

WONDER: DERWENT NETWORK

YOUTH CHURCH

INFORMATION PACK
&
JOB DESCRIPTION



NETWORK
YOUTH CHURCH




Thank you for your interest in the WONDER Derwent Network Youth Church job. The WONDER website can be found at www.wonderyouthministry.co.uk.


This is a really exciting time in Cumbria. We are working together in mission like no other area in the UK. Under God for All (see GodForAll.org.uk) the denominations have joined together, and we hope that by 2020 every person in Cumbria of all ages and backgrounds will have had an opportunity to discover more of God and God's purpose for their lives, so that they will discover more of Jesus and the Good News and become followers of Jesus within a Christian community. This vision is now being reviewed under the leadership of Bishop Emma to formulate a vision for 2020-25 that builds on what has been achieved.

Network Youth Church (NYC), (networkyouthchurch.org.uk) connects with 1000s of young people a month and Derwent NYC is an integral part of this process. The first NYC was established about eight years ago in Barrow-in-Furness, to do youth ministry differently. Derwent NYC, aka WONDER, was started in 2012, There are now 10 NYCs in Cumbria, focussed on growing Fresh Expressions of church with young people. So you would be joining a growing movement for mission in an amazing part of the world.





Derwent NYC is located right in the heart of the Lake District so there are great opportunities for creative mission but like many rural areas with key market towns there are plenty of challenges.



Three years ago, Richard Passmore was appointed Fresh Expression Enabler, and last year a new Fresh Expression of church was started in Cumbria every month, and NYC played a key role in this growth. So, if you are interested in working long term to develop something really pioneering, excited about new things, being part of an extended team, up for a challenge and have a passion to work with young people do get in touch.

In this pack you will find:

- The Job Description (pp. 4-10)
- Some info on the local area (pp. 11-13)
- A short introduction to Network Youth Church (seperate file)
- A Booklet of Fresh Expressions in Cumbria (seperate file)
- An Application Form (seperate file)





A. JOB DESCRIPTION:

Post title: Pioneer Youth Worker

Employer: The Diocese of Carlisle

Line manager: Rev Charles Hope (Rural dean of Derwent Deanery) with NLMS from Richard Passmore, FX enabler

Hours of work: 35 hours **Salary:** £25,494

Start date: TBC

*This is a permanent **post**: This post builds on a previous part time role and the salary costs have been secured via the diocese as part of our ongoing commitment to NYC. However expenses (eg travel, youth work budgets) are met by the local churches who have managed to find the increased cost for three years at this stage.*

Work base: there will be one in Cockermouth

and one in Keswick reflecting the initial parts of the role.

Accommodation: There is no accommodation provided with this post. Any assistance from the Diocese with accommodation is separate to any contract of employment. The worker is responsible for their own journey from their home to their base for that part of the week.



PURPOSE OF THE APPOINTMENT

- The post will work across three mission communities: Grasmoor, Keswick and Binsey, which are the deanery's key population bases.
- The intention and aspiration is, over the next 3 years, to appoint at least 2 new part-time NYC workers – one each in Grasmoor and Keswick Mission Communities.
- The youth worker will pioneer and grow Network Youth Church in the Derwent deanery, for young people aged 11-18 who are in school years 6-13.
- In the Grasmoor area, this role builds on the successful work pioneered by the previous post holder, developing new Fresh Expressions of church with young people, through youth cafes, groups, drop-ins, as well as church and school linked groups. Much of the initial work is now self-sustaining, so this post is about identifying and growing new work in new ways in new areas; such as detached work, outdoor initiatives based on the needs and interests of young people (roughly two days of face to face work).
- New work needs to be initiated in the Keswick and Binsey areas, in partnership with the Mission Communities and Churches Together in Keswick, Binsey and other agencies. Such work will relate to existing youth and childrens' work; but will need to go much further (roughly two days of face to face work in Keswick MC, two days in Grasmoor, and one day in Binsey).
- To work collaboratively with NYC, clergy, others involved in youth ministry, external organisations and statutory bodies e.g. schools in the area, to foster creative missional engagement.



MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

- To continue to grow youth church in the mission communities in Derwent Deanery using the NYC model as appropriate.
- To continue to identify, recruit, train and build a team of volunteer leaders to work with young people.
- Help each mission community develop youth work relevant to the young people in the community and grow it sustainably eg by working with local churches to fund and resource sessional youth workers, volunteers and grow young leader.
- Line manage and supervise sessional staff as the project grows
- To continue to develop and use the FX process to see new contextual communities of faith emerge with young people.
- To continue the pastoral and safeguarding oversight of the young people engaged.
- To continue to develop spiritual gifts of ministry, leadership and service among the young people.
- To help evaluate and support the evolution of existing youth ministry (inc. existing church groups, lunch clubs, prayer spaces, assemblies).
- To explore with young people from the area appropriate regional and national events, e.g. Ablaze.
- To meet at regular intervals with a local support/management group.
- To connect with young people of all ages, including young adults, teens and children, recognising the networks of the rural context.
- To develop youth fresh expressions that model “faithful improvisation” drawing on the best of tradition, culture and the bible, so that the work developed is sympathetic and informed about the strengths of inherited church in rural areas, yet also connects across new and inherited expressions of church.
- To be an advocate and educator about youth church and youth mission, developing good communications strategies with local clergy, church members, church leaders and the wider community.
- To be actively involved in diocesan and national youth initiatives, as appropriate.



