



APRIL 2014

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Special points of interest:

- Past Newsletters and Information of SU, visit us on <http://scriptureunionfiji.weebly.com/>
- To volunteer with SU through one of its programs, don't hesitate to talk to us.
- To be a Financial Partner with SU, see back page

A month of Open Doors and God's Divine Opportunities

Amazing is how one can describe this month of April. Amazing in seeing passion, determination, commitment and love for God through the lives of young people as they converge around different locations in Fiji to learn items and prepare for the historical Scripture Union Flash Mob and the Annual Youth Nighted in Suva following the coke games. To see the determination in these young people and our leaders as they walked to locations because they could not afford bus-fares or endure hunger and discomfort makes us proud to be part of a great network of young people in this country. This edition takes us into a month of testimonies as our Volunteers took time out to bring unity amongst schools through the Gospel. And the experiences have not only shaped their faith but brought them closer to the Lord through their shared passion in dancing and worshipping the Lord. Right now our students across the country are enjoying their much needed break and so are our volunteers whose weeks have turned into countless hours of planning, praying, teaching and learning. One of our volunteers Keni Baro in his Facebook status update a day after stated, *"Father God as I look back at the Youth-Nited preparations and sacrifice...where tears flow, faith tested and seeds sown...I can only see Your gracious mercy and Love on us...there is nothing more that can be said to describe your Love...a Big Vinaka Vakalevu to You Father God..."* President of Suva's Volunteers, George Young on his FB posted...*"Thank you Father for your provision...may you receive all the glory, honor and praise..."* These gratitude's reflect the heart of the SU Family to the Lord for entrusting His ministry in our care and to the people who plant a seed into our work [*to plant a seed, please see Page 8*] to ensure that we keep on building relationships, connecting and pointing our children to the King. Many of us will remember this month and the breathtaking events that happened in it for a very long time. They have set us on a path of discovering what God is doing.

Scripture Union turns a page in Fiji's Secondary School Sporting History



Part of SU Flash-Mob at the Stadium

Everyday we are given an opportunity to write history and for Scripture Union, one of those opportunities came out of the 2014 Coke Games. When the curtains of the games came down, and the two days of intense competitions and deep school rivalries came to an end, young people from different schools around the country ran into the Stadium grounds for a powerful time of ministry in the form of a Flash mob. This was the first time in the Games history and for Scripture Union to show forth such feat. The deafening screams for the past two days was all a hush as brave young souls danced and declared God's ever faithfulness in their lives. The event was broadcasted live across the Pacific through Fiji One's Sky channel and also through live streaming to various corners of the world. It was electrifying for those at the grandstand that day as they witnessed the flash mob. More powerful was the fact that the flash mob was done by students from across Fiji—see [full story on Page 5] and to see their unity amidst many years of friendly rivalries was truly uplifting and encouraging. This event was historical and will be remembered in the annals of Scripture Union ministry as an event that challenged our young people with the theme, "Dare to be different"



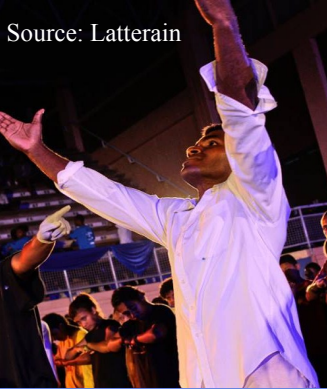
FAITH SEED NEWSLETTER

All Christians are but God's stewards. Everything we have is on loan from the Lord, entrusted to us for a while to use in serving Him.- John MacArthur

The People who serve at Scripture Union

We dance for the Lord—Jiutasa and Akuila

Jiutasa and Akuila are two of our volunteers. Both students at USP, these two gentlemen are part of a bigger team of young men who are dedicated and sold out to Jesus. They are also instrumental in putting together the worship dances that formed part of the items for Youth Nigted and the Flash Mob. For these two young men, that journey with Scripture Union started at their high school days in QVS. Since then it has only reinforced within them the desire to keep serving the Lord through this talent of dancing. Both are quite achievers, but when they dance for the Lord, not only is the elegance seen, but their passion and love for King Jesus.



