



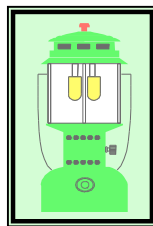
CAMP SHAMROCK

Newsletter

Issue 14

June 2003

“A LITTLE LIGHT



FROM THE PIT.”

I think my first experience of Camp Shamrock was when I was about 7 years old. I was a little bit scared because I had never been away from home on my own and most of the campers there were a lot older than me. I only wish I had known then how much camp would change my life.

It wasn't long before my years would revolve around the day I left to spend a week and a half under a thin piece of canvas in a field in the middle of the Mourne mountains.

WHY!?

Well, I loved to play football, volleyball and explore the forest. It was good to get away from home comforts and enjoy life in the wilderness. But above all, it was the people that kept me coming back. It was obvious to me that there was something different about the councillors and everyone else that ran the camp. They had a spark in them that made them love life and care for all those around them. I now know, that spark was God working in their lives.

That's why I have kept coming back, so I can show you guys the spark in my life and hopefully make Camp Shamrock, but more importantly, God as important in your life as it is in mine.

So if you open your heart and mind to what Camp Shamrock can give you “life will never be the same again”.

God bless,
Peter Maguire

A STAR IN THE MAKING.....



Congratulations to one of our very own campers, Sean Paul McNicholl, who was the star of the show when he recently took the lead role in his school play, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Sean Paul performed excellently as Joseph and put us all to shame with his excellent singing voice. We just hope that he continues it this year round the camp fire.....!

You can make your world so much larger
simply by acknowledging everyone else's.

- Marie Laskas

CAMP SHAMROCK 2003



This year hopes to be a great camp, as usual! We plan on having counsellors over from various parts of the world including USA, Scotland, England and Zimbabwe!

The boy's camp will take place on **Monday 14th July** and will run through to **Tuesday 22nd July** and the girl's camp will take place on **Thursday 24th July** and will run through to **Friday 1st August**

The fee for the camp is £50, which includes food and transport. An application form is enclosed along with this newsletter so if you are intending to go this year please have your parent/guardian complete the form and return it to Bert **as soon as possible**. Remember all campers need to have an application form AND medical form completed prior to their stay at Camp Shamrock.

We will have usual activities including, hiking, swimming, competitions and river walking.

The theme for this year's camp is "**Because He first Loved me.**" Clark McIlroy will be taking the Bible Classes for the Boy's camp and the teachers for Girl's camp will be Rosey Trainor and Kristy Nystrom.

If you have a friend who would like to come to camp, brochures and application forms are available on request. The camp is open for all children between 8 and 16 years old.

Please make sure your form is completed and posted off as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing you there.

Satan's meeting



Satan called a worldwide convention of demons. In his opening speech he said, "We can't keep Christians from going to church." "We can't keep them from reading their Bibles and knowing the truth." "We can't even keep them from forming an intimate relationship with their Saviour." "Once they gain that connection with Jesus, our power over them is broken."

"So let them go to their churches; let them have their covered dish dinners, but steal their time, so they don't have time to develop a relationship with Jesus Christ."

"This is what I want you to do," said the devil: "Distract them from gaining hold of their Saviour and maintaining that vital connection throughout their day!"

"How shall we do this?" his demons shouted.

"Keep them busy in the non essentials of life and invent lots of other activities to occupy their minds," he answered. "Tempt them to spend, spend, spend, and borrow, borrow, borrow." "Persuade the wives to go to work for long hours and the husbands to work 6-7 days each week, 10-12 hours a day, so they can afford their empty lifestyles." "Keep them from spending time with their children." "As their families fragment, soon, their homes will offer no escape from the pressures of work!"

"Occupy their minds with other stuff so that they cannot hear that still, small voice of God."

"Entice them to play the radio or cassette player whenever they drive." "To keep the TV, VCR, CDs and their PCs going constantly in their home and see to it that every store and restaurant in the world plays non-biblical music constantly."

"This will jam their minds and break that union with Christ."

