

CONNECTIONS

APRIL 2023



THE LATEST FROM THE CHURCH:

What's Been Happening

What's Coming Up

Worship with us each week if you can otherwise you can join us online. Check our Facebook page for details or contact us at comms@trinityboardmills.org with your email address to be kept up to date with all that is going on around Trinity.

CONNECTIONS MAGAZINE

FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

What a lovely time of year, when signs of spring are slowly revealing themselves, and a feeling of hope is in the air. Such an appropriate season for us to celebrate Easter in, expressed beautifully in the lyrics of the old hymn "All in the April Evening" by Hugh S. Robertson

All in the April evening

April airs are abroad

The sheep with their little lambs

Passed me by on the road

The sheep with their little lambs

Passed me by on the road

All in the April evening

I thought on the lamb of God

Our magazine is available via our website and we will post to those we know prefer it in paper copy but please feel free to print a copy for neighbours, friends or family. If you haven't yet given us your contact details and permissions please contact us at comms@trinityboardmills.org

We remember in our thoughts and prayers the families of James Crothers and Dorothy Hanna

We pray for comfort for any who have been touched by bereavement in recent months within their own families and that they may know God's love at this time.

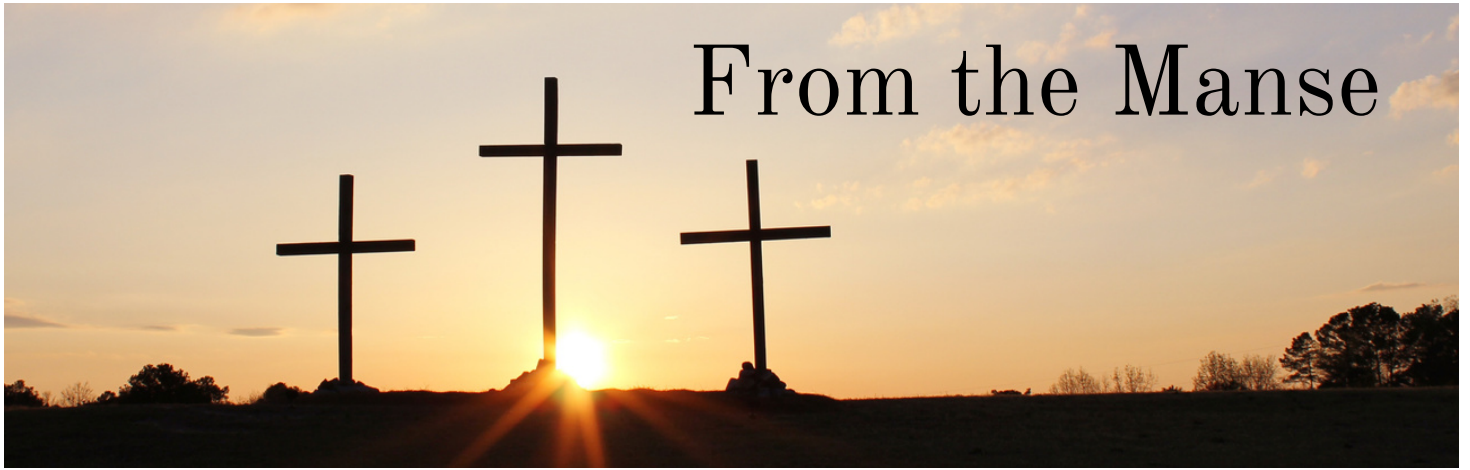
**GET
CONNECTED
@ TRINITY**

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN, BOARDMILLS
Knowing Christ and Making Him Known



@trinityboardmills

From the Manse



On Palm Sunday I shared with the children in Church about the upcoming Coronation of King Charles III. It will be a day of royal splendour. The golden chariot will be brought out once again. Uniforms will be pressed the night before. The Archbishop of Canterbury will be up throughout the night rehearsing his lines. The roads will be fixed ahead of the Royal procession from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Abbey. The crowds will line the street, the soldiers will march in procession, there will be shouts of God save the King and Long live the King. The King will arrive at Westminster Abbey and will sit upon the ancient wooden throne. Then at the right moment the Archbishop will place the crown upon his head.

Easter week was a coronation for Jesus. Yet, his coronation had nothing of the pomp, ceremony or circumstance that King Charles will enjoy. Instead of a golden chariot, there was a borrowed donkey. Instead of dignitaries there were normal people walking alongside Jesus into Jerusalem. Instead of flags people used improvised palm branches to wave. Instead of Long live the King they shouted Hosanna to the Son of David. When Jesus got to Jerusalem they didn't enthrone him on an ancient wooden throne. However, a few days later they would hoist him up on a wooden cross where he would hang as a spectacle for all to see. From this position he would be announced to the world by a sign on his cross that he is the 'King of the Jews'. But not before he was crowned. There would be no royal crown but instead a crown of twisted thorns pressed into his skull.

