

## Prayer

Please:

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

Give thanks for God's call on Steven, the work he's been able to do over the past few years, and the many young people reached by him

Seek God's guidance in finding the right person to fill the new youth worker role

Ask for God to raise up more volunteers to help with this ministry, to better support local churches and to reach even more young people

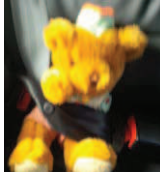
Ask for God's guidance for the possible new work in Tillydrone, and for the cage team as they prepare for a new season

Give thanks that finances have improved in the short term, and pray that more sustainable long-term funds come in



## Hank's Panel

Our semi-regular chat with Hank, the bear with a million names. Well, really just the one.



I have just come out of a great winter in hibernation with the Cage, a season to rest and refocus, and get the smelly volunteers Cage t-shirts washed!

The summer is already looking busy with missions booking the Cage for the summer, including another exotic trip to Shetland over the "smooth-like-Steven's-beard-face" waters of the North Sea.

There are not many weeks left available for the Cage in the summer, so get your bookings in now!

Please do pray that it would not be just entertainment and football, but that we'd be used to God's glory so that young people can meet Jesus!


## Contacting Us

NESYFC is a chartered ministry of British YFC. Scottish charity SC018031

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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!

North East Scotland

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



NE Scotland Youth for Christ

Issued Quarterly -  
free of charge

# Newsletter

2014 Issue 1

## Welcome!

Welcome to our latest newsletter! We catch up on the latest outreach work, and development of the hubs vision to support mission around the North East. A major piece of news is that our director Steven will be stepping down in the summer. We give thanks to God for all that has happened since he joined us, particularly the young people reached through his work, and pray for this next calling on his life. Please pray as we seek to find another person to take on the work (more detail over the page); read on and continue to pray for all that's happening.

## Update Admin Team

A few words from our executive committee chairperson, Alasdair Brownlee

MANY THANKS to all our supporters for your prayers and sacrificial giving. Because of this, we are just able to keep Steven working full time until August, when he will be stepping down from his role as director and outreach worker to do a year's teaching diploma. We are currently looking for a suitable replacement, and Steven has kindly agreed to help with this process, and the necessary training and settling in, as well as the contact work connected with setting up the hubs. He will also join the exec committee to help with the broader oversight of the ministry. We feel drawn towards the Tillydrone area, and are currently looking to see how this would work out in practice. Please

pray for God's leading on the way ahead, and also that we will find the right person in time for the new Autumn school term.



*"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. (Matt 9:37, NIV)"*

WE URGENTLY NEED MORE PEOPLE TO HELP WITH THE 'BEHIND THE SCENES' WORK IN THE MINISTRY. In particular, a Young Volunteers' Coordinator, an Administrator, and help with publicity and fundraising, plus other general help. Even a few hours a month. ANY age - as long as you have a heart for young people! *"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord (1 Cor 12, NIV)"* So please let us know of anyone who might feel called - e-mail [alasdair@brownlees.net](mailto:alasdair@brownlees.net)

## Mission Update

From Director, Steven Hamilton

### 1 Timothy 1:1-2

In Paul's case the word "apostle" (v1) defined his vocational and recognised office. The original Greek term for the word however simply means "the one who is sent out". And this is something that we all are: sent out, just like ambassadors, to represent the country we belong to. We are called to be the link between our fellow men and our King, Christ Jesus.

As North East Scotland Youth For Christ we seek to be specifically the link between young people and Jesus. Our aim is to take the good news of Jesus relevantly to every young person in North East Scotland. We firmly believe that the gospel is relevant. That must not change. But we can and often must change the way and the context in which we present that always relevant gospel.

We want to support & encourage churches in the North East to:

- Uphold the gospel wholly and truthfully, without ever watering it down or changing it and to
- Seek new and improved ways to reach the local young people with that Gospel.

We pray for "true [children] in the faith" (v2) all over the North East, that they may know the "grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord." (v2)

### Update on our vision

#### 1) Hubs:

We want to train, resource and support churches more effectively all over the North East of Scotland

We are looking to develop hubs all over the North East so any youth worker training & resourcing is more accessible locally.

The idea would be that each hub would have at least one meeting a year with about 5-10 of the local churches represented where they would receive training and support.



In the long term we would love to see these hubs also working to organise local inter-church missions.

If you would like to know more, or would like to discover about your local hub, please contact Steven.

#### 2) Mission Teams:

We want to equip churches to reach young people locally and give opportunities to see their young people grow in their faith. Looking at our pool of volunteers we have found the exciting opportunity to have 3 outreach teams, using specific gifts: music, sports and a third category that may include things like events, detached work, technology and drama (basically everything else!).

We are not yet sure what these teams would look like because we strongly believe that it should come from those specifically in them. That is why we have spent the last wee while identifying key players for those teams.

These teams would be essentially opportunities for young people to serve using their gifts in an inter-denominational context to reach out to other young people.

If you'd like to be involved in one of these teams or you would like to host one for your local mission, please speak to Steven.

### Opportunity: Youth Worker

Steven will be moving on from NESYFC in August. Please pray for him as he looks into possible future options.

Having prayed about it in the last few months and having seen God's faithfulness and provision through His people for our work, we have decided to trust Him as we take a step of faith and take on a new part-time (2 days a week) youth worker from September.

The Lord is opening up opportunities for us to get involved more with the youth work in the Tillydrone area of Aberdeen. We believe that this is where our youth worker should be placed and we are speaking to the local churches and groups about this. Initially, we'd be looking at a 3 year commitment to work in this area. Please pray for us as we make decisions about this over the next month or two.

If you'd like to know more about this or want to register your interest for the youth worker role, do speak to Steven.

## New CoR members

Our Council of Reference exists to give spiritual insight and guidance to the director and executive committee as they seek God's will for the ministry. We recently welcomed two new members to the CoR, and here we meet them: please pray for Alistair and Norman. We are currently looking for another couple of volunteers to join the CoR: mature Christians with a local church connection and a heart for young people. It's not a large commitment, 3-4 meetings a year, but it's a crucial job. If you or someone you know can help, please get in touch.

**Norman Ogston** My current involvement with bringing the gospel to youth is through being co-leader of the Lighthouse Drop-in Outreach in Turriff on a Friday evening, when we can get up to 20 and sometimes more attending when we provide pool, table tennis and a Wii for their enjoyment and they agree to us giving a short relevant gospel message and also engage with them in conversation as opportunity arises to witness for Christ.

I was the founder and manager of the Sunnybrae Christian Centre for men with addiction problems for 21 years which on my retiral has been taken over by Teen Challenge. I have a B.A. degree from Stirling University, and BTH degree from Aberdeen University. I have been a Reader in the Church of Scotland for 18 years.

**Alistair Wilkinson** A Christian for over 50 years but still young at heart! I'm an Elder & Home Group leader for many years in Deeside Christian Fellowship. I'm Married to Moira, and have had the joy of seeing our own children accept Jesus as Saviour and go on to actively live for Him. Praying that our 4 grandchildren will follow the same path. I work as a busy GP in a city practice (due to retire this year) and daily see young people seeking fulfilment in drugs, alcohol & multiple relationships when what they need is to see and accept that Jesus loves them and can meet all their needs. Why join CoR and what can I bring? A humble desire to serve God & to work with others to show God's love and see young lives changed in the NE of Scotland. A willingness to listen & also share experience of God's goodness, mercy & love over many years.