



Since 1937

CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP® OF IRELAND

Newsletter

info@cefireland.com • www.cefireland.com

Summer 2016

IN THIS ISSUE:

A note from the National Directors

On the Ground...

- in Schools
- in Good News Clubs®
- in the Isle of Man
- with 'Good News Radio Romania'

Looking back at Easter Conference

Family News

Diary Dates

CEF® of Ireland

199 Templemore Avenue
Belfast BT5 4FR
Tel: 028 9073 2263
Fax: 028 9073 2330

1 Tamarisk Way
Kilnamanagh
Dublin 24
Tel: 01 452 0374

National Directors:

Mr & Mrs David Edwards
CEF National Office
199 Templemore Avenue
Belfast BT5 4FR

Chairman:

Mr Mark Conroy
12 Causeway End Road
Lisburn BT28 1UB

Hon. Treasurer:

Miss Jean Porte
7 Milebush Cottages
Carrickfergus BT38 7QH



The words of Jeremiah 8:20 are sad words in the midst of a sad chapter which, although written almost three thousand years ago, could clearly be applied to Ireland today.

I wonder when we arrive at the end of summer 2016 how many across this island of Ireland could echo the words above in a spiritual sense. I thank God for my salvation, which occurred many years ago, as a boy of 11 years of age. I drifted away from God but He graciously drew me back to him as a young man of 25. But what about all those children and teenagers throughout our land who do not know the Saviour and who do not even have an awareness of their need to be saved?

Paul says in Romans 10:14, "*How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?*"

This summer there will be teams of CEF® trained volunteers of all ages throughout the land 'preaching' to the young people. There will be residential camps, Holiday Bible Clubs, 5-Day Clubs®, Christian Youth in Action® teams and Momentum teams with the goal of reaching as many as possible with the life-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ. What is the purpose and strength of these ministries? The Word of God is taught in a relevant fashion, simplifying and explaining the truths contained within, memorising verses from God's Word, augmenting the truth through enjoyable songs and reviewing with fun quizzes. All of this is done trusting in God the Holy Spirit to use the Word of God to bring salvation.

I sometimes think that we as believers can forget the power of the Word of God. It is sharper than a two-edged sword, it is indestructible, it is a hammer, it is fire, it is light, it is daily bread, it is well tried. We have a responsibility to share the Word of God with the children and trust in God the Holy Spirit to enable it to be a life-changing message for the children who hear.

If you cannot take the Word personally to the children this summer, will you pray that God the Holy Spirit will open blind eyes to the marvellous light of the Gospel, and that when this summer is past many will be able to say, "we are saved."

David & Rosemary Edwards
(National Directors)

On the GROUND...



in Schools

by Paddy & Jill Crozier (Mid-Ulster Area Workers)

During this term in school assemblies we have taken the theme of 'The Bible'. The children have been taught how God gave us His Word and how He guided men as to what they should write. We have been sharing with the children that the Bible is God's Word to us and therefore it is true, it has no mistakes. The children have been taught that, while they have many books to read in school and that these books contain much important information, sometimes that information gets 'old' and 'out of date' but this is not true of the Bible – it is always up to date.

We have been encouraging the children to take time to read the Bible, explaining how it can change their lives and reminding them that it has much to tell us about God – that He is a powerful God, the Creator and a loving God; and it tells them about themselves, how they should treat each other, their teachers and their parents. We have made some Bible reading notes available for the children to use.



We were really encouraged recently to meet a parent who told us that after hearing this message in assembly, his daughter, age five, "reads her Bible every night and says that when she grows up she wants to tell others about God." Praise God that He is working in the lives of the children. Pray that every child, in every county, will have the opportunity to hear and read God's Word every day.

“ We have been sharing with the children that the Bible is God's Word to us and therefore it is true, it has no mistakes. ”

in Good News Clubs

by Joyce Crothers (Palace Barracks GNC)

“God is so good” is a favourite chorus at Good News Club and we really can say that God has been so good to us. This year 38 children have come along to the club at Palace Barracks. About a dozen of these children attend faithfully every week while others drop in now and again. When Stephanie and I arrive each week there is always a group of children eagerly waiting for the doors to open. At the club we have the opportunity to share the Gospel with children from the UK and further afield while they are here for a short time. This year most of the children are from Scotland and Fiji. We've really enjoyed getting to know them, teaching them and learning all sorts from them - from Irish dancing to a short lesson in speaking Fijian one evening.



We praise God for answered prayer in bringing us into contact with so many children. We've been encouraged by how well they have listened and by the questions they ask, showing that they are thinking about what they are being taught from God's Word.

