

SU Holidays



SU Scotland

THEY BELONG HERE

Sponsorship Appeal 2018



Letter from **ROBIN MACLELLAN**

Dear friends

I am writing to ask you to make a gift to our annual Holidays Sponsorship Appeal.

We want these holidays to reflect changing interests and so, in recent years, newer events have developed (drama camp, surf camp, comedy camp) to cater for contemporary needs. But the good news we share remains the same! And stories of transformed lives testify to the value of investing in this ministry.

Your gifts make that possible!

- Many children and young people come from families who simply can't afford a holiday. Your gift helps us offer substantial sponsorship to make it possible.
- Our Motiv8 Holidays are designed for young people from disadvantaged communities and are heavily subsidised. Your gift makes that possible.
- We depend on a huge team of committed volunteers to run our holidays, all of whom make costly sacrifices of time and energy. Not every team member can contribute fully towards event costs, and so we need your gift to make up the shortfall.

Last year, your giving enabled us to respond to over 380 requests for support, as well as subsidising team members who made the holidays possible.

The Scottish Government has designated this year as the Year of Young People, to celebrate and inspire Scotland's youth. In 2018 we want to respond to each sponsorship request, so that every child or young person, especially those who are marginalised or isolated, can enjoy an inspiring SU Holiday.

Please give generously so that more kids get these life-changing experiences at camp in 2018.

Thank you!

Robin MacLellan

Director of Residentials and Resources

What giving to this appeal means

I have been seeking Holidays Sponsorship over the past few years for one local family in need. The single mum suffers from depression, goes nowhere with her children, and they have very few possessions. On a follow-up visit after camp to see how the children had got on, she showed me the Bible the oldest girl had been given at camp, and told me that the girl had been reading it ever since. This led to us having a conversation about faith and God which, amazingly, led to her putting her own trust in Jesus! Further to that, at the SU October week camp, the same girl told the Team Leader that she was now reading the Bible with her mum.

Team Leader, SU Holiday, 2017



One of our supporters made a donation to last year's sponsorship fund on behalf of a friend, whose daughter works with children in care. Her daughter was able to arrange for one of the girls in care to go on an SU Holiday, with some assistance from the sponsorship fund.

The girl, herself, was not sure about going as she thought it would be "weird". However, she overcame her fears, attended the holiday and really enjoyed it. When she came back, she said that nobody had ever told her that God loved her, but she heard this at the holiday. She can still remember the Bible stories she was taught, and she knows that God loves her in the middle of difficult family circumstances.

SU Holidays Administrator



ASYLUM SEEKER CHILDREN

SU Scotland has established links with Asylum & Immigration Support teams and Asylum Support Workers. Through these partnerships, young people living in children's homes, reception centres or foster care have been able to attend SU Holidays.

The 2017 appeal sponsored 20 young people in these circumstances, including five Vietnamese girls who arrived in the UK without parents or guardians.



*This is part of the
Team Leader's report:*

...the girls from Vietnam had an impact on our team in an incredible way. Although their grasp of English was nowhere near what we had been told by social work, this obstacle paled into insignificance as the residential ministry setting provided a safe and happy place for these girls. They were the life and soul of the camp, even though they couldn't speak much English! Their background is horrendous (we don't know the full picture but what we do know is heart-breaking), and yet the thing that made the biggest impression on me was how full of joy they were - always smiling, laughing, enjoying the holiday. It put some of the grumpy Scottish teenagers to shame!

www.suscotland.org.uk/give

PRAYER HOTLINE

Every year we run an email-based prayer hotline during holiday seasons to share news and urgent needs as they arise.

Interested?

If you would like to join this hotline, please visit suscotland.org.uk/hotline (we ask people to commit to complete weeks) or phone 0141 352 7608 for more information.

GIVING IDEAS

- 📍 some supporters have given us donations when celebrating a particular anniversary
- 📍 some churches have held a special offering
- 📍 some supporters have run, climbed, baked or done something extraordinary!



My name's Emily and I'm 18 years old. I wasn't brought up in a Christian home and my family don't really have anything to do with Christianity at all.

When I was in Primary 7 we had an assembly, and John Gillian had come to speak about SU Scotland and see if any of us were interested in heading along to go to the SU Group called DIME. Me and a few of my friends thought it would be a good thing to head along and see what it was you did there, and see if it was worth going to it.

The group played a big role for me when I was younger. The area I have grown up in isn't the best area at all and, with all the trouble that goes on around, it made

Interview with Emily

me want to go on a Thursday instead of roaming the streets with the other kids who were getting into trouble. DIME was also somewhere for me to escape from reality for a while, while also getting to know a lot about the Christian faith.

SU Motiv8 camps were an amazing time that helped my Christian faith in the school holidays. When I eventually got the chance to be a leader with SU I jumped at it as I really wanted to help, and let the younger generation know about God and Christianity and the big impact he can make. Leading my own group for the first time was very daunting, but also I was really excited about being able to do it as I was able to show the kids who God is and what he can do and be able to answer their questions.

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS —
PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY AGAIN IN 2018!**

A large print version of this appeal is available. Please call 0141 352 7634 to request a copy.

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Printed by Gavin Watson, www.gavinwatson.co.uk