

give thanks for...

- The baptism of Ailsa James
- Exciting and rewarding times in Peru
- Presence of God at Soul Survivor
- Full input to schools despite many changes
- God's plans following summer results

pray for...

- Teenagers leaving for further study or work
- The Christian community in PHS
- School staff amidst numerous changes
- a spiritual awakening building on past work
- An increased vision of God in all our work

 SOME UPCOMING EVENTS (PROPOSED)

- 28 Aug Back to School with God, Kyleakin
- 12 - 13 Sep SU Staff Days, Lendrick Muir
- 23 - 25 Sep Annual Weekend Away, Glenshee
- 27 Oct S6 Big Questions, Plockton High
- 29 - 1 Dec SU Staff Conference, Lendrick Muir
- 23 Dec PHS Christmas Service

SEPTEMBER 2016

OCTOBER 2016

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NOVEMBER 2016

DECEMBER 2016

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with various talks from local visiting speakers. Around a dozen young people enjoyed the slightly different style of programming.

 NEW TERM

By the time you read this, Ailsa James of Plockton will have been baptised in the sea at Kyleakin, just before leaving for university. As I anticipate that event it surely is one of the highlights of my career with COOL. We long for it to be a far more regular event amongst our communities (of all ages!).

Having said farewell to a significant number of S6 students this summer, we pray God's hand in their future endeavours for Him but anticipate the work with others growing up behind them.

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This newsletter is available on our website. If you would rather receive a copy by email instead of post, please contact: christine@coolscotland.org.uk

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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 Scripture Union Scotland Associate Trust, is a Recognised Scottish Charity (No. SCO31455) and Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation.



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SUMMER ACTIVITIES

The team going to Peru left before the official end of term which reduced cost of flights hugely, but it has felt like a bit of a roller coaster from the end of last term to what is now already the third day of the Autumn term, and assembly planning is looming heavy upon me! Three weeks in Peru and a week at Soul Survivor has been a summer well spent, along with good reports from the holidays clubs we support. I even managed to fit in a week's camping near Stirling with the family which was a lot of fun, including the amazing thunder storms!

PERU 2016

For some of this year's Peru team, hopes of visiting Peru began over six years ago. To finally bring those dreams to realisation is an exciting privilege, only made possible by many faithful supporters of the trip across our local communities. The opportunity you help to provide is amazing and worth every effort. This year we returned to many friends we had made in Huaycán two years ago. Again working for local community project, Asociacion Agape, our work was very varied from shifting rocks and painting fences to preparing teaching materials and playing with children. We even took part in a parade on the final day, complete with banners, official T-shirts



and costumes! Despite many similarities for me to our previous visit with Agape through Tear Fund, the work was quite different, as was the experience of having a much smaller team. Although there were predictably some frustrations, largely due to the amount and variety of work there was to fit into a very brief visit, it was encouraging to have made tangible differences to people's lives, albeit in small ways. The locals expressed their thanks and were impressed by the commitment of our young people to work hard and do all they could in difficult circumstances to make that difference.

A full report will be available on the COOL website in due course.

SOUL SURVIVOR

Soul Survivor Scotland returned to Lendrick Muir for its second year and we took another group of S4+. The weather upped the ante with some of the strongest summer winds I have ever known, and the Sunday saw the Go Kart track being demolished to utilise the tyres as ballast for the tents! Many of us had to take tents

down before they were claimed by the gales, but spirits remained high, even when the evening meeting in the Big Top had to be cancelled for safety reasons.



Teaching covered a range of subjects from our value and purpose in Christ to spiritual gifts. Mike Pilavachi and Andy Croft led it in an engaging yet sensitive manner, always thoroughly biblical and respectful of local church, whilst never being too comfortable! A number of other seminars were appreciated by our young people, as well as the regular prayer ministry which took place following the main meetings. It is always encouraging to see the young people getting serious with God and their faith

and we pray the experience will continue to challenge and transform us within our daily lives.

The Tuesday coincided again with SQA results and it was a long morning waiting on texts and post for many of the young

people I have worked closely alongside this year. Although, as every year, there will need to be some deep consideration of where to go next, all round the results seemed to be of a very high standard. The girls with me even coped with my 'Dad dancing' at the silent disco that evening. (Which for the record, was actually pretty rhythmic — anyway, I am a Dad!)



HOLIDAY CLUBS

I was not able to be directly involved with parish holiday clubs this summer, but last term I had a significant input into writing the material for Kintail & Glenelg and South Skye and Lochalsh. We followed a Wild West theme and looked at the 'lost' parables of Jesus and their significance to us today. Reports have been very positive with the teaching being clearly received and the usual mix of fun and madness. I must admit I was disappointed not to be around to watch the Free Church and Church of Scotland ministers lead the square dance each morning! Glenelg also ran the usual mad mix of youth activities and teen aged teaching in the afternoons culminating in the camping at Arnisdale on Friday night.

In the north of the area, Shieldaig ran a three day holiday club which was well received, whilst Lochcarron Free Church extended their youth program