

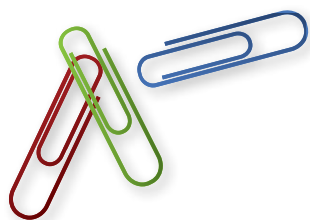


SU news

Winter 2014

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105

Schools Ministry Edition



"Oh, You might like to know..."



In 2012, student Hamish Morelli attended Youth Leadership Week. He was also one of twelve students to start the Student Led Groups back up (formerly called ISCF Groups) following camp.

In his school he had a couple teachers who were sympathetic and helpful in setting up the group at Pembroke School. Hamish was one of a minority of young people who don't use facebook, and other forms of standard communication. So, after being helped to start his group, he missed out on further opportunities to participate in like quarterly training and prayer breakfasts for leaders.

Recently at CE Senior camp, Hamilton McNicol bumped into Hamish who had just recently graduated. Hamish was keen to give an update on how the Student Led Group had gone, "Oh, you might like to know", he said "two students became Christians and joined the group!"

Student Led Groups are strategically the best way SUSa can have a presence in high schools. Hamish found what studies have been showing for a long time, that *students are the best people to introduce other students to faith*.

We're looking forward to the next group of emerging leaders who will be putting their hands up to start a Student Led Group after Youth Leadership Week this year.

Hamilton McNicol | Youth Projects Coordinator

YOUTH Training Day

Going Up?

Saturday June 28th

Marion Church of Christ

For more info and to register go to: www.wired-youth.com



Last year's youth training day was a great success and started the annual Wired Youth training day. This day is open to anyone, but has been designed specifically for those involved in the youth department's camps, school, and at-risk programs.

This year's focus is how you grow local mission momentum to bear increasing fruit over time.

Session options include:

9:15am Session 1

Option 1: Childsafe Team Member 2 Training (RAN)
Option 2: Blokes and CHIC
Option 3: Follow Up and Discipleship

11:05 Session 2

Option 1: Child Safe Team Member 1 Training:
Option 2: Youth Bible Engagement
Option 3: Giving your testimony

12:35 Session 3 Keynote Address:

'Elevating Local Mission' with Jason Hoet

1:00pm Lunch

1:40 Session 4

Option 1: 'Elevating Local Mission' workshop
Option 2: Working with Young People At-Risk

Come for a half or a whole day.



SUSa's Youth get Wired...

About 100 years ago the era of unions was in full swing and there was great incentive to be part of one or even many. Today, the name 'union' doesn't carry the same helpful connotations, particularly in high school.

While the youth department developed the branding of 'Wired' a number of years ago, upon the encouragement of a number of SU volunteers, we have decided to adopt this title totally for the youth department.

To help this, we have launched a website that is the new face of the youth department and much more accessible and versatile for all who use it.

We'd love your thoughts about the website, and some feedback, so come and take a visit. I'm sure there's much that will surprise you about what 'Wired Youth' are doing all around South Australia: www.wired-youth.com



YLW is coming!

Information and nomination cards are available now to nominate young emerging leaders.

Go to www.wired-youth.com for more info.



In this Issue...

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From the Director

Friends,

It is hard to believe that I have been in the position of Executive Director with Scripture Union of South Australia for 12-months already! The time has gone so fast; probably due to so much taking place – not to mention having to navigate my way through the many changes...

Most of you will know something of those changes – for those that don't, they include: the relocation of Scripture Union from Keswick to Kidman Park, which took place late last year; also the structural change – from regions to roles. Adding to that, we have seen a number of staff sense that their season with SUSA has come to an end, which consequently saw a number of new staff brought in. Finally, we created a couple of new roles to help generate well needed funds. These include the roles of Special Projects (grants) and Public Relations/Marketing.

Through these changes (aforementioned), one thing is for sure - God is doing something new in SUSA! These many changes bring a fresh approach to ministry, being expressed through innovative ideas.

Friends, it is indeed an exciting time to be a part of SUSA – and we thank you for partnering with us as we look forward to seeing what God will do throughout 2014 and beyond!!

Every blessing,

Marc Wheway | Executive Director



Time to SOAR!

Have you heard about SOAR yet?

