

CCR BULLETIN

JULY 2016

(online edition as at 26/6/16)

SERVICES:

July 3rd	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Revd Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie
	11.00 am	Morning Worship (Baptism)	Revd Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie
July 10th	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Revd James Carson
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Revd James Carson
July 17th	9.30 am	Early Morning Worship	Uta Raab
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Uta Raab
July 24th	9.30 am	Early Morning Worship	Werner van der Hemel
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Werner van der Hemel
July 31st	9.30 am	Early Morning Worship	Dr. Neville Cobbe
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Dr. Neville Cobbe
August 7th	9.30 am	Early Morning Worship	John Ellis
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	John Ellis

Elder on Duty Dr. Maureen Boyd

Stewards Ann & Robin Simmons

Flower Rota 3rd July Diane Carswell 10th July Carol Esmonde
17th July Diane Carswell 24th and 31st July Alice Gibson

Vacancy & Kirk Session: The Kirk Session noted at its meeting on 22nd June that an advertisement for a Minister had been placed in the July/August issue of the Presbyterian Herald, and decided to insert a similar advertisement in the Belfast Telegraph. The Interim Moderator announced her intention to visit some of our members during the summer period. The next meeting was scheduled for **14th September 2016**.

Congregational News: As people start to drift out of Dublin for their holidays/summer week-ends it is harder to keep in touch but do let us know of anyone who needs the prayers of the congregation! On a happy note, we learnt that **Bruce and Diane Carswell** celebrated the arrival of a new grand-daughter, and we listened to grand-dad singing brightly to his own guitar accompaniment at the **Junior Church service**. Afterwards we enjoyed an indoor barbecue as the rain forced us out of the youth garden. Our thanks to all those who took part in this event, and to the noble band of teachers and parents, led by Stephen Ross, who generously and regularly contribute their time and care to sustaining this part of CCR's activities. We hope that other parents support them by encouraging the regular attendance of their children. Thanks to Simon for all his help in this area. We pray that with God's blessing our young people may come to recognise Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. We hope also that all those who have been meeting the challenge of examinations may be rewarded with results even better than they deserve, and that God will support, guide and encourage them as they move on to the next phase of life.

Alice G., is convalescing in Orwell Healthcare after the work on her shoulder and we hope she is soon back home and mobile again. We hope **Ian K.**'s visit to the pain clinic allows him a more comfortable future. **Olive E.** is patiently waiting in St James's Hospital to regain her ability to support herself standing. For them and all those suffering from illness of every

type and degree of severity we fervently pray that God may come in power and may bring them comfort and better health.

Committee report: Property matters dominated again at the Church Committee meeting on 7th June. We heard that the main kitchen was to be modernised by Meals on Wheels, with the church responsible for only a small alteration. An imaginative solution for the replacement of the pair of kitchen outside doors was being sought. For safety reasons the steps up to the kitchen from the Lecture Hall would be replaced by a ramp with a handrail. Necessary Fire Safety lights would be installed in the Tennant Hall. The Committee allowed an attempt to re-open one of the vents between the Lecture Hall and the church. Industrial cleaning of the church would take place only after the summer works. New LED lights have been installed in the Orwell Hall, and LED lights would be used in the new kitchen.

The income and expenditure accounts for the first quarter were available. Income from FWO continued to fall, but income tax refunds had increased. More money than expected had been spent on repairs, but there was a small overall surplus for the period.

We greatly regret the death of **Richard Reid** early in June. Richard was born in Bombay in 1927 and lived in Chile, Spain and Portugal before coming to Ireland, where he worked in a variety of places and roles, settling eventually in Rathgar about 35 years ago. Richard was an enthusiastic supporter of the arts, hated injustice, and was fascinated by the study of religion. From 2008 he bore without self pity marked physical handicap resulting from a stroke. His wife Mary, their four children and nine grand-daughters will miss him sorely and have our deepest sympathy.

General Assembly - Next month we hope to carry a report on the 2016 General Assembly by Joan Cowle, our representative elder. This year's Moderator is Revd Frank Sellar, who spent time in Dublin as Minister of Adelaide Road. There is very good coverage of the assembly on the website of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland. If you were intrigued by the report in the Irish Times about the recommendations of the PCI task group on Abortion, which came in the same week that the UN Human Rights Commission criticised the Irish state for its treatment of women in cases of fatal foetal abnormality, you might wish to look at the report of the first day of the Assembly to discover exactly what the church's position on the issue is. Put **PCI Assembly 7th June 2016** into your search engine if you wish to know more about how the PCI perceives this and several other areas of the business of the Council for Church and Society - the attitude of the church to the Troubles, a new commitment to peacemaking, encouragement of organ donation. Have your own look at what the PCI says before you make up your own mind!

Keep your eye on our **website for New photographs** from our **Gujarat project** (www.christchurchrathgar.org/noticeboard.htm)

Bulletin Editor's Details - Email address: bulletineditor@christchurchrathgar.com. Let's hear from you! Robin Simmons's phone number will be found in the Phonebook. Copy deadline for August Bulletin - 4th August - to appear Sunday 7th August.