

Newsletter

2008 Issue 2

Welcome!

It doesn't seem like five minutes since preparing the last newsletter yet here we are writing a new one! The last few months have flown by as the NESYFC team have been pretty busy. We've been out visiting a number of churches with a connection to us, sharing the work we're doing and seeking new supporters to help us take Good News to young people. (If we've not spoken to your church yet please get in touch). Breathe continues to be a source of encouragement seeing young people connect with God, and we are finally getting close to seeing the work happening in Mastrick and Northfield in Aberdeen. We've also just had another great training day for youth leaders.

Most exciting for us is that we are taking a leap in faith and have advertised for a half-time Director to help us expand the ministry and reach more young people in the North East with the Good News of Jesus. We need your help to make this post sustainable in the long term and ask all of you to prayerfully consider partnering with us and becoming a regular giver. It's great to be able to serve God through this ministry and we hope you will be encouraged by the rest of this newsletter.

In Brief

Publicity Spot

Got a Christian youth or training event, youth worker vacancy or something related you'd like publicised? Get in touch and we'll put it in our newsletter and website. We'd welcome a donation if you can afford one to help cover costs - but it's not essential.

Picked this up and like what you see?

If you've picked this newsletter up somewhere or had it passed to you and you'd like to receive your own copy in future (by post or email) please contact the address on the back page. A monthly prayer bulletin is sent by email and the full newsletter is about once a quarter.

Looking for a job in Christian youth work?

Visit www.jobsearchmonitor.co.uk for some great opportunities in both youthwork and other caring and charity related jobs. You can also try www.freshroles.co.uk

Imagine 2008

Imagine is set for 29 July - 2 August and looks to be a great time again. Check www.imaginescotland.co.uk for details.

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People Changes

We've had a few changes in the people involved with NESYFC in the past few months. Those of you who receive the monthly email prayer bulletin will know that Jay Brownlee (pictured) has now stepped down as Prayer Coordinator as God calls her on to things outwith NESYFC. Having been involved in some capacity or another for 10 years she will be sorely missed. We wish her all God's blessing as He clarifies her new calling.



We have also had a few changes in our Council of Reference, the body which provides spiritual accountability and guidance for NESYFC. Gerald Stranraer-Mull has retired to the Black Isle and Clive Alder has been called on to a new church in Holyhead, Wales. Both their contributions have been greatly appreciated by us and we know God has great things in store for them in their new homes.

We are pleased to welcome three new members of the CoR - Andrew Stobart (a PhD student at Aberdeen University and lay pastor at Crown Terrace Methodist Church), Rev. Bob Fowlie (Minister at Longside Parish Church) and Rev. Linda Broadley (Minister at Dun and Hillside). Following a couple of previous retirements we are still seeking to fill a couple of vacancies on the CoR so please pray we find the right people for these and the other roles that are currently vacant.



Breathe Update

Sandy Brownlee reports the latest 'Breathe' news

As quickly as that, the 2007-8 season was done! In February we were back in **Laurencekirk** with the theme Dancing on Ice. This included a lot of snow related games and some whacky dancing around the message of placing trust in God like you place trust in ice you're skating on. We were also grateful to have the Gener8 band playing for us at this event and a bit of encouragement which followed. A parent had reason to phone me following the night and was happy to say that her son had really liked Breathe and the different way to meet with God - and would be getting stuck in to the youth group at the church to find out more!



Breathe in Laurencekirk

In March we were in **Oldmeldrum**, with the band from Kemnay and a similar theme to the night. In April we were at St Mary's on Carden Place, **Aberdeen** - our first event in Aberdeen City for a long time (if you don't count Breathe @ Encounter in the AECC). The night centred on peer pressure and keeping focussed on God with music from *Rewired?*, a relatively new band with a lot of talent. The church there were particularly grateful as their young people hadn't seen anything like Breathe before. Finally in May we were in **Methlick** with the theme of changes, both what God can do in you and how He is there through other changes that are going on. Music was from our own volunteers who were kept working hard on the night.

