

SPONSORSHIP APPEAL 2020

THEY BELONG HERE

SUS HOLIDAYS

su Scotland 

GIVING IDEAS

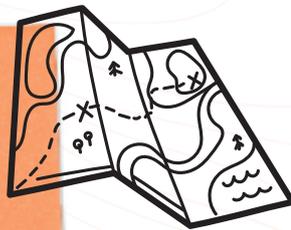
Some supporters have given us donations when celebrating a special birthday or anniversary.

Some supporters organise special offerings for Holidays Sponsorship in their church.

Some supporters run, climb, bake or do something extra special...

Contact support@suscotland.org.uk for more information.

**Thank you to all our supporters.
Please give generously in 2020!**

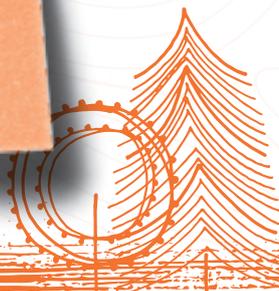


PRAYER *Hotline*

Every year we run an email-based prayer hotline during the 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.



A large print version of this appeal is available. Please call **0141 352 7603** to request a copy.

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LETTER FROM

Robin MacLellan

Dear friends

I AM WRITING TO ASK YOU TO MAKE A DONATION TO OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAYS SPONSORSHIP APPEAL.

Your gifts mean that children in challenging circumstances enjoy a holiday, providing respite for them and sometimes their families too. At these events, they hear good news that they are valued and loved by God and can build relationships with other young people and leaders who want to support them. When we receive feedback from young people, we are thrilled to read their comments about how much they love these holidays!

GIVING TO THE HOLIDAYS SPONSORSHIP APPEAL ACHIEVES SO MUCH!

- Well over 500 children and young people depended on sponsorship to go on a holiday last year – **your giving enables that to happen.**
- Motiv8 Holidays have higher leader-to-child ratios, prioritising ministry among the disadvantaged (where relationships with leaders are often being developed week by week) and are heavily subsidised. These holidays can only happen through donations to this fund – **your giving makes these events possible.**
- We depend on a huge team of committed volunteers to run our holidays, all of whom make sacrifices of time and energy. Some team members can't contribute fully to event costs – **your giving helps to close the shortfall.**

Discount vouchers extend the Motiv8 model to other SU Holidays. The need for them has risen by more than 100% and there is a growing demand for sponsorship – summarised on the graph overleaf.

This appeal leaflet illustrates the growing value of the partnerships we enjoy with churches and youth projects around Scotland. Their ministry often makes it easier for these young people to come to an SU Holiday as a group, and their testimonies and stories in this leaflet demonstrate the worth of your investment.

In 2019, more than one in four young people attended an SU Holiday with assistance from this fund. This year, can I ask you to give generously so that we can continue to offer this vital incentive and meet the growing demand for holiday places?

Your support makes all the difference – thank you!

Robin

Robin MacLellan
Director of Residential and Resources



IT WAS SO FUN, AND THE STAFF WERE VERY, VERY KIND SO IF THERE WERE ANY STRUGGLES, THEY WOULD HELP US. I MET LOADS OF NEW FRIENDS. PS I LOVE IT!

P6 GIRL



THIS WAS THE LAST OF FIVE YEARS AS A CAMPER... THIS AMAZING CAMP HAS TAUGHT ME ABOUT MYSELF AND GOD. I HAVE GAINED SO MUCH SOCIAL CONFIDENCE THROUGH MEETING PEOPLE, GOD HAS BROUGHT ME CLOSER TO HIM AND TAUGHT ME ABOUT LEADERSHIP. THIS CAMP HAS GIVEN ME FIVE OF THE BEST WEEKS AND HUNDREDS OF THE MOST TREASURED MEMORIES OF MY LIFE!

S6 BOY





Q&A

Q: TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF.

A: My name is Anne Gunn, and I am the Children & Families Worker with Kinmylies Church of Scotland in Inverness. I've been there for 11 years and, as part of my role, I help to lead six SU Groups in the local area and take young people to weekends and week-long residential events.

Q: TELL US ABOUT THE CHILDREN YOU SERVE.

A: Our church is not large and so most of the children I work with come from a non-church background. We aim to bring P5 children to weekends where they are introduced to a "taster" programme; we hope that this experience gives them confidence and makes the prospect of a week-long holiday the following year even more exciting.

Q: WHY DO YOU PROMOTE RESIDENTIAL EVENTS?

A: SU Holidays are well run and I know young people will try new activities in a safe environment. An SU Holiday gives young people more time to explore the Bible in greater depth and ask more questions than is normally possible at an SU Group. The teams provide positive role models, and it's a great way for me to better get to know the young people from my area.

Q: HOW HAVE CHILDREN IN YOUR AREA BENEFITTED FROM THE HOLIDAYS SPONSORSHIP FUND?

A: The local area is mixed economically and some families find it challenging to pay for holidays. We used to distribute the SU Holidays brochure with a note explaining that a bursary was available, but there was a reluctance to take up "charity".

