



Living Hope

Picture: Some of the action from the Teen Games 2011 – SU Slovakia held over the summer of 2011. SU Slovakia hosted the International Teen Games, supported by the EU Youth in Action program. See article on page 5.

The Living Hope planning team met recently at Marienheide in Germany, making exciting progress in the Living Hope process.



Phase 1

The Living Hope prototype website (www.sulivinghope.org) is up and already contains a great deal of interesting information – photos, videos and text. At this stage, it can be translated through the Google translate facility. The new Living Hope website will be ready in January.

The Living Hope Facebook group is already receiving a steady stream of new members. This group provides feedback and invites interaction with the process. Please request membership. We will sign you up as quickly as possible.

Living Hope Facilitators (see the website for details) are already in place in 22 movements. This is great, as they will be working to involve as many people as possible in Living Hope.

The plans for **Community Listening** are coming on well. A comprehensive guide and resources will be available in December 2011 to assist all movements to hear from children, youth, young SU leaders, older SU leaders and church leaders in the first half of 2012.

Phase 2

Living Hope Phase 2 is the meeting of leaders of all movements in November 2012. The venue has been changed to Malaysia, as it was difficult to find an appropriate venue at the right price in Singapore. Many thanks to SU Singapore for all their hard work over the past year – particularly to Valerie Ong for her wise advice about alternative arrangements. With the help of SU Peninsular Malaysia we found a hotel in Kuala Lumpur which will be ideal for our purpose.

Funding: One extremely encouraging development is that Living Hope has received a matching grant of US\$95,000 from a foundation keen to resource this unique process. To assist as many as possible to support the Living Hope initiative, a system is being developed to enable Movements to join this matching fundraising effort. Funds are urgently

needed for Phase 1 and 2. We give thanks to God for this gift and this wonderful opportunity to bring God's Hope to many people around the globe. Watch for more information!

Community Listening (which will inform a lot of our thinking) will soon be underway. Speakers are being prepared for the Malaysia event, and many practical details are coming together. Living Hope will be a wonderful time of discerning what God is saying to SU, both now and for the future.

Ruth Pinkerton
 Living Hope Chairperson



Living Hope Committee members: (L-R): Ruth Pinkerton, Clayton Fergie, Elmer Rojas, Dickens Ssenyonjo, Jenny Stewart, Michel Siegrist, Emlyn Williams, Remo Paul, Janet Morgan.



From the Council Chair

The SUI Team and Executive met in the SU Centre in Marienheide, Germany, in September.

Plans were shared for the first phase of **Living Hope** which started in November 2011. Do visit www.sulivinghope.org to find out more. We are eager for all SU National Movements to get involved in Phase 1 — a very important process prior to Phase 2 when we meet in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in November 2012. During our meeting we had encouraging news of the offer of a substantial grant for both Living Hope and Shaping for Service, provided we can raise funds to match it.

“We are eager for all SU National Movements to get involved in Phase 1 (of Living Hope).”

We heard reports from the seven SU regions about the varied ministries of SU, including the spread of E100. We also said farewell to **Joel Yego**, who steps down as Vice Chair after seven years, and **Peter Hoppler**, who retires as European Regional Director, having joined SU staff in 1968.

After consultation with SU International Council and meeting with a review group,

the Team and Executive unanimously agreed that **Janet Morgan** should be offered a further five-year term of service to 2017. After prayerful consideration Janet agreed to this re-appointment. The review group reported that Janet demonstrated a great deal of vision and enthusiasm, and they feel Janet’s gifts are just what is needed for the strategic development linked to Living Hope and other initiatives. Team and Executive members joined together for a special prayer of commissioning at our meeting.

Colin Sinclair

Chair of SU International Council

Report from SU International Team and Executive – Sept 2011



Sanitising the Bible for Children?

Bishop Paul Butler was guest speaker at the SU International Team and Executive meeting in September. Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham, Bishop Paul previously served as Bishop of Southampton. He was also Chair of the Church Mission Society with a special interest in world mission, particularly in Natal, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and the wider Anglican Communion. Paul was on the staff of SU England & Wales and has written two books, *Reaching Children* and *Reaching Families*. His October 2010 article, ‘Sanitising the Bible for Children?’ was distributed before the meeting. Discussion was vigorous and stimulating as we explored the reasons we sometimes leave out certain parts of the Bible or alter them when working with children. Reasons included our desire to protect the child and to protect ourselves when we feel uncomfortable or unsure of certain stories. Bishop Paul’s article is available from a1admin@su-international.org

SU International Executive Elections

We are pleased to announce the three newly elected members of the Executive.



