

Volume 1, Issue 1 June 2012

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

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Special points of interest:

- Congregational BBQ 24th June 2012
- AGM 27th June 8.00pm
- July services in 1st Ballyeaston Church
- August services in 2nd Ballyeaston Church
- Sunday School Party 25th August 2012

LAUNCH OF OUR NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the launch of our congregational newsletter. It is our intention to release the newsletter on a quarterly basis.

The communications committee intends to keep the congregation updated on a variety of areas within our Church life. including our committee's works and stories relating to our members.

Within this issue we will be updating you on the development of our halls. This will be one of the biggest projects undertaken in our church in modern times. We will discuss the salient points to the current plans prior the congregational to AGM on the 27th June 2012. You will be able to peruse the plans on the centre pages.



2nd Ballyeaston Presbyterian Church

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and would welcome your views and suggestions for topics to cover. To this end we have placed a newsletter suggestions box in the vestibule.

We thank those who have added another story to our ongoing history and look forward to the future. Second Ballyeaston only exists because of your tremendous support.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The congregation wishes to pass on their gratitude to Gary and Alison Hall for their dedicated leadership of the Sunday School over the last three years.

We welcome Emma Hanna as our new leader of Sunday

School and wish her well in the future developments of our Christian youth work.

If you are interested in becoming a member of our Sunday School team then please speak to Emma at Church, phone

02893324027, or email : emma.hanna@btinternet.com

Two Sunday school events will be organised for the last weekend in August. Please put this date in your diary. Further details on page 8.

A RIGHT ROYAL PICNIC

A Jubilee picnic took place in the grounds of the manse on Bank Holiday Tuesday, 5th June.

Great fun was had by all despite the inclement weather! It was great to see so many people brave the rain to share their food and fellowship with each other. The piñata donkey didn't have such a great day but the kids trying to get to the sweets within certainly did.

The bouncy castle and obstacle course proved irresistible to both young

and old despite the persistent rain making them resemble swimming pools!

There were some fantastic crowns made by our younger guests at the craft station and face painting proved popular too. The rain put a stop to a lot of the games; however, the impromptu game of "How many people can you get under a gazebo" was a big hit!

A big thank you to the Hanna and McAuley families for organising this event and to all the helpers on the day.









THE WALKING GROUP

The walking group is organised by Yvonne and Wilbert Hollinger and boasts around 25 members from across our local community.

The Walking Group meet on the last Tuesday of every month from September to June. The walks take place in the morning with the exception of May and June where longer days allow for an evening walk. The walks range from 2-4 miles and provide varying levels of challenge.

The current program of walks is drawing to a

close but the next program is being worked on and will be in our next newsletter.



SUMMER SERVICES

As we enter into the Summer season please note that services will be shared between both congregations of 1st and 2nd Ballyeaston.

July services will be held in 1st Ballyeaston and

August services in 2nd Ballyeaston.

Please be aware that these services will all commence at the earlier time of 11am for the Summer months. Services will resume as normal at 11.30am on Sunday 2nd September 2012.

Both ministers are available for contact and pastoral issues over the Summer months.

also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a (2 Corinthians 9:6,7) cheerful giver.

"The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will

BUILDING OUR FUTURE

Our primary mission in Second Ballyeaston is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ - both in words and action. We judge our activities and resources by this primary objective and at the 2011 AGM the Congregation gave unanimous support to develop our halls to ensure that the life and mission of Second Ballyeaston continues to flourish.

We set out to address 3 main aims:

- 1. Inclusive Access for people of all-ages and abilities.
- 2. Hospitality that is both personal and practical.
- 3. Welcoming the wider community.

Our agreed development removes steps around the ground floors, centralizes the toilet block, minimizes disruption to 'flow' of large groups, modernises our kitchen space, removes potential hazards to children and increases storage - and keeps within a reasonable budget and increases access for all ages and abilities. The Congregation also agreed to the additional expense of the purchase of a piece of adjacent land but this provides the benefit of providing much needed access and future savings in heating by allowing us to build a central heating system for all our buildings. Permission to proceed has been given by Presbytery and Church House.

