

## Resources in Action

This summer, New Deer Rock Solid young people were at the Well Road Centre in Moffat for their annual week away together. 15



RS young people plus a total of 9 leaders, cooks and helpers, spent six days together as one big family. Four of the leaders were former RS young people. 14 years ago there were NO secondary school young people in this church, and things were not looking good until a young girl from New Zealand was invited to talk to us about YFC RS resources. Within a few months the first Rock Solid club was launched, and over the years there has been a stream of teenagers coming through the programme.

The church has used Rock Solid and RS2 material, Art of Connecting courses, and Youth Alpha. Many young lives have been changed in this small village, and this is entirely due to the excellent YFC material, where a lot of thought and effort has been put in to ensure that it is fun, fast paced and makes Jesus relevant in young people's lives today

As is often the case with youth work, many of these young people go to university or move away from the area, so we do not know the final story in their lives, but there is no doubt that they have been given a firm grounding in both their personal walk with Christ and for sharing their faith with others. The leaders have also grown in their faith as a result of all that preparation and interaction!

## Project Update

Sandy Brownlee updates us on the project in Mastrick, Middlefield and Northfield.

Over the summer we've spent some time with the various partners reflecting on the past year. There have been a number of difficulties, but also God has done good things through Tom and Laura while they were here. We are still exploring one or two options for continuing work in Mastrick, and meanwhile a couple of our volunteers have been working with Middlefield Church to keep the girls' group going. Please pray for the girls who are right at the start of the journey toward God; for the volunteers continuing to work there; and for God's guidance on any further work that might happen.

## 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** - 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.

## Contacting Us

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

# NE Scotland Youth for Christ Newsletter

Issued Quarterly  
- free of charge

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## Welcome!

There's plenty to catch up on in this issue. Read about the recent Fort Rocky weekend, and how one church has made use of Rock Solid. Also catch up with our new Outreach Worker Steven Hamilton who we're excited to have on board to help develop our outreach work.

Please share this newsletter with others, pray for the young people we work with and consider how you could be involved in this work, and most of all thank God for the great things He continues to do!

## Breathe Dates

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

Breathe has been off over the summer and we've had to postpone one event due to volunteer numbers. We currently have an event scheduled for **Methlick on 13 November**. Please keep an eye on our website for further updates when they are announced; if you'd like to host one please get in touch.

## In Brief

### Mission

You may have seen in previous newsletters that we had been planning a mission week in Kemnay during late July. Early in that month it had become clear our volunteer team was not large enough to run the week properly and we had to take the difficult decision to cancel the week. We and our friends at Kemnay Church are still keen to make a mission happen there in the future, so please pray that God brings the right people forward for that time.

## Strathdon Picnic

We were happy to have been invited by Upper Donside Parish Church to run youth activities as part of the first annual Donside praise picnic. We ran a potted sports afternoon with a mixture of young people and adults taking part in games from the traditional tattie and spoon to the thought-provoking water strategy game. All had a great time and it was a good day bringing glory to God as groups from a number of churches came together. Well done to all the teams!



### Mobiles + Ink Cartridges

Thanks to those who have been contributing these for recycling. We can get anything between a few pence and a couple of pounds per cartridge and more for phones - it all adds up; this year's recycling has covered the cost of a whole Breathe event! Email [office@nesyfc.org.uk](mailto:office@nesyfc.org.uk) if you have any to offer.



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

## Fort Rocky @ Glenshee

In mid-September the British YFC team came back to Glenshee to run another Fort Rocky adventure weekend for young people in Scotland. Our new outreach worker Steven was part of the team for his week working with us. On coming back Steven said: "Fort Rocky was amazing! We had a Gospel presentation on the Saturday night! Before that special event we had an intense prayer time praying God to amaze us! Well...at the end the young people that had questions or wanted to make a commitment were asked to stay in the room while the rest could go. The Fort Rocky team (including me) went into another room to chat to the ones who didn't want to stay. We held the door open, but to our amazement (but in God's obvious will and mercy), NOT ONE CHILD LEFT THE ROOM! THEY ALL STAYED TO PRAY!"

