



# Winter 2021 **ipress**

## **Bouncing Forward**



**The Beginning of a New  
Chapter for Reachout**

**facebook**

The Cambuslang and Rutherglen Christian Reachout Charitable Trust Scottish Charity Number SC022459



## The Reviewer

# Tremble

by Lauren Daigle

When I listened to this song I was drawn to the words 'I tremble in your presence'. This doesn't say absolute fear, but something too great to comprehend, a sense that there are no words to describe what it would be like to be in the presence of God, you can only experience it.

The song is a contemporary worship song that talks about 'who can take your place Lord'. We try and put so many things in the place where God should be, but nothing is big enough to be in the place of God.

When she says 'eternity will almost be enough' it illustrates how big God is, that even eternity can not hold God.

This song is all about how big God is, too big to describe, too big to see, too big to understand. We can't put anything in His place, and we should not try to because whatever it is will not compare. It highlighted that God is almighty and powerful. It was a good song and I enjoyed listening to it.

Lauren Murray

## Quiz



Can you answer these questions correctly?

All of the answers are found in the contents of this edition of Xpress. Answers on the back page.

- 1 What Bible story is included as part of Boomerang?
- 2 What country did Ross go to for a mission trip?
- 3 What was Alison's job before joining Reachout?
- 4 What instrument can Stuart Ross play?

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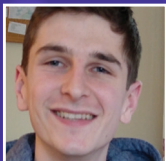
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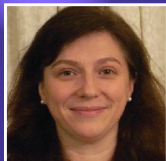
## Meet the REACHOUT team



**Ross G Murray**  
Senior Youth  
and Schools  
Worker



**Greg Senior**  
Admin Assistant



**Valerie Sim**  
Scripture Union  
Regional Worker



**Alison Kennedy**  
Youth and  
Schools Worker



**Alan Thomson**  
Chair of the  
Management  
Committee

## Letter from The Editor



**Hello and welcome to the Winter 2021 edition of Xpress. It hasn't been long since our last publication but so much has happened since then and we hope you enjoy reading about what we have to share.**

In this edition, we continue with the second instalment of our new feature called The Reviewer. We are pleased to offer you interviews with both Ross and Alison as well as a chance to get to know Management Committee member Stuart. You will also learn a bit about our latest project called Boomerang.

Finally, we also say goodbye to Alison who is leaving Reachout in the New Year. On behalf of everyone connected to Reachout (both past and present) I want to say a huge thank you to Alison for her years of hard work and for the many laughs we have enjoyed in the office too!

I hope you enjoy reading Xpress Winter 2021 and that you all have a wonderful Christmas.

Editor Greg Senior

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The Cambuslang and Rutherglen Christian Reachout  
Charitable Trust Scottish Charity Number SC022459



# Boomerang – Bouncing Forward

**Before the Covid pandemic we had spoken with headteachers about what Reachout could offer to their school as an additional project. Each of the schools we spoke with said that resilience was something that many children struggled with.**

So we started thinking about planning a new project... and then the schools closed! However, there was no better time to think about resilience than in the middle of a global pandemic. Everything the young people knew as normal was changed with no notice. Boomerang was born, written as a project that could be delivered virtually, with a view to delivering it in person as time allowed.

Last Autumn all 14 primary schools delivered Boomerang to their primary 5s via a video. Resources to use in the classroom to accompany the video were delivered in advance of the lesson to allow for quarantining! Many of the pupils wrote us some lovely thank you cards after taking part in Boomerang.

This Autumn we have been delighted to be back in schools delivering the slightly amended programme live! As with our other projects we include a fun game to start followed by crafts (weebles if you remember them, they wobble but don't fall down!). Video clips and a drama recorded by myself and Ross (we may need some drama lessons). The dramas explore how someone may handle a challenging situation.

Our Bible story is the story of Joseph in the book of Genesis. We tell this as an interactive drama with all the children taking part. They enjoy this very much and it gives us the chance to look at all the things that went wrong for Joseph, but how he bounced back after them. This allows the children to consider what resilience means and to consider their own experiences of challenging times in their lives and how they have handled them. We then consider how they have shown resilience previously and how they can continue to grow, not just to 'bounce back' but 'bounce forward' stronger.

**Alison Kennedy**  
Youth and Schools Worker



# A Farewell Interview with Alison

**Alison is leaving Reachout in the new year so what better way to say goodbye than to ask her all about her time with the Trust.**

## **Why did you initially apply to join Cambuslang and Rutherglen Reachout Trust?**

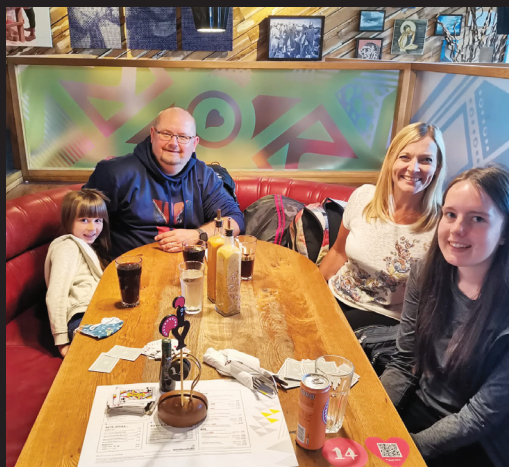
After spending many years volunteering with Reachout and then working in partnership as part of my job as Youth Worker at a local church, I saw the value of the great work that Reachout does especially in the schools in our area. I felt that with the connections that I already had that this would be the right next step for me and, after a lot of prayer, I trusted that this was where God was sending me.

