



**FAITH**  
**WITHIN**  
**REACH**

**LAUNCHING A TEN-YEAR VISION**



A little leaflet about SUMT.



## Hello!

Since 1985 SUMT has been plugging away at enabling work with children and young people to thrive and grow. We started off as a schools work charity, and have kept schools as the core of our work all along.

Now though, to say “SUMT run schools groups, assemblies and residential” would only be a single part of the story. Over the last seven years in particular we have engaged more than ever in the other key part of our work, which is to enable normal people like you in normal (...say nothing) churches like yours, to be the very ones working hand-in-hand with the schools, challenging pupils with a real view of what it is Christians believe

today.

We’ve taken on 60 Gappers since 2000, helped run, pioneer and adapt tons of projects in local churches, and brought literally thousands of children and young people face-to-face with ... well people like you, through highly curriculum linked experiences and activities. We’ve helped set up 7 Open The Book assembly teams, run too many residential to count, and seen God transform the culture of the Island when it comes to what we’re expecting God to do with our children and young people. We’ve established Lifepath for Y5’s, Romance Academy for Y10’s and LifeMatters for Y7’s as well as re-introducing “It’s Your Move” for Y6’s—all of which rely heavily on teams of local people volunteering through us.

We’ve been so good at it, in fact, that the way we’ve been funding it all for the last few years (Gappers funded by local churches) can’t happen any more, because of less need from the churches that can afford Gappers! Brilliant! That’s what we’ve been aiming for—churches are doing it themselves.

So what is the role of SUMT now? Where do we go over the next ten years, and how are we funded from this point on?

To answer that, you have to grasp what we feel God is still calling us into, so, I want you to imagine that the year is actually closer to 2025. Here is the “vision”. It comes to you in five blocks, about five core elements to the work of SUMT, and is in “vision-speak”, then in human, then unpacked slightly more.

Don’t simply read it—as you read, ask where you could be part of it, and if there are parts that worry or concern you, please get in touch with us.



### Section 1 : Vision-speak.

*Establish initiatives which catalyse purposeful, relevant, sustainable and missional links between churches and the Island’s schools.*

**In Human:** *Get stuff going that helps bring about links between churches and schools—but not just any old stuff. Things need to have purpose, be meaningful, and be able to carry on long after SUMT.*

**And unpacked?:** We’d love most church members to know how they personally can partner with their local schools.

We’d love the number of volunteers engaging to have rocketed from just over 300 now, to 500 then, and for that to represent 80% of viable churches.

We’d love every single key-stage to have at least one opportunity to engage in a Lifepath-style event.

We’d love every Christian group in a school to be able to run without SUMT’s direct help, and that all local schools with a church link would be ready to receive a visit.

We’d also love every SUMT initiative to still be ecumenical.



### Section 2 : Vision-speak.

*Work with schools to develop mutual (informal and formal) educational opportunities to serve and develop curriculum in order to further engage staff and pupils with the challenge of a Christian worldview.*

**In Human:** *Get alongside educators to work out how we can keep presenting Christianity as a way of living that’s real and challenging. Do this in ways that are formal (class-*

*teaching) and informal (low-key and out-of-class).*

**And unpacked?:** We'd love every Primary school to be engaged in two curriculum events per year, and that SUMT are seen as partners in delivering training.

We'd love all Christian groups in schools to be thriving, outreach groups, led by pupils.

We'd love our reputation for assembly material that challenges and engages to be higher still than it is today, and to be used in training in this area too.

We'd love to be there for schools with a network of skilled, trained people in times of crisis, or celebration.



### **Section 3 : Vision-speak.**

*Partner with island churches of all denominations to develop a strong network of emerging leaders who are trained, equipped and resourced for work with youth and children.*

**In Human:** *Link up with as many churches as possible to see how we*

*can train young leaders well together. Get them the things they need, and give them support when it comes to working with children and young people.*

**And unpacked?:** We'd love it if the reputation of SUMT had such a strong track record that 75% of churches are networked together through us.

