



Jackson's Point SU IC 2014.

## Old Jordans to Jackson's Point

In late spring 1960, twenty-three people from around the world met together in the gentle English countryside at Old Jordans Conference Centre. It was a time of significant political, economic, religious, social and technological change. Their task was to consider how SU might best be structured to enable growth and development. Fifty-four years later in early autumn 2014, a different thirty people met, 3,500 miles away from Old Jordans at a conference centre alongside a Canadian lake at Jackson's Point. Their task was the same, however, this time the gathering was preceded by the agreement of global priorities through the *Living Hope* initiative and an intense framework consultation period.

Similar to the historic meeting at Old Jordans, the expanded SU International Council sought to come to a common mind on the future of SU global structures and operations that were right for this time in our history and the nature of our Movement. The meeting was bathed in prayer and Bible reflection on the theme of change. During the meeting, the Council gained a fresh understanding of the spirit of Old Jordans that created a structure based on these principles:

- The stronger help the weak without dominating
- Standards are maintained
- The true essence of SU is preserved when planted in different soils

During the meeting, there was a growing sense that God had brought the right people together for this meeting and supplied the gifts needed to undertake the task. The outcome of the meeting was an agreement about the direction we believe God is calling us to travel that is spelled out in the Jackson's Point Accord (see page 3).

The Accord affirms SU's mission as stated in SU's Aims, Belief Statement, and Working Principles that are fulfilled in ways suited to each local setting. Whilst Old Jordans moved SU towards greater autonomy, the Jackson's Point Accord moves SU towards interdependence and new collaborative structures. Old Jordans created a representative regional and international structure. The Jackson's Point Accord moves us toward a global community and election of a global board by the Movements.

We believe that in this time of significant political, economic, religious, social and

technological change, the Jackson's Point Accord retains the principles of Old Jordans and provides a way forward that is appropriate to the globally connected world we live in.

Over the next few years SU will transition to a new framework that will begin in earnest in 2015 with most of the transition being completed by 2017. Over this period, the SU International Executive will provide coordinating oversight of the transition.

Our primary focus continues to be on ministry and ensuring we have a global framework to support, share, and develop the work. We are so thankful for the creative ministries and initiatives that are already emerging as a result of the *Living Hope* initiative, many that are included in this issue of SUI News.

We are grateful for the way God has led us in our life and ministry over 148 years. As we take this big step of faith, let us continue to pray and give thanks just as they did at Old Jordans.

**Janet Morgan**  
 International Director

# FROM THE INTERNATIONAL CHAIRMAN

## Different Clothes, Same Heart

I met a leader who had returned to help at an SU camp after a gap of many years. 'How was it?' I asked. 'Different clothes, same heart,' he replied. So much had changed since his last camp, but, behind all the changes, the heart and passion of SU's ministry was still the same.

At our SU International Council meeting, at Jackson's Point in Canada in September, we reaffirmed the heart of SU – our aims, belief and working principles. And we also recognised the need for 'new clothes' if we are going to be fit for today's world.

We cannot tell for certain either our final destination or our speed of travel. However we do know the direction we believe is right for us to travel if we are going to fulfil our vision to reach the next generation and ensure meaningful Bible engagement. The spirit born in our *Living Hope* process guided our discussions, encouraging us to interdependence and collaboration.

We invite you to travel with us in the work you do in your national movements, in the support you give for the work in other countries, and in your prayers for our ministry in the years ahead.

**Colin Sinclair**  
Chair SU  
International  
Council



## In this Issue

You'll probably notice some changes in this *SUI News*. Instead of being structured around regions, you will see that we have drawn together stories relating to some of the priorities which came out of *Living Hope*: Leadership Development, Bible, Partnerships, Children/Youth and Growth. However you will still find stories from every region. We're excited by all that's going on – we hope you will be too!

## Report from Council 2014

**On Friday 19 September 2014, the expanded SU International Council met for four days at Jackson's Point, near Toronto, Canada. Lawson Murray, President of SU Canada, welcomed many participants at the airport. Later, Maggie Norman, the SU Canada Chairperson and Donald Tardif, Director General of LLB Canada warmly welcomed all participants to the gathering.**

This meeting was particularly significant as the Council considered the responses to the paper Towards a Future Global Framework. Discussions were open, careful and thorough and there was a strong sense of God's hand guiding us. As a result the Council adopted the Jackson's Point Accord (see page 3). The Accord working was subsequently sent to all Movements. Further communiqués will continue to be sent to Movements over coming months as we move towards transition.

