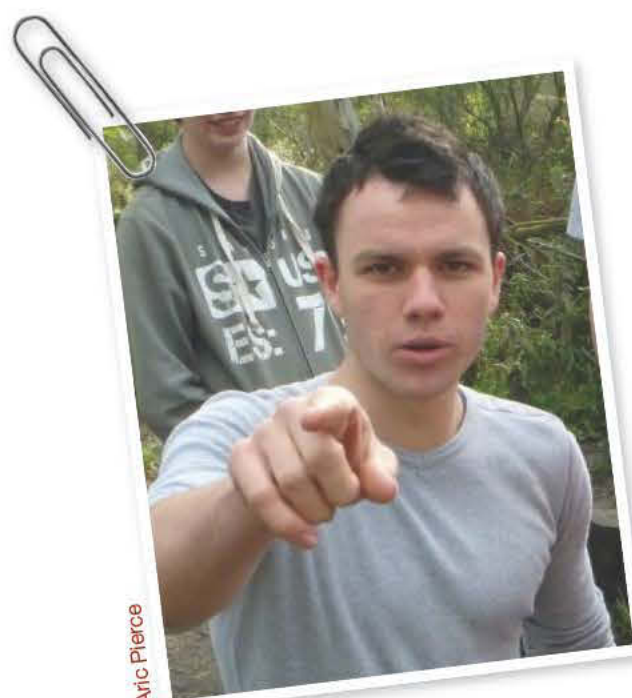


Winter 2013

SU news



Schools Ministry Edition



Aric Pierce

Student Led Groups for all Schools!

When Student Led Groups kicked off after Youth Leadership Week last year it was with the clear intention of being missional in schools. Christian Schools weren't primarily in mind initially as what sort of 'mission' could be done there!

I spoke to Aric Pierce recently about the boys group he has started at Temple Christian College:

"It isn't easy getting groups going in a Christian school, because everyone thinks this will be like another Christian living class where we are told what to do. It's been tried before and hasn't worked well".

Nevertheless he gathered a core team of fellow students who were keen to lead a group with him. But when it came to the crunch, all the others took a step back.

"It was stressful", Aric said, "I had to organise all the details. We were expecting maybe 20 boys to come, but 55 turned up! Since then we've broken the group up into smaller cohorts, like at Youth Leadership Week, and each group is talking about what its mission is and what they want to achieve. The year 12s are really eager to be mentors for the young boys there".

Now things are rolling, Aric says he has real enjoyment as a leader seeing what is happening. It's no longer stressful and the other co-leaders are committed. The key to it all, he says, is "knowing how to incorporate God into all that they do".

Aric is head prefect at Temple Christian College and attended Youth Leadership Week in 2011 and 2012. He has also been chosen to represent Australia in Pierre De Coubertin Youth Forum in Lillehammer, Norway.

Congratulations Aric!

Hamilton McNicol
State Youth Department Coordinator



In this Issue...

Welcome new CEO

Schools Ministry Updates

Camps wrap-up

That's 'SUPA', Birdwood!

After 20 years of prayer, a kids club was birthed earlier this year in the historic country town of Birdwood. It's an amazing story of one man's persevering prayer, the determination of a local CPSW, a unified local church effort, and support from Scripture Union SA to bring this vision to pass.

Jenny Stevens, Birdwood Area School's CPSW, said "I've looked at resources from ALL OVER Australia, and some from the U.S.A., and NONE are as suited to what I want to do as your Scripture Union ones".

While Jenny had been convicted in her heart to start a kids club, Brian Teakle, a Birdwood minister, has been praying for the last 20 years for the right people to help get one started

Birdwood SUPA club began in March with 5 students attending the first day. It now has a regular team of adults, and attracts about 25 kids each week, and is growing stronger every time.

Glory to God!

Arthur Economides
Regional Coordinator
Adelaide East & South.

Schools at Stake?

Key Stake Holders in School's Ministry Gathering.

While the federal funding for chaplaincy came in a number of years ago a unified and coordinated effort between all those invested in school's ministry has been slow to follow.

The Schools Ministry Group has done a great job at getting Christian Pastoral Support Workers appointed in over 300 schools.

However, it is apparent that despite this, the majority of churches are less connected with schools than ever before.

On April 29th, there was a gathering of parachurch agencies and a few local church representatives to discuss how we might all better work together in the future in school's ministry.

It was a positive occasion and the group will continue to meet once a term, but there is a great deal of work to do across the whole church!





