Monkstown Boxing Club have been honoured with the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK for work in its local community. Billy Snoddy – Chairperson of the Club and Paul Johnston – Project Manager, attended a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in May, along with other recipients of this year’s Award.

Amy Stewart and Daryl Clarke attended the Northern Ireland Garden Party held at Castle Coole, in Enniskillen, where they met the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall, to recognise the valuable work the Club provides to young people in the community.

The Club is one of 281 charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups to receive the prestigious Award this year. The number of nominations and awards has increased year on year since they were introduced in 2002, showing that the voluntary sector is thriving and full of innovative ideas to make life better for those around them.

The Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service aims to recognise outstanding work by volunteer groups to benefit their local communities. It was created in 2002 to celebrate the Queen’s Golden Jubilee. Winners are announced each year on 2nd June – the anniversary of the Queen’s Coronation. Award winners this year are wonderfully diverse. Representatives of the Club will receive the award from the Lord Lieutenant of Antrim later this summer.

Boxing Club Chairperson Billy Snoddy paid tribute to the hard work and commitment of our volunteers...

‘The staff and volunteers at Monkstown Boxing Club are honoured to receive the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service. Our amazing volunteers are dedicated to ensuring all children have opportunities to fulfil their potential in the future and passionate that they have the very best start in life through child-centred programmes designed and managed by young people themselves. This Award is in recognition of their exceptional voluntary contribution of which we are so proud!’

Monkstown Boxing Club—continued on page 10
Good advice
by Community Advice Antrim & Newtownabbey
(formerly Citizens Advice)

Scams are schemes to con you out of your money. They can arrive by post, phone call, text message or email, or from someone coming to your home.

Phone Scams
Phone scams can involve threats of immediate arrest if you do not pay thousands, the caller could say they are from HMRC. The scammers then pressure you into giving your card details, which enable the scammers to take money from your account.

If you receive an urgent demand to pay tax or any payment over the phone, beware.

HMRC will never call you up out of the blue and tell you that you owe money, they will only ever call asking for payment on a debt that you’re already aware of.

Car matching
You place an advert to sell your car and get a call to say an immediate buyer has been found. You are asked to pay an upfront fee which you are told is refundable if the car isn’t sold. The car isn’t sold and you aren’t refunded.

Prize draws, sweepstakes, foreign lottery scams
You’re told that you’ve won a prize in a competition that you haven’t entered. To claim the prize you have to pay an administration fee. You pay the fee and either get back nothing or get something worth less than the fee you’ve paid.

Subscription traps
You see an online advert for a free trial of a product (these are often beauty or health related products). You enter your card details to pay for postage and packaging, but end up being debited large amounts on a regular basis.

You have unwittingly agreed to a ‘continuous payment authority’ (CPA) - this is an agreement which authorises traders to take money from your account. You might not get your goods or they might not do what the advert claims.

Working from home
You see an advertisement offering work which you can do at home, for example, stuffing envelopes or putting together home assembly kits. You’re asked to pay a fee upfront and then find there’s no work on offer, you only get paid if you get others to sign up, or you do the work and don’t get paid for it. For example, you assemble a kit and are told the work isn’t up to standard and you won’t be paid.

A genuine home-working scheme won’t ask you to pay money upfront and will explain in writing what you are expected to do, how much you will earn, and when you will be paid. You should also be paid at least the national minimum wage.

If you have been contacted by a scammer you can report a scam, it gives important information to the authorities that can be used to warn other people.

You can report a scam online to Action Fraud or to Consumerline.

Action Fraud
Phone: 0300 123 2040
https://www.actionfraud.police.uk

Consumerline
Phone: 0300 123 6262 (9.00 am-4.00 pm)
Email: consumerline@economy-ni.gov.uk
Students from Abbey Community College, in the weeks before Easter, donated Easter Eggs of all makes, shapes and sizes for the Northern Ireland Children’s Hospice.

Mrs Jill Parkes and her Year 13 Health & Social Care class came up with the idea and went out to Horizon House to deliver their haul.

They accumulated 360 eggs to donate, one for every child in Hospice care.

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**Pound Burn—Drainage Improvement Scheme**

The source of the Pound Burn is located on the western side of Knockagh Hill. The river flows through a natural channel until it reaches the urban area of Monkstown. At this point it goes underground and the river is conveyed through concrete pipes. At the rear of Monkstown Community Forum’s Village Centre the Pound Burn flows through 1.5 metre diameter concrete pipes at an approximate depth of seven metres. Downstream of this location the water from the Pound Burn joins the natural channel of the Three Mile Water and ultimately flows into Belfast Lough.

A role of the Department for Infrastructure, Rivers is to assess and prioritise the structural condition of underground watercourses. This process highlights infrastructure in most need of repair work. The original concrete pipes within the grounds of the Community Forum were graded at risk of collapse and therefore needed to be replaced.

