

# North East Scotland YFC Newsletter

2007 Issue 2

## Welcome!

It's been a great few months as we head into summer 2007. Over the spring we've had a youth worker training day and we've been encouraged by some great nights with Breathe. Uptake of our resources is going strong with some good feedback, and we were invited in to Alford Academy to help the local churches with some assemblies. God's been revealing some great plans for our future too. Please keep praying for our work sharing the Good News of God's love with young people throughout the North East.

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## Project Update

God's been revealing more of his plans for our work in Mastrick in Aberdeen. We've had a number of encouraging meetings with local church leaders and a funding trust. In addition we've started speaking to the members of the different churches involved and have had a great response from them with offers of prayer, volunteering and financial support.

A steering group is being set up to manage the project as it starts to take shape, and God willing we should have some good development to report by the next newsletter. Please keep praying for this work, that God will keep showing us what needs to be done and that resources to make it happen are forthcoming.

## Training Day

Saturday 10th February saw our annual training day take place in City Church, Aberdeen. Numbers were a bit down on last year, but that led to a great opportunity for discussion and networking between the leaders who were there. We had some great talks on different aspects of youth work from Chuck Freeland and James Gregory.

We've another training day lined up for **15th September**, be sure to put it in your diary!



One of the training day sessions

## In Brief

### Prayer Bulletin

Our monthly prayer bulletin has now been launched to fill in the months between newsletters. If you've given us your email address previously you should have received last month's bulletin - if you didn't or if you know someone else who would like to receive it, just drop an email to [signup@nesyfc.org.uk](mailto:signup@nesyfc.org.uk)

### Spread the Word!

Please pass this newsletter on to someone else you know, whether an active youth worker or not. We'd like as many people as possible to know about our work so they can support us in prayer. Give us a call if you'd like more copies sent to you. We'd also love to come to speak at your church about our work, either as part of a normal service or at a mission evening or similar event.

### Websites

One of our best points of contact over recent years has been our website. It's about to get a bit of a revamp to make it look a bit nicer and to make it easier for you to find out what you need to know about NESYFC. Stay tuned at [www.nesyfc.org.uk](http://www.nesyfc.org.uk)! As well as that, we've now got a page on Bebo - [nesyfc.bebo.com](http://nesyfc.bebo.com) - please share this with young people in your church or group.

# Breathe Update

Jay and Sandy Brownlee bring us up to speed on the latest 'Breathe' news



We've had a great time doing Breathe over the last few months after God called us to keep co-ordinating the event. In **Stonehaven** we had The One Band (*pictured*) from Aberdeen playing for us, with a crowd coming from all around The Mearns. The theme of the night was "Celebrate!", and was rounded off with a different talk from Tony Stephen, youth worker at Banchory. In March we were hosted by **New Deer** with the theme "Believe it or not?!"; a look at faith. April saw us in **Longside**, with a crowd including folks from places like Fraserburgh and some groupies from New Deer coming to find out about "Compassion". We were also encouraged recently by a story. Cat (our chairperson) normally runs the bookstall at Breathe, and recently she was in one of the Christian bookshops in Aberdeen when she was flagged down by a lady who recognised her. The lady went on to explain how a book given away at the Breathe bookstall had completely changed her daughter's life.



We're now taking a break over the summer, but we have requests for 6 of the 8 slots we have in 2007-8, so if you'd like us to come to you get in fast! We're also always looking out for people to join our team. Please put us in touch with any young people in your church or group who might be able to do any of the following: praying, hold a camera, sell tuck, put cables in a box, tape up a banner, talk with

people during Exhale, take part in a game, welcome people as they come in, act in a sketch, come up with an idea for a game or theme or work a computer. All our volunteers receive training and a mentor, and agreeing to help doesn't require much commitment - even one evening a year would help! We'd also encourage you all to pray for each event (whether physically there or not), keep an eye on our new monthly prayer bulletin for this.

## Encounter 2007

The Breathe team are delighted to have been asked to contribute to Encounter 2007 in Aberdeen. We'll be partnering with the Encounter team to deliver an alternative programme for 11-13s on the evening of Saturday 29 September.

## It's Time & Gener8

Our team have been happy to keep supporting *Gener8* in Angus over the past few months. We've also just come back from helping with video and graphics at *It's Time* in Lumsden - another great youth event for the North East! A big part of NESYFC's mission is to assist the local church in developing its youth work. In helping with events such as these we're also working to train the local volunteers to the point where the event can be sustained without NESYFC's input. We're also willing to lend our equipment if that's all that's needed.

## Volunteer Spotlight



- What's your role within with YFC

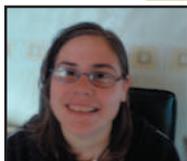
General prayer and person who comes along to events and does stuff that no-one else is doing!!!

