

SPRING 2026

EVERY CHILD

CEF of Ireland National Newsletter

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ACROSS EUROPE** p.10

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CEF
CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP®

Since 1937

Reaching children worldwide®

CEF of Ireland is part of the worldwide CEF family, and we have a passion to teach the Bible to children and young people in an engaging and relevant way, through our direct ministries, training, church partnerships and resources. We want children to enjoy our ministries, but more importantly, we want to teach them deep truths in a way they can understand. Our vision is that every child, in every county, would hear the gospel, and that they would be encouraged and enabled to be in God's Word every day.

National Office & Resources Shop

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Welcome!

A discerning man once said, “Every great work of God can be traced to a kneeling figure”. As we read through the pages of Scripture, we find many stories of praying people. Heather and I are truly grateful to those of you who pray regularly for the work of CEF here in Ireland, and across the world. We know that as you read the articles contained in this newsletter, you will have cause to give thanks to God for all that He has accomplished. You will also be able to pray more specifically for the individual requests and the various needs that are mentioned. One of our greatest needs as a mission is for more full-time workers, not only here in Ireland but across Europe. Please would you pray especially for the vacant counties in the Republic of Ireland? We need people who are burdened for the many children and teenagers there, who know nothing of the One who created them and gave His life that they might receive forgiveness. We need people who are willing to go and reach them. What about you? Would you be willing to go?



David & Heather Cowan
National Directors



Facebook, Instagram, X:

@CEFIreland

Cover Image:

New Year Camp 2026

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Our financial policy is to “ask God and tell His people”. As we seek the Lord’s provision and share our needs with you, please find the relevant details below if you’d like to support us financially:

- Online:** www.cefireland.com/give
- Standing Order:** To set up regular giving, forms are available at www.cefireland.com/give or by contacting our Finance Office (028 9073 0921 or finance@cefireland.com)
- Bank Transfer**
(Northern Ireland & Republic of Ireland) To give via bank transfer, please contact our Finance Office (028 9073 0921 or finance@cefireland.com)
- Phone:** You can give a gift by card by calling our National Office on 028 9073 2263
- Post:** Gifts can be sent to our National Office along with designation instructions (if applicable). Cheques payable to ‘Child Evangelism Fellowship’. Gift Aid declaration forms available at www.cefireland.com/giftaid or by contacting our Finance Office (028 9073 0921 or finance@cefireland.com)

THAT DIDN'T TAKE LONG!

Gareth and Lindsay Gwynne, Local Workers (Co. Armagh)

When was the last time the phrase, **“That didn't take long,”** tumbled from your lips or raced through your mind? Could it have been after a dental appointment, a hospital visit or even a job interview? Over the past few months, this is a little phrase that has come to the fore here in CEF Armagh.

In December, we sat in Starbucks talking with two potential new committee members, giving them the lowdown of the roles and responsibilities, and explaining the necessity of a good local area committee to help maintain and grow the ministry. To our delight, before the coffee grew cold, they both agreed to join the committee—**that didn't take long!**

Tuesday 13 January saw the commencement of a Teaching Children Effectively Level 1 course in Gilford. During the teaching of the second class on the “Doctrine of God” the students began to talk excitedly. They realised that within their pack of materials they had everything they required to run a 5-Day Club (5-DC) during the summer in their communities. By the time they finish the course they will be better equipped in sharing the gospel message effectively with children. What an encouragement to see their enthusiasm and how quickly it had sprung into action—**that didn't take long!**

With the Armagh Junior Camp 2026 digital flyer complete, the venue secured (Armagh Baptist Church), the catering team organised and several ideas for activities being floated around, this was enough to begin promotion at the start of the year! In less than 30 minutes of the





bookings going live, the forms started to come in and payments hit the account—**that didn't take long!**

“It’s a quick in and out!” What is? Our 45-minute monthly prayer group. On arrival we have a quick catch up, read a short Bible passage, list a few prayer points and then pray. A prayer group needn’t feel like a chore, a burden or even a whole night’s commitment. Can you and some friends commit to meeting before your Sunday school, midweek service or youth club? Pick times to suit yourself so you can then say, **“that didn’t take long!”**