## **What will you miss the most?**

I'll miss the team the most, but I'll also miss seeing and engaging with the young people in their schools. I'll miss the continuity of seeing young people grow in their faith as well as missing having the opportunity to visit so many churches.

## **What have you enjoyed most?**

I have enjoyed being part of the Reachout team over the years. I really enjoyed working with the young people in our local community and being able to see them in schools as well as other youth events. In particular, I enjoyed spending time with them at residential events where we could spend more time together and walk along with them as they grow in their faith.



## **What have you found most challenging?**

One of the biggest challenges was sleeping in a tent for 7 nights on the wet and windy Isle of Arran and continuing to smile throughout the day after very little sleep. And of course being without my GHDs (hair straighteners to the uninitiated)!

## **What do you plan to do after Reachout?**

I still plan to be very much involved with work of Reachout albeit in a voluntary capacity. I'll have much more time to spend with my adorable little Grandson Charlie and could even fit in a cinema visit or two!

## **Do you have a final comment for the readers?**

Thank you for your support, prayers and for partnering with Reachout Trust. Thanks also to all those who spent many hours working with and volunteering alongside me – thank you for your friendship and partnership in the Gospel. I know God still has great things in store for Reachout and the children and young people of Rutherglen and Cambuslang.





# Meet the Management Committee

## Stuart Ross

### Could you tell us a bit about yourself, your family and what you do?

I live in Ayrshire with my wife and two teenage daughters. We recently moved there after living in Cambuslang for over 17 years. I work as a teacher and love to see young people fulfilling their potential in whatever pursuit they embark upon.

### What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I play guitar, badly, and enjoy movies and live music.

### KFC or McDonald's?

McDonald's every day.  
The Colonel can keep his chicken!

### DC or Marvel?

Marvel.

### Football or Rugby?

Football. It's the beautiful game, but I actually really like Rugby too.

### How did you first get involved with the work of Reachout?

I was asked if I'd consider being part of the

management committee at church almost 10 years ago and after looking at the work the Trust was involved with I thought this is for me.

### Can you share a favourite memory or two of some of the events you have been involved in?

SU camps have been a highlight. Seeing young people enjoy the great outdoors, trying something new, and making new friends is always special. KX1 on the Isle of Arran is brilliant and seeing young people explore faith and have opportunities to respond to God's calling is a privilege.

### Why did you decide to join the management Committee?

I wanted to support the work of Reachout in a direct way and felt to help with managing the staff team, finances, and helping to make decision on the future direction of the Trust was exciting.

### What is your hope and prayer for the work of the Trust?

My hope is that the Trust thrives in the coming years. I pray that God will continue to bless the Trust, as he has for more than a quarter of a century and that young people will come to know Jesus through the work undertaken.

# The McGhee's on the Couch With Ross



## What is Reachout Trust?

Reachout is an associate worker trust who works in partnership with SU Scotland. We work in the schools and churches in the local area. We work with young people, deliver assemblies and projects with the aim of helping young people achieve their full potential as well as giving them opportunities to meet Jesus and learn about the Bible.

## What are your next steps after Covid?

We have been spending this year assessing the work that we do at Reachout and how this relates to moving forward. We have spent time reflecting and listening to God, reading the Bible and praying in an effort to understand what God is saying to us. Currently, we are just trying to get back into schools to do what we have done for the last 10 years. Long term, things may look very different but at this stage we are not totally sure what that is.

## What kind of work do you do in schools?

We deliver monthly assemblies in primary schools (currently most of them are virtual). We also run 5 projects in the primary schools – they are Boomerang (a project about resilience for P5s), Buddying (helping P7s to be better buddies), It's Your Move (a project about transitioning from primary school to high school), Christmas Unwrapped (for P6s) and Easter Code (for P7s). We also run SU groups in some of the primary schools and some of the high schools. We help out at residential events – I have been on many residential before Covid and hopefully after Covid too! We support the churches in their youth work

## What is the best experience you have had?

Something that really challenged me but was very exciting was going to Romania on a mission trip in 2005. I took a group of six 16-year-olds along with Gail, an R.E. teacher from Portlethen and 2 students on a mission trip for 3 weeks. We stayed in a camp sit for the first 2 weeks and then we did a bit of travelling and visited a charity on the other side of Romania. I have always struggled with language but there was one wee boy called Claudio who was very poor didn't have very much. He couldn't speak English and I couldn't speak Romanian but we played football together and I just remember the big smile he had on his face. I have a picture of me and him hugging – it is one of my favourite pictures and it reminds me of all the kind of experiences from that time.

## What's the silliest thing you've seen someone do?

I was at Lendrick Muir and I was playing football with a group that had come into the centre. The store was locked and someone asked for the store keys – I threw the keys at the person but they went straight under the door of the store. To site manager then had to get a ladder and climb through the air vent to get the keys back.



# Fancy a winter weekend with Reachout?

Why not put these dates in your diary:

**Lanarkshire Primary Weekend Away**

18th-20th February 2022

Date for your *Diary*

**Reachout Prayer Meeting**

Saturday 4th December 2021

08:30 via Zoom

## Quiz

### Answers

- 1** Joseph
- 2** Romania
- 3** Church Youth Worker
- 4** Guitar

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## Pet Portraits

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TRAINING  
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MISSIONS  
ONLINE  
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**Scripture Union Scotland is a Christian charity working in partnership with local churches.**

Everything we do is governed by two core values: dependence on God and deepening relationships. We want to see children and young people exploring the Bible and responding to the significance of Jesus. Across the country there are a number of associate worker schemes.

The Reachout Trust was the first of these schemes, where a partnership is formed between Scripture Union Scotland and groups of churches, to employ youth and children's workers.



**Valerie Sim**

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