The original line of the underground watercourse was directly below the Community Forum’s polytunnels and therefore the improvement works were designed along a different line to minimise disruption to the community garden as much as possible. The project needed to overcome a number of issues, which included:

- A maximum dig depth of around 8 metres and accommodating site movements of the large size of excavator required to reach these depths.
- An onsite redesign due to an unforeseen buried concrete structure which was once used as an underpass to cross Cashel Drive.

The civil engineering work for the Pound Burn drainage improvement scheme was successfully completed on 31st May 2019. The new watercourse infrastructure reduces flood risk over a design life of 100 years and the previous concrete pipes have been infilled with foam concrete to remove the risk of collapse.
After a busy year many of our weekly activities have come to their summer break.

The Girls’ Brigade display was themed on Mary Poppins and it was great to see two of our older girls receive their Brigadier’s Brooch. Whilst the “older” girls had been to camp in September, the Tinies and Explorers had a trip to Streamvale Farm on the 18th of May. Though the day was overcast our girls stood out with their distinctive pink baseball caps and all enjoyed seeing the different animals, feeding and petting some of the baby ones.

The registration evening for next year will be on Monday 19th August between 6:30 and 7:30pm, with GB starting on Monday 2nd September.

The Rainbows, Brownies & Guides and the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers have also been busy over the last few months, learning new skills, having trips out and planning for summer camps. These groups will start back during the second week in September.

In the early autumn two special Saturdays are planned for all involved in these youth organisations to enable them to get to know each other, to encourage team building and working together.

The Men’s Breakfast Group, meets at 8:30am on the second Saturday of the month, from October to April. In March at the joint meeting with the Mothers’ Union, Laura McCartney spoke about her wonderful work with street children in New York through Metro World Child Ministries. At the April meeting Colin Miller, a school principal, shared about being on an educational trip to China. On the way home he developed swine flu and collapsed in the aeroplane and a month later he woke up in England. It was an amazing and emotional story. He gave glory to God and other people who helped him along the way to making a recovery.

The Parent & Toddler group finished their session this year with a sponsored toddle in aid of Children’s Heartbeat. The toddle has become a tradition for the group and families within the group have benefitted from the support of the Trust. The Toddler group will be restarting mid September and is open to all caring for preschool-aged children.

We are delighted to be part of the SPARK that will be running in Monkstown from the 12th-16th August. The week following on Tuesday the 20th and Thursday the 22nd we will be running two evenings for primary school-aged children between 6:30-8pm.

Sunday worship will continue at 11am only during July and August. There will be no Thursday morning communion during these months; it will recommence on Thursday the 5th of September at 10am. In September the discipleship and fellowship meetings will mostly start back during the second week of the month. The Harvest is planned for Sunday 29th September.

If you would like further information about the Sunday services, any of the weekly activities, special events or have a general enquiry please contact:

Rev Ruth Patterson 028 9591 7285 or revruthpatterson@gmail.com

What is Spark?
Spark was formed by a number of different churches with the vision to spread God’s love through the area whilst also developing young people for serving in mission. It takes the form of a week in the summer where teenagers from age 13 and up gather in an area and give up their time and talents to provide kids’ clubs, youth meetings, gardening, washing, weeding and company for the lonely. Everything Spark does is free - there is no cost - we do it because God has called us to help.

What to expect
From Monday the 12th to Friday the 16th of August this year you will see groups of young people wearing Spark t-shirts around the area, and perhaps knocking on your door. They will offer to help you with any household or garden jobs that you haven’t got round to, and they will do it for free. All you have to do is be around to open the gate or door for them. Some of our Monkstown team will also host clubs and games for children and youth, and then others will be available to chat or keep you company for an afternoon. You will find out more from a leaflet drop soon. Please welcome this great work to the area and make use of these young people who just want to help and serve!

For further information see: @abbeypresbyterian

SPARK Newtownabbey has now come to Monkstown
Abbey Presbyterian Church

Ministry student
During May our ministry student John McCracken preached one Sunday before commencing his student assistantship in Ravenhill congregation. We wish John and the family well as he works there over the summer and next winter, when he will complete his studies.

Community Bible Experience
During May and June we are engaging with the Community Bible Experience on Sunday evenings. Over eight weeks those taking part will read through the whole New Testament in a new way and then once a week come together for chat, coffee and an outline of what comes next. We are learning lots more from the Bible and each other.

Point Youth Club
All our organisations have gone well over this year, and many are now taking a break. The Point Youth Club on Friday nights has welcomed a number of new young people from the community.

Refurbishments
As our Church building turns 50 next year we have been looking at and commencing improvements to our facilities. Over the last year or so, we have refurbished toilets, a youth room, our coffee area and more. We are planning more things for next year - including the outside of ‘the big white Church on the corner’.