Jon Ong, from Singapore, currently serves as the Vice Chairperson of SU East & West Asia Region Council, and was previously the Chairperson of SU

Singapore. Jon is a lawyer in public service and heads a law practice group. He was an active volunteer for two decades on various school boards and community committees. Jon is also a keen practitioner in the strategic planning of organisations, people development, and coaching and advocating for change.



Jorunn Sjaastad is Director of SU Norway and a member of the Europe Region Executive. She has a background in children’s ministry and is on the

boards of several national organisations in Norway. Jorunn has served as editor of the adult Bible guides since 1990. She has excellent editorial and communication skills, a helpful sensitivity to cultures and knowledge of multiple languages.



Rev. David Gichung’wa replaces Peter Hoppler as the second Regional Director on Executive. David has a long history of service with SU, having served as

National Director of SU Kenya for more than twenty years and Regional Director of SU Africa since 2008.



Reports and General Discussion

SU International guidelines on the ‘Biblical Philosophy of Giving’ and ‘Starting New SU Movements’ were agreed on. These will be translated into French and Spanish and made available in the New Year. Other reports and discussion included Living Hope, Shaping for Service, the SU International publishing group, and reports from international networks such as Global Children’s Forum, CYCAS (Children, Youth, Community and Sports) and Forum of Bible Agencies International. The Team and Executive have for some time recognised the need for development of an international prayer strategy. This has already been recognised as an integral part of the Living Hope process. Long-term plans will be considered at the June 2012 meeting.



Welcomes and Farewells

We said farewell to Peter Hoppler (right) and welcomed Monika Kuszmierz (centre), the new Europe Region Director. Karl Schäfer (left), SU Europe Region Director prior to Peter, joined us for the special farewell celebration. *(See farewell article to Peter, on the next page.)*

Shaping for Service (SfS) Goes Global

In November 2011, SU India, SU South Asia and SU International hosted the SfS Leadership Course at SU India's campsite at Mahabalipuram. SU staff from around the region attended – from Nepal, Sri Lanka and India. They were joined by the three Ministry Coordinators for SU East & West Asia: Hans Wuysang (Bible), Jason Fong (Youth), David Leong (Children) and Nana Yaw Offei Awuku (SU Ghana).

The vision of *Shaping for Service* is that everyone involved in Scripture Union throughout the world will receive training that will ensure that our contextualised ministries are of a consistently high quality. We have been encouraged by the feedback from those who have already participated in the SfS Leadership Course in Africa.

Zach Gaya of SU Kenya reflected: *There is a deliberateness to really understand the context of the people, where they are at in their faith journey...and how to engage with them in meaningful ways to help them appreciate what God has done.*

Commenting on the way in which the



course had impacted his training of others in SU, Adewale Philips (SU Nigeria) wrote: *SfS training helped me to completely change my plans for a subsequent training program for Bible Study Writers. The simple way hermeneutics was handled impressed me and I used the material for this in the training workshop.*

Two years after participating in SfS training, Nana Yaw Offei Awuku (SU Ghana) wrote: *I am even more persuaded that every SU Staff should have the opportunity to experience the SfS Training. It has greatly enriched the content and design of my Training Sessions, built on my Facilitation Skills and enhanced my capacity to reflect and improve on the way I do SU ministry!*

Emmanuel Todjo (a member of the SfS Facilitation Team) wrote of the impact that SfS has had on him: *It has helped me to be*

consistent in helping others to dig deep in addressing cultural issues. It has been to me a powerful instrument that convinces of the need for our training programs to be refreshed and to stop operating as if we were in the 19th Century.

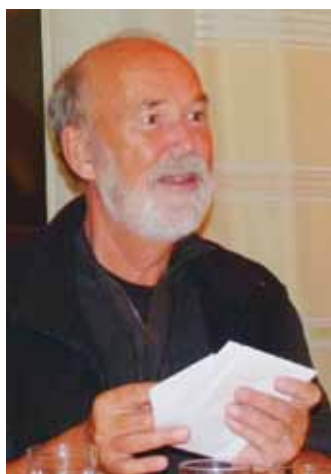
Mike Smallbones, the SU Africa Regional Training Consultant summed up the intention of SfS: *We now have an 'approved' SU training course which clearly sets out our purpose and methodological principles...trainees have been exposed to methods of training based on practical involvement and discovery.*

Plans are already in place for the roll out of *Shaping for Service* in parts of the Americas in 2012, and in East Asia, Latin America, Former Soviet Republics and the Pacific in 2013. Consultations will also take place in Europe and Britain & Ireland in the future.