We were very sorry that the South Asia Region representatives were unable to join us due to problems in obtaining visas. We were particularly disappointed not to be able to give a personal farewell to the South Asia Regional Director, Ravi Navaratnam whose appointment came to an end at the close of 2014. However we did express our thanks to him for his

service and prayed for God's hand to be on him as he looks to the future.

Each day started with Bible reflections and prayer and we received reports and news of ministry around the world. We were grateful to be able to connect via Skype with some participants who were unable to physically be with us.

As is common practice, SUI Executive elections took place. Jon Ong (Singapore) was re-elected and Olaniyi (Niyi) Daramola (a former Africa Regional Director, staff member of World Link and current editor of SU African Bible notes) was elected, both to serve until 2017 when a new Global Board will be elected. It was also agreed to reappoint Colin Sinclair as Chair of Council until 2017. We gave thanks to Jorunn Sjaastad and David Gichung'wa who completed their terms of service on the Executive.

In the midst of the business of our meeting, there was wonderful fellowship around the meal tables and in the cabins where we were staying. And, if you would like to eat the best scrambled eggs in the world, just ask the National Director of SU England & Wales to prepare your breakfast.

**Janet Morgan**  
International Director

## West African Ebola Virus Epidemic

**The Ebola virus epidemic in West Africa has resulted in untold tragedy for so many.** The first cases were reported in March 2014 and by 7 December, almost 18,000 cases and 6,388 deaths had been reported, the vast majority in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone. However the World Health Organisation says that these figures are certainly underestimates because of the difficulty in collecting data.

Inevitably, our movements in those countries have been affected. Kpandei Tucker, National Director of SU Sierra Leone gives one example: A school group leader along with her father, who was a pastor, and ten other relatives died in October. 'As a result of the outbreak,' he

writes, 'we had to put a halt on all our programs, both in schools and weekly youth meetings in the headquarters hall and all Anniversary Celebration programmes including our National Youth Camp. In addition, our income has dropped drastically because of the economic uncertainty caused by the epidemic.'

**The SUI Leading Staff Development Course due to take place in November 2014 in Nairobi was postponed until October 2015 because the West African participants would not have been able to travel.**

However we've also been asked to celebrate the miraculous recoveries of thousands who have been discharged from the Ebola Treatment Centres and

to pray against the fear fuelling stigmatisation both in West Africa and globally. Many survivors feel unwelcome in their communities – some are not even allowed to return home.

# Jackson's Point Accord:

## *Towards Interdependence*

Based on Global Framework Paper 3 and the deliberations of an expanded Scripture Union International Council held at Jackson's Point, Ontario Canada 19 to 22 September 2014.

### We have:

- engaged in the *Living Hope* process, since 2012, of listening to God, and each other globally, about the vision and future of the global Scripture Union movement;
- considered Global Framework Paper 3 developed after extensive consultation in each region of the world;
- reflected on paper 3 and the written comments about the Paper received from SU movements around the world; and
- individually and together sought God for His guidance, wisdom and grace.

### Therefore, we make the following resolution as a Council:

#### 1. (Our mission as a movement)

We have a mission, which is stated in the SU International Aims, Beliefs and Working Principles and affirmed at the *Living Hope* Event in November 2012. Ultimately, what we do as SU movements and as a global SU community is an outworking of those Aims, Beliefs and Working Principles. They define us locally and globally.

#### 2. (Our affirmation of SU movements)

We affirm the vital role of SU movements in carrying out SU ministry locally, building local leadership, developing local financial capacity, working with the local Christian church and meeting the requirements of local culture, conditions and laws. We seek to strengthen local SU ministry, not undermine or diminish it.

#### 3. (Our vision of Interdependence)

As a global movement, united by our SU name and logo (in their various forms), we are all affected and enriched by each other. We want to see SU ministry around the world strong and growing, through support and collaboration between movements, facilitated by a SU global board and team.

#### 4. (Our affirmation of the SU global board)

We affirm the role of an SU global board and team in facilitating

development and supporting the work of SU movements, maintaining good stewardship of the SU name, logo and reputation, guiding and advising as needed, and promoting the work of the Scripture Union movement globally, as reflected in the Aims, Beliefs and Working Principles.

