



# [ mustard tree trust ]\*

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## INTRODUCING OUR NEW TRUSTEES

### Simon White



Simon was born in Macclesfield, Cheshire but lived most of his early life in Hertfordshire. He moved up to the North East to study design and was a senior designer for some years with a small design practice. He then set up and ran a large design consultancy working all over the UK, Europe and Asia, designing nightclubs, pubs and hotels for the leisure industry. Simon was called to ministry 8 years ago and is now vicar of Felton and Longframlington with Brinkburn Priory. He is also a diocesan youth advisor for Newcastle Diocese looking after the north of the diocese. As well as being a trustee of The Mustard Tree Trust, Simon is also a trustee of Youth for Christ NE, and Contagious (a youth trust in Alnwick). He has a passion for ministry to young and old alike, loving both parish work as well as youth work. Simon is married to Jane, a teaching assistant, and they have 4 children aged from 5 to 17.

### Lindsay Gilfillan

Lindsay had size 12 feet when he was 12 years old. It was like walking on surfboards. In the intervening years their growth has settled to size 15. This means Lindsay has maintained a firm grip on God's creation.

He has been a GP in Ashington for 17 years where he is also seen jogging. His patients view this sight with increasing worry, and have been known to stop him mid jog and offer him a lift back to the surgery. He also is a part time prison doctor in Acklington Prison. Because he bears a remarkable resemblance to a hardened criminal, he occasionally has to negotiate his way out.

He has been a regular at MTT Youth Service for years, variously acting as taxi service, roadie for the band, stacker of chairs, and once was a speaker.

He is an active member of the St James'/St Mary's/St Aidan's group of churches. He has been going to trustees' meetings for nearly 2 years and is delighted to recently become a trustee, hoping to contribute to the very varied work of the Trust in encouraging the Christian growth of young people, and the spread of the Gospel.



### Stephen Murphy



I have been involved with The Mustard Tree Trust for approximately two years as a trustee and I am currently treasurer. I find the whole experience both challenging and greatly rewarding. I have a passion for young people, especially high school age youth. I think having a Christian presence going into schools is invaluable. It is our aim to help young people learn about the Gospel and to enable them to be built up in faith before taking the plunge into 'real life' or university. In my personal life I work at a hospital in Morpeth that cares for the needs of patients with mental health problems and I am part of Morpeth Baptist church.

We are at an exciting crossroads at The Mustard Tree Trust having undergone a time of renewal and envisioning. I'm looking forward to seeing the young people that come to faith and are built up through this work.

**The Mustard Tree Trust**

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Registered Charity No: 1092538

## GORDON

It has been a good and busy term so far. I have begun studying for my diploma in Children's Evangelism and Nurture and am really enjoying it. It has given me a greater understanding of the theology behind working with children and young people and has greatly influenced my practice. Next term we are hoping to start two new and exciting lunchtime clubs at schools in Morpeth: Stobhillgate First School and All Saints First School. These will be Bible-based clubs with a game, song, story and fun challenge lasting about 35-40 minutes. **We are looking for volunteers to help run the clubs.** If we could get one volunteer for each club that would be fantastic. So if you could help out with one session a week, or perhaps every other week, I would love to hear from you. Please call me on 01670 511001 or email [innes93@gmail.com](mailto:innes93@gmail.com)



All Saints College Newcastle  
West Denton Way NE5 2SZ  
Sat 5th December 6-8pm  
Ages 7-11 cost £3

The next X:site event is coming up! This is the Christmas event and should be really good fun with a party atmosphere. So why not round up any KS2 children in your church and bring them along on the 5th December. For more details, contact Gordon on 01670 511001 or [innes93@gmail.com](mailto:innes93@gmail.com)

### New Office!

Since our last newsletter, MTT has moved into new premises in Morpeth. We are now situated in Wellwood house (full address overleaf), the former home of undertakers, J. W. Peters, and now owned by Barnabas Safe and Sound from whom we rent a room. Please call in and say hello if you are passing!



## NIKKI

I can't believe it's nearly Christmas! This term has been a bit of a challenge with only Gordon and me trying to take the work forward but we have been successful. Highlights for me would have to be our assemblies at Newminster and Chantry and the Christian Union up at KEVI. The CU is still going strong. This term we have decided that it's time for us to be an active presence in the school. So every Friday the young people have committed themselves to wrapping shoeboxes for the school's Operation Christmas Child appeal. It's been great to have the team work together in helping those who need it most, a real Christ-like attitude I think. Hopefully this won't stop after Christmas - we have plans to have a fair trade stall in the school on a lunchtime and various other things. But it's always important to remember to have fellowship time together, so we will still be having a regular CU and not forgetting the Youth Service.

The Youth Service is now based at New Life Christian Centre in the back hall. It's helpful to have the pool and football tables, not forgetting the nice wide screen T.V. There is now 30 to 45 minutes of social time at the beginning and the end of the service to give the young people the chance to catch up and relax with some hot chocolate and music. This year we've started to look at the Nooma DVD's. Nooma takes a look at the most important subjects and issues that we face as Christians and helps us to understand and reflect on them.

So this term has been another success and I am looking forward to Christmas.

God Bless

Nikki Carmichael.