Reading from cover to cover of *Every Child* doesn’t take long. But, perhaps after reading you have been challenged by the content in some of the articles. Could you start a prayer

group, offer your garden for 5-DC, host a Holiday Bible Club in your church or begin a Good News Club? That happens to be our wish list for ministry in County Armagh for 2026. We would love to be able to tick them off and then say, **“Wow, that didn’t take long!”**



A SEASON AHEAD

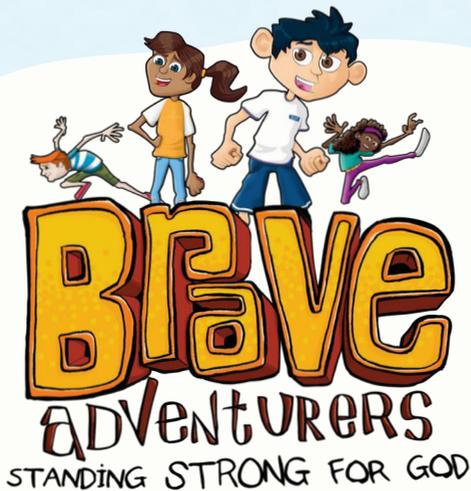
Victoria Hylands,
Team Leader (Multimedia Department)

In the Multimedia Department, we often find ourselves living a season ahead. We design Christmas resources during the bright summer months, and prepare games for sunny days while the weather outside is freezing! This forward planning is one of the things Josh McClean has noticed during his placement with us (arranged through Ulster University), where he is volunteering as a Graphic Designer. So far, this academic year, Josh has designed a range of resources, including memory verse and central truth visuals, PowerPoint presentations and worksheets, and we are grateful for his contribution.



THANKS JOSHI!





BRAVE ADVENTURERS

STANDING STRONG FOR GOD

Our biggest project this year has once again been the Holiday Bible Club pack. While the Bible lessons on Daniel were updated recently, the accompanying pack needed to be expanded to match the content of our newest Ready Steady Go for God! and Out of This World packs. Laura Crossett created the majority of the illustrations, while Gemma Kirkpatrick designed the three levels of activity books, which reinforce the Bible teaching in age-appropriate ways.

We've enjoyed imagining the four "Brave Adventurers" as they explore places like Fang Jungle, Cave of Shadows, and Endless Falls, and we hope children will love being part of the Cave Crawlers, Jungle Jumpers, Mountain Mavericks and River Raiders teams.

While many people are starting to plan their summer holidays, in the Multimedia team it's already beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Please pray for us as we work behind the scenes to equip CEF workers and volunteers with resources to reach and teach the children.



Want to know more?
Go to www.cefireland.com/HBC2026



ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM CAVAN!

Simon and Jayne Gibson, Local Workers (Co. Cavan)

Jayne and I are very thankful to God for His continued provision and guidance in our work here in County Cavan. Over the past year, one of the greatest encouragements to us has been the establishment of a local committee to support the work of CEF in this area. We are grateful for how God has brought the right people alongside us.

Our committee is made up of three faithful servants: Ali, Kieran and Charlene. Each of them has a real heart for children's ministry and a deep commitment to reaching young people with the good news of the gospel. They are not only supporters of the ministry, but are actively involved themselves as volunteers, which has been such a blessing to us.

Charlene recently opened her home for a Christmas Club, welcoming 10 other children alongside her own 5 children, who gathered to hear of the

birth of Jesus, learn a memory verse, and enjoy games and activities. It was wonderful to see children engaging so eagerly and to know that seeds were being planted in such a personal, welcoming home.

Ali and Kieran have also shown incredible practical support. When our van unexpectedly broke down, they generously lent us theirs for two special needs camp weekends and for a week of Holiday Bible Club. This kindness ensured that the ministry could continue and reminded us once again of God's perfect timing and provision.

We are deeply thankful for this committee and for the way God is building His work in County Cavan.



REACHING BRITAIN'S CHILDREN WITH HOPE

Andrew & Beulah McMullan, Area Directors (South West Europe)

William Carey, known as the “father of modern missions,” once said,

“Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God.”

