



St Patrick's Parish News



Autumn 2025

Trust
THE
magic of
NEW
beginnings

The Rural Dean Writes

'Here comes the Summer' so say the words of a well-known song, and I hope that you have had the opportunity to enjoy the wonderful weather we have had this summer, whether at home or abroad.

After a time of study and completing exams, many students have now received the results they have been waiting for, and we wish them every blessing and success for the future.

Hopefully the summer months were a little less hectic for parents with young families. For many in the 21st Century life is busy, in fact it is difficult to find anyone who is not. Even those in retirement are busy with something or other.

Everyone needs a break to re-charge his or her batteries and hopefully summertime has afforded us that opportunity. It is important to take time to just stop to:

- Think, reflect, to prioritise, to pray:
- Thank God for our homes, our families, our friends:
- Thank God for the gift of health, and to remember those who are ill:
- Thank God for life itself and not forgetting those in need:
- Thank God for his Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

In all our busyness may we take time to pray each day, to recharge our batteries, to spend time with God in Worship whether at home or away.

As we move into autumn it marks a new chapter in the life of the parish of Skerry, Rathcavan and Newtowncrommelin with the arrival of the Rev Marcus Hart, his wife Jude and their two children.

Marcus will be instituted as Rector of the Parish on the 9 October 2025 at 7.30pm. I know everyone will join with me in wishing, Marcus, Jude and the children every blessing in the days ahead. Please remember them in your prayers as they make the transition back to Northern Ireland.

Your Friend and Rural Dean

David



A prayer for the New Rector and Parishioners.



