



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.

Sharing love amongst Sri Lanka's struggling fishing communities

Children from some of the poorest coastal communities in Sri Lanka are joining in with a regular Scripture Union Kids Club in Willoratte, Moratuwa, each Friday.

The Scripture Union team say many of the families are from the fishing community and are struggling to survive. Their hope is that the regular Friday club will bring fresh hope to the children and young people and that many will come to understand more of God's Big Story and his purpose for their lives.



[Scripture Union Sri Lanka](#) runs a number of programs across the country, many with children who have never heard about Jesus Christ and who are from under privileged communities where parents are struggling to provide food for their children.

During a program in another part of the country, the team led activities for around 50 children, including more than 20 orphans, whose grandparents were having trouble providing three meals a day. Talking about his time with Scripture Union, one boy said he would never forget the day because he felt so happy.

In addition to camps and programs, Scripture Union Sri Lanka is leading devotions with pupils in 13 schools in the capital of Colombo and its suburbs.

You can donate towards SU Sri Lanka's work below.

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about Sri Lanka

Located southeast of India, Sri Lanka has been described as a hidden gem of the Indian Ocean. A highly diverse country with white sand beaches and mountain peaks, Sri Lanka is packed with a huge variety of wildlife, including elephants, leopards and crocodiles; even whales can be spotted off its beautiful beaches. It is also famous for exporting high-quality tea around the world. In 1948, after nearly 150 years as a British colony, Sri Lanka gained independence. The country has seen much political unrest, which has continued for almost three decades, arising out of ethnic tensions between the majority Sinhalese and the Tamil minority in the north and east. After some 26 years of violence the conflict ended in May 2009, when government forces seized the last area controlled by Tamil Tiger rebels. But recriminations over abuses by both sides continue. Last year, an economic crisis led to the collapse of Sri Lanka's currency and rising inflation. This has triggered political protests and a humanitarian crisis due to a severe shortage of goods.



Over 92 per cent of the country's 22 million population is literate and Sri Lanka has the highest literacy rate in South Asia. Christians make up just 6 per cent of the predominantly Buddhist country with a quarter of the population is under 15 years old. Scripture Union is actively involved in a variety of ministries through schools programs, camps and working with churches to support outreach to children and young people.

French children spring to life under the Big Top

A special circus drama in the grounds of [Rimlishof](#), the holiday centre for [Scripture Union France](#), was the setting for an extraordinary event last month involving dozens of children and young people.

Rimli Circus - Ras le Clown! 2023 was organised by the Scripture Union team at Rimlishof and offered young people the chance to perform together as part of an annual program run at the centre.

This year was the 34th time the event has been run, Centre director, Alain Nussbaumer, said:

"For two weeks, these campers lived to the rhythm of a circus troupe: entertainment professionals, a highly motivated teaching team and time for Bible reflections, were all part of the ingredients that helped bring the colourful show together. For three hours each day, the singing, scenery, video, dance, theatre or circus workshops allowed the children to put on an exceptional show."





The drama told the story of a sad teenage clown called Charlie, from a famous circus family who had been in the circus all his life. He dreams of more and embarks on a great adventure, in pursuit of happiness. The children told his story through dance, drama and music, at the same time as sharing God's message of hope with the audience.

Watch the video here: <https://fb.watch/m7m44sKhwc/>

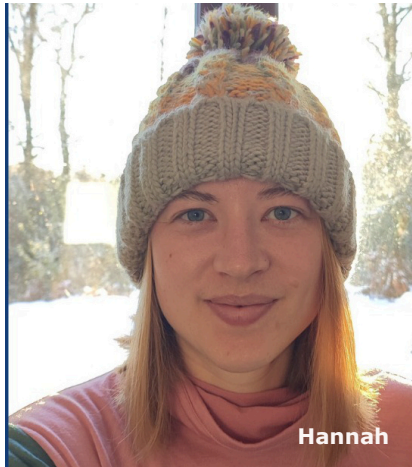
'Camps are us' – beach fun for children in Germany



Camps are the lifeblood of Scripture Union and run in many different formats in a host of locations from beaches to forests and from city streets to remote islands. [Scripture Union Germany](#) has been sharing God's Big story over the past few weeks in engaging and creative ways through drama and storytelling combined with lots of fun for children and young people. They have been running an exciting family camping program at the Bengersiel campsite, with crazy games, sports on the beach, as well as worship and Bible study. There are also many other camps running in different locations.

We're praying all the young people involved in Scripture Union camps around the world this month will come to know God and that each one will find their faith deepened and enriched through every encounter.

Young ambassadors continue to fundraise



Hannah



Hilda



Lea

Three of our 50 [young ambassadors](#) have high hopes for the program as they continue to raise funds. Hannah from [Scotland](#) says she is looking forward to living out the values and ethos of Scripture Union in a new context. She said, *"I'm looking forward to building bridges and learning from others and I hope to grow in faith and encourage others."*

Hilda from [Uganda](#) hopes all the young ambassadors will be a bridge between different cultures, generations and backgrounds. She said she is looking forward to working with other ambassadors in the months ahead.

Lea from [Slovakia](#) is looking forward to representing the younger generation in a wider forum at the [Global Gathering](#) in Malaysia.

You can give towards the young ambassadors' program below..

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Scripture Union: God's Big Story Transforming Young Lives
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