

Breathe Update

On Friday 3rd July, we held a Breathe event at lunchtime in Banff Academy. The programme was even more fast paced than usual, with lots of games linked to the theme of individuality. These included the 2 minute date (where a whole meal is blended into one minging drink for one unlucky volunteer), donut eating race, headbasket (catching ever bigger fruit using your head) and many more! Some of the pupils from Banff helped set up the event and showed the team around the school, giving us the opportunity to meet the young people. The event was a great success, and well over 50 children attended.

On Sunday 13 September Breathe visited Kemnay, with young people from there joining with some from Kintore and New Deer for another great night.

We're now confirming dates for Breathe for the coming year. We're now fully booked until Christmas and can confirm the following dates (all 7-9pm):

Sun 8 Nov
Laurencekirk Parish Church

Sun 15 Nov
Sheddocksley Baptist Church
(Aberdeen)

Sat 5th Dec
Macduff Parish Church

Please note that the event scheduled for Aboyne in October has been cancelled.

If you'd like to host an event or just want to know more about Breathe, please get in touch by calling us or emailing breathe@nesyfc.org.uk

Resources Update

A brief piece of news for those using Rock Solid, RS2 or Mettle. As of the Spring term 2010, YFC intends to take Rock Solid, RS2 and Mettle entirely web-based. Material will be accessed and selected through a password-protected website. Hard-copy material will no longer be available. Unlimited access to Rock Solid, RS2 and Mettle will cost £20 per month for existing groups; a saving if you use more than one resource. New subscribing churches will be charged £25 per month. It is hoped that this will improve access and allow the resources to be enriched with extra content. Please get in touch if you've any questions about this.

Make a difference!

Please **pray** for us, the work we do and the young people of the North East. We'll happily come to share our work with your church or group. We're always looking for **volunteers** of all ages and skills for front line youth work, training, or technical and admin jobs. Finally, please consider **financial support** - a regular donation of as little as £5 a month will help us to reach young people across the North East with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Alternatively, perhaps your church could support us as local mission partners.

Contacting Us

NESYFC, a chartered ministry of British YFC. Scottish charity no. SC018031

Website: www.nesyfc.org.uk
Email: office@nesyfc.org.uk
Phone: 01224 213495

Registered office:
Methodist Church
8 Crown Terrace
Aberdeen AB11 7HE



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Welcome!

Summer has been a quiet time for NESYFC for the last few years, but as you'll see our team have been keeping pretty busy. In particular we're really excited about the developments in Northfield and Mastrick, but our other ministries have been developing too. Read on...

Keswick in Buckie

From 1-7 August Dave Brown led a team of NESYFC volunteers, joined by some from Glasgow, to run a mission alongside the Keswick in Buckie convention. Our contact at the convention was Willie Aitken, lay pastor at the Methodist church there, who was a great help while we were preparing for and running the week. The team used a mixture of music and sports ministry over the week. They had the use of a football cage borrowed from Hope Hamilton church in Leicester, which was used as a focal point where they could build up a group of young people and have great conversations. In the evenings the team ran "Buckie's Got Talent" combining young people showing off their different gifts with music and testimony from the team.

We received a lot of positive feedback from various groups of people – ministers, local people, parents and visitors to the convention. Most importantly it was a great time for the volunteers on the team to explore their own faith and have a great time sharing the Good News with the young people of Buckie. Please pray for the churches there as they explore ways to continue the work begun by our team.



Dave & the cage

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Anniversary



This year marks 20 years since our charity was formally constituted, following a long history of YFC mission work in Aberdeen. Back then we were called Aberdeen & District YFC, renaming to North East Scotland YFC in 1998 as God called us to more work outwith the city. Since then we've worked with thousands of young people across the area in many different contexts. Work people might remember are the Granite Busters missions and worship events like Powerpoint and Sonrise which attracted hundreds of teenagers at their peak. On Friday 18 September we held a ceilidh to bring together people involved with the ministry past & present. It was a great night, with just under 50 people at the Copthorne Hotel in Aberdeen. Praise and thanks to God for the last 20 years!

Want a copy of the newsletter for yourself, or have you something to advertise? Just contact us at the address on the back.