That's the name of SU's new At-Risk program for years 7-9. Working with boys who are at-risk of being excluded from their school, are in conflict or crisis with families or suffering from depression or demoralisation; SOAR is a 12 month program of activities and camps to mentor them and give them focus and hope.

After a successful trial program at Jervois Primary School in 2013, SU is now looking to make SOAR available to schools throughout South Australia. Meaning we'll be sending SU volunteers into schools to work with boys who are right on the edge - and offer them some much needed love and support.

Are you interested in supporting, or even getting involved with SOAR? Or are you involved with a school with year 7-9 boys that might be interested in running the program? We'd love to hear from you!

Lochy Cupit | At Risk Coordinator



Thanks Jenny!

Close to 19 years ago, a lady came to the Scripture Union office and applied for a part-time volunteer role to support and coordinate the SUPA (Scripture Union Primary Age) Clubs ministry in primary schools. She had caught the vision for reaching children in primary schools with the message of the good news about Jesus and was excited to get involved.

It was only a couple of years later that Jenny Lanyon took on the role of SUPA Ministries Coordinator, overseeing the coordination, development and support of all of SUSA's ministry with the children in SA.

Jenny has had a great heart and passion which was clearly evident and contagious to those around her. She has given so many people opportunities to explore how God might use their gifts in His work with our state's kids. She has developed regional work, not being afraid to go the extra mile to support people in rural areas, and she has overseen the development of new programs, SU's camping ministry with children and training.

We wish Jenny every blessing as she concludes her time on staff with Scripture Union SA and look forward to seeing how God will bless and use her into the future.

Mark Schultz | Former SUSA Executive Director



Welcome Dean



It's with great excitement we welcome Dean Clifford as SUSA's newly appointed position of High School Coordinator.

This is a new role designed to help bring the good news to high schools through much needed programs, working with our school chaplains and the local churches.

Dean also works with young people in some of the worst circumstances possible through his role at Teen Challenge which is a non for profit Christian organisation dealing with young people with substance abuse.

"My heart is to see people made whole through Jesus".

Why Scripture Union? Quite simple, the revelation that God speaks to us through his word has not changed. This is such a powerful mandate that SUSA has not moved from since it began many years ago.

"The Word of God is living and powerful. I cant think of a better purpose to live than to be one of the bridges between the church, the bible and God's harvest field - the local school!"

He is married to Kylie and together they have three beautiful children Micah, Melina and Isabella

RISK & Influencers

As part of our drive to promote the SUSA movement to the churches, we have been fortunate to have a presence at two strategic conferences; Influencers (ACC) and RISK (CRC).

What's significant and worthy of mention, is neither denomination has had any prior relationship with SUSA. It truly is groundbreaking territory.

Needless to say, our presence at these conferences play a strong part in promoting ourselves. I'm glad to report that we were warmly welcomed at both.

The pictures show Marc and Les at Influencers Conference, and Chris at RISK. That's me with Peter Gillard (thumbs up) CRC National Director.

Arthur Economides | Public Relations/Marketing





From the Chair

I recently found myself reading Jesus' words in Mark's gospel. The disciples have been arguing about who is the greatest. Jesus' response is telling;

'He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."' (Mark 9:36)

God places such a high priority on children. He sends them into life fresh and unspoilt. It doesn't take long, though, before many of them are overtaken by strife. They become the meat in the sandwich when tension spills over at home. They are so often the ones targeted by the unscrupulous. Through it all God never stops loving them.

It's easy for us to be consumed with our 'adult' priorities. Jesus himself had a mission to accomplish that was far more significant than any we will undertake. Yet he found time to honour children, and to instruct his disciples to do the same.

Children have a right to know about the God who who loved them enough to send his Son to die for them. When we welcome them in the name of Jesus we're welcoming him.

God places such a high priority on children. It makes sense for us to do the same.

Allan Packer | SUSAs Council Chairperson



If I had one wish...

If I had one wish – if my fairy godmother showed up tomorrow, or maybe I found a genie in a bottle,

or maybe a wish upon a falling star, or maybe I caught a leprechaun or got to the end of the rainbow – or... or... or... or...

