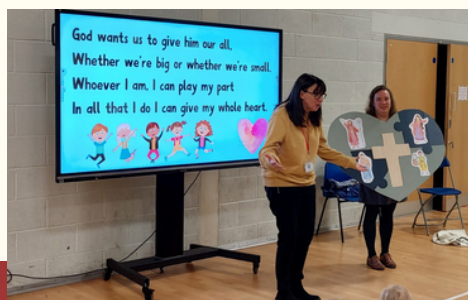




Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.

It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

Colossians 3 v 23-24





Whole-Heartedly Thankful

I've always said that working for NISCU is the best job ever, so it might be a surprise for some of you to hear that I'm leaving this Christmas! It has happened quite quickly, but over recent years I've been sensing a nudge from God to make room for some fresh talent and to allow someone else an opportunity at the best job ever! I am so thankful for your support and prayers, what a blessing it is to work hand in hand with so many denominations.

For 28 years I have run clubs, edited Tony Bower's books, taught lessons, taken assemblies, written scripts, made videos, prayed alongside incredible Christians working in our schools and been the voice of Sheldon the cheeky puppet snail. I have loved it and have been so blessed by the witness and response of the children I've served. I am completely confident that Abi has been chosen by God to be a witness in our schools from this point.

It would be impossible to pick a favourite memory but seeing Jonny praying with crowds of children outside our schools on his prayer journeys these past two years was incredibly moving, and hearing children share their faith with their classmates has been such a blessing. And I mustn't forget the amazing Summer Camps and the crazy days of Roadshows with Tony and Greg and then the

replacement Puppet Roadshows when awesome volunteers have stepped up to do things they never dreamed they would (e.g. being an orangutan playing a saxophone). I am so grateful to God for allowing me to share in over 70 different schools (one of them now closed!) in my 28 years alongside such Godly encouraging people. My prayer is that my efforts will have been part of God's Kingdom plan and used by Him to bring children and their families to Him through the cross of Jesus our Saviour.

"I AM SO GRATEFUL TO GOD FOR ALLOWING ME TO SHARE IN OVER 70 DIFFERENT SCHOOLS IN MY 28 YEARS ALONGSIDE SUCH GODLY ENCOURAGING PEOPLE."

Please join with me in praying this over our amazing North Lancs team: 1 Thess 1:2-3 "We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."



P.S. If any of you want to know what I'm moving on to, the answer is, at the moment quite a bit of writing. I am co-writing a book with my sister, the founder of Renew Wellbeing, which will explore the gospels with children and an A to Z of ideas that help them to connect better with God and attend to their mental health. I'm also writing (freelance) for the much loved Our Daily Bread ministries. Apart from that, it's wait and see – God hasn't revealed His whole plan to me yet!

Debbie



Comments from Teachers

Debbie: You have served God so well over these last few years. So many children have heard about the love of God and the hope for a bright future, through the work you have done.

Mark Curwen - Head at St Wilfred's Halton

Dedicated to her work
Enthusiastic in all she does
Boundless ideas
Bold and bright props
Imaginative and
Exciting!



THANK YOU SO MUCH

Thank you Debbie for all you have offered to the children in our area over all these years!

Paul Bowden - Head at St Luke's Slyne



PRAYER AND MINCE PIES!

Come and pray with us for the work of niscu - AND - have a chance to say **thanks** to Debbie! Tuesday 12th December, 7:30pm @ Torrisholme Methodist Church!

Monthly Prayer Meetings:

Garstang, Forton and South Lancaster, contact us for dates & venues.
Or talk to us about starting one where you live!

For more prayer points sign up for our Miracle Monday email! Or invite a niscu worker to visit your church or prayer meeting! We would love to come and share!

PRAYER

Welcome Abi!

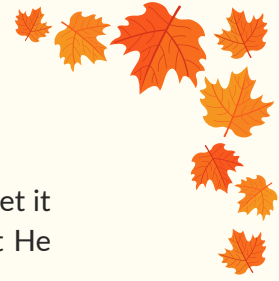
Hello, I'm Abi! I joined the North Lancs team in September and I've been loving it! At Uni I studied English Literature and Creative Writing and this term I have mostly been helping to write and deliver a primary school assembly with Debbie, on the theme of being 'Wholehearted', where I got to write a poem looking at different Bible characters. It has been such a joy taking this round the schools and watching the children join in with it and has been a great introduction to a lot of the schools I will be working with.

In the assembly, we talk about how we can wholeheartedly live for Jesus in all that we do and this is certainly something that comes through all of the amazing NISCU team! I am particularly grateful for Debbie this term as she has been so supportive to me personally and incredibly caring in taking me under her wing and introducing me to the schools she has worked with. I'm not sure I've ever known anyone give so passionately and completely to a ministry and that is so evident in every school we go into in the way they respond to Debbie, loving, appreciating and valuing all that she does!

I can't wait to see more children exploring and expressing faith in all sorts of creative ways, and I'm really looking forward to all that Christmas holds and new and exciting creative expressions beyond!

Abi





Giving it all

The boy who shared his lunch, in the Feeding of the 5000, shared it not knowing if he would get it back. He gave it all. And when we, too, give Jesus everything of ourselves, we discover that He multiplies – far more than we could ever ask, think, or imagine!

Debbie is a woman who lives wholeheartedly for Jesus. Witnessing her work in action, albeit for a short time since I started in January, Jesus' light and love oozes from her. It has been an enormous blessing to watch her work in action and I am sad that I won't have more time to see this and learn from her!

Holly

My first contact with Debbie was about 8 years ago, when we met up to talk about NISCU North Lancs expanding into the Garstang area. What struck me then was her energy and passion for the ministry God had called her to.

Over the years I have had the privilege of seeing her in action in schools, filling assembly halls with laughter, music and puppets; engaging children in RE lessons with her infectious enthusiasm for the Christian faith and ingenious props; and drawing alongside school staff with such empathy.

That so many of our local schools are open to NISCU is, to a large extent, a testament to Debbie's ability to communicate with children and build relationships. We are going to really miss her. However, I have no doubt that, after 28 years with NISCU, God has wonderful plans to use her gifts in a new season of fruitful ministry. We look forward to seeing what this might entail.

Alex Fearnhead - Chair of North Lancs Support Group

Wholehearted Support

We want to THANK YOU! for all your support for niscu, as we seek to serve God wholeheartedly in our local schools! Please pray for all the lessons, assemblies, clubs and events we'll be leading in the coming Christmas season, and in the new year!

As ever, we rely on the generosity of churches and individuals for finances, around 75% of which is spent on our staff so that we can be in schools. This Christmas we will also be giving a copy of Bob Hartman's 'Link It Up' Bible, as well as purchasing other resources we can use. If you would be able to help us financially in these purchases or would like to become a regular giver to niscu, please contact us for more information, or look on our website for our bank details!

Jonny



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Steve Elliott, Penelope Andrews,
Lisa Huddleston

How to contact us:

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Carnforth, LA5 9LE
(address for giving).

Any cheques sent for North Lancs need to say "NISCU" on the front and "North Lancs" on the back.
Thank you very much.