Please pray for the 5-Day Club coming up in June. Pray also for some of the children who will move away over the next few months. Please pray that they will remember what they have learned at club and that God will continue to work in their lives and lead them to other Bible clubs or Sunday schools at their new home.



in the Isle of Man

by Geoffrey and Lily Weir (Missionaries in the Isle of Man)

The Isle of Man, where is that?

Roughly midway between the coast of North West England and Northern Ireland - just a 20 minute flight from Belfast. The Isle of Man is a beautiful place, where there is peace and stability. It has much to offer, from lovely coastal scenery, to mountains, steam railways, glens and a huge variety of walks. The island is 32 miles long and 14 miles wide with a population of 88,500 of which 14,700 are in the age range 0 to 15. The majority of the people have a comfortable lifestyle but, sadly see no need for God.

The island is well known for the annual T.T. motorbike races which bring people from all over the world; almost 40,000 people and over 20,000 motorbikes arrive. During that week we have an outreach opportunity with our church by having a stall on Port Erin promenade.

Our main focus since moving to the island in 1998 has been schools' ministry. There are over 6000 children in the 35 primary schools on the island. Presently we are going into 31 of the schools on a regular basis to take assemblies, reaching some 5500 children.

From September to Easter we have four school lunch-time Good News Clubs and we are so encouraged to have the children give up their play time to come along. From Easter to the end of July, when the schools break up, we concentrate on taking R.E. classes and again we have been welcomed by a number of schools.

Thank you for your support. Please pray that the children of the Isle of Man will continue to have the opportunity to hear the Word of God.



with Good News Radio Romania



Claire Bain (Missionary in Romania)

Good News Radio (radiovesteabuna.ro) started in Romania in June 2014. We had no idea back then that God would give us opportunities to reach so many children and teenagers from so many countries with the Gospel.

Recently, a teen called Geo from Cluj came in contact with Good News Radio for the first time. He downloaded the app on his phone. He messaged us and talked about his dreams, difficulties, faith, good works and salvation...

He is disillusioned by official religion and by people who say one thing and do another. We took time to tell him what God says. He replied to us, "Hello everyone! You are the greatest radio. You made me believe that God really does exist!"



Looking Back at **Easter Conference**

by Elaine Price



“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me...”

Matthew 11v28-29a



I love these verses. This is what I think of as I reminisce about Easter Conference, Jesus, rest & learning.

My husband Woody, daughters Letitia 18, Alicia 16, Helene 14 and myself are blessed every Easter as we journey up to Portrush. We wouldn't miss it. We are blessed with the presence of God and by the excellent Bible studies; we are informed and educated in what God is doing across our globe through the missionary reports. It blesses us to know that God is building His Church.

Not only are our souls refreshed but we are treated to an excellent range of finger foods during our breaks. This is a time of fellowship and a chance to meet up with the missionaries.

My girls, Letitia and Alicia love the House party groups. The banter, meeting old and new friends, and the good leadership of Colin and Marcus are great fun. Helene felt very welcomed and included in the Junior Teens group with Paddy and Jill. It's wonderful to see them go on with the Lord. I love the fact that this is a family conference.

Now, I can't finish without saying something about Steven, Angie & the worship team. They teach us lovely new songs each year and help us in our worship. Steven gives us a good laugh trying to get us to visit the book table! Looking forward to 2017!

Family News

- We say “Congratulations!” to Rachel (Jackson) and Gary Law on their marriage in March. Please pray for them as they begin their new life and ministry together in Desertmartin.
- Yvonne Brown, having come home from Norway last summer, has now decided that she needs to take time to care for her mother. It was therefore agreed that Yvonne would cease working with the Fellowship at the end of April. We are grateful for the years that Yvonne served the Lord in Norway and for the many children who heard the Gospel.
- We welcomed Andrew McNabb to the staff in National Office on a short-term contract during March. He will be involved in various projects including developing promotional material. We pray that Andrew will be a blessing to the work as he serves in this capacity. We also welcomed Monty McCleery as a part-time volunteer with the Multimedia Department. Please pray that she will be a good help to Steven & David.
- David & Rosemary Edwards have another little granddaughter! Rose was born to Sarah & Phillip just after Easter. We thank the Lord for the safe arrival of this little one and ask that you would pray for them as they seek to bring her up for the Lord.
- Roberta Sherlock, who has been serving in Peru for the past 3 years, now feels the Lord directing her to return home. She plans to continue working with CEF and would value your prayers as she concludes her ministry in Peru, returns home in the summer and seeks God with regard to her future ministry.
- The most recent addition to the CEF family is Matthew Hamilton, born to Stephen & Tanya at the beginning of May. Please pray for them as they adjust to having a third child and as they seek to continue with their summer ministries.

Diary Dates

National Office Closed:
12 - 13 July
19 - 22 September (Staff Conference)

Autumn Conference:
Saturday 24 September

Autumn week of prayer:
16 - 23 October