The upcoming coronation of King Charles III will be a day of national celebration but as we enjoy this Easter season we remember that the King of Kings was coronated in a very different manner. All of it by design, all of it purposeful. His death was no accident, it was planned from eternity past. His beatings were no accident, for by them we have been healed. His wounds in his hands and feet were prophesied long before. All of this, all of the horror of it was for us. That we might be set free. One of the significant curses in the Garden of Eden given to Adam after the Fall was that the earth would be cursed to produce thorns and weeds instead of produce. When Jesus was crowned with thorns it was no accident, he was being crowned with the Fall, crowned with our Fall from grace.

There on the cross, our King was coronated to take our place and to die for us. This is the King we follow, this is the King we serve, humble, meek, gentle and mighty.



Girls Brigade and Boys Brigade

are organisations that have been around for many years in Northern Ireland and both share a common goal in wanting to help our children and young people grow and learn in a safe and fun environment, where they are encouraged to be their best selves, having been nurtured in a group rooted in Christian faith. The Brigades are independent organisations that work alongside local churches to offer varied and challenging programmes including the teaching of God's word. Although the Brigades are hosted in many different churches, the fact that they are a uniformed organisation helps give the young people some equality and sense of belonging, as well as being a form of identity for who they are members with.

We have been very blessed to have had a company for both our girls and boys in Boardmills for many, many years and it is wonderful to think of all the young lives that have been touched in that time.

Normally the groups will run weekly from September to March, and the season always finishes on a high with a display or parents evening when family and friends can come along to see some of the skills and projects the children have been working on, and importantly witness the fun that has been had along the way!

To find out more contact us at youth@trinityboardmills.org or check out our pages on www.trinityboardmills.org



Girls' Brigade

THE BOYS' BRIGADE
> the adventure begins here





We have recently been doing some work on our website and rebranding of our logo. A lot of thought has gone into the redesign and we hope you like our new look and would like to thank Bluestag Productions for all their hard work. This design reflects who we are as a group of people seeking to put Christ at the centre of everything. The logo pulls together the different elements that reflect our beliefs - here we split this out to show you how it all came together!

TRINITY

We believe in one God who exists eternally as three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We believe that He is worthy of all worship and praise because He is supreme in being, beauty and glory. He is the one God who created all things, seen and unseen, who placed the stars in the heavens, and who shaped and fashioned the world. He is the God who rescues and saves His people so that through the Son we can call God our Father. This mighty, powerful, unfathomable God desires to draw close to us personally, that we might know him and experience his love and grace.



BIBLE

We believe that the Holy Bible is the Word of God. We believe the Bible was written by people thousands of years ago who were inspired by the Holy Spirit. This has resulted in the Old Testament which paves the way for the coming of Jesus and the New Testament which tells us of his coming, his death and resurrection. We believe the Bible is true, understandable, powerful to change lives, authoritative, and sufficient for us to know how we are saved.



CROSS

The cross is the centre of the Christian religion across the world. We believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins. It was no accident that he was crucified nor was it the end of a good teacher, a wise man, or a failed revolutionary. Jesus Christ is the Son of God who hung upon the cross for the sin of his people. Without the cross the Christian faith has no good news, without the cross there is no forgiveness, and without the cross there is no hope. We trust that on the cross all our sin, guilt and shame was dealt with by Jesus as he suffered and died. Gloriously, wondrously, Jesus did not stay in the grave but rose from the dead three days later. In this he proved that he is who he said he was, that there is life beyond the grave and that the Christian hope is a living hope.





SPIRIT

We believe that at Pentecost, the Father and the Son poured the Holy Spirit upon the Church. When we place our faith in Jesus as Son of God and in his work on the cross the Holy Spirit resides within us also. He is a person and not a force or power or an 'it'. The Holy Spirit is fully God alongside the Father and the Son. The Spirit equips the Church to be able to live as God's people in the world, He empowers the Church to live godly lives, and He changes us daily to become ever more like Jesus.

BURNING BUSH

We belong to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI) which has long been associated with the symbol of the burning bush. Moses encountered God in a burning bush in the wilderness. The bush was on fire, but it was not burning up by the flames. It was a picture of how God exists independently of all things just as the fire existed without the need to burn the bush. As a member of PCI we submit to the General Assembly and the ministers and elders subscribe to the Westminster Confession of Faith as a declaration of their own faith.



The new website hopes to keep you up to date with what's on every week in the organisations and services, along with more detail on each of our ministries.

