



...sharing
God's
welcome

www.streaan.org

Summer 2016

Issue No.95

**Our Mission at Streaton Presbyterian Church
is to know Jesus Christ and lovingly make
Him known through:**

S*erving in a loving and caring way as our
Lord does for us*

T*eaching from the word of God*

R*eaching out to those in all generations
who do not yet know Jesus*

E*ncouraging each other in our faith
through meaningful Christian fellowship*

A*live to God in our worship and in our
daily lives*

N*urturing our children and young people
in the faith*

From Our Vacancy Convenor

Dear Member

I have just returned from a few days in the North of Scotland. My son-in-law, Peter and I went to Skye on a walking holiday. We were blessed with beautiful weather and the scenery was stunning. As we were travelling through Fortwilliam, we decided to climb Ben Nevis. At the time, it seemed like a good idea. The sun shone brightly all day. It turned out to be a more demanding hike than I had anticipated. Ben Nevis is one of those mountains that continually deceives you. You think you are nearly at the top and you discover around the next bend, there is another steep slope to ascend. At one stage, I was beginning to doubt that I would ever make it to the top. But eventually I reached the summit and was rewarded with the satisfaction of climbing the highest mountain in Britain and seeing the amazing views. My experience on Ben Nevis confirmed what I knew when it comes to climbing any mountain. You need perseverance and you need to keep looking up.

At this point in the vacancy, it seems to me, these are the qualities that we need as a congregation. I realise that there was much disappointment after we failed to call a minister in May time. But there is no reason to be disheartened. It is simply another bend on the path. God has the right person to lead Streat. He will lead us to that person in His time. Our task is to persevere and to keep looking up. I think of the promise God made to the exiles in Babylon through the prophet Jeremiah 'I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'. We can depend on God's faithfulness to His people.

Unfortunately, things go very quiet in the church over the summer months. There is not much we can do in filling the vacancy. The Kirk Session will be meeting at the beginning of September to chart the way ahead. There is no need to be dispirited. I would encourage you to keep looking up. The summit is nearer than we know.

I would ask you to continue to pray for the Kirk Session and the congregation. We need his strength to persevere. The apostle Paul offers us this advice ‘forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus’.

I do hope you have a restful and relaxing summer.

Blessings

Jim

Wait for Me, For I Will Lead.

The voice of your trials would exhort you to doubt Me. Do not cave in to their influence.

I shall deliver you in my own time.

Until then, I'm calling on you to be established in faith.

Faith comes by hearing My word; therefore, wait for Me. Your trials would beg you to jump according to your own understanding.

They would call you to leap out and snatch the thing that you think would save you. But this is really the devil tempting you through doubt.

Be established in faith and wait for Me. They who wait upon Me shall renew their strength.

Even so. I will renew you in My Holy Spirit.

The above is an excerpt from the book “With Jesus in Quietness”™
Copyright © 2014 by Adam Houge.

This is day 10 of a 30 day devotional
Used by permission.

From the Clerk of Session

In our series of articles in relation to Session matters and operation I believe it is opportune and necessary to comment on the 'selection process', re filling the Vacancy in Streat. As you will be aware we heard two candidates on the 15th and 22nd of May. The Presbyterian process for appointing a Minister requires any prospective candidate, who has preached for the vacancy, to receive the appropriate level of support. The level of support required is set at 2/3rd's of those Communicant members, attending at the Congregational meeting. When a single candidate is considered and fails to reach this level they are then eliminated from the competition. Neither of the candidates, heard by the congregation on this occasion, received the required compliment of 2/3rd's of the vote from the attending communicant members. Both of these individuals are therefore no longer in consideration to fill the vacancy in Streat.

What is the process, how does it happen, what next, where do we go from here? These are questions I have been asked, along with others, following the vote on 24 May.

