

A first for **Grove**... ‘bye-bye’ BYE Team



It was a first for **Grove Baptist Church**. To say good-bye to a BYE Team! The church at Grove had never hosted a Youth Team before. Many of us didn't even know what BYE stood for (...it's Baptist Youth Evangelism).

Our team of 9 young people arrived on a sunny Saturday in July, just before the start of our 5 Day Children's Club, "Rocky's Plaice". And a great bunch they were too! Folk from within the church opened their homes to provide Bed and Breakfast for the Team that week. And what a packed week we had in store for them, from Sat 23rd to Sat 30th July:

<i>Sunday and Thursday</i>	Take part in the Grove services
<i>Mon – Fri (am)</i>	Children’s Club in the local park
<i>Mon – Fri (pm)</i>	“Rocky’s Plaice”, 5 Day Children’s Club
<i>Friday (late)</i>	Coffee Bar in “Café Grove”
<i>Saturday</i>	Breakfast in “Café Grove”

The main event was the Children’s 5 Day Club. “Rocky’s Plaice” was our own American Diner, all set up by Cookie and the Grove team in our Shaw Hall. “Rocky’s Plaice” opened each evening during that week. Together with our own young people, the Bye Team helped out enthusiastically with stories, quizzes and a very popular puppet show. The local kids just lapped it up. Thanks to good advertising and a lot of prayer, we had just over 70 kids from the area attending the Club over that week.

During each afternoon, the Bye Team, led by Aaron and Jude, organised their own Kids Holiday Club in the park close to the church. This also allowed the local kids to get to know the Team better. There were more stories and some great chats with the kids and also with their Mums and Grannies too.

During the week, folk from the church provided evening meals for the team in Café Grove. Packed lunches were also made up for the trip to the Transport Museum in Cultra, on the Team’s only afternoon off.

By Friday evening, all must have been tired. And yet the Coffee Bar, with a big help from musician ‘Mr Jag’ was a real blessing. There was a great atmosphere and some great chats with teenagers and those in their 20s, again all local to Grove.

And then it was time to say good-bye. We met up at Café Grove on Saturday morning only to find that the team had cooked us a full fry-up! They will definitely be asked back!!



So a first for Grove, but definitely not a one-off.
All in all, a really good week, to God be the glory!