



UK & IRELAND

IN THIS EDITION

CAMP UPDATES

INTERN & TRAINING UPDATES

ANCHOR TRUST

FUNDING THE FAMILY BUSINESS

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

BIRTHDAY PARTIES



BCM International Airport

Our theme for the new Teen camp in England was BCM International Airport. We had no idea when we were planning it how many nationalities there would be at camp. We had Scottish, English, Irish, Honk Kongese, and an Englishman who lives in Scotland. We had African descended people too.

There were 18 young people and 10 leaders. We had a truly blessed time. God spoke to us all and we had a lot of laughs together. We were looking at Paul's missionary journeys and we agreed it would've been easier if he could've flown. We did hobbies, games, swam and had a serial story at night. We made new

friends and renewed old ones.

The question the young people asked me at the end of the week? Will you do it again next year?

If God lets me - yes. The response - good but bring your translator!"

LIZ MARR





BCM ENGLAND

JaM Camp

CHECK OUT
OUR WEBSITE
www.bcm.org.uk



Hello everyone

This is my second attempt at Link Up. I hope you enjoy it - camp was a great blessing to many children and young people over the summer. Add to that the many holiday clubs we have been involved in and it amounts to a busy season. If you have any suggestions for things you want to see in future issues or any comments email me on liz.marr@bcm.org.uk

LIZ MARR



One of my most enjoyable weeks this summer was spent on JaM (Jesus and Me) Camp at Barton, Somerset. Don't get me wrong; for a quiet introvert like me, spending a busy week with 31 children and about 20 adults is an exhausting experience! It is also very rewarding. This year was my fourth at camp and I think it was the best yet.

We had a great staff team who were fun and encouraging to be with. Camp cannot run without a dedicated team of volunteers and all worked very hard. Jane King (BCM missionary) joined us from the states and led the younger children's main teaching sessions as well as telling us about some of her missionary experiences in Nigeria. Our camp cooks Glenda and Dave kept us well fed and Angeline was there as always leading, teaching, solving problems and keeping us all on schedule!

As always, the children were a lively and varied bunch from a range of church and non-church backgrounds. Some were new campers on their first time away from home, while others were

camp veterans. We even had a group of children from Hong Kong, here in the UK to visit their auntie Carol, who was also helping out at camp!

It was such a privilege to be able to share the good news of God's love and Jesus' perfect, voluntary sacrifice with these young people.

This year we focused on Paul's conversion and missionary journeys. These gave plenty of scope for exciting storytelling and audience participation, including sound effects. In our small group study times we read and discussed verses from Philippians.

Everyone laughed at the dilemmas of the ancient world travel agents who visited us in our comedy slot to gossip about Paul's latest 'holiday'. Free time was quickly filled with crafts, games, sports and zooming along on the camp's new zip-wire and everyone enjoyed splashing in the swimming pool. My kids can't wait to go back again next year.

*Esther Bull
Camp Volunteer*



BCM SCOTLAND

Clyde Valley Camp



It was with a real sense of excitement we set off for camp this year. It would be the first time in forty years we would have Teens and Juniors at the same camp. The idea was to run two parallel programs. We came together for meals and shared the same Bible teaching team.

The theme was 'Just do it - Pray' and our prayers were answered. The weather could not have been better; even a down pour came at just the right time, at the end of a wet and wild fun

afternoon. Like one leader said "it seemed that God had joined in, and He won!", I'm not sure of the theology but we did have fun.

Most of the campers were Christians but some left camp still thinking about salvation, pray for those. One junior told her leader she had become a Christian at camp, "The more I heard, the more I knew it was true, so I trusted in Jesus at the camp fire." When asked for a word that would describe their week at camp - 'fantastic', 'amazing',

'brilliant', 'fun', 'good', 'great' and on it went. One youth leader phoned to tell us "All her youth were 'hyper' after camp." I think that is a good thing?