The Process to date; Session have been working very hard to get to this stage and we, under the direction and guidance of our Moderator have been busy seeking God's direction to seek out His person for Streat. The process began through the moderator seeking nominations of potential candidates. A number of names were received, from members of the congregation, and all of these, who were eligible, were approached by the moderator to consider the position. Any individual who has preached, in Streat as a pulpit supply during the vacancy, is not, however, eligible to preach for the vacancy. Many, many hours of prayerful planning has taken place by Session, including designing searching questions for any candidate as well as setting our target indicators for what we believe, Streat requires. Age was considered neither a barrier, nor an advantage, and some previous experience was considered necessary in either secular or Ministerial service. Our desire was also to provide the congregation with a choice of candidate(s) rather than a sole nominee.

A total of 17 individuals had agreed to accept a copy of the Church profile for prayerful consideration and out of these seven people agreed to come forward for interview. It is from these seven individuals that Session, unanimously agreed, that two should come and preach on the dates agreed.

Where do we go from here?

We start again. Session, by the time you receive this magazine will have met and started the 'selection process' again. Over the summer months delays will no doubt ensue but be assured that Session are committed to seeing God's anointed to be appointed to our vacancy in Streaton. We may need to revisit our selection criteria, revisit our thoughts of what the needs of Streaton might be or simply revisit the questions; time will tell. What I can say with confidence is that Session will continue to work for the interests of the congregation and we seek your support, guidance and importantly your confidence. Much has been done already both in seeking a new Minister as well as seeking unity in our quest and calling to be the Spiritual leaders of the Church. Be assured that Session are united in both Spirit and in our quest to serve the congregation with diligence and care. We are thankful to God for the unity we have in Session and the focus He has given us to leave the past behind and strive, together, for His purposes.

What Next?

Be prepared to present additional names of possible candidates, when required, for consideration. Continue to pray for the Session, its deliberations, searching and work. Pray also for the moderator as he leads us with diligence and with compassion to search for the person to bring to Streaton. This is not a time for despondency nor weak wills, it is a time for perseverance, strength, encouragement and prayer. All of this 'selection process' has taken place against the backdrop of routine Session business which is part of congregational life and witness. Be encouraged that Session is continuing to work for the best interests of the congregation and for the Kingdom.

In His Service

Walter



Theme for 2016 - 2017

“ This is the Day”

All Ladies Welcome!

Most of our meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month and we have an interesting and varied programme planned for 2016/2017.

The first meeting will be on Thursday 8 September 2016 at 7:45 pm. Gwen Montgomery will be talking on the topic of “Decluttering” both practically and spiritually - Something most of us could benefit from.

Please think about taking time out from the mundane activities and the stress of your busy lives. Come along to our PW meetings. You will enjoy the fellowship and form friendships with other ladies in our congregation.

Leader: Rosemary Black Tel: 9145 8559

Secretary: Roberta Young Tel: 07749 860466

Treasurer: Sadie McCullough Tel: 9127 1584

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Colossians 3:17

Summer hits Strean!

We are incredibly excited to be preparing for Holiday Bible Club this year in Strean. It has been 6 years since we have run a summer programme and we will be the only Presbyterian church in Newtownards to run a programme for Teens. The week will be running from Monday 18th July to Friday 22nd July and there will be 2 programmes.

Each morning we look forward to welcoming our “Landlubber pirates” aged from 4 to 11 and taking them on a wonderful adventure and mission looking to discover our true treasure in life. We will do this through fun and games, worship, Bible teaching, memory verses and craft.

On Monday - Thursday evenings we welcome our teens to look at a programme called Status Update. Through a relaxed atmosphere of games, fellowship, testimonies and talks, the idea of social media and our true identity and status in Christ will be developed.

On Friday 22nd July we are having a family fun night, a chance to have fun together and welcome new families of children who have attended the week. We hope to have games and a BBQ and a short message for all. We will finish the week with a Service of Celebration on Sunday morning in the Adgey Hall to invite the congregation to complete our pirate mission with us and hear a little about what both groups have been up to during the week.

We would ask the congregation for prayer for the many events we have planned ... and it's not too late to join the fun yourself!!

**Best Wishes to Kirsty
and the Team.
Pray for all the
preparation that is
required.**



Strean Presbyterian Holiday Bible Week

Family Fun Night!

Come and join in the fun with games

BBQ, singing, and see all your leaders
get a little messy!

The Pirates may even make a special
appearance!

An evening of celebration for all the family!

