



Scripture Union International

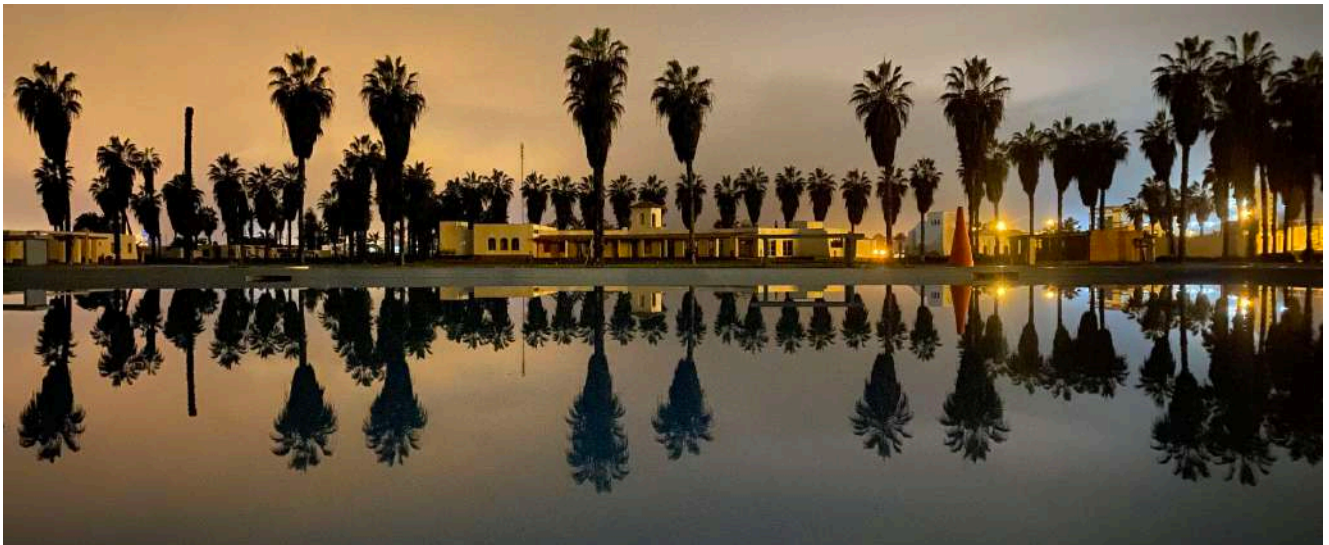


## Stories and updates from Scripture Union around the world

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.

## Campfire inspiration for children at Peru's beach-side centre

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In Peru the Scripture Union team is looking forward to reaching out to more children and young people this year as their camp programs have started up again.

National Director of [Scripture Union Peru](#), Eduardo Ortega, said: "We are very excited to be resuming the programs and ministries of Scripture Union. Our Kawai centre by the sea is a place where nature and fun intertwine and children and young people are able to explore our green spaces, dip into the beach or the pool and enjoy nightly bonfires and campsite experiences. Our camps offer unforgettable moments filled with adventure and laughter."

Eduardo said they are currently recruiting volunteers for their programs and have begun children's clubs, now called SUPERKIDS, as well as strengthening their programs in schools.

"We have revitalized the biblical ministries through 'Encounter with God'. We are praying for creativity and provision of resources to help us receive churches and friends in a sustainable and welcoming manner at our camp centres."

The team and the Board for Scripture Union Peru are trying to generate income to help maintain their valuable camp centres, which offer a base for the camp ministries.



## about Peru

Peru is in western South America, bordering the South Pacific Ocean, between Chile to the south and Ecuador to the north. With more than half the country covered in rainforest, the world's second highest mountain range, the Andes, runs through the country.

Since 2017, Peru has been paralyzed by a series of political crises. In 2022-2023, Peru experienced the Presidential self-coup and ensuing political drama, protests, and crackdowns. The country urgently needs a stable government with integrity and a mandate from and for the people themselves.

