

Prayer

Please remember our work in prayer:

Give thanks for the young people who have made commitments to follow Jesus in the past few months

Give thanks for the positive working relationships we have with partner organisations and churches

Give thanks for the young volunteers growing in faith through our work

Give thanks for the clear vision of hubs to support churches in mission around the North East, and pray for the resources to make it happen

Give thanks for the response to our recent appeal for finance, and pray that God continue to raise up supporters to help sustain our work in the long-term.



Help with Cage Towing

Our cage football project takes sports mission to young people across the North East. We need more drivers with towbars on their cars to tow the cage to and from the Aberdeen base. Expenses will be covered. Can you help our vital work in this simple way, either as a one-off or regularly? **If you feel you can help or know someone who can, e mail us on office@nesyfc.org.uk, or text Alasdair on 07720 837311**




Contacting Us

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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.

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

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



NE Scotland Youth for Christ Newsletter

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2013 Issue 3

Welcome!

Welcome to our latest newsletter! We catch up on the summer's activities, new partnerships, and share NESYFC's vision for hubs to support mission around the North East. Please read on and continue to pray for all that's happening.

Office move

We moved office on August, 2013 to:

Deeside Christian Fellowship Church
Binghill Drive,
Milltimber, Aberdeen
AB13 0JE

Until our new phone number is confirmed, please either email us or call Steven's mobile on 07754914340. We thank Crown Terrace Methodist Church for many years of generous hospitality.

A "Titus" Like Work

A few words from our director, Steven Hamilton

I have been enjoying recently preparing for a talk from Paul's letter to Titus. In 1:5 we are told what Titus is to do: "This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might appoint elders in every town as I directed you". This wasn't just to make Paul happy, but "the real purpose of the letter... was to build strong churches that would be effective in evangelism." [John MacArthur, The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: Titus (Moody, 1996, Chicago), p. Xi]

I believe that as NESYFC we are called to a similar kind of work: that we might help (serve) build strong churches that would be effective in youth evangelism. There are a number of things we share with Titus:

- Regional work; but instead of the Mediterranean island of Crete, we

have the frosty North East of Scotland;

- Doctrinal issues in churches (Titus 1:9; 2:1);
- A call to lead by example (Titus 2:8-9);
- A Gospel that we insist on (Titus 3:5-8)

So will you help us, stand with us, partner with us?

- Could you be a Paul to us, commissioning us to this work, actively involved in sending us to the North East and supporting us?
- Could you be an Artemas or a Tychicus sent and called to join us as a volunteer?
- Or are you one of the Cretan churches ready to partner with us?



Summer Report

Steven Hamilton's update on recent outreach

GLO Mission Team Reggio Calabria (July)

It was a privilege to go back to Reggio Calabria with a bunch of our young people. As well as the actual outreach work that we were involved in, the most exciting thing for me was the clear testimony and willingness to serve shown by our young people in a context beyond their own comfort zone. The prayer would be that they would carry on witnessing back here at home with their peers!

Soccer School, Burra, Shetland (August)

Again a return, now for the 4th year! It is great to see how this has grown: this year, there were up to 80 kids! The level of the coaching has also increased and, most encouraging, the level of the local Baptist church's support. Exactly what every mission needs!

New Partnerships

St Machar Academy

This term I have been involved at St Machar Academy with the School Pastors. Please pray as we walk round the school at lunch times and meet young people. Pray that we may meet and talk and listen to those the Lord is preparing; we also hope to start partnering with the local Lighthouse project and increase our presence in this area.

Ellon Academy

We are trying to take the chaplaincy here to the next level, so have started a wee drop-in at Tuesday lunch. We really hope to keep growing things and supporting the young people, the school and the local churches. We are also excited to see the development of City Church North in Ellon.

Hank's Panel

Steven: Hank, I would like to welcome you to the NESYFC team. Tell us how you came about this. **Hank:** Thanks Steven. You're a great guy. It all started in June 2012, at the Cage's first official outing in Banchory. It was a great day. At the time I was 'Hank the Hot-Dog Seller', but one of the Cage volunteers approached me and convinced me to start touring with the Cage that summer. I really enjoyed that and decided to become a full-time part of the team, leaving the hot-dog business behind me.

S: So what is your role? **H:** I am official Cage mascot, manager, overseer and all-round hilarious presence. I basically keep the team right and try and give a wee laugh to the young people that come along. With my hawk-eye point of view I can also help with goal-line heated debates.

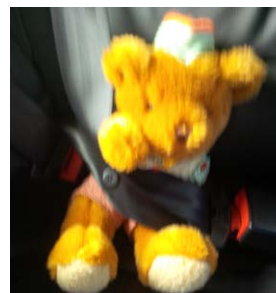
S: What are your biggest challenges? **H:** Certainly working in a team can be difficult (looks intently at Steven, hint hint...). No, just kidding, team's great. The travelling can be difficult. I have been on some dodgy roads...and then the ferry up to Shetland, well...Also the weather some times; especially when I work strapped onto one of the Cage's panels!!! But it's all worth it, for the young people that come along.

S: So where have you been going recently? **H:** In July we were in Bridge of Don for a week, reaching out to the local community; made some new contacts for the local church's youth club. Then we were in New Deer a number of times over the summer, at the farm show and at the end of the church's Holiday Bible Club. The number of young people coming along, and especially the weather, varied a lot. We also had a wee trip down to Edinburgh working with the YMCA in a few local parks. It was really interesting to see the Cage's usefulness in bringing young people of different nationalities together.

In August we went over to Shetland, and had a very busy time there; we were out until dark! We've also been at St. Devenick's Church in Aberdeen a few times, and with them, up at Cults Primary serving the local community.

In October we were at couple of events at Deeside Church in Milltimber called Impact! It was fascinating to see the Cage develop and be used also in games like "The Cube" TV show...watch this space!

S: Sounds busy! Thanks Hank. **H:** Thanks S. You're decent man.



Hank, ready to roll



Vision

Over the past year Steven and the exec team have been prayerfully considering the way ahead for NESYFC. We would like to share a vision that God's given us.

Throughout our work, it has always been clear that NE Scotland's large & mostly rural area makes mission and evangelism challenging. We recently surveyed a sample of the churches in our database and found that 37% of churches have fewer than 10 YP; 55% feel in need of outreach training and 70% need more people, resources and prayer. Further, 95% said that they would engage with a local network.

The vision is to develop a network of local hubs

(each having 15 youth workers or volunteers) across the north east. They would come together every 3-6 months to pray and share resources, training and experience. Young people will join in teams for a mission week somewhere else in the north east, exposing them to local mission, meeting other Christians their own age, and helping them grow in their own spiritual walk, with the added benefit that young people are the best at reaching their peers. The aim is simple: to foster a culture of God's people working together, supporting each other, filling in the gaps so that all young people in the area have a chance to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Will you join us in the hubs vision? Would you like to know more? Please get in touch. Call Steven on 07754914340 or email steven@nesyfc.org.uk

