

In Brief

Fort Rocky

Fort Rocky is a fun-filled, activity youth weekend, designed to give young people an amazing time away from home with their mates. It's also a great opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a new, exciting and significant way. This year's Scottish Fort Rocky weekend is at Whitaugh Park in the Borders from 21-23 September. Find out more at:

www.yfc.co.uk/residentials/fortrocky

Volunteer Day

A gathering of our volunteers will take place in Methlick on 9th June. Get in touch with Steven if you'd like to know more - steven@nesyfc.org.uk

Imagine 2012

Our friends at Imagine Scotland are booking for this year's festival of music, teaching and friendship on 17-21 July. Find out more at: www.imaginescotland.co.uk

Contacting Us

NESYFC is a chartered ministry of British YFC. Scottish charity SC018031

Web: www.nesyfc.org.uk

Email: office@nesyfc.org.uk

FB: www.facebook.com/nesyfc

Phone: 01224 213495

Office: Methodist Church

8 Crown Terrace

Aberdeen AB11 6HE

Want a copy of the newsletter for yourself, or have something to advertise? Just ask!

Prayer



- Pray thanks for the volunteers who give their time for God through this ministry, and ask that more people come forward to help.
- Please pray for Sarah at Oldmachar, who asked for prayer.
- Also at Oldmachar - please pray for the kids moving up to S1. And pray as we want to do something with the older kids but need volunteers from the church to help!
- Pray too for new contacts among the younger ones at Meldrum, particularly the new S6s!
- Pray for the cage launch in June, that the ministry brings glory to God and provides a way for young people to encounter Him
- Pray for the summer activities, detailed overleaf.
- Pray for Steven as he moves to full time, and inputs more into the direction of NESYFC.

Coaches!

We're looking for qualified coaches of any sport to get in touch with me to see if they could help with Olympic mission week in Bridge of Don 6-10th August. Please contact Steven on steven@nesyfc.org.uk or our number below.

Make a difference!

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. We also need **financial support** - whether in your will, a regular donation of as little as £5 a month or a one-off gift. All helps us reach young people 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



NE Scotland Youth for Christ Newsletter

Issued Quarterly -
free of charge

2012 Issue 2

Welcome!

We hope you're enjoying the year so far. There's a lot in this newsletter, we struggled to fit it all in! We're excited that Steven Hamilton is stepping up to full time as director from 1 Sept 2012, now his University course is finished. This will allow him to focus more on his work for us, and he's very much looking forward to it. He admits it was quite a challenge juggling the two, particularly the past year, and we're all amazed and deeply grateful that he managed to do so much. May God continue to bless him, his family and all his supporters.

We had planned to take on an additional youth worker in August, and this is still possible, but it will depend on how much regular new financial support comes in over the Summer. Meantime, Steven is doing a great job in recruiting volunteers, not just to help in the ministry, but also to provide them with mentoring, training and development.

Cage

Our Panna KO football outreach cage has now been manufactured, and the carrying trailer purchased. We appreciate the help of local engineering fabricators A & K Elphinstone, in getting the work done at a reasonable cost. We're also grateful to Cash for Kids, who have awarded a grant towards the cost of support equipment, such as footballs, team bibs and lights for night use. We know from previous hires what a useful tool this will be to us reaching out to young people, and we are looking forward to having our own for continual use. The cage and trailer are now sited at our Aberdeen store ready for action. Training is under way and we are looking forward to the pre-launch event at Banchory Sunday 3rd June. The official launch date is now Monday 11 June, when the Olympic Torch comes to Aberdeen, and we will be working with the Churches in the Bridge of Don Area.

There are still slots available to hire the cage and volunteer team. The cost has been kept low during this launch year (only £50 per day plus mileage). To book, contact office@nesyfc.org.uk, 01224 213495. We are also looking for volunteers to help tow the trailer, and to be part of the team that runs it - you can sign up by calling us or emailing cage@nesyfc.org.uk. We need further sponsors to support the cost of the cage ministry, so if you know a church or business who would be interested, please let us know. Cost of an advert panel on the cage for 3 years is just £300 including the cost of the printed banner. Our thanks to the many individuals and organisations who have already given sacrificially towards this ministry, and have made it possible. Also thanks to God for making it all possible and calling us to serve Him in this way!

We need you!

Be part of our exciting work! You just need to be 16+ and desire to see young people connect with God. Whatever your experience or skills we can find a place for you. For more information, contact Alasdair on 01771 644228 or e-mail office@nesyfc.org.uk

YOU!



The cage in partially complete form

Outreach Update

Steven Hamilton updates us on his outreach work

We catch up with director Steven and what he's been doing in the past few months. He has been very busy with the final stages of his degree course, and had his last exam on 25th May. Please pray for him as he waits on the results! Meanwhile, Steven is working with a team of volunteers preparing them for the cage and general mission work, as the busy Summer season approaches. Here's a brief roundup of recent work:

Oldmachar - things are picking up significantly. Rock Solid numbers are always about 20-30 with new ones coming all the time. 3 weeks remain in this school year program.

