

Broadwater Beacon

Aghalee Parish News
Summer / Jun—Aug 2026



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please note - other, older email addresses are no longer in use

Dear friends

In this magazine, you will find some news about what has happened in recent months for our parish organisations, and some information about things which will happen beyond the summer. The months in-between may seem a little quieter - as parish life takes on a slower pace; but there is still a lot happening.

I will be off-duty from 27th May - 13th June. If you need to contact a minister during this time, please contact Rev Joanne Megarrell 028 9261 1268 ... or speak to one of the church-wardens (see cover for contact details).

If you are going on holiday during the summer, I hope you will find that to be a time of relaxation and rest for body and soul. If you are remaining at home, I hope we will all benefit from a spell of good weather - and a chance to relax.

I hope I will see you at our services during the summer months. I have made it my habit over the last few summers, to preach from the Old Testament; this summer we will focus on **the book of Joshua** - Joshua leads the people of Israel into Canaan as God fulfils the promise to establish them in a 'Promised land'.

Planning for our **Christmas Festival** is now well underway, and if you can help with that during the summer, it will be much appreciated - and the Select Vestry are already thinking of ways to mark the **350th Anniversary of Holy Trinity Church in 2027**.

May God continue to bless and guide us, through the summer months and beyond, then into this next special year for our parish. Have a great summer!



Rev Paul McAdam

At our Annual General Vestry meeting on Tuesday 14th April, the following were appointed / elected to the various roles -

Church-Wardens: Sylvia Thompson (Rector's) & Robert Clarke (People's)

Glebe-Wardens: Noel Murray (Rector's) & Donald Frazer (People's)

Select Vestry: Larry Donaghey, Joy Frazer, Roy Hanna, Norman McAlister (Sec), Wendy Malcolmson, Jackie Montgomery, Stephen Montgomery, Gavin Murray, Stephen Orr, Elizabeth Reid (Treas), John Watson and Hilary Wilson.

Parochial Nominators: Sylvia Thompson, Norman McAlister, Roy Hanna and John Watson.

Supplemental Nominators: Irene Culbert, Elizabeth Reid, Joy Frazer and Larry Donaghey.

Diocesan Synod Representatives: Larry Donaghey & John Watson

Under-30 Synod Representative: Laura Murray

Thank you to all who are willing to serve God and His church in these roles



Jigsaw

Connecting God's Big Picture

Sunday

School



The Sunday School year concluded with a very enjoyable Children's Day Service held on Sunday, 10th May.

The boys and girls did themselves proud with their singing of 'King of Me' and 'The Lord's Army', even getting the congregation to join in with the actions.

Evan, as always, did an excellent Bible Reading and this was followed by 3 prayers meaningfully read by Logan, Paolo and Evan.

The congregation joined in with the sound effects for the story of 'David and Goliath'. Many thanks to Elaine for leading this.

It was lovely for us to be joined by several young pre-school age children . Hopefully we will see some of them again when Sunday School resumes in September.

Thank you to all the parents for your support throughout the past year. This is very much appreciated. - **Jennifer Orr**.

... and thank you to Jennifer, Elaine, Sandra & Cathy for all their work with Sunday School throughout the year.



Our parish website can be found at ...

www.aghalee.dromore.anglican.org

... or scan the QR code.





*Speaker for Bible Week:
Dr Tim Robinson.*

Diocesan Bible Week - 1st - 4th September '26

Please plan to join us at the start of September for this year's Diocesan Bible Week with pastor and teacher **Dr Tim Robinson**. Tim has entitled his teaching series,

Surrendered - A Fresh Call to Full Surrender from Acts 11&13.

We'll be hosted by Banbridge Parish, and the Bible Week will run from 1-4 September beginning each evening at 7.45pm.

What's in store:

Tues 1st Sept: Surrendered in Prayer & Worship (*Acts 13:1-3*)

Wed 2nd Sept: Surrendered to the Word & Spirit (part 1) (*Acts 11:19-26*)

Thurs 3rd Sept: Surrendered to the Word & Spirit (part 2) (*Acts 13:1-5*)

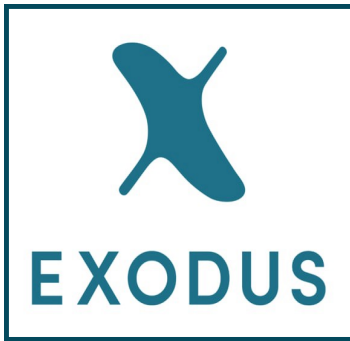
Fri 4th Sep: Surrendered in Radical Discipleship & Worldwide Mission (*Acts 13:6-12*)

As well as inspiring teaching, the Bible Week includes worship and prayer ministry. It is a wonderful opportunity for clergy, leaders, and parishioners alike to be refreshed ahead of the busy autumn term.