Please check it out at

www.trinityboardmills.org

For our Members:

We are so grateful for all the work carried out by our Finance team and Treasurer to help ensure that we can support our ministry here at Boardmills and further afield with our friends in the congregation who serve home and away. Like everything at the moment, we too are feeling the effects of inflation, increased costs etc and we thank everyone that supports us financially. June has written us an update on where the finances stand at the moment, please feel free to pass this on to family members who maybe aren't on social media etc. If you would like to speak to someone about your giving please contact Iain, June or Mark or email

treasurer@trinityboardmills.org

Thank you!

TRINITY BOARDMILLS - THINGS FINANCIAL - A SHORT FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are thankful to Iain Watters for taking on the post of Treasurer for the last 3 years. He stepped into the role when I had to take a step back and we appreciate his diligence in helping the church out during this time.

It is a daunting task for many but in recent years it has become more complicated with a new format in the Statistical Return which is completed and sent to Church House and the introduction of a new Charities Commission return. This has resulted in the accounts having to be kept in a certain way to fall into line with the information required on these returns.

We welcome Mark McKimm as our new treasurer from 1st January 2023 and he is busy learning the ropes. Iain has kindly agreed to keep monitoring the Direct Debits for a time while I help Mark learn the layout and recording of the income and payments in the accounts. We thank Mark for giving of his time to serve the Lord in this way.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Whilst this changeover is taking place there are a few points that we would like you, the members to help us with.

1. Freewill Offering envelopes have been issued for this year. We would therefore appreciate it if contributions could be put into either your church envelope or any envelope with your name and Freewill Offering No on stating clearly to where that money is to be allocated (e.g. Freewill, United Appeal, Mission Support, Appeals, Orphans etc) This prevents donations being allocated incorrectly and allows the church to claim Gift Aid on any of the contributions you have made. Put all contributions on the collection plate each Sunday but If not able to attend church you can send to Mark McKimm or I can still be contacted if there are any problems. You can also email treasurer@trinityboardmills.org or speak to any member of committee with queries.
2. Contributions to church funds have fallen considerably in recent times. We need therefore to be mindful that the main costs of keeping the church buildings lit and heated, salaries and Assessments to Church House are rising too. United Appeal target for this year is £8244 - total submitted so far is £1230. Mission Support funds stand at £1311 - which is barely enough to cover next month's support. (Brown envelopes to contribute to the Mission Support Fund are on the vestibule table). This fund supports those from our congregation who are in full time mission service. Please prayerfully keep these facts in mind when preparing your contributions for the next months and 'thank you' to everyone for your continuing support through the difficult times we have endured in the last year or two.
3. Many members now pay by Direct Debit which is great. Contributions can be divided over United Appeal, Mission Support or Property. Contact Iain or Mark and they will arrange that the contribution is divided as you request. At present, unless you have requested a split all contributions are allocated to Freewill Offering.
4. If you have signed a Gift Aid Declaration you can increase your donations by 25%. It is therefore important that all contributions you make are identifiable as coming from you so that we can claim back the tax you have already paid on those contributions. If you have not signed a Gift Aid Declaration and are a tax-payer please speak to Mervyn McKeown (who has kindly agreed to take on the role of Gift Aid Secretary) and sign up as soon as possible. We are able to claim over £20000 each year over all the funds. We would find it difficult to get by without it!!

June Kirkpatrick

We recently had the pleasure of a visit from some of the students at Sports Academy George in South Africa, who were in Northern Ireland for a netball tournament (which they did brilliantly at!!). Andrew and Anna Scott had organised the tour for them and we had the opportunity to hear first hand some of the stories of what these young people have to contend with, and how the work of the staff at the Academy can reform lives.



Running an outreach like the Sports Academy has many challenges , not only spiritual and emotional but financial as well and we continue to uphold Andrew and Anna not only in our prayers but by our giving too. Practical needs, such as a new minibus are always present and urgent so if you would like to contribute in anyway check out more details at www.sportsacademygeorge.com or email treasurer@trinityboardmills.org to learn how we support our various missionary outreaches from Boardmills

Dates for the Diary
Congregational Weekend 28 - 30 April 2023
Speaker Ben Walker
Watch Social Media and Website for details.

