

## Volunteer Interview

We chat with Gillian Douglas, a volunteer on our executive committee.

*Describe your NESYFC role...* I 'line manage' Steven, our Outreach Worker. I try to encourage him, pray for his work and make sure he's not doing too much.

*How did you become a Christian?* I grew up in the Church of Scotland and it was a kind of gradual thing. I didn't have a particular moment when I thought, 'Hey, I believe!'. I have just always known that God was there for me and I try to live my life in a caring way, reflecting what I believe and the love of Jesus.



*What do you do in your day job?* I have two jobs. I work 20 hours a week for Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland, managing their Volunteer Stroke Service in Aberdeen which provides opportunities for stroke victims who have communication difficulties. My other job is leading a new Befriending Service at Newhills Church.

*What's good about working with young people?* Seeing them grow in their faith and being challenged about what I believe and what my faith means to me.

*What do you think of NESYFC?* I am impressed with the dedication shown by those involved and the impact that Steven has made in his short time in post. Like so many organisations, we really need more volunteers on board which would allow us to do so much more work.

*What's your role in your local Church?* I am an Elder and I enjoy visiting the people in my district, the average age being about 85, so quite a change from NESYFC work. I also volunteer in our church centre, mainly as Duty Officer for evening events.

*What do you like to do to unwind?* I enjoy walking and being surrounded by the wonders of God's creation. I also enjoy reading.

*What's your family background?* I have been married to Paul for almost 28 years and we have two boys, Andrew who is 16 and revising for his Highers and Matthew who is 14 and plays lots of football. We moved to the north east in 1985 and currently live in Inverurie. We have been blessed with good health and happiness, something for which I am always grateful.

*Tell me one unusual thing about yourself...* Not sure if it's unusual, but I started tap dancing 4 years ago. I love it!

## Make a difference!

Please **pray** for us, our work and the young people of the North East. We'll happily share our work with your church or group. We're always looking for **volunteers** of all ages and skills, and need **financial support** - whether in your will, a regular donation of as little as £5 a month or a one-off gift; it all helps us reach young people with the Good News of Jesus Christ.



# NE Scotland Youth for Christ Newsletter

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free of charge

2011 Issue 2

## Welcome!

It's been a busy start to the year with plenty more yet to come. Steven's work, in partnership with churches and schools, is bearing fruit and there is rapidly increasing potential to reach more young people. A key request is for volunteers to support this good work - please prayerfully consider this, and be encouraged by all that God's doing!

## Breathe

There were two events in March and April - a slightly different format with no band, but more games all linked into the themes. This held the young people's attention well, and helped them to participate.

At Inverbervie, Steven boosted the numbers by visiting the primary school prior to the event. More fresh faces came and heard Steven's message about using our talents for Christ.

At Newburgh, where they run a Friday night youth club, three children the Newburgh team had been praying for turned up with some of the regulars! Steven's talk was on the Easter message of the cross, and what it cost Christ to save us.

One more event is scheduled before the summer: **15th May at Dyce Parish Church.**

For more information on Breathe, contact Anne Laird on [breathe@nesyfc.org.uk](mailto:breathe@nesyfc.org.uk).

## Focus Scotland

We're excited to be this year's hosts for British YFC's Focus Scotland event. This is a time when YFC staff and volunteers from across Scotland come together with members of British YFC. We'll prayerfully reflect on what God's been doing through YFC in Scotland over the past year, consider mission work for the year ahead and think about how the different parts of the movement can work together. Please pray for the event - on the 10-11 May.

## Summer Mission

This year we're pleased to be partnering with Kemnay Parish Church to run a summer mission to young people in



Kemnay on 18-22 July. We also have the British YFC Nomad team coming up with their football cage and it looks set to be a great week. This is a fantastic opportunity for young Christians to join with the team and grow in their own faith by sharing it with others - if you are responsible for young people aged 16 or over who might benefit please get in touch.

## Imagine 2011

Independent youth festival Imagine 2011 is lined up for 2-6 August. A great week for young people to encounter God! Find out more at [www.imaginescotland.co.uk](http://www.imaginescotland.co.uk)

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

## Contacting Us

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



## We want you!

We still need volunteers to fill a number vacancies within our ministry. Since the last newsletter we have also had a difficult time as we had a volunteer come forward for the position of treasurer, only to have to withdraw due to an unexpected change in personal circumstances. In addition to that we need help with: volunteer support including disclosure, prayer ministry, fundraising, publicity and administrative support.

If you feel called to help with any of these roles, please contact Alasdair on 01771 644228 or e-mail [office@nesyfc.org.uk](mailto:office@nesyfc.org.uk)



## Update from Steven

*What's our outreach worker been up to?*

### Regular Work

My usual week-by-week work during term time is mainly split into two areas around Aberdeen: Oldmachar and Oldmeldrum.

