

CONNECTING CHURCHES, PARENTS AND SCHOOLS

niscu
connect

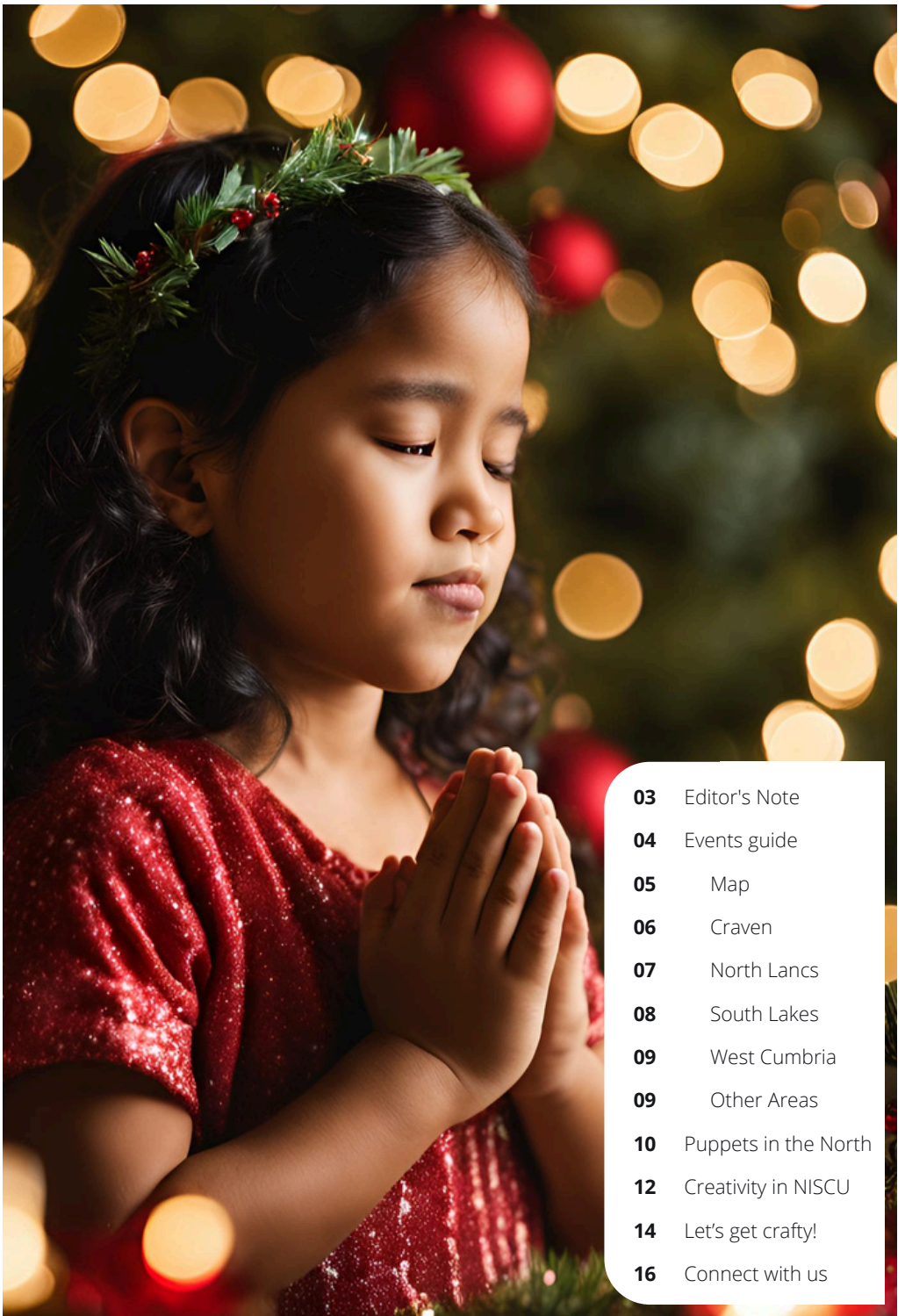


‘Tis the
season to
be jolly’



see niscu.org.uk/connect for more...





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Editor's Note

Welcome to this eighth edition of NISCU Connect - a place where we can help to connect a few of the dots around what churches are offering for children and young people and what parents and young people might find interesting in the holidays.

Firstly, if you are looking at this and thinking: 'Why is my event not in there?', then please contact us by emailing connect@niscu.org.uk and we can help you get your club or event into the next edition.

Secondly, if you are a parent looking at this thinking: 'I would like to hear about this for myself' then please also email us at connect@niscu.org.uk with 'Please subscribe me to your mailing list' as the title. We will then add you to our mailing list and you can receive future information first hand.