The team have had the following feedback from one parent - (name changed for confidentiality.)  
*"I saw wee David's Mum yesterday - we had a catch up over coffee. Didn't make much of it - you were possibly aware that David is type 1 Diabetic, but has an insulin pump fitted. However in the last month he has also been diagnosed Autistic. He has not taken the news well, he thinks the doctors have made a mistake. His Mum had called me on Thursday last week to say he didn't want to come, didn't want anyone to know etc. She herself was very angry with God! You probably did guess that David had a ball. She told me yesterday, that whilst we had been praying on Saturday night - he told her that he felt a light come on, and his heart changed! How amazing is our God? Please pass on her thanks, as well as all of ours to the team - one wee life transformed and left shining after a wonderful weekend away."*

If you'd like to know about getting involved with Fort Rocky in the future, please get in touch.

## Prayer Points



Some things to focus on for prayer:

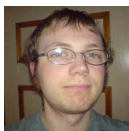
- Thanks for work God does through things like Fort Rocky and our sports events; thanks for the young people who come and get closer to God.
- That Steven settles in to his new job well, that God leads him to the places he can serve best, and pray for our team as they support him, especially Gillian Douglas his line manager.
- The Breathe team are planning more events over the coming months. Pray for guidance on event themes and format.
- That God leads more volunteers into our team over the coming months.

## Appeal for help!

**We need to fill the vacancies on our exec.** We are currently considering winding down some parts of our ministry to allow our team to cover things properly. If you can spare any time we need to hear from you - please call on 01224 213495 or email [office@nesyfc.org.uk](mailto:office@nesyfc.org.uk)

## Farewell

This month we've had another change to our team. The chairperson of our exec, Sandy Brownlee, has been called to a new job in England along with wife Jay and soon-to-arrive baby. Currently Dan Pearson has taken over, but this means that more urgently than before we need people to join our team so this ministry can continue. In the short term Sandy will continue preparing our newsletter and website remotely so people can know what to pray for, but ultimately we need help with these too. Sandy said: "This has been one of the hardest choices I've had to make. NESYFC helped me to enter a relationship with God in the first place and has been a huge part of my service for God ever since. I pray that God will use the space I leave to bring in some new people with different talents and ideas so more young people can hear about Jesus"



## Outreach Worker

*Sandy Brownlee speaks to our new worker*

In our last newsletter we were happy to announce that Steven Hamilton has been appointed as our new part-time Outreach Worker. Steven's going to take responsibility for developing a number of aspects of our ministry, in particular detached outreach work in Aberdeen city and alongside Breathe events, as well as co-ordinating mission activities and links with schools. We'll have an update from him each newsletter, but as Steven's only just started before this one I caught up with him to find out more about who he is.

Steven was born in Northern Ireland and his family moved to Perugia, Italy 3 weeks later with missionary organisation Gospel Literature Outreach; they then ended up in Naples. Steven describes it as an "interesting" upbringing - "a mixture of the mission experience, feeling like living in a foreign country, combined with growing up in a country of contrast. There are big problems with poverty, unemployment and crime, yet also friendly and welcoming people, very family-oriented."

Steven came to faith at the age of 8, while a mission team was visiting, preaching the gospel in a tent. He remembers having a connection with God, who spoke to him. Another big memory was at age 10, being invited to give his testimony at a camp in Florence. He was baptised at 14 and feels he's always had a strong calling to mission.

His parents moved to Aberdeen two years ago and Steven joined them to begin studying biomedical sciences at University. He quickly realised that his real calling was

to study Divinity, and is now halfway through that degree. Over the past couple of years he's felt a calling to evangelism in Aberdeen. He's volunteered with NESYFC on a couple of occasions and is excited to be getting more involved.

"This is my ideal job - I can remain rooted in my local church (Deeside Christian Fellowship) while getting involved in outreach and working directly with young people."

Steven's started by taking part in the Fort Rocky weekend run by British YFC at Glenshee. He's then going to be linking up with a few of our partners to get involved in his regular work.

Please pray for Steven as he gets settled in, and for the rest of the team as we support him in this new role. Specifically Steven would like people to pray for:

- Discernment and wisdom: particularly how to balance the job and his continuing studies
- Spiritual growth
- That relationships can be built with young people he works with, and that he shows God's love amongst the activities he's doing

You can reach Steven on 07754 914340, [steven@nesyfc.org.uk](mailto:steven@nesyfc.org.uk) or at our office postal address. Steven also

has a responsibility to build a team of people to support him financially and in prayer; please contact him if you'd be able to help with this.

Finally, Steven is being commissioned into his role as part of Deeside Christian Fellowship's evening service on 31 October. We'd love for friends of NESYFC to come and join in prayer for Steven. The service starts at 6pm; directions to DCF can be found on their website at:

<http://deesidecf.churchinsight.com>