#### 5. (Our journey towards new collaborative structures)

We recognise we are in a changing world and need a global framework to enable us to meet each other's needs, and to fulfil our mission. While we have not yet arrived at our destination, we are on a journey together towards new arrangements so that SU movements can connect with and support each other, coordinated by an SU global board and team which will involve:

- a) community groups and networks, as a way to engage strategically, collaborate, train staff and volunteers, grow together spiritually, participate in global consultation and support each other;
- b) sharing stories, resources and information, for prayer, encouragement and support;
- c) partnership, companionship or accompaniment, as agreed between particular SU movements;
- d) a new team of field development personnel;
- e) the enhancement of global capacity, particularly for communications and fund development; and
- f) a global gathering of chairpersons and key leaders each six years, for strategic purposes.

#### 6. (Supporting the SU community financially)

We recognise movements' financial constraints and the need for the SU movement at every level to seek new sources of income. However, we also recognise that our vision of interdependence will require greater financial support from SU movements over time.

#### 7. (Transition)

While our international and regional structures served us in the past and continue to serve in some respects, we resolve to engage in a process of transition to a new collaborative model. This will require that:

- a) a transition team continues, respectfully and sensitively, to work through any concerns or difficulties held by any SU movement;
- b) the current regions and regional director roles will be transitioned-out, and community groups and field development personnel transitioned-in, each in accordance with an agreed transition plan, as funding permits;
- c) a new paper will be circulated to the SU International Council and then SU movements by end of 2014, taking account of the written comments about Paper 3 received from around the world and the discussion at Jackson's Point;
- d) a Covenant of Interdependence will be produced, bearing in mind the feedback received on Paper 3 and the discussion at Jackson's Point, and sent to SU movements by mid 2015 (for formal commitment in 2017);
- e) arrangements to elect a new SU global board, formal commitment to the Covenant of Interdependence, membership of the SU global 'entity' by SU movements, and necessary changes to the constitution of Scripture Union International Council, will be developed for adoption by a General Assembly of the SU global movement in 2017.

ADOPTED BY THE MEETING  
OF THE SCRIPTURE UNION  
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL AT  
JACKSON'S POINT, ONTARIO,  
CANADA, BY RESOLUTION,  
THIS 22nd DAY OF  
SEPTEMBER, 2014.



## Shaping Up

**Sunday school teachers from Tonga and SU leaders from Guatemala – two very different ministry groups – have developed over the past year through the Shaping for Service (SfS) course.**

Last May, SU Directors and Chairs from Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Tonga met in Sydney for a three day mini-SfS. It focused on three central SfS themes, Bible, Mission and Context. Meanwhile in October, 22 SU leaders from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras took part in another SfS course in Siguatepeque, Honduras.

The SfS strategy is to equip leaders to train others. Already it's bearing fruit in the Pacific Islands. 'Since returning home all the participants have successfully used some of what they learned,' said Sam



Emery, Pacific Islands Coordinator. 'It's a must for all leaders and volunteers in the region. It lends itself to the dominant oral culture in the islands. The creative, interactive, visual approach worked brilliantly.'

SfS stimulated their way of approaching Bible engagement and the Bible timeline unlocked things for those attending. Through seeing the Big Picture story of the Bible they could understand themselves in that story. Now they are helping others to do the same back home.

## Training Younger Leaders

**A number of SU Movements have taken up the challenge of addressing one of the priorities identified through Living Hope and have partnered to invest in the training of younger leaders.** In November, 18 people met at SU French-speaking Switzerland's new centre near Vevey, for part one of a new course. Coming from nine countries they were mainly staff in their 20s.



The programme combined Bible study and prayer with teaching, group work and activities. Topics included understanding yourself, leadership styles and SU's nature and ethos. In April they will return for part two of the course and build on what they have already done. Christian Brenner (Germany), Michel Siegrist (French-speaking Switzerland) and Helen Warnock (Northern Ireland) planned and led the course.