PCI Ignite Team
For the third year in a row we will be welcoming a team from the Presbyterian Church to work with us this summer. We are really looking forward to seeing lots of children at our Holiday Bible Club from 22nd-26th July, and we’ll also be having youth events and special events. Watch out for more publicity and plan to be part of it all!

Summer services
From 30th June until the end of August our morning services continue at 11am and we join with our friends in Abbot’s Cross and Rathcoole Presbyterian Churches in the evenings - three weeks each first in Rathcoole, then Abbott’s Cross then Abbey. You would be welcome at any of our services - morning services have crèche and children’s programmes and all services have refreshments.

@abbeypresbyterian
In 2006 Hollybank Primary School joined *Time To Read*, a programme aimed at improving the reading skills of pupils. Since then a team of volunteers goes in each week to give guided reading sessions to pupils. They spend 1/2 an hour with each of two children, giving the one-to-one help that the class teacher cannot give.

Schools have found that the children on the programme form a positive relationship with the adult volunteers and so gain in confidence and self esteem.

*Time To Read* is sponsored by Business in the Community, so most volunteers are released for an hour by their employer. Others are retired and give their own time. Volunteers attend a short training course and need to satisfy the Child Safety legislation. Their reward is to see children beginning to enjoy books.

If you feel you could be a volunteer at Hollybank or a school near you, or would like to know more, contact:

**Jeffrey Johnston**
T: 02890864993
E: johnston885@btinternet.com

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**Hollybank Pre-School**

Hollybank Primary School, Devenish Drive, Newtownabbey BT37 0HF

T: 07928944864  E: hollybankpreschool@gmail.com

Hollybank Pre-School along with several other schools in the Rathcoole and Newtownabbey area have become involved with a local initiative called 'THRIVE, We Can', helping schools, parents and children all work together to achieve their full potential.

In April we attended Whiteabbey Presbyterian Church for a great social event where those attending were shown the children, from each setting, performing a favourite song on a large screen. It was a fantastic day with a great turnout and plenty of fun was had by all.
Introduction

The Threemilewater Place Shaping Forum began meeting in 2016. One of the priorities identified was to adapt the Place Shaping Forum into a Community Forum. The first meeting of the Threemilewater Community Forum was held on the 24th April 2018.

This Forum brings together local people, Councillors, Council officers, and public sector organisations with the aim of improving quality of life for residents of the Threemilewater Area (Ballyduff, Fairview, Jordanstown, Monkstown, Mossley and Rostulla).

The Forum gives the opportunity to discuss the Monkstown and New Mossley Place Shaping Studies which were written following widespread engagement with residents, schools, and local groups in both areas. This process allowed residents to be involved in the decision making process for their local areas by identifying issues and potential solutions.

Discussion at the Forum identified the following priorities for the area:

1. Cleanliness and maintenance of open spaces, parks, homes and facilities.
2. Enhancing quality of green space.
3. Supporting residents of the area to achieve their full potential.
4. Creation of a community forum for the area (began meeting in 2018).

This resulted in the creation of an action plan to achieve these priorities which outlined the role of community, Council, and public sector organisations.

Cleanliness and maintenance of open spaces, parks, homes and facilities

In response to concerns raised via the Forum:

- Food and dog waste bags have been supplied to the Jubilee Centre to ensure residents have access to these.
- Areas identified as hotspots for dog fouling and the frequency of street cleaning in these areas has been increased.
- Recycling bins have been placed at the Church of the Good Shepherd and multi-use bins installed in New Mossley.
- Councillors, Council Officers, the Housing Executive and Transport NI have been on the ground in Ballyduff, Monkstown, and New Mossley to address the concerns of local residents which were raised at the Forum. The issues identified and addressed included the removal of graffiti, resurfacing of roads, and discussion of waste disposal options.

Enhancing quality of green space locally

One of the earliest discussions at the Forum was around the use of Threemilewater Park. To date a feasibility study for improvement works within Threemilewater Park has resulted in the placement of benches, picnic tables, and a viewpoint within the park. Further improvements are planned during the new Council term.

Residents of the area achieving their full potential

Since the creation of the Forum, the Council has invested in a number of initiatives related to this theme, including:

- Support for Hillcroft PTA to run their Summer Scheme programme in 2018.
- Support for Barnardo’s to run their Newtownabbey Family Connections BOOST programme which focuses on improving the literacy and numeracy level of participating children and encourages parents to have a more active role in the education of their children.
- Investing in the installation of an outdoor classroom at Hollybank Primary School.

Improving connections

One of the key actions emerging from the Forum was the need to improve connections across the area, both with residents and community groups. This has involved:

- The Council commissioning a company to develop a Social Media Project for the Monkstown area. These workshops are ongoing and are organised with the ongoing involvement of the Monkstown Community Forum.
- A networking event to encourage the community groups across the area to communicate with each other and work together in the future.
- The Newtownabbey Neighbourhood Watch and the Newtownabbey Men’s Shed presenting to the Forum and discussing the potential future development of both.

