



Scripture Union International



Stories and updates from Scripture Union around the world

Global News aims to keep you in touch with how our network of Scripture Union teams is having an impact on young lives each month.

Dreaming big in the Solomon Islands



Despite all the challenges and disruption to their ministry last year, Scripture Union in the **Solomon Islands** has been praying for God to do big things in their country.

National Director, Nathan Mautai, explained, "2022 was a really challenging year for SU Solomon Islands. The COVID 19 pandemic and regular lockdowns at the beginning of the year seriously affected the ministry finance and programme activities. We thank God for His grace and faithfulness, that we were able to resume our ministry activities in July. Now every Wednesday, students from Honiara High School gather at the SU conference room for Bible engagement and prayer."

SU Solomon Islands continues to work with children in several schools, drawing young people together to share and to learn.

Nathan said their next big goal is to raise the funds necessary to develop a property which they hope will help raise revenue for their ministry with children and young people and enable them to become self-supporting.



about **the Solomon Islands**

The Solomon Islands is the third-largest archipelago in the South Pacific. They consist of approximately 992 small islands, atolls, and reefs, of which 347 are populated. The first settlers in the Solomon Islands were Papuan-speaking hunters from New Guinea, before Melanesians began arriving around 4000BC. In 1978, the Solomon Islands became an independent country, after being colonised by the UK in the 19th century. Most of the islands are covered by dense forest, but there are an amazing variety of plants species, including 23 varieties of orchid. Sea level rises, coastal erosion, flooding, and storms are all threatening the future of Solomon Islanders and their homes. Although English is the official language, there some 120 indigenous languages spoken in the country. The religion of Solomon Islands is mainly Christian (making up about 92% of the population). Scripture Union is actively working in schools and communities across the islands sharing God's Big Story in engaging ways, as they grow and nurture faith in young lives.



Peanut butter and tomatoes help SU Zimbabwe thrive

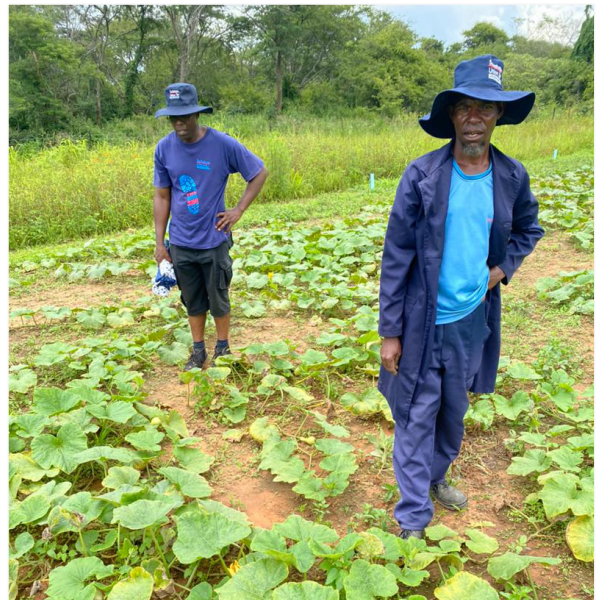
Income generating projects that are run by **SU Zimbabwe** are going from strength to strength, according to their National Director, Samuel Kalizi. He said they were hoping for a greater yield of crops this coming year after their water issues were solved through the provision of fencing, a 10-horsepower pump and solar power for irrigation at their Sanganyai Creek campsite.

Sam explained, *"We are thankful to God for His irrigation provision and for the green house installed in Bulawayo, where we harvested our first tomato crop last year and where we are still harvesting peppers! The installation of peanut butter machines has also helped - the first batch of peanut butter was sold out and we are now preparing a second batch."*

Along with all the crop growing projects, SU Zimbabwe is working on a project with goats and one with bees, which they hope will take off in the coming months.

Sam said, *"We would be grateful for prayer as we work flat out to generate resources, which then enables us to spread the gospel in schools."*

Find out more about Zimbabwe's income generating projects and SUI's other *Sustain* projects below.