PEOPLE LINKS:

- To work with some amazing volunteers working with young people.
- To work ecumenically, across the churches, leadership and members.
- To maintain appropriate links with external organisations and statutory bodies.
- Be part of the larger NYC network across the county.





B. PERSON SPECIFICATION

The person specification sets out the experience, knowledge, skills and aptitude and necessary to undertake the advertised role. Applicants will be asked to address these during the application process.

EXPERIENCE

- An occupational requirement exists for the post holder to be a practicing Christian in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.
- A proven track record in work with young people principally of secondary school age.
- Experience of involvement with state secondary schools.
- Experience of working in a non-school context to develop effective Christian faith based youth work.
- Experience of organising youth outreach events.
- Experience in leading cell groups to nurture and disciple young people in the faith.
- Able to demonstrate experience in growing young leaders.



KNOWLEDGE

- Ability to demonstrate an understanding of the world of young people of secondary school age.
- Hold a recognised qualification in Christian youth work or mission.
- Be aware of issues affecting young people living in an rural community.
- Have knowledge and experience of the Christian missional youth work scene.
- Able to demonstrate a knowledge of safeguarding/health & safety requirements when working with 11 to 18-yearolds, and the ability to implement 'safer recruitment practices' when appointing new volunteer youth leaders across the Mission Community.

SKILLS/APTITUDE

- Able to build and lead a team of both paid and volunteer youth workers.
- Be willing to work collaboratively with others involved in youth ministry.
- Be willing to work with the clergy of the deanery and attend Chapter meetings.
- Be willing to work ecumenically with fellow Christians.
- Computer literate.
- Able to write and deliver reports on the work as appropriate.
- Able to plan a course of action and develop a ministry with support from others.



OTHER

- As this post is about growing a Fresh Expression of Church we would hope the candidate would be willing to make Derwent NYC their main church and attend other churches in the Deanery as appropriate for the work.
- The post-holder will need a willingness to work flexible hours in order to fulfil the requirements of the role.
- The post-holder will need a means of providing their own transport.
- The post-holder will be required to complete an enhanced disclosure check and an eligibility to work in UK check.
- Due to the geography of the area and relational nature of the post ideally the candidate should be willing to live in the Derwent Deanery area.





AREA DESCRIPTION

GEOGRAPHY

Derwent Deanery is to the north-west of the Diocese of Carlisle, and the County of Cumbria, and takes its name from the river which flows through it. The main A66 also passes through, from J40 of the M6 to the coastal town of Workington. Several of the best-known Cumbrian fells are within its borders, including Skiddaw, Haystacks, Cat Bells and Grasmoor itself. There are two major towns: Cockermouth (pop. 9000 – designated a ‘gem town’) and Keswick (pop. 5000), both of which are bypassed by the A66.

Around these two centres are scattered many smaller communities and villages. Farming and tourism are the major features of the local economy, although many residents are employed directly or indirectly at the Sellafield nuclear processing plant.



TWO KEY CENTRES:

COCKERMOUTH

Cockermouth is still growing in population. It has two major supermarkets, with a third opening in the autumn. It has a little light industry, but its economy is dependent mainly upon small, independent shops and businesses – including the world-famous Jennings Brewery. There is a large comprehensive school, and 3 primary schools in the town. Cockermouth is particularly well-known for its connection with William Wordsworth and his boyhood home is a National Trust property in the centre.

KESWICK

Keswick, east of Cockermouth and at the northern end of the Lake District National Park, is better known for tourism, and is very popular with walkers, climbers and holiday-makers: several of its shops, pubs and restaurants cater for their needs. It also has a very successful theatre, which attracts visitors from far and wide, and an independently-run cinema. It has a secondary school in the town, and primary schools in outlying areas. It is the home of the famous evangelical Keswick Convention every summer.

Both towns have a small cottage hospitals, but the major hospitals are at Whitehaven and Carlisle, where there are A&E facilities.



DEANERY PROFILE

The deanery comprises the three Mission Communities of Binsey, Grasmoor and Keswick. Binsey consists of 12 village Anglican churches and a small Methodist church, which already form a charitable trust. Grasmoor contains the town of Cockermouth, and reaches down to the Lorton Valley, with 11 Anglican (2 of them in the town centre), 2 Methodist and 1 URC churches. Keswick Mission Community has the town churches of St John's and Crosthwaite, along with 9 village churches and 1 Methodist.

Across the deanery, there are 6 stipendiary clergy and 3 house-for-duty clergy; we are also fortunate to have a significant number of retired clergy in the area who assist us to a considerable degree.

