

Cage Launch

We launched the Cage on Thursday 28th June 2012 on the field next to Oldmachar Academy. What an exciting day!

We had a trial run through for it when the Cage first arrived in Steven's back garden near the end of May. Then our first outing was on the 3rd June in Banchory.

We had a lot of wee conversations with the City Council to get permit for the launch on the 28th June, and we are very thankful to them for granting it to us.

We had some kind volunteers to tow the cage and set it up on the day. It was a very rainy day, but it was a dry evening allowing us to be standing outside with the Cage. We didn't have many kids come. But 3 kids that we didn't really know from the area came, so that was a very pleasant surprise. And they were happy to get muddy running about in the Cage. Not sure if their parents would have been though. We ended the evening by praying together inside the Cage, may it be an instrument for God's glory!



The cage team in action at Imagine, Inverurie

Contacting Us

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



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.

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Welcome!

As always, the summer months have been quite busy for us, but this has possibly been the most action-packed yet!

Early in the Summer, the cage ministry officially launched, and we've had a great response from young people as it's been taken out and about. Pray that this new tool will help young people find God.

Steven and the volunteers have been engaged in mission most of the summer holiday period, and in late August we held a training day for the new volunteers in preparation for a new season of Breathe.

Pray that all the activity will have a lasting impact, and for the team as they return to the normal routines. Read on to find out more of the work over the past few months.

Prayer

Please pray for the following things over the next few months:

- New schools term and new possibilities with Steven going full-time.
- The Cage to be an instrument for the purpose of taking the Good News rather than just a 'business activity'.
- More people to take responsibility to ease the burden of trustees
- Volunteers that have recently joined, that they realise their potential and grow in their own faith as well as helping others
- That God continues to lead us to the places He can best use us, and the people He most wants us to meet



Regular Giving

As our ministry grows still further we know that God wants us to do so much more. Steven moves to full-time in September, and we would very much like to appoint a further staff worker to support him, working with young people on the regular basis that really leads to changed lives, and encouraging the growing number of young volunteers.

To help us plan growth responsibly, we are appealing for more people to support us in regular giving by standing order. **£5 a month, or whatever you can give, will make a huge difference to the work we do.** You can find a giving form on our website, just click on "Give" and then "Get a standing order form by clicking here", or call us at the number on the back page.



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



Summer Activities

Steven Hamilton updates us on outreach over the summer

I am now finished uni and looking forward to going full-time in September. The Lord has confirmed over the summer the calling to take the Good News to young people, and my heart aches more for them now; may that spur more passion and zeal!

Regular things are starting up again after the busy summer of missions.

3rd June – Banchory

We were at the St. Ternan's fair with the Cage. Had some kids come along and in the afternoon there was a lovely community feel about the place. Give thanks for a good conversation with one of the lads as he thinks more about where God is calling him in his life.

17th – 21st July – Imagine

Really good week at Imagine. We enjoyed great fellowship at our stand. It was a good opportunity to meet new people too and tell some youngsters about our gap year programs. The Cage was very successful too.

22nd July – New Deer

At the New Deer Farm Show with the Cage squeezed in a small place! Was good fun and had some kids come.

30th July – 5th August – Shetland

Soccer School with Burra Baptist Church. It was our 3rd year running. It was very encouraging to see the church really supporting it now, believing in sports ministry. We are chatting about possibly doing an event with them in January. Cage also



very successful here despite the mud and the rain!

6th – 10th August – Bridge of Don Mission Week

3 Churches, YFC and Street Pastors all working together to impact a community through the opportunity given by the Olympics! The holiday Bible Club in the morning at St. Columba's Church of Scotland was very well attended and successful. The afternoon Soccer School was a

bit disappointing to be honest with some rainy days at the start of the week. The evening youth cafe (with cage!) was great however! Made really good contacts with kids (and parents!) and there was a very good feel about the place. Please pray now for the follow-up.

17th August – New Deer

Another great day with the Cage to finish up the mission week of the New Deer Church. After a rainy start the day cleared up again and we had a lovely day, again with a great community atmosphere and a great opportunity to preach the Good News too!

Cage Sponsors Sought

Now the cage has launched we are looking for individuals, churches and businesses to sponsor the 24 cage panels; this helps cover running costs such as upkeep, insurance and transport costs.

The cost of an advert panel on the cage for 3 years is just £300 including the cost of the printed banner. Visit www.nesyfc.org.uk/cage or contact us for more information (address and phone number on back page).

Breathe Update

Congratulations to Breathe coordinator Anne Laird and equipment manager Dan Pearson, who recently married. Anne Pearson now sums up Breathe in 2011-2012, and looks to the year ahead...

The last 12 months has seen a great activity with Breathe events covering a large area of the North East from Cullen to Inverberrie. We tried to group events in close proximity so that it was easy for groups to attend more than one event, as this has often been a criticism of the event, that it is a one-off stand-alone.

The events in 2011 were booked up early and we managed to produce 'business cards' to hand out which listed all our events and had our web address and the Breathe email address. We had these in time to hand out at Imagine which was a great way to pass on the information.

We have had regular attendance of around 30 young people at events, despite the team getting smaller. It was difficult to run a few of the events due to small numbers and on occasions we have had to ask the hosts to help out on the day, which has worked.

The feedback from those attending continues to be positive, as we now log this in our 'visitor book' we find this a good way to record this information without making it too formal a process to complete.

Steven now regularly speaks at events and captivates the audience bringing the good news of Jesus to them. We have not really done any purely outreach events in the last 12 months, but we have had a range of young people who would not normally attend church, so this is an encouragement.

On the 22nd August we ran a volunteer event and were greatly encouraged by the 10 volunteers who attended. The training was on the style of a mock Breathe event which we managed to fit into two hours. Those who attended enjoyed the event and learned from it, Dan and myself ran the event with Steven who provided most of the volunteers (both by encouraging them and by transporting them there). We have not run a training event this way before, but it proved successful and gave folk a taster of what an event was about. This is something we would like to repeat with the whole team both so all the volunteers get to know each other, and as a refresher for existing volunteers and so that we can brush up and improve how we run events generally.

We're now booking for the year ahead - the first event will be in Dyce on 15th September. Watch our website for more dates as they are confirmed.