[Find out more](#)



[Watch the sustain video](#)

Meeting God in the mountains

More than 30 young campers enjoyed **SU Switzerland's** annual ski camp in the mountains around Verbier between Christmas and the New Year. The French speaking movement drew in children from 6 to 12 years old for a week of 'ski fun'.

According to the SU team, the young people enjoyed speeding down the slopes of the 'most beautiful ski resort in the world' where there was the chance to take part in a whole range of ski antics - from jumping and carving, to attempting 360 degree turns. Along with the laughter and fun, there was time to enjoy songs and games and share food, as well as sharing around the Bible and discussing faith.



On another camp run by SU French speaking Switzerland, one of the leaders, Anthony Geiser, said the camps were an opportunity to have discussions about spirituality, the practice of faith and other Biblical questions.

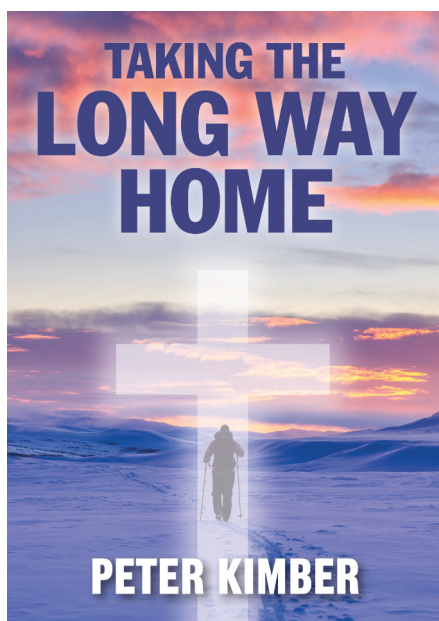
"It's a camp with a super, dynamic team of leaders, who listen to God in times of intercession and exchanges and make themselves available to the young people. The place of Jesus was central within this camp. In the various activities, faith was an important topic of discussion throughout the day, even during free time (skiing, sports, climbing, meals, games, etc.). It's great to see young people rising up and wanting to serve Jesus in a concrete way."

A new perspective on Scripture Union globally



Former CEO of **SU England and Wales**, Peter Kimber, has just published a book, entitled 'Taking the Long Way Home,' which charts his life's adventures and includes fascinating insights into the history and impact of Scripture Union around the world.

Peter, now aged 85 and living in Scotland, was born and grew up in India, where his parents were missionaries, and where he first encountered Scripture Union.



In the book he writes about an SU worker who came to his school in India, "*Cecil would take evening prayers and from it all one thing has stayed with me ever since. He said, 'Wouldn't it be very strange if, instead of having three meals a day we saved all the food for one huge meal on a Sunday?' answer: 'Yes of course'.*" Yet that is what we do with God's word: we keep it for a Sunday. Wouldn't it be sensible to have a bit every day – some daily bread? And to help us do that, here is a card of Bible readings. Would you like to try it?' ... intermittently it has stuck with me and indeed SU has been a part of my life since then."

The book goes on to trace his many adventures, including his time in Canada, studying in Oxford, a dramatic trip to the Antarctic with the British Antarctic Survey, and later travels with the British Council, the Scottish Examination Board and Scripture Union, which took him to India, Egypt, Zimbabwe, Eritrea, Ukraine and Siberia.

For anyone with an interest in how God has been at work around the world, both in one individual's life and across many Scripture Union movements, this book makes a fascinating read. Proceeds from book sales will be given to support the international work of Scripture Union.

You can obtain a kindle copy of the book on amazon [HERE](#)

To read more of Peter's reflections about the book and Scripture Union today go to our website [HERE](#).

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If you would like to know more about how to partner with us or find out about Scripture Union in a particular country or area, you can discover more **HERE**:



Scripture Union: God's Big Story Transforming Young Lives
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