

Film School....

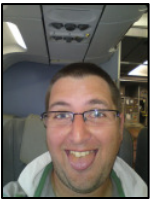
...has been running in school during the last part of June. It is run by crux media, a team from our national centre. It's aim is to get young people considering their lives, the decisions they have made, the experiences



they have had and look at what their lives are shaping up to be. From their own life stories they then create a storyboard between them that they are then able to film and watch online. With a film set the team build, the young people are able to experience, and try out film-making like never before. Whether that is directing, acting, filming or writing, they all get involved and come out of the

week with new experiences. The young people really opened up sharing stories about their lives. One young person talked about how they were in care from a very early age and what that meant to the way he acted around people. Another young person talked about how he experienced his brother bringing a gun home, which he found. Throughout the week the Crux media team were able to talk about their own influences and how Jesus had made a difference in their lives. Once they had got everything written, they were able to start rehearsing and filming. The films will be premiered during the last week of term.





Directors Blog

Richard Dawson has been the director of Nottingham YfC for the past 9 years. You can follow his regular blog at www.nottinghamyfc.co.uk/blog

Being an activist I know I can be guilty of just getting on with things. I know that sometimes I will just run into situations without really thinking about the consequences because I think it is 'a good idea'. I am fortunate because God is gracious and so a lot of times these 'good ideas' work out, despite of me. Another problem with being an activist is that things just go on and on because you don't give yourself chance to look back and reflect on what has happened. You just end up going through the motions rather than seeing if something has worked or not, you just end up doing it because you always have. It is easy to fall into that trap, I know many Sunday schools across the country have the same leaders for 30/40/50 years because there is either no one that is willing to come in and offer to help or just because we have always done it this way, we will just continue, without thinking 'is this working?'

This summer is going to be really hard as my whole team changes over the summer, and

as I write, I am not sure if we will have a team next year. Emily has given birth to Lacey Mae Swinburne, Chantelle has finished her CYM course and has graduated and Kristy, Dave and Lukas all leave as planned. Although this could be a really hard time, 2 positive things come out of it. The first is that I learn to trust God more, which I don't do as regularly as I should. The second is that I reflect. I look back and see what has worked, what is important to try and keep going and what has not worked as much as I thought it would, and why? I don't know what the summer holds and what NYfC will look like in September, but what I do know, is whatever we do, it will be the right thing, the best thing, because we strive to see all things that God has for us.

Our address :

Unity House, 35 Church Street, Lenton, Nottm. NG7 2FF

And our web site:

www.nottinghamyfc.co.uk

What's happening in West Bridgford?

Nottingham YfC work all over the city connecting young people with the reality of Faith, how it could effect them but also how it could effect the people around them.

After Richard spoke at the joint Churches youth carol service at the end of last year Nottingham YfC have been encouraging the young people in West Bridgford to see how their faith can make a difference to the people around them.

NYfC @ New Life Baptist Church weekend away

Richard, Dave and Kristy were all involved in running the youth programme for NLBC on their Church weekend away. It was a real honour to be able to encourage the young people to look at God's story and how He is working today and making a difference in our lives through what we do in our everyday life to continue God's story. It was amazing to



see the young people really connect with the sessions but also see a group of passionate young people just wanting to go deeper with God. The washing line exercise really helped the young people realise that their lives and how they use them, like the way they treat people and the influence they have, are part of the same story that Noah's Ark, David and Goliath and the day of Pentecost are all part of. With some really good times of worship as well, most were encouraged and challenged in living for Jesus.

So how do you invite your friends onto youth Alpha?

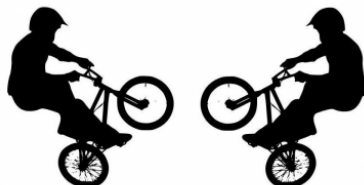
After Richard had spoken at the national Youth Alpha conference in February at Holy Trinity Brompton, he was invited to speak to the young people at St. Luke's Gamston as they prepare to run and deliver Youth Alpha to their friends. It is awesome that young people are willing to step out and share their faith with their peers. It was a real honest time of worries and fears as well as looking at the possibilities of what could happen if we are prepared to take risks. Young people's view of faith and Christianity is not always positive and so we looked at ways of breaking down previous perceptions and what it looks like to be a friend like Jesus would be.