We really wanted to remove barriers so that holidays are as accessible as possible. By focussing on the whole group and not individuals, we changed the way that sponsorship is offered. We now circulate packs with a discount code offering a subsidy for those who go to SU Groups. This approach, part funded by local sources (mission collections, gifts from individuals, etc) and the Holidays Sponsorship Fund, has led to a significant increase in holiday attendees, with numbers growing year on year.

Q: WHAT ARE THE WIDER BENEFITS?

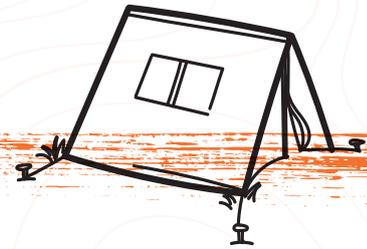
A: The increase in children attending these holidays has had a hugely positive effect on the SU Groups. The shared experiences they've enjoyed together, and greater understanding of the Bible has led to better discussions, with the numbers attending SU Groups also increasing. Because children come home speaking about how they've had a brilliant time, awareness of SU Holidays has risen in the wider community; I've been approached by people I don't know who have expressed appreciation for SU Scotland's work and the difference it's making in the lives of young people in this area.



[SUSCOTLAND.ORG.UK/GIVE](https://suscotland.org.uk/give)



The Value of SPONSORSHIP



I've worked in youthwork for seven years and love it. I've spent most of that time in an area that straddles areas of social disadvantage and areas of relative affluence.

What I've noticed is that, for some there are many learning barriers and challenges at home, and children who show promise are under pressure to succeed – often suffering from high anxiety levels. If I'm thrilled by anything that our youthwork does, it's that we've been able to build a community where young people from a wide range of backgrounds make friendships and share the love of Jesus.

If you asked them where they first understood that Jesus' love for them is personal and real, nearly all would say, 'It was at SU Camp.' Being able to offer a week-long holiday, steady meals, great activities, rest from whatever might be going on at home, plus Bible teaching designed specifically for their learning styles – it seems simple, but it's really life changing.

- Here, young people flourish because they are valued as equals, can relax and feel safe.
- Here, they eat three healthy meals each day, bedtimes are enforced and access to mobile phones is limited – which really helps them concentrate on friendships and people around them.
- Here, they enjoy emotional and physical safety, pastoral support, the benefit of a warm bed and uninterrupted sleep, and leave healthier.

Although we engage them with the Bible at our project, at an SU Holiday studies go deeper, they hear testimonies from other young people and are impacted by the example of leaders.

Without sponsorship our young people simply couldn't attend SU Holidays.

We divide the fee into three parts: £100 from the Sponsorship Fund, £100 from our project and £100 from the child – with some families needing more support.

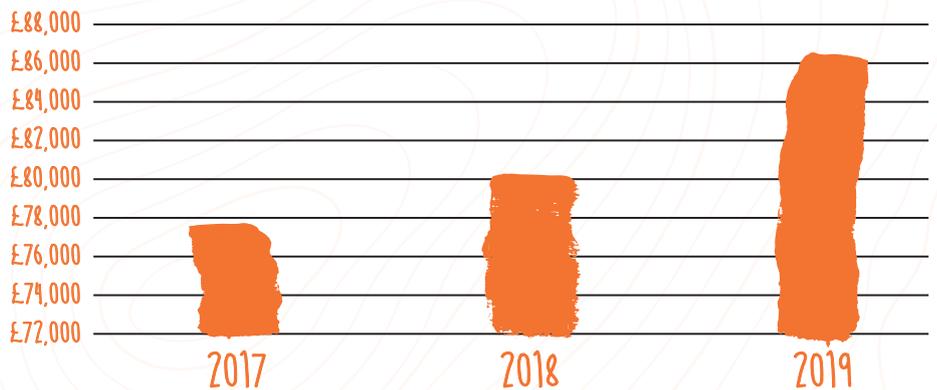
Last year at SU camp we were able to give space for young people wrestling with mental health issues and panic attacks; we changed the way we display worship song lyrics for a child struggling to learn to read; kids who just never 'rest' sat out in the sunshine on the lawn beside kids they're quietly making friends with, and then learn a bit more about friendship with Jesus.

All these children need sponsorship.

We know it works because those who most relied on subsidies seven years ago are now serving on our teams. This is a testament to how far your investment goes.

Anonymous Youth Worker

SPONSORSHIP ALLOCATED ACROSS 3 YEARS



WE WERE ABLE TO WALK ALONGSIDE SOME QUITE TROUBLED AND NEEDY YOUNG PEOPLE AND DEMONSTRATE GOD'S LOVE. IN ONE CASE, THIS INCLUDED SUPPORTING A YOUNG PERSON TO GO TO THE OPTICIANS AND GET GLASSES FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FOUR YEARS AND TALK THROUGH SOME VERY CHALLENGING CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES.

GROUP LEADER, SU HOLIDAY

