

NE Scotland Youth for Christ

Annual Report

2008

Welcome!

2008 has been an interesting year for NESYFC. There have been a number of changes of people and our ministries have continued to develop. There's been several great Breathe events. Resources like Rock Solid continue to help churches in their mission work and another training day has supported youth workers across the North East. The project in Mastrick has been coming on slowly but looks like way may be getting there with a team possibly in place in 2009. We are also looking

forward to British YFC's NOMAD mission team joining us for a week as part of this. We are happy to have had Joanna Molek with us as administrator for the last 3 months of the year, she has been a great help to our operation. Finally we have been able to make an offer for the post of Centre Director and are waiting for a number of details to be sorted out before the person can start. It's a real privilege being able to help share the Good News with hundreds of young people in the North East; please pray for our ministry and read on to find out more!

Training & Volunteers Prayer

At our training day in May we welcomed three members of Inverclyde YFC to run a workshop on drama in youth work. It was very much a hands on experience, and though there weren't a lot of participants it was well worth attending. We talked through lots of young people statistics which all contribute when we are attempting to use relevant drama with our groups. In September we had another training day - a number of youth leaders and helpers got together in Kintore to learn and encourage each other for the day. Topics included working with young volunteers, with training given by Sandra Blair of YFC in Scotland and the NESYFC team.

External Training

A number of our volunteers took part in the Deep Impact conference in Aviemore and some attended Worship Central in Glasgow.

Volunteers

Our ministry needs more volunteers to function! We have all kinds of jobs to do from front line youth work and evangelism to behind the scenes work like pushing buttons and stuffing envelopes. If you know anyone who might be interested please contact us.

Our monthly prayer bulletin in addition to our quarterly newsletter now reaches nearly 200 Christians in the North East, with more being added all the time. With this publicity there's more chances than ever before to pray for the work of NESYFC and young people in North East Scotland.

We welcomed Aly Brown onto our executive committee at the end of the year as prayer coordinator.

Accounts

The accounts for the year are available on request. Although again we are in surplus, much of this is coming from one-off income and clearly regular giving will need to continue increasing to sustain any future employed staff. Once again thanks are extended to Crown Terrace Methodist Church for supplying a rent-free office.

Church Visits

Our exec have spent the year giving talks at evening services and small groups, with the aim of raising our profile, and finding more people to pray, volunteer, and contribute money for our work. 10 churches have been covered in the year. In addition to new prayer contacts this has raised £373.62 in one off donations, £25 per month in regular giving (with another £50 monthly conditional on employing a staff worker) and several potential volunteers. In addition, some more contacts have come through stands at Souled Out and Imagine.

Breathe

There have been 7 Breathe events in 2008. In February we were in **Laurencekirk** with the theme of Dancing on Ice and trusting fully in God. This theme also came up for the usual big crowd at **Oldmeldrum** in March. In April we had our first event in **Aberdeen** city for some time at St Mary's on Carden Place. The night centred on peer pressure and keeping focussed on God with music from *Rewired?*, a relatively new band with a lot of talent. The church there were particularly grateful as their young people hadn't seen anything like Breathe before. In May we were in **Methlick** with the theme of changes, both what God can do in you and how He is there through other changes that are going on. Music was from our own volunteers who were kept working hard on the night.

We had three events in Autumn 2008, in **New Deer**, **Lumsden** and **Gardenstown**. Though fairly quiet compared to past events this let us really engage with the young people who were at each event. The events focused on Heroes, Going for Gold (winter Olympics) and the meaning of Christmas. Attendances at Breathe have been a little low over the latter months of the year - though this has meant we could focus better on the young people who did come it has left us wondering whether the event isn't as relevant as it could be. Our team have started considering whether the event could be updated in some way, and whether it can be better publicised, and prayer on this is needed.

Supporting other events

For over a year now we've been running video and supplying some volunteers at Gener8 - a youth event in Angus. As part of our commitment to supporting local ministry, we have been training volunteers there so that the event may become self sustaining. Some of our volunteers also helped with the video at the Imagine festival in August.

We weren't able to launch *Breathe Out* in the year as hoped, but are currently working on finding a potential partner.

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Resources

Things have remained much the same this year. We lost two RS2 clubs but gained a Rock Solid one. At the moment our RS clubs are Inch, Oldmachar, New Deer, Kemnay, West Holburn, Chapel of Garioch, Mid-Deeside, Fyvie and Elgin. RS2 are Oldmachar, South St Nicholas at Kincorth, New Deer, Sheddocksley, St Columba, and Cove. Turriff have decided not to take RS2 material again this year as they were using it for their Church Group, and felt there were too many games, and not enough Bible content.

We have no Mettle clubs at the moment. We ran an Art of Connecting at New Deer during the last year, which was quite successful, although it was difficult getting all the YP at every session, due to other commitments.

The material continues to be good to use - with the added bonus of a CD which means we can e-mail the material to other leaders easily. We have been promoting the material at presentations to Churches and with Sandra's efforts too at events like Imagine, this should bring in some new clubs.

Mastrick Project

The project has been coming along very slowly over the past year. At times there has been great discouragement, then at other times God has shown just how powerful and faithful He is. There is no doubt that there is a desperate need to share the Good News with this part of Aberdeen.

We now have a steering group of individuals from four churches in the area; there's also the possibility of linking with two other Christian charities to bring a team into the area.

We are currently looking for volunteers, accommodation and a little more money - if you can help in any way please let us know. Meanwhile, keep praying that we can do this!