



SUMT Summer

Newsletter 2022

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Manor Ark
Pulrose Road
Douglas
IM2 1AS

Dear Friend,

What a year!

So much has happened since we last wrote:

We got TikTok! We helped run a Teddy Bear's Picnic! We taught Walk Through the Bible, New Testament, for the first time! We have run residential, clubs, assemblies, lessons and more, all bringing faith within reach of the children and young people it is our privilege to work with!

Back in March, we were blessed by a visit from two of our 'Mission Enablers' from the Scripture Union North Team; Rob and Lucy. They treated us to an evening called 'I Don't Go to Church, But...', where they unpacked some of Scripture Union's vision and strategy for the 95% of children and young people not in church attendance.

Whilst the statistic can, at times, seem disappointing or overwhelming, one thing that struck us was the opportunity that this presents; this generation have fewer preconceived ideas about church and faith but many are open to spirituality and have lots of big questions about life. What a great position to start hearing about the difference that Jesus can make!

Scripture Union are passionate about journeying alongside young people from outside of the church and have identified four common stages of the journey: *Connect, Explore, Respond* and *Grow*. As a Local Mission Partner of Scripture Union we are always trying to provide the opportunities for young people on the Isle of Man to *connect* with Christian peers and leaders; *explore* what it is all about; *respond* to Jesus and *grow* in faith.

We are extremely fortunate to be trusted with opportunities to *connect* with lots of young people who do not go to church, whether for 20 minutes in an assembly or for a day at one of our curriculum events. With our office now based at Manor Ark in Pulrose, we have also taken every opportunity to connect with the community! A highlight this year was a Street Party that we organised, bringing together the whole estate in a fun-filled afternoon celebrating our wonderful Queen and Lord of Mann.

But it doesn't stop there! For every connection that we make we want to make sure there is an opportunity, for those who are interested, to further explore what it is all about and, when they are ready, to respond and grow. With this in mind, we started two new 'Rooted' groups this year; 'Rooted Junior' (for 7-11 year olds in Pulrose) and 'Rooted Anime' (for teenagers interested in anime). Both started small but have facilitated good relationships with young people not in church and led to some great conversations about faith. The Rooted Junior group have been captivated by stories we have shared with them from the Bible and are so excited to come back each week and hear more!

It has certainly been a year of new things, ever since Kelly and Hannah joined our team in September... And now the winds of change are blowing again! (Or is that the Holy Spirit?) Lots more new things lie ahead for our team! Read on to find out more!

With love,

SUMT x

LifeMatters

Isle of Man



How time flies...

SUMT have been running Life Matters on the Isle of Man for the last 10 years – That's right, since the days when these were considered high tech, and everyone knew how to use one!

One of Kelly's projects since joining our team in September has been taking over the reins of Life Matters, looking at it with fresh eyes and considering what we could do differently, without losing what makes this day so special.

In case you who don't know what Life Matters is, or would like a reminder, here is what Kelly has to say about it:

"Life Matters is an RE curriculum day providing an opportunity for Year 7 students at the start of their secondary school journey to spend time thinking about what matters to themselves and their peers, and to understand a bit more about what Christians believe. This event is packed with fun activities for the students, with great relationship building games as well as meaningful personal reflection time. The event is run by SUMT and supported by local churches and volunteers.

The event consists of four workshops that the students go through during the day, exploring different aspects of the Christian faith and their own personal values and beliefs. The four workshops are: Relationships, Communities, I Matter (considering themselves) and Earth (all about the environment). We have had so much great feedback from last year's events, which has been helpful in refining

our design for LifeMatters as a day which is relevant, fun and valuable.

LifeMatters is such a wonderful opportunity for the Year 7s to spend time together doing something different, bonding as a year group while thinking about the important stuff in life. Schools have appreciated the event in terms of the content that is taught, and that it covers such a large part of the Christian component of the RE curriculum for the year. It's also a fantastic opportunity for volunteers, as it's an easy and hassle-free way to get involved with youth work and give the students a wonderful day that they will remember for a long time. All of the planning and prep is done, and volunteers can arrive on the day ready to get stuck in and have fun.



LifeMatters is coming up again in the new school year (September & October), and we are so excited to spend time with the new Year 7s on this fun day!"

Anyone keen on volunteering for our LifeMatters events in September and October can contact us through our Facebook page or email hub@sumt.im

