

Hosting Breathe

We speak with Sandra Thomson who is a member of South St Nicholas Church, Kincorth, where Breathe took place in April.

Tell us about the young people in your group
The young people in our church bring themselves to the group as they do not have families in the congregation.

Why did you want to host Breathe?

We wanted to hold a Breathe event to show the young people an alternative style of worship, targeted at their age group.

What was the best part of the event?

The best parts of the evening were the band and the speaker. Both lively!

Is there something specific you remember from the event that was good?

It was enjoyable seeing the young people engaging with the talk because the speaker involved them by doing some actions.

What kind of response have you heard from young people since?

The feedback from the young people was all good. They wanted to have the event every week!

Any comments for churches that might be thinking of hosting Breathe?

Go for it! Breathe events are great and all churches should have one to engage with the young people in their community.

Have you a lasting memory of the event?

Just happy that everyone had so much fun. It was great seeing our young folk being so enthusiastic to take part in the activities.

Anything you'd like prayed for?

We would appreciate prayer for the group of children and young people who attend the church. Pray that God works in their lives and that they realise how special they are.

Prayer Points



Pray for young people, youth leaders and teachers across the North East as they recover during the summer holidays

Pray for the vacancies in our team, that God will help us to find people to fill them

Pray for Laura and Tom and they move on to new things, for all the young people reached by them over the past year, and for those following on from their work

Pray for the team on mission in Kemnay, that God will speak through them, keep them safe in the outreach work, and will fill them with energy for the week

Pray for Steven as he prepares to start work with us, and for his team of supporters

Make a difference!

Please **pray** for us, the work we do and the young people of the North East. We'll happily come to share our work with your church or group. We're always looking for **volunteers** of all ages and skills for front line youth work, training, or technical and admin jobs. Finally, please consider **financial support** - whether in your will, a regular donation of as little as £5 a month or a one-off gift; it all helps us reach young people with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Contacting Us

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NE Scotland Youth for Christ Newsletter

Issued Quarterly
- free of charge

2010 Issue 2

Welcome!

It's hard to believe we're past halfway through 2010 already! The past few months have been a lot of hard work, and as always God has been good through it all. We've had another round of Breathe events, and our team have been invited to partner in a couple of ways with our friends at Kemnay church to work with the young people there. Our year out volunteers have finished their time with us and we now reflect on all that God's done through them. Please read on and be encouraged at how God is changing young lives through the Good News of Jesus.

Appeal for help!

We need to fill a number of vacancies on our exec. Specifically: treasurer, prayer and publicity coordinators. We urgently need to fill these roles so that our work is as good and God-honouring as it can be. If you can spare any time we need to hear from you - please call on 01224 213495 or email sandy@nesyfc.org.uk

Outreach Worker

Those of you on our mailing list will know that we have been considering appointing a part-time field worker to help grow our ministry. After much prayer we developed the role into an Outreach Worker with a focus on detached work and leading mission teams. This position was advertised and we are please to announce that we have appointed Steven Hamilton to the role. Steven is a member of Deeside Christian Fellowship who is currently studying for a Divinity Degree at Aberdeen University. He has a passion for sport and volunteered

Pentecost in the Park

In May we were happy to be invited by Kemnay Parish Church to run several parts of the Pentecost in the Park weekend. Over the weekend our volunteers supported the AV team and we hosted a stall with opportunities for speaking with young people. On the Friday night this took the form of Breathe (detailed elsewhere in the newsletter). During the Saturday we ran an It's a Knockout potted sports competition - with all kinds of crazy games and a lot of water balloons! The winning team is pictured celebrating with champagne-replacement cloudy lemonade! Finally on the Sunday our friends at Inverclyde YFC came up to run a drama workshop building up to a sketch as part of the main evening worship. A fruitful weekend where God was at work which we were grateful to be a part of.



with us last year when the Nomad mission team was here.

Steven is currently building up a network of personal supporters to contribute finance and prayer for this role and we're expecting him to start later in the year. We're really excited about what God has planned - please pray for Steven as he builds up his supporters and as this role develops, and let us know if you would be interested in joining his support network.

Want a copy of the newsletter for yourself, or have you something to advertise? Just contact us at the address on the back.

Project Update

Sandy Brownlee updates us on the project in Mastrick, Middlefield and Northfield.

It's incredible to think that more than ten months have passed since our YFCOne volunteers Laura and Tom arrived. Since then they've been working with our partner churches in schools, parks, clubs and more around Northfield, Middlefield and Mastrick. They've also helped with our team at Breathe and God's done great things during this time both in Tom & Laura's lives and with the young people they've worked with. Huge thanks go to all those who supported them over the past year. I interviewed them as they headed back home.