We have much to thank those who worked hard to make camp a success. I think they and the campers all left camp with a bunch of happy memories and the knowledge that God was there and blessed every part of it. So we have a lot to thank God for.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE www.helpingchurches.co.uk

UK & IRELAND

September 2014





BCM NORTHERN IRELAND Updates

CHECK OUT
OUR WEBSITE
www.bcmni.org



What a summer was had here at Mullartown! There has been a constant buzz from the 30th of June right up until the 23rd of August! We had 8 weeks of camps - 4 Kids weeks, a Junior and Senior teens, a Family week, an Extreme Teens and one ALMIGHTY God who just blessed us abundantly another year!!

Our theme for the summer was "Gold Rush" and our lessons were all based around the ultimate rock of ages (Jesus). Each day we looked at different aspects of Jesus and how possessing this rock of ages in our life makes such a difference! The overall theme verse that our over 450 campers and 100 staff were faced with this summer was "Jesus said, I am the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the father except through me- John 14 v 6!

The feedback we have had from both campers and parents has been so encouraging, all of which saying that the kids and young people had so so much fun but more importantly that God has really used the work at

Mullartown to impact their and their kids lives! GOD IS GOOD!

Something really special happened on the final week of camp, at our Senior Teen's programme! A girl who has come through our kids camps, Junior Teens, and now Senior Teens camp decided she wanted to be baptised, as she feels Mullartown has been such a key part of her Christian growth. So, most of her family, a load of her friends and all the seniors campers and leaders assembled in the barn (our meeting room) and had a service to explain baptism and hear Rebecca's testimony, then we all headed down to a big pool, and Rebecca was baptised! It was honestly such a privilege to see this girl come up through years of camp become a leader at our kids camps and then to witness her going through the waters of baptism.

Finishing with a quote from one of our campers "*Camp may be finished, but God sure isn't!*"

Praise God for another great summer here at Mullartown house!



UK & IRELAND

September 2014

BCM IRELAND Updates

CHECK OUT
OUR WEBSITE
www.bcmireland.ie



This year we had thirty campers attend Youth Camp. Teens from around the country converged upon Castledaly for a week of fellowship and fun. It was fantastic to welcome campers who were coming up from Senior camp for the first time. Our teacher Ross Campbell spoke to us from Colossians 3:12-17. Quiet times and Shhh times were enjoyed by all. As with every camp we aim to provide a safe atmosphere for them to grow in their relationship with Christ. But perhaps even more critical to our vision of 'Making disciples' is providing them with a structure to continue their walk when they get home. Through the teaching and small groups, campers get to look at how to maintain their relationship when back in their everyday lives at home and in school. We are looking forward to winter camp and planning for next summer. Join us in praying for all those who have attended this year and for more to attend, be reached and transformed by the gospel in the coming year.

James Thompson Director



Close to fifty 12 - 15 year olds descended on Castledaly Manor for Senior Camp. A week packed full of fun, games, laughter, activities, relaxation and growth in Christ. Teaching focused on 'God's unstoppable plan', from creation all the way to the present. The campers were encouraged to find their part in it, as they learned that "we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all" - Hebrews 10:10, which was one of the memory verses for the week.

Andrew Thompson Director



This being my first time directing, I was both excited and nervous! Junior Camp with nearly fifty 8 to 11 year olds!!! One thing was clear to me; God was there and in control. The team was so evidently hand-picked by Him. He orchestrated the whole week and it was a privilege to be involved. Through the teaching, the friendship building with each other and the love shown by the leaders, God spoke into the hearts of the children that He loves them and cares for each one of them. For me, that is what BCM Camp is all about.

Daren Mooney Director



BCM INTERN

Chris Kenny

I have spent the past year with BCM in the U.K. as a full time intern. I have had an amazing time so far, working with some great people, sharing some amazing experiences, and watching God work in so many ways in the young peoples lives and my own.