Source: Latterain



Akuila Nasau doing a flag dance

Olivia Melissa is a young firebrand. One has to spend a few minutes with her to recognise that she is passionate about her faith. Olivia is a member of the SWG and together with a group of like minded volunteers, she is part of the Tailevu zone team that visits QVS and RKS teaching them items for the Cokes Rally. For Oli these experi-



Olivia dancing with QVS and RKS SUIS members at the YN.

ences include, having to walk from QVS to Natovi and pray for transport to bring them back to Suva as the practice at the boarding schools can only take place in the evenings. Further she experienced eating *baseisei* for the first time and she loved it. If there is one experience we can learn from Oli, it is that being a missionary is a difficult experience but it takes passion and love for the Lord to be that driven. The challenges of finding bus-fare, balancing studies as a University student, sleepless nights and hunger has not stolen her passion and smile for Jesus. In fact it has only reinforced it.



Christian Dance Fellowship and our men who serve in it

SU is blessed with talents and energy and this was witnessed by many at the Youth Nigted. CDB led by Master Mika, a member of Council comprises of young men and women who glorify the Lord through Christian dance. This night saw our men who dared to be different making a glorious stand for King Jesus. Such power.

Nausori Zone leaders cook a curry storm

As Fiji looked forward to the Cokes Games, a group of SU Volunteers who looked after the Youth Nigted and Flash-Mob preparations was busy in a kitchen in Ko-



nausori zone aka awesum cookin' crew.

Source: Rosy Tadulala

ronivia cooking chicken curry for their fundraising drive with the Nausori school students. Their aim, to buy their T-shirts for the Youth Nigted event. Despite their lack, these young people gave it their all and did not disappoint as they were able to not only cook a tantalising chicken curry with a flavour of puri, chutney and the works, but also provided their students with their t-shirt for Youth Nigted. Their \$5 a serve was a sell out and the Nausori item added much spiritual fire to Youth Nigted as Nausori based schools came together that night



Nausori Zone with their t-shirts

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DARE TO BE DIFFERENT: Pastor Manasa Kolivuso preaches holiness at Youth Nighted

For those present on the night of Youth Nighted at the National Gymnasium in Suva, the message of the gathering spoke volumes to a younger generation confronted with the realities of the time. Peer Pressure, Teenage pregnancies, Suicide, crime and related youthful vice have continued to be headlines in the daily newspapers drawing our attention to the need to respond to some of these issues. What is more pressing is the need for the church to strengthen its momentum in discussing social issues confronting the young. Pastor Manasa Kolivuso a dynamic Pastor with the CMF church in Suva and currently the Director for Every Home for Asia Pacific delivered a riveting word from Romans 12:1-2, where Paul gave his passionate plea to the Romans in the following words, “to present their bodies as a living sacrifice”. To a generation that is so exposed to the influences of circular culture, erotic music, movies and the scream of the new media, advertisement worlds and the likes of an image for young people around sex, the message of the night provided a much needed perspective about the importance of sexual purity. This is a message that the church must continue to boldly advocate on as shocking statistics continue to reveal the decreasing age for mothers coming out of our hospitals. A news report revealed that between 2004-2008 there were over 5000 teenage pregnancy recorded in our hospitals. In 2012 there was about 76 and in 2013 this jumped to over 800. As Pastor Manasa shared, another report which found that most of the cases of teenage pregnancies would have been around the time of the Cokes Game or the Hibiscus/Deans weekend. These are telling statistics of the time and young people are desperately looking for directions around the subject of holiness and sexual purity. Unfortunately society often does not provide role models for sexual purity as it glamorises the sex life of the rich, the famous and the powerful rather than denouncing their sexual vices. Sexual perversion is often celebrated. In this regard, Pastor Manasa was able through his message to give an honest and powerful revelation of what it means for young people to remain holy and set standards of sexual holiness in their life. Those in attendance were reminded of the biblical directives to keep the marriage bed undefiled - Hebrews 13:4 and young people were reminded that the best wedding gifts they can give to each other is their virginity. There were nods from across the auditorium and when the altar call was made for those who chose to set a standard of holiness for their lives or who *Dared to be Different*, there were hands lifted across the floor that night as people made their own commitments to the Lord. The theme was timely and the message from Pastor Manasa divine and everyone walked out of the Gym that night feeling refreshed, blessed and empowered.