We hope that when you read Connect you'll find some great events in your area, learn a little more about the work of NISCU, or pick up a new skill with our 'Get Crafty' section!

Finally, some small print... all of the information in this newsletter was correct at publishing, but due to circumstances outside of our control, events may change so please contact the organiser for further details. Also please bear in mind that the events and clubs listed are being run by Christians; therefore there might be content regarding the Hope that we have in Jesus incorporated into the sessions. If you are not sure if this is what you want for your children and young people, then please contact the organiser and ask about the content of the event before booking. Thank you.



“My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my saviour”

Luke 1:46-47 (NIV)

The good news of Christmas is one to rejoice in as we celebrate the glory of our coming Lord. The events below are a collection of Christmas styled activities that Churches and Christian organisations are running over the festive period, each are identified by these badges:



Where possible we have identified suitable age ranges for the events, but our advice is that you should always contact the event organisers to ensure that the event is suitable for your child.





Ingleton Methodist Church



1 Christmas Panto

Sunday 8th December: 3:00pm

Ingleton Methodist church invite you to a free panto at 3pm for all the family.

For tickets please contact:
Nicola Fawcett on 07791475272

Ingletons Christmas party

Sunday 12th December: 9.30-11.30am

Church Nativity

Sunday 22nd December: 10.30am

Family Christmas service

Wednesday 25th December 10.30am

Church Contact: Rev Tim Broughton
Email: tim.broughton@methodist.org.uk
Tel: 01729 822554
Web: www.ingletonmethodist.org.uk

**INGLETON
EVANGELICAL CHURCH**



2 Community Carols

Sunday 8th December: 3:00pm-4:40pm
Ingleton Community Centre

Church Contact: Jim Day
Email: ingletonpastor@gmail.com
Tel: 015242 41920
Web: www.ingletonec.org.uk

Ingleton Methodist Church

We look forward to welcoming you to our annual free family pantomime at IMC. Open to all at no cost, but tickets are essential due to limited space.

Please call Nicola on 07932 049273 or Emily on 07919 694167 for your tickets.



WHERE
Ingleton Methodist Church

WHEN
Sunday 8th December
at 3pm



Garstang Free Methodist



3 4Front Theatre - Not Getting Inn

Friday 6th December: 7:00 pm

Christmas Day Service

Wednesday 25th December: 10:45am

Church Contact:

Web: www.garstangfmc.org.uk



St Michael's Church Cockerham



4 Cockerham Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 7th 10am- 4pm and
Sunday 8th December 11am-4pm

Traditional and alternative Christmas trees on display with musical entertainment, stalls and raffle.

Church Contact:

Sue: 01524791650



ST THOMAS CHURCH LANCASTER

SHARING GOD'S LOVE FROM THE HEART OF THE CITY



5 All age Nativity service

Sunday 15th December: 11:00am

All age Crib service

Tuesday 24th December: 1.30pm

Please join us for our family times, as we remember how Jesus came to save us.

Church Contact: Alison O'Neill and

Abi Andrews

Email: children@st.tees.org.uk



Hope Church Lancaster



6 Nativity service

@ Hope Church Lancaster
Sunday 15th December 10.30am

Kids Film Night

@ Hope Church Lancaster
Friday 20th December 5pm

Church Contact: Gracie Roberts

Email: gracie.roberts@hopelancaster.co.uk



7 Carol service

@ Scotforth St Paul's School Lancaster

Sunday 22nd December: 6.30pm

All Age Nativity service

@ Scotforth St Paul's School

Sunday 22nd December: 10:30 am - 11:30am

Please join us in the school, as we celebrate the incredible good news of the birth of Jesus this Christmas.

Church Contact: Jonny Bayes

Email: jonny.bayes@niscu.org.uk



Moorlands Church Lancaster



8 Bethlehem Live

Tuesday 24th December: 4-5pm

A chance for children to come dressed as their favourite character from the nativity as we tell the story of Jesus' birth together. With carols and Christmas themed activities for the whole family.

Church Contact:

Email: info@moorlands.org.uk

Website: www.moorlands.org.uk/christmas



**St Mary's
Kirkby Lonsdale**



9 Christmas show

Sunday 1st December: 1:00pm and 3:00pm

Tickets bought online at:

<https://stmarysevents.kirkbylonsdale.org/event/christmas-tales-with-mrs-claus/>



**Parr Street
Kendal**



12 All Age Carols with Nativity

Sunday 15th December: 4.30pm

Christmas Day Celebration

Monday 25th December: 10:30am

Church contact:

Tel: 03003 020093



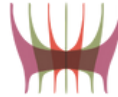
**Trinity Church
Milnthorpe**



10 Family craft and cafe morning

Saturday 7th December 9.30-11.30am

Dallam School (accessed from Haverflatts Lane)