Friday 22nd July 6.30 - 8.30

Sunday Morning Celebration

Please join with us at our church
service as we celebrate our week
together.

Come and hear the final part of
Captain Book and see how the drama
will finish!



Strean Presbyterian Church
11:00a.m.
All very welcome!



Teen Nights at the Holiday Bible Club

As part of the outreach at Streaton this summer we are incredibly excited about our programme for teenagers. It came as quite a surprise that no other church in Newtownards is running an outreach event for teenagers and so we view this as a real opportunity to reach out to the young people in Newtownards with the good news of Jesus.

The programme will run for four nights and the theme is 'Status Update'. Teenagers are living in a world that tries to define them in ways contradictory to God's Word. The world is telling them they have to dress a certain way and act a certain way, and that popularity is the most important thing in life. We live in a world where fame is valued and easier than ever to attain. During the four nights we will uncover the truth about how God views us and His plan for His people using the backdrop of social media.

We will unpack questions such as -

Who am I,

What am I,

Why am I here and,

Whose am I?

Our aim is to show the young people that they are created in God's image, that following the trends of the world won't bring fulfillment as only God can provide that and that they were created for a relationships with God and with other people.

We are excited to see how God will move and work during these four nights and would ask you to remember this outreach in your prayers.

Andrew Frazer

Streaan 3:16 Youth Club

The Youth club has gone from strength to strength thanks to Gods help and the prayer support of the congregation and our current members inviting friends to come along. We have started new craft times making bags and decorating plastic eggs for Easter as well as decorating buns on occasions. We also bought some new equipment for games allowing us to be able to play dodge ball and other ball games which the Junior club especially love. We went out in May to Dundonald Icebowl where both leaders and young people alike had a great night out at both bowling and air soft.

Making the most of the great weather we spent our last Youth Club in May outside in the Church car park playing with pavement chalk, bubble makers and soft balls. The Juniors really enjoyed themselves and it gave us an opportunity to do our epilogue outside for anyone in the houses nearby or anyone passing by to hear. We talked about the name of our club coming from John 3:16 and how God loved us all so much that he sent his son for us and how we should share his love with other people which is why anyone parking their car in the car park will have been met with the words John 3:16 God loves you. CEF teaches its leaders that you share the gospel as if it's both the first and last time someone will hear it which is why the Youth club felt it was important to leave those messages the children wrote, who knows how many people who don't come to our church but park in our car park may have read them and it may be the only time they hear Gods love for them.

We had our final Joint club with Juniors and seniors together on 11th June when we had a party for the last night with a barque and games for them, a great way to finish what turned out to be a great year.

Joanne Moore

PCI GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2016

I was extremely honoured and yet humbled to be asked by Session to be Streaton's Representative Elder at General Assembly this year, from 6th to 10th June. The week began on the Monday evening with the traditional Service of Worship, the Constitution of Assembly, and the Election of the new Moderator - the Rev Dr Frank Sellar from Bloomfield Presbyterian, Belfast.

The Moderator's theme for his 2016/17 year is an extension of PCI's Fit for Purpose Programme, and is entitled "**A Community of Global Concern**". This theme was repeatedly referred to, and linked into every report and debate, throughout the week.

I attended on the three main business days - Tuesday to Thursday - where detailed reports from the Committees of General Council were received and discussed in the morning and late afternoon sessions. Each delegate came armed with their "Blue Book" of Committee Reports (341 pages), voting cards and supplementary reports. We were also presented on arrival with a free newspaper each day, and a copy of Frank Sellar's latest book, "Anywhere but Nineveh - A Month's Journey with Jonah".

Each day, as we approached the lunch break, Daily Worship was conducted for at least 40 minutes. On the Tuesday, a packed auditorium participated in an uplifting Communion service lead by the Moderator, with over 600 persons taking communion together. Each of the Worship sermons was focused on the journey with, and struggles of, Jonah, with the Moderator skilfully challenging everyone to recognise the simple truths of our beautiful faith.

The three afternoon sessions brought a new feature to General Assembly, with the following and stimulating one hour seminars:-
Tuesday:- "Honouring Christ in the Public Square" lead by Rev Dr Norman Hamilton, with the focus on building our vision for Society.

