

newsletter from the staff and students of the Irish Baptist College



November 2013

EVANGELISM TEAMS There were College teams busy in five churches during the third week of October. Forty six students made up the teams to Athlone, Antrim, Crumlin, Great Victoria Street, Belfast and Magherafelt.

MAGHERAFELT

The majority of our outreach was in eight local schools. We had the privilege of leading

assembly at five primary schools in the district. Most of the children were familiar with the choruses and joined in enthusiastically with the actions. Each morning we shared a Bible story and taught the children a memory verse.

We also visited three secondary schools and had a wonderful opportunity to share our faith, to promote the work of the college and discuss a number of contentious issues. In one of the schools, Sperrin Integrated College, some of our team were allowed to lead the class. Amongst the topics covered were key beliefs and practices of baptists, the importance of prayer and the centrality of the Bible to our faith.





On the Friday night a Sports Quiz was organized in the church and Andrew White, who plays cricket for Ireland, was interviewed about his faith in Christ.

'It was an immense privilege and a blessing for our team to work alongside Magherafelt Baptist Church. Please continue to pray for the work of the gospel in the church and in the wider community.' Andrew Campbell, team leader







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ATHLONE

Two afternoons were spent at Athlone Institute of Technology where the team worked alongside the Christian Union. There are 6,000 students at AIT and only 7 members of the CU.



The team was amazed at the openness of the students they spoke to.

We also had an invitation to St. Aloysius College to take 3 RE classes. In each class, team members were asked to share their testimonies, as well as presenting a brief overview on the subject of abortion with special emphasis on related biblical principles.

Street evangelism also formed part of our itinerary through tract distribution, gospel conversation and some open air preaching. On our final night we were joined by OM Ireland as they brought their double decker bus into Athlone to offer tea and coffee to

those coming to and from the pubs and clubs.

'Our week in Athlone was a real blessing for all who were part of the team. It was wonderful to see how open people were to talk and how God provided wisdom for all of us in those conversations.' Paul Simpson, team leader.

ANTRIM

Upon arrival the team was fully engaged in the work of the church, with most members playing

an active role in both morning and evening worship services. This set the tone for a very active and varied week of opportunities. As well as the weekly church meetings there were also three school assemblies, two nursing homes, a coffee morning, a special youth night and a special men's fellowship evening.

We were probably most apprehensive about door-todoor work. Antrim's wonderful new building is strategically positioned between two large housing areas, and in total the team spent three days on the doors handing out leaflets and conducting a survey with residents.

It was amazing to see the opportunities God gave each person to share the gospel with the people of Antrim. There were many who did not want to talk, but also



there were many who were open to hearing the message of hope we had to share.

'God opened up many doors for the team to share with the people of Antrim, both in the church building and in the community.' Alistair Simms, team leader



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CRUMLIN

After taking part in Sunday services Monday commenced the outreach programme. Though disappointed by the adverse weather conditions the team ploughed on and went out



undertaking door to door evangelism with some really good possibilities of follow-up calls. This provided all of the team with an opportunity to share their testimony with people who have never heard about salvation.

The 'Amazing Journey' was taken into Ballymacrickett Primary School where over 50 children and 2 teachers heard the story of 'from creation to Christ' as shared by Rachel Kelly. A further opportunity in McKinney primary school saw over 150 children listening to God's word being presented in a different way.

'As a team it is our hearts desire that God is glorified within Crumlin Baptist and the surrounding area and that the church continues to be a beacon of light showing and sharing the love of God.' Ian Stevenson, team leader.

GREAT VICTORIA STREET



The prospect of an evangelism week in the heart of Belfast city centre and with it, a varied ministry, was exciting! The week did not disappoint! As a team we were involved in door to door work in Donegal Pass and the city centre. Also, we had opportunities to share God's word with Youth

in two primary schools, as well as a CEF bible club, and partnering with Friendship house (a Presbyterian outreach centre in Sandy Row).

Other highlights of the week included late night outreach, international

students bible study, English lessons, and the regular church ministries. The climax of the week was a Sunday night outreach event where we showed an illustrated film on the life of Job (covering the topic of God and suffering), and afterwards we had some time for discussion around tables in an informal setting. The film was powerful and it was an excellent way to end a good week.



'From children in Sandy Row, to foreign nationals on the streets of the city, the Lord gave us many opportunities to pass on His word. What a great privilege, and what a great week!' Jeff Higgins, team leader.