

Alasdair Brownlee - Chair of Trustees

With both sadness and celebration on our part, in late June Alasdair, our Chair, passed into the glory of his Father God. Sadness as we lost a dear brother, faithful friend and wise counsellor; yet celebration and joy as we know without a shadow of doubt that he was welcomed with open arms by the Jesus he loved so much and who loves him so much more.

Alasdair's journey with NESYFC stretches back to the mid 1990s where, along with other family members, he sought to engage young people with the Good News message of the Gospel.

In 2001 Alasdair joined our Board of Trustees getting involved in the day to day governance of the ministry, eventually taking on the role of Chair in 2011. Those of us who knew Alasdair well will long remember his faith, his character, his integrity, his willingness to take God given risks and of course his famous 'beanie hat'!!

There is so much that could be said about this dear and faithful brother in Christ. Hebrews

12:1 tells us, "...let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." Alasdair ran his race, and he ran it well. As he met

with his Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we can say with total confidence that he was welcomed with open arms and with the words, "well done, good and faithful servant."

Alasdair's legacy will live on in the ongoing ministry of North East Scotland Youth for Christ, and may we whom he has left behind pick up the baton that he has passed to us and run the race as he did.

May we see young and often hurting people find that same Jesus Christ. May that same Jesus lift these young people up 'as on the wings of the Eagle' and be all that they can be in the power of the Holy Spirit. That was Alasdair's passion.

The Board of Trustees



Welcome!

Welcome to our latest newsletter. Many of you will know that it has been a tough summer, with the loss of our chairperson and long-serving volunteer Alasdair Brownlee. Yet still, "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." (2 Cor 4:17-18). So, we continue to fulfil our calling to share the Good News with young people in the North East.

Curtis and our volunteers have been working hard over the summer, building relationships, supporting young people and crucially providing opportunities to encounter God. These young ears and eyes are so open, these hearts hungry for the gospel! We still face worldly challenges. In particular, we need volunteers for our steering group, as you'll see over the page. The personnel shortage is reflected by the three-month delay to this newsletter: our background volunteers do these kinds of jobs to enable those on the front line to carry out the mission. We also continue to discern what God wants for NESYFC, as He continually shapes and moulds it. Please pray for us and, above all, for the young lives we reach, as we continue to live out the mission we have been called to by God.

The Future Path of NESYFC

We have felt for a few months now that we were being led by the Holy Spirit to evaluate our role in His work in the Tillydrone area and consider what He would want us to do to strengthen our existing work and develop new initiatives individually and alongside sister ministries.

The Board of Trustees and Curtis are taking a time out later this month (September) for a Focus Day where we can focus our thoughts and prayers on this very thing, to consider what God wants our way ahead to be. Our focus and commitment is still very much for and with His work in Tillydrone and being united with other sister ministries in that area. Our Focus Day will, we pray, be a kick start to take NESYFC and what we do for Jesus onto another level. Please pray that the Holy Spirit would give us wisdom and discernment to hear God's voice and leading as we seek to 'push the boundaries' and be adventurous for Christ.



Picked this newsletter up and want to receive your own copy in the future? Please enter your details at our website: <https://www.nesyfc.org.uk/signup.php> This will let us keep you informed about points for prayer and opportunities for you to help us

Help us!

You can help us reach young people with the Good News of Jesus Christ. **Pray** for us and the young people of the North East. **Volunteer**, working with young people or in background support. **Give**, in your will, a few pounds a month or a one-off. All makes a difference!

Contacting Us

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

W: www.nesyfc.org.uk

E: office@nesyfc.org.uk

T: 07895 347415  / nesyfc

Office: DCF Church, Binghill Drive, Milltimber, Aberdeen, AB13 0JE



Outreach update

We catch up with our youth worker, Curtis Sangbarani

I can't believe summer 2018 has passed already and what a great summer it has been. The weather was recorded as one of the hottest summers in the last 20 years and that was a huge benefit to the cage football outdoors. We spent time with Kemnay parish church, our regular partners, for another summer mission. Setting up the cage football every afternoon at the local primary school and then evenings at the church centre gave a great opportunity for us to spend time building relationships up with young people and simply having great fun playing football. Every evening one of the leaders would take time to speak for 5-10 minutes in what we call a God slot, an opportunity for young people to learn about God and respond to the gospel. I believe that a lot of seeds were planted.

We also spent time with our regular partners Seaton church helping out with their *Make Lunch*. Make Lunch provides free lunches for young people during the school holidays as well as doing fun activities everyday whether it's outside doing sports or inside doing arts and crafts. There is always a Bible story and memory verse time during the session.



As the new term has begun, we start many projects from scratch including the Riverbank football team, as we have to recruit new players. We held trials last weeks and had to my absolute amazement over 60 - yes! - 60 young people turn up for the trial. This was so difficult as we only have space for 12, so had to disappoint a lot of them. This wasn't easy, however, it gives us a drive to create a new activity that everyone can attend.

We have also recruited new coaches all former players going to the secondary school which we call junior coaches. To top it off after a lot uncertainty where our team would play their games this year we have now confirmed acceptance of our LET application to continue all games at St Machar academy for this year. Looking forward to what will be another fruitful year ahead!



This was great to go along to and amazing how many kids and young people turn up. The guys running this at Seaton are doing such a fantastic job. The Cage also visited Shetland soccer school for the week where it was a hit!



Prayer Points

Prayer is core to all ministry NESYFC is involved in. Please pray for us and:



- Give thanks for the fruits being shown as young people commit their lives to Christ
- Give thanks for the dedication and service of so many volunteers over the years
- Give thanks for the open doors and wonderful partnerships with church and non-church groups
- For more opportunities for life-changing conversations with young people
- Curtis, that he continues to receive God's strength and courage
- Our volunteer team, that all are strengthened in faith, and that more join us
- That more young people encounter God through Curtis and The Cage team's travel to Creationfest in Dundee, on Sat 29 September.

Board of Trustees

A lot of work goes on behind-the-scenes in NESYFC to support Curtis and the great work he does in Tillydrone. That behind-the-scenes work is carried out by the Board of Trustees and ranges from Finance to Safeguarding (child protection etc) to personnel to communications etc etc. Our numbers are critically low and this places the ministry at genuine risk!

We are seeking people like you - with a burden to reach young people for Jesus - to come on board to help us. We are in discussion with one potential trustee: please pray that more people would catch the passion for what goes on for Christ in the Tillydrone area and come on board to help. Age is not a hindrance - our existing board ranges from early twenties to late sixties. **Is God calling you to this role?** If you think it could be something for you or if you know of someone else, please contact us via treasurer@nesyfc.org.uk