Much of the discussion at Forum meetings has resulted in actions whether through the Forum itself, the Council or other public bodies. This Forum has given local residents the opportunity for further involvement in Community Planning and the chance to work with Councillors, Council officers, and public sector organisations to benefit their community.
Community Wellbeing Fair

On Monday 11th February Monkstown Village Initiatives (MVI) in conjunction with Monkstown Community Forum, held their fourth annual Community Wellbeing Fair. The theme for the event was ‘Add a Step to your Spring’. As in previous years the Fair was based around the Five Steps to Wellbeing which are:

1. CONNECT – with the people around you. With family, friends, colleagues and neighbours. At home, work or in your local community. Building and maintaining these connections will support and enrich your life.

2. BE ACTIVE – exercising makes you feel good. Even a short walk every day can boost mental wellbeing. Find a physical activity you enjoy and that suits your level of mobility and fitness.

3. TAKE NOTICE – learn to savour each moment as it is happening. Whether you are on a bus, eating lunch or talking to friends. Be aware of the world around you and what you are feeling. Reflecting on your experiences will help you appreciate what matters.

4. KEEP LEARNING – try something new. Rediscover an old interest. Sign up for a course. Set a challenge you will enjoy achieving. Fix something. Learning new things will boost your confidence and your self-esteem.

5. GIVE AND VOLUNTEER – do something nice for a friend, or a stranger. Thank someone. Smile. Volunteer your time. Join a community group. Look out as well as in. Seeing yourself, and your happiness, as linked to the wider community can be very rewarding and creates connections with the people around you.

Integrating these steps into our daily lives has been scientifically proven to boost wellbeing.

This year participants were encouraged to commit to adding one small thing to their weekly routine that would incorporate at least one of the Steps.

Rosie Donnelly, Cognitive Behavioural Therapist with MVI said ‘We are all well aware of the things we need to do to look after our physical health but it is equally important that we are proactive in looking after our mental health. The aim of this year’s Wellbeing Fair was to introduce people to the Five Steps to Wellbeing (as identified by The New Economics Foundation) and to highlight ideas and opportunities available in the local area.’

Attendees at the fair were warmly welcomed by members of MVI’s staff and Board of Directors, who presented them with a goody bag to take home which included information on the steps to wellbeing.

Representatives from a diverse range of organisations were on hand to meet with attendees and talk about the services they offer. These included, Community

Some of the exhibitors who took part in the Wellbeing Fair.

Newtownabbey Men’s Shed displayed some of their woodturning projects.
Navigators, Volunteer Now and Community Advice (Antrim & Newtownabbey) to name but a few. Attendees were also treated to a herb planting demonstration by our Community Gardner, Margaret, as well as having the opportunity to make an inspirational frame.

As part of the Fair the Action Cancer Big Bus was on hand and a number of local people were able to have breast cancer screening and general health checks.

MVI were delighted with the response to the event and would like to thank everyone who gave up their time to make the day as enjoyable as it was. A representative said ‘this has been a very successful community event. There was a steady stream of people through the centre on the day and the feedback we have received has been really encouraging.’

We would especially like to thank DfC and Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council whose Areas at Risk Programme provided the funding for this event.

See page 5 for details of upcoming Stress Control classes in the Northern Trust area.
Young Volunteers Recognised
There was glitz and glamour for four of Monkstown Boxing Club’s Young Leaders who attended Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council’s Police and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) Youth Awards. The young leaders were nominated on behalf of MBC for their dedication and commitment to volunteering in various youth projects.

Craig was our winner of the evening, deserving of winning the Volunteer Champion of the Year Award. Craig has been involved in the club for five years and has volunteered in Young Men’s projects and Holiday Schemes for three years. Volunteers are the heart of any organisation and Monkstown Boxing Club are extremely fortunate to not only have amazing young people but exceptional young leaders who are passionate, dedicated and importantly, brilliant role models for the younger members within the club. Craig, Aliyah, Jodie and Courtney, are all winners in our eyes and definitely the leaders of the future!

Easter Scheme
MBC’s Easter Scheme was as popular as ever this year providing fun activities and trips to over 70 young people each day. The Junior Scheme enjoyed trips to Happy Town, Airtastic and Clip & Climb while the Senior Scheme visited the Ninja Warrior Course at We Are Vertigo, Lisburn Swimmers and Carnfunnock Country Park.

South Africa Project Launched
Our International Project to South Africa is just six months away and the fundraising is in full swing. The young people have been working hard organising fundraising events, selling ballots, hosting Quiz nights and bag-packing in Tesco to raise the much-needed finance for this exciting project.

The group are looking forward to a teambuilding residential in June where they will develop their ‘Teamship’ through outdoor activities and cooking, whilst learning more about the South African Culture and the projects they will be volunteering in.