Another new initiative is 'Leadership Lab', a two month programme based in Croatia and open to people from any country. It is designed for 18-25 year olds wanting to develop as leaders. The programme involves one week of training followed by one week of practical service in a camp, repeated over the two months. It is English language-based and takes place in June and July. *More information can be found at <http://www.dpbhouse.com>*

## Even Younger Leaders

**SU Hong Kong is pioneering ways of helping children to develop as Christian leaders. At the Little Leaders' Training Camp, 53 children from eight churches, with 12 adult leaders, spent three days together learning about leadership.**

Camp volunteers, church leaders and the children were all involved in preparation. A questionnaire helped identify the children's talents and gifts and areas in which they might serve. From this, groups of children

from different churches planned, prepared and presented drama, music, handicrafts and dance in a talent show. Meanwhile activity-based teaching and games helped them learn about service and stewardship. SU Director Matthew Wong explained that they taught that God has given gifts to all, adults and children alike, focusing on the camp's key Bible verse, 'Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others' (1 Peter 4:10). Please pray for this new generation of leaders!

## Goals for Kosova

**Three years ago two people from Kosova in the Balkans went to SU Europe's New Staff Course to find out more about Scripture Union.** It was their first significant contact. Today SU Kosova is an emerging Movement with a paid part-time worker, Gramos; a full-time volunteer, Brian; and a board chaired by Hilke. Gramos and Hilke were the two at the New Staff Course and Brian was the one who introduced SU to Kosova having encountered it in Africa when he worked there. It seems that Gramos and Hilke liked what they saw of SU too!

SU Kosova has an innovative approach: they are going to use football as the launching pad for their ministry! They plan to start a football league as a way of building relationship with the churches, seeing this as a potentially unifying umbrella for them to be able to work more closely together. Already there are some teams eager to sign up.

But of course, football is a base for their ministry not the essence of it. Christians will act as coaches and they will be trained to act as life coaches, not just football coaches. Making disciples is their real goal.

## Slowly and Patiently

**Sometimes SU ministry starts with a bang, lots of excitement! But it's not always that way, and for good reason. More often it's a slow and patient task.**

Over a number of years an SU ministry has been developing in a country where Christian activity is restricted. About half the churches and Christian groups are registered and approved by the government but for various reasons, others are not.

All churches, especially the unregistered ones, have to be careful about what they do. It is not easy. Restrictions on Christians are tight and conversion illegal. Publicity is definitely unhelpful. Christians from other countries living and working there are a real encouragement to local Christians.

SU began making links with the country about five or six years ago. Now, visitors from SU are welcomed into churches and have the opportunity to preach and attend the meetings of the pastors' fellowships. Visits also include both youth and adult ministry.

Good links are being made with local Christians too and hopefully some will soon form a local committee to take the ministry further.

A seed is growing.



## The Learning Journey Continues

Since February 2014, a number of Scripture Union movements have been taking their first steps in publishing resources with help from the International Publishing Group. The aim was to train them to produce resources to help them extend their ministry, this time, by producing a 32-page booklet – ten days of Bible reading notes for children aged 8 to 11, to send home with children when they leave camps, etc.

A series of tasks to carry out over an eight month period helped the participants to learn about the publishing process. These included: commissioning local writing, editing text, arranging for photographs, choosing a title, etc.

Not all of the interested movements were able to find time to complete all the tasks or do the final training intensive. However, in October, two of the SU Lesotho team began the series of online training sessions to create their own Bible engagement resource. Despite some difficulties with technology, daily one and a half hour sessions took place, with additional sessions as needed. Starting from scratch, the team have learned the whole publishing process through to page layout and they even designed some of their own pages.

They are now in the final stages, putting the finishing touches to their pages. Once completed, they will have a great resource to help children in Lesotho engage with God's Word.

## Behind Closed Doors

**What do people do when they are in prison?** A surprising number read the Bible and in many prisons around the world, prisoners are coming to Christ while they are inside.

Over a number of years, SU members have been visiting prisons in Kyrgyzstan in Central Asia to lead quiet time sessions, reading the Bible and praying with prisoners. It is a patient, long term ministry but makes a real difference.

For many prisoners, visits such as this break the monotony of prison life. At a time when they are feeling hopeless, for some prisoners this has led to a renewed sense of hope through finding Christ. And when the visitors have left, the words of Scripture remain with the prisoners and God continues to speak to them.

At one stage the authorities wanted to stop the visits, but prayer and patient negotiation led to them continuing. More than that, there is now the possibility of this ministry being extended to even more prisons. As Paul said, 'God's word is not chained' (2 Tim 2:9)!

