

Dave has just recently signed a **permanent contract** with COOL.

Five S6 students will join a **work party in Peru** in July.

Dave's Club increases in popularity, having served over 10% of the high school this term.

The fourth **Annual Celebration** is on 17th February in Auchtertyre Primary school.

A weekend to SU's **Alltnacriche** Centre and a football school with the **YFC Kick** will take place at the end of this term.

...news in brief...

JANUARY 2006



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the family to have Kirsty transferred from Aberdeen to Inverness the week before Christmas. I had the privilege of being able to visit Kirsty that week who recognised me immediately and was just taking her first steps and beginning to speak again. She still has a long way to go, but we praise God for his care and continue to remember Kirsty, her parents and four siblings, as well Shona McGuinness and all the pupils in the hostel in prayer.

Ushop Ugive

You can generate funds for COOL by doing your online shopping at 'www.ushopugive.com'. By doing so, on average COOL will receive a 2% donation of your total spend and this doesn't cost you a penny. It's quick, it's free and with your help it will generate significant funds for COOL. You are shopping anyway, so when 'Ushop' ensure 'Ugive' to COOL.

7.30 pm Friday
17th February 2006
Auchtertyre Primary School
4th Annual
Celebration
of
Thanksgiving
Guest speaker
Rev. Ian Cathcart

COOL is an interdenominational Trust employing a youth and schools worker to share and support young people with the Christian message. COOL is a part of the Scripture Union Scotland Associate Worker Scheme and is a Recognised Scottish Charity (No. SCO31455)

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Chairman: **Mr. Malcolm Gardiner.**

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Treasurer: **Mrs. Alison Beaton.**

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Welcome to our new-look newsletter for a new year and a new contract!

We are now at the start of a new time of thanksgiving and excitement in COOL, as Dave has just recently signed a permanent contract having completed four years with COOL. His job title has been altered slightly to Youth and Schools Worker, which more fully reflects the work we do.



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January 2006

This is a tremendous position for the Trust to be in, as an increase in financial giving from individuals and churches, as well as the grant from the Church of Scotland Parish Development Fund, has allowed us to look positively towards the future. Dave is also very settled in his work and his desire to contribute to the spiritual and social development of the school-age people in the area is as strong as ever.

It was a slower start to the term than usual, reflecting the fact that the summer had been so full, with some tough disappointments, but we finished for Christmas on a high with several notable achievements, not least of which was the confirmation of the continuation of the work.

The biggest let down of the year was the last minute cancellation of the MV Amazon Hope II visit. A huge amount of preparation had gone into coordinating local schools, churches, harbour authorities and press, but strong gales forced the ship to continue south from Fort William rather than risk the completion of their schedule. Nevertheless, a full hall of people came to hear about the work of the Vine Trust in Peru and my trip last January. Afterwards we were able to send a donation of over £800 towards the work and I took two S6 students to see the ship in Glasgow. Following that day, five students have signed up, along with Ruth and myself, to join a Vine Trust work party next July in the Andes and on the Amazon. Fund-raising by those going has been taking



place throughout the latter half of the term and we were able to send a cheque for over £4000 during the Christmas break towards the costs. We still need to raise the same amount again for the seven of us, which not only covers flights and keep, but also goes towards the cost of the project with which we will be helping.

Unfortunately we again had to cancel a weekend away planned for November due to bookings arriving too late. This caused us to ask some difficult questions about residential provision by COOL, but, in consultation with youth groups, we decided to press ahead with



the planned weekend to Alltnacriche in March of this year, requiring bookings before Christmas.

This has paid off and we anticipate taking at least twenty young folk across to Aviemore where our good friend, Rev. John Urquhart, will be providing the teaching for us.

Shortly after that weekend, we are also hosting the Youth for Christ 'Kick' team for a week over Easter as they run a football school for us. The team are all SFA qualified young people and will provide coaching, games, Christian witness through their sport and other youth activities as required.

Schools work continues to constitute the day to day bulk of my work. Another successful S6 Ethics Day which also introduced Rev. John Urquhart and Rev. Roddy MacRae to the school. Roddy



was also able to join Rev. John MacDonald and myself for the Christmas service on the last day of term. We were especially thankful to Applecross and Elgol primaries who organised fund-raising events for Peru, from which we have received over £250. Well done kids! Dave's Club has met every Friday and this term I was amazed to calculate that over forty pupils have attended at one time or another, with an average of fifteen every week.

On a sad note, during the October break we learnt that Kirsty MacCormick of Fort Augustus, who is an S5 student in the Plockton School of Traditional Scottish Music, was involved in a serious car accident

and sustained severe head and neck injuries. Much prayer has been on going from COOL and the local churches and

it was a tremendous Christmas gift for

When you pray for COOL and Dave's work, please...

give thanks for

- continuing work of COOL and financial provision
- the success of the term, despite setbacks
- an increased interest in Dave's work from a number of young people
- more opportunities in the schools
- the improvement in Kirsty's health

pray for

- Kirsty, her family and the hostel community
- the five students travelling to Peru, as they raise funds and hear the gospel
- inspiration to maximise the contacts we have made with young people
- a real response to Christ by those we work amongst
- continued provision for COOL, especially as costs continually increase.

