

# Holidays SPONSORSHIP

Appeal News 2011



**HELP A KID  
GET TO CAMP...**

 *light to live by*  
**Scripture**  
union  
scotland

Dear Friends

Early in January the funeral took place of a 93 year old SU supporter. Not many will know her name, but her life and commitment were such that I have no doubt that her homecoming was greeted with applause in heaven, and the Lord's "well done!" She was involved in her church holiday club during the last two summers, and prayed faithfully for matters local, national and global. Why do I mention her? Because I met her once, just before her 80th birthday. She wanted to do something special to celebrate her 80 years... In the end, she gave an exceptional donation that enabled 80 children to attend SU Holidays!



I am writing to invite you to follow in her footsteps and make a contribution to our Holiday Sponsorship Fund in 2011, at whatever level you can prayerfully consider. Whether you are able to give or not, please pray for God's blessings on these holidays.

Every year we make this special appeal for two reasons:

1. Many children and young people come from families who are not able to afford an SU Holiday. Without sponsorship funds, some would not enjoy any holiday. For many, this is their only break. The financial challenges that families are facing have increased demands on the sponsorship fund.
2. We depend on the willing service of a large number of committed volunteers. For some, volunteering involves a significant financial sacrifice, but all make sacrifices of time and energy. Not every team member is able to contribute towards the event cost, and so we need your help to make up the considerable shortfall.

Supporters continue to find creative ways to give to this fund:

- donations in celebration of a milestone
- a special sponsored event – some brave people went white water rafting last year
- sponsorship by an appreciative Sunday School group

In this Appeal News, you'll read testimonies from those who view SU Holidays as pivotal in their Christian experience. John Mason's testimony is terrific – we need more public figures who work out their faith in the national stage. For others, faith is lived out in church leadership, working life, family settings.

Thank you again for your partnership in prayer and in practically helping young people to hear the gospel at camp in 2011.

Christine Murison  
Director of Centres & Holidays

PS If you are one of our supporters who is already giving to Holiday Sponsorship (or other areas of Scripture Union Scotland's work), then please pass this leaflet on to an interested friend, or perhaps your church could have a special offering?

## My life has never been the same since

Growing up under the influence of SU Scotland

Although I grew up in a Christian home, for which I am immensely and permanently extremely thankful, God has no grandchildren and Scripture Union had a huge part to play in my moving from a kind of inherited faith to a personal one that was real for me too.

At thirteen years old I went to a Scripture Union camp in St Andrews, and I reckon that was the time when my faith made the transition from what I'd grown up with (but didn't really understand, or think about much) to something very, very real and personal. I understood about the cross for the first time that week and my life has never been the same since.

My "testimony" is kind of boring. People love to hear the dramatic story and mine just isn't – so I don't get asked to tell it. But I fiercely insist that God is worthy of just as much praise and glory for bringing me, in spite of my folly and failings and foolishness, through 29 years of this faith journey, rescuing me from many a blind alley and wrong path and putting me back on the right road!

From <http://annedroid-annedroid.blogspot.com/>

Can you help get a kid to camp?



"It's impossible to over-estimate the value of camp to the young people from urban communities; it is a week when they can lay aside some of the self protection barriers they need to survive in their communities and be themselves. It is a time when they hear that God loves them and has a purpose for their life and when they experience something of that love through the team members."

Libby Lobban  
Junction 12 Project Leader



"This is my final year at camp and it was seriously amazing. Thanks to all the leaders for making this such a good year at Scoughall. I loved every moment of these 3 years here and I will remember the place and its great leaders for the rest of my life."

Camper, Scoughall, Summer 2010

"The SU Holiday has been amazing. I have really enjoyed it and felt that I have come closer to God. Thanks SO much to everyone who made it happen."

Camper, Lendrick Muir, Summer 2010



"SU Holidays has saved my life. It has been wonderful and has set my heart on fire. I love all the leaders and I aspire to run the race as fast as them."