OR maybe God created & called the church for a purpose. His purpose.

There's just one problem, one very big problem.

It seems so much of the church has forgotten what God put it here to do. Or even worse, maybe we have not forgotten but have chosen the comfort of inaction over action, the false safety of doing nothing to reach the lost instead of the challenges of getting our hands dirty with the sinners, the downtrodden, the difficult & the anti-social. Oh if wishing made it so. But God did not wish, God calls and commands us to be reconcilers of this world to Himself. (2 Cor 5:18)

Fact: Over 80% of people begin their life journey of Christian faith between 4 & 14 years of age.

Fact: Less than 10% of church resources & incomes are spent on direct ministry to children & youth.

Fact: In Australia only 4% of children are involved with any type of regular Christian ministry.

Fact: Only 2% of Aussie kids belong to Christian churches.

Fact: And less than that 2% of Aussie kids are to be found in evangelical, Bible believing churches.

So what can we do? If you and your church want to do more than SUSAs can help.

Our schools are the one place where the church can connect with almost every child. We still have the legal permission to bring Christian teaching into schools. During Christmas, Easter & throughout the year, SU & Inter-Church teams are involved in dozens of schools taking the truth about Jesus to children. But we could do more if only we had the volunteers and the finances.

Will you help us do more? Pray first & then take action. Our children are growing up in a godless, immoral world & their only hope is Jesus. And YOU & your church may be their only hope of hearing about Him.

If you are ready to stop wishing & start doing then contact me & the SU team.

May God show you His way forward.

Chris Battistuzzi | Primary Projects Coordinator

Abused & Neglected

To the unaware, there are new requirements for volunteers in schools. DECD are requiring **all volunteers** to have a DCSI Employment Screening (another type of Police Check) and to undergo further training in **'Responding to Abuse & Neglect'** (a bit like Mandatory Notification).

Now all volunteers who minister in schools must do R.A.N. and have a DCSI Employment Screening. There are no exceptions.

SUSAs is working with SMG, who are authorised to provide the training in order to make R.A.N. available to as many people as possible. So please spread the word to any of the SUSAs volunteers you are connected with, or church volunteers who minister in schools.

You can also do R.A.N. at the SUSAs Youth Training day on June 28th, along with Childsafe Team Member training.

Please contact me with any questions or if I can be of any help in your ministries.

Chris Battistuzzi | Primary Projects Coordinator

54th susa Annual General Meeting

Saturday July 26th

Notice of our Annual General Meeting is given. This is a great opportunity for you to hear about the past year of SUSAs's ministry.

Saturday July 26th, 2014

9.30am - 11am

Adelaide College of Divinity

Room S1 (adjacent the chapel)

34 Lipsett Terrace, Brooklyn Park, 5032

A quorum of no less than 25 members is needed. Please RSVP on 8235 9500 by Wednesday July 23rd.

The A.G.M. will conclude with light refreshments shortly after.

Struggling with Conflict?

Learn to respond healthily to conflict

Are you struggling with conflict? Do you know how to deal graciously with difficult people? How could your school, family and church develop a genuine culture of peace?

Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to systematically apply biblical principles to real-life situations. You will be equipped to respond to conflict in gracious, wise and God-honouring ways as well as helping others in conflict work towards a healthy outcome based on Christian principles.

Bruce Zagel from Ambassadors for Reconciliation and Hélène van Ruth from Peacewise will be training at the Adelaide College of Ministries, Klemzig in:

- Personal Peacemaking (one day on Monday August 4th 2014)
- Conflict Coaching (two day training on August 5th and 6th, 2014)
- Mediation (two day training on August 7th and 8th, 2014)

For more information or to register, go to: www.peacewise.org.au

Reduced fees for students and early bird discount till June 4th 2014.

For those who have undergone the training and would like a refresher, there is a 50% discount to the registration fee, and we encourage you to bring someone along with you this time!





SU Diary

As our calendar grows, so to does our need to adapt and change. This time we're trialling a different approach to the SU Diary.

All SUSA events are listed in the SUSA Prayer Diary. It's a detailed outline of what SUSA is doing month by month, with specific requests for prayer for SUSA's ministries.