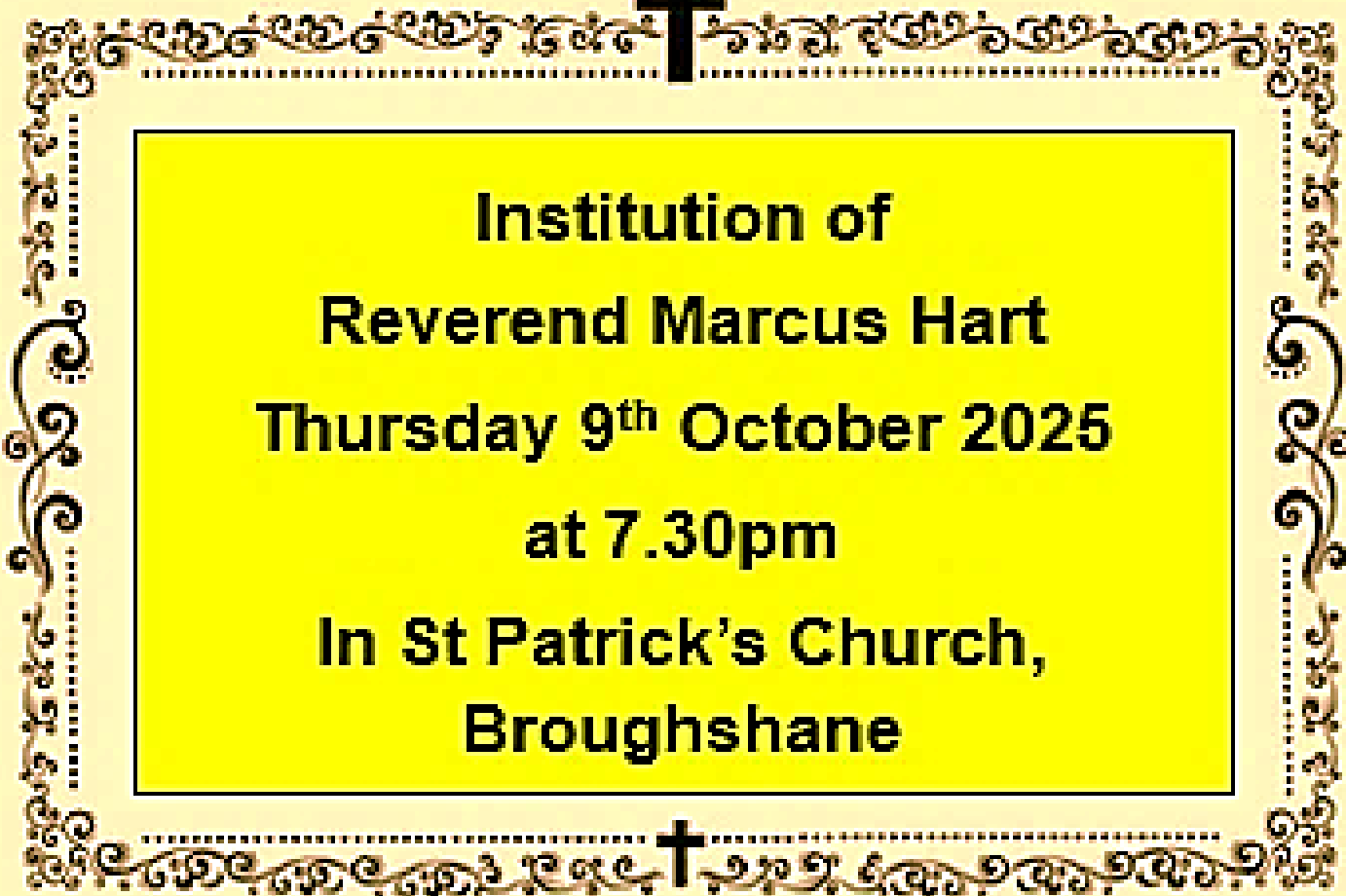

Almighty God, who calls us to serve you with faith and love, we ask for your blessing on our new Rector.

Grant him wisdom, patience, and compassion as he leads and shepherds us. May he boldly proclaim your Gospel, faithfully administer your sacraments and serve your people with a spirit of love, humility and joy.


Help us as members of your church to welcome him with open hearts, to support him in his ministry and to grow together as a unified body in Christ. Guide us all by your Holy Spirit to fulfil the mission to which you are calling us so that we may be a beacon of hope and love in our community and beyond.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**





**Institution of
Reverend Marcus Hart
Thursday 9th October 2025
at 7.30pm
In St Patrick's Church,
Broughshane**



Parish Register

Holy Matrimony

31st July 2025

Steven Andrew Galloway and
Shannon Magee

Holy Burial

12th August 2025

Wilma Irene Douglas née Adams
Wife of Norman
Mother of Ruth, Diane, Kerry and
the late Tommy

21st August 2025

Robert Shields Telford Purdue (Roy)
Husband of Helen
Father of Mark, Fiona and Alan



SUPPORT SERVICES NORTHERN IRELAND



**Freephone 24 Hour Domestic
& Sexual Abuse Helpline**

Open to all women and men affected by
domestic & sexual abuse

0808 802 1414

PSNI

(In an emergency ring 999)

101



Haircut

There I was, sitting in the barber's shop. It was one where you did not make a booking but just waited your turn. Not a classy joint – rather more earthy. You can be addressed by the staff as 'mate'. Anyway, I was sitting patiently when the thought suddenly entered my mind – did Jesus often get a haircut?



Isn't it strange that perhaps the best-known person the world has ever known, and we know absolutely nothing about his physical characteristics including his hair. Most speculative images portray him with long hair. Did this need to be cut and, if so, who did it? Presumably it needed to be washed. During the three year ministry period did the disciples cut each other's hair, or maybe one of them was cut out for the job

Hair does feature in the Bible. Samson lost all his strength when Delilah cut off his hair while he was sleeping. Evidently, King Absolum had a great head of hair: whenever he cut it the weight of it was 5 lbs! There are two stories of women putting ointment on the feet of Jesus and wiping them with their hair – quite shocking to most, and yet Jesus seemed quite at ease with this. Paul ventured in writing to the Corinthians that long hair was a disgrace to a man but to a woman it was to her glory. On the other hand, women were not to braid their hair and Peter agreed! Jesus affirmed how much God was concerned for each of us by declaring that the very hairs of our head are all numbered.

