

## EVANGELISM TEAMS

For the first time, at least in a number of years, the College had teams in five churches. Armagh, Castleberg, Cavan, Larne and Mullaghmeen were the hosts for a busy week in October. The feedback from the churches and the teams has been very positive.

**ARMAGH** A major focus of the team's efforts were with the Amazing Journey, a visual and dramatic presentation of the Bible story, in a number of schools in the Armagh area. Over 1300 children sat enthralled as Rachel Kelly, from Baptist Youth, presented the life of Jesus and Paul with the aid of the team members. The church have set up a Christmas shop in Keady. Over a two week period it will be used as a point of contact in the town to share the Christmas story. The team delivered flyers to the whole town and were also able to contribute to the shop refurbishment through the skills of a qualified plumber, electrician and joiner, all students on the team.



**'The right people with the right gifts were on the team, able to help us with exactly what we needed with the Amazing Journey, and in Keady. They were a great bunch, and we enjoyed fellowship and fun with them all.'**

**Ian Grant, Armagh Pastor**

*'This was a great experience for the team. The occasion to serve provided the opportunity for the church to serve us in allowing us to exercise our gifts and talents. We were stretched beyond our comfort zones.'* David Ellison, team leader.

**CASTLEBERG** The team of nine was involved in high school Q&A sessions,

**'Great teams have a great bench, the depth and diversity of the team's gifting and experience was very apparent. They were a pleasure to work alongside.'**

**Ronnie Fyffe, Castleberg Pastor**

speaking at RE classes, door-to-door outreach, street pastor work, children's clubs, and ministering in churches; both in Castleberg and County Donegal. Castleberg was one of the most bombed towns in Europe during the 'troubles'. However, the town is now peaceful, and people are striving for the hope of a better future.

People were open to having the team speak about Jesus in different schools as they shared individual testimonies and what they believed. The team also had the opportunity to have fellowship with the Donegal Town Baptist Fellowship, comprising 6 members, and visit door-to-door in the town.



One of the members of the Fellowship shared how a visit and a video of the Life of Jesus resulted in her own conversion.

*'Evangelism week is not just a College requirement, but it is an opportunity for students to see the local needs and to develop a vision for mission in Ireland and beyond.'* Wat Ho Meas, team leader.

**LARNE** Each morning bright and early at eight o' clock the day began with prayer and devotions, taken by a different member of the team each day. As with most missions, there



were many challenges and surprises as well as fun to be had. The door to door work proved to be the biggest challenge, although there was an opportunity through this to pray with people on their doorstep or to give out a Bible. On one occasion in the local market a Muslim trader also took a New Testament and was keen to hear about faith in Jesus being an answer to his

**'The week of evangelism in Larne was a time of building up, reaching out and digging deep. The students engaged in a wide variety of activities which we trust will help in preparation for ministry and will be used of God to add souls to His Kingdom.'**  
John Gault, Larne Pastor

religious efforts to gain acceptance with God. Some highlights for the team included sharing their testimonies with a year 12 R.E. class and also with the year 9s encouraging the pupils to be open in debate, even self-professing atheists. Visiting an old people's home and sharing some old hymns with them was another high point for many, as was meeting the wise, retired Pastor Henry.

*'Through the course of the week we experienced the protection and love of God. We were challenged by the knowledge that he cares for all the people of Larne; the primary children in the 'catch' club, the older pupils coping with influence from films, Facebook and pop music, self confessed 'back sliders', older people who have endured suffering and doubt, and those in the care home. Whoever we are, whatever we have done, wherever we have been he loves us and we need His Good News.'* Gary Richmond, team member.

**MULLAGHAMEEN** The team worked alongside the church in Enniskillen,



Ballinamallard and Irvinestown distributing the Discovery 4U magazine, as well as in a variety of other activities. Despite the warnings about the Fermanagh weather they never saw a drop of rain! The area that impacted the team most was the opportunity to take three R.E lessons with the year 10 students at a local school. They had been given a question from the Head of R.E. which was 'Why do Christians Believe the Bible - and its relevance for today?' The team had a wonderful opportunity to take, share and explain the truths about the Bible with a question and answer time that followed. They

were thrilled to hear so many varied questions which they attempted to answer. On one hand statements like 'I don't believe the Bible or religion' to questions about evolution and creation. But the response which totally 'blew them away' was from one year 10 student who said, "I believe in the Bible, so what do I do next?"

*'Our week started with the team taking part in both the morning and evening harvest thanksgiving services. The theme for both the services was 'God Provides' which also ran throughout the week in the various activities that the team engaged in.'* Stephen Wilson, team leader.

**CAVAN** During the week the team travelled to several small towns outside Cavan to do door-to-door. They met Nigerians, Russians, Irish, Polish, Sudanese, Ghanaians, Lithuanians and English. There were Jehovah's Witnesses, Muslims, atheists, healers, Catholics and Protestants. There were many opportunities to tell people of how God has the power to change, forgive and transform. At each door a



4u.ie magazine was offered. In the evenings the team went to house groups. Church members invited a number of friends and family to come along for a night of songs and stories. In each house someone spoke about how God rescues and changes. One couple have been doing Christianity Explored for a number of weeks and the team were really encouraged by the questions they asked and their desire to discover what the gospel means.

**"The team were enthusiastic and hard working. We were really encouraged by the gospel opportunities during the week, especially being able to speak to so many young people in all of the secondary schools in Cavan town. We are looking to the Lord to bless the seed sown."**  
Ivan Watson, Cavan Pastor

*'This year a team of 8 students went to Cavan Baptist Church. Some were musical, some were tall, some snored and some had a terrible sense of direction! It was a diverse team! But we all went with one thing in common - something precious. We each had a testimony to tell of how God had changed us.'* Simon Curry - team leader.

**OUR THANKS** to the five Churches, their pastors, and all who provided hospitality and facilitated the teams in any way. Please pray for the ongoing follow-up by the Churches with the different contacts made.



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