Farewell Peter Hoppler

The SU International Team and Executive meeting in September provided an opportunity to say farewell to Peter Hoppler. It was a time of celebration and thankfulness to God for his tremendous contribution to Scripture Union over many years.

Peter joined SU German-speaking Switzerland in 1968 when the Movement was quite small. The SU history book, *God's Word in a Young World* says, 'when Peter Hoppler joined his father in 1968, progress resumed. By 1982, there were twelve staff workers...the number of camps had increased from four to eighteen, and a whole range of family camps and Bible conferences for adults had been started. The rest of the SU world benefitted as well for, although the extra staff required a larger share of the



budget, they were still giving away thirty per cent of their gift income. The grants they sent to other countries were even higher than before.'

Peter's commitment to the growth of SU ministry and his generosity has continued through the years. In addition, his passion and concern to build relationships in the

Europe Region has resulted in a strong and vibrant Region with leaders committed to collaboration and to supporting each other; and was also very instrumental in the growth of the SU in Eastern Europe. During Peter's time as Regional Director, the sub-region structure was also established and, more recently, ministry coordinators appointed. A close relationship with the Britain and Ireland Region has also been developed.

Peter also had a leading role in SU International, including his appointment to International Executive in 2002, where he served for nine years. He was also Team Leader for the Leading Staff Development Course in 2008 and 2010. His contribution and support will be greatly missed by SU International staff, Executive, and the Regional Team.

As we think about Peter's contribution to Scripture Union over the years, I think we can clearly see that he was just the right person for the right time – God's gift to the SU Movement around the world. Peter will be remembered for all his contributions to SU; however, I will also remember Peter, as many others will, for the friend that he has been to me and so many. This friendship includes his amazing ability to remember everyone's birthday; just a small example of the way Peter shared his life with us.

As Peter moves on from this phase of his service in SU, we want to say thank you to God, to Peter for sharing his life and ministry with us, and to his wife, Christine, and family for sharing Peter with us.

Janet Morgan
International Director



AFRICA REGION

The Junior Bible Guide for French-Speaking Africa

The Benin League was born in 1867, but it wasn't until 2008 that devotional material for young people was provided throughout French-speaking Africa.

The vision began in 2002 when the National Director of the LLB-Benin went to Ghana for English language immersion and was given copies of *Daily Power* for English practice. He thought, why not translate *Daily Power* so that young people in Benin can meet with God each day through Bible reading and prayer?

It didn't take long for them to remember that *Junior Reader 1*, French materials for young people, had been developed in the Congo and RDC by a Swiss missionary before her work was interrupted by war. This material gave birth to the *Lecteur Jeunes* (Youth Reader) in 2006/7 and 2008/9. These first editions were warmly welcomed, but developing the work was a challenge. After prayer and reflection, the LLB-Suisse Romande offered to finance the *Junior Bible Guide for Francophone Africa Project* for the whole of French-speaking Africa.

The brief was to produce *Rendez-Vous avec Dieu* (Meeting with God), a junior Bible guide for 10-18 year olds, over four years (2010 to 2013). Kiki Assogba was appointed head of the project, four representative area councils were selected and around 80 local editors recruited to draft the work for each country. In December 2009 the first edition was launched, the third guide is currently in production and the fourth will appear in 2013.

Now young people in French-speaking Africa have material to help them meet with God daily through Bible reading and prayer. Many have been built up and led to Christ. Shekinah (10 years), from Benin, says, 'With the Reader I've learned to forgive, to be patient...I've learned to pray. It contains many Bible stories...They show us that...Nothing is impossible for God'.

AMERICAS REGION

Señales Program for the Deaf – SU Peru

Señales (Signs) Program for the Deaf, a ministry of SU Peru, is a place bustling with deaf children, teens and adults.

There is a thriving bilingual program for deaf children taught by deaf adults, a cutting edge program, with deaf teenagers being assisted to continue on to High School and University, and sign language classes for parents, relatives, professionals and lay people who want to communicate with the deaf.