Our speaker:

Dr Tim Robinson is Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministries at Dallas Theological Seminary. He was born in Belfast and pastored within the local church in Northern Ireland for 12 years. Tim is passionate about teaching and preaching the Scriptures in a way that is true, clear, relevant, and interesting. His greatest desire is that he might encourage and equip others to faithfully feed souls the Word of God, and form hearts into the likeness of Christ.

Come along: 1st-4th September, each evening at 7.45pm in Holy Trinity Banbridge, Church Square, Banbridge BT32 4AA.



During the summer months, two of our younger members - **Louise Crone and Emma Siciliano** - will be involved in Exodus teams abroad. Exodus aims to encourage young people to follow Jesus and become life-long disciples - growing in faith, friendship and serving God by serving others.

Exodus Teams meet together regularly throughout the year for team-building, training, and fundraising; then each team undertakes a Summer Placement - either in Ireland or overseas.

Louise Crone will join a team travelling to Moldova - one of Europe's poorest and least-visited countries. There, the team will work with Soroca Church Plant (Northern Moldova) to run a kids club and be involved in home visits. This is Louise's third year with Exodus - having been involved in teams to Romania during the last two summers.

We would also like to congratulate Louise on achieving her Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.



Louise recently received her Gold Duke of Edinburgh award from Prince Edward at Buckingham Palace



Emma (right), with friend & team-member Rachel, serving refreshments at 'Movie Night'.

Emma Siciliano will join one of several teams visiting Romania this summer. Exodus have been sending teams to Romania for about 25 years. Based in the small village of Sutor, the teams will partner with local churches for a week of children's and youth ministry, practical work and service to the local community.

As part of our mission support, the parish are contributing £200 to each team - for which Louise & Emma would like to express their gratitude.

Emma would further like to thank everyone who supported her fundraising **Movie Night**.

We wish Emma & Louise (and all Exodus teams) every blessing in their work and outreach.

We hope to hear a little more about both Exodus teams before and/or after their trips.

Please continue to support Louise & Emme by your prayers for Exodus.



Girls Friendly Society:

The girls have been very busy over the last couple of months completing their Bible Study papers and competing in our Arts & Crafts competitions. We had many successes in both competitions. Three girls gained first place in the diocese for their Arts & Crafts and Bible Study and have now been put into the All-Ireland competition.

This year the girls competed in PE competitions in Christ-Church Lisburn on Wed. 25 March for the first time. The girls have enjoyed working on the dance routines under the guidance of Lucy. All their hard work paid off as all three teams placed and our Juniors Section (7 – 11 years) got first place.

We ended the year with our Annual Parents Night on Fri. 24 April in the church hall along with the C.L.B. The girls entertained their parents, grandparents, family and friends with various items showcasing their many talents in singing, dancing and choral speaking.



All ready for our Parents Night



First-place winners at the PE competition – Junior Section with Lucy, their dance teacher.

To finish off our year, we will be going on two summer outings – Candidate & Junior Sections will be going to Airtastic Lisburn for bowling and then to McDonalds for supper on Monday 11 May 2026 and the Senior Members will be heading to Portrush on Saturday 27 June 2026 for some shopping and beach activities.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents for bringing their girls to G.F.S. every Monday night over the last year and all their support in the additional events that we have run, such as our sleepover in November 2025 and our Big Breakfast in March 2026. We would like to wish all our girls and their families an enjoyable summer break and we look forward to welcoming them all back again in September 2026.

Elizabeth, Jennifer, Gilly, Alison, Chloe, Joanne,

Christina, Rachel & Molly -

Leaders of Aghalee Girls Friendly Society



Church Lads' Brigade



The boys also enjoyed a busy term taking part in the Regimental uni-hoc competition (and bringing home a few medals!); learning about 'Men of Faith' as part of their Scripture Course; enjoying an outing to Lasertag @ Airtastic, and eating their own weight in pizza & chicken goujons; working for their gardening and crafts badges - thank you to Wendy Malcomson for helping us plant up a few summer flowers (pictured above); and, of course, joining with the GFS for Parents Night.

