

He put a new song in my mouth. Psalm 40:3



Thursday 7th July
Torrisholme Methodist Church
7.30pm

**An evening to Praise God for
His blessing on the work of
NISCU (incorporating AGM)**

Everyone's invited
Refreshments available

SHARING A STORY CAN BE VERY POWERFUL.

"Crash! A deafening boom of thunder ripped open the sky." This is the story of Jesus calming the storm, and I have read it to many classes over the last year. Most of them agree that there is a lot of tension, danger and fear in it. But one Muslim girl had a different viewpoint. "I think this a very calm story," she told me, "because even though the storm is very wild, Jesus is there with them. They don't need to be afraid."

Children have been very open about sharing their fears - ranging from clowns and spiders, to loneliness and death. But this has given me a golden opportunity to tell them another true story - a story about the way God freed me from fear and worry when I first became a Christian.

In a society where so many children and young people struggle with mental health issues, what a privilege it is to let them know that there is someone who can help. Someone who will be there with them through whatever storms they may face, both now and in the future. And His name is Jesus.

Sarah Dodd



Miracle Mondays

Sign up for your weekly emails Please email

debbie.green@niscu.org.uk to receive your short weekly, term-time email.

NEW SCHOOLS, NEW VOLUNTEERS, NEW CLUBS

Looking back over the last year it is great to see that we have made new or renewed contact with 10 schools. There are still 6 where NISCU has no contact. Please pray that the doors will open, all in God's timing.

We are always on the lookout for new volunteers to ensure that the JAM clubs in North Lancs can continue to run. Presently Skerton, Lancaster Road and Trumacar need extra support. Also there are lots of schools where, if we had more volunteers, we could set up new clubs. **COULD THIS BE YOU?**

Diana

NEW CHURCH/SCHOOL LINKS

Can we help link your church with a school? Today 60 children from Dallas Rd school are visiting the Baptist Church in connection with their RE, in a few weeks another 60 will visit Nether Kellet Congregational Church from the local community school. It's so exciting to see these new links. Please talk to us about ways of serving your local school - hearing readers, baking cakes, knitting Bible story toys, hosting visits and most importantly praying. I can guarantee there'll be something you can do. **Debbie**

Having someone visiting from a Christian faith perspective really helps children to understand the key elements to that religion. Your lessons enabled children to clearly understand why forgiveness is so important to Christians. Your lesson on adult baptism really did help the children to understand the key concepts. Your lessons were very lively and all the children were engaged. It was great to have a visitor of faith who could deliver such top quality lessons.

Janine McGregor

R.E. Co-ordinator, Moorside Primary School

RELUCTANTLY - FAREWELL!

I joined N Lancs Committee at the turn of the century, when Tony Bower was young and I was middle aged. Shortly afterwards, the youthful Debbie Green resigned but offered to continue producing newsletters and to have 'close involvement behind the scenes'. Such exquisite understatement ...

There have been many challenges along the way, not least Tony's departure in 2011 which left us staring into the unknown. But our weakness is God's opportunity, and He 'turned our mourning into dancing'. God has opened doors, grown our team, multiplied volunteers, led and guided our strategy, built our reputation, deepened relationships, strengthened our faith, and taken NISCU N Lancs to a new level of opportunity.

After 12 years as Chair, which has been an absolute privilege amidst such a team, it's time to move on. We are at one of the most exciting times in N Lancs' history. Our team are expert, passionate and full of faith. Committee is united and strong - meetings are full of joy, energy and worship - and will flourish under the leadership of Mark Johnstone, pastor of Heysham FM. Our friend Nick Klein is bringing incisive and strategic direction as NISCU's recently appointed Chief Officer. And many of you - cheerful givers - are keeping NISCU on the road.

A whole generation in our schools is waiting to hear about God's love. I cannot think of a mission closer to God's heart. I'll deeply miss the 'close involvement behind the scenes' with NISCU. So please come and cheer me up at our prayer meetings - see box - as we seek to strengthen the hands of our team through our wonderful God.

Andy

NEW CHIEF OFFICER....

Hi. My name is Nick and I live near Lancaster with my wife, and 2 teenage kids. I've lived here since being a student at the university which seems a really long time ago now! I've done various things in that time including teaching, running an outdoor centre for schools, developing teaching materials, working in Christians Against Poverty and with young adults in the New Wine Discipleship Year.

I have two passions in my current walk with God: to show God's love to those that don't know him through practical care and to see local churches working together to make an impact on their community. Firstly, having worked for Christians Against Poverty in the area for the last 3 and a half years, it has been an immense pleasure to see how the church can have a significant impact on people who currently don't know God, by showing them practically that we care. Secondly, I have also had the privilege of being a part of other inter church initiatives, such as the New Wine Landmark conference in Lancaster last year, and have seen how strong God's church is when people work together across denominational boundaries.