Around 30 years ago Ernesto Zavala, a SU Peru staff member, was told there were deaf children living on the streets of Lima. After a time of prayer, he and others decided to take a night time walk. They made contact with one very frightened deaf child but, to their astonishment, most of those living on the streets were hearing children. This led to the establishment of the very successful Abandoned Boys Program.

But the deaf were not forgotten. Señales started with training interpreters to facilitate communication between the deaf and the hearing. Sign language classes began for people working with the deaf. A core of interpreters helped in a variety of situations (e.g. in hospitals and churches, and with legal issues).

Now the immediate need is for a Centre for the Deaf. The Señales leadership is looking for land on which to build a gathering place for the deaf from Lima and beyond. As Lima is the crossroads of South America through which the deaf move north or south, this centre would be a beacon for the deaf in South America, helping them develop their own outreach programs.

The Señales staff also carry out training in other countries. Last year the team went to Santiago, Chile, to participate in a Congress on Bilingual Education. Peru will host the next Congress in Lima in 2013. Señales is praying this will also help motivate the government to implement an interpreters' program in schools for the deaf.

Please pray for us.



SOUTH ASIA REGION

A SMALL Beginning... a GIANT Leap – SU India

SU ministry for English-speaking children in English Medium Schools in India is probably as old as the start of SU India – 1898. The pioneers, Mr R.T. Archibald and Mr John Jacob, had easy access and opportunities from the start, but growth was much slower than expected. In the early 1980s, Mr Herbert was appointed and in recent years more staff have been employed for this ministry, however the challenges are still massive.



There is an unprecedented demand for English Medium education, with schools in almost all Indian towns and cities. There are now more English-speaking children in India than in England. These children are fast rapidly forming their own culture, and the influences of globalisation and urbanization require a varied approach when presenting the Christian gospel.

English education brings change and challenge for children and young people in India. The Bible has all the answers for life's questions, but the challenge is to give these answers at the right time, in the right way, and in a form that can be accepted and understood by this generation.

Today the six-member SU English Department team reaches more than 70,000 children (aged 6 to 17) in over 50 different schools with the Good News of Jesus Christ. The vast majority of these children are from other faiths. The team also conducts camps, retreats, adventure activities and clubs aimed at discipling children and teens. Please pray as the English Team reaches out to more cities and children.

Sam Jaisunder
Department Coordinator,
English Ministries – SU India



EAST & WEST ASIA REGION

Youth Ministry – An Overview

My appointment as Youth Ministry Coordinator in SU East & West Asia (SUEWA) in January 2011 has provided an exciting challenge! Youth Ministry in SU East & West Asia is truly diverse, with 19 nations in SU East Asia and five in SU West Asia. Ministry is impacted by cultural diversity, socio-political structures, education-economic factors and religious-spiritual landscapes, and the availability of staff and human resources.

In a handful of SU Movements, ministry to young people in schools is an important part of the work. This varies from Christian Fellowships and clubs, and partnership with related organisations, to running camps and training events. In Sarawak, schools work is flourishing, with many windows of opportunity. SU Indonesia has recently recruited its first youth worker.

Youth Camps are a vital part of youth work. Japan, Korea, Indonesia, Cambodia and Vietnam are developing youth camps. Peninsular Malaysia, Singapore and Sarawak have organised youth camps for many years, and continue to innovate and respond to local needs and trends. In some countries camping is hampered by education structures and systems.

In response to requests from SU Movements I have visited five nations, conducting youth ministry training events, meeting with local Christian leaders and running programs for young people. In December



2011, with three SU youth workers from Indonesia and Singapore, I have organised the 3G Youth Camp (3G = Girls, Guys and God), using a Bible-based teaching syllabus. This hands-on training process will help these youth workers adapt and replicate the 3G program in their countries. A 3G Camp may be held in Singapore in 2012, and youth workers from Hong Kong, Peninsular Malaysia, Cambodia, Sarawak and Indonesia will be actively involved in planning for the 2012/13 International Students Camp.

Please pray for the growth and development of youth ministry in SU East & West Asia.

Jason Fong, Youth Ministry Coordinator SU East & West Asia



EUROPE REGION

Teen Games 2011 – SU Slovakia

In summer 2011, SU Slovakia hosted the International Teen Games, supported by the EU Youth in Action program. The Games are a tradition, especially for Slovakia, Bulgaria and Serbia who have participated since the inaugural 2008 Teen Games held in Athens. Hosting the event was a great challenge, but also an amazing opportunity.