We have lots of fun and exciting fundraisers planned over the next 6 months that you can get involved in and support the project, especially over the summer holidays! Keep an eye on ‘Monkstown 2 Mthatha’ and Monkstown Boxing Club’s Facebook pages for more information on these and how to get involved.

The project’s GoFundMe page is also live for any donations that is massively appreciated by the team and those out in South Africa who this will really make a difference to.

https://www.gofundme.com/monkstown-boxing-club-south-africa-project

Colour Run 2019
Monkstown Boxing Club are thrilled to announce our exciting summer fundraiser; MBC Colour Run 2019! This event is open to the whole Community and will be held on Friday 16th August 2019 at our annual Summer Scheme Fun Day. We cannot think of a better way to end Summer 2019!

All monies raised from this fundraiser will be going to the ‘Monkstown 2 Mthatha’ South Africa Project for travel expenses, medical supplies and equipment to take out to projects.

You can walk, run or wheel your way around the colourful madness, for a small sponsorship donation of £10. Come along, join in the fun and bring the family along for a day of fun and colour. There will be a BBQ and some other activities during the event. If you are interested or need further information, contact Amy in the club and receive your sponsor pack. We are super excited for this!

Young Volunteer Sophie tells of being on an International Exchange Project
The Building Walls – Breaking Walls Project is a cultural exchange programme that brings 18-25 year olds together from Israel, Palestine, Ireland, Northern Ireland and Switzerland. On the 7th of April I went to Ticino, which is the Italian part of Switzerland. I had the experience of learning about different cultures and another way of life. On each evening we had a cultural night when each participant talked about their country and how they live day-to-day life. Our days were split into the morning and afternoon sessions and we would either: build a dry-stone wall; take part in a group activity; or a personal development session.

For the entire time I didn’t have any way of charging my phone or using any electrical devices. Before I went, I was scared that I wasn’t going to be able to cope with this, but in my opinion, it was a
refreshing experience, not to have the stress of a phone and to be disconnected from everyday life.

We were staying in Campo Cortoi which was in the mountains and not accessible by car. It is about an hour from the city of Locarno. We had to get a bus to Mergoscia and then hike for around an hour to the camp.

Before I went, I was nervous, I didn’t know anyone and with a different country and meeting new people, it was well out of my comfort zone. But having done it I would say it was one of the best experiences of my life. I got to know everyone by the second day, we became so confident around each other and had many things in common. If someone told me I could go back tomorrow I would be away in a heartbeat. – Sophie Marshall, Young Volunteer.

Lads’ Group
Since January the “Lads’ Group” continue to develop and move forward, through various workshops and activities. Recently we had the pleasure of Young Men’s expert Gary Symington from the Lighthouse Charity who delivered a 6-week programme about the importance of building resilience and looking after your mental health. The Lads gained valuable information and skills around these topics through high levels of engagement and interaction, and as a huge thank you from Gary they were treated to a night at Need 4 Speed Go karting in Daugh.

As a reward for their continuous engagement and hard work we took the lads for the weekend to London which, for most, was a first trip to a major city. They went to Craven Cottage for the last Premier League game of the season between Fulham and Newcastle where they saw Newcastle run out 4-0 winners.

They were one of the first groups to visit the new White Hart Lane stadium and were treated to an exclusive VIP tour. An amazing experience and the lads were blown away. Not only did they visit White Hart Lane, but over the weekend they also got a tour of the National Stadium of England, a visit to the British Museum and a trip to the cinema to see the new Marvel film.

Junior Leaders
The Junior Leader group have really stepped up in their leadership and responsibility. They each were allocated a role in our Junior Easter Scheme in April leading the young people in games each morning, overseeing registration and helping supervise and assist the younger group while out on trips. As a reward for all their hard work, at their request, we went out for a meal at Sugar Rays in Dundonald.

The group are now working with an Artist commissioned by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council for a project called ‘Love Living Here’ where they hope to create an amazing piece of art work with other groups from the local community, to showcase in Monkstown.

Keep your eyes peeled for this project in the coming months!

MADE Project
The six months ‘MADE’ (Monkstown and Ardoyne Diversity empowerment) Project came to an end in March and what an amazing journey it was! The project gave the participants a platform to thrive and a safe space to voice their opinions and share their own culture, stories and experiences.

The Project aimed to educate the participants about diversity through a good relations partnership providing young people with a better understanding of different people’s values and beliefs coming from different countries and walks of life. The Group also explored various good relations cultural workshops bringing the two communities together!! Including Belfast Friendship Club learning from refugees who shared their experiences of their culture and countries such as Syria, Israel, Palestine and Africa.

The LGBTQ community workshops was one of the highlights for the young people, giving them a better understanding of this community in Belfast, breaking down stereotypes and getting an insight into the values and meanings of different sexu-
alities. The Group also looked at Indian culture, getting the chance to try new food and learn about Indian clothing, beliefs and symbols.

