

Newsletter – Summer term 2010



Zabavna Večer

The winning team from the Spring term Zabavna Vecer



programme had a great time at the climbing wall in Mostar. The theme for this term was “Superheroes” and we divided the young people into 3 teams, Batman, Superman and James Bond. Again talks were given at the end of each night in a form designed to positively build their character. These included – “not all hero stories are told” and “with great power comes great responsibility”. Eleanor was told by one young person after an evening ‘I really loved last night. I came along quite sad but I was not sad afterwards’.

The end of term finale had a James Bond theme and the girls dressed smartly (Bond girls!) and we gave out cocktails ie Sprite in a fancy cup and chocolate cakes. The winning team had a trip to the swimming pool in nearby Medugorje.

English Success



At the end of term the four successful students in the KET (Key English Test) were presented with their certificates. This was carried out in the town of Ljubuski (where the students live) and officiated by the Mayor of that town, Nevenko Barbaric.

The morning went very well. The local radio station was there as well as a journalist from Capljina. The speech was aired the following day and put in the local newspaper and on the Capljina portal, an internet news site for this area.

The student’s mothers also attended the ceremony and afterwards, over coffee and cakes, expressed their thanks and great interest in Novi Most. It was such an encouragement.

Summer programme

In the summer of 2008 there were only 4 young people who attended the Novi Most camp from Capljina. This year ten of our young people have gone to Jahorina, a mountain area just outside Sarajevo. This camp is for young people aged 11-17 years. There will also be another camp – an English Camp for 18 – 25 year olds on the Croatian coast in which 12 students plan to attend. We Praise God that this ministry has grown so much in such a small space of time.



In Capljina we will be open every morning and evening for the different age groups attending. The theme for the summer is “The World” and each week we will look at a different country including Haiti, USA, India, South Africa, China, Mexico. The young people learn facts from the various activities that they then write in their ‘passport’ and there is a quiz at the end of each week.

Many Bosnians have a victim mentality and have a low opinion of themselves as a country. So to build up the confidence and self-esteem of our young people, we will be doing some fund raising activities for the people of Haiti. The young people will be encouraged to think of ideas on how to raise money for this worthwhile cause. The amount of money they raise is not important. This is intended to show them that they

can take pride in their country, they don't have to think of themselves as victims always needing help from outside and that they are actually able to help others.

Family

Mick continues to lead the Saturday older youth bible study group, it is going well and also being attended by one young lady (Sonja, see prayer requests below) who has not yet made a commitment to Christ but enjoys the teaching and fellowship. The group is following a study looking into the parables of Jesus. Mick also continues to preach at the request of the Pastor on numerous occasions.

Ali has completed the second module of a course learning to teach Business English course and she has one module left to do.

Prayer requests

We ask if you would join us to pray for:

- The summer programme, that it goes well and we build on the relationships of the young people we know and also to see new faces.
- For our volunteer Boris, who came to faith at Christmas but is currently struggling with outside influences. And for Sonja to know Jesus as her personal Saviour.
- For our team member Becca who is on sabbatical in August, that she is confident of her future according to God's will.
- For Ali who is organising the English Camp on the coast, that it will run smoothly and there will be ample opportunities for the older youth to have discussions about a relationship with the living God.
- For us to shine God's light in this place and that the people we meet to be drawn to Him. That through the work we carry out in this town, His Church is built up and encouraged for His glory

And to give thanks for:

- Becoming accepted and even welcomed in this town following the many rumours that circulated when we first arrived here.
- For the kind words from the Mayor of Ljubuski and encouragement from the officials in the town hall.
- Young people coming to know Jesus as their saviour and young lives being changed for the better by their interaction with Novi Most.

Mick and Ivica will be visiting various Churches, small groups and organisations in the UK during the first couple of weeks of September. If you wish to have a presentation or update of the work of Novi Most then please contact us by e-mail or Facebook. Our time is limited, but there are currently spaces in the schedule, particularly during the daytime and weekday evenings.

Thank you all for your prayers and financial support. We realise this is an uncertain time due to the world financial climate, we endeavour to manage our finances prudently and in a way that honours God. Also the pound has been getting stronger against the Bosnian Mark which has relieved some pressure and we received a generous one-off donation that has seen us through a financially difficult time. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

Mick hopes to see many of you during his visit with Ivica in September.

Website: www.theholsteads.org