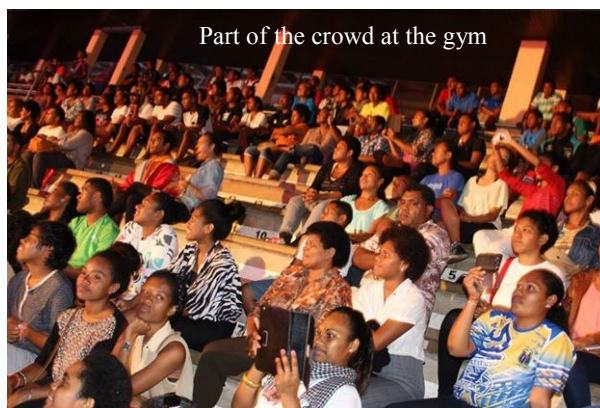
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Youth Nighted 2014: A Spiritual Gathering with a Difference



Christian Dance Fellowship Flag worship



Part of the crowd at the gym



Flash mob practice at the Gym before hitting the grounds



Western Zone students on their way to Suva



Suva zone members



It takes a lot these days to make me go WOW about our Christian culture. Does that mean, I am a sceptic. To the contrary, it just means that I have been around the Christian circle especially in my years of involvement with young people to have an expectation. However it was the Youth Nighted event of 2014, that again took my breath away and left me with one of those WOW moments. Why, because I saw the impossibilities and the challenges that would make any heart quiver as our volunteers—all of whom attend Universities, took time out of their schedules and travelled to Lautoka, Nadi, Tailevu, Nausori, and around Suva to be able to teach students Christian dance. This was the first year, that the SU team decided to move away from the usual schools items and combine schools into Zones and do items together as a zone. And so traditional rivalries that is the hallmark of big secondary school games such as the Coca Cola games, became a thing of the past as its students came together, learnt from each other and danced together to produce some of the most powerful and uplifting Christian dances I have witnessed. The clear message is that God commands His blessings where there is unity and seeing these young people give their heart out to the Lord as they danced was enough to bring convictions and warm hearts again. In the weeks leading to this event, I heard the first hand testimonies of our few leaders who travelled the roads to teach items. I heard how their faiths were built or strengthened as they leant to trust in the Lord for their bus-fares. I heard of how some walked distances just so they can teach the items and that made me smile, as they reflected on their personal experiences and encounters with God. I have often reminded our young people, that to know God, you must have your own personal experience with Him. Its not enough to hear of the testimonies of others or the teaching of pastors about Who God is, but one must have such a yearning for God that they discover Him in their seeking. That was what Youth knighted, its preparations and experiences seem to get out from our SU volunteers. They than shared their contagious faith with students who in turn turned out in numbers to minister before the Lord in dancing and ministry. Youth Nighted is now history, with that comes thanksgiving and appreciation to the Lord for the ministry of SU and the many gifted young people who serve the Lord with passion through this ministry. It truly was a gathering with a difference.



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Scripture Union Flash Mob— The Rise of a Revolution

The first flash mob in recorded history took place in Manhattan, USA in 2003. Since then flash mobs have been described as a revolution of people dancing for a purpose, though Flash Mob according to Wikipedia is defined as, " a group of people who assemble suddenly in a public place, perform an unusual and seemingly pointless act for a brief time, then quickly disperse, often for the purposes of entertainment, satire, and artistic expression." We have re-defined flash mob in this context because firstly, it was not a "seemingly pointless act", neither was it purposed for "entertainment, satire or artistic expression". It was a meaningful Christian worship purposed to attract young people into a culture of recognising that it is cool to be young and be a Christian. Especially in a peer environment