I have mostly been working with children and teens in various clubs around the Greater Glasgow area, doing various things such as teaching, organising games, quizzes and crafts. It's been amazing to spend time with the kids, and getting to know them throughout the year, and also see how God works in them. As well as this I have also had the pleasure to work with other people within BCM UK. I took the opportunity to represent BCM at the Children's Conference in Eastborne and spend time at Mullartown House in Northern Ireland working with them in preparation for camp. It was great to see BCM from a different point of view in Northern Ireland, and was great fun getting to know the team there a little more too.

I was also involved in BCM camps in Scotland working with all aspects of the teen program



which was a great experience for me. It is a big undertaking to lead camp but even with regards to the small team that we had, God just worked with us, and was with us in every challenge we faced. It was really encouraging to see Him work in the teens as the week went on and to see Him answer prayers too!

For the rest of the summer I look forward to going to New York, USA, for 9 weeks to volunteer at camp Mandaville. I am not entirely sure what to expect, but I know it will be an experience I won't forget! Some of my pictures will, no doubt, make it to the website.

Once my time with BCM as a full time intern is over in September, I plan to stay with BCM but on a part-time basis as I feel I need to work and get

some different life experience. I aim to go to university, hopefully to study music but I am still trying to work out what route to go down.

However this year has been really amazing and I have made memories that will last, as well as got to know amazing people who have helped me in many ways. This has been both spiritually and personally and I want to say a huge thanks to everyone who has helped make this year possible for me. I am so grateful for the opportunity to experience this great year, in such a different way from anything I have done before. I look forward to seeing what God has still to do in the future with me and with BCM.

Chris Kenny



UK & IRELAND

September 2014

BCM TRAINING Update



Two of our UK Lead Trainers, Barbara and Angeline, had a fun weekend in June, at Great Parks Chapel in Paignton, training 14 children's ministry volunteers. There were some interesting questions, lots of laughter and encouraging conversations at this *In Step with the Master Teacher* workshop.

Over a Friday evening and all day Saturday they thought about God's attitude towards children; being good models for children of what it means to know, love and obey God; how to build good relationships; how to use each aspect of a programme to help disciple children; how to communicate the Bible effectively; how to present the gospel in a way children can understand; as well as thinking about teaching Bible memory verses, helping children grow in their faith and creatively involving all the senses when teaching the Bible.

In one session Barb showed the trainees some small knitted



people which are good tools for telling stories to younger children. She left a pattern with the church and one lady, Beryl, is now making some to use in their children's work. It shows that you don't have to be a teacher to be part of a children's ministry team. Everyone's talents can be put to good use.

Gemma, the children's/youth ministry co-ordinator, said: "*The team enjoyed the training - it was practical, interactive, informative*

and fun! The training gave them more confidence and encouraged them to continue in the great work they're doing. (And they were all really pleased with their certificates!)"

BCM provides training for children's ministry volunteers in churches across the UK and Ireland. If you would like our trainers to visit your church, contact us for more information at: office@bcm.org.uk

www.bcm.org.uk/training

Built on the **foundation** of the apostles and prophets,
with **Christ Jesus** himself as the chief **cornerstone**.
Ephesians 2:20



BCM UK

Response Form

I would like to help BCM reach more children with God's word and support its missionaries in their valuable work.

- Please find enclosed a cheque for £ payable to 'BCM UK'.
- I am a UK Taxpayer and wish BCM UK to reclaim tax on this and my future gifts. I confirm that I pay at least as much income or capital gains tax as will be reclaimed by all charities on my donations in each tax year; including Community Amateur Sports Clubs. Please note that other taxes such as council tax and VAT do not qualify.
- Please send me a standing order form to set up regular giving from my bank or building society to BCM UK.
- I have arranged to leave BCM UK a legacy.
- Please send me details of how I can leave BCM UK a legacy.

Name

Address

.....

Telephone

Email

Any further comments

.....