From the 'Interim' Director

Welcome to this Special Schools Ministry Edition of SU

News. In this issue there are many stories of how God is working through Scripture Union to bring the Gospel message to the ones Jesus considered precious.

Thousands of primary and secondary school students and indirectly some teachers and family members hear and learn of the love of God because of SU staff and volunteers who give of their skills to teach creatively through well thought out activities.

The secondary student work is an expanding vital ministry and if resources were available I would love to be able to provide additional hours to it. SOAR Adventures is a new program for SU in SA and former Director Mark Schultz has been

co-ordinating the first of these at a school near Murray Bridge. SOAR Adventures exists to see young people's lives transformed and empowered to become healthy individuals in every aspect of their lives (psychologically, socially, educationally, physically and spiritually).

There is also an article in this edition on recent camps for children who have a parent or parents in prison. These camps and special weekend ventures are conducted by SU in partnership with Prison Fellowship. This partnership has now been in place for almost six years and we are seeing changes in the hopefulness of these young ones who are regarded as the innocent victims of crime.

I encourage you to read the stories so you might continue to share in the ministry through your partnership of giving, praying and practical support to children, youth and families to bring 'Life, love and hope for a young generation'.

SU is grateful to the churches and schools throughout SA who support the ministry by partnering and allowing use of facilities.

It has been my privilege, but not without its challenges, to act as the Interim Executive Director

of this wonderful organisation. I can say wonderful as it was through SU that I found out that Jesus was indeed my Saviour and Lord. He did give me life, love and hope.

I join with the Chairman and members of the State SU Council along with our wonderful staff team in welcoming Marc Wheway to the position of Executive Director. Please join us in praying for Marc and his family as they settle into Adelaide after relocating from Sydney very quickly. I will stay on for a time to assist with Marc's induction and support him as he settles into South Australia.

Can I again please encourage your practical support if able by making a special Tax Deductible gift to the Schools Ministry. This will be encouraging to the staff team as they lead and work with volunteers. Many of our field staff would love to expand the ministry but because of financial limitation and available volunteers we are only able to offer so many hours.

Blessings.

Les Dennis
Interim Executive Director



SU PACIFIC Partnership

Recently Sam Emery from New Zealand who coordinates the SU ministries in the Pacific Region and Sisa Teilai from Fiji visited SUSA to discuss partnership opportunities.

SUSA has committed to support the SU work in Fiji and offer assistance as and when practical. The photograph of our visitors and some staff shows the spirit of ministry friendship over lunch.

SU Fiji is working on establishing a camp site near Nandi and Les Dennis the Interim Director has offered to try and recruit some support from Rotary International contacts in Fiji and Australia to see if some establishment works might be possible. Deeds and formal arrangements continue with the Fiji Government Authorities.

Because of limited finances, the Fiji staff of two are currently working in a voluntary capacity.

Please pray for the staff and volunteers in Fiji as the work grows.



Inset: Sisa Teilai (Fiji) with SUSA staff, & Sam Emery (NZ) together with Wendy Rayner

Mid North News

The last 12 months has given me a wonderful opportunity to spend time with pastors, and local Christians in the Mid North region.

I have met with individuals to encourage and pray for them; talked to school personnel; been involved with locals in primary schools ministry; spoken to church communities about SU and its work.

I have been challenged and encouraged by people's passion and commitment for reaching out with the gospel, and by others persevering in gospel work where the going is tough.



Mid North Students

A wonderfully committed team of people have been meeting and praying about the possibility of developing a youth drop-in centre in Pt Pirie – I think it will happen! Other people are seeking to take the gospel message into primary schools; others are committed to a monthly family outreach ministry. Now there is the possibility for local Christians to connect more closely with students in years 7-9 as together we seek to introduce SU's CHIC & Blokes values-based program to 2 Mid North schools.

All of these initiatives are being supported by a team of faithful pray-ers. Tricia, our new SUSA Mid North Regional Coordinator has plenty to do to support and encourage all those who are involved!

Welcome Tricia!

We are delighted to welcome Tricia Hooper onto the SUSA staff team as our Mid North Regional Coordinator.

She is widely known in this region - grew up in this part of SA, is in the role of Christian Pastoral Support Worker at Booleroo Centre District School, and has been involved in SU Mid North youth camps over many years. Tricia has a real heart for young people to know Jesus, and wonderful people skills. She will be a real asset to our staff team.