- How did you get involved with YFC

Not entirely sure to be honest!!! Years ago ADYFC (as we were called back then) did an event in Aberdeen called Powerpoint, I went along to a few of them and thought that it was great, I decided to get involved, after that it just grew and grew, I have been on missions, co-ordinated prayer and our Breathe event and been on the executive committee, let's see what the future holds now!!!

- What's your favourite sport

RUGGERS! So unfit now that I don't play and watching makes me depressed that I can't play any more but I think it is a brilliant sport and the Scottish women's team are actually pretty good!



- What's your favourite breakfast cereal

I was going to say Crunchy Nut Cornflakes but then I remembered that they are now simply crunchy nut!

- When did you become a Christian

I would say when I was about 15 and although I do remember a night when God really hit it home it was quite a gradual process, many years of listening to Christian teachers before I said "okay God, I get the picture"!!!

- Do you prefer Chick-flicks or action movies

I do love a good chick-flick from time to time but if you ask me about my all time favourites it tends to be more action related films.

- What's the best thing about God

I'd say read John 3:16 for a definitive answer, can't get much better than that!

- Your favourite childrens TV program?

Going Live with Philip Schofield and Gordon the Gopher!!!! Or maybe the broom cupboard.

### Breathe Dates

The calendar for Breathe in 2007-8 is filling up fast! If you'd like to host our interactive outreach and worship event, please get in touch. Watch our website for details of events as they are confirmed.

## YFC Resources in Action



Oldmachar Church currently run Rock Solid within the church; a little over a year ago the church experimented with Rock Solid's flexibility by starting a second group in a school. The club ran for about a year; Carl Brown shares the experience they gained from it.

When and where did the club meet, and what age group?

The club met in Danestone Primary after school, for P6-7s. We also do a Rock Solid club on Tuesday nights at 6:30 – 8:00 at Oldmachar Church and its for p6 – p7

Why do it in a school? And why Rock Solid?

Because its easier for the kids, parents and teachers and coz Rock Solid is fun and a good program

How receptive where the school and parents?

The schools were well up for it!

More importantly, what was the response like from the young people?



The kids loved it!

Can you describe one really memorable thing?

When in my group after I prayed, all the kids wanted to pray for ill family members and stuff happening all around the world

I understand the club has stopped running now, why was that?

Because it was hard to run straight after school and there wasn't enough room to run it

Would you consider running one again if the situation was different?

Yes, definitely

Have you anything you'd like to say to those considering schools work?

Put 100% in what you do and pray and see God work and move thru out the school!

**If you're interested in RS2, Mettle, Rock Solid or any of our other resources, just give us a call or email [resources@nesyfc.org.uk](mailto:resources@nesyfc.org.uk) - we'll be happy to talk with you and can send a sample pack to try out.**

## Vacancies & Gap Years

We're always happy to help with publicising other Christian Youth work. This issue, we have an exciting opportunity including youth work and training in South Aberdeen with Blue Horizon. For any young people you know who are either just leaving school or currently at university, there's also great gap year opportunities with The One Trust in Aberdeen and with British Youth for Christ.

Could this be a turning point for you?



Blue Horizon – A South Aberdeen Youth-Work Charity with a Christian ethos is offering a 5 year developmental opportunity to join their staff team and at the same time train and acquire a professional qualification in youth-work and informal education. The post is an 80% youthwork/20% training split.

This person will be passionate about young people and because of duties working with teenage girls associated with our street outreach bus project, it is a genuine occupational requirement that the appointee is female. They will be able to relate to street level and teenage culture. The person will be over 18 and will have at least 3 passes at Standard Grade, will be eager to learn on the job, will be motivated by Christian values and faith, and hungry for an exciting future of opportunity and service.

Starting Salary £14,409 plus all educational costs and fees for 5 years (BA Hons – approx £7000pa).

For application Pack, contact Blue Horizon Office:

[communications@bluehorizonyouth.org.uk](mailto:communications@bluehorizonyouth.org.uk)

South St Nicholas Church

Kincorth

Aberdeen AB12 5NX

Contact Mark Johnston on 07903070584 or Rev Eddie McKenna on 07767864903 for more information or visit [www.bluehorizonyouth.org.uk](http://www.bluehorizonyouth.org.uk)

Applications close Monday 2nd July 2007

### Gap Year - YFCone

Are you or someone you know 17 – 25 yrs old and unsure what to do next year?, September 07 – July 08. Kick and all YFC year out teams, ETA, Fly, Skate, Fore, creative arts and music teams, operating under YFCOne, are currently recruiting year out volunteers.