The preparations began more than a year in advance, with the last two months very intense and busy. With 150 people from four different countries participating, most of them teenagers, we knew to expect the unexpected!

The first day was unusually quiet and calm as 30 Slovak teens and 20 leaders waited for the crews from Bulgaria, Serbia and Poland to arrive. By the next morning, the grounds at Tesáre were swarming with teenagers. From that moment on the program just kept unfolding. We relaxed, enjoying it all.

Teen Games has two key elements: sports and the Bible. Worship and Bible teaching took place in quite a small hall, but we had an awesome time. Thanks to God, and our large international worship band, the teenagers considered our worship times one of the camp highlights.

Each day was filled with football, volleyball, street ball, table tennis and chess matches; we even had an athletics competition on the last day. When not playing sport, participants cheered for their team, rested or enjoyed their free time in the pool. The teenagers were delighted that their daily program gave them time to get to know each other. They enjoyed the mixture of cultures and backgrounds, exploring the many differences and similarities.

Despite our initial nervousness, everything went well. The teens left satisfied with their sporting highs and lows, hopefully inspired by the talks and by their discussions, and with a bunch of new friends. Their goodbyes seemed to be a single sentence, 'We'll see each other in London next year!'





FORMER SOVIET REPUBLICS

International Youth Camp – Ukraine

In July, seventy young people from Ukraine, Armenia, Tajikistan, Russia, England, Northern Ireland and Scotland attended the third International Youth Camp in Ukraine. We were very grateful for the assistance of a significant 'Youth in Action' grant from the European Union.

The first week was spent at the Vorzel camp, with teaching and training centred on the theme, God's Mission. In the second week the young people formed multi-national teams and led children's holiday clubs in rural areas of Ukraine. It was a challenge for many of the team to work with children from a different culture who spoke a different language, plus the challenge of working with Christians from different cultures.

One participant, Lena P from Novosibirsk, wrote, 'During the first week of camp our leaders tried to give us the assurance that when we speak of Christ, Christ speaks through us...probably this is the main thing that we needed during the holiday clubs in the second (week).

'The first day I was in a real panic – this was the first time I had been a leader rather than a helper. But God is great and he gave us just the right number of children we could cope with. By the middle of the week there were altogether about 30. As we chatted, read, played and sang we didn't notice the time passing. And at the end of the day we still needed to prepare for the next! As a result we were falling asleep before we got into our sleeping bags. But I would love to repeat that week if only to hear the children saying again: "Come back next year!" I think that is the best evaluation we could have.

'Throughout the camp God encouraged me, saying: "I'm here. I'm with you." Absolutely everything...the morning readings, the talks seemed to be written specially for me, and God spoke to me literally through every single person I talked with. This is probably why this camp became not just a pleasant memory, but something very significant, a step in a new stage of life. Thank you to everyone who gave me this opportunity to take one more small step towards God.'

The camp may well have been exhausting, but it was a formative experience for everyone involved.

PACIFIC REGION

On The Move – SU ACT, Canberra, Australia

For the last five years, Scripture Union ACT and the combined churches of Belconnen, Canberra, have hosted *On The Move*, a BBQ-based mission outreach held in mid-April. Beautiful autumn sunshine provides the ideal backdrop for this community festival. A warm welcome is created with music, food, and children's activities in a Canberra park, strategically located next to a major shopping precinct.

Over three days, from 8.00am, about 70 volunteers set up tents, barbecues, tables, chairs, sound equipment and food. Each day they hand out 1,200 flyers to people in the area surrounding the nearby shopping mall. Each day a free barbecue lunch is served to hundreds of people. Children play on a jumping castle, have their faces painted, and participate in fun activities provided by the SU ACT children's program, while their parents sit and chat to volunteers. Clean up begins at about 2.00pm and by 3.30pm the park is restored to its original condition.



People of all ages from all walks of life come to share in this wonderful community event. A number of families return each day, bringing others. One family brought 12 members from three generations! The response is wonderful, the volunteers superb and everything flows smoothly – thanks to the volunteers from Belconnen churches and SU chaplains and staff, who put enormous effort into making this event enjoyable and successful.

People who have attended church in the past or who express an interest are connected with people from a local church. One family that came two years ago, was put in contact with a local pastor. They have now been baptised and attend church regularly.

Another example of a creative partnership between SU and local churches to serve and reach out to their community!