THE WINDS

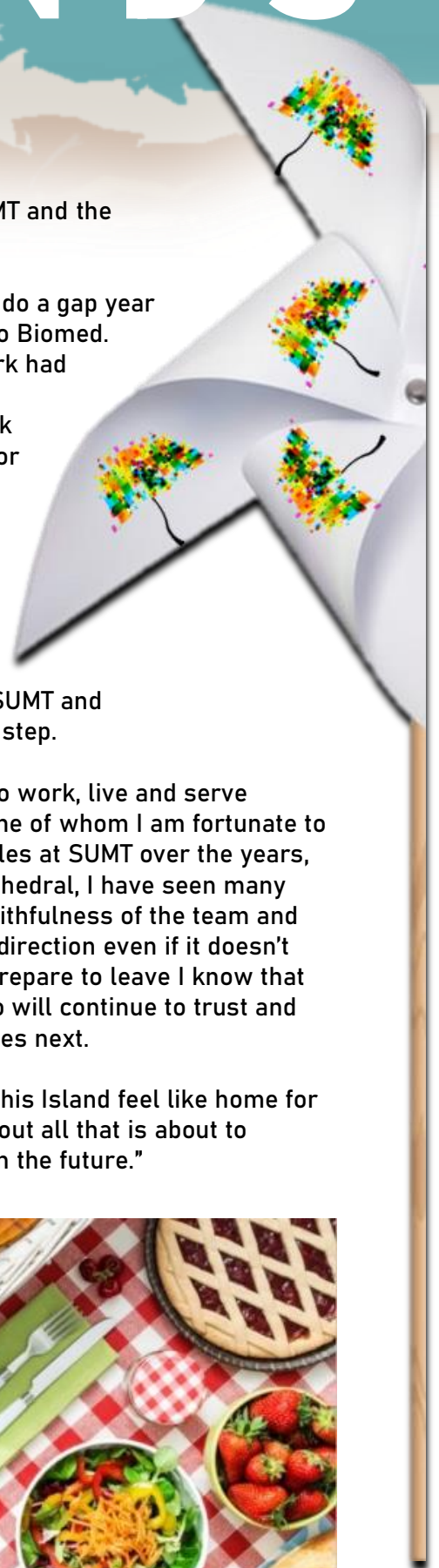
A few words from Ruth...

"Twelve years. I have been on the Island and working with SUMT and the churches for twelve years!

When I moved here in 2010, after finishing university I came to do a gap year with SUMT and placed at the Cathedral, before I went back in to Biomed. After a few months it became clear that the Island and the work had captured my heart and I was going to stay longer. I then did an intern year working full-time with SUMT before moving to work full-time at the Cathedral as their children and youth worker for four and a half years. I then sensed it was time for a change and was exploring moving back to the UK when different people approached me about applying for the SUMT team leader role. I have now been in post for five and a half years, and am once again feeling ready for a new challenge, and a calling elsewhere. My new role is as school chaplain in West Yorkshire. I hope that the experiences that I have had over my time here at SUMT and on the Island have prepared me well for this next step.

Over my time on the Island I have been blessed to work, live and serve alongside some of the most amazing people, some of whom I am fortunate to call friends for life. Having worked in various roles at SUMT over the years, as well as working alongside them at the Cathedral, I have seen many changes happen. This is due to the deep faithfulness of the team and the directors who choose to trust God's direction even if it doesn't always make earthly sense. As I now prepare to leave I know that SUMT is in safe and faithful hands who will continue to trust and follow His guidance for whatever comes next.

Thank you to those who have helped this Island feel like home for this time, I look forward to hearing about all that is about to happen, and to catch up during visits in the future."



SUMT end of year Thanksgiving

Sunday 17th July 1-3:30pm
at Nobles park
(wet weather at St Ninian's Church)

Bring a picnic

lots of games and fun

Thanking God for our year
and saying "goodbye" to Ruth



OF CHANGE

So... What's next for SUMT?

Ruth will be sadly missed by all of us at SUMT, but she is leaving us in very capable hands! Specifically... Sue's!

After four years with SUMT and a whole load of previous experience as a teacher, Christian Schools Worker, Local Preacher and much more, along with the strong relationships she has already built with the local schools, churches and our regular volunteers, we couldn't think of anyone better to take up the Team Leader position!

We are excited to see where God will take SUMT under Sue's leadership.

"But, won't that still leave us short one person?" I hear you ask!

We recently advertised for a new schools worker and are very excited to confirm that Panda Dooley will be taking up the post from September!

Many of you will know Panda: She has volunteered with us for just about everything we have ever done; she is a regular team member at Port St Mary Beach Mission; and she lived for two years in community with the team when we were based at Mallmore.

More recently, Panda has worked as a pastoral worker for Ballakermeen High School and as a Methodist Church Youth Worker based in Pulrose.

We are confident that all of this experience, alongside her love of Jesus and heart for young people, will make her a fantastic addition to the team!

With all of this exciting change ahead, we really appreciate your prayers for the work of SUMT.

Would you like to receive our monthly prayer diary? Or any other news, volunteering opportunities etc?

Just let us know by filling in your details on the next page and sending it to:

Manor Ark, Pulrose Road, Douglas IM2 1AS



SUMT Mailing Lists Form



Title:	
Usual Name:	
Surname:	
Email:	
Address line 1:	
Address line 2:	
Address line 3:	
Address line 4:	
Country:	
Postcode:	
Phone (Landline):	
Phone (Mobile):	
Denomination:	

* Please print

I am happy for my details to be stored on the SUMT secure database and to be contacted regarding:

- SUMT updates,
- volunteering opportunities,
- training opportunities,
- new projects

by: Post: ☐

 Email: ☐

 Phone: ☐

Signed:

Date:

I am wanting specific information regarding:



If you would like to support the work of SUMT financially, all donations are gratefully received. Simply fill in the standing order form to give regularly, or for a one time donation use the bank details below – but be sure to let us know who to thank!

Scripture Union Ministries Trust Standing Order Mandate

Your Bank Details:

To the manager of _____ (Bank / Building Society)

Your account number:

Branch Sort Code:

Address of Bank / Building Society:

Name(s) of account holders:

Print Name: _____

Print Name: _____

Amount to donate:

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 No. 00058872

The sum of: £ _____;

on the _____ day of the month of _____ in the year 20_____

(Please delete below as appropriate)

and Monthly/ Quarterly/ annually thereafter from my/our account until further notice.

Address of account holder:

Your signature here, please:

Contact email: _____ Date: _____

Please return this form to

SUMT, Manor Ark, Pulrose Road, Douglas, IM2 1AT

