



Bringing the gospel and
demonstrating God's love

Our Mission Partners are
linked with the following
organisations

St John's Mission Partner Update

December 2023



CROSSLINKS

Through the World Outreach Committee (WOC) St. John's supports a number of individuals and mission organisations, both at home and overseas, with the aim of bringing the gospel and practically demonstrating God's love to the world.

Each year we commit 10% of our unrestricted voluntary giving for this purpose.



More information about WOC can be on the church website with links to the organisations. Please do visit the site and read more about who we are supporting.

<https://stjohnsealing.org.uk/>

Dave and Anne Bookless



Working for A Rocha International and based in Southall.

Dave & Anne Bookless have lived in Southall since 1991 and been Mission Partners with the Church Mission Society (CMS), seconded to A Rocha, since 2001. He has written several books including *Planetwise – Dare to Care for God's World*



Dave is the Director of Theology for A Rocha International, which involves resourcing the worldwide church to understand the biblical call to care for creation. His wife Anne is vicar of St Mary's, Norwood Green.

A Rocha is a global family of conservation organisations working together to live out God's calling to care for creation and equip others to do likewise. This year is the organisations 40th birthday. In 2019 a terrible car accident killed three key A Rocha leaders, A globally renowned conservationist, Simon Stuart, was temporarily in charge but retired in May 2023, the new executive director is Ed Walker.

Dave writes in his latest newsletter:

"The past months saw extended time in Southall (Jan–April) followed by a long trip to South Korea and Taiwan, and shorter visits to the Netherlands and Guyana. Taiwan and South Korea are both countries where Planetwise has been translated and read widely, and it was humbling to meet people whose life trajectories have been changed by it. In South Korea I discussed in depth with pastors, spoke at a large conference and made plans for A Rocha with a small group of praying activists. One has done environmental education in churches for 35 years and is thrilled to be linked to a wider network. In Taiwan I travelled around the whole country, which is amazingly diverse, from 13,000ft mountains to tropical forests to volcanic areas and bustling cities. I met Planetwise book groups, spoke to pastors' conferences, met academic, business and church leaders and also tribal Christians who instinctively integrate creation care with their Christian faith."

Dave's work continues in equipping the A Rocha family and worldwide Christian networks with biblical and theological resources.

Prayer Points:

- **Pray for Anne's healing, and for government Access to Work help to come through quickly.**
- **Pray for seeds scattered in Korea, Taiwan, Netherlands, Guyana and beyond to bear good fruit.**
- **Pray for Dave's new A Rocha International colleagues, and for him to be wise about priorities.**
- **Pray for our wider family members who are struggling.**
- **Pray for God's Spirit to fall on St Mary's, and especially for more worship and children's leaders**

**John and Gillian
Robinson**
Working for
Crosslinks
in Bangkok



There is more information about their work in Bangkok in the Crosslinks section of the Organisations we support page.

After their previous visit back to the UK the Robinson's wrote –

“How can we begin to say thank you to every supporting church and individual who we had the pleasure of visiting during our home leave?”



We loved talking to people who have been praying so hard for us and the ministry. It has helped us so much as we go back, to know that the work we do in this often challenging city is a work that is being done by our mighty God and supported by amazing people in the UK. Thank you so much from us and from Joel. He loved coming everywhere with us, meeting new friends and seeing old ones, and he loved being in a country where he doesn't feel different. We also visited the Crosslinks office where it was great to catch up with the staff who do an amazing job on our behalf.

We are thankful for a break from the heat and being able to eat lovely British food again .

We are thankful that God provided jobs and accommodation in the UK for both Leah and Natalie.”

You can support Dave and Anne via the flowing link:
churchmissionsociety.org/bookless

Their latest newsletter outlined the following:

They have two new buildings that are providing a school but they are having to restrict numbers because of lack of space. They run many clubs and activities for children who have nothing and a foodbank. John has started a discipleship group for children not in the school. They have the funds to provide a 'safe house' for girls who have no safe place to live, but need the appropriate permissions from the government for this and the right person to be the house 'mum'. They were blessed with a gap year team of four girls from January to June 2023 – who were hugely popular with the children and a great help to the Robinson's

Prayer Points:

- The students studying in the Learning Centre
- Their work to see God bring salvation and love to each of the children and their families.
- For the permissions they need to open the Safe House and for the right person to be the 'mum' to run the house.
- For the staff and for the Robinson family - John, Gillian and Joel in Thailand and Nathalie and Leah in the UK.