Meryl Hinge, SU ACT

Goodbye and Thank You, Sheila!

When I took over from Karl Schäfer in September 1998 as Regional Director for Europe Region, the big challenge was to find a Regional Assistant – a two-day a week appointment. Sheila Zehnder took up the task in September 1998.

Many in the in Europe Region and internationally know how wonderfully Sheila has fulfilled her role – well beyond two paid days a week! Sheila kept the Region going during my many trips with her servant attitude, her communication skills,



BRITAIN & IRELAND REGION

Re:Source

In classrooms at lunchtime, assembly halls or lecture theatres after school, the leaders of SU groups in around 300 schools across Northern Ireland organise activities, build relationships, open the Bible, pray, give and listen. They are part of a quiet revolution, making an impact in the lives of children and young people.

SU Northern Ireland launched a brand new initiative in August 2010. Re:Source was the first training conference for SU Leaders in at least 25 years. The goal was to inspire and equip SU leaders in Primary, Post-Primary and Special Schools across Northern Ireland through workshops, seminars, teaching, stories and displays.

SU Schools staff are privileged to work with many of these volunteer leaders. Their passion for reaching and discipling young people has been a huge source of inspiration and thanksgiving. It had long been our dream to get them together in one room. We suspected that they would encourage and inspire each other in ways we never could.

We were right! So successful was the first conference, that another was held in September 2011. Our keynote speaker encouraged us to 'guard our hearts' (Proverbs 4:23). Seminars followed on developing a heart for reaching out, growing disciples and engaging with God. Bite-sized workshops were offered on topics including using multi-media resources and running a residential. Leaders were given a wide variety of practical ideas and tools.

Feedback has shown that the leaders found the input very helpful but, as we suspected, the real highlight of the day was the opportunity to meet and inspire each other as they have so often inspired us.

*Paul Cameron
SUNI Primary Schools Coordinator*



her warm pastoral heart, her ability and flexibility, her deep spirituality and her prayers. What an amazing woman of God!

With all my heart I want to thank Sheila for all what she has been and done for me, for the Region and for SU International, and wish her every blessing from the Lord!!!

Peter Hoppler

NEW DIRECTORS

Peter James will assume the role of CEO **SU Queensland** in the first half of 2012. Currently Peter is Chairman of the SU Queensland Board, being present throughout the expansion of school chaplaincy under Federal funding. A lawyer, Peter is passionate about SU. He has a long history with SU as an SU camper and leader, and a Beach Mission leader. Peter and Kathie have five children.



Weider Hidalgo has been appointed General Director of **Scripture Union Peru** from January 2012. Weider has a Bachelor of Engineering Management and Bachelor of Theology and has worked with Compassion International. He is currently Pastor of the Church Youth Alliance of San Juan de Lurigancho. He is married to Gissel.



Mrs Nancy Kahuthia, has been appointed National Director of **SU Kenya**. Nancy is a trained Sociologist with a Master of Arts in Biblical Studies. She has been a leader in her local church, university, and with Fellowship of Christian Unions (FOCUS Kenya) for a good number of years. She is married to Caleb and they have three young adult children Andrew, Anne and Abby.



CONDOLENCES

SU mourned the death of **Ron Buckland** in June. Ron served as State Director of SU Tasmania for eight years, and SU National Director and Pacific Regional Secretary for a further 17 years, retiring in 1999. He was the author of *Children and the Gospel* and a major contributor to the SU movement's approach, locally and internationally, to evangelism with children. His ministry impacted thousands across the world and encouraged many to senior SU leadership. Ron was an avid promoter of the Gospel with the children in his own neighbourhood in Melbourne where he spent his last 12 years in ministry.



In July the SU family said goodbye to a truly irreplaceable worker. **Bob Coombs** was Team Leader in the rebuilding of the SU Campsite in Vanuatu, which has been a blessing to the young people of both Vanuatu and SU New South Wales (which helped support this initiative). In the last seven years, Bob and his wife Margaret spent many months in Vanuatu, leading work parties and creating a community of service that is bearing great fruit. On learning of Bob's passing, the team at SU Vanuatu held a thanksgiving service and planted a coconut tree in his honour.



We were saddened to hear of the death in July of **Alan Martin**, General Director of SU England and Wales from 1978 to 1986. Alan joined the staff in 1960 to promote Bible reading, and then established the South-West Region in 1968. He was awarded the OBE in 1986. Later that year he retired as General Director and returned to the South-West as Regional Coordinator until his retirement in 1989. Alan loved serving in SU's face to face ministry. For many years he led the Bude beach mission and camps at Great Wood.