If there's an area of interest you would like to find out more on, then please, checkout the Prayer Diary.

We value your support in prayer as we partner together in ministry.

SUFM Quiz Night

Put your thinking caps on, gather a team to be your "Brain Bank", and book a table in support of the Port Vincent Family Mission.

Date: Sat. 26th July

Time: 7pm for 7:30pm start

Place: Adelaide West Uniting Church

Cost: \$15 per person entry or \$13 for tables of 10.

Bookings through Louise Fielke ph: 0415 490 019 or Oli Van Ruth ph: 0435 060 318



New Mission for Les

Special Projects Manager and former Acting State Director Les Dennis has been invited to the position as the new SUSA Missions Coordinator. This is one-day a week position with a build up of days as the Mission season starts.

Les in fact became a Christian through a Beach Mission on the South Coast of Sydney some 50 years ago (he must be really old). He visited the Port Vincent and Moonta Bay Missions this year and was glowing in his reports back to SUSA on how well organised the program and activities flowed. The children and teenagers really loved being involved and several parents remarked it was good that great role models ministered to the kids.

"Learning about Jesus was great fun" one enthusiastic 11 year old girl remarked to Les.

Former State Director Mark Schultz who has many years of experience with Beach Mission and is passionate for this ministry of SUSA will brief Les on the requirements of his new role.

Les will continue his Special Projects role trying to attract funds for programs and equipment by making grant applications to funding bodies and philanthropic trusts when he can.

"The list of potential projects and equipment I have been asked to explore funding for grows weekly to the extent that a priority listing needs to be worked on" Les remarked. There are some exciting possibilities for a Youth Ministry in the Mid North City of Port Pirie driven by a local network of Christians.

A potentially exciting project that Les will be working with the State Director on will be exploring the potential of an SUSA base at Victor Harbor that will have an inter-agency approach

Les also works closely with SUSA's 'Kids at Risk' worker, Lochy Cupit as the liaison volunteer between Prison Fellowship and SUSA with the management of the PK (Prisoners Kids) Camps, there are now eight camps a year of which SUSA currently manage four. We continue to seek camp directors and leaders who will commit to work with the Teenage Boys PK Camps. Les believes that there has to be a church that has appropriate men for this special ministry.

Les is very grateful for the practical, prayerful and financial support he receives and asks for continuance of this.

Les Dennis | Missions Coordinator / Special Projects Manager



SUPA in the balance!

SUPA

I don't know about any of you but I'm a Bob Dylan fan. One of Bob's biggest hits was a song I'm sure you know, 'The Times They Are a Changin'. We all know how true that is and in this current age they are changing faster than ever.

Well SUSA is going through changes as well. Lots of changes with staff, like myself & the changes & challenges of shrinking finances, school structures, churches & more. Things are always changing.

That's why we need your help! SUSA is not just a service provider, we are a ministry, and even more, in a way we are team and a family. So I am asking for your help as we work together for the future direction and development of SUPA ministries in SA.

But I'll put things plainly.

The future of thousands of kids hearing about Jesus is under threat. We need to find new ways forward & we need your help to do that. So please do all you can to attend & bring others.

Please RSVP. This event will be held at the new office, so a chance to see it if people haven't. But if we get to many we will need to move it to a church nearby. So RSVP ASAP.

If you'd like to know more, please get in touch. RSVP to myself via email, phone or ring the SUSA office on 8235 9500.

Chris Battistuzzi | Primary Projects Coordinator

Like Us!

Are you on facebook? If so then please make sure you have 'liked' our SUSA page - just search for 'Scripture Union South Australia'.

Next, you can invite or refer others to like our fb page. The more people who 'like' SUSA results in more people receiving latest fb updates, and

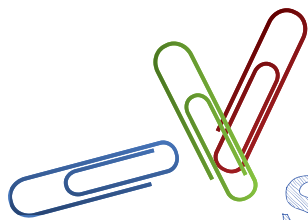


has the added bonus of promoting SUSA to an even wider audience.

More likes means more people find out about what SUSA is doing. It's that simple. Do you like that?



Currently we are at 423 likes - **Let's reach 500!**



SUSA Partnerships

SUSA are proud to partner with the following organisations.