Prayer



From our prayer coordinator, Aly Brown

- Please pray for teachers and youth workers as the new term has started and activities get underway, that they would be effective in the work they do
- Please pray for our year-out volunteers Tom and Laura that they would settle well in Aberdeen and that God would use them throughout the year to reach out to the young people in Northfield
- Please pray for the young people in Buckie that the mission week there would have had an impact on them and that the churches can follow up on this work
- Give thanks for the last 20 years and the work of NESYFC in the area
- Please pray for increased opportunities to reach out to the young people in the North East of Scotland and to share God's love
- Give thanks for all the volunteers and youth workers who are working in the area

In Brief

Survey

To help us make our work more relevant to the young people you work with and support churches better in what they do we're conducting a survey of all Christians in the North East who work with young people. Please take part - it should only take about ten minutes of your time and it's on the web at www.nesyfc.org.uk/survey

Mobiles + Ink Cartridges

We're still looking for these for recycling to contribute towards our funds. Please email office@nesyfc.org.uk if you can offer some. If you've just had an upgrade, a year-old phone can still be worth £30-40, and even much older ones can still be worth a few pounds. It all adds up and is an easy way to help our ministry.



People changes

God is always moving His people into new places where they can use the gifts He's given them and the last few months are no exception! You might remember in our last newsletter we were seeking to fill three roles. In June, Timwa Lipenga was appointed as part-time administrator for six months. Timwa is a PhD student at Aberdeen University and part of King's Community Church in Aberdeen. She quickly got stuck in to a number of jobs and many of our readers will have spoken with her on the phone.

Dan Pearson has taken on the role of Vice Chairperson in addition to being equipment coordinator.

Aly Brown has agreed to take over from Cat Lawson as volunteer coordinator. Volunteers are crucial to our ministry and it was very important this role was filled quickly so this is a real answer to prayer.

Anne Laird has agreed to take on coordination of Breathe. We're really looking forward to the new direction in which God will take the event with her.

Finally, if you've an eye for detail you might notice that our two new coordinators are stepping down from other roles. Aly joined us last year as prayer coordinator and Anne has been treasurer since 2004. The rest of our exec are really grateful to both for the work they've done, and for both agreeing to stay on for the next few months until we find others to take over.

If you feel called to either of these roles or just want to know more please email Sandy Brownlee sandy@nesyfc.org.uk or call on 01224 699937.

Project Update

Sandy Brownlee gives an update on the project in Mastrick, Middlefield and Northfield.

In our last newsletter we had a report from the amazing week we had with the Nomad team from British YFC. The incredible conversations with young people over this week demonstrated a real hunger to learn more about God in this area. In the couple of months that followed we prayed and it was obvious the God wanted us to keep moving towards a long-term youth work project in the area.

Dave Brown (who worked with our team in Buckie) has offered to become a volunteer working half-time hours, particularly in detached work such as in the local parks. A couple of part-time volunteers will also join Dave in this setting. In addition to this we have been accepted to host two year-out volunteers from British YFC's ETA (Evangelism, Training, Action) programme, Tom Bryant and Laura Kavanagh, who arrived in mid-September. They're going to be getting involved in the detached work, and also in schools work alongside the local church staff.

It's all about building relationships with young people, wherever they are. In schools, the team will join assemblies, work with struggling pupils in classes and spend time with young people at lunchtimes and breaks. Out of school, they will join existing church groups and youth clubs as well as working in local parks and community centres. It's sharing personal faith in a way which people can understand. We're really excited to see what God is going to do with this and we ask that you pray for Tom and Laura, as well as Dave and the other local volunteers as they start getting to know the young people in the area.

Interview with Tom & Laura

I had a chat with Tom and Laura just after they arrived. Tom is about to turn 17 and is from Surrey; Laura is 18 and comes from Lancashire. They've just come through two weeks of intensive training with British YFC and are fired up for the year ahead.

Why did you want to take a YFC gap year?

Tom: "God's calling me to be a missionary, but I realised you can't study that in sixth form, so I'm looking on it as a year of training" Laura: "I was looking for a year out and then YFC found me; it just kind of worked. I'd eventually like to work with young offenders and I hope this year can give me some experience of youth work before starting uni"

What are your expectations of the year?

Tom: "I'd like to leave the year having changed lives and developed in myself"

What are you excited about?

Tom: "Meeting the kids, in this area they're so talkative; also just letting them know that God accepts them as they are"; Laura: "Getting into the schools and meeting the young people there"

Is there anything you'd like prayed for?

Laura: "That God makes it easy to start conversations"; Tom "Being accepted into the community"