There have been many years of corruption, dictatorship, and threats to security. Over 50 per cent of the population still live in poverty, and 20 per cent in extreme poverty. Street children have multiplied in number, especially in certain areas of the capital, Lima. Poverty, social breakdown and war led to many being abused, exploited and forced to work long hours for a pittance. There is a need for justice and righteousness for the crushed and oppressed. Scripture Union and others are working in their midst.



## Australian fishing camp captures hearts and souls



A group of campers with [Scripture Union Australia](#) enjoyed river fishing as part of the program, many young people learning to fish for the first time and exploring questions of faith around the daily campfire sessions.

Camp leader and SUI's Sustain Consultant, Glenn Coombs said: "Our inaugural

Hawkesbury River Fishing Camp proved to be a resounding success, with 16 enthusiastic campers landing a remarkable total of 123.5 fish over the weekend.



"Among the catch was a memorable mud crab that added a touch of excitement to the fishing experience. Although we chose to keep only 25 fish which were cooked fresh on the BBQ and eagerly consumed, the real highlight was witnessing the pure joy of some campers as they caught their very first fish."

Glenn explained, "The half-fish in the photograph was originally a whole fish until a shark took a bite out of the back half. To make things even more interesting, an eagle swooped down and claimed the front half after it was tossed back into the water. This unexpected turn of events became the unforgettable story of the camp."

He said all campers were given an opportunity to respond to Jesus on Saturday night around the campfire which was a great environment to encourage those who have already decided to follow but also to answer questions from those who are still contemplating Jesus.



## Scripture Union reps to meet at **Global Gathering** next month

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Around 300 people from more than 100 countries will gather in Malaysia next month for the Scripture Union [Global Gathering](#).

This special event, which last happened in 2017, brings together leaders from Scripture Union movements from different countries, cultures and continents. From the islands of the Pacific to the heart of Africa and from war-torn cities to



the Australian outback, Scripture Union representatives will come together to share to discuss and to plan for the future.

The theme of the event is 'Bridging the Gap', and will examine issues such as the gap between the generations, social justice issues, climate change and creation care, and how we work with the challenges around secular versus sacred in our communities.

This Global Gathering will have a special input from around 50 Scripture Union young ambassadors from across the world, who will be presenting their perspectives on some of these issues, bringing a fresh, youthful approach to the discussions.

Organisers of the gathering, Scripture Union International, hopes that the event will lead to fresh insights and new direction for the 120 Scripture Union movements represented.

Click [HERE](#) for more on the Global Gathering.

## Resources for children and young people with special needs

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Children and young people with disabilities remain a hidden group in many countries, and it's estimated less than 10 per cent of them are effectively reached with the gospel. Scripture Union teams aim to address this issue and are seeking funding to develop ways to make resources and ministry more accessible to those with special needs.

Two Scripture Union movements have begun setting up projects which focus on ministry among children and young people with special needs.

[Scripture Union Kenya](#) has launched the *iReach* project, which aims to offer an inclusive, supportive, and empowering environment for children with special needs. Beginning with a research component, *iReach* will focus on enhancing accessibility, a comprehensive support system, an inclusive sense of belonging, and compassion and sensitivity.

In South Africa, a project begun by Scripture Union to help break down barriers between the hearing and deaf communities is bearing fruit among children and young people with hearing problems.

[SU South Africa](#) launched the project to raise funds for a Deaf staff member last year, with the aim of translating SU resources into SASL (South African Sign Language) video's so that they are accessible to deaf children and young people. According to SU South Africa, the Deaf community are being overlooked by most churches and Christian organisations.

General Director SUSA, Mariska de Beer, who has experience in working with the deaf community, said: "By providing these resources in South African Sign Language, we are fostering inclusivity and creating a platform where the Deaf community can engage with the spiritual content in a way that resonates with their unique language and culture.

For further details on the projects click [HERE](#).

## You can partner with us

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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