Many of us like to keep our hair in order and pay considerable attention to it. What about Jesus? One imagines he would have given it little concern but maybe he did have a favourite hair style. These thoughts may seem a bit unusual but perhaps they bring into focus a very important fact about Jesus. He was fully human and completely shared in our humanity – he had hair that he had to deal with just like anyone else! This humanity gives us hope as he truly understands all that we go through in life and as well as being there with us he has provided the means of healing our humanity or redeeming it.

Back to the barber. I listened to all the banter, the gossip that flowed freely and was amazed at some of the intimate talk I heard. Then I was in the chair and asked "How's things going; what are you doing today?" I'm not sure what to share – do I declare to all in sundry that I will be writing a sermon! I muttered something inconsequential. Yet Jesus, one senses, would have been quite at ease in such a setting and, somehow, have made a good impression. In our daily living, in all the contexts that we find ourselves how can we make a Christlike impression?

Stuart Lloyd



On the 22nd June members and friends joined in a special service conducted by Rev Harold Sharpe to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the branch. The address was given by the Diocesan President, Mrs Alison Skillen, who paid tribute to past and present members, who had participated in many projects through the years. She encouraged us all to play our part in the future of the branch by being the 'living stones', building Christ's kingdom on Earth. We were delighted to be joined by some Diocesan Trustees and members from other branches in the area.

After the service a light lunch was enjoyed by everyone, and, of course, no birthday would be complete without a cake! Many thanks to Helen Weir for a beautifully decorated and tasty cake, which was jointly cut by our longest serving member, Mrs Joyce Bond and the Diocesan President.



Diary dates

- | | |
|--|--|
| 4 th September. | All Ireland Holy Communion Service in Mothers' Union Chapel Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin at 11.15am |
| 24 th September. | Branch Holy Communion Service in St Patrick's at 8.00pm |
| 3 rd – 4 th October. | MU Getaway weekend in Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan |
| 22 nd October. | Branch Meeting in the Stoney Room at 8.00pm |
| 15 th November. | Connor Diocesan Autumn Council in All Saints Parish Church, Eglantine at 10.30am |
| 26 th November. | Branch Meeting in the Stoney Room at 8.00pm |
| 29 th November. | Pre-Christmas Afternoon Tea at the Leighinmohr Hotel at 2.00pm |
| 4 th December. | All Ireland Holy Communion Service in St Polycarp's Church, Belfast at 7.30pm |

All our meetings are open to everyone – join us, join in!

You can find out more about what is happening in Mothers' Union, in Connor Diocese, Ireland and Worldwide by going to:

www.connormothersunion.org or www.mothersunion.ie



wonderful day and most got completely soaked.

We finished the term with our annual Church BBQ and water fight at the church hall in June, the sun was shining and everyone had a



We hope all our Sunday Club children have had a great summer and are preparing to go back to school.

Sunday Club will return on Sunday 21st September. Please join us for the first day back beginning in church at 11.30am. The children will leave during the service to go to the hall.

We have planned an exciting year ahead with stories, crafts, games and fun. We welcome any new children to come and join us from nursery age to P7.

See you all soon.



Sunday Club Leaders

Starting back on Thursday 18th September



St Patrick's Tots



**Thursday 9.30 - 11.30
in the Church Hall**

**For children under 5
Parents, Grandparents
and Carers
£2 per family**

Mum's and Tots group is looking for volunteers for a couple of hours on a Thursday morning. There is a flexible rota in place. Please contact Violet Lucas for more information if you would be interested in helping out.