Again we've had a good time heading down to Gener8 in Arbroath each month, if you're in that part of the world make sure you head along. More information is at www.gener8.org.uk

We were also grateful to be blessed with a grant for £500 which will enable us to repair and upgrade some of the equipment we use, thanks to God for this! If you'd like to borrow our lights or video kit for a youth event just let us know. We don't ask for payment but appreciate a donation to help cover costs if you can afford one. We're still working on partners for *Breathe Out*, an initiative which aims to share the experience of our team with others to help them run events like Breathe regularly. We're also looking for venues for regular Breathe events over the coming year so if you're interested just give us a call or email breathe@nesyfc.org.uk.

YFC Resources in Action

This issue Ben Drane talks about New Deer Rock Solid Club, which has been running for over 10 years.

Where and when do the club meet, and what age group?

They meet in the church centre on a Sunday, during church. It is aimed at kids in P6 to S2.

Describe a typical session

Messy games, bible readings, talky bit

Do the group do anything outside their regular meeting night?

We sometimes organise DVD nights and we have had ceilidhs and quiz nights too.

What kind of response have you had from young people and their parents?

They seem to really enjoy the club, and parents have agreed this

Describe one thing that's happened at the club which really sticks out in your mind.

The residential every year. Its really good to see the kids come together and learning about God

What's the biggest problem in running the group?

Not enough people on the rota

Why is Rock Solid suited to your group?

It seems to go down well, and it has the right amount of teaching for the kids to not be distracted.

Where did you hear about Rock Solid?

It's been at the church longer than I have

Have you any advice to other groups like yours?

Just go for it!

How easy is it to share your faith with the group?

Very easy, I love to tell the kids about my faith and the experiences I've had!

If you're interested in Rock Solid or any of our other resources, just email resources@nesyfc.org.uk or give us a call - we'll be happy to talk with you and can send a sample pack to try out.



Project Update

Progress with the project in Mastrick and Northfield has varied over the past few months. We are pleased to have now raised enough funding to cover two year out volunteers working full time in schools, drop ins and on streets.

We have put in an application to British YFC for a YFCOne team and ask people to pray for something to come from this. We are currently seeking people who can provide a spare room to host each of the volunteers and people to help with pastoral support for the team. Anyone who can help with extra funding to cover additional training and equipment costs will also be much appreciated.

With just a couple of hurdles to go we are getting excited at the prospect of the work with young people beginning; please pray that we don't become complacent and that the final obstacles can be overcome.

Volunteer Spotlight

This issue we speak with Daniel Pearson

- What's your role within with YFC?

Techy geek, I'm one of the guys up the back pushing buttons on the video desk. I'm also helping out with the planning of events.

- How did you get involved with YFC?

Kemnay church was having a summer mission which I was helping out with as were YFC. This was the first time I had met these folks and since then I have been doing volunteer work with them.

- What's your favourite sport?

Rally driving. I don't actually race but do enjoy watching it. Touring cars is another sport I enjoy watching. Competitive sports are always good. I also play golf but still don't understand how people say it's a relaxing game!

- What's your favourite fruit?

Don't normally eat a large amount of fruit but do like oranges. I also like dragon fruits (mainly because they look cool!)

- When / how did you become a Christian?

When I was a youngster I went to a Christian youth group called campaigners. We were going to see Billy Graham who was in Aberdeen at the time. After the first night we all went back to the church and a few folk had gone down the front at the end and came back with loads of books. On the last night I decided I wanted these books so at the end I went down but to my disappointment there were no books left! What I did get was the opportunity to give my life to God and my life has never been the same since.

- Do you prefer Chick-flicks or action movies?

Action movies

- What's the best thing about God?

He is always there and more powerful than you can imagine.

- What was your most embarrassing moment?

Its embarrassing therefore I can't tell you!

- What's the most tragic CD in your collection?

That depends on how I feel at the time I look. I have a wide variety of music which covers me for any mood I'm in. However I do have one daft CD called thunderbirds and other theme tunes for grown up kids! Its always good for a laugh though.

- Who's your favourite superhero?

Probably Mighty Mouse.

- What's your role in your local Church?

I lead a Rock Solid group in Kemnay on Tuesday nights from 7. Apart from that I play guitar in the praise band.

- What's your most enduring YFC memory?