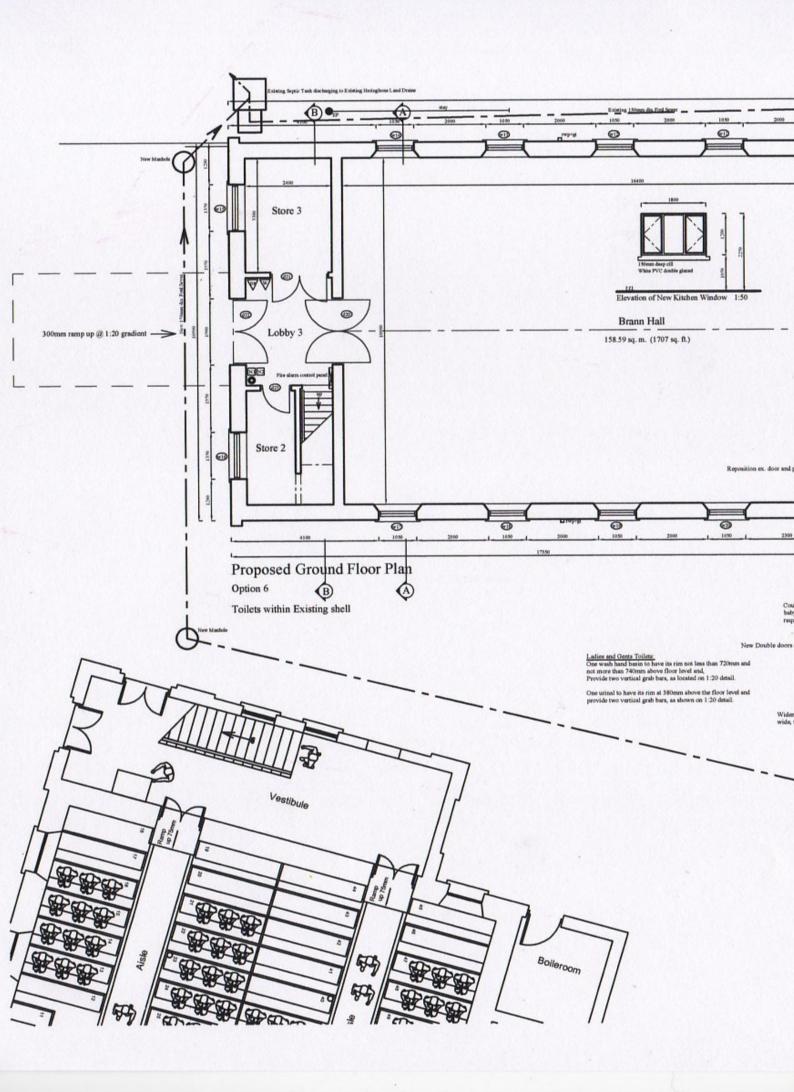
Thankfully we are now at the stage to begin this important work and we are very grateful to all those on Committee for their dedication in moving the work forwards. You too have your part to play in prayerfully considering how much you can donate financially to support the work and also how you use your talents by volunteering help. Already the Committee are grateful for offers of practical support coming in.