Bilborough update:

One of Nottingham YfC's key mission areas is Bilborough. We work in both Hadden Park High school and the new Nottingham University Samworth academy. Here are some stories about what has been happening over the last few months in the area.

Dave gets on his bike...

I have started building relationships with some of the lads at A Place to be me +. Finding out about the different hobbies they had, I found out one of the lads rides a BMX at a skate park in Nottingham. Riding a bmx is one of the things I did a lot of before I started my year out and have had my own bike brought up to Nottingham, so we got talking about the different places he rides. The same young lad and a couple of his mates



noticed I also had a skateboard so we went and tried a few different tricks. We then arranged to meet at the ramps that they use for bmxing the following Saturday, this was a really good time of showing that being a Christian isn't something that is dull, but you can follow Jesus and stay on your bike while on ramps.

So why did Girls Allowed suddenly become egg heads?



Girls Allowed has been running for 2 years now and it is a great opportunity to build up girls @ Hadden Park High and look at some of the issues that effect them in everyday life. We look at image, fashion and self worth amongst other things. One week we decided to get them to look at the relationship they had with their parents and carers. They had to make eggs that looked as much like them as possible, and

then look after the eggs as well as possible while we played different games. Trying to encourage them to realise being a parent isn't an easy job, and get them to appreciate the people who look after them.

What do you really think @ A Place to be me

A Place to be me is a great place for young people to come after school on a Friday and relax and have fun in a safe place. We have a great new venue with leather sofas, big screen TV and games consoles. As part of the sessions we try and get the young people together and discuss some topics that are relevant to each one of them. One session we split them into 2 groups, one having to persuade us that there was a God, and the other group to persuade us that there wasn't. It was a real good debate and got them to think honestly about what they believe, although we did have one young person saying "but I believe in God, I don't want to try and persuade people that He doesn't exist."

Beeston update:

Emily has been working with Lukas and Kristy this year, here Kristy tells us about one girl who she has connected with.

I work three days a week in Chilwell School, helping out in R.E classes, building relationships with students there as well as helping them with their school work. There were a few times in class, where I didn't really understand how God could use me to help these kids, because the students just didn't seem to want to do their work at all... even when I offered to help them with it. One day, the head of learning support approached me and told me that there was a girl in year 11 who hadn't completed any of her course work, and was going to fail the course if she didn't complete some of it on time. He told me that he had tried to get her to do her course work, but she refused to get any of it done, and at this point... he would take any piece of course work she could offer him. He knew that I worked with her at Girls Brigade, and asked her if she would be willing to do some of her course work if I were to help her with it. Her response was so positive... and he told me she was excited to have me help her out. It was such an encouraging thing for me to hear! I thought it was so cool, that because of the relationship I built with this year 11 girl through NYfC during Girls Brigade and other programming, she trusted and respected me enough to let me help her get her course work done. It was definitely a real God moment for me!

Want to help young people feel valued?

www.nottinghamyfc.co.uk/support

Emily has been working in Alderman White School for 4 years and has built up a relationship with a lad called Steve (Name Changed). Steve has been a regular attender to our afterschool clubs. Back when she first got to know Steve they had a few conversations about God but he didn't have any interest to talk about God. He said that he didn't believe in God. Recently Steve has been coming along to Youth Alpha that Kristy and Lukas run on a Wednesday. He has been coming along with a number of other young people to talk and listen about what Christianity is all about. As Lukas often walked home after school with Steve he asked whether he was looking forward to the course and Steve seemed really excited about it and even said he was dreaming about it. Steve would now say he believes in God and wants to learn more about Him.