Wednesday:- "Listening to the Global Church" lead by Rev Dr Mark Welsh (who preached in Streaton a few months ago), with the focus on being a Welcoming Church.

Thursday:- "People Matter to God" lead by Lindsay Conway and Rev. Trevor McCormick (a good BB friend of mine), with the focus on Caring for our Older Members.

The Wednesday evening special celebration service was also based on

the theme of “A Community of Global Concern”, and was conducted by the Moderator but with the guest speaker being Rev. Dr. Chris Wright (Langham Partnership). In conjunction with this, the SPUD delegates (18 to 25s) shared their insights, contributions and stories in areas of our culture with which they have been engaged: Sexuality, Secularism, Selfies and Science.

The other main themes of note included:-

Who Needs Presbytery? - the 2015 General Assembly instructed “that a new Engagement and Consultations Task Group be formed to carry forward the examination of the issue of engagement between Presbyteries and the new Councils, and between Presbyteries and Congregations”. The Task Group had advanced its remit over one year on issues such as 1) what does it mean to be a Presbyterian today? 2) how can Presbytery do business better? 3) how can we streamline the consultations process? 4) how can ordinary Presbyterians feel more engaged in the wider Church?

Growing in Fruitfulness initiative 2016/17 - the Council for Congregational Life and Witness approved a one year initiative aimed at:-

Helping congregations introduce the vision of fruitfulness into their life and witness,

Helping congregations identify two areas of congregational life and witness in which they want to prioritise and develop cultures and practices of fruitfulness, and

Helping congregations implement the development of cultures and practices which, under God, begin to prepare the ground for a local expression of growing fruitfulness.

Everyday Disciples - Special Assembly 2017 - this major four day event will be held at the University of Ulster, Coleraine from 21 to 24 August 2017. Jesus commanded us to be disciples who are passionate about making more disciples, and the assembly conference will provide delegates with a unique opportunity to explore the real challenges and opportunities of following Jesus today. It will guide our Church to excite, equip and empower disciples for everyday life.

Relevance for Streaton

As I look back on a brilliant experience, I will share four Streaton-related occurrences. On the Tuesday, during the Communion Service the Memorial Roll of ministers who had died since the previous General Assembly was read out. The last name was that of Rev. George Eagleson, a former minister of Streaton and to whom many of you reading

this article still hold such fond memories of.

On the Wednesday, another former Streat minister, Rev William Sinclair (now 1st Ballymena PC), shared the morning with me. It was great to do a proper catch up with William, to find out about how his ministry has blossomed in Ballymena, and both Alison and he extend their warmest best wishes to you all.

On the Thursday, an ex-Streat elder Rev Paul Jamieson (now Hillhall PC) sidled up beside me and, again, we had a great morning trading experiences and news. Hillhall congregation is clearly benefitting from Paul's hard work. He and Jean also pass on their best wishes to everyone in Streat.

Also on Thursday, and following a very emotional debate late on Tuesday afternoon about Victims of the Troubles when I was moved by a superb address by Rev. Michael Davidson (Railway Street, Lisburn) whose father (a part time RUC officer) had been murdered by terrorists, I bumped into Michael. I commended him on his passionate address, we got talking, and quickly worked out that he had been a youth worker in Streat in the 1990s. He had heard about our fantastic new halls, and was keen to see them when next in Ards. Small world!!!

Final reflections

For such a huge event, with ministers and delegates and visiting dignitaries coming from all over into the middle of Belfast, PCI did a very slick and professional job. The Clerk, Rev Trevor Gribben, and Deputy Clerk, Rev. Jim Stothers, and their Arrangements Panel (team) were totally in control of everything - and everyone (even the Moderator).

My spirit filled late on the Tuesday afternoon when Rev Lesley Carroll took to the podium to challenge the journalist who had recently compared The Boys' Brigade to dissident paramilitaries. And Rev Trevor McCormick followed by announcing the recent Queen's Award for Voluntary Service being granted to The Boys' Brigade in Northern Ireland, the first time a region-wide organisation has been recognised in this way.

And yet, Christ was totally and absolutely the rightful focus of the week. The fellowship and grace demonstrated throughout did indeed make me proud to be a Christian and a Presbyterian!