We'd love to see a network of young leaders so strong that without us even doing anything they have started 2 or 3 new things.

We'd be over the moon to be involved in discussions about the future of youth and children's work when churches are making key decisions, just so that we can give a wide picture of the scene.

We also would love to have run 60 inter-church residentials between now and then, and for there to be consistently young people coming to faith for the first time and joining local churches as a result.



### **Section 4 : Vision-speak.**

*Develop Christian training programmes for over 16's and adults which feed into local churches and schools wherever possible.*

***In Human: Come up with excellent training stuff (courses and resources) and let churches and schools be using them!***

***And unpacked?:*** We would love it if by this stage (ten years from now) there were 30 people employed locally for whom SUMT was the way in.

We'd love it if 412 (our youth leadership course developed by Sam and Sarah) was in use here, and abroad.

We'd also love to have created brilliant resources for churches here and across/abroad.



## **Section 5 : Vision-speak.**

***Build strong communication links to further engage on-island supporters, partner organisations, funding, praying and volunteers.***

***In Human: To make this all happen we need to be communicating brilliantly, and we need a ton of people***

***praying, giving, volunteering, and talking about us!***

***And unpacked?:*** We will need to have 350 regular givers (our Gideon scheme), all giving around £20-£30 a month.

We would be blown away if we had moved our social media support from its 700 on Facebook, to a whopping 2,000 people all praying and following what we do—including people on Mailchimp.

We want to have a database in place of everyone who volunteers through us, and what they would like to do.

We want everyone who volunteers through SUMT to talk about how they feel valued and developed, and to take that back to their churches.

Above all, we'd love new things to be springing up all over the place because people feel so empowered and full of faith! We're going to ask God for 3 significant new things that SUMT have had nothing to do with directly, but that have come from what we have enabled.

So, there you have it!

It's exciting, has a ton of challenges,

and won't get anywhere without a bucket load of faith into the mix. There are so many things that all need to happen at the same time—we need Gappers (now funded by SUMT) too apply—we have 3 spaces a year. We need degree students (through Moorlands) to apply, and again, we have 2-3 spaces a year). We need schools to stay open despite an increasing secular agenda. We'll need to remain transparent as to our motives, and always remember that God's Kingdom is about more than those who are in the people of faith. We need to continue excellent standards. We'll need God to go way ahead of us, and we'll need to remember to look for the miraculous from a supernatural God who is not expecting small things.

We also need financial stability to increase. At the moment we have around 120 people giving regularly to us an amount they can afford, and if we could reach 300 by December 2016 then we will be in a position to continue with these plans longer term.

Will you join one of the small army of "Gideon 300" warriors with us, and



**STAND WITH  
SUMT  
AS ONE OF OUR  
GIDEON  
300**

give regularly to a work which seeks to bring real meat to the covenant for mission, demonstrate that churches are working together, not fighting for members, and watch as the Kingdom of God flourishes through local church members released all over the place?

Thanks for reading—to find out more, get in touch through the ways outlined on the back of this leaflet.

Believe for more, and we really could bring faith within reach for every single child and young person on our beautiful Island.

## Scripture Union Ministries Trust Standing Order Mandate

### YOUR BANK DETAILS:

To the manager of \_\_\_\_\_ (Bank/Building Society)

Your account number:

Address of Bank/Building Society:

<input type="text"/>							
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Your branch sort code:

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Name(s) of account holders:

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount to donate:

<input type="text"/>
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Instructions:

### Please pay:

#### Lloyds TSB Bank PLC, Douglas Branch, Isle of Man:

Sort Code 30-12-80 for the account of Scripture Union Ministries Trust,

Account number 00058872

The sum of £ \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_

on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of the month of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_

and monthly/quarterly/annually (please delete as appropriate) thereafter from my/our account until further notice.

Account holder address:

Your signature here:

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Contact email:

Date:

**Please return form to SUMT, Mallmore, The Promenade, Port St. Mary, IM9 5DE**



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