



We speak with Finlay Macdonald



It has been my absolute pleasure over the last few months to be leading the Prayer Group and Bible Study at Plockton High School. Having not left school that long myself, I know what a great support and encouragement these groups can be.

When I heard that Dave was leaving I thought of the Bible Study and Prayer Group and was challenged to take them on. Despite my initial nerves and unease of being back at school, these groups have now become the highlight of my week.

Every Wednesday I am meeting with the young and committed Christians at Plockton High School to pray and to share God's Word.

In our Bible Studies we have been looking at some of the big pressures on young people and how to live differently and to share our faith with those around us through deeds as well as words.

Above all I aim to be an encouragement to these young people, reminding them of the joy they have in their salvation and to fix their eyes not on the troubles and stresses of the school day but to the things that are of Heaven.

I pray and hope that it blesses the lives of the students at Plockton as much as running the groups has blessed my life. I will gladly continue in this rewarding work as long as I am allowed.

Please pray for the groups that they would grow and be a blessing for the whole school.



New Data Protection Laws

Due to new data protection laws (GDPR) we are writing to let you know about some changes we are making to our privacy policy and the way we keep in touch with you.

We believe we already have your consent to send you newsletters, how you can support our work from fundraising to volunteering and prayer needs about COOL. We will not share your data with third parties for market purposes and will never sell your data.

If you are still happy to hear from ourselves then you don't need to do anything more – we will continue to keep in contact with you. Please take time to read our privacy policy on the website at www.coolscotland.org.uk/pages/privacy. It explains what data we collect, why we collect it, how we use it and other information relevant to the privacy of your data.

If you no longer wish to hear from COOL you can write to **COOL Secretary, 8 Upper Ardelve, Kyle of Lochalsh IV40 8DY** or by emailing christine@coolscotland.org.uk



CONTACTS

Youth Worker ~ Vacant

Chairman ~ **Mr Colin MacDonald**,
Ault Mhor, Glenelg, Ross-shire, IV40 8LA.
chairman@coolscotland.org.uk

Treasurer: **Mr Phil Picking**
treasurer@coolscotland.org.uk

COOL is an inter-denominational 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 SCO 31455) and Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation.



www.coolscotland.org.uk
COOL is a Registered Scottish Charity (No. SCO31455) and a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation



www.coolscotland.org.uk

COOL is a Registered Scottish Charity (No. SCO31455) and a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation

MAY 2018





Message from the Chair

In this time of vacancy we are working hard at trying to find a new Youth and Schools Worker. We have faced a couple of disappointments as the Lord has closed doors and led potential applicants to other places to serve Him. But we trust in Him and wait patiently for the Lord to reveal who He has raised up to take on the role. We are excited and thankful to Him that he has recently opened another door for us and we await His guidance on that front.

Despite the disappointment of not being able to appoint a Worker yet, our cup overflows with reasons for thankfulness:

- We are most thankful to the Lord for His continued blessings during this vacancy and for the faithful, praying people in this area and beyond who are holding us up in prayer. We are most encouraged and warmly thankful for your prayers and support at this time.
- We are also very thankful for those who have come forward to volunteer their services to maintain the work of COOL.
- Finlay Macdonald has taken on the support of the Bible Studies and Prayer Groups that meet in Plockton High School and we are most grateful to him for his faithfulness in taking on this vital support role.
- We are also delighted to have Timmy Currie and Angus MacLennan taking on the running of the Friday Night Youth Bible Study and to Brian and Ruth Taylor for hosting the group in their home.
- We were happy to be able to run a very successful Youth Weekend Away in Alltnachriche in March which was well attended and warmly received. You can read more about this event later in this newsletter. We are thankful to all who gave of their time to make this weekend possible.

On a personal note I am as always, thankful to the Lord for the support, encouragement and hard work of the Management Committee, who manage the running and administration of COOL; all are a blessing. I am thankful for the support and commitment of the Trustees as we oversee the work. Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank Colin Carmichael of SU Scotland who, despite a very full workload of his own, has given of his time generously. His advice, guidance and support have been invaluable to COOL over the years and especially over the last few months.

We look forward to the future with anticipation and excitement as to where God will lead us next.



Alltnachriche by Hannah Westerduin



The youth weekend away to Alltnachriche was packed with activities, good food, investigating the Bible and singing. We enjoyed a zip wire, a ropes course, happy hippos and an interesting take on rounders involving an axe handle and rugby ball! On the Saturday night the leaders played the parts of gun-slinging cowboys in "Who shot the sheriff?" – this year's version of Cluedo – they were all worryingly realistic and fun was had by all in finding Fiona Macdonald to be guilty.

We were all impressed by the musical talent in our group who formed the worship band, led by James Brown. Decorating our own mugs provided a souvenir of the fun at Alltnachriche. Sunday greeted us with a fresh layer of snow and Heather and Willie held a snowman building competition.

Ken led us through a study of Romans exploring God as our creator, saviour and judge. Finlay gave us some psalms to pray and we looked at an acronym of Gospel: God Our Sins Paying Eternal Life. We also split into small groups and gained insight into some challenging questions on faith, the existence of God, God's holiness and barriers to admitting our sinfulness and pleading guilty.



Big thanks to the leaders for their fab organisation and for joining in with all the fun and games that we all enjoyed. The food was amazing; the quality was so high that one pudding went off the scale scoring 11/10. Thank you cooks! We were all glad that Dave managed to come and muck in making the weekend all the more special. Thanks Dave, we loved catching up with you and hearing about your new adventure in the police.



Prayer

Pray for COOL

That the Lord may reveal His plans for a Youth and Schools Worker

Continued support for COOL

For the happy and blessed time we had at Alltnachriche

Those who have come forward to volunteer

The continuation of the Friday Night Youth Bible Study

Pray for Local Schools

Head teachers

Supply teachers

Pressure on staff

Behavioural issues

School buildings

School activities

For the welcome shown to COOL

New relationships

Pray for Students

Those who are finding Christian life hard

Those waiting for news of University places

High school leavers as they plan for their future

Those in Christian leadership

Those who have wandered from the truth

Those searching for truth

Open hearts and minds

For the desire and effectiveness of Bible engagement

For new friends to be made in Universities and workplaces that that they too may come to know the way of the Lord through COOL Students mission.

For former students working in overseas mission organisations

National Youth Moderator, Robin Downie