

niscu

Northern Inter-Schools Christian Union

ANNUAL REPORT

NORTH LANCs

2022



North Lincs Area Report

Chair's Report

It is such a joy to look back with gratitude on another busy year full of opportunities to bring the truth and hope of the Gospel into our schools. This is an endeavour which involves a huge team of people working together, and I would like to start by thanking all of those who have supported this work in any way. Thank you to those who have given financially – both individuals and churches; thank you to those who receive Miracle Monday and who pray regularly for our schools' workers and for their local schools; thank you to those who offer words of encouragement, who give practical support, who appear in videos or volunteer in schools. This is the Body of Christ in North Lincs working really well together.

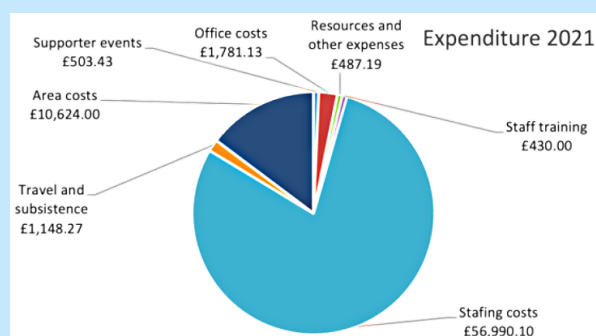
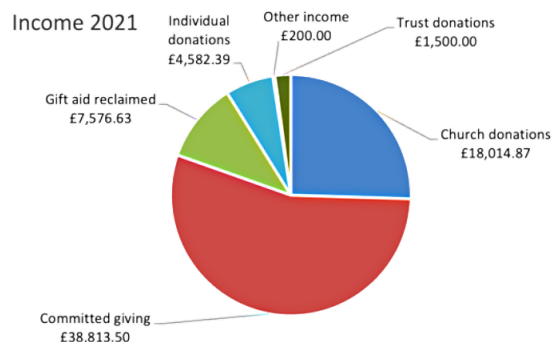
Our most precious resources in this work are our schools' workers. I hope that they know how much we value and cherish them and how grateful we are to have them working in and caring for our schools. This year they have been able to return to more normal ways of working (at last) while continuing with some of the innovations of the Covid season, not least the "Disassembly". It seems that there is still a place for online resources in schools, something which maintains contact between or instead of visits.

It has been a testament to relationships built up over many years and perseverance through the period of restrictions that so many schools have been keen to welcome NISCU back this year. It has been so encouraging to hear stories of children responding in simple faith and understanding when presented with Christian truths, and of opportunities to get alongside school staff. The introduction of listening services into local schools is a really practical way to meet a need and show God's care for every aspect of his children's lives.

Our schools' workers are busy with lessons, assemblies, JAM clubs and CUs, resourcing, listening and establishing (or re-establishing) relationships with schools. In response to the needs and opportunities in our schools, and thanks to the generosity and commitment of our financial supporters, we have been able to offer Sarah more hours for the coming year, and we would like to expand our staff team further still. We are currently advertising a part-time position; please join us in prayer as we seek the right person to fill this post.

Finances

Account	2021	2020
Turnover		
Church donations - restricted to North Lincs	18,014.87	20,056.74
Committed giving - restricted to North Lincs	38,813.50	38,092.50
Gift aid reclaimed - restricted to North Lincs	7,576.63	8,230.14
Gifts - restricted to North Lincs	0.00	388.14
Individual donations - restricted to North Lincs	4,582.39	7,900.19
Listening Service - restricted to North Lincs	0.00	0.00
Other income - restricted to North Lincs	200.00	0.00
School donations - restricted to North Lincs	0.00	170.00
Trust donations - restricted to North Lincs	1,500.00	2,105.00
Government grants - restricted to North Lincs	1,853.87	0.00
Total Turnover	72,541.26	76,942.71
Gross Profit	72,541.26	76,942.71
Administrative Costs		
Supporter events - restricted to North Lincs	503.43	826.27
Office costs - restricted to North Lincs	1,781.13	400.80
Resources and other expenses - restricted to North Lincs	487.19	832.75
Staff training - restricted to North Lincs	430.00	(30.00)
Staffing costs - restricted to North Lincs	56,990.10	54,140.93
Travel and subsistence - restricted to North Lincs	1,148.27	695.96
Area costs	10,624.00	9,865.00
Total Administrative Costs	71,964.12	66,731.71
Operating Profit	577.14	10,211.00
Balance brought forwards	£35,685.00	£25,474.00
Balance at End of Year	£36,262.14	£35,685.00



