

Autumn Edition 2011

Note from the Director

I am so thrilled to introduce you to 3 people who are taking the work of DYFC to new places! Helen has begun work on our new Reflex mentoring project, Joy is using her highly honed administrative skills to help fundraise and Pete has joined with us to coordinate our junior clubs. We have been on such a journey these past few months and I am incredibly thankful to God for every trustee, volunteer and church partner who has contributed to make this work with young people possible. It is so encouraging to me to step back and take in the whole host of people, energy and talents that are being invested into the lives of young people here in Durham. He really is providing His goodness and grace and I believe it is because it is on Gods heart to be with young people on the margins. Perhaps that is on your heart too, if so you can do something about it by volunteering, giving and praying, See the back page for the 'how to!' A lot of what we do takes us to the edge, but often that is where the growth happens- please join us there!



This edition was designed by Esther, a DYFC work experience student

Tanzania

I came back from our trip this summer not really knowing what to say to people to describe what it was like to take marginalised young people to renovate a maternity ward in a rural village in Tanzania for 2 weeks. I use metaphors like 'rollercoaster' – we went to the heights and the depths with them. I experience feelings of relief, that we are all home safely; gratitude, for all the people that believed in this crazy adventure enough to make it happen; wonder; that the young people overcome so many barriers and challenges and worked so hard both before and during the project to improve the lives of people so different from themselves; and that familiar mixture of doubt and hope. Hope: that the experience really did have an impact, hope; that the love they have for the Tanzanians they met will have changed them, hope; that the life lessons about team and treating others will do them well for the rest of their lives and hope; that their encounters with faith will remain undeniable to them, in words one of the team: 'they (the Tanzanians) believe in it so wholeheartedly, seeing complete and utter faith is so overpowering...in a good way!' Go to www.durhamyfc.co.uk to see videos of the daily diary and more quotes from the team!

Kate - Durham YFC Director

Junior Work

I am based with Emmanuel church and, following a successful DYFC inter-church holiday club at the Pelaw View Centre in May last year I have started working alongside DYFC to deliver junior work. There are two exciting projects that run each week and it's amazing to see how these have grown organically in the communities and with the young people. @ The Pelaw Centre every Monday afternoon we run a drop in group for the Sherburn Road estate, providing crafts and games. It is great to join DYFC volunteers who have worked there for the past year and become part of such a valued project in the local community. @ St Giles Church we run 'Friday Frenzies', an after school club for years 6-8. The hope is they get to meet peers who they may go to secondary school with, have fun, learn values and make a difference to their community! The term started by dreaming BIG about what they can do this year and how they can effect the community around them. They decided to do something for Harvest working with Durham Food Bank, and supporting Operation Christmas Child for Christmas. So far I have met some fantastic kids and am buzzing with the possibilities of how we can get alongside and support them to realise their potential and grow to be who God designed them to be. Amongst all that YFC does these two groups cater for such a need and are great fun to be a part of.



Pete - Durham YFC Partner

Introducing

I graduated from Durham University in the summer, having studied Education Studies and Psychology. My new role is fundraising for Durham YFC one day a week. So far, this has involved compiling charitable trusts and grant-making organisations and making numerous applications for funding! Often these are best done in partnership with others so do get in touch. I'm also encouraged by the support we have from many local churches and individuals and will look to build on this in the coming months, connecting people who are passionate about young people with DYFC, who use these funds so well to reach young people. I'm one of those slightly strange people who actually enjoys working in an office environment, so I'm glad to be using my gifts and interests for God's



work. It's exciting to see the potential that new funding could bring to the continued work of Durham YFC as well as growth and development in new areas. If you have any particular ideas for fundraising events, would like to complete a sponsored challenge for us or know of any potential sources of funding, then please let me know! I'd love to talk with you and hear suggestions.

Joy - Durham YFC Staff

Reflex mentoring project

I have just joined DYFC delivering the new Reflex Mentoring Project that will offer support to those who are at risk of offending or exclusion. Through the Reflex Mentoring Project young people will be offered the chance to meet weekly with a committed adult who will offer support, be a positive role model and will help young people address life issues. This links really well with the work DYFC already does through detached work and connections with schools. At present I am working one day a week to start this project and the reality is the more hours I am enabled to work to coordinate and support volunteer mentors, then the more young people we can reach. Please consider making a donation to this project to see it grow. We have already had a number of volunteers come forward to be involved in mentoring and would love to hear from anyone else who might be interested. Research shows that often the most effective mentors are aged over 55 so please don't hesitate! Check the news page on our website for the next training dates. All mentors will be supported, trained and resourced to fulfil their role. Full details and forms can be found on the Durham YFC website. I look forward to meeting you!



Helen, Durham YFC Staff

Join Us

How to get involved:

Please help us to transform the lives of young people across County Durham today.

First please fill in your contact details

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Email:

Landline:

Mobile:

Church/Group:

Next, please tick boxes below:

Pray

I'd like to receive regular prayer updates for Durham YFC.

Partner with YFC

I'd like to give regularly by standing order to Durham YFC's ministry.

(We will send you further details)

Volunteer

I'd like to volunteer my time and skills.

YFC visit

I'd like you to come to my _____ to share about your work in the area.

Donate

I'd like to give £ _____ to your work (cheques payable to 'Durham Youth For Christ')

Gift Aid

Increase your gift by 28% for every £1 you give. You must be a UK taxpayer, paying an amount of income tax or capital gains equal to the tax we claim on your donation. Please inform YFC in you cease to pay tax.

Signature:

Date:

Please return this form to:

St. Giles, Gilesgate, Durham, DH1 1QH

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