



Bringing the gospel and demonstrating God's love



## Mission Partner Update

April 2026

Our Mission Partners are linked with the following organisations



**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.

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More information about WOC can be found 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/>

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# Angelo Lebrato - OMF Area Rep. (East UK)

## Curate at St John's

### Sharing God's Heart for East Asia

I serve as an Area Rep. with OMF East-UK, helping churches engage with God's mission among the peoples of East and Southeast Asia. My role is to connect churches, individuals, and mission opportunities so that more people can discover how God may be calling them to participate in His global mission.



**Mobilising Churches for Mission** A significant part of my work is visiting pastors, mission groups, and churches to share stories of what God is doing in Southeast Asia and how they can be involved. I love helping congregations see the bigger picture of God's mission and exploring how they can be involved through prayer, sending, or going. My heart is to see local churches actively participating in God's work both across the street and around the world.

**Mission Discipleship** I also help prepare people who are exploring mission service. I often walk alongside individuals for many months and years, as they discern their calling to short-term or longer-term mission. This preparation includes developing strong spiritual foundations and growing in cultural understanding for living and serving overseas. My aim is to equip people wisely to face cultures very much different from their own.

**Supporting Missionaries on Furlough** Mission doesn't stop when workers return home for a season. When missionaries come back on furlough, I help them reconnect with churches, family, and friends. This time allows space for rest, renewal, sharing stories of God's work, and preparing for the next season of ministry. Supporting missionaries well during furlough helps sustain long-term service overseas.

**Championing the Arts in Mission** Alongside my regional role, I serve as the Arts Champion for OMF. Throughout the history of overseas missions, creativity has been a powerful way to communicate truth across cultures. I am passionate about encouraging creative expressions of mission through storytelling, visual arts, music, drama, and digital media—helping communicate the message of Jesus in culturally meaningful ways.

### Please pray for:

- Churches in the UK to grow in their heart for global mission
- New workers to serve among East Asia's peoples

If you would like to learn more about the work of OMF, explore opportunities to serve God's mission to East Asia, I would love to have a chat with you.

<https://omf.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. Dave 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 rector 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.

Dave writes:

*We held our three-yearly global leaders' forum in the Philippines last May. Although financial pressures meant the whole team and a couple of national A Rocha organisations couldn't be there, we had 70+ from 26 countries including several South East Asian Friends of A Rocha groups. It was a wonderful time of sharing, listening and decision-making, bathed in worship and prayer. Dave felt old(!), as he was one of only two who'd attended every forum since the first in the 1990s, and there were lots of young leaders and first-timers. Despite the carbon cost (which of course we offset through Climate Stewards), there's no substitute for the relationships built through quality time together. Highlights included welcoming two new national A Rochas, Singapore and Costa Rica, and some important family-wide discussions and decisions.*

At the end of last year Dave spoke at three A Rocha conferences around India, helped to lead a track on creation care at the Micah Global Consultation in Cape Town, and coordinated a module on the biblical basis for creation care as the A Rocha Conservation Certificate, a part-time online one-year course, was launched.

There have also been exciting meetings with Scripture Union and the Bible Society, looking at global collaboration on creation care.

Dave plans to have his much delayed sabbatical in 2026.

## **Prayer Points:**

**Praise for Anne's improving health and for Rev Navina's appointment to work alongside her. Pray for wisdom and unity of vision in planning for St Mary's Norwood Green.**

**For Anne and Dave's families with all their health issues, and for Anne and Dave as they support them.**

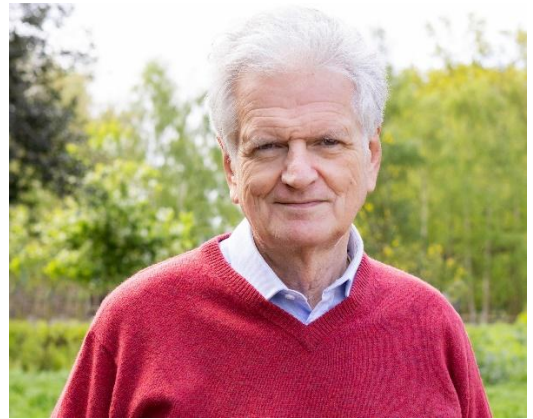
**Praise for the launch of the ICETE Impact Team on Creation Care in Theological Education. Prayer for others to step into shared leadership, and for the global online survey to be effective.**

**For Dave's sabbatical plans for 2026.**

You can support Dave and Anne via the following link: [churchmissionsociety.org/bookless](https://churchmissionsociety.org/bookless)

# Charles Cavenagh

## Working in Tanzania



Charles Cavenagh has been a member of St John's since 1991.