The SU family around the world was saddened by the loss of **John Stott** in July, and grateful to God for the depth and consistency of his ministry and his impact on the SU movement. Thousands of SU volunteers and staff are indebted to John Stott for his speaking and writing. Many SU senior leaders benefitted from his quiet and less public ministry of mentoring and intercession. John Stott once wrote, 'Scripture Union has had a very formative influence in my life, and I owe it a debt which I can never repay.'



PRAYER DIARY

Please pray for these key events in 2012...

► **February 2012**

SU International Staff Conference (5-10)

► **March 2012**

Britain & Ireland/FSR: SUBI International Committee Meeting (2)

► **April 2012**

East & West Asia: Regional Council Meeting, Hong Kong (17-28)

► **May 2012**

Britain & Ireland/FSR: Regional Council Meeting Ukraine (16-17)

► **June 2012**

SU International:
Team & Executive Meetings (4-5)
International Team Meeting (6-8)
SU International Staff Conference (9-14)

► **October 2012**

Britain & Ireland/FSR: SUBI International Committee Meeting (12)

► **November 2012**

Europe: Directors' Conference (prior to Living Hope)

SU International:

Living Hope event, Malaysia (5-9)
SUI Council meeting (10-11)
SUI Team & Executive (12)
SUI Executive (13)

Please pray for these key events in 2013...

► **June 2013**

SU International:
Team & Executive Meetings (10-11)
International Team Meeting (12-14)

► **September 2013**

SU International:
Executive (23)
Team & Executive (24)
International Team Meeting (25-27)

Are there exciting developments in your area of ministry?

Send your news and photos to a1admin@su-international.org

www.su-international.org

Available on the SU International website:
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CYCAS Training 2011

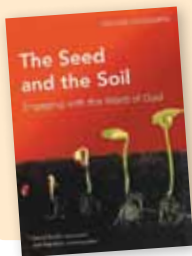
One of the key visions of the CYCAS movement (**Community, Youth, Children And Sport**) is to train regionally based teams of Master trainers to spread training across their regions. Since the last global CYCAS gathering in November 2010, 348 training events have taken place with approximately 23,000 people trained in global, continental, national and regional training events. Many more local church and specific KidsGames and TeenGames training events are happening.

Terry Williams (SU Queensland & International staff) and Roy Meredith (Logosdor, Sydney) coached some national trainers to facilitate 5 days of training in both Uganda and Cameroun. In total around 135 people from 20 African nations attended the training. In Cameroun, 14 pastors were present,

one of whom went back to his country and gathered his fellow pastors to repent of their attitude and inaction towards children in their communities. Terry has also facilitated four days of training in Manila, Philippines, where 35 people from 20 different denominations were in attendance. Among the group were the Children's Ministry Coordinators for 4000+ Assembly of God churches and 800+ Baptist churches. In most centres local SU staff are involved in this Kingdom ministry partnership.

More than 700 people gathered in Orlando in November for the annual global gathering (ACE Conference) with delegates coming from around 200 countries to continue this strategic expansion of training across the globe. Praise God for what He is doing through CYCAS.

The Seed and the Soil Published by Global Christian Library



The Seed and the Soil explores the power of the Bible to bring about God's transforming and liberating purposes, as well as its power as an often oppressively misused text. Characterised by storytelling, this book is accessible to all. Pauline Hoggarth has worked with SU in Bolivia and the UK, working with young people and as editor of SU's adult Bible guides, and later as SU International's Bible Ministries Coordinator.



SU
Vanuatu
Director,
Albea
Nalisa and
Bill Hebels,
SU NSW
volunteer.



Partnerships – SUSTAIN: SU 2 SU

Practical Partnerships in Action

SU people in over 120 countries share a common bond and can develop practical partnerships to extend God's kingdom. A partnership between SU New South Wales and SU Vanuatu, to redevelop the campsite outside Port Vila, has led to SUSTAIN, a network of industry professionals developing property for sustainable ministry. SUSTAIN aims to provide a wide range of volunteer professional services to SU movements around the world which want to maximise their SU property assets and make the Good News about Jesus known for future generations. For more information contact Glenn Coombs, SU International Partnership Consultant (glenn@su-international.org).