North Lancs Area Report

Our work in schools

Assemblies: 86

Topics including: Change, Christmas Presents, Meeting Jesus, Emmaus Road, Hope,

Lessons: 178

Including: The Bible, Gifts and Giving, Christmas, Church, Baptism, Easter, Prayer, Calling, Ascension & Pentecost, World Wide Church, Law & Grace, And Year 6 - 'Moving On' lesson

Clubs: 9

(188 sessions)

Primary: Forton, Winmarleigh, Skerton St Luke's, St Peter's, Grosvenor Park,
Secondary: Our Lady's, Ripley, LRGS, LGGS,

Videos: 49

Disassemblies: 34
(3467 views to date)
Sheldon Christmas Special
(318 views)
Others: 14
(Inc. Advent, Lessons, Testimonies)

Church visits: 16

Churches in: Lancaster, Morecambe, Heysham, Wray, Nether Kellet, Over Kellet, Warton, Quernmore, Capernwray, Garstang,

Other

3 Creme Egg Quests, Spirituality Days, Prayer spaces, Jonny's Prayer Journey, Listening to Head Teachers, Videos and Resources for other areas, Encouragement Evening, Listening Training,

The Team



Jonny

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My highlight of the year was seeing the Creme Egg Quest return, not just in LGGS but also LRGS and Ripley! It was amazing to have local church representatives in schools, answering over 350 questions from students!



Debbie

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Whilst our job is to focus on children I find God also at work in the lives of school staff. Meeting 3 Christian teachers in 3 schools in one day felt like such a God-incidence. Encouragement comes from conversations between those who find their family-ties in Christ!



Diana

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I felt really blessed when I was teaching a class at Cathedral School. The children started singing and signing along to a music track of the Lord's Prayer which was amazing! What a wonderful way to learn and remember the words of Jesus!



Sarah

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A Reception child with speech difficulties spoke to his mum about Jesus, how He had died and some ladies had come and said, 'He's alive! He's alive!' The child hadn't even been in my lesson (3 weeks earlier!) but must have seen and heard from the corridor.

North Lancs Area Report

Team Report

Two years ago in the early grip of covid, we were concerned that the pandemic might severely hurt our connections with schools and young people, but looking back now we can see how faithful God has been, enabling us to actually build on existing relationships and even develop new ones. This academic year we've been able to get back into schools (50 of them!) and it has been great to see how our online resources have in many cases made us more well recognised than before, which has led to better connections with young people and some amazing conversations!

Debbie

Being back in for 81 real assemblies has been great fun. When you hear them singing their hearts out and saying a big "Amen" at the end of a prayer it's so heart-warming. We also produced 30+ online video assemblies too, taking advantage of this regular input. I've had 50 lessons in primary schools, helping children get to grips with the Bible and who Jesus is; sat and prayed alongside 5 head teachers as they shared their joys and burdens; and we restarted the Encouragement Evening for 45 school staff and volunteers. Bringing support to staff is something I love and it was great to meet 3 new Christians in 3 schools on one day recently. Finally, on Fridays I enjoy creating worksheets, videos and other resources for our wider NISCU family!