In **Oldmachar** we run a Rock Solid club on Tuesday nights, with 20-25 kids and new faces every week. On Friday nights (with another chap) we do a *Compass Course* (basic knowledge of Christian faith for new Christians), mainly to equip some of the older teenagers and see their faith strengthened. The idea is empowering them to help lead youth-zone, an outreach event that has proven to be very popular in the past. There is also a monthly Sunday youth service; the last one was on 17th April and very encouraging. A great outreach opportunity and encouragement for the other members of the community.

In **Oldmeldrum**, the work is mainly in the local Academy on Wednesday lunch times. I join a couple of the local ministers engaging with the kids by meeting them, chatting to them, playing football and occasionally going through Bible stories. It is very early stage still and I am focusing on getting to know the kids, allowing them to ask questions about Christian faith. We are thankful that the school is so open, and are also praying for the possibility of starting a youth event for kids in the Meldrum area.

## Prayer Points

We would appreciate your prayers for the following in the coming weeks:

- Give thanks for the continuing work of Steven our Outreach Worker.
- Give thanks for him continuing to make good contacts in schools and churches.
- Give thanks for Casely's continued dedication to her role as administrator.
- Give thanks for the hard work of the small group of volunteers.
- Give thanks for others who are helping in their own way, giving time or financial support for the work of NESYFC.
- Pray that more volunteers will come forward to share the load as we seek to do more work in our communities.
- Pray for all those attending the Focus Day in May, that good relationships might be formed and that we can express our vision with clarity.
- Pray that all those attending are kept safe on their journeys to and from the event.
- Pray for the plans being made for the summer mission that things will fall into place and that all those involved can be filled with enthusiasm and energy.



### Occasional Work

I've been trying to offer NESYFC's resources to more churches and school works as needed. One good way to focus effort is linking with our monthly *Breathe* event. The Tuesday prior to March's event I went to Inverbervie with a few of our volunteers and met with the local youth worker, Gill. In the primary school we gave P6 & P7 five-minute slots of fun, a wee taster of the *Breathe* event with an invitation to the kids to come. It was received very well and a couple then came to the event.

Another opportunity came by the grace of God with my local academy (Cults). Some of the young Christians in the school have been boldly running Youth Alpha on Wednesday lunch times, with up to 30 young people at times. I was invited to join their day away on the 26th of March and gave a wee talk on the Holy Spirit. 12 kids were there and the prayer is that they may know his powerful work in their lives!

On the 28-29th of March I helped with a great outreach program "Bible Travellers", run by St. Columba's Church in Bridge of Don, for local primary schools. We had a great couple of days.

On 15th April we ran a "soccer day" in Cults for kids of the local primary and secondary schools. **Very exciting: 7 of the 10 young people who came responded positively to the Gospel message and "prayed the prayer"!** The day was organised by St. Devenick's Episcopal Church in Bieldside and

## Fort Rocky

Fort Rocky is British YFC's weekend for 11-14s. It's a unique opportunity for youth groups to go away together, have a great time and hear about God in an exciting, fresh way. It's a blend of fantastic activities, sports competitions, messy games, life-changing stories and excellent youth communicators.

Especially for Northern Scotland, it's being held on 16-18 September at Compass Christian Centre. It booked up fast last year so get in now!

Find out more at:

[www.yfc.co.uk/residentials/fortrocky](http://www.yfc.co.uk/residentials/fortrocky)

[twitter.com/FortRocky](https://twitter.com/FortRocky)

[facebook.com/FortRocky](https://facebook.com/FortRocky)



hosted by International Baptist Church in Cults with the help of Deeside Christian Fellowship Church. What a privilege for NESYFC to be involved in churches working together!

We are also slightly involved with Ellon Academy who had special Easter Assemblies on the 1st of April. There will be quite a few Easter special messages in these few weeks (also at the clubs) so please pray for kids to be saved!

Thank you for your prayers and partnership in the Gospel!

Steven

**Steven has a busy summer with several commitments with NESYFC and other ministries - please pray for all of them:**

22-24 June	Evangelical Ministry Assembly, London
27/ June-1 July	Normal week with NESYFC
2-9 July	GLO Team, Renfrew
11-15 July	Mission week, Oldmachar
18-22 July	Nomad mission, Kemnay
1-5 August	Imagine
8-12 August	Soccer School, Shetland
13-21 August	GLO Team, Northern Ireland
22-28 August	Normal week with NESYFC
3-12 September	GLO Team, Avellino
16-18 September	Fort Rocky, Glenshee

Also pray for the spells between when Steven's on holiday, that he can get a good physical, emotional and spiritual rest!