## Project CUBE heads for its launch

SU England and Wales is developing an exciting app to help all children – not just Christian children – explore the Bible and respond to its big story and the truths of God. For some, this will be the first time they encounter the Good News of Jesus.



by the guardians seeking and bringing back the treasured stories – Bible stories.

Through these stories, children can venture deep into Bible lands to understand more of what's going on there, and then bring the stories back to Ancora, to increase the light in the world. The game will grow over

time to cover the whole big story of God – from Genesis to Revelation. For the launch next June, it will start with the heart of the big story – episodes from Jesus' life.

[www.facebook.com/ProjectCube](http://www.facebook.com/ProjectCube)  
Firebugs of Ancora – free teaser app from iTunes App

Guardians of Ancora (Project CUBE's official name) will provide a deep, compelling experience through the story in the amazing fictional world of Ancora. There, children – primarily 8 to 11 year olds – will be able to discover the truth of God's Word by becoming guardians of the city, Ancora. The light at the heart of Ancora has been stolen, and can only be restored



## Spanish growth

**Bible publications are prospering in Spain.** One recent title, *Cómo Conocer la Biblia* (How to get to know the Bible) by former national leader, Pedro Puigvert is the basis for a regular series of broadcasts on Spanish Christian radio. It is also seeking to reach further through a Portuguese edition which is in development. Meanwhile librarians have described the Spanish edition of *Big Bible Challenge* (*El gran desafío de la Biblia*) as a unique resource for children in Spain, with web content to enhance its usefulness and impact.

## The Bible in Africa

**Almost a million SU Bible guides are distributed in Africa annually.** In some languages they are the only commentaries available. SU resources are available in over 30 languages with English and French as the main languages. In 2014, SU Africa surveyed users in preparation for a consultation on the development of Bible ministry. A key finding was the value of the broad perspective on Bible passages brought by having writers from across Africa. However coordinating, maintaining and developing such a diverse team of writers is a major challenge. Another priority highlighted, was the need for digital approaches alongside printed. One example, South Africa's WordSpace programme, is already used by 10,000 people. Pray that the consultation and survey will lead to a real move forward in Bible ministry.



## Long Walk for Bible

**How far would the children in your area walk to go to an SU camp?**

Some children attending an SU camp in Nepal walked for eight hours to get there! More than 200 Chepang young people aged between 8 and 18 attended this camp which was led by SU working in partnership with a local church planted by Indians from Kerala and hosted by a Catholic Sisters' school.

The Chepang people of Nepal live in the mountains and are one of the most isolated tribes in the country. There is a great deal of poverty and at the previous year's camp many of the children had to be provided with new clothing.

They say that all good things come to an end and camps are no exception. So at the final presentation at the end of the camp, each group shared a piece of drama to illustrate something that they had learnt. One group portrayed the fall of Jericho very vividly, one showed St Thomas' missionary work in India and another a confrontation between Christians and a witch doctor. It was inspiring. And for them, the walk had been worth it.



## Hope in Hopelessness

**Honduras is considered to be the most dangerous country on the planet with the highest murder rate.** Not surprisingly, SU Honduras' 'No More Violence, a Message from God' schools programme is in great demand.

Unsatisfied basic needs such as nutrition, education, water, a decent home, and above all, love and emotional support can make children vulnerable to violence. So the Christian message of love and the hope of change is powerful.

SU has trained volunteers to run this programme of 15 weekly lessons, designed to help students understand how God sees violence. Students are helped to make right decisions and to become agents of change in their schools. One said, 'I thank God for putting these people in my path so I could change... I am no longer under pressure. Best of all, I have gained respect... No More Violence grants us a message of faith and hope that says "It is possible!"'

The programme is receiving government recognition and demand is national, but SU is concerned for it to continue to be provided by Christians. Please pray for SU Honduras staff and volunteers living in this violent context.



## Adventures in Ireland

**School adventure retreats are really growing at SU Ireland's Ovoca Manor residential centre** – last Autumn, numbers were up by a third on the previous year with 843 students from 17 schools. They come from all academic backgrounds and all kinds of school.