What did you enjoy most out of the year?

T: Meeting new people, opportunity to work with so many different people and do new things

L: Working in the craft club in the school and running the girls group - we've had lots of fun

What has been hard?

T: Settling in everywhere

L: Detached work was always hard to just approach kids we didn't know and try and start a conversation.

How does it feel to be going?

T: Sad to leave everyone but happy I did the year

L: I've made some amazing relationships within the girls group and with other people I've been working with and especially my host mother, so a bit sad to be going, but excited about moving on to university

Can you describe one thing where you've seen God at work?

T: Changes in the youth at Mannofield Church

L: There has been lots of times especially on detached work but also in the school where the kids were particularly hard to talk to and very hardened and critical but over time they really softened to us and wanted to chat

Has there been a moment this year when

God's blown your mind?

T: All of it!

Where are you going next?

T: A year with YWAM (Youth with a Mission) and then theology and youthwork diploma

L: Off to Lancaster Uni to study criminology. I'd like prayer that I will settle in quickly and enjoy my course, and also that someone is able to carry on the girls group and the girls carry on learning and enjoying the sessions, and that one day we can speak to them about God!

What is one thing you've learned over the past year that you'll take with you?

T: So many things, to be accepting of everyone and their faults

L: Doing something God has called you to do is not always going to be easy!

What would you want the legacy of this year's work to be?

T: Relationships we've built up to continue

Has there been a moment you realised your being here has made a difference?

T: At the end when the youth got me cards and stuff and said goodbye to me.

L: I suppose on our last few days when the kids were sad to see us leave, and were asking what will happen to the craft club and girls group when we go. It shows they appreciated the things we have been doing

Anything else you'd like to add?

T: Thanks to everyone that I met.

The way ahead...

Owing to a number of issues we've decided not to take on year out volunteers for the coming year. However, we are prayerfully considering God's will. We are particularly keen to help Middlefield Church keep going the girls' group that Laura established - her last activity there was taking the girls on a camping trip and God's been doing a great work with the relationships between the girls

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continued...

and the team. There are also a number of other activities Laura and Tom took part in which would be good to build on. Please pray for those working out the way forward for youth work in the area, that God reveals who should be involved in what ways and how He wants us and the other partners to proceed.

Breathe Update

Anne Laird reports on Breathe over the past few months. Contact Anne on breathe@nesyfc.org.uk.

We have had four successful events since the last newsletter, the first of these in March was in Kincorth when we had around 40 people attending, this was an outreach event with many young people who wouldn't normally go to church. The theme was Easter and our former Director Steve Emery spoke around the theme of reaching the goal and giving your life to Jesus and captivated the young people with his participative talk. The band played a mix of secular and Christian music which was well received.

The April event was in Stonehaven when we had Re-wired play for us, this was a quieter event but still well received by those who attended, the theme was around a Switchfoot song called Made a mess. Will Buchan who is the youth worker at Cove Church spoke at this event and gave the young folk the opportunity to make a commitment to Jesus.

In May we were in Kemnay at the Pentecost in the Park event which was in a marquee. This was a first for us, however, the weather was horrendous with thunder and lightening prior to our event, and continued heavy rain throughout. James Duce spoke at this event and we had Stephen McPhee and his band play followed by an open mic cafe.

Our final event of the term was in Kintore and was topically on the theme of the football world cup, the crowd attempted the sound of a vuvuzela along with identifying national flags and guessing what happened next. Dave Brown who ran our sports mission in Buckie spoke at this event and gave a testimony as he was part of a Kick team which YFC run for gap year volunteers.

In Brief

Other organisations / events...

Ever popular youth festival Imagine has been confirmed for 3-7 August 2010 at Thainstone, Inverurie. More details can be found on the web at www.imaginescotland.co.uk

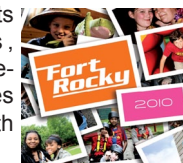
Mobiles + Ink Cartridges

Thanks to those who have been contributing these for recycling. We can get anything between a few pence and a couple of pounds per cartridge and more for phones - it all adds up; this year's recycling has covered the cost of a whole Breathe event! Email office@nesyfc.org.uk if you have any to offer.



Fort Rocky

For those who may have missed our last newsletter, Fort Rocky is British YFC's weekend for 11-14s. It's a unique opportunity for youth groups to go away together, have a great time and hear about God in an exciting, fresh way. It's a blend of fantastic activities, sports competitions, messy games, life-changing stories and excellent youth communicators.



Especially for people in the North of Scotland, it's being held at Compass Christian Centre on 17-19 September. It booked up fast last year so get in now!

Find out more at:

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