

## 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](https://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 special birthday or anniversary
- Some churches organise special offerings for Holidays Sponsorship
- Some supporters run, climb, bake or do something extra special!
- Some supporters give pocket money, just like Ava!

Thank you to all our supporters. Please give generously again in 2019!

## Partnership with Circle

Circle is a charity which focuses on improving the lives of children, including those affected by imprisonment, by strengthening families. A staff member writes about one of the young people they support, who was sponsored to attend an SU Holiday last year.

Suzie<sup>1</sup> is the eldest of four children and lives at home with her mum and siblings. There is always a great deal going on, including many changes over the past year. Mum, and the children, have been supported as they address the impact of domestic abuse on their lives. As the oldest, Suzie is a little leader, taking on responsibilities at home to help her siblings and support her mum.

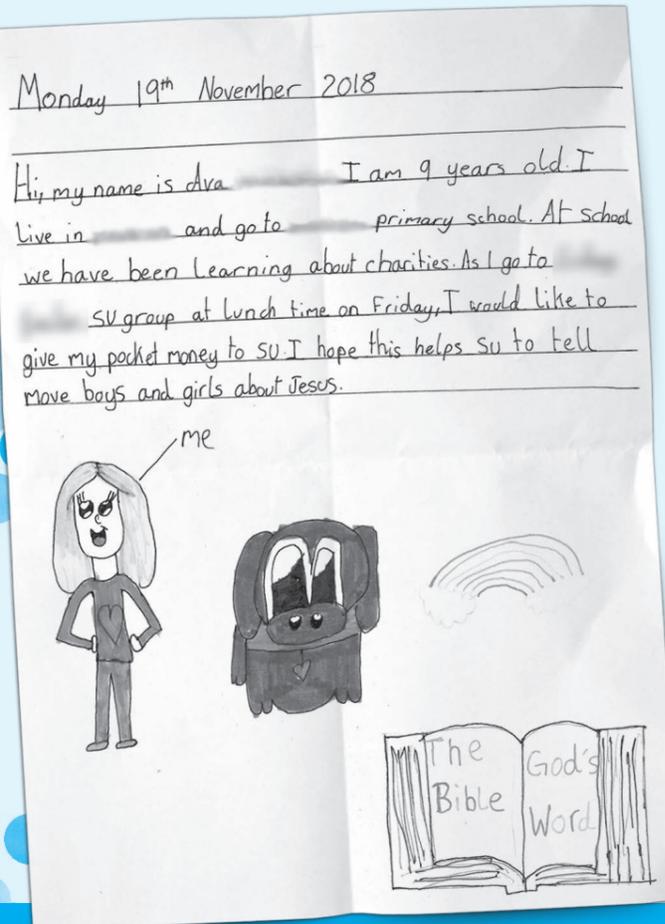
The difference which SU Holidays make is the opportunity for Suzie (and children like her) to go to camp, meet new friends and take part in lots of exciting activities – a chance to just have fun... nothing more, nothing less!

There is no doubt that leaving home can be daunting – however, Suzie was excited and looking forward to the camp last summer. Her mum was equally excited and happy for her to have this experience on her own.

Suzie thoroughly enjoyed her week at camp and, when she met Circle staff after returning home, was so bubbly and chatty about all that she got to do. She made sure everyone looked at her photographs and was 'introduced' to lots of new friends!

She told us, "I loved camp and getting to meet friends... I had an amazing time!"

<sup>1</sup> The name of this young person has been changed.



# SU Holidays



## THEY BELONG HERE



## Sponsorship Appeal 2019

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

Letter from  
**ROBIN MACLELLAN**



**Dear friends**

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

As you will read in this appeal leaflet, many young people helped by your gifts deal with challenging circumstances all year round. For some, SU Holidays provide respite from difficult situations, giving space for healthy relationships in a safe environment. They hear a message of hope – that they have worth and that God loves them – often for the first time. For others, sponsorship simply means that they can enjoy a holiday which would not be possible otherwise.

