

My boys always came home singing after your assembly. Thank you!

We get to gather and talk about God and everyone feels special and no-one judges you and you belong

I am so grateful for your support over the years

From the age of 4, with Holiday Club games and memory verses to now with Bible studies and Friday Nights; COOL has helped me grow in my faith and learn more about the Bible, whilst having fun with friends.

You were there for me in my desperation

Your school assemblies always left the kids smiling and uplifted



(COOL makes) being a teenager that bit easier and funner

**SOME UPCOMING EVENTS (PROPOSED)**

16 Dec Closing date for job applicants

18 Dec Dave starts new job

Jan tba COOL interviews

2 Feb Annual COOL Celebration

16 Mar Youth Weekend to Alltnacriche

**JANUARY 2018**

**FEBRUARY 2018**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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**MARCH 2018**

**APRIL 2018**

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**SIXTEEN YEARS OF CHANGE**

Over the years we have seen significant change. On the positive, we have built relationships with schools and are considered part of the educational system locally. We have grown and developed the youth work, especially through the Friday Night Bible study, attracting up to 25 young people. The village youth works have been brought together and youth leaders are now part of a much bigger community. However, there are ever increasing challenges for young people and we have had our share of some quite devastating mental health issues, on going physical issues, social pressures in a digital world, as well as the usual rigours of school and adolescence. As we appoint a new worker, we are seeking God, not only for an individual of experience, but someone with a genuine desire to love, nurture and disciple our young people.

**CONTACT**

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

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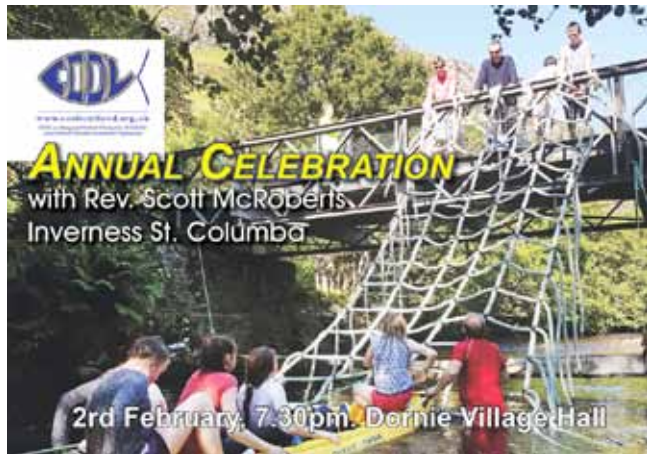
# DECEMBER 2017



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A slightly earlier newsletter than usual, due to a change in personnel with COOL. As most will know by now, Dave is leaving employment with COOL after the school Christmas socials on December 15th. He takes up his new position the following Monday. The Mocketts will not be leaving the area and, following three months of training in Kincardine, Dave will be working the Highlands and Islands.



COOL, however, continues and we would love to share with you at our next annual celebration in February at this pivotal time in our history.

The bread and butter of COOL is our schools involvement and week to week we have continued to serve our eleven primaries as well as Plockton High. As well as the usual monthly assemblies, I visited Kyleakin Primary to be interviewed as part of their RME program on what I believe as a Christian. For me, these visits have now come to a close as I said goodbye to the last of the primaries at the end of November, leaving them with thoughts on becoming 'wise and successful' from the Bible. I am deeply grateful for the many gifts, cards

and good wishes received, as well as the many years of welcome and friendship shown to me.

In the High School we provided a YPI lesson, Gideons Bibles to all S1 students, and wrote and delivered our fifteenth annual S6 Big Questions Conference. It was a small but thoroughly engaging group this year and some interested conversations followed after the day had concluded. We are thankful for all who have contributed over the years from local clergy to visiting speakers, both local and national, as well as personal friends who have travelled many miles to lead groups.

October saw another visit to Rome with twenty five young people. There's a lot of walking involved but plenty of time to enjoy the city, with dozens of sights and experiences. This was followed by our usual Rome Night at school, which doubled as a farewell with happy memories of previous trips. Of course, it was the best group we have taken (during this year) and we hold all our students in prayer as important exams begin to crowd their thoughts.



Despite changes to the High School timetable imposed by Highland Council, creating really short lunchtimes, a small group has continued to meet faithfully each week for prayer and Bible reading. It will be up to my successor to find and reestablish other pastoral opportunities, but we're excited for the inspiration of an afternoon's reading of the Gospel of Matthew, led by Arran in S6, on Sunday 10th December in Kyle.

Cut your COOL bookmark along the line

**Pray for... Local Schools**

- Head Teachers
- Behavioural issues
- Supply teachers
- Buildings
- Pressure on staff
- Thanks for welcome to COOL
- New relationships

**Pray for... Plockton Pupils**

- Those searching for Truth
- Open hearts and minds
- Desire and effectiveness of Bible engagement
- Thanks for Finlay MacDonald helping out in school

**Pray for... Students**

- Students finding Christian life hard
- Thanks for evangelical churches
- Those who have wandered from the Truth
- Those in Christian leadership
- A former Plockton student joining an overseas mission organisation

Robin Downie, National Youth Moderator

**Pray for... COOL**

- Continued support for COOL after Dave leaves
- The new Youth and Schools Worker