"Give them Santa Claus to distract them from teaching their children the real meaning of Christmas." "Give them an Easter bunny so they won't talk about his resurrection and power over sin and death."

"Keep them too busy to go out in nature and reflect on God's creation." "Send them to amusement parks, sporting events, plays, concerts, and movies instead."

"Keep them busy, busy, busy!" And when they meet for spiritual fellowship, involve them in gossip and small talk so that they leave with troubled consciences." "Crowd their lives with so many good causes they have no time to seek power from Jesus." "Soon they will be working in their own strength, sacrificing their health and family for the good of the cause." "It will work!"

It was quite a plan! The demons went eagerly to their assignments causing Christians everywhere to get busier and more rushed, going here and there. Having little time for their God or their families. Having no time to tell others about the power of Jesus to change lives.

The question is, has the devil been successful at his scheme?

You be the judge!

Does "busy" mean:

B-eing
U-nder
S-atan's
Y-oke?

"We all take different paths in life, but no matter where we go, we take a little of each other with us."



Let us always remember that our strength comes from the Lord. We may think that evil is better but we should remember that ultimately good will overcome evil. Romans 8: 31 tells us "If God is for us, no one can be against us!"

It's important that we spend as much time as we can learning more about God and what we can do for Him in this lifetime. Things like spending time with your friends from church, going to Sunday school, singing choruses and reading your Bibles may feel like an inconvenience at times but like the story said, that's only because that's what Satan wants us to think! The more we learn about God, the more like him we will become and gradually we will hate the sin that is overtaking this world.

Places like Camp Shamrock are an uplift to the soul because not only do we have the beauty of Gods creation surrounding us for a week or two in our lives, but we get cut off from the rest of the world. It almost takes us back to what it must have been like in biblical times for the early Christians because all of our time is spent with our fellow Christians and we are constantly being encouraged to keep the faith. We can have fun, form friendships from all over the country and more importantly learn about the God who created us. What better way is there to spend your Summer holidays!

Crawfordsburn Youth Day

We are planning this year to have a Youth Day at **Crawfordsburn Scout Camp** as a follow up to Camp. For those who are interested the details are as follows...

Dates ~ Saturday 23rd August 2003.

Venue ~ Crawfordsburn Scout Camp. You will have to make your own way there as transport is NOT provided.

Price ~ £10 per person. This will include the barbecue and the activities which are ~

- an assault course,
- a slippery slide and
- Abseiling

If it is raining we will just go to McDonalds or something.

If you are interested, please contact Clark or Sheba **as soon as possible** at the numbers below.

What to bring ~ A change of clothing. Showers are available and you WILL get dirty at the assault course.

Please note that due to the nature of the activities we have to restrict the age to children over 10 years old.

We don't mind if you want to bring a friend. Just make sure and let us know for numbers.

There are facilities available for 35 children only so it is important that you book your place EARLY! Remember first come first served.

CLARK MCILROY: 003531 211 5824

SHEBA CLINTON: 028 7032 7296 or 07989279103

Here's something to remember when you're packing for camp!

An Everyday Survival Kit

- Toothpick
- Rubber band
- Band aid
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Chewing gum
- Mint
-

Here's why:

- **Toothpick** - to remind you to pick out the good qualities in others...Matt 7:1
- **Rubber band** - to remind you to be flexible, things might not always go the way you want, but it will work out...Romans 8:28
- **Band Aid** - to remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else's...Col. 3:12-14
- **Pencil** - To remind you to list your blessings everyday...Eph 1:3
- **Eraser** - to remind you that everyone makes mistakes, and it's okay...Gen. 50:15-21
- **Chewing gum** - to remind you to stick with it and you can accomplish anything ...Phil 4:13
- **Mint** - to remind you that you are worth a mint to your heavenly father...John 3:16-17

Don't forget that the newsletter and further information about Camp Shamrock can now be viewed on Brad's website at www.gboutreach.org

As always, if there are any changes you think we could make to improve the camp for you, please let us know. We can certainly look at any ideas you may have. Please also let me know if you are moving house so I can post your newsletter to your new address.

For further information regarding this Newsletter or Camp Shamrock please contact;

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