Stephen Boyle

Session Representative Elder

PROPERTY SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE - JUNE 2016

One important part of Streaan's property is our Manse and, as you will realise, this has been vacant now for the past 18 months. However, as with any sizeable building, comes upkeep and responsibilities. Our Property team has the privilege of managing our premises and grounds, and of ensuring that they are operated and maintained properly. The current vacancy has provided an opportunity for Committee to address a number of things in and around the Manse, as follows:-

- Removal of a large but diseased maple tree in the front garden
- An overhaul of some unkempt parts of the right side and rear gardens, including top dressing and re-seeding of some lawn areas
- Reduction in height of large conifers to rear and right side gardens
- New replacement fence and gate to right of garage
- Exterior of the house treated with fungicide and washed down, to restore the excellent paintwork
- All windows serviced, some repaired, and 15 new double glazed units installed

However, our main focus has been to convert the extremely large bathroom into a smaller bathroom and separate en-suite room to support a large front bedroom. The proposed re-arrangement has been approved in principle by Committee and we are presently obtaining estimates to ensure best value for money. These works will eventually happen later this year.

And once we do eventually call our next Minister, there will be a range of internal and external jobs to be done to make the Manse ready for re-occupation, We will be looking to the hard working folk from Streaan to volunteer their time and skills for these, at that stage.

Finally, I would express thanks and gratitude to:-

- Michael Creaney and Dessie Cunningham who have undertaken such sterling work in the Manse grounds in recent months
- The members of our Property team - Bill McKenzie, Steve Wilson, William McCormick and Brian Nixon - all of whom have their own specific roles and areas of responsibility. Please continue to encourage them with your prayers and support.

Stephen Boyle
(Property Convenor)

NOEL WILSON MEMORIAL CUP

The annual Noel Wilson memorial cup match was held on Monday 23 May at Granshaw Presbyterian church. This match is the highlight of the year for our Football and Fellowship group, competition for places is always competitive. This year we had an excellent squad of 16 players all keen to represent Streaan Church.

This year in particular there was a real confidence in the squad. An inspirational team talk took place in the Granshaw hall followed by a time of prayer. After a very intense warm-up both teams gathered at the halfway line for a further prayer.

It was clear from the start that Streaan were really up for the match with some excellent free flowing football. As always the match is physical but fair. After 15 mins the Streaan procession turned into the first goal with Brett getting the final touch to a free flowing move. Granshaw were really struggling to cope with the vastly experienced Streaan midfield. Streaan again scored two quick goals inside a 5 min spell with Brett completing his hatrick, just reward for a fellow who never misses a Wednesday night. Our fourth goal was scored just before half-time, by Carl, a fantastic goal for someone making his debut for Streaan. 4 nil up at half time. Streaan were in dream land. The second half started with Granshaw getting back into the match as they bossed possession for a 10 min spell. However Streaan were still dangerous on the break and with 10 mins left scored a fifth through John Lowey. Indeed Streaan went on to miss a penalty. Granshaw finally got a consolation goal in the last minute. What a result for Streaan 5 - 1. The cup was presented to Gazza, our captain, by Roberta and Jennifer much to the delight of the Streaan fans. A lovely BBQ was enjoyed by both teams and supporters.

Some interesting facts -

3 brothers played for Streaan (O'Neills)

3 goalkeepers were in our squad (2 played outfield)

3 over 50s played

3 Elders played
3 goals were scored by Brett
JOHN 3 - 16 is on our shirts
£3 the price a senior member paid for a pair of football boots
3 times Streaan have won the cup

We can learn so much from sport, 'team work, commitment, encouragement, communication skills, stickability'.
Noel Wilson was a great friend to everyone, someone we looked up to. Noel had many qualities but most of all he was faithful in prayer, a faithful visitor and a committed Christian.

John Scott

WELL DONE LADS—NOEL WOULD BE PROUD OF YOU ALL

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES FAIR (MAY DAY)

Streaan again held a very successful Antiques and Collectables Fair on May Day. Nearly 400 attended the fair held in our beautiful suite of halls. This is a real outreach to the local community and further afield. 25 province wide exhibitors took part. Exhibitors from as far away as Strabane, Castlerock and Antrim. The exhibitors love coming to Streaan as they are helped in and out with their goods, food is provided but most of all they are made very welcome.