I now find myself in a position to bring these two passions together in the context of supporting the outreach work into schools with NISCU. I am sure that many of you who have been a part of NISCU for longer than me will appreciate my dual emotions of being very excited about being a part of this work, but also feeling very nervous due to the weight of accountability for reaching as many of our children and young people as possible with the resources and opportunities that God has given us.

I'm also guessing that you are receiving this letter because you are a supporter of NISCU and I just want say right from the start that I thoroughly appreciate all that you have done, and continue to do, in making NISCU happen.

So may God bless you, and also continue to bless this work we are involved in together.



DIARY DATES

June	
20	Sandylands Baptism lesson Y6 St Luke's Skerton Church lesson Y4 LRGS assembly Y9 Moorside Eucharist lessons Y4 Capernwray Evening
21	LRGS assembly Y8 Morecambe Bay Church lessons Y3 Dallas Rd Leadership lessons Y3 Torrisholme Baptism lessons Y1 RE Cluster Meeting
22	LRGS assembly Y7 Sandylands Bible lessons Yr5 Torrisholme Pentecost lessons Y2
23	LRGS assembly Y10 Dallas Rd Eucharist lesson Y4
24	Meeting Melody from SPLAT
26	St Oswald's Warton, picnic & puppets
28	Meeting with Bishop Geoff
29	Nether Kellet Church lessons Y1-4 Dallas Rd Transition lessons Y6
July	
1	Prayer at Andy's 11am (see advert)
4	Sandylands Transition lessons Y6 Bolton le Sands Transition lessons Y6
5	Warton Bible lesson
6	Nether Kellet Transition lesson Y6
7	LRGS Reflecting lessons all of Y7 Celebration Torrisholme Meth 7.30pm
8	Blackpool Deanery Standing Committee Lancaster Rd Leadership lessons Y3
12	Dallas Rd Leadership lesson Y3 Over Kellet Transition Y6
13	Silverdale Transition Y6
15	Arkholme Transition Y6

Transition lessons have still to be booked. Please pray for Year 6's as they face their new adventure.

...and when two or three of you are together because of me, you can be sure I'll be there. Matthew 18:20 The Message

When I started working in a local school, I was met by the familiar, smiling faces of people I'd feasted with at a NISCU Encouragement Evening. A couple of weeks into the job I felt God nudge me to gather the other Christians I'd met to pray.....Now there's a tangible sense of God's presence in the library on a Thursday morning 15 minutes before the school day starts as together-hearted people ask God to pour his blessings on their school.

Lou Mosey

NEW WINE DISCIPLESHIP YEAR

For 18-24 year olds. 8 hours equipping, 12 hours serving in local church and now an opportunity to have 16 hours as a paid NISCU Trainee Christian Schoolsworker.

Want to know more? Contact:
pam.jones@niscu.org.uk

NEW

HOW TO CONTACT US

NISCU North Lancs Office
St Thomas's Centre, Marton Street,
Lancaster, LA1 1XX
Northlancs@niscu.org.uk

Debbie Green (primary)
debbie.green@niscu.org.uk
07794414353

Diana Stopczynski (primary)
diana.stop@niscu.org.uk
0772486651

Chairman
Andy Plowman
ap7@talktalk.net 01524 65481

Donations please send to
Mrs R Robinson, NISCU, 57 Lancaster
Road, Carnforth, LA5 9LE (NISCU on
front, North Lancs written onto back of
cheque)

PRAYER AT ANDY'S FIRST FRIDAY IN EVERY MONTH (TERM TIME)

EVERYONE WELCOME

11am for coffee, 11.15am for prayer
12 noon for soup.

Inglewood, Aldcliffe, LA1 5AR

(past B+Q, alongside canal, fields on
right, up the hill into Aldcliffe, 2nd
house on the right).

NEW

News to come...

As this newsletter goes to print, interviews are being held for our new High Schools worker. Come to our AGM 7th July, Torrisholme Methodist, 7.30pm to find out who!

REGULAR CUS

Mon	Skerton (Diana) Wray (Margaret) Ellel St John's (Jo) Scotforth (Catherine, Jo, Donna) St Peters, Heysham (Carey) Torrisholme (Hannah) Quernmore (Ali & Catie) Halton (Amy & Paula) LRGS (Stuart)
Tues	LGGS (Lou & Hannah) Hornby (Jane) West End (Ruth) Grosvenor Park (Diana)
Wed	Slyne with Hest (Robbyn) Lancaster Rd (Diana) Poulton le Sands (Ann)
Thu	Caton Community (Suzanne & Julie) Dallas Rd (Diana, Mary & Annabelle) Ripley (Sam & Sonja)
Fri	Trumacar (Diana & Rebecca) Central (Ali & Hannah) Caton St Paul's (Julie)