Trinity Boardmills Fun Day / It's a Knockout Tournament
2pm - 5pm

Where: Trinity Presbyterian Boardmills - Killaney Hall & Football Pitch

What: **All are welcome** to join us for our Fun day / Knockout Tournament. There will be food, competitions, inflatables and fun for all ages! To help with catering please register everyone in your family / group. Check out social media and website for registration forms or contact Richard at minister@trinityboardmills.org

The Hanna family has felt much loss and sorrow over recent years, but they hopefully take peace and comfort from knowing the strength of the faith of their dearly departed. At Trinity, we recently received a generous bequest from David Hanna, who wanted to leave some financial support to the church and with guidance from the family we were able to replace the windows in the church building. Two days after what would have been David's birthday, some of these were dedicated to David John, Eva and David on Sunday 2nd April 2023 with the inscription

**In memory of
David John, Eva and David Hanna
The Lord is my Light
and my Salvation- whom shall I Fear
Psalm 27:1**

The Rev Patton gave the following address:

We are gathered here today to dedicate these seven plain windows to the glory of God and in memory of David John, Eva and David Hanna. These windows are the result of a generous bequest following the death of David Hanna of £15,000. We do this in memory of how he grasped faith in his last days and clung to Jesus to the end. Therefore, we praise God for his work of salvation and for the generous gift given.

Many of us have remarked about how bright the church building has become with the change of the windows. Let it be a reminder to us of the Light of the world, our Saviour Jesus who shines in the darkness. Who is himself Light and who came into our world to bring us out of darkness and into his marvellous light.



*In memory of
David John, Eva & David Hanna
The Lord is my light
and my salvation -
whom shall I fear
Psalm 27:1*

A little while ago at our Boys Brigade enrolment service, Alistair Martin made a presentation to Iris Conroy on behalf of the Brigade boys past and present. If you missed the occasion this is what was said.



Iris - as a highly respected and valued member of this congregation you have given dedicated and faithful service to this BB Company for over 50 years. Starting back in the 1960's with the Lifeboys' you, along with your late husband Eric influenced a generation of boys by the Biblical truth you taught and by your godly example.

Sadly, when covid hit, you felt it was the right time to step back - as officers we never wanted to consider that the day would come when you would step back - but it has - and Monday nights will never be quite the same because you were always there on time with everything prepared and ready for the Anchor Boys to arrive. From the beginning you and Eric filled your VW Beetle with boys from the cottages - which in today's standards - probably 2 car loads - for the weekly night at BB. A programme of games, craft singing, competition games, badge work, display items, and above all the teaching of God's word - was all incorporated as the boys enjoyed fun and the building of friendships. I am sure many here today can recall happy memories of their time in BB. For me, as a Junior boy I recall one particular time when a battalion competition had to be rearranged for some reason but instead of cancelling our day out Iris and co decided to take us down to the Ards Peninsula, they put together a programme - we had a picnic, and it was a very memorable day me!

Over the years you have dealt with everything - from scraped knees and bumps, tearful boys who thought mummy or daddy wasn't coming back. On winter nights when a decision had to be made if BB should be cancelled because of snow or bad weather conditions, but in all the ups and downs of leadership you have always shown a kind and gracious manner to all.



Every boy who has passed through BB know Eric and Iris were always extremely generous when it came to prizes whether on a regular night or at the display and there was always the prize for attendance – well Iris – we want to recognise your 50 plus years - attendance and service to the BB.

As officers we never wanted to consider a time when you would step down and we have discussed many times how to recognise your years of attendance! Today – on this Enrolment Sunday - we want to say THANK YOU – Over the years, Iris, you have given countless hours of your time in preparing for and attending BB each week. We could never give you a gift that would warrant such dedication and service, but this is a small token of our sincere thanks and appreciation from the BB. You have also devoted herself to the Good News Club at the Temple, and the Christian Endeavour work here at Trinity. Thank you for your example of faithful service given to this congregation and to God – as it is to Him we ultimately thank.

We miss you at BB on a Monday night – but we know your heart is still with the boys as you continue to pray for them.



Good news to share with everyone was the recent engagement of Gemma and Steven and in February the wedding of Rachel and Liam in England(but well attended from some of her Trinity friends from here!)





KNOW HIM, LOVE HIM
AND FOLLOW HIM
BY THE POWER OF HIS SPIRIT

Here's a little about us...

WHO? ARE WE...

We are a group of people from the local area who have been rescued by **Jesus**.

There is nothing special about any of us except that we have understood that we cannot save ourselves.

Only **Jesus** can and so we gather to know him more, love him more and encourage each other to live our lives for him.

WHY? WE CARE...

We care because of **Jesus**.

It is because of his **love** for us that we in turn **love** him, **love** each other and the local community around us.

The news of **Jesus** is too good to keep to ourselves and we want everyone everywhere to hear what he has done.

WHEN? DO WE MEET...

We meet at **11:30am** on Sunday mornings to worship God together

and again at **7:00pm** for an interactive and topical discussion.

Small groups meet in a variety of places and times to grow our faith in **Jesus**, love for his Word, and to know one another better.



Need to know something ?

Contact us

minister@trinityboardmills.org

office@trinityboardmills.org

secretary@boardmills.org

comms@trinityboardmills.org

youth@trinityboardmills.org

and check out our website

www.trinityboardmills.org