**Kendal Parish
Church**



11 Christmas Tree festival with Messy Church

Saturday 14th December 9am-12pm,
breakfast available 9am-10am

Crib Service

Tuesday 24th December: 4pm

Christmas Day Family Holy Communion

Monday 25th December: 10:30am

Church contact:

Email: office@kendalparishchurch.co.uk

Tel: 01539 721248



**St Thomas'
Church Kendal**



13 Carol Service

Sunday 15th December: 6pm

All Age Christmas service

Sunday 24th December 4:00- 5:00pm

Christmas Day Celebration

Monday 25th December: 10:00am

Church contact:

Email: admin@stkmail.org.uk

Web: www.STKweb.org.uk

Tel: 01539 730683





**King's Church
Cockermouth**



14

Family quiz

Monday 2nd December: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Carol Service

Sunday 15th December: 5:00pm

Christmas Services

Sunday 22nd and 29th December 10:30am

Refreshments provided - All welcome

Church Contact: Paul Mogford

Email: admin@kingscc.org



**Cockermouth
Christian Centre**



15

Christmas Adventure

Cockermouth Christian Centre

Age Range: Children aged 4-11 Years

Saturday 14th December: 1:00pm - 5pm

Christmas Adventure Holiday Fun.

Free of charge

Carol Service

With kids music and drama slot

Sunday 22nd December

Church Contact:

Further information available via our
website:

www.cockermouthchristiancentre.org



Other Areas

We currently don't have information for events happening in Eden, Furness and North Cumbria at the time of publication but do keep checking our online version as we update our digital copy throughout December with upcoming events.

Which ever area you are in, if you wish to add your event to the list, you are still able to add your event to the online version, so please feel free to contact connect@niscu.org.uk.

To see an up to date version of this magazine, see

www.niscu.org.uk/connect

or scan this QR code.



Many thanks

The connect team.

“Up we all go dancing, wriggling and jigging away to our famous wiggle song, hearing the children giggling and laughing away as they escape into a world of fun and enjoyment.

Christine Walford
Puppet Team leader
North Cumbria



Christmas is such a special time! Once the curtains are up, scripts attached, puppets to hand we wait expectantly listening to the children filing in. After a quick welcome it is over to the team member who leads out front.

Up we all go dancing, wriggling and jigging away to our famous wiggle song, hearing the children giggling and laughing away as they escape into a world of fun and enjoyment. Giggles too as the puppets all freeze.

James and Judy then come up with a large silver sparkling Christmas cracker which on opening reveals a paper crown for King Jesus and a fire engine. What are they for? Up shoot hands to explain to rescue people. The twin puppets nod enthusiastically as Margaret explains Jesus is the real rescuer and Saviour.

The second song sees Mary and Joseph up with the chief angel singing “Joseph you don’t need to be afraid” before angels join in the chorus and two Jesus banners keep flying up and down. “And you’re going to give him a name that’s great. It’ll be a name that means that





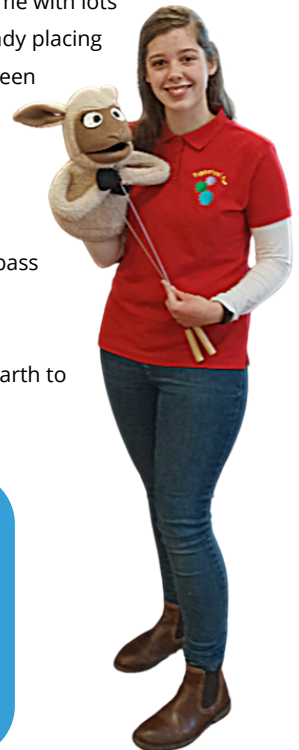
He will save his people from their sins! Call him Jesus, J E S U S.”

**“Call him Jesus,
J E S U S.”**

In the stable scene we meet some of the animal characters who were caught up in that first Christmas. Joseph’s donkey who found it a very busy time with lots of people and animals coming and going, Clara the cow who saw the brave lady placing the baby in her feeding trough; Fluffy who came with the shepherds having seen amazing angels in the sky and rude Camilla the camel who came on a long, strange journey to give gold and special spices to a baby King.

Finally in the song Ding Dong Ding, Angels Sing, up comes a musical band of angels comprising two keyboards, castanets, drums, saxophone, singer and bass guitar set to a fast moving and boppy Christmas Cheer Song.

Children clap and have had a special time meeting baby Jesus who came to earth to start his mission to save everyone of us.



**For more information about the puppet teams, please contact:
connect@niscu.org.uk**

Also we are looking to have some puppet team training next year, so if you would like to explore what it means to be a puppeteer, and how it works, and you would like to have a day of fun learning how to use a puppet, then please contact us for more information.