Practice at the Gym before moving to the grounds

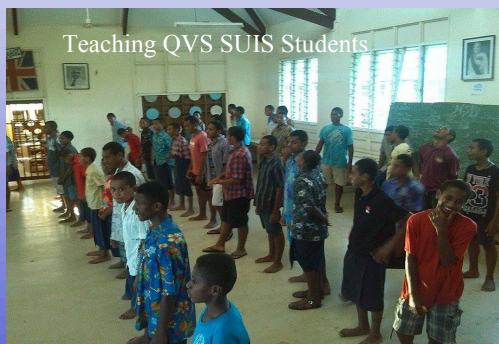


SWG teaching action song to RKS

that tells that that being a Christian is for those without purposes. To the contrary, this Flash Mob provided a timely message for young people deciding what to do after the Cokes games or how to enjoy their holidays, that one can be a Christian and still have fun. One does not need to drink, smoke, or indulge in un godly lifestyles to be part of the in crowd. And so our Flash Mob attracted many young people with practices taking place in various locations around the country. This was a voluntary event and many parents were too happy to release their children for this worthy cause. However the flash mob was also about empowering young people to be bold and make their declaration as Christians. The challenges faced were many including numerous discussions with Cokes organisers including the Sponsors to allow this event to take place. In the end, the Sponsors agreed to the event and our students used that opportunity to glorify the Lord. The few minutes we were given following the closing of the Games was not only fun and enriching experiencing for our young, but an opportunity to create a youth revolution into eternity by our dancers as they challenged onlookers to make their



SWG with Nasinu area students



Teaching QVS SUIS Students



One of young flash mobbers



Nausori Zone after practice

stand and commitment for King Jesus. It was a great outreach opportunity and the Flash Mobbers rose to the occasion and created a kingdom revolution for the King of kings...

This generation can only reach this generation. – David Livingstone

Testimonies

Teri begins an adventure of her life in Fiji

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When I first received an email from Teri Kempe last year, I felt blessed. As I was coordinating Scripture Union's



Finance recovery program, Teri's email was definitely divine. From Australia, this special woman emailed to say, she was willing to partner with the work of Scripture Union and would send a Faith Seed. The transaction completed, we managed to have enough from the seed to pay our rent and meet our immediate needs. A few months later, I received the great news that this Australian saint, was convicted by the Lord to close shop in Australia and move to Fiji to support the Lord's vision for her in our beautiful country. Teri's story blessed my heart in so many ways.

At a time when many her age would be considering retiring and enjoying the rewards of retirement, this special woman has moved to Fiji to support mission work here. Her main focus right now is assisting Council Member and Principal of Basden College Master Mika Mudreilagi with mission needs at the Anglican based school in Kinoya. Teri's drive and passion is contagious, she is a woman of small stature and often one will not notice her around, however in her patience, wisdom and commitment, her presence is being felt by the many that have been touched by her life. Faith Seed, asked Teri for her testimony as it prepared this edition and her email response was, "I am honoured that you asked for my testimony."

Teri story is that she was born in London UK before her family emigrated to Australia when she was 16 and they lived in Melbourne. *"I came from a strong anti-Christian family and my parents were disappointed when I gave my life to Jesus a few months after arriving in Australia. At 21 I married my first love, a strong Christian man and we studied and worked together in Melbourne. When we finished university my husband accepted a job in Fiji and we lived in Suva for four years between 1976-1980. While here we adopted twin daughters from St Christopher's Home and our first son was born. Two more sons were born when we returned to Australia. Sadly my husband lost his way and he ended up in prison and we divorced. I was ashamed and deeply saddened. I felt I could not return to Fiji."*