Like to see all the things NYfC are involved with?

www.nottinghamyfc.co.uk/life



NYfC's prayer life

Here at Nottingham YfC we believe passionately that without the power of prayer we wouldn't be able to make the impact that we not only already do but also what we would like to achieve. This year has seen the start of our half nights of prayer which have been a great way of getting people focussed not only on praying for Nottingham YfC but also the young people of the city. Our aim is to step it up further from September. We will be doing this by restarting our prayer and fasting days. These will happen once a month on the 3rd Monday, in line with our trustees meetings. We are also opening up another room in Unity house from 7pm until 10pm for people to come together and pray for NYfC while the trustees meetings will be going on. This will again, give an opportunity for people who want to, chance to get an update of the work but also pray for Nottingham YfC on a regular basis. These dates will be 20th September, 18th October and 15th November. Don't also forget our 3 monthly prayer diary available to download at www.nottinghamyfc.co.uk/prayer and our prayer twitter stream www.twitter.com/nyfcprayer

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A celebratory date for the diary

Please put the date of Saturday 16th October into your diary. We will be having our annual commissioning and celebration night. This will be a great night where you will hear and experience more about the work of Nottingham YfC and get to find out the impact we are having on young people across the city. We will also be commissioning our new team and volunteers that will be serving the local church and young people across Nottingham. Whether you are a long standing supporter of YfC in Nottingham or are new to what we do, this will be a great night for you to bring friends along to and hear what God has been doing and will be doing amongst young people.



Nottingham Youth for Christ want you...

Nottingham Youth for Christ have a number of opportunities to serve young people and make a difference in their lives. Starting from September there are some exciting opportunities for people from within the local churches to be trained up and equipped to impact this generation. Here are some of the opportunities starting September 2010: (Please get in touch with us for an application form.)



Day: Mondays

Time: 2.45 – 5.45pm

Venue: Inham Nook Methodist church, Chilwell.

Nottingham YfC run a drop in called 'The Base' every Monday. We are looking for committed people to join the team and connect with young people, whether through making toast or playing table tennis.

Day: Wednesdays

Time: 12.30 – 1.30pm

Venue: Chilwell school

Rock Solid is a lunch time group in Chilwell School. It looks at the big issues for the young people 11-14 year olds, and finds out what God says about it.

Day: Wednesdays + Fridays

Time: 6.15 – 9.15pm

Venue: Hadden Park High School, Bilborough

Nottingham YfC run 'A Place to be me Plus' as part of our work in Bilborough. A drop in session for ages 13+, we are looking to enhance the team with people who just love young people and are willing to take some time out of their schedule to help make them feel valued and worth something.

Day: Fridays

Time: 2.45 – 5.45pm

Venue: Hadden Park High School, Bilborough

Another one of NYfC's ministries in Bilborough is 'A Place to be me'. This runs for 11-14 year olds after school. Not only do we have the table tennis table and pool table out, but we also engage in lively discussions and look at issues that young people are encountering.

Nottingham YfC exists because.....

...we have local people praying for us.

(Sign up to receive our monthly prayer bulletins.)

...we have local people giving financially for the work.

(Complete the form below or contact us for more info.)

...we have local people giving their time for young people.

(Please contact the office if you have time or skills you could offer)

We are really passionate about seeing young people becoming who they were created to be and giving them opportunity to hear the Gospel message in a relevant way. We continue to be asked to do more exciting things across the area and we would love to grow to our potential. If you would like to join us on this journey then please fill in the form below, and help our dreams become reality.

I would like to make a donation of £5__; £10__; £25__; £50__; £100__ towards the work of Nottingham YfC. (Please make cheques payable to NYfC.)

Please tick here if you would like NYfC to claim the tax on your gift

... I would like details on how I can give a regular financial gift to Nottingham YfC.

... Please put me on the Nottingham YfC mailing list so I may receive any relevant communications.

... I would like to receive the monthly prayer letter.

Name

Address

Email

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