<https://www.crosslinks.org/people-and-places/asia/john-and-gillian-robinson/>

Organisations receiving support

Organisations working Overseas

A Rocha International – is a global family of conservation organizations working together to live out God's calling to care for creation and equip others to do likewise. They respond to the global crisis of biodiversity loss by carrying out community-based conservation projects through:

- Ecological monitoring and research in areas of high value for wildlife
- Practical measures for conserving and restoring habitats and their flora and fauna
- Participation in nature conservation, through environmental education and community outreach
- Providing a forum for understanding the relevance of the Christian faith to environmental issues

<https://www.arocha.org>

Sue Ross is the St John's link person

Crosslinks - has twin priorities of front-line evangelism and the training of bible teachers in over 30 countries - the Robinsons in Thailand are our mission partners working in The Place of Grace.

John and Gillian Robinson set up the Place of Grace in 2011 in the middle of Bangkok's materially poor communities.

They run children's and teenager's clubs throughout the week, providing a safe place for children to play, alongside learning about the God who loves them. They also run a foodbank where they pray for the people who come and tell them about God. John and Gillian have seen a number of teenagers become Christians and run a discipleship class for them.

<https://www.crosslinks.org>

David Conacher is the St John's link person

Compassion - sponsored child - Anan in Thailand supported by Café Church

“Nearly 385 million children are currently living in extreme poverty.

Poverty has a face. It's a girl forced to marry because her family can't support her.

A boy sent to work on the rubbish heap, rather than the classroom.

From the womb to early adulthood, we stand for children, giving those born into the toughest of circumstances the opportunities they deserve.

Our local church partners ensure our support reaches the children who need it most. Together, we provide children with exceptional care in every area of their lives: their minds, bodies and relationships.”

<https://www.compassionuk.org>

David Conacher is the St John's link person

Great Lakes Outreach (GLO) - in Burundi, transforming communities, raising young leaders and nurturing social enterprises - Simon Guillebaud (international Director for GLO), has spoken at St John's on several occasions and St John's supported his family for many years as they translated the Bible for Burundi.

“The Guillebauds have stopped living in Burundi but continue to run GLO. The needs remain huge with Burundi being labelled the most miserable country in the world, as well as the hungriest. Please do continue to pray for lasting peace, for GLO's projects to continue to have a massive impact, and for Simon's efforts to mobilise further prayer and financial support.”

<https://www.greatlakesoutreach.org>

Sue Ross is the St John's link person

Hope4Malawi - Hope4Malawi was founded by Sara and Mark Goodman. Following a visit to Malawi with their family in 2008, they were impacted by the number of bright, ambitious children they met who lacked opportunity.

Sara and Mark started by working with local partners to fund feeding programmes, raising funds for classroom and library buildings and by providing books for new libraries.

“Hope4Malawi partners with government-run primary and secondary schools to help improve teaching and learning environments for children growing up in rural Southern Malawi.

Additionally, we provide sponsorships and bursaries to enable students to remain in secondary education or attend university, which they would otherwise not be able to do.

Hope4Malawi believes that education has the power to break the cycle of poverty by bringing sustainable change.”

<https://www.hope4malawi.org/> John Quinn is the St John's link person

Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) - uses planes to enable thousands of aid, relief and mission projects in really remote places - Stanley Dakin (former vicar of St John's) and his late wife, Judith, were on the Board of MAF and subsequently Judith worked for MAF

“Our vision is to see 'isolated people physically and spiritually transformed in Christ's Imagine if your community had no roads and little access to the outside world.

How would you or your family reach a doctor if you're sick or injured? How can you receive an education or job opportunities? This is the reality for millions of people.

Jungles, mountains, swamps, insecurity and a dilapidated infrastructure are all barriers to receiving physical and spiritual care and a hope for the future.