Camper, Alltnacriche, Summer 2010

## A crucial part of my life

John Mason, former MP for Glasgow East describes SU Scotland's influence in his life



I grew up in Rutherglen in a family where church attendance was traditional. In school I attended SU groups and came under the influence of "Boss" (Jim) Meiklejohn (in a primary SU group with sometimes 100 attending!) and Christian teachers like John McKie and Martin Petty. I think that I had believed in God as "a concept", but gradually understood what it meant to believe in a living God. As time passed, that understanding developed into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

However, SU camps were a real highlight for me – so much more

than songs and lessons. Easter camps at various locations, ski camp, and the summer camps at Scoughall in the early 70's – all were especially beneficial for my growth and maturing as a Christian. These camps (some lasted 10 days!) were such a practical benefit to me. I particularly remember being encouraged to take on responsibility for others and deepen my own commitment.

As a student, I spent one whole summer helping with administration, driving minibuses and generally assisting at Scoughall. Another winter I was

part of a group making canoes at 280 St Vincent Street from rolls of fibre glass covered in resin! In time, as my understanding grew, I led my first SU camp at King's Cross – learning much more about leadership through that experience.

Scripture Union Scotland, in so many ways, WAS my Christian life. Along with my friends in groups and at camp, I heard the gospel, I saw it modelled, I was challenged and helped to develop my faith; the extended time away in a Christian atmosphere on SU Holidays was so crucial in cementing these parts together. From these experiences to the Interlalia meetings in Glasgow's Renfield St Stephen's Church, to the Saturday night Spectrum meetings organised by David and Maureen Clark, a good foundation was built into my life.

Having been a Glasgow councillor for ten years and an MP for two, I am now looking to see what God has lined up next. But whatever the years ahead hold, I know that SU has been a crucial part of my whole life.

# Prayer Hotline

We have set up a Prayer Hotline in order that news and urgent needs from SU Holiday events can be communicated by email.

## Interested?

Contact Gail McLay at [gail.mclay@suscotland.org.uk](mailto:gail.mclay@suscotland.org.uk) to let us know the dates you would like to be involved.

Alternatively, fill in this form and return it to: **Prayer Hotline, SU Scotland, 70 Milton Street, Glasgow, G4 0HR.**

Why not return it with your sponsorship response form?

**We ask people to commit themselves to complete weeks during the holiday programme.**

Name _____
Address _____
_____
_____ Postcode _____
Email _____
<b>Please tick the week(s) when you wish to participate.</b>
<b>Easter:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Week 1:</b> 2 - 9 April
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Week 2:</b> 9 - 16 April
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Week 3:</b> 16 - 22 April
<b>Summer:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Week 1:</b> 25 June - 2 July
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Week 2:</b> 2 - 9 July
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Week 3:</b> 9 - 16 July
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Week 4:</b> 16 - 23 July
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Week 5:</b> 23 - 30 July
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Week 6:</b> 30 July - 6 August
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Week 7:</b> 6 - 13 August

## Holiday & Mission prayer evenings

There is something powerful about coming together as God's people to pray. If you are able, please join us at the following prayer gatherings, where we will join together in worship, thanksgiving and prayer.

### Prayer for Easter Events:

Wednesday 16th March, 7.30pm  
Uddingston Park UF Church, Main Street  
Uddingston, G71 7EP *(please check website for directions)*

### Prayer for Summer Events:

Friday 24th June, 7.30pm  
Lendrick Muir, Rumbling Bridge,  
Near Kinross, KY13 0QA *(please check website for directions)*

*Tea and coffee will be served from 7pm at both events.*

For further information, please contact Elizabeth McDowall on **0141 352 7632** or [elizabeth.mcdowall@suscotland.org.uk](mailto:elizabeth.mcdowall@suscotland.org.uk)

## Hope to see you there!

# Thank you to all our supporters!

We are so very grateful for the generous donations from hundreds of supporters in response to these appeals for holiday sponsorship. We continue to be astounded by your generosity. In the last three years, more than £330,000 has been raised through this appeal!



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[www.suscotland.org.uk/holidaysappeal](http://www.suscotland.org.uk/holidaysappeal)