Not sure, there have been many good times but possibly one of the best is when we get to see what God is doing through our work.

- What's the best thing about working with young people?

Its the best excuse for never letting go of your childhood!



Daniel (far right) hard at work at Breathe a couple of years back

Prayer Points

(email prayer@nesyfc.org.uk with suggestions)



Pray for the NESYFC team as people leave and come on board, and that God leads us to the right people to join us - specifically the prayer coordinator, director, administrator and year out volunteers for the Mastrick Project.

Pray that God helps the ministry of NESYFC to be financially sustainable and that He leads us to new ways to take the Good News relevantly to young people

Pray that God helps our volunteers to find the right words when sharing with the young people they work with

Pray for all those who are victims of bullying

Pray for all those waiting for exam results and thinking about life after school, college or university

Recycling

Got an old mobile phone or print cartridge lying around collecting dust? Put it to good use by sending it to us! We are now able to send these for recycling which not only helps preserve the planet God's given us but also raises funds which will be used to grow our ministry and work with young people. Working and non-working mobiles are accepted, as are all makes of printer cartridge except Epson inkjets. Thanks to those who have already sent us their collections! For more information, email sandy@nesyfc.org.uk.



Training Day

We organised a training day for Saturday 24th May. Jen Paton who is a youth worker at Inverclyde YFC came along with Claire and Lois two volunteers, who shared about 'Introduction to Drama in Worship'

Jen told us that drama can be used to worship God, serve others and share the message of Jesus.

It was very much a hands on experience, and although there weren't a lot of participants, it was well worth attending. We had a fantastic day of fun, fellowship and learning, as we went through various scenarios and learned about different performance styles, as well as Documentary Theatre and different techniques. Jen talked us through lots of young people statistics which all contribute when we are attempting to use relevant drama with our groups.

To those who attended we hope you got as much from it as we did. For those who didn't make it this time keep watching for our next training day - pencilled in for September - they are wonderful opportunities to meet like-minded Christian youth leaders while benefiting from others gifts.

Thanks Jen, Claire and Lois for your enthusiasm, patience & sense of humour! For more information, email Cat on volunteers@nesyfc.org.uk.



in our villages, towns & cities

2008 is the year of hope!
Find out more at www.hope08.com

Contacting Us

NESYFC is a chartered ministry of British YFC
Registered charity no. SC018031

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Director Wanted!

**North East Scotland
Youth for Christ
Centre Director**



P/T (20 hours): £20,842 - £26,200 pro rata

Is God calling you to help us with this Christ-centred ministry? Working with a host of volunteers, this post offers the challenge and opportunity of working with young people inside and outside the Church, showing them Gods love, realising their potential and encouraging others to do the same. Application form and more details from Cat Lawson.

Informal Chat? Call 07772 690966
Email cat@nesyfc.org.uk
Closing Date: 27 June 2008



Still Wanted...

We're looking for an administrator to help us keep our ministry running smoothly behind the scenes - mostly taking minutes at meetings and checking for mail and phone calls at our office. The job is three hours per week and pay will depend on the level of experience of the successful candidate.

We're also looking for volunteers to help with the different aspects of our work. From behind the scenes things like updating our website and posting newsletters, pushing buttons and holding a camera, through to running games at Breathe and street evangelism, we're after anyone and everyone with a passion for God and a heart for young people. Whether you're able spare a couple of hours a month or can help full time, we want to hear from you!

For more information on volunteering or a full job description for the administrator role, please contact Cat Lawson (the NESYFC volunteers & training coordinator) on: 07772 690966 or cat@nesyfc.org.uk.

Join our ministry!

Please pray for us and the work we do. If you or someone you know would like to get involved in NESYFC, please contact us. **We're always looking out for more volunteers** - of all ages and skills whether in front line youth work, training, or behind the scenes technical and admin jobs. We'd also love to share what we do with as many Christians as possible - give us a call and we'll be happy to give a short presentation to your church or group.

Please also consider supporting us financially; you can make a secure one-off donation on our website, or call us about regular giving - **as little as £5 a month will help us to reach young people across the North East with the Good News of Jesus Christ.**

North East Scotland

Youth for Christ taking good news relevantly to every young person in north east Scotland