Charles writes:

- *Since 2012 I've been working as a volunteer for the Anglican Church of Tanzania for several months each year. At present I go to Tanzania for about six weeks in January and February, and then again for about ten weeks from June until August. I work for three Diocese which are located in two areas – the Mara region in the north of Tanzania and the Katavi region in the west of Tanzania. The main work I do is to assist in village missions within these Diocese. Each mission lasts for five days, from Wednesday until Sunday. The missions are partly evangelistic and partly with a view to planting a new Anglican church in each village. At present I assist with about five village missions each year.*

*Assisting in the village missions is my main work, but I also like to take an interest and give support in other areas of practical need within each Diocese.*

*I much appreciate the prayer support I receive from St John's.*

### **Prayer Points**

- **health and safety, strength, and God's wisdom and guidance throughout.**
- **the work in the villages would increasingly bear good fruit.**

# Stephen & Olivia Conacher

## Working in Brazil

Steve is a youth pastor at Comunidade da Vila Church in the heart of São Paulo, while studying for a Masters in Biblical Leadership at a local seminary and teaching English as a second language. He and his wife, Olivia, have lived in Brazil for three years.



Steve writes:

*I am now approaching the end my masters course at the seminary here, and will finish in June of 2026. It has been a brilliant opportunity to understand the Brazilian church context, the nexus of faith and Brazilian culture and some of the particular challenges and opportunities of ministering in São Paulo, as well as a good chance to consolidate and deepen theological study!*

*At the same time, the pastor at our church who oversees youth and young-adult ministry moved on at the end of last year. In the past years I have been working primarily with the younger youth (11s-14s) to create and develop the ministry, and then stepped up to lead the weekly youth service and train the volunteers too. My new position at church has been confirmed, and I'm now responsible for the youth and student ministry - the latter of which doesn't yet exist, and so the next few months will involve plenty of moments to get to know the students and a good bit of trial and error to find out the times and places they are available.*

*One of the highlights of the past months has been our baptism and profession of faith classes (for those who were baptised as babies and want to reaffirm their faith). These have been precious moments of encouraging some of the youth, and seeing some of the fruit of our work in the past few years, and we are looking forward to some great baptism and profession of faith services in the next few months!*

*At the same time I have created a little business as an English teacher, which has grown to the point of being able to support most of our monthly living costs and give me enough time to focus as much as possible on the youth work, as the church is not able to contribute very much at the moment.*

### **Prayer Points:**

- **New responsibilities with youth and students**
- **Being able to teach and inspire the youth to invite friends and keep sharing their faith in schools, sports teams, in their families and generally beyond the walls of the church**
- **Practical and financial wisdom about balancing the demands of English teaching and church.**

# John & Gillian Robinson

## Working for Crosslinks in Bangkok



**CROSSLINKS**

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

They run a school for children in the Mahathai slums and the latest venture is a safehouse (My Father's House) for girls at risk in their local community.

In their newsletters the Robinsons write:

*"We have so many things to be thankful for, even whilst facing the daily challenges of a ministry with children with such difficult lives.*



*At the end of last year we attended the Regional Student Convention for schools with the same accreditation in South East Asia. Schools from 6 countries attended, with over 900 student delegates, and we are the only charity school amongst them. After months of preparation of sports, Bible memory, science projects, artwork, drama performances, needlework, and music and singing, we travelled in our amazing new bus to the northern city of Chiang Mai for the week for the conference. We spent an exhausting week competing in all of these things, attending rally evenings with nightly opportunities for prayer, which our students readily went forward for. And then, on the final day, they did the overall awards, where awards are given for the best school in each category. We were completely shocked by receiving an award in all five categories despite how many schools attended, and nearly fell off our chairs when we received the top trophy in both sports and academic categories.*

*And then as they gave awards for the top 10 students out of the 900+ with the top overall scores from every category. Out of those top 10, 6 students were from the Place of Grace, including top trophy for best boy (Joel) and best girl (Esther). The other schools were asking us afterwards where we buy our coaches from to get these scores, and we said, no professional coaches, no professional lessons, they simply did their best for God's glory.*

*On 7 May new students will start with an intensive English programme and summer school starts in June."*

### **Prayer Points:**

- **All the children at The Place of Grace**
- **Safety for the girls living in 'My Father's House'**
- **For John and Gillian and all the staff and volunteers as they navigate daily difficulties, busy schedules and listening to God**

<http://www.placeofgracefoundation.com/>

**Five Talents** – their mission is to unlock sustainable transformation in some of the most fragile communities in rural Africa. In places affected by conflict, material poverty and deep inequality.