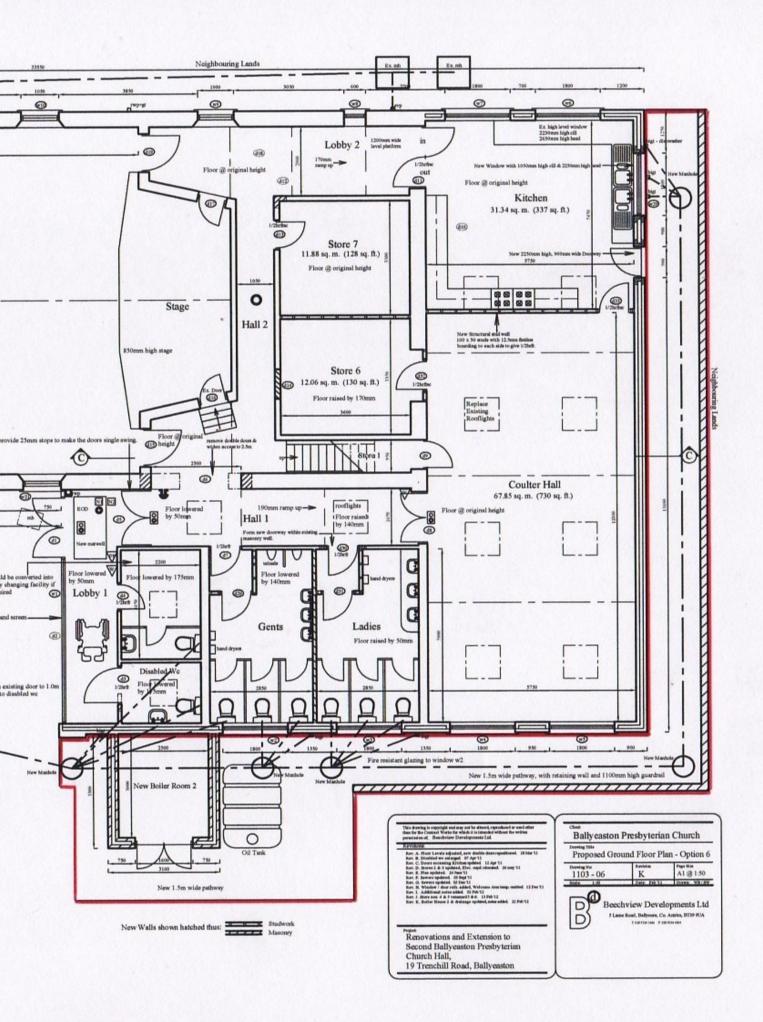
The Kirk Session and Congregational Committee believe that our proposed development supports our Congregation's primary mission on the eve of our 250th Anniversary and in the decades to come. Through the generosity of our Congregation we modernised our Sanctuary to provide better access with opportunities to develop our worship. The concrete outcome of this is a beautiful modern worship space and our recently formed praise band joining our choir and organist in helping lead us in worship.

Our halls now need to match the modern requirements of our organisations and mission, including such recent developments as a Mothers and Toddlers group. With your big-heartedness and prayerful vision we can continue to build for our future life and mission in Second Ballyeaston.

May God bless us all.

Your Minister.





THE TIMETABLE FOR WORKS AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

We plan for the work on the halls to begin on the week commencing 23rd July 2012. The work should continue for 16 weeks. This estimated work schedule should take us to mid November.

While the builders have a lot of work to do, we as a congregation can also help. There are a lot of items our organisations have gathered over the years. This will all need to be stored off site.

Can you offer storage of these items or perhaps help with transferring them? It is proposed that each organisation take responsibility for their own equipment.

Voluntary work: These figures do not allow for the redecoration of the Brann Hall (painting, floor) or for the decoration of the new kitchen. Thus there will be an opportunity for members of the congregation to help provide voluntary assistance –also aiming to increase the sense of community ownership. Many people have spoken of their enjoyment of being involved during previous halls' work.

If you can help in any way, then contact Chris or Robert (contact details are on the back page).

THE FINANCIAL POSITION

Development Committee continues to work towards reducing costs and maximising resources through a variety of means. The Development Committee is confident that the proposed work will achieve the goals agreed by the Congregation in 2011, that our buildings match our mission in 3 area:

- Accessibility

- Hospitality
- Welcoming

Our budget figure, which excluded the land purchase was £250,000 inc VAT. This is approx. £210,000 exc VAT. Revised tenders for the mechanical, electrical and building work came in at £221,000.

As the figures now stand we are about $\pounds 11,000$ over budget. Nigel Simpson has written to the Quantity Surveyor regarding the reductions/savings. Nigel and the QS hope to meet on 22^{nd}

June (first date they are both available because of annual leave). They will consider further reductions which should result in another revised quote. These reductions should allow us a buffer, particularly as in a job of this nature unexpected expense is usually incurred. So, even with further omissions/reductions we may still be a bit over budget. How can we plan to meet this expense?