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UK & IRELAND

September 2014



BCM Anchor Trust Updates

Here is the feedback I have had to date on the BCM Objectives for the LINK UP.

Objective 1

Upgrade the BCM Websites: (Pilot - David White)

The fresh new look BCM UK's website at www.bcm.org.uk has now been up and running for several months. News updates are added on a weekly basis and there are areas devoted to camps, training and the work around the UK as well as a diary page that can be used in conjunction with our downloadable magazine for prayer supporters. The most recent development of the BCM UK website is the inclusion of an on-line web-store selling all of the Footsteps of Faith Resource and Visual CDs.

The BCM UK website contains a secure section for BCM workers and volunteers that contains policy documents, handbooks and forms with which all workers should be familiar. If workers would like other resources added or need access they should email the webmaster at web.admin@bcm.org.uk

Objective 2

Develop BCM UK Management Structure: (Pilot - Tom Morrow)

The Anchor Trust have been examining various structures that could help in improving the governance and management of BCM UK. We are hoping to be able to present the options at the UK Conference in October.

Objective 3

To make BCM better known (Pilot - David White)

It is planned over the summer to supply supporters with promotional material to pass on to those involved with BCM in the past or to those who may be interested in supporting the work now and in the future. We are aiming to increase our prayer and support base.

Objective 4

Develop and train our young people in their ministry (Pilots - Richard Thompson/Stan Paget)

Plans will be presented at the UK Conference in October.

Objective 5

Extend ISMT in UK/Ireland: (Pilot - Dorothy Armstrong)

Discussions are planned to take place with the ISMT Lead Trainers.

Objective 6

Market survey of current BCM Teaching Materials: (Pilot - Tom Morrow)

A return rate of 78% was achieved from the 23 Missionaries and Anchor Trustees who received the survey questionnaire sent out in July. The Anchor Trust will be analysing the responses and will present the conclusions and recommendations at the UK Conference in October. The survey shows that two-thirds of those surveyed use BCM Teaching Material in some way and positive suggestions have been received on how to improve FootSteps of Faith so that we can make it more widely available.



BCM Seminar

Funding the Family Business

19 participants attended the two day "Funding the Family Business Seminar" with Myles Wilson at Mullartown in May. Here are some of the positive comments received as feedback from the BCM UK and BCM ROI missionaries who participated.

"Great that BCM is openly addressing the issue of raising/keeping support. Thanks to the Anchor Trust for organising the seminar"

"It was great that we begun by looking at the Bible"

"The concept of each worker having a strong partnership/support team around them is necessary for the whole concept to work and one that should be encouraged"

"I found the seminar to be quite interesting. I had never put much thought into committed prayer and emotional support (outside of my family and friends) and it was good for me to hear

this. It has definitely helped to see how my fundraising should look"

"The course challenged me about communicating better with my support team and I have written to my prayer and financial supporters and have received some e-mails back thanking me for the encouragement including some people I don't hear from very often"

"I feel that the seminar has helped me gain confidence in asking if people would like to support me! But the biggest thing I really got out of it is to see your supporters as your team, and that team needs to be regularly informed and kept up to date - they need to feel part of this journey!"

"We are only starting out on this missionary journey and need as much help and training as we can get. It's also good having topic training, as then we have the time to put this stuff into place!"

"I wouldn't be able to ask people directly for financial support as recommended"

"One major positive is that it changed my perspective on fundraising from 'It's a necessary evil' to 'This is an incredible opportunity to partner with people.'