Mission in Pine

Once again students from Bible College SA will join the Pt Pirie Christian community to work with and support locals in their ministry.

The week of June 15th-21st will be packed with wonderful opportunities to serve churches, schools and the community in a wide variety of ways – presenting SU's Christian Option Program; working with small groups of young people to consider life issues in the CHIC & Blokes programs; serving lunch to a school staff; supporting students in the special school and more. We look forward to seeing God at work during this week.



Telling the story with sound effects.

Jenny Lanyon
SUSA Rural Development Coordinator



From the Chair

It's wonderful to be able to welcome a new Executive Director to Scripture Union SA!

Marc Wheway will be joining us from the first week of June, having moved to Adelaide from Sydney the previous week with his wife Justine and their son, Reuben. Marc is new to SU, but comes with a strong background in inter-denominational ministry involving staff and volunteers, as well as extensive leadership experience. Prior to accepting this role, Marc has been the CEO of Everyman's Welfare Service, an Australian Defence Force accredited but independent evangelical and evangelistic missionary organisation serving the Australian Defence Force. We're delighted to welcome Marc and his family to South Australia and especially to SU, and we look forward to his leadership and partnership in the ministry that God has called us to!

The search process took much longer than any of us expected, but Council had a strong sense of God's leading as we continued to seek his person to lead us forward at this particular time.

A period of time without a director is always challenging, especially for our staff, but at our time of need we were greatly blessed by the willingness of Les Dennis to take up the role of Interim Executive Director. Les is himself a capable and experienced leader with a wealth of ministry experience, and he has done everything we asked of him and far more besides! We are very grateful to Les for his dedicated and effective service over the last months.

So a hearty welcome to Marc, and a sincere thank you to Les!

God has greatly blessed the movement in SA, and we believe that he has much more for us to do. Please continue to pray for us in the coming months as Marc settles in and as we together seek God's direction for the future.

Regards,
Allan Packer | Council Chairperson



ChildSafe Environments

- Reporting Abuse & Neglect

Scripture Union SA is an approved provider of the Department of Communities and Social Inclusion's "Child Safe Environments - Reporting Abuse and Neglect" 7 hour training (previously known as mandated notification training).

This training package has been designed to meet all the training requirements within the South Australian context for notification of child abuse and neglect consistent with the Children's Protection Act, 1993.

Training is run at different times throughout the year. Should you have a group needing training, we can come to you.

For more information or to make a booking, please contact Jenni Forder on 83710811 or at suti@sa.su.org.au.

SU/PF Camps Blokes & CHIC

SU/Prison Fellowship camps have gotten off to a very successful start this year, with three really positive camps: Camps 4 Kids in February down near McLaren Vale, the younger Teen Boys camp in April up at the Barossa Valley, and the very recently completed Teen Girls Camp at Victor Harbour.

The camps have been encouraged by a batch of faithful new leaders, and various new kids getting involved through Prison Fellowship. Things are looking very strong for the follow-up camps in the second half of the year, where we hope to have an additional older Teen Boys camp up and running.

Lochy Cupit



Quote from girls teens camp:
"Can the next camp be for the whole of the school holidays?"

This term we have 3 schools utilising Blokes and CHIC: Mitcham Girls High School, Owen Primary School, and Waikerie Primary School.

The versatility of this program has enabled it to be used with a small group of students who are struggling in the school system, through to whole year levels. As local church people get involved in the program they become almost mentors to these young people as they wrestle with deep issues that adolescence is thrusting on them.

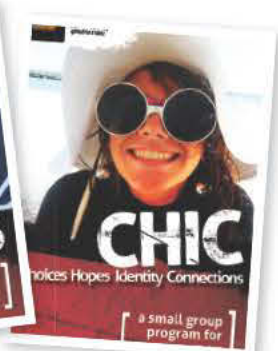
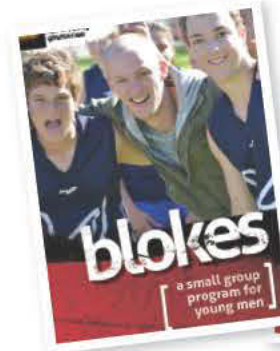


Justin Low

Last year I co-led Blokes with Justin Low (CPSW) at Hamilton High School with a group of year 8 and 9 boys. The boys changed so much in those ten weeks. It was great to watch. I was convicted though that if it didn't somehow help some of these students come to know Jesus better and be connected to the local church, then we had let the boys down.

