



Is it all a bit too much?

Michael Fox



Driving around town you could hardly fail to notice the flags, shirts and the odd advertisement for discounted alcohol and BBQ goods. You may have even linked these 'special offers' to the event known as the WORLD CUP. (It's a fairly major event so I'll be very surprised if you haven't heard of it). Maybe your grass is a little longer than it should be, those dishes just seem to be piling up, the car needs a wash or the laundry pile looks like something Sir Edmund Hillary would be proud of. WORLD CUP fever has once again gripped the nation - I wonder if any of you have caught the bug?

Throughout life we face many distractions, things that take our attention from the things we usually do or should do and these distractions come in many shapes and many forms: some in the guise of global sporting events, while others appear in more subtle ways. Recently I have been noticing that the attendance of some youth at clubs has been a little sporadic

and this has been for a number of reasons. Exams play their part as well as other school activities like sports days and art exhibitions etc... Other examples come in the form of detention, or a growing interest in members of the opposite gender, or perhaps a falling out between friends. The youth of today are bombarded with choices, both good and bad - the same as you and I. So what can we do?



STOP, LOOK and LISTEN. The green cross code. I remember learning this, and while it remains a successful method to teach us to cross the road, it is also a fantastic method to remind us that we all need to **STOP** what we are doing, **LOOK** at what we can do and **LISTEN** to what God wants us to hear. It's so important to know of God's will for our lives and my prayer is that through the work of NISCU young people can take one more step towards that goal.



Prayer Meetings 2010

3rd Monday each month

- 19 July } 7.30 pm
- 16 Aug } St Peter's Church
- 20 Sep } Kingstown Road,
- 18 Oct } Carlisle.

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News Update

...NEW BABY...NEW TREASURER...NEW LOGO...NEW CHARITABLE COMPANY...NEW APPOINTMENT...NEW CHIEF OFFICER?...

New things have been happening in NISCU. Here are some of them:

NEW BABY

Nathan James Lewis Scrase-Field arrived on April 6th, a month early, down in Cambridge. Hannah was to begin her maternity leave the day after the AGM. But Nathan had other ideas! Being premature he was not able to travel too soon, so spent the first weeks of his life in hospital in Cambridge. Happily he is now doing well and Hannah, Eddie and Samuel with Nathan are getting used to being a family of four. Congratulations to Hannah & Eddie—we are delighted at Nathan's safe arrival.

NEW TREASURER

Fraser Thomson, our treasurer, decided the time had come to resign. He has done a sterling job and we are very grateful to him, but understand that with the pressure of working away he was not able to continue. However we were delighted that **Ruth Gay** agreed to step into the role. Ruth had just gained her accounting technician qualification, so is well able to serve the Lord and NISCU in this way. Please pray for her as she gets to grips with the accounts!

NEW CHARITABLE COMPANY

NISCU has been in the process of becoming a charitable company. This was advised and has various advantages. We have now dropped "NWET" from our title. We have a new charity and company number, and a new bank account. The only noticeable change will be that anyone giving through head office will need to change their standing order. Don't worry though we will contact those involved.

NEW COMMITTEE

We now elect members for 3 years instead of every year. See page 4 for list of members.

NEW APPOINTMENT

We are looking to appoint a new part time schools worker in this area from October. We are very encouraged with the openings in our local schools and part of our vision is to build up the primary work in conjunction with local churches. We will be sending adverts out in the next few weeks as well as advertising on the NISCU website. Please be praying for the Lord to lead over who should fill this post. If you or someone you know who might be interested please contact us for further details.

NEW CHIEF OFFICER?...

Jon is moving on sometime in the Autumn to be a minister at Kings Church, Penrith. Jon has been part of NISCU for many years, as a committee member, chair of committee, schools worker, regional team leader and now chief officer. He has been a tremendous support to the organisation and has godly wisdom and a humble walk with the Lord. We pray the Lord will use him in this new phase of his service. Please also pray that the trustees will be guided as they seek to fill the gap he leaves.

NISCU North Alumni

facebook

If you are a past student, gap worker, schools worker, committee member or connected with NISCU North Cumbria. in any way you are welcome to join the NISCU Alumni group. If you would like more details, get in touch and we'll make sure you are contacted by Ruth Evans or Ray Proudfoot our Alumni coordinators. Look out for a summer Event!



Secondary School Clubs:

Clubs in, Richard Rose Central, William Howard, Nelson Thomlinson, Caldew, Lime House and Trinity continue to go well. The young people seem to engage well with the leaders and are comfortable enough to invite their friends. We will soon be saying goodbye to the older students who are moving on to college or employment, I pray that they take fond memories of their time in clubs with them and that they will continue to ask questions in the future!

Residential: Planning for "LEAD 2010" is well underway. LEAD is our chance to repay all the hard work the students have given over the year by helping in clubs and on residential camps. Along with DJ, Becky and Matthew Titcombe I will be leading the weekend. The programme will consist of devotions, quiet reflection time, teaching, workshops and fun. It's a time to welcome new members of the programme but sadly it's also time to say farewell to members moving on to other things. Please pray for the weekend of the 9th – 11th of July that all involved will really engage with God.