"For ten years I devoted myself to supporting women who had a family member in prison. Through this work God began healing my heart. I felt he gave back the years the locusts had eaten [Joel 2:25]" she added. Teri's journey can be likened to Abraham's own journey when God called him to live his family and move into a land he was preparing for him and his descendants. Teri adds that, *"In May 2013 I met Mst Mika in Sydney and he invited me to visit Basden College. I came for a week with a friend, Lenore, and God spoke to us both about returning to serve Him. I went back to Australia, quit my job and began collecting donations for Basden. I received enough to fill a container. Again and again God confirmed my call to serve Him in Fiji. On December 28 Lenore, Janetta and I arrived in Suva to begin the adventure of our lives! At Basden the work began to expand the college. We built a driveway so trucks carrying containers could come in. We watched in awe as the container classrooms took shape. I am assisting Mst Mika with administration, some teaching and the expansion of the school to teach Year 13 and technical and vocational subjects."*

Her seed into SU is a result of her own experiences with SU Australia. *"I was a supporter of Scripture Union in Australia from my university days. I soon became aware of the great work SUIS was doing in Fiji. Knowing Fiji's wonderful Christian heritage and the opportunities to share the love of God and his plan of salvation to students, I was keen to show my strong support. In many countries, including Australia, it is no longer possible for Christians to freely witness to their faith in schools. I encourage all people to support SUIS while the door is open"* she adds.

If missions languish, it is because the whole life of godliness is feeble. The command to go everywhere and preach to everybody is not obeyed until the will is lost by self-surrender in the will of God. Living, praying, giving and going will always be found together. - Arthur T.



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Latterain band teams up with Scripture Union

Ron Simpson is an anointed young man and together with his team of musicians, they are a powerful duo to reckon with. Ron and the band members of Latterain are young people who are committed and dedicated to the cause of Jesus Christ through worship and praise. The Youth Band is very popular in Fiji because their passion for the Lord is evident through their music. In fact, the group leads worship at the Synergy Gathering that takes place in Suva. In a Fiji Times edition of 2012, the paper stressed that, "Synergy, a gathering of young people from all walks of faith is an event held every two months. Its vision is to address issues of young Christian youths through spiritual aspects, as well as help build them up through their various talents." On Saturday, the Latter Rain band teamed up with

Scripture Union and led praise and worship to a packed auditorium and in the famous Hillsongs lyric, their leading most definitely was "Touching Heaven, Changing Earth." In describing Latter Rain, Ron stressed that; " Latterain is a worship band that is comprised of young people from churches across Suva, who simply love God and music. The ministry was officially birthed out of a Youth summer camp encounter in Sabeto, Nadi in 2007. The ministry has grown alot since. We continue to lead corporate worship in churches, camps, conferences and other youth events around Fiji. "

The power of their music and influence in their band is manifesting in usually packed auditoriums as they worship God. In partnering with Scripture Union, Ron further adds that, "*Scripture Union has been such a huge part of our spiritual growth as young worshippers. Many of us have been part of SUIS since earlier days in high school, and this youth movement has played such a critical role in instilling godly values, passion and leadership in us. In fact a significant part of our music and vocal skill development began on the SUIS camp stages, during our annual summer camps in the schools. We thank God for this wonderful ministry that has blessed us, and continues to impact and influence young people all over Fiji.*" He adds that, "*A few of us have continued to be engaged in Scripture Union events through financial and ministry assistance; participating in the camps, rallies and reunions to assist with music, mentoring and other aspects. Our heart is to make faith and music relevant to our generation. Being a ministry partner has allowed us to fulfil this vision; while fulfilling the Scripture Union vision.*"



Young people in worship at Synergy in Suva ; Source: Fiji Times

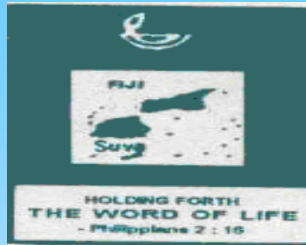


Our shared vision for the young people in our nation is undoubtedly creating an impact in the lives of many young people who find themselves drawn to the Lord through the power of worship and especially as they see the lives of these young men and women in Latterain that's committed to the cause of Jesus Christ. "We truly