Our pilots and personnel deliver relief workers, doctors, pastors, school books, food, medicines - everything that can only be safely and speedily delivered by air. With an MAF plane taking off or landing every four minutes, the need is huge. “

<https://www.maf-uk.org> John Quinn is the St John's link person

Open Doors

A non-denominational mission supporting persecuted Christians in over 60 countries supplying Bibles, training church leaders, providing practical support and emergency relief, and supporting Christians who suffer for their faith. Open Doors works to raise awareness of global persecution, mobilising prayer, support and action among Christians.

<https://www.opendoorsuk.org> Liz Major is the St John's link person

SOMA – Sharing of Ministries Abroad

“SOMA UK is an Anglican Mission Agency. It was birthed out of a move of God's Spirit at the 1978 Lambeth Conference when Bishops from around the world came to the UK. Before it started 300 charismatic bishops and senior clergy took the opportunity to gather for a pre-conference renewal meeting. There was an outbreak of God's Spirit that energised all those in the room. SOMA was born out of this experience of an outpouring of God's grace. The Reverend Michael Harper became the founding Director in 1979.

Since then it has had a calling to 'Join the Holy Spirit Tending to the Nervous System of the Body of Christ.' In practice this has often meant going to places that are hurting (e.g. Rwanda in 1996), connecting the church internationally and building the body both overseas and in the sending country as well. Today SOMA continues to connect the church across the world.

The current ministry of SOMA UK builds on the work of our former National Director's Stephen Dinsmore and Don Brewin who both have developed and grown SOMA UK's vision birthed out from the 1978 Lambeth conference.”

<https://somauk.org> Sam Sanya is the St John's link person

TEARfund - based in Teddington, working in over 50 of the world's poorest countries - with a primary focus on supporting those in poverty and providing disaster relief for disadvantaged communities. *"We're following Jesus where the need is greatest, working through local churches to unlock people's potential and helping them to discover that the answer to poverty is within themselves. When disasters strike, we respond quickly. We won't stop until poverty stops"*.

Founded in 1968 by George Hoffman, a former Honorary Curate at St John's.

<https://www.tearfund.org> Sue Ross is the St John's link person

Wellfound

Based in Greenford and previously supported by St James. The founder Howard Measham has spoken at St James.

"In 2005, Howard Measham witnessed the suffering and hardship faced by disadvantaged communities in Romania due to lack of clean water. This led him to place several of his own properties into a trust – the Measham Family Christian Foundation – solely to support relief work through the provision of clean water. Since then, WellFound has focussed its work in Africa, where the need is equally great. Rental income from the properties in trust now supports all administrative and operational costs in the UK, and also provides match-funding for work in Africa. This allows us to commit to donors that 100% of their money will go towards work in Africa with no deduction for administration or salaries in the UK."

<https://wellfound.org.uk> David Luke is the St John's link person

Organisations working in the UK

Area Church Schools

Crosslight Advice

Ealing Soup Kitchen (Worker for the Homeless)

Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter

Evangelical Alliance

The Grove Community

"The Grove Community is a church plant in partnership with the Eden Network and the Church of England. In 2016, Mark and Laura Tate were sent by St Pauls Ealing in partnership with St Stephen's Ealing onto the Gurnell Grove estate.

The Tates moved onto the estate with a vision to see church form and grow where local residents could meet Jesus and be discipled. Since then they have seen the birth of various community initiatives including an after school Kids club, a Community lunch and an OAP club. A highlight of their work on the Grove is hosting Bingo Church - a monthly bingo night for residents which includes a short talk and opportunity for prayer."

<https://www.thegrove.community/> Sam Sanya is the St John's link person

World Outreach Committee members

Sue Ross – Chair

David Luke

John Quinn

Liz Major

Edith Thompson



CROSSLINKS



A ROCHA

Christians in Conservation

soma

SHARING OF MINISTRIES ABROAD



Great Lakes Outreach



Hope4Malawi
their future starts today



tearfund

WELLFOUND



MAF
Flying for Life



Open Doors

60 years of serving persecuted Christians

<https://stjohnsealing.org.uk/>