

# Free Presbyterian Youth Council



'Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth' - Ecclesiastes 12:1

## REPORT ON 2010 SUMMER OUTREACH TO MERTHYR TYDFIL

By Eppie McDermott (Moneyslane FPC)

On 9th August 2010 eleven young people, under the leadership of Rev. Ralph Hall travelled to Merthyr Tydfil in south Wales to spend a week encouraging the local congregation and helping them to reach the people of their area with the gospel.

Rev. Nigel Smyth, minister of Cephass FPC in Heolgerrig, Merthyr Tydfil met us on our arrival and, stopping on our way to our accommodation, we learnt about Merthyr Tydfil's puritan and mining links at Cyfarthfa Castle. Proceeding to the church building, Mr Smyth led us in prayer and exhorted us to be like the woman of whom Christ said "She hath done what she could." That evening we commenced the posting through doors of tracts and invitations to both the testimony meeting we would participate in on Saturday and the children's Holiday Bible Club that would start on the following Monday.

After Tuesday morning's devotions we took the opportunity provided by the poor weather to testify to each other in preparation for doing so in later open airs and meetings. Venturing out we completed the Heolgerrig area and then went into the town centre where we were pleased with the opportunity to talk to several people while distributing more tracts and invitations.

The next day we began by posting more tracts and invitations in the Castle Park area before knocking on doors in Gelli-deg. Here we had a number of encouraging conversations, with some promising to attend the testimony meeting. Later we testified in Cephass' prayer meeting and got to know the congregation.

Thursday morning saw us continuing the tract-posting distribution work before holding an open-air in the town centre where the young people had the chance to sing, testify and preach. In the afternoon we joined the members of Cephass FPC to sing and testify at a local residential home and then travelled to Emmanuel FPC in Bryn to participate in their prayer meeting. On Friday we met up with some of the Rev. Richard Monteith's children in Cardiff where we distributed tracts and held two open airs.

Then on Saturday we completed the door-to-door distribution of tracts and invitations as well as returning to the town centre for another open-air. That evening visitors did attend the testimony meeting in Cephass FPC with three of us giving a word of testimony and Rev Hall preaching. During Sunday, our final full day in Wales, we testified and sang in services in both Cephass and Emmanuel as well as reporting our week's activity. Finally, on Monday some of the young people distributed tracts in the town centre while the others aided at the first day of the Holiday Bible Club at which new faces were seen.

We completed our week in Wales with a visit to the Big Pit mine during which we were asked turn our helmet lamps off and experience the total darkness some of the mine workers would have endured. This brought to mind one of the texts preached on during the week:

***“Ye are the light of the world... let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” (Matt 5:14-16)***

We ask you to pray that this week in Wales will not only result in visitors to the local churches but souls saved to the glory of God.



**The congregation of Cephas FPC along with the Youth Council outreach team**