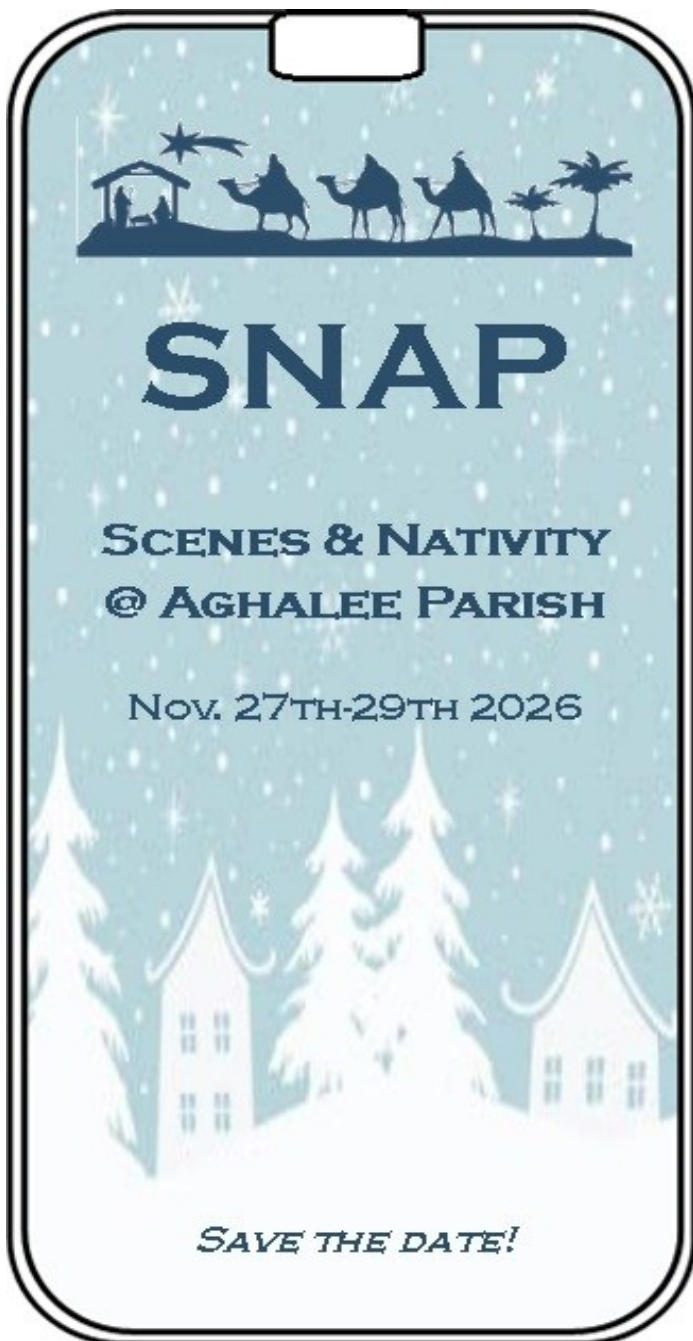


Congratulations to Isaac Bradley, who won 3rd prize in the Martins Colouring Competition - Pictured (left) receiving a prize from 2nd Batt. Commander, Willie Clayton - along with grandad Tom.



Pictured (above right) - the Martins & Y-Team are all dressed and ready to perform the story of **Gideon** at Parents' Night ... Gideon's mighty warriors were indeed 'fighting the Good Fight'!!!

Thank you to all our CLB leaders for their hard work & dedication throughout the year. We hope everyone has a great summer and look forward to seeing all the boys again in September.




Christmas Festival

Only six months to go - make sure you save the date, spread the word and plan to help!

Costume fittings will begin shortly - so please sign the volunteer list in the church to make sure there's a costume for you ... Norman & Patrick have been trying theirs. (pic above).

Craft sessions will continue throughout the summer months, as arranged - no artistic skills required, just a willingness to follow instructions.

Thank you to everyone who has been collecting items for us. We're continuing to collect - old tester pots / tubes of paint; 2L plastic milk bottles (please rinse out, remove labels, keep lid on); Coffee jars (the ones with 'pop-lids' rather than 'screw-on'; see the one in church); white foam-wrap packing fabric. No more cardboard tubes required at the moment.