Getting Creative this Christmas

Andi Taylor, Abi Andrews and
Holly Wood
NISCU Schools' Workers

Art, Creative Writing and Dance

We love getting creative in NISCU, seeing children express themselves in all sorts of ways. Over this year, that has included art clubs with Andi, dance clubs with Holly and Creative Writing clubs with Abi.

Throughout the term children in creative writing clubs have had the chance to explore different areas of the Bible in different genres while being able to write their own poetry, letters, diaries and stories, finishing with writing their own reflections on what Christmas means to them.

Andi has been looking at the beauty of winter trees with children, that each branch has a bud with a curled up leaf ready for the spring, a gift for all of us next season. It reminds us that, like us, we all are wonderfully and fearfully made by God each of us unique, each with our own gifts to give; which might be a smile, kind words, thoughtful actions - so as they painted their winter trees they thought about their gifts they can give.

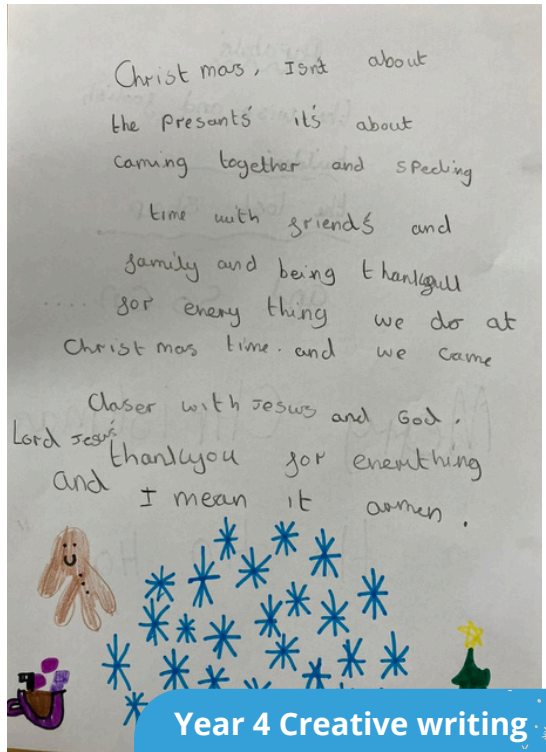


Holly has been leading dance clubs:

"I have the enormous pleasure of leading children in dance clubs with NISCU, and at Christmastime this becomes even more special, because we get to bypass all the wonderful warm and cozy cultural Christmas tales to the real reason we celebrate Christmas.... and we get to do that through movement and dance. As we learn the movements to the lyrics, we begin to internalise the story we are telling - that Jesus and all who He is - was born on this Christmas morn. It is such a gift to choreograph, to partner with the composers and singers, to bring to real life action the real reason we celebrate Christmas: Christ."

For more information about NISCU's creative workshops, contact:

Abi.Andrews@niscu.org.uk



Year 4 Creative writing

Reception and year 1 winter trees



ANGELS

1 Get Christmas Crafty

Andi has also been investigating angels in the Christmas story in schools and getting crafty making angels of their own. Why not have a go yourself as we think about the good news and great joy they brought!

Angel Investigation...

Look up Luke Chapter 2: 8-20

- Who did angels appear to? Shepherds
- What did the angels say? don't be scared I'm here with you
good news news for you with
will bring great joy to all people
- What do angels do? The
of bring God's
! message

2 What do I need?



- Thick cardboard
- Dark blue paint
- Metallic pens (or glitter!)
- Pipe cleaners (or thin wire)
- Tape



3 How do I make them?

1. Draw an angel outline onto some thick cardboard and cut out.
2. Paint your shape dark blue and leave to DRY!!
3. When dry, use metallic pens or glitter to add patterns to your angel.
4. With some pipe cleaners make wing shapes and attach to the back of your angel with tape. If you have thin wire you could also add a halo.



4 Hang them on the tree or around the house!



Beautiful angel decorations to hang on your Christmas tree, or gift to Friends.



Merry Christmas

May you know peace, love and light as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

From all the team at niscu

connect with us if...

- ... you are an organisation and want to put something in our next publication
- ...you are a church children's worker, or youth worker and would like to 'connect'
- ...you are a parent and would like to subscribe to the NISCU connect mailing list
- ...you have spotted something in this publication that shouldn't be there

how to connect with us...

 www.niscu.org.uk/connect

 [niscu](https://www.facebook.com/niscu)

 connect@niscu.org.uk

 57, Lancaster Road, Carnforth,
Lancaster LA5 9LE

 01524 732764

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at www.niscu.org.uk/connect
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