£1900 was raised. This money is divided between the Mission committee and Building fund. A big thank you to all who helped to make the day a huge success. A special thanks to our catering sub-committee for all their hard work.

Our Autumn Antiques fair will be held on Saturday 29 October. All will be made very welcome. Thanks for helping to 'Share God's Welcome'.

John Scott



Girls' Brigade

Strean G.B. meets every Monday night from September to April for Friendship, Fun and Activity!

The 2015 /16 G.B. session has now finished for the summer months. The second half of our year always involves a lot of planning and practicing as we start to prepare items for our display as well as continuing with our badge work and other activities.

Jan/Feb/Mar

Alastair McCauley bravely came along each Monday night since January and taught 'Drill' and 'Marching' to our Senior & Brigader girls (Age 11-18year olds!) in the Adgey Hall. We thought it was so good that we included it as an item in our display; the girls thoroughly enjoyed it - once they got the hang of it.... Thank You Alastair!

The G.B. Breakfast was held on 30th January. We cooked 153 Ulster fry's this year and raised £718.16 towards our HQ Fees and Company funds.

Our G.B. Week collection cards raised £844.50 - Assessment fees and subscriptions amounting to £1066.73 were sent to Girls' Brigade Headquarters. Our thanks go to everyone who supported us.

Our Senior section girls and their leaders planned and prepared an evening of fun for the residents of Shuttlefield Fold in our halls, they provided the supper, games and the entertainment! - a superb evening was enjoyed by everyone!!

Our older girls put together some hard pressing questions about God, the Bible & current living. We passed on the challenge of answering them to our Clerk of Session, Walter McCorkell who valiantly came and discussed them with the girls - No easy task! Thank You Walter!

April

Our annual Display was held on 15th April. The evening was full of fun

and fellowship and it was fantastic to see the great support from the families and friends of our girls.

Congratulations to Rachael Lee who received her 'Brigader Brooch'. This is our unique badge and it takes 4 years of work to gain this award. The Brigader Programme is centered on achievement of the Brigader Brooch.

Congratulations also to Jennifer Rankin who received her 15-year Officers brooch.

The Under 5's & Explorers then enjoyed an outing to 'Whacky Whizz-ards' soft play area. They had great fun evening burning off all that energy!!

The girls collect their spare change for charity and bring it along each week; our congregation also join in and hand over their change as well! The total raised to date this year was £550, which was donated to 'Cardiac Risk in the Young' (CRY) who work to reduce the frequency of sudden cardiac death in the young.

We are more than happy to continue receiving your 'odds' over the summer months too!!

Thank you to all in our Congregation for your continued interest and support. Please pray for our Officers & helpers as they continue to lead the girls within the company.

Please also give praise for Heather Morrice & Rachel Cairns who have now completed part 3 of District Officer Training.

Please pray that we can continue to grow as a Company and with God's grace continue to teach the girls to **Seek, Serve and Follow Christ.**

Finally, G.B. will re-start for the 2016/17 session on Monday 5th September 2016. If you know of any young girls who would like to join us please speak to me or any of the Officers - or ask them to just come along on a Monday night!

Sandra Gwynne (Captain)



BOYS' BRIGADE (6TH NEWTOWNARDS COMPANY)

Captain's Blog (June 2016)

Our BB company is now enjoying its summer break, and we can look back on an excellent winter programme for our boys and sections. Our Annual Parents' Night on 18th April went really well, with a large audience of parents, families and Streaan members present.

The highlights of Parents' Night were:-

- Promotion of seven P4 boys from Anchor Boys to Junior Section
- Promotion of eight P7 boys from Junior Section to Company Section
- President's Badges gained by Aaron Bailie and Lewis English, and The Queen's Badge gained by Senior Sergeant Paul Moore.