Together at Ten

**Communion &
Community
Wednesday
at 10.00am**



Morning Call

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday

Informal Worship 10.30am to 11.30am

Tea and toast at 10am

in the Church Hall



**Please continue to
support the Food Bank
with cereals, tinned
meat, teabags, instant
coffee, cleaning
products, etc.**

**Boxes in the porch and
the hall**

Group Scout Leader's Report



Beavers (Mondays 6.00-7.00pm),
Cubs (Monday 7:15-8:30pm) and
Scouts/Explorers (Wednesday 7:30-9:15pm)
will restart the week beginning the 15th September.

Disappointingly, the current Beaver leaders have indicated that they wish to step down. However, they have agreed to remain until Christmas to allow us to recruit a new leadership team. The Trustee Board is asking parents and the wider community within the Group's catchment to consider volunteering as leaders.

We urgently need a full complement of leaders to enable young people to continue to develop skills for life through Scouting.

The Group will hold its AGM in St Patrick's Church Hall on Wednesday 17th September at 7:30pm. This occasion will also provide an opportunity for registration of new members.

Congratulations to Chrissy and Hilary who completed their Nights Away assessments at their respective camps.

The Explorer leadership team has been helping Slemish District through the summer with DofE expeditions. Bronze expeditions took place in the Glenariff area on 16th /17th August and a Silver Practice expedition in the Breen Wood area on 23rd-25th August. The Silver Qualifying expedition is planned for 12th-14th September in the Mourne.

Derek McKillop
Group Scout Leader



Scouts

Over the summer term the Scouts have been hard at it, developing their outdoor skills.

The Troop took part in the District Scout Cooking Competition, and, against all expectations, 1st Broughshane managed to win! There were several elements to the evening. Scouts had to create an altar fire and to put their fire-lighting skills to practice. They prepared, cooked and served a two-course meal for themselves and the judges. Another element was to build a 'camp gadget': so, using poles and ropes, our scouts built a washstand for all their washing up. There was a lot to do, and our youngsters rose to the occasion, sharing tasks, taking turns, and helping each other.

We joined forces with 1st Cullybackey to have a jam-packed camp at Crawfordsburn this year. The scouts cooked all their meals on open fires, and did their own washing up. They tried climbing, tomahawk-throwing, archery, grass sledging and orienteering, and had a trip to the local pool to ride the water slides.

They participated in a beach litter pick as part of community service and undertook acts of volunteering before swapping badges with the other scout groups at the campsite. This provided a chance to meet and chat with other scouts, proving that Scouting is a worldwide movement. This was followed by lots of hot chocolate and toasting marshmallows by the campfire with friends!

Hilary



The Cub Scouts have had a wonderful summer term, filled with adventure, laughter, and plenty of time outdoors.



One of the highlights was a very wet but fun-filled canoeing trip at Movinagher Canal, where we joined another Cub Scout group for an unforgettable day on the water. The cubs also took part in the annual rafting on the Braid River, proudly sailing the hand-made rafts they had built themselves - with a few brave leaders joining in the challenge!



We enjoyed an action-packed weekend camp at the Scout Centre in Crawfordsburn Forest Park. The cubs pitched their own tents, tried axe throwing, abseiling, climbing, and even hopped on the train into Bangor for a trip to Pickie Park. It was a brilliant mix of adventure and fun.



As camp drew to a close, we gathered for a short presentation to say farewell to a few of our Cubs who are moving on to join the Scouts. We're excited to see where their journey takes them. It has truly been a busy and rewarding summer term. We can't wait to welcome everyone back in September for more fun, friendship, and new adventures.

Ash & Chrissy

Remember, being happy does not mean you have it all.

It means you are grateful for what you have



The Rainbows ended the summer term in June having

achieved great deal of work towards theme & interest badges. On the final evening the girls received a whopping seventy-three badges!



As a group, the girls worked towards two interest badges. Healthy Mind included a digital detox and working with their senses and the Book Lover badge required girls to give book reviews of their favourite stories and involved a trip to Broughshane Library! This led to several girls getting their first library card.

We also had girls achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards for their dedication and for demonstrating their capabilities.

