

## *Keith Preston* Irish mission worker, International Meeting Point

he International Meeting Point (IMP) is so varied in its outreach that sometimes it's hard to describe it. Take a recent Friday as an example...

At 9am I went over to north Belfast to see Shirley McGonigle, who leads the site there, before the volunteers and mums started

to arrive for Tiny Tots. After reading and praying with Shirley, I had a quick update with Rev Peter Burke, from Grace and Hope Community Church. I then hurried over to the Lisburn Road

I talked with a Hungarian who we were able to help into employment and prayed with a Bulgarian man...

where Prof David Leach was bringing eight young apprentices to see the Meeting Point, but got diverted as I arrived, as PCI's property support officer wanted to show me potential alternative premises. I need not have worried because Henry Coulter gave the apprentices an excellent introduction into what we do, before I arrived.

Thankfully the apprentices were able to stay for a couple of hours and I got a chance to talk with them. By this time, the Meeting Point was getting very busy. I talked with a Hungarian who we were able to help into employment and prayed with a Bulgarian man after locals had broken his windows for the second time since Christmas. Henry and Sharon were helping people in the office, and I was able to receive some clothes and food from individuals and churches that support our work. Two Syrian women asked if they could look at our clothes ministry upstairs; then I was able to help an Eritrean lady who needed a little financial help. We are so thankful for everyone who supports our discretionary fund, enabling us to help in these situations.

Lunchtime was particularly busy, with around 90 people there for lunch. God is so good. LifehubNI is a food ministry run by Edmund Aurofor. It supplies us with lots of food that we can share with visitors. On this day we treated everyone to Nando's chicken and

> rolls. Edmund visits us mostly on a Wednesday, which means we can share out food with the 70 or so who come to the morning Bible study and the similar number who come to the afternoon English class.

After lunch I spent some time around the pool table as it's often a flashpoint when the men get animated over results. While I was there, an Iranian got a phone call from the Home Office, telling him he had got status, meaning he moves from being an asylum seeker to someone entitled to live and work in the UK. All in a day's work!

## **Please pray:**

- Pray for more volunteers in the 'Op shop' in north Belfast.
- Pray for Mahmoud, a Muslim convert as we try to get him into a local church.
- Pray for Sharon and Henry as they try to help people find accommodation.
- Pray for S\*, a Syrian Christian, who brought his friend M\* into IMP who gave his life to Christ.
  \*Initials used to protect their identities.