Primary School Clubs and Assemblies:

Over recent weeks I have begun going to Scotby Primary School, running assemblies and beginning to form relationships with the students. On the 30th June we will hold our second after school club. From September, with members of Scotby parish, we will be offering a monthly club.

Michael

At Petteril Bank Becky has covered Hannah's assemblies and Dan Cronin has kept the lunch time club running. Churches and teachers are running clubs at Houghton, Kingmoor and Pennine Way. Becky has booked assemblies at Hayton, a new venture for NISCU, and St. Michael's Dalston, where we've worked in the past.

William Howard Club has been brilliant with regular attendance from a group of bubbly girls. We have covered topics ranging from Creation versus Evolution to Inner Beauty and how God values us. The girls have really relaxed and started to open up and be honest about things that are happening at school like bullying and boys! Most of these girls are already Christians, so my role is to try help them through school and face all these challenges in a Christian manner- a challenge for me! I need prayer for lots of wisdom!!

A recent Lime House school assembly

It was based around team work and loving one another as God loves us. I had two of the strongest lads doing a tug of war, with the prize being a plate of chocolate at either end (just out of reach). They had only 60 seconds to achieve reaching their chocolate and went to work by pulling with all their might to the delight of years 7 to 9, who were roaring encouragement for their favourite to win. Of course the strongest boy won (or the one with better grippy shoes) and relished his prize, the other almost went flying into the grand piano!! The point I was trying to make was that within 60 seconds they could have been competitive to win the prize or allowed one another to take turns to reach and get their chocolate in a more compassionate manner. I was then able to go on to talk about Jesus' compassion and love for us.

At the end of the assembly, one of the boys from year 7 came over and said that was one of the best assemblies ever and how he was going to try and be kind.

Becky Day

Prayer Diary



SUNDAY - STAFF

Pray for all the staff to keep their focus on the Lord and to maintain their daily walk with him as they lead busy lives. Pray for their commitment to their own local churches.

- **Hannah** - on maternity leave.
- **Michael's** operation: date to be fixed soon - successful operation and recovery.
- **Becky** - wisdom as she supports the schools work in the busyness of her life.
- **Rachel** - maternity leave from 1st July.

CHURCHES for good outreach to children and young people

July 18th (am) Michael speaking at Scotby

MONDAY - COMMITTEE

- for Ruth, our new treasurer.
- sub group developing church rep role
- **NEW PART TIME APPOINTMENT.**
Pray for a new person to join the team from October. Adverts going out shortly.

Pennine Way 3.30 - restart Sept
extra help needed.

Houghton 3.20 - restart Sept
new leaders needed.

TUESDAY

- for good contacts with schools over "It's your move" year 6 assemblies. Pray they will encourage children to join NISCU clubs in secondary schools. Pray for new and renewed links which can be built on in the future. *Becky*

Kingmoor 3.30 - resart Sept
Scotby - 30 June, monthly next term *Michael*
Richard Rose Central 12.30 *Michael, Luke*
William Howard 12.45 *Becky Edward*

WEDNESDAY RESIDENTIALS

LEAD: 9-11 Jul, 6th form student leaders

- give thanks for accommodation being provided at last minute.
- teaching and group work. *Michael & others*
- for Becky responsible for catering
- for these young Christians to be envisioned to go on to serve the Lord Jesus.

Student Leaders Sarah, Beth, Joe, Sam

Nelson Thomlinson 12.30 *Michael*

THURSDAY - SECONDARY CLUBS

- students, leaving school to continue to grow in understanding and faith.
- continued contact with a student moving from Lime House to Nelson Thomlinson.
- students with exams and waiting for results.
- relationships with new club members to grow.

Petteril Bank Lunch time *Dan, Linda*

Give thanks for Dan & Linda. Linda leaves in July so help needed from September

Caldew 12.20 *Michael*

Lime House 1.30 *Michael*

FRIDAY - QUEST CLUBS

- give thanks for year's work. Pray children will go on learning about Jesus and trust him.
- year 6 students to link with secondary clubs.
- younger children to join next term.

TRINITY Fri 12.20- 1 pm

Michael, Luke & Anthony

SATURDAY - TRUSTEES and LEADERSHIP

JON COOK, *Chief Officer*, leaving NISCU in the autumn to take up ministry Kings Church, Penrith.

- pray for him in his last months with NISCU as well as his preparation for his new ministry
- for Trustees seeking to appoint successor
- for Tony Bower and Pam Jones who will have extra responsibilities in the interim

Prayer Groups for Schools

- give thanks for groups for Kingmoor, Scotby and Trinity
- for Christians to join to praying for local schools

Alumni Facebook Pray for Ruth & Ray arranging Summer event for past members

Supporters Praise for faithful prayer and generous giving. Pray all our needs will be met.

COMMITTEE elected at the 2010 AGM

until 2011 Karen Wilson (Vice Chair)
Sue Vander Byl

until 2012 Christine Wolstencroft
Margaret Hughes (Secretary)

Ruth Gay (Treasurer)
Sheila Beggs (2012)

until 2013 Barbara Gardner (Chair)
Ruth Evans

David Niven
Ray Proudfoot