After a relaxing summer break, the Rainbow unit will be starting up again on Tuesday 16th September from 5:30pm-6:30pm. We are excited to meet our returning Rainbows and welcome new girls.



If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or registering a girl, please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk and follow the appropriate pathway.

Lori



Brownies had fun creating dance routines with umbrellas for unit meeting activity Dancing in the Rain. The girls showed



impressive creativity and dance moves. Well done girls!



This term Amelia completed her Promise and earned her Promise badge. Well done, Amelia.

The girls learnt how best to build a fire as part of our programme and we saw some



excellent fire building skills.

The Brownies had a fun night to end the term for summer break and our leader-in-training used her wonderful baking skills to provide treats for the girls (and leaders). Thank you, Lynsey.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the new term on Thursday 11th September for a fun-filled year.

Jacqueline, Laura, Lynsey & Geraldine

Guides

St Patrick's (Broughshane)

During the last few weeks of the summer term we enjoyed the following programme activities 'A night under the Stars', 'Exploring Emojis' and 'Teamwork' with some of completing a few Skills Builder Badges.

We had an Adventure Night – 'Going on a Cruise' which involved tying loads of different knots to get our tickets, boarding passes, luggage tags, cabin key cards, excursion tickets and an invitation to the Captain's Table. Thankfully we had some Strawberry String which surprisingly helps us tie knots!!! (We are allowed to eat the string once the knot has been tied correctly!)



For the last night we tried Balloon Modelling thanks to our new leader, Laura. It was great fun despite the odd bang!

Congratulations to Lauren who received her Guide Gold Award. We wish her well as she moves to Rangers after the summer break. We hope to see everyone when we start back on Thursday 11th September.

If you would like to join in the fun, please register by visiting the Girlguiding website at

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/>

Hannah, Laura & Geraldine

A relationship with Jesus Christ
will change your life forever.

We had some real adventures in June. We had planned a fun evening of outdoor cooking making our own oven, but as is often the case with our 'beautiful' Northern Irish weather, the heavens opened and poured on us. However, that didn't stop us! We all huddled under a giant umbrella, cooked sausages and enjoyed s'mores.



We also had a fantastic time with some friendly competition. We had an intense tug-of-war match, with each team trying to pull the other into the water. We played Speedy Scavengers, where our leader gave us a list of things to find or act out in under two minutes. We all had a great laugh and some very interesting interpretations of the animals!

On the last day of term, we came together to reflect on progress. We got some of our DofE sections signed off, reviewed our work as young leaders, and chose which interest badges we'd like to complete over the summer. The evening was made even sweeter by a delicious cake baked by Zara. It was a lovely evening to catch up and reflect on a busy year where we started with just two Rangers and ended with eight. Thank you to everyone for all your hard work! We start again on Friday 12th September from 6pm to 7.45pm

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme (DofE)

At the end of June Philippa and Cathy successfully completed their DofE Silver Expedition with two Rangers from Limavady. Three days in the Sperrin mountains with the weather ranging from full sun to driving rain and everything in between.



Caitlin, Elizabeth, Ellie and Zara completed their Bronze Expedition in the North Antrim hills in May and since then have completed the award. Well done everyone.

Cathy & Geraldine

**What you have many people can have
But what you are no one can be
So do not lose the spark that makes you!**

How two Rangers spent some of the Summer



This year I was selected to attend the National Scout and Guide Concert Band for their 10th anniversary playing the tenor saxophone. It was an incredible experience, with 105 of us playing. We played Pirates of the Caribbean with the Scout and Guide Orchestra and with Alumni - there were over 250 people playing. It was breathtaking! During the week we had lots of Guiding and Scouting fun too. We did a trading post and campfires (without fire), tried Morris Dancing and had an It Ceilidh. It was so much fun. We played in prestigious venues such as the Nottingham Albert Hall and the Birmingham Symphony Hall - the acoustics were incredible. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience with the highlight being singing and playing Baba Yetu, the Lord's Prayer in Swahili, it was so moving.

