 December 2013
Last Sunday of the Year Service
(Details to be announced)

Sunday, 5 January 2014
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

A local singing group has just started up, currently on a Wednesday evening and is currently seeking others who enjoy singing to join them. This is being led by a professional singing tutor at Omagh Music Academy. If you are interested in joining this group please contact Julie Donnell on 07515895320.

Anyone from Trinity who has an item they would like included in the magazine should contact either:
Richard McClung, Tel: 8224 5150, Email: TrinityNews@knocksilla.plus.com or

Anne Parke, Tel: 8224 2598, Email: anne.parke@btinternet.com

Please include as much written detail as possible and use **original** photos if emailing articles!

Thank you to all who supply material or take photographs.

Remember, a full colour version is available on the Trinity Church website!

The provisional deadline for submission of articles for the next edition, which is due out in March 2014, is Monday 20th January 2014.

Gillygooley Gift Aid. It is important that you contact the gift aid Secretary about any changes to your circumstances or address. Contact - Anne Patterson (028) 82258245.

Items for inclusion in next Gillygooley News should be sent to:

Diane Mills, Editor, Tel: 028 82246553. E-Mail: diane553@hotmail.co.uk