Development Fund: £160,000 Crescent Fund: £50,000

Congregation: Direct gifts, regular commitments, interest free loans.

Northern Bank: The rest.

(2 Corinthians 9: 1 |

AUDIO-VISUAL UPGRADE

The congregational committee has approved the development of our audio-visual equipment within our Church.

This development will place cameras discreetly within the church that can be remotely operated from the control desk.

These cameras will enable us to record our services onto DVD that can be circulated to members of our congregation who cannot attend.

Congregational Committee has also agreed on the installation of two new lights. These new lights are needed to light the space where the Children's address is given. Our organ pipes will be better showcased in lights and video recording will be much smoother and professional with appropriate lighting.

Costs have been kept to a minimum in this project and thanks must be given to those who have donated both technically and financially.

It is believed that the addition of this equipment will greatly enhance our ministry and outreach to all our congregation.





HISTORY OF 2ND BALLYEASTON

Wilbert Garvin is collating all information on our history and needs your help. Do you have old family photographs, or perhaps some documentation steeped in history relating to our congregation? If you do, or know where this information may be, then contact Wilbert and help him create a record of our history!

You can place your information in the box provided in the vestibule. Please leave your name on the envelope so Wilbert will know the source of the information. You can also contact Wilbert on 07816752166 or

wilbert@leaghland.fsnet.co.uk



Youth Events

To celebrate the return of Sunday School from the summer break, there will be two youth events in August, one aimed for primary aged children and one for the post -primary age group.

On Friday 24th August there will be a night out for anyone in Year 8 or above. This will take place at Junction Jack's Crazy Golf, following on to Moe's Grill at Junction One,

Antrim.

On Saturday 25th August there will be a party for all Sunday School and Crèche members at the Six Mile Leisure Centre, from 1-3pm. This will include a bouncy castle and sports and games for all ages.

All our young members are invited to these events and will be contacted in the next few weeks. Please let Emma know if you would like to attend or if you could help out in any way. We look forward to a fun-filled weekend!

Second Ballyeaston Presbyterian

Contact Details:

Chris Glover, Minister, 9332 2250

Robert McMillen, Clerk of Session, 9335 2390

Malcolm Cloke, Hon Treasurer, 9335 4095

Ruth Stevenson, Acting Hon Secretary 9334 9547

Wilbert Garvin, Organist, 2589 8125

Anne McAuley, Church Officer, 2583 1417

www.ballyeaston.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregational Committee meets on Wednesday 27th June at 7.00pm and will be followed by the Congregational Annual General Meeting at 8pm.

Bangor Worldwide Missionary Convention (<u>http://www.worldwidemission.org/</u>) Saturday 25th August to Saturday 1st September 2012. John Woodside (PCI) will be doing weekly Bible readings.



2nd Ballyeaston's Titanic Experience: Day trip on Saturday 22nd September 10.30am-4.30pm. It is hoped that we can have sufficient numbers to fill a bus. Please indicate your interest on the forms in the vestibule and return them to the box provided.

Bambou annual dinner: Our annual trip to Bambou will be held on Thursday 1st November 2012

An evening recital of Handel's Messiah will be performed in our halls on Saturday 1st December 2012 by the Abbey Singers.

A Gospel Concert organised by the Tractor Club will be held in our halls on the 14th February 2013.

A concert evening with Clare Chorale is being organised for around the February / March time of 2013. More details to follow.

A congregational dinner will be held in 2013 to mark and coincide with our 250th Anniversary celebrations. More details to follow.

Plans are in motion to host a flower festival at 2nd Ballyeaston during 2013. More details to follow.

The "Done in a Day" group are looking for more jobs to help with. Members of our congregation should avail of this service to have minor repairs and gardening jobs etc. completed on their behalf by our dedicated team. Please contact Eric Cooper or Derek Murphy for further details.

Do you have any announcements you would like to see included in our next magazine? If so then do not hesitate to contact me:

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