

 **PRAYER**

give thanks for...

- God at work!
- A new decade for COOL
- An openness to spiritual matters
- Partnership with schools
- Faithful volunteers

pray for...

- Volunteers for driving and clubs
- The Peru team in their fundraising
- Wisdom in discipleship
- John Murdo and Alltnacriche
- The work on Skye

 **SOME UPCOMING EVENTS (PROPOSED)**

- 6 Feb SU Associate Trusts Day, Edinburgh
- 19 Feb COOL Annual Celebration
- 20 Feb Joint Youth Fellowship, Kyle
- 3 Mar North Team Days, Aberdeen
- 19 Mar Weekend to Alltnacriche
- May Parish Prayer for Youth meetings

FEBRUARY 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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28						

MARCH 2009


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APRIL 2009

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MAY 2009

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 **PERU**

We now have four volunteers and six students (including Dave) signed up for the Vine Trust work party in July; the largest group we have taken and almost half the total work party. This puts extra financial strains in our small communities so we continue to pray for God's provision, for the work abroad and the impact on the young people.

 **YEAR AHEAD**

As we look forward to our annual celebration on February 19th in Dornie Hall, we are at an exciting time in the work. The big challenge amongst our young people and within our church life is the need for discipleship, and as we consider how this might better be achieved, we can only do it through partnership with Christians throughout our parishes.

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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)



www.coolscotland.org.uk

When the noughties began, youth ministries in our area were few and isolated. A small group met at Plockton High to pray for the local youth. Ten years on and our hearts are full of praise to God for answered prayer...



JANUARY 2010

A TRUSTEE'S WORDS

WORK IN SCHOOLS

A CALL FOR HELP!

FROM COOL'S YOUNGEST TRUSTEE!

Youth work has strengthened, multiplied, networked and borne spiritual fruit: young people who love Jesus.

Dave has been pivotal in this. As trustees we constantly feel privileged to share his work and see it inspiring others who also serve the young. Dave only gave me 150 words for this piece so I'll use just one word to describe him: SuperpallyevangelisticshowingGodisgracious. Thank you God. Thank you Dave (and Ruth!).

MALCOLM'S ANONYMOUS?

I'm struggling to type this. The shakes are so bad. But I'm determined to see through withdrawal and prove that I and the rest of COOL are not helplessly dependent upon our chairman. Difficult. He is on a 4 month 'sabbatical' and has cut off our supplies of his intoxicating 100% proof leadership, vision, wisdom, mentoring, thoroughness, courtesy and er... em e-mails! Will COOL survive such austerity? We must! But now is the time to record our huge debt to Malcolm for his steady and prayerful presence at the helm. We wish him and Maryon God's rich blessing visiting family in Ecuador and beyond. Thank you also to those on the COOL Committee who will fill his shoes as well as their own in his absence. (Malcolm's shoes are large enough to fit people who are already wearing their own shoes!)

VICIOUS CIRCLES

One of the highlights of my life so far was that wonderful boat trip with Lochalsh youth and leaders to Loch Coruisk in July 2009. Everything conspired to make it memorable: enthusiastic teenagers and youth leaders, great weather

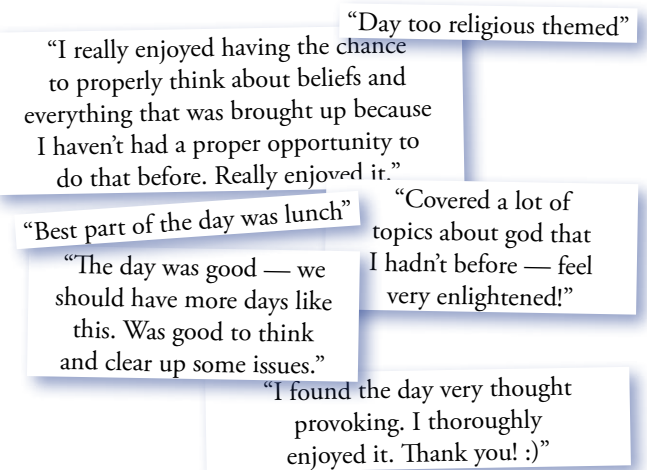
and bible teaching, amazing scenery and the exceptional generosity of COOL supporters. Long may such outings continue to provide young people with proof that the gospel means 'life to the full'. But a dark cloud looms on the horizon. Existing leaders and supporters are limited in number and resources. They also tend to be very busy people. Often too busy to learn how to share their vision, delegate, pass on their skills, pray for more fellow workers, prioritise, or simply say 'no'. It's a vicious circle: doing less youth work so we can give time to equip the church to do youth work means fewer youth learn the gospel now; continue as we are and we're not providing for the future. There is only one word for a youth ministry which is funded and provided by a small number of people: unsustainable. So COOL faces a challenge: to divert human resources to pray for and ensure a long term future for the work... Perhaps one of the supporters who will help secure that future is reading these words right now. Thank you for the encouragement you give this vital work.

Rev. Roddie Rankin

SCHOOLS WORK

During last term we ran our annual S6 Belief day which was well received by around 40 students. Some of the content was quite hard hitting as we reflected on the value we place on life and although one or two did not like the fact that the day is led by the chaplains, the feedback was encouraging.

The highlight of the term was to see the development of young people in their walk with God, and one girl in particular who became a



Christian without any church background or direct conversation and has since been regular in Bible studies and other COOL events. It is great to see God at work and choosing to use our efforts for His purposes. We are sure that it is not insignificant that the 60 Second prayer club continues consistently every week and young people are excited about their faith.

At the start of the new year Dave is again putting together the program for the term which aims to include monthly assemblies for all eleven primaries; not always the easiest logistical task! We are also considering whether it is possible to continue in some form a very successful pilot SU club in Sleat Primary which is hampered by lack of volunteers to run it.



Of course the main event this term is our annual weekend away for P7s and up. Bookings have been slower than hoped but we have enough to confirm that the event will take place and there are still plenty of spaces. We look forward to Rev. John Murdo MacDonald leading the teaching over the weekend.