Another highlight a few weeks later was when Dave and Joanne Moore and I accompanied Paul to the BB NI Queen's Badge Presentation Ceremony in Wellington Presbyterian Church, Ballymena. Over 150 young men received their Queen's Badge certificates from our First Minister, Arlene Foster MLA. The First Minister impressed everyone with her warm message of encouragement, and by the fact that she stayed late into the evening to afford photo opportunities and to chat with each family represented.

Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

The following is the exact report presented to PCI's General Assembly in Belfast on Tuesday 7th June.

"The recent announcement of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service to The Boys' Brigade in Northern Ireland is welcomed, particularly as this is the first time a region-wide organisation has been recognised in this way.

The faithful work of almost 3,500 leaders and over 16,000 members is a significant part of mission and ministry in many congregations. There are an increasing number of families for whom The Boys' Brigade is the only regular contact with a Church, and in this generation the organisation's Object of "Advancing Christ's Kingdom amongst Boys" is as relevant and vital as ever.

With developing badge programmes, customised scripture teaching programmes, and innovative pastoral support and disability awareness resources, The Boys' Brigade in Northern Ireland is well placed to continue its service to this and future generations. The Council trusts Her Majesty's Award will be an encouragement to leaders and senior members in that continuing mission."

So, for our BB staff team in Streaton, every member is now a recipient of this Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. I understand that BB NI is currently giving consideration as to how best convey the award to all BB staff throughout the province. For now, I extend my own congratulations to our team for this well deserved recognition!

Stephen Boyle

We are greatly blessed by the quality of the leaders in both our Girls' Brigade and Boys' Brigade companies; give thanks for them and keep them and the girls and boys in your prayers.

"Hear, my son, and accept my words, that the years of your life may be many. I have taught you the way of wisdom; I have led you in the paths of uprightness. When you walk, your step will not be hampered, and if you run, you will not stumble."
Proverbs 4:10-12 ESV

"For all who are led by the Spirit of God, are sons of God."
Romans 8:14 ESV

Dates for Your Diary

Please put the following start dates in your diary for **September**:

Sunday 4th	10.30am Discovery Teens and Discovery Kidz+ 11.30am Discovery Kidz and Discovery Church
Monday 5th	6.45pm GB
Tuesday 6th	6.30pm BB
Saturday 10th	7pm/ 8.30pm Junior/ Senior Youth Club
Sunday 11th (TBC)	7pm Youth Fellowship *
Tuesday 13th	10.15am Tots 'n' Toddlers

Discovery Tots crèche runs all year round in the Children's Room during the morning service

ACTIVITIES FOR ADULTS AT STREAN

Please put the following start dates in your diary for **September**:

Sunday 4th	8.30pm Young Adults Small Group
Thursday 8th (TBC)	7.30pm Badminton *
Thursday 8th	7.45pm PW
Friday 9th	7.30pm Bowls
Wed 14th	9pm Football & Fellowship

Thursday morning Bowls at 10am will continue over the summer, except on 14th and 21st July. Our Young Adults Group will also meet up for social events over the summer months so keep an eye out for details; these will be printed in the Order of Service and displayed on the website. Our singing group, who lead our worship on a Sunday morning, will start practices for Harvest during September.

YOUTH LEADERS FORUM

This was set up last year to help improve communication between the youth organisations in Streaton, and consists of the leaders-in-charge of each of the youth organisations. We pray, encourage each other, discuss ideas and look at the overall youth ministry in Streaton.

*** To Be Confirmed**

Six Little Stories

- Once all the villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer everyone gathered, but only one small boy brought an umbrella.

That's FAITH

- When you throw babies in the air they laugh because they know you will catch them.

That's TRUST

- Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still set the alarm.

That's HOPE

- We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of our lack of knowledge about the future.

That's CONFIDENCE

- We see the world suffering , but still we get married and have children.

That's LOVE

- On an old man's shirt was written "I am not 80 years old...
I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience.

That's ATTITUDE

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Philippians 4:13 (KJV)

If either you or someone you know would benefit from a large print copy of the Streaan Newsletter, please contact the editor who will be happy to provide you with a copy on a regular basis.

If you have something you want to share, air your views on, or a regular feature you would like see let us know, please don't be shy.

Remember it is your magazine.

Editor : Alex Steel

Email: church@streaanpresbyterian.org.uk

Website: streaan.org