The young people also went to Dublin for an action packed residential, exploring the history of Dublin and the Boyne centre, learning about the Battle of the Boyne. Londonderry was our next stop sight-seeing and learning about the history of the Apprentice Boys and the Walled City.

The group finished with a fantastic celebration event in the Radisson Blue Hotel, Belfast. Young people, parents and the youth workers on the project, came together to celebrate the success and highlights of the project. It was an amazing night and it was great to have so many parents there supporting their young people.

#ThisGirlCan Project visits Poland
MBC's #ThisGirlCan Project has been working hard since January to fundraise with our partner group at New Lodge Youth Centre, for their first international trip to Krakow Poland. Firstly, a massive Thank You to those who contributed to this project.

On the 9th of May the girls jetted off for a busy few days. We certainly packed a lot into our 3 days - with tours of Auschwitz I & Auschwitz II Birkenau, the Oskar Schindler Factory and the Wieliczka Salt Mine, as well as exploring the city of Krakow.

As a Good Relations project it was great to hear that the girls enjoyed bonding with their peers from the New Lodge Youth Centre. Visiting Auschwitz and hearing of the horrific treatment of its occupants really made the group reflect on their own attitudes to those from a different background. This was a great trip to round off our anti-sectarian programme. Below two group members, Jasmine and Sophie, share a little of their experiences:

‘My experience in Poland will be something I will definitely remember for a long time. I have gained memories and stronger friendships and have much more knowledge about Poland and its history. A quote from Auschwitz that made me think about a lot of things was: ‘Those who do not remember the past, are condemned to repeat it’. Over one million people died at Auschwitz and it really makes you think this is what hating others can lead to, simply for their religion. The holocaust should influence people to make a change on negative perspectives of another religion. The leaders have been so helpful, and I couldn’t thank them enough for this amazing opportunity. I really enjoyed this experience, thank you to everyone who made this trip a reality’ ~ Jasmine.

‘My Poland experience was incredible; I am 12 years old so to get this opportunity was huge for me. This was a once in a lifetime trip to be a part of and I am so grateful to have been chosen. The highlights of the trip for me personally was that while we were two separate groups, when we are together it doesn’t matter, it’s like were one big family. The trip allowed everyone to come out of their shells a little more, including me. Auschwitz and Birkenau really opened my eyes and realise how lucky we are not to have experienced the terrible things that happened here’ ~ Sophie.

Follow the #ThisGirlCan Young Women's group on the club’s social media outlets.

Aidan & Michaela Walsh continue preparation for Olympic Dream
Brother and sister Aidan and Michaela have had a busy few months with Michaela winning the prestigious Cologne Boxing World Cup in Germany defeating opponents from India, Germany and Romania to top the podium. This competition will serve as ideal preparation for the June European Olympic Games in Belarus where she will hope to come home with a ‘Gold Medal’. Younger brother Aidan has also been busy in the ring, receiving his first Elite vest when an Irish team boxed an international against Sweden in Stockholm defeating a tough opponent on points.
Spring in Monkstown Village Garden did not turn out as we had planned. The Pound Burn culvert required remedial work by the Department of Infrastructure (DfI) (see page 6). Although the construction workers did a marvellous job, unfortunately some of the garden area was beyond saving. It has been quite a challenging time, especially for the local gardening group who have been tending this plot lovingly for a number of years. Fortunately the work did not interrupt the polytunnels and we were able to continue growing flowers and vegetables and continue our supportive learning workshops with NOWGROUP.ORG.

The DfI work within the garden area has now been completed and as part of their final works, we have a newly-laid pathway. This has now afforded us the opportunity to further design and designate areas for learning, relaxation, creating or just coming together.

This year we are celebrating 100 years of Gospel witness, having started as a cottage meeting in a kitchen house on the Jordanstown Road in the Autumn of 1919. From its small beginnings the Church continues to grow, reaching out into the local community with the good news of salvation. The current pastor is Philip Cameron who commenced his ministry in January 2018. At special outreach events over Easter the pastor gave a Passover demonstration and explained how every aspect of it speaks of Jesus while a consultant surgeon gave an illustrated talk on the wounds of the Saviour and what it meant for Him to die on the cross for our sins. At the end of May we appreciated the opportunity to bring the Amazing Journey presentation into Hollybank Primary School. In August there will be a Holiday Bible Club for primary school children and this will be followed by a youth week for teenagers in the Jubilee Centre.

Our work centres on explaining the Bible simply and clearly and making its message relevant for today’s generation. If you have not yet visited us we invite to come along some Sunday. There is a Gospel meeting every Sunday night from 6.30–7.30 pm. The normal weekly activities are finished for the Summer, but will recommence in September – full details in the next issue of Monkstown’s iNews.