Philippa

At the start of this year, I was selected for the Girlguiding Adventure and International Youth Panel (Pioneer). We had an induction weekend in Shrewsbury at the start of August where we met the other Pioneer members and learnt a bit more about the next year.



We are organising test runs for the Cityscapes Adventure badges which Pioneer created, putting together a sleepover pack with the theme 'Tasks and Challenges', helping to organise the Big Gig and are working on something big that hasn't even been confirmed by HQ yet!

We will have monthly meetings via Zoom to help design badges, branding, merchandise and more! This is a fantastic opportunity for Girls' Voices to be heard and help influence the future of Girlguiding!

Zara

**Never blame people in your life.
Good people give you happiness.
Bad people give you experience.
Worst people give you a lesson and
The best people give you memories**

Who's Who at St Patrick's	
Rector	Rev Marcus Hart (from 9 Oct 25)
Honorary Secretary	Julie Thompson
Honorary Treasurer	Steven Ewing
Church Wardens	(Rector's) Dennis Taylor
	(People's) Beth Clyde
Glebe Wardens	(Rector's) Gavin Mark
	(People's)
Fire Warden	James Linford
Sanctuary Flowers	Beth Clyde
Catering Committee	Suzanne Beckett
Heating	Derek Mills-Westley
Magazine Editor	Geraldine Linford

Select Vestry

Rector, Church Wardens, Glebe Wardens, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Suzanne Beckett, Anne Brownlee, Emma Erwin, Laura Montgomery, Kathryn McGall, Derek McKillop, Richard Reade, Vicky Thompson, Stephen Tuff, Stephen Young



Who's Who Organisations

Sunday Club (Primary Schoolers) Lyndsay Williamson	Rainbows Lori Hartman Emma Porritt	Beavers Mags Carson
SPY	Brownies Jacqueline McClintock Geraldine Linford	Cubs Chrissy Moffett
Mothers' Union Helen Foster	Guides Hannah Aldridge Geraldine Linford	Scouts Hilary Arthur
Tots Violet Lucas	Rangers Cathy McCaig Geraldine Linford	Explorers Derek McKillop



Can you help?

We need your help to keep the Church grounds neat and tidy – including lawn mowing, leaf clearing and general tidying up.



Please speak to the Church Wardens



Sundays

Holy Communion: 1st Sunday of the month at 11:30am



Morning Prayer: 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month at 11:30am

Morning Call: 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month at 10:00am
in the Church Hall with Tea and Coffee

Family Service: 3rd Sunday of the month at 11:30am

Facebook and YouTube Weblinks are available on
www.stpatricksbroughshane.com/online-sunday-service

Radio: Church Services are broadcast on short wave 27.60 Frequency 27 MHz

Wednesdays

Together at Ten: Holy Communion (Form1) at 10:00am
With tea/coffee and cake afterwards
in the Stoney Room

Services will continue to be available on Facebook, YouTube, the website and by telephone after 1pm on Sunday on **028 2517 0014**
(calls are charged at local rate)



You may not always see the
results of your kindness...
but every bit of
positive energy you contribute
to the world makes it a better
place for all of us.



If you have a chance
to make someone happy,
just do it.
Sometimes people are
struggling silently.
Maybe your acts of
kindness can make
their day.



Safeguarding Trust

"It is the policy of the Church of Ireland to set standards for the welfare of all children sharing in its ministry with a view to protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional harm."

In the Parish of Skerry, Rathcavan & Newtowncrommelin we follow this policy using the Code of Practice to create a safe environment in our ministry to children.

If you have any concerns relating to Safeguarding, please contact one of our Safeguarding Panel below:



Rev David Ferguson
07773 051603



Mrs Sandra Adams
07917 543803



Mr Andrew Kennedy
07734 565454



Ms Vicky Thompson
07833 784726