*“We don’t offer handouts or quick fixes. We do high impact, locally-led development. Built to last. We invest - in people, in potential and in the power of individuals to shape their own futures.*

*Working through local church networks, we bring together small groups who train in literacy, numeracy, saving and business.*

*These aren’t just skills, they’re tools for long term financial independence, resilience and leadership.*

*We’re not here to do things for people. We’re here to walk alongside them as they grow something of their own.”*

<https://www.fivetalents.org.uk/> Daniela Hagger 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 (a former vicar of St John’s) and 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>

## **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

Bishop's Mission Fund  
Ealing Soup Kitchen (Worker for the Homeless)  
Evangelical Alliance

### Crosslight Advice

Crosslight works to lift people out of poverty and help them build a better future. With locations throughout London and the South, they work with some of the most marginalised and vulnerable people in society through programmes providing comprehensive debt & benefit advice, building financial resilience through money education and budgeting coaching, and mentoring clients with open-ended holistic support. It operates out of **30 locations** across London and the South.

Our two local branches are based at St Mellitus Church in Hanwell and The Oak Tree Anglican Fellowship in Acton.

*“Crosslight Advice provide face-to-face debt advice together with money education and budgeting support to individuals and families in need. Crosslight has supported thousands of people in financial hardship caused by the burden of unmanageable debt.”*

<https://www.crosslightadvice.org/> David Conacher is the St John's link person

### 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/> Rhianna Lambrou is the St John's link person

## World Outreach Committee members

Sue Ross – Chair

David Luke

John Quinn

Rhianna Lambrou

Liz Major

Angelo Lebrato

Sharon Matthews

## St John's World Outreach 2024 Grants

	£
<b>Mission Partners</b>	
Dave Bookless (A Rocha International/CMS)	1700
John and Gillian Robinson (Crosslinks)	1700
Crosslinks (annual donation)	100
Steve Conacher	600
<b>Organisations working Overseas</b>	
Compassion – <i>Anan in Thailand supported by Café Church</i>	384
GLO (Great Lakes Outreach - Simon Guillebaud)	2000
Hope4Malawi	1000
MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship)	2000
OMF (Overseas Missionary Fellowship)	1000
Persecuted Church – Open Doors	2000
SOMA UK (Sharing of Ministries Abroad)	2000
Tearfund	1000
WellFound	2000
<b>Organisations working in UK</b>	
Bishop's Mission Fund	913
Crosslight Advice	1000
Ealing Soup Kitchen (Worker for the homeless)	2600
Evangelical Alliance	250
Gurnell Grove Community Trust	2000
<b>Total grants made</b>	<b>24,247</b>

## St John's World Outreach 2025 Grants

	<b>£</b>
<b>Mission Partners</b>	
Dave Bookless (A Rocha International/CMS)	1700
John and Gillian Robinson (Crosslinks/Place of Grace)	1700
Crosslinks (annual donation)	100
Stephen Conacher	600
Ellie Blaby	2000
Angelo Lebrato	2500
<b>Organisations working Overseas</b>	
Compassion – <i>Anan in Thailand</i>	384
GLO Great Lakes Outreach (Simon Guillebaud)	2000
MAF Mission Aviation Fellowship	2000
Persecuted Church – Open Doors	2000
SOMA UK (Sharing of Ministries Abroad)	2000
Tearfund	1000
WellFound	2000
<b>Organisations working in UK</b>	
Bishop's Mission Fund	1000
Crosslight Advice	1000
Ealing Soup Kitchen (Worker for the homeless)	2600
Evangelical Alliance	250
Gurnell Grove Community Trust	2000
<b>Total grants made</b>	<b>26,834</b>



**CROSSLINKS**



**A ROCHA**

*Christians in Conservation*

**soma**

SHARING OF MINISTRIES ABROAD



Great Lakes Outreach



**crosslight**  
advice

**tearfund**



fivetalents



**OpenDoors**

60 years of serving persecuted Christians



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