Sarah

I have been running 2 weekly lunchtime clubs this year, at Winmarleigh and Forton. We have worked through Mark's Gospel, looking at what Jesus said about the kingdom of God, about repentance and the significance of his death and resurrection. Some of the children have no church background and it has been a joy to share the Gospel with them and see that they have memorised powerful Bible verses. I have also led one assembly and taught 41 lessons, and have been able to go into all eight of the schools I am responsible for, renewing relationships and forging new ones.

I have taken part in almost all of the weekly video assemblies, and have written and prepared all the club sessions and new lessons about Prayer, the Church and Easter (for all age groups) so next year I am looking forward to being able to use all of these (as well as writing new ones) to spend even more time face-to-face with children.

Diana

I have really enjoyed being back in schools since September 2021 mainly teaching lessons (78), which would have been more had I not had to cancel 30+ when I was ill with covid for 3 weeks before Easter, and leading some Jam Clubs in 3 schools (40 sessions.) It has been so good to reconnect with the children and the teachers in schools face to face. I think that the weekly online video assemblies (which I am part of) helped so much in keeping our connection in some schools and almost feel like many children know us much better than before. It has also been really refreshing to look at old lessons too and rewrite them and have some new worksheets (from Debbie) and video clips to bring these lessons alive. I also supported Jonny with some high school work at OLCC, including the year 7 club.

Jonny

The high schools have made a slow return to normality after covid. The Christian Unions got going in the autumn term, and they have been the regular feature of my year (now at more than 100 club sessions in 4 schools) but it took until after Easter for me to teach an RE lesson (just 9 this year). There have also been fewer spirituality days thus far, but I was very pleased to see the return of the crème egg quests (in 3 schools) and, still to come, the Ripley Alpha away day – taking all of Year 8 to a local church for them to explore who the Holy Spirit is and have the opportunity to listen, talk and pray!



Sheldon and Alfie have both had starring roles in videos again this year!

← We were joined on Jonny's Prayer Journey with loads of supporters from schools and churches! →



North Lancs Area Report

Schools in North Lancashire

Abbeystead Arkholme	Kirkland and Catterall Lancaster Road	Slyne with Hest
Bolton le Sands Bowerham	Leck Melling	St Bernadette's
Calder Vale Castle View	Moorside	St John's Ellel St Joseph's
Cathedral	Morecambe Bay	St Luke's Skerton St Mary's Claughton
Caton Community	Morecambe Rd (Special)	St Mary's Morecambe St Mary's & St Michael's RC
Caton St Pauls	Mossgate Nateby	St Michael's on Wyre St Patrick's
Christchurch Carnforth	Nether Kellet North Road	St Peter's
Christchurch Lancaster	Our Lady of Lourdes	St Thomas' Garstang Tatham Fells
Cockerham	Over Kellet	Torrisholme
Dallas Road	Overton	Trumacar Warton
Dolphinholme	Pilling Poulton le Sands	West End Westgate
Forton	Quernmore	Winmarleigh Willow Lane
Garstang Community	Ryelands	Wray
Glasson Dock	Sandylands	Yealand
Great Wood	Scorton	
Grosvenor Park	Scotforth	
Halton St Wilfrid's	Silverdale	
Hornby		
John Cross School		

Bay Leadership Academy (Heysham)
Carnforth High School
Central Lancaster High School
Garstang Community Academy
Lancaster Girls Grammar
Lancaster Royal Grammar
Morecambe Bay Academy
Our Lady's Catholic College
Ripley St Thomas CofE Academy

*Schools in bold are those niscu have visited in person Sept 2021 - July 2022 (50/75)

More Information

If you would like to receive our weekly prayer emails or termly newsletters, please email jonny.bayes@niscu.org.uk

If you would like to see more of what we do, then visit our website: <https://niscu.org.uk/areas/north-lancs/>

If you would like to support us financially, either go to <https://niscu.org.uk/home/giving/>, or email admin@niscu.org.uk