Spiritual input comes not just through multimedia presentations, talks, Bible debriefs and discussion groups but through the outdoor activities themselves. Staff are always developing new programmes in order to keep the spiritual content sharp. This approach has been really effective, and gets very positive feedback. One teacher said that 'according to students and parents, it was their best retreat in 6 years in the school.'

This is an exciting time of growth for Ovoca. New activities such as the high ropes course mean that they can host larger groups and compete well with other centres. However, retreats are not just about activities. SU wants students to experience life in a Christian community at Ovoca. And for that to happen, the lives and example of the centre staff, interns and freelance instructors are crucial.

## Healing the Broken – through Bible words and grace

**Working with children has challenges as well as its joys!**

At a recent SU New Zealand SUPAkidz Camp for 8-11 year olds, the power of prayer was evident. One camper from a troubled background exhibited a pattern of uncontrolled emotions. Going out in a game, being beaten to the lunch queue, a slight disagreement – all led to verbal or physical rage. And this occurred several times a day. The child's behaviour was unpredictable,

at times irrational and seemingly beyond their control, so constant supervision was needed for everyone's safety.

Leaders showed great maturity, love and patience, continuing to form positive relationships with the child. They prayed hard that this child would see the camp through to its end. Their prayers were answered – the last day of camp saw no repeat outbreaks of

the previous behaviour. The Gospel was shared and this broken child's heart responded not with violence, but with joy, hugs and warmth. Meeting Jesus through the words of the Bible and the gracious actions of leaders demonstrating His unconditional love had made a real difference. It's another reminder of the beauty of human responsibility and divine sovereignty working together to build the Kingdom one life at a time.



*International Youth Camp in Gambia.*

## Crossing Borders

**Borders can be barriers but can also aid ministry as SU Peru have found.** Several years ago Peru established a schools ministry on the border with Ecuador, by training a group of about 20 volunteers in the border city of Huaquillas. One of them, Tanya González, picked up the challenge and now leads that ministry which teaches values programmes in seven or eight schools.

SU Peru gives support by providing training and resources as needed. Encouraged by the Huaquillas project, Tim Pawson who



was then national leader in Ecuador, developed a similar ministry in the capital, Quito, which continues under his successor Amy Carlson (pictured left).

Meanwhile, 2,500 kilometres to the south, there is the possibility of another partnership, on the border of Peru and Chile. Paulina Barreras, national leader in Chile would like to start a Profamily centre for young people in schools and there is a possibility that SU Peru could help with ministry in primary schools where there is also great need. Pray for wisdom to see how this might develop.

## Uganda and South Sudan

**SU Uganda is working in partnership with SU South Sudan through Beth Baleke, the former national leader in Uganda.** She is now Uganda's missionary and visits South Sudan regularly to work with them.

South Sudan gained independence from Sudan in 2011 but has experienced terrible conflict since fighting broke out there in December 2013. It's a dangerous place to live and work. Nevertheless SU is experiencing growth and Beth says that ministry 'has blossomed with new Bible clubs in both primary and secondary schools.'

Beth is training leaders in children's and youth ministry as well as supporting the senior staff. SU Uganda's support enables her to have a wider impact as she also gives support to SU Ethiopia's ministry.



## Ice Buckets in Tajikistan

**Have you heard of the ice bucket challenge?** People are challenged to have a bucket of iced water poured over their head or make a donation to charity – or both! The craze hit its peak last summer and more than 2.4 million videos of people taking the challenge were circulating on Facebook.

In August, while this was all the rage in the UK, a team from SU England and Wales went to work with SU Tajikistan. The two movements have been developing a partnership for some time, with visits in both directions. A number of teams have travelled from the UK to Dushanbe to do practical work on the camp site. Two young builders from England who were laying 25 cubic metres of concrete for the new kitchen block, received an ice bucket challenge. Although they were used to pouring concrete, they were not used to 30+ degree temperatures, so having iced water poured on their heads was quite a relief!

More important than cooling them off however, was the fact that they used it as a way to raise money for SU Tajikistan. Very appropriately, it will go towards providing a swimming pool for the campsite!

## Companions in Ministry

**Sixty-five kilometres across the river delta from Hong Kong is the former Portuguese colony of Macau.** Like Hong Kong, it is a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and the most densely populated region in the world.

It is also one of the world's richest cities and the largest gambling centre in the world. The many casinos draw in foreign visitors but are also a great temptation to local people. For young people from here and Hong Kong looking for work, the businesses supporting Macau's gambling industry are a magnet. It is not the healthiest environment for them.