MONKSTOWN VILLAGE GARDEN

ATTENTION
Hanging Basket-making Workshop
Saturday 29th June at 11.00am
please register if you would like to attend
at bt37marketgarden1@gmail.com

If you would like to get involved in the garden or for more information, please contact Margaret by:
Email: BT37marketgarden1@gmail.com
Telephone: 028 9086 0090
www.facebook.com/MonkstownVillageInitiatives
#WE CAN!
As part of the THRIVE community, helping to improve outcomes for our young people in Rathcoole and Monkstown, we believe our children CAN!

Have a look at we can do! #WE CAN DANCE, #WE CAN SWIM, #WE CAN COUNT, #WE CAN DRAW, #WE CAN PLAY, #WE CAN CREATE . . .

HEADS UP PARENTS!
The Heads Up team have been working with P7, highlighting the dangers of drugs and alcohol. Parents received a workshop full of useful advice!

P6/7 RESIDENTIAL
20 Hollybank pupils will head off for their annual holiday to Ballycastle. A superb three day adventure with stunning views and great company!

Welcome to Mrs Jardine
Mrs Jardine is helping our newcomers to learn English.

SENSORY ROOM
Our new room is taking shape. Please call down for a visit.

HOMEWORK CLUB
Thank you to the volunteers from Abbey Presbyterian Church for giving up your time.

1st Monkstown Scouts

The Scouts have had a busy time from Christmas visiting Stranmillis Training College for their annual pantomime which was enjoyed by all sections. Beavers attended a Christmas Trail at Crawfordsburn, finishing up with a visit to Santa and Mrs Claus for a present.

The Beaver Rally Day was also held at Crawfordsburn with over 800 Beavers in attendance from all over Northern Ireland. The theme this year was 'The World Around Us'. There were a number of activities to do, including: Carnival promotions, games, crafts marquee, drum circle, grass sleding, toasting marshmallows and RSPB Wild Challenge.

Our three CRED cross-community event weekends, have taken us to the Share Centre and Greenhill YMCA, ending up at Lorne Girl Guides Centre. This included a visit to the Peace Line and a tour of the murals. Back at Lorne we engaged in outdoor activities such as archery, climbing wall, zip line and team challenges. This weekend finished up with a trip to Stormont where young people gave a report on what they had learned about identity, diversity, community and reconciliation in the Long Gallery.

Some comments from young people: 'I learnt I had courage'; 'We learnt so much and grew together'; and 'These days have been the best days of my life'.

Upcoming Event
'EXSITE' during July/August in Scotland for Explorer Scouts. This is a week-long event full of activities including bushcraft, sailing, canoeing and a visit to M&Ds.

CLASS TRIPS
Primary 1: Belfast Zoo
Primary 2: The Farm
Primary 3: W5
Primary 4: The Braid Museum
Primary 5: Carrickfergus Castle
Primary 6: Titanic Museum, The Scout Centre
Primary 7: Scout Centre, Radar & Aurora Bangor

SUMMER LEARNING HUB 2019 – P5-P7
Please contact the school reception if you would like to book a place for your child. It is an excellent way to keep your child’s skills up to scratch over the Summer Break, with some fun along the way!

Monkstown Village Centre
every Wednesday from 10am-12pm
throughout July and August

Monkstown’s iNews
## Useful contacts

**Police Service Northern Ireland**  
Neighbourhood policing team and non-emergency 101  
Emergency call 999 Emergency text 18000  
(An emergency is where serious injury has been caused or is threatened or a crime is in progress and the suspects are at, or near, the scene.)  
Antrim and Newtownabbey@psni.pnn.police.uk  
418 Shore Rd, Newtownabbey BT37 9RT  
Office hours: Mon to Fri 9am—9pm, Sat and Sun 10am—8pm  
(closed public holidays)

**Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council**  
Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey BT36 5QA  
Tel: 028 9034 0000  
Civic Centre, 50 Stiles Way, Antrim BT41 2UB  
Tel: 028 9446 3113  
(see Borough Life for: Councillor contact details, department extensions, services and events)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bogus callers (Freephone)</td>
<td>0800 013 22 90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bus and rail queries (Translink)</td>
<td>02890 666 630</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bus shelters (vandalism/graffiti)</td>
<td>02890 463 250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citizens' Advice (Antrim &amp; Newtownabbey)</td>
<td>02895 906 505</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAP—Debt advice and support (Freephone)</td>
<td>0800 328 0006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crimestoppers (Freephone)</td>
<td>0800 555 111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Authority (previously NEELB)</td>
<td>02825 653 333</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electoral office (Freephone)</td>
<td>0800 4320 712</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electricity (Faults &amp; Emergencies) (24hr)</td>
<td>03457 643 643</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flooding Incident Line</td>
<td>0300 200 001</td>
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<td>Gas Emergency Response (24hr)</td>
<td>0800 002 001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land Registry</td>
<td>0300 200 7803</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mapping (Land &amp; Property Services)</td>
<td>0300 200 7804</td>
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<tr>
<td>NI Housing Executive (Enquiries)</td>
<td>03448 920 900</td>
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<tr>
<td>NI Housing Executive (Repairs)</td>
<td>03448 920 901</td>
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<tr>
<td>NI Housing Executive (Benefits)</td>
<td>03448 920 902</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Health &amp; Social Care Trust</td>
<td>02894 424 000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ordnance Survey</td>
<td>02890 255 755</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rates (Property Rating &amp; Valuation)</td>
<td>0300 200 7801</td>
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<tr>
<td>RE:THINK/RE:ACT (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Service)</td>
<td>02890 860 090</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Security Agency (Benefits) (Freephone)</td>
<td>0800 022 4250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Street lighting</td>
<td>0300 200 7899</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone/Utility Boxes (BT)</td>
<td>0800 023 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Town Centre Management</td>
<td>02890 340 039</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transport NI (previously Roads Service)</td>
<td>02894 426 500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Pollution (Freephone)</td>
<td>0800 807 060</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Service (24 hr)</td>
<td>03457 440 088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 hour Domestic &amp; Sexual Violence Helpline (Freephone)</td>
<td>0808 802 1414</td>
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</tbody>
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Community contact details