**Giving to the Holidays Sponsorship Appeal achieves so much!**

- We want SU Holidays to be accessible for everyone – families who need help to send siblings, refugees and others with no means of affording a holiday – **your giving enables this work.**
- Motiv8 Holidays have higher leader-to-child ratios, are designed for young people from areas of disadvantage (where relationships with leaders are often being developed week by week) and are heavily subsidised – **your giving makes these events possible.**
- We depend on a huge team of committed volunteers to run our holidays, all of whom make costly sacrifices of time and energy. However, not every team member can contribute to event costs – **your giving helps to close the shortfall.**

We really appreciate the generous responses by supporters to this appeal each year – your donations mean so much to so many young people and their families.

**In 2019, can I ask you to give generously so that we can offer more holiday places to children from areas of disadvantage, to families who desperately need a break, to asylum-seekers and refugees?**

Your support makes all the difference – thank you!

Robin MacLellan  
Director of Residentials and Resources

# What difference do SU Holidays make?

The difference in my boy within a week was absolutely amazing; he came back so out of his shell, he's (coming) forward now... he will start a conversation, he's more sociable, even in school his attitude to things has changed and getting better.

**Parent of child, sponsored by Prison Fellowship Scotland via Circle**

On the first night as I was talking, one girl sat in the middle of the front row and shook her head at everything I said, actively against what we were talking about. By the middle of the week she was showing interest, and by Thursday was asking for a Bible. At group time on Thursday evening, she asked her group leader what the prayer is to become a Christian. Her group leader explained that there was no set prayer but talked about the kinds of things you say to God. Casually, the girl replied, "Well that's fine, I prayed to God earlier today and I just wanted to check I was actually a Christian now." She spent the best part of Friday reading her new Bible and making notes from it.

**Team Leader, Alltnacriche**

Everyone was so welcoming and caring at SU Scotland. I also really enjoyed the worship part of the camp, 'Road Show' and the talent show too; they were so much fun, especially seeing everyone's hidden talents. I loved singing most of the songs we sung at worship... they were so meaningful and got me thinking about God.

**Sponsored Child, Summer 2018**



# Team Leader Reflections

**Stuart and Fiona Beggs, along with Susan Miller, lead one of our Motiv8 Holidays for young people from areas of disadvantage. They reflected on the highlights of their 2018 event.**



We had been praying that the young people would have respite from desperate situations they face at home. One of the girls was unrecognisable when she arrived, due to the amount of make-up she was wearing. Slowly, as the week went on, her make-up became less and less...

One evening I was reading The BFG to their dorm – sitting in the dark, using a torch for a light. I was holding back tears as I thought about this young girl in bed at 10.30pm – with no phone, no boys and no alcohol – falling asleep listening to a Roald Dahl story.

During that week, through the kindness of leaders, barriers were removed, and it was clear that God was speaking to her. To know that she is precious and being prayed for had a huge impact, and we are grateful that she left the holiday knowing that she is valued and loved.

On the first afternoon, when we send out groups for orientation/getting to know you time, I walked around the site in the sunshine to say hello and welcome each young person. Seeing so many smiling, happy young people, not having to deal with the trauma going on in their lives at home was an absolute joy.

I was so thankful to Jesus that these young people were away from day-to-day pressures, with time to be themselves in the company of adults who care, able to make friendships and try new activities in an amazing and beautiful environment. That whole realisation really led me to worship God there and then. God's continuing faithfulness was so evident that day, and I am delighted that he continues to provide these opportunities, especially for young people on the margins of society, living in situations of unimaginable poverty and deprivation.

Fiona



Stuart



# Five Nations at Kingscross



At one 2018 event on Arran (KX5), the team welcomed young asylum seekers from five different nations (Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, Somalia and Vietnam) who now make their home in Scotland.

The teenage boys mixed really well given communication limitations, conversing in their shared language (English) and engaging in activities and Bible studies. This aspect of the holiday was enriched for the boys because the team was able to source a Bible for each of them in their own language: Arabic, Mandarin, Swahili and Kinyarwanda.

Over 50 similar young people are now sponsored in this way, and we hope many more will benefit from SU Holidays.

**SUSCOTLAND.ORG.UK/GIVE**