SU Macau and Hong Kong are companions in ministry. The two ministries are very different in size but have similar contexts. SU Hong Kong is acting as a good older brother to the developing movement in Macau. As well as providing some financial support, staff visit regularly to support the part-time staff worker in Macau and one of the Hong Kong council members also sits on the committee in Macau.

Being so close means that the two movements are able to share ministries and projects. Hong Kong's Bible reading guides are promoted and distributed in Macau and the two can share in a Bible reading conference. When Hong Kong organises seminars, often they can be duplicated in Macau. This is a really fruitful partnership.

## Welcome to SU Kosova

We welcome **SU Kosova**, our newest SU movement. **Brian Bowen**, the Chairperson, is an Englishman working in Pristina who was first introduced to Scripture Union in Africa. He has been working for a number of years to establish Scripture Union in Kosova. You can read more about their ministry on page 4. We're delighted to welcome SU Kosova to the global SU family!



SOUTH AFRICA



PERU



SOUTH KOREA



## International Week of Prayer

**Thank you to all of you who took part in prayer last November.** Many of you posted pictures and news on the Living Hope Facebook page – it was great to have that sense of a wave of prayer going around the world. If you're not a part of that Facebook group you can still join and look back. But even better the group has ongoing news and prayer requests. Please do join!

## Appointments

**Berhanu Solomon** has been appointed SU Ethiopia's National Director.



**Rev. Myung-Sup Park** is the new National Director of SU Korea. Previously he was the Seoul South Coordinator.

**Kudakwashe Gwemende** who was Director of SU Africa's South Sub-Region until 2013 has been appointed National Director of SU Zimbabwe.



**Koh Earn Soo** is the new Executive Director of SU Peninsular Malaysia. He was formerly the Council Chairperson.

## Farewell

SU Indonesia said farewell to **Rev Robby Moningka** who was National Director. Rev Moningka will pastor a local church.



At the end of December 2014 we said farewell to **Ravi Navaratnam**, SU South Asia Regional Director. Ravi has been in this role since 2009 having served on the Council of SU Sri Lanka and as SU South Asia Region Chairperson prior to this. Whilst in the Regional Director post, he was instrumental in developing SU ministry in Bangladesh and supported development of new SU work in another country in the Region. We are thankful for Ravi's service and pray that God will continue to direct him in this next phase of his ministry.

**Daniel Besse**, SU International Bible Ministries Coordinator, completed his term of service at the end of December 2014. Daniel and his wife, Anne Sylvie, both originally from Switzerland, served with SU Madagascar 1998 - 2004. During this time he became editor of the French language Bible notes for Africa. When they returned to Europe they worked with SU France at Le Rimlishof with Daniel continuing work on the African notes. Subsequently Daniel took up the role of International Bible Ministries Coordinator and was based in Lausanne, Switzerland. We are grateful for Daniel's commitment to Bible ministries and his creative and sensitive approach to helping people reflect together in God's Word. His capacity and ability to provide support to the Francophone Movements in Africa has also been a tremendous asset to the Movement. In January, Daniel began his new ministry with older people, as a chaplain in a local care home.



## PRAYER DIARY

Please pray for these key events in 2015...

### ▶ March

11 North Atlantic Community Group – UK  
16 – 18 International Executive – London

### ▶ April

13 – 18 Digital Summit – USA  
15 – 22 SU East & West Asia Regional Council – Indonesia  
29 – 2 May South Asia Community Group – Nepal

### ▶ May

8 – 9 SU Europe Regional Council Meeting – France

### ▶ June

29 – July 4 SU Africa Region Council & Leader's Gathering – Kenya

Are there exciting developments in your area of ministry?

Send your news and photos to [a1admin@su-international.org](mailto:a1admin@su-international.org)



[www.su-international.org](http://www.su-international.org)

Available on the SU International website:  
**SU International Annual Report**



### Credits:

SU International News is a publication of SU International Council

**This Edition:** Editorial Team:

Emlyn Williams, Jenny Stewart, Janet Morgan, Sue Stott and Ruth McIntosh

**Production:** A1Admin Pty Ltd | **Design:** Communique Graphics

**Photos:** SU National Movements and staff members provided the photos included in this edition.