Meldrum - work in the Academy has been good. Our biggest challenge now is what to do with the group (mainly girls) of 6-7 that we've been working closely with. We're hoping to start a Bible Study: please pray for wisdom for this. Formartine Youth Group (FYG) was really good in March, and about 20 young people of a good variety of ages (11-17) and mostly non-church background came. Another FYG is planned for the end of May as the newsletter is going out.

Direction - I've been thinking and praying about our ministry more broadly. One thing that has really stood out for me is the difference between Aberdeen and its Shire! We have so much in Aberdeen, especially so relevant to young people, but less in the Shire. I plan to phone / visit as many rural churches as possible and offer our resources of Rock Solid, Breathe, Cage etc. I also aim to form three groups, gifted in specific ministries in the city, to enjoy fellowship with one another and form outreach teams as well as training teams for the Shire. The groups would be: Music, Preaching / Speaking & Sport. Please pray for God's lead in this.

C4 / Networking - getting involved with C4, a new event for young people in Aberdeen (<http://www.facebook.com/events/253602568042259/>). All the church's youth workers are now in good fellowship with us at YFC. I plan to get in touch with them individually to see how they can support the cage ministry especially.

GLO Team - one of the most exciting things that happened in the last wee while has been the Gospel Literature

Outreach (www.glo-europe.org) team that I had the privilege to lead to Reggio Calabria, Italy, 1-11 April. We worked with Gionathan (remember him from last summer's newsletter!) and his Church.

The Team was quite a random group of people (as usually happens in these cases!) with 3 from Deeside Christian Fellowship Church, 3 from Oldmachar Church, a girl from Northern Ireland, a student from Tilsley College in Motherwell and a Faroese missionary in Italy who did the Bible studies. Local Italians joined in too, especially the young people. We are thankful to God for how quickly the team "gelled" together even thanks to long and adventurous trips including 8-hour train rides and car crashes on crazy Italian roads (nothing to worry about, all was ok!). As a team, we aimed to:

- Helping the local church in its outreach.
- Proclaim the Gospel and make contact with new folks though open-air outreach and questionnaires.
- Build on existing contacts, especially young people.
- Carry out a programme of literature distribution in Reggio Calabria.
- Encourage local believers.
- Be exposed to God's work in our own lives as we experience mission in a different cultural context.

We feel that these aims were covered quite successfully. The week after the Team, the local Church had baptism, and as a result of some of the personal evangelism, two new Bible study groups have started. So we give thanks to God for that.

I was particularly encouraged by the Oldmachar young people that came out with us. I've been working with them for about a year now, so it was really exciting to see some fruit of that come out as they were taken out of their comfort zone to make a stand for Christ. One of them started the team honestly sharing that he'd been struggling to make a stand. On the way back he was talking about doing Bible College! So I give thanks to God for that encouragement.

And thank you! For your prayers and support! We have no idea just the impact that it can have on lives all across the world as well as in our immediate neighbourhood!



Breathe Update

We had a great event in **Methlick** (Feb 19), with good attendance from various local churches. Our theme was "the game of life" and we spoke of the importance of living in a close relationship with Jesus. We encouraged the kids to respond to Jesus and we were so happy that one girl said "yes". Particularly so because it's a girl we've been in contact with in Meldrum Academy, we praise God for that! It has been so exciting to see how fast she is growing in her relationship with Jesus. The event also helped kick-start the Formartine Youth Group (see left).

Cullen (March 17): It had been a while since we'd been up the North coast so it was nice to be there (and also get a good fish supper!). We were encouraged to see the hard work of the youth group leaders there, really refreshing gospel-centred ministries. We spoke about Jesus' trial and the need to take Him seriously and not just as a joke as the soldiers did; fitting as we headed towards Easter. The kids seemed to have a good time and participated well in the games and talk.

It was really good to be in **Oldmachar** (May 19) where we've been working for a while now. Honestly speaking it was a bit discouraging that not many of our "Rock Solid" group there attended, but it was encouraging to see quite a few others from Oldmachar and other youth groups despite the clash with the Champions' League final and the "Bridge of Don's Got Talent" final! We spoke about superheroes (seeing the Avengers new film...) and about the amazing truth of a Lamb who was slain being the real superhero that ultimately defeats evil and injustice to bring in a new world! The kids again responded well and participated in the talk. One of our volunteers - Nehe - also brought a wee band together of young people from different churches that had never played together, and they did a great job!

Summer Activities

Pray for the following activities taking place with Steven and the wider team:

WHEN+WHERE	WHAT	PRAYER
3 Jun, Banchory	Football Cage outreach during Community Day (Queen's Diamond Jubilee)	For the local Church as they witness to their community
11 Jun, Aberdeen	Football Cage Launch (Olympic Torch in Aberdeen)	That we may be a spiritual light to the city
2-16 Jul, Egypt	Mission Trip with Open Doors UK	For the team going out and team leaders
17-21 Jul, Inverurie	Imagine	The cage to be an instrument of fellowship and evangelism
30 Jul-5 Aug, Shetland	Soccer School Bible Club	Kids to find a passion for God beyond their passion for football
6-10 Aug	Olympic Themed Mission Week	Churches working together for a strong impact in the community