Last week, however, we were hosts for a progressive dinner. I opened the door to the first group and there was one of the boys from Blokes at Hamilton High School. He had joined the youth group at Marion Church of Christ and his faith journey was well on its way!

Hamilton McNicol
State Youth Department Coordinator



Your Invitation to...

Scripture Union of South Australia Inc

Annual Celebration Staff Commissioning & 53rd Annual General Meeting

Saturday July 27th, 2013
9.30am - 11:00am
Bible College SA, 176 Wattle St Malvern

Please RSVP to the SU Office
by Wednesday July 24th.

This is a your opportunity to come and celebrate with us the ways in which God has been connecting with children, young people and families through the exciting and evolving work of SUSA.

Hear and experience SUSA's past year's ministry and meet the new State Executive Director, Marc Wheway

- Look at how God has been working through SUSA and where He is taking us for the future
- Meet the SU Staff Team
- Thank those who have been involved in this journey and welcoming new association members and council members
- Pray and give thanks to our great God!
- Share refreshments with staff, council and volunteers



SU Diary

June - September 2013

June

- Blokes & CHIC at Owen PS all of Term 2
CHIC at Mitcham Girls HS all of Term 2
Blokes & CHIC at Waikerie PS all of Term 2
- 13, 14, 20, 21 COP Grange
17-21 BCSA Ministry Week
17, 19, 21 COP Mid North Christian College (Pt Pirie)
18, 19, 21 CHIC and Blokes at Mid North Christian College (Pt Pirie)
17, 24 COP Parkside
14, 21, 28 COP Seaton
29 SUSA Training Day

July

- 5 Term 2 ends
12-15 Youth Leadership Week
22 Term 3 begins
23-25 Schools Ministry Group Conference
27 SUSA AGM
29 COP Fulham Gardens PS

August

- 2, 9, 16 COP Lockleys PS.
3 Kids 'R Us Conference
5, 12 COP Fulham Gardens PS
15, 22, 29 COP Allenby Gardens PS
22 Children's Ministry Network meeting
23 Hope Seminar at Kingston Area School
24 Missions Team Leader Retreat Day
28 COP Loxton PS

September

- 4, 11 COP Loxton PS
13-15 Gents Camp Leaders Weekend
29 MADD Camp starts
30 SWOT Camp starts

Congratulations to Glenys Tiller, SUSA's Lower Eyre Peninsula staff worker, and to Maika Sauturaga who were married on June 1st, in Port Hughes!

We hope and pray for God's blessing upon your new life together.

Youth Leadership Week

July 12th-15th

Youth Leadership Week is just around the corner. It's inspiring, challenging, and is always a steep learning curve for both high school aged emerging leaders and on-camp mentors. All nominations and registrations are on-line: www.youth-leadership-week.com

If you are involved in youth ministry consider nominating emerging leaders or on-camp mentors today.

Registration deadline: July 2nd!

Guest Speaker Lorelei Edwardes, will be sharing about how everyone can be involved in mission locally and overseas.



"I'm really excited to share at Youth Leadership Week. I became a Christian at an SU camp in 1984. I still think about that camp every day and I still have that camp booklet under my mattress".

- Lorelei Edwardes.

Camps Coming up!

Other Camps Coming up this Year

- Gents Leaders Camp (Sept 13th-15th)
- MADD Camp (Sept 29th-Oct 3rd)
- SWOT Camp (Sept 29th-Oct 3rd)
- CE Senior Camp (Dec 28th- Jan 2nd)
- CE Junior Camp (Jan 4th-8th)

While the SUSA website is under construction, more information can be found here about camps: <http://www.youth-leadership-week.com/#/other-camps/cat6>

All SU camps will now be using the 'Go register' online registration system. Non-credit card payments are still possible by contacting the SU office on 08 8371 0811.



Training Day 2013

Adrift?

Return to mission

Saturday 29 June

Marion Church of Christ
Cnr Marion Rd and Alawoona Ave,
Mitchell Park



move

Keynote Speaker - Steve Addison
Director of MOVE

This training day is going to help the Church make a fresh start on being missional. It includes:

- a key note address and workshop with Steve Addison
- a session with a panel of school's ministry practitioners discussing the crisis in school's ministry. This will be followed by Q and A
- Childsafe Team Member training

If you are interested in local mission, and are interested in school's ministry this is a day not to miss. For more info, download the brochure from the SUSA website: www.sa.su.org.au. Register today online, pay on the day: returntomission.eventbrite.com/