Help will be needed with catering, stewarding, craft & wood-work and in lots of other ways - all parishioners are encouraged to play their part!

Please speak to Joanne for details

(Ph: Joanne 07927 660475)



Pick up a penguin!

LADIES' Fellowship

In April, the ladies attended the Movie Night organised by Emma Siciliano - in aid of the Exodus team to Romania. Everyone enjoyed a showing of the classic family-favourite 'Mary Poppins'; singing along with many familiar tunes - it was 'Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious'!

The speaker at the May meeting was Aaron Heasley of 'Moon Gelato', Moira.

Aaron told his story ... *'he attended Carpigiani Gelato University in Italy, where he mastered the ancient art of gelato making. Returning to his hometown of Moira, Aaron opened Moon Gelato to share the authentic taste of Italy with his local community.'*

Of course, he also brought some samples with him ... which were enjoyed by all!





Soldierstown Bowling Club

During the 2025/26 season, the club had a highly successful run in the Lisburn & District Indoor Bowling League - finishing as runners-up in the league competition and winners of the Lisburn Zone Charity Cup.

Pictured right: John Mackey (club captain) accepting the shield from sponsor Roy Kennedy of Roy Kennedy Fuels Ltd; alongside Gabriel Brankin, outgoing League Chairman.



On Sunday 17th May,
our visiting speaker was

Vikki Scanlon of Christian Aid.

Vikki (in pink) pictured with her mum, Elizabeth, and Joy Frazer (our Christian Aid rep).

Thank you to everyone who has donated to Christian Aid - it is not too late to do so, using the envelopes provided in church.

heritage
open
days



Sat 12th & Sun 13th Sept. 2026

The church will once again be opening for the European Heritage Open Days; further details later.



A coffee morning is provisionally planned for Saturday 12th September; full details to be confirmed



Sunday 13th September

... a fresh start and a new season of our parish organisations; but its far enough away - full details later!

Flower
Rota



Thanks to Anne Lavery for co-ordinating the flower rota. If you would be willing to provide flowers for the church—please speak to Anne on 028 9261 1502. The full list is on the notice-board in the church porch.

June:

7th - Mrs E. Haddock
14th - Mrs G. Lavery
28th - Mrs W. Malcomson

July:

5th - Mrs I. Culbert

August:

16th - Mrs I. Watson

Other Sundays are still available!



We support Lisburn Food Bank on an on-going basis. Donations of food items can be left in the church porch any Sunday.



MAINTENANCE OF GRAVES: *The Select Vestry wish to remind everyone that maintenance of individual graves is the responsibility of the family concerned. We would further remind you that it is essential to abide by the District Council's recycling policy. Please dispose of dead flowers / spoilt wreaths etc in the correct coloured bin - see the notice beside the church gate.*

Services for June - August 2026

24th May	Pentecost	Holy Communion for Pentecost Preacher: Canon Charlie Leeke
31st May	Trinity Sunday	Morning Prayer Preacher: Canon Charlie Leeke
7th June	Trinity 1	Holy Communion - led by Canon Barry Paine
14th June	Trinity 2	Morning Prayer
21st June	Trinity 3	Service of the Word & Holy Baptism
28th June	Trinity 4	Morning Prayer
5th July	Trinity 5	Holy Communion
12th July	Trinity 6	11am Morning Prayer 3pm: Service with Aghalee Orange District
19th July	Trinity 7	Service of the Word
26th July	Trinity 8	Morning Prayer
2nd Aug	Trinity 9	Holy Communion
9th August	Trinity 10	Morning Prayer
16th August	Trinity 11	Morning Prayer
23rd August	Trinity 12	Service of the Word
30th August	Trinity 13	Morning Prayer

All Services - Sunday @ 11am (unless stated otherwise)

All are welcome to worship with us.



Unable to get to church?

Did you know—our service is streamed online most Sundays; you can watch the service on our parish Youtube channel at

11am on Sunday morning, or catch up on it later, or re-visit recent services -

www.youtube.com/@aghaleeparish6582

Of course—we would rather welcome you to church in-person!

Beacon Distribution

Broadwater Beacon is distributed to every household listed as members/subscribers of Aghalee Parish. Please let the rector know about any changes needed to the parish records; so that our list of parishioners / subscribers can be updated.

Notes for the Magazine

should be with the rector by
Sunday 16th August.