Our teams are based across the UK and have vacancies for people with a passion for Jesus and who want to share their faith with other young people. Some of you have first hand experience of a year out and know how good it is, grab a friend and point them to this site, why not remind us of a highlight, or visit [www.yfccone.com](http://www.yfccone.com).

### Gap Year - The One Trust

Over the past year The One Band have been touring the North East. Among other places, they've been to 16 schools in the area and the demand for them is growing all the time. If you know someone who has:



1. a gift for music (or sound)
2. a passion for God and young people
3. 11 months or thereabouts free
4. an ability to be stretched and grown

We're looking for a new band to start mid August 2007, they will be given accommodation, all expenses, and pocket money. They'll receive lots of mentoring and training in their music and their faith - from us locally, and also from our other partners. There's a whole lot more I could tell you about the day to day running etc, but I won't bore you with it now! This year has been an incredible year of experience and growth for the five band members, and they've been a great blessing to us and our ministry here. So, if you or someone you know is interested in joining us in August, or if you just want more info please call/ email:

The One Trust, Oldmachar Church, Ashwood Park, Bridge of Don

[jdgreg@gmail.com](mailto:jdgreg@gmail.com)

## Whitehills Band

We were pleased to take Breathe to Whitehills last year. One of the great things about our work is hearing how groups have developed in response to our involvement - at Whitehills a band was formed to play at Breathe. We now hear from Jacqui Walker how they're doing.

The band are: Bethany Lyons (16) vocals and flute, Marie Christie (15) vocals, flute, piano and fiddle, Laura Walker (15) vocals, lead guitar and trumpet, Rhona Christie (12) vocals, keyboard and fiddle, Fiona Balharry (16) drums, horn and occasional guitar as drums aren't always easy to move around! Other occasional members are Euan Stewart(16) bass guitar and Chloe Hendrie (9) tambourine.

The group started meeting about 3 months prior to the Breathe at Whitehills, that being the catalyst to get them going. All are interested in music partly through school and also some self teaching due to broadening of their musical interests. All were involved within the Church but also I felt at times weren't involved as they seldom came to services as they felt these were at times boring and we were in danger of losing them as others had left in the past.

Moira Morgan (our Church organist) agreed to take on the role of leader and give the band direction and guidance; not the easiest of roles with a group of teenagers but all appear to enjoy what they are producing. They generally meet for an hour or two on a Sunday afternoon taking time out during school holidays etc. As time has passed they have come together as a group and are continuing to develop their skills on the various instruments.

They have performed both within the St Brandon's Centre and the Church. In the Church the smaller instruments and vocals have been utilised. We have then invited the congregation generally to evening services led by the Praise Band, these have items where the band play alone but also in conjunction with the congregation.

We were grateful to receive a grant from Youthlink which enabled us to purchase a digital drum kit, this gave us more control over the sound. Everyone was having to compete to be heard above the drumkit. The most recent performance was at an evening service 3/6/07, a DVD has recently been produced from our Christmas Nativity. The Praise Band featured in this playing music but also taking part in telling the story.

At the Breathe events they enjoy the games as well as the music and getting a chance



to meet a wider group of people, we still occasionally attend but the majority of band members have been busy with exams over the past few months. At recent visits we have taken along some of those attending our Friday night youth group. Few of these have had any previous Church connection but again those who came with us said they enjoyed the evening. Some have also come along to the evening services with the Praise band.

*Got an encouraging story to share? Please send it to us and we'll be happy to include it in the newsletter*

## Prayer

Prayer co-ordinator Jay Brownlee has a few points for prayer



Pray for all those looking to start work as Christian youth workers, whether in a secular or faith based setting.

Pray for those young people waiting for exam results, either from school or university. Particularly pray for those having to make decisions about what happens next, what job to get or course to enrol on.

Pray for all with holidays this summer, that travelling will

be safe and that fun can be had. Help people stay true to their faith even while letting their hair down.

Pray for the "steering group" that is being set up to oversee the Mastrick Project, pray that God gives them wisdom to make sound decisions that will help see young lives transformed and ultimately saved.

Pray for the relationships of young people, with their families, friends and boy / girlfriends, may these relationships be safe and happy and help the young people grow into great men and women of God who will do great things with their lives.

## Contacting Us

Our website: [www.nesyfc.org.uk](http://www.nesyfc.org.uk)  
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## Supporting Us

Please pray for us and the work we do. If you or someone you know would like to get involved in NESYFC, please contact us.

Please also consider supporting us financially; you can make a secure one-off donation on our website, or call us about regular giving - as little as £5 a month can make all the difference.

## Next Issue...

Next session's Breathe dates & venues

A resource for helping your young people share their faith

Developments in Mastrick