Not everyone could agree with all aspects of Myle's

approach to support raising, but it has provided us with a useful springboard to get us talking about how to develop a more effective strategy that will be able to help move new and experienced missionaries from "faith" to "being faithfully supported". It has been encouraging to hear that some of the teaching at the seminar are being put into practice and exciting when one new contact thanked the missionary for getting in touch and giving them the privilege of being a supporter

.The seminar has taught us that it's not just about finding financial supporters - it's about building teams of givers and receivers who are working together in partnership in the Gospel to extend God's Kingdom with God who is the Ultimate Giver:

Finally, here is a question for you to ponder: "How could BCM make financial support happen for a 27 year old Christian from a non-Christian background who wants to fulfil their calling by God to work with children and young people?" Please send your answers to Tom Morrow at themorrrows10@gmail.com as this will assist the Anchor Trust in our discussions on how to take this important issue forward.

Tom Morrow



A word from the president



One lady. One invitation. One city. One message. In 1936 Miss Bessie Traber answered the invitation to teach the Bible to children and youth in Philadelphia. It was the beginning of a movement, the Bible Club Movement, which later began BCM International. Her message was the timeless truth that Jesus saves. Since that time, BCM has grown to more than 700 missionaries and countless volunteers who present the same message to over 1.3 million children across five continents as well as Pacific and

Caribbean islands. As a global non-denominational ministry, we are committed to making disciples of all ages for the Lord Jesus Christ through evangelism, church planting, discipleship, and leadership training. Our Bible curriculum *Footsteps of Faith* with its well-known and loved flannel graph presentations are used around the world. Our material and *In Step with the Master Teacher* workshops are heralded by many as game changers in creating vision for children's ministry within the church and the community, and

equipping believers to fulfill that vision.

We are looking for a few good, faithful believers to come with us as we impact the world through Bible clubs, released time classes, camps, compassion ministries of disaster relief, community health care and development, counseling, and other ministries. If you think you have what it takes to join this movement with us in *Reaching Children and Developing Churches*, please don't hesitate to contact us!

Marty Windle

A graphic for a conference announcement. It features a background image of a running track stretching into the distance under a cloudy sky. On the left, a large red circular graphic contains the text 'passing on the baton' in white. Above this circle, the text 'BCM UK and Ireland - UK Conference' is written in a curved path. Below the main circle is a smaller circular inset showing hands passing a baton. To the right of the track, there is text about the conference: 'A time to fellowship and discussion on the way forward', 'Venue: Mullartown House Camp and Conference Centre, Annalong', and 'Speaker: Bob Evans'. At the bottom, it lists the dates 'Thursday 23rd October (Tea time) - Monday 27th October (Lunch time)' and the cost 'Cost £75.00 - Some Single rooms available - More details will follow'.

BCM UK and Ireland - UK Conference

passing on the baton

A time to fellowship and discussion on the way forward

Venue: Mullartown House Camp and Conference Centre, Annalong

Speaker: Bob Evans

Thursday 23rd October (Tea time) - Monday 27th October (Lunch time)
Cost £75.00 - Some Single rooms available - More details will follow

DOROTHY IS 100 YRS OLD



Dorothy McEwan...serving God at camps, running a Bible Club in her home, cooking for numerous missionaries, being the local secretary for the BCM committee, keeping us all on the right track, learning to drive in her sixties and actively participating in her local assembly have certainly not shortened her life span any!!!

In May the Minnis's, the Paget's and one of our

committee shared in Dorothy's 100th birthday celebrations..she is currently in a Christian run care home and although she doesn't know anyone she is very happy and was delighted with fuss everyone was making of her.

Thank you God for this faithful woman who has served you well especially in BCM.



John Shiels

Mr John, as he is affectionately known by all ex-campers, celebrates his 80th birthday on Sept 3rd. Congratulations Mr John and many thanks for all those years you fed us up at camp.



BCM is a faith mission. The work is financed through free will offerings from faithful people whose hearts are touched by God. Any gifts can be sent to: BCM International UK (ANCHOR) Trust, 39a Swiss Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 3AY. Tel 01934 413484 E-mail: office@bcm.org.uk
Web-sites: www.bcm.org.uk www.bcmireland.ie See also BCM on Facebook
BCM is a registered charity (England no. 1044539—Scotland no. SCO41111)