appreciated the invitation to lead the praise & worship component at the SUIS Youth-nited last week; it's always so encouraging to see young people responding whole-heartedly to God in worship. The message was so timely and clear about 'Daring to be Different'. It was such a great evening of fellowship, listening to the word, responding in worship and witnessing dances and skits by the different zones and ministry groups. As a ministry we resolve to be bolder and passionate about living for Jesus", Ron stresses. Scripture Union is blessed to see many young people encouraged through the SUIS programs strengthening their own identities in Christ. Our partnership remains a valuable one as we continue to be the influences for young people to King Jesus. Ron adds that, " Latterain hopes to continue in ministry with SUIS in the seasons to come. The fields are white and the harvest is ready. Pray for rain (Zech 10:1). Our heart is just to see Jesus honoured in our generation and in our corporate worship gatherings'. Our cry is for an increased measure of His presence during our encounters; so much so, that it affects how we do life. We look forward to what God has in store. These are exciting times to be alive! A time to stand up and stand out – a time to be different!"



*We are debtors to every man to give him the gospel in the same measure in which we have received it.
- P.F. Bresee, founder of the Church of the Nazarene*



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 i) Scripture Union 50th Anniversary
 ii) Western SUIS Fiji
 iii) SWG Central Tukutuku



Western SUIS supports Youth Nighted

They hired a bus load and filled it with excited and spiritually charged young Western students to join their Suva and Nausori families for the Youth-Nighted and Flash Mob event. The Lautoka SWG members led by their Coordinator, Pastor Pati Leqa and Radini Lusi Leqa, were blessed as they inspired the children in their care about the bigger vision of Youth Nighted. Their impact was felt by the many that attended that night and it was such joy to see the sacrifices made and the passion that brought them from Ra, Ba, Lautoka and Nadi. For most of these young people, the sacrifice to come to Suva to take part in the outreach events was great, but they counted the cost and decided to come and be part of this revolution of young people making public declarations of their faith. Not only did the western schools do well in the Cokes Games, but their impact in our SUIS events were made and felt. The work in the Western Division continues in

To second Term and we are looking forward to hearing more stories of breakthrough from the Western Schools this term. The Lord reigns. On her facebook posting, Radini Lusi stated, *“Tired but content & filled with joy as Pati & I continue to share, over coffee, how encouraged, blessed, motivated & definitely REJUVENATED we are after spending time with the incredible Lautoka SUIS students & leaders at the Youth Nited Rally after the Coke Games!*



Partner with Scripture Union Fiji’s vision for schools and children

The work of Scripture Union is privately funded by those who prayerfully consider giving to support the work of student ministries. Unlike the church or organisations whose funding is from established sources, SU has to rely on the good will of friends to be able to meet its financial obligations such as paying rent, bills, programs such as rallies, camps, schools visitation and a range of activities to encourage our children in schools on a monthly basis. Every year the cost of student ministry increases and so do the challenges and struggles that young people are confronted with. The pressure to raise children who know God through the Bible is not complete without introducing young people to the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Saviour.

This is the work of Scripture Union in schools and despite the many financial challenges over the years, we have held onto this important part of our work by going into schools to minister to young people about making right choices in their lives. This is where your faith seed will go into amongst oth-

Contact Partnership Coordinator:

Mr. Romulo Nayacalevu for any enquiries on how you can be a partner today;

Email: rnayacalevu@gmail.com

Account Details

ANZ
 Account Name: Scripture Union in Fiji
 Account #: 1320622
BSP
 Account Name: Scripture Union in Fiji
 Account #: 8046276

ers. It is about investing in the life of our children so that they can know Christ and make His known. We know that our financial investment in this regard is secured in eternity. In considering whether to partner with Scripture Union one of our current partners stated that,

“I believe that the few dollars I put into the work of SU may not be much, but I am inspired to know that this investment will change a life and that for me is an eternal investment worth making.” To see

lives change is a blessing.

Scripture Union is in the forefront of impacting the next generation of young people for the Lord. By investing in Scripture Union’s work, we are investing into the next generation of Christian leaders, pastors, civil servants, NGO workers and the nation as a whole as we challenge and raise up the next generation of champions for Jesus Christ. This investment is probably the best one can make as we partner together in this Great Commission in our schools.