

## VINE TRUST AND SCRIPTURE UNION TRIP TO PERU

*Submitted by Marie Milton On Behalf of the Group*

Many of you will be familiar with the trips arranged through the Vine Trust and Bluehorizon to Peru, which the senior pupils at Kincorth undertake every second year. On the 6th October a party of 18 adults mainly members of the local churches from Kincorth and Cove set off on a similar trip.



They went to witness the work of the Vine Trust and Scripture Union in Peru as they strive to improve the lives of street boys. There are thousands of boys living on the streets either abandoned by their families, basically because they cannot afford to feed them or because they have been orphaned. These boys from as young as 4 years old learn to fend for themselves in the hostile street environment and have to resort to crime and prostitution to survive. Whilst we were there we travelled many miles and visited

Homes that have been set up by the charities to provide shelter, food, clothing and education. We went to Iquitos in the Amazon Jungle; Kimo situated in Tropical Jungle and to Cusco in the Highland region of Peru. In the Homes we played games we had brought with us as well as games the boys taught us, did face painting, shared meals with the boys and generally tried to interact with them in Spanish, or for some of us by lots of sign language and drawings. They loved to play football are very skilled and were delighted to beat us soundly. The boys have very few belongings e.g. only two sets of clothing, one for school and one for play and they are responsible for their laundry as well as many other chores.

In Kimo we helped to build the walls of a wooden dormitory that was to house 20 boys, we also spent time cutting down and preparing the palms to form the roof thatch, and were pleased to see the building taking shape before we left. We also visited the 2 Amazon Hope ships funded by the Vine Trust. These ships operate along the Amazon River staffed by volunteers from U.K. and U.S.A. and provide on the spot medical attention to the villagers along the river. The experience left all of us with a different perspective on life seeing unbelievable poverty, the hope that the boys in the Homes were given to reshape their lives, the tremendous dedication of the House Parents caring 24/7 for the boys, and most of all how happy and content they all were.



Further information can be accessed at:

[www.vinetrust.org](http://www.vinetrust.org) and [www.unionbiblicaperu.org](http://www.unionbiblicaperu.org).