With over 12 million children in Great Britain*, the need is immense. Today, five full-time and four part-time workers serve faithfully—one couple in Scotland and the rest in southern England—yet many still have never heard the gospel.



This challenge inspired us to act boldly. After being stirred during a visit to Romania, we launched a literature distribution project: 10,000

packs for children, entrusted to workers across Great Britain. With the support of the Board and the help of our church family, these packs were lovingly prepared and sent out. One lady even wept with joy upon receiving them, grateful for the opportunity to share God’s love with children in her community.

The impact has been significant! New connections with churches and schools opened doors for outreach. One church planned a Christmas Party Club, eager to share the gospel, even when initial efforts faced setbacks. Undeterred, the local committee stepped in, ensuring every pack reached a child.

This venture reminds us that great things happen when we step out in faith. The task is vast, but God is greater. As Carey urged, let us continue to expect and attempt great things—because every child in Britain deserves to hear the good news.

**CEF of Britain has workers across England, Scotland and Wales.*

SHORTFALL

ACROSS EUROPE

“that which we have seen and heard we declare to you ...”

(1 John 1:3)

S* took the gospel to children when it was minus 50 degrees in Siberia. D* and R* decided to have a Christmas Club and continue with a Good News Club in war-torn Ukraine. “In all my years of ministry, I have never had such openness for the gospel,” is reported from Russia. “God helped us distribute 20,000 gospel tracts in Belarus.” “The Orthodox priest told us we could not come back, but we invited children to hear the gospel and 35 children came in Romania.” “I drove 30 minutes to share the gospel with a 12-year-old girl who wanted to end her life.” “I was threatened by a mullah to stop teaching children, but God provided protection through the mothers who attended the club. A whole family trusted the Lord that day in Kyrgyzstan.”

We praise God for each testimony of faithful men and women of God who are using every opportunity to share the gospel and are being used by God to make a difference.

We proclaim what we have seen and heard because God is doing wonderful things, and we want you to have fellowship with us. Not only with us, but with the Father and His Son Jesus Christ who gives us the opportunity to serve Him.

Let’s do all we can to support these workers so they can continue to share the gospel despite the challenges. May our prayers and support be used by God to strengthen, motivate and sustain them. For His glory!

The shortfall project is there to meet the financial shortfall in countries like these mentioned above where the workers find it difficult to raise all of their support. Over 300 workers receive help each month. In 2026, £1.7 million is needed to continue supporting workers so that those in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and 25 other countries may hear the life-changing truth of the gospel. Will you join with us?

Pray with us in 2026 for 20 more people to give towards the shortfall project in Europe. If you can pray, give or share this need with one other person, we would be grateful.

**Names redacted to protect identities.*



Scan here to give to the
European Shortfall





CHILDREN'S MINISTRY LEADERSHIP COURSE



WHEN?

2026 course in Ireland (modules 1 and 2)

You can take the full course: **20 September – 12 December**
or module one: (first six weeks) **20 September – 31 October**

WHERE?

The residential course will be held in Seaview Camp and Conference Centre, Kilkeel, Co. Down (Northern Ireland) beside the beautiful Mourne Mountains.

www.cefireland.com/CMLC

DIARY DATES

3–6 April

CEF Easter Conference, Portrush

4 May

National Office closed

16 May

Equip Conference, Dublin

OCEANVIEW

30TH

*Anniversary
Celebration*

Saturday 13th June

3PM @ Oceanview

Scan for more info and to RSVP



FAMILY NEWS

Two of our workers, Jayne Gibson and Beulah McMullan, have experienced bereavement in recent months, with their fathers having been called home to glory. We extend our deepest sympathy to Simon and Jayne, Andrew and Beulah, and their families. Please remember them in your prayers in these difficult days.

Praise God that prayer has been answered! Marianna Ferguson was interviewed and accepted as a candidate with the mission. She has now commenced a period of candidacy, after which she plans to go into local area work. Please pray for Marianna that she will know the Lord's help as she undertakes this time of training.

EQUIP²⁶

Equipping you to teach the next generation

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Saturday 16th May

9:45am to 3:30pm

The Riasc Centre

Swords, Co. Dublin