(Let us know if your details change, are out of date or if your group would like included or removed.)

Abbey Community College
Bridge Road
Contact: Mrs M. Quinn (Principal)
T: 02890 867 431
E: info@abbeycommunitycollege.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk

Abbay Presbyterinan Church
Monkstown Road
Contact: Rev. Alan Carson
www.abbleypresbyterian.org.uk

Alzheimer's Society & Support Groups
East Antrim Area Office
Unit 8C, Room 3A Kilroot Business Park
Larne Road, Carrickfergus BT38 7PR
Contact: Hannah Coleman
T: 02893 362 940
E: hannah.coleman@alzheimers.org.uk

Bridge Youth Centre
Bridge Road
Contact: Rachel Kirkpatrick
T: 02890 860 113

Church of the Good Shepherd
Cashel Drive
Contact: Rev. Ruth Patterson
T: 02895 917 285
E: revruthpatterson@gmail.com

Community Advice NI (Antrim & Newtownabbey)
Dunanne Centre, Rathcoole
T: 02895 906 505
E: advice@citizensadviceantrimnewtownabbey.co.uk
www.citizensadviceantrimnewtownabbey.co.uk

Cloughfern Community Credit Union
Monkstown Village Centre (Saturday morning, 10-12)
T: 02890 365 851 (Cloughfern branch)
E: info@cloughferncreditunion.com

Hollybank Pre-School
Contact: Lorraine Brier (Pre-School Leader)
Devenish Drive
T: 07928 944 864
E: Hollybankpreschool@gmail.com

Hollybank Primary School
Devenish Drive
Contact: Miss L. Brett (Acting Principal)
T: 02890 864 944 (07972 253 335—Family Support)

Monkstown Boxing Club
Cashel Drive
Contact: Paul Johnston (Project Manager)
T: 07909 694 328
E: info@monkstownboxingclub.com

Monkstown Baptist Church
Jordanstown Road
Contact: Maurice Flanigan
T: 02890 864 681
E: mauriceflanigan@btinternet.com

Monkstown Community Association
Monkstown Jubilee Centre
Contact: Anne Judson E: monkstownmca@yahoo.co.uk ; Mark Cooper E: communitymonkstown@gmail.com
T: 02890 866 385

Monkstown Community Forum
Monkstown Village Centre
Contact: Alan Johnston (Secretary)
T: 02890 860 090
E: villagecentre@btinternet.com
www.monkstownvillagecentre.com

Monkstown Nursery School
Jennings Park
Contact: Ms S. Wilson (Principal)
T: 02890 861 459
E: info@monkstownns.monkstown.ni.sch.uk

Monkstown Social Club
Cloyne Crescent
T: 02890 867 033
E: monkstonsocialclub@hotmail.co.uk

Monkstown Village Initiatives
Monkstown Village Centre
Contact: Alan Taylor (Secretary)
T: 07954 589 751
E: artaylor@ntlworld.com

MVI Youth Works
Monkstown Village Centre
Contact: Colin Barr
T: 02890 860 090
E: mviyouthworks@icloud.com

Newtownabbey Educational Guidance Centre
231 Jordanstown Road
Contact: Mrs D. McLernon
T: 02890 863 199
E: info@egcnrsouthern.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk

Re:think/Re:act (an MVI project)
18 Monkstown Village Centre
Contact: Rosie Donnelly
T: 02890 860 090
E: rethink.react@btinternet.com

Three Mile Water Conservation & Angling Association
www.threemilewater.org.uk (under reconstruction)
www.facebook.com/Threemilewater/
E: andrew.moore40@hotmail.co.uk (Chairman)

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www.threemilewater.org.uk (under reconstruction)
www.facebook.com/Threemilewater/
E: andrew.moore40@hotmail.co.uk (Chairman)