



MISSION SUNDAY – MAY 29th 2022

Today we are thinking about our mission partners overseas and local initiatives.

Welcome to our Mission Sunday leaflet for 2022. Here you will find updates from each of our mission partners, as well as information about our guest mission for this year, the Christian environmental charity A Rocha UK. As you read these updates, I hope you will be encouraged by all that our mission partners are doing to share the gospel and to show the love of Jesus. Please pray for our mission partners and consider what you could give to support their work, using the form at the back of the leaflet. Thank you.

Stuart Cocksedge Chair of Mission Committee

Our Preacher is Jean Morgan from A Rocha: Caring for God's creation

A Rocha (www.arocha.org) is a worldwide family of Christian organisations which, inspired by God's love, engages in scientific research, environmental education and community-based conservation projects in more than 20 countries. The first initiative in 1983 was a field study centre in Portugal and the name means 'The Rock' in Portuguese.



Underlying all that A Rocha does are five core commitments: Children help with a nature survey on their church's land.

- **Christian** Biblical faith in the living God, who made the world, loves it and entrusts it to the care of human society.
- **Conservation** Research to conserve and restore the natural world; environmental education for all ages.
- **Community** Developing good relationships both within the A Rocha family and in local communities.
- **Cross-cultural** Drawing on the insights and skills of people from diverse cultures, both locally and around the world.
- **Cooperation** Partnering with a wide variety of organisations and individuals concerned for a sustainable world.

A Rocha UK (www.arocha.org.uk) started life in Southall, west London, in 2001. The charity currently works with:

- **Churches** through the Eco Church programme;
- **Christian leaders** through inter-denominational convening work;
- **Families and individuals** through the Wild Christian programme, supporting people to enjoy, nurture and protect nature locally, and more widely by campaigning;
- **Christian land managers** through the Partners in Action network, inspiring and enabling others to manage land for the benefit of people and nature.

Responding to the biblical mandate to care for the earth, and demonstrating Christian hope for God's world, this expression of Christian mission is ever more critical in this time of climate and nature crises.

How are our mission partners doing?

[Ruth Guinness, with SIM \(Serving in Mission\) in Malawi](#)

Did you know that, worldwide, more than 90% of pastors have either had no training, or have only had some informal theological education? The ministry of theological education is much needed to build and equip the church for its mission in bringing the gospel to the ends of the earth.



It is exciting to play my part through taking on a global role within SIM. As the 'Ministry Point Person' for Theological and Missiological Education, I will network with others engaged in theological education and stimulate discussion so that we might become more effective. I have been invited to join a small workgroup revising the standards used for the accreditation of evangelical theological education in Africa. We will meet in Kenya at the end of June. It's a strategic opportunity, and a privilege to be involved in this.

Here in Malawi, I'm working with a small team of missionaries all involved in some way or another in church leadership development and discipleship. In July I will be teaching at a retreat for pastors and their wives. Many are former students of mine, and it is great being able to re-connect with them. I've heard from several about the challenges they face, and it's good to have an opportunity to encourage them.



Prayer points:

- Praise for God's guidance as I've taken on new roles this year.
- Praise for opportunities to meet with and learn from others worldwide.
- Pray that I will listen and learn well as I continue on a steep learning curve.
- Pray for wisdom for the workgroup meeting in Kenya, that the revised standards would lead to excellence in theological education.
- Pray for pastors and their families in the Africa Evangelical Church, that they may be encouraged in their walk with God.

Thank you so much for your support.

Mission to Seafarers

We first started including the Missions to Seafarers as our Mission partner when former Team Rector, Canon Andy Bowerman joined them as their Regional Director for the Middle East and South Asia in 2018. Andy has now left this post to become the next Dean of Bradford Cathedral.

However, the need for support of this charity still remains and so for the time being it will remain a mission partner. 90% of world trade is conducted by sea, which involves 1.5 million men and women serving onboard ships of various sizes, types and seaworthiness. Often away from home for several months (sometimes years) at a time, life onboard can be very lonely, isolating and demanding as well as being very dangerous. The Mission to Seafarers play a vital part in providing spiritual, emotional and practical support for those who work at sea, and the families they leave behind.

Malcolm and Yanet Taylor with YWAM in the Dominican Republic.

Five years ago, the Taylor family embarked on a journey of founding YWAM Series 23, a ministry to minister to the people of San Pedro de Macoris in the Dominican Republic. Prior to founding YWAM Series 23, Malcolm spent ten years leading teams in the construction of homes for families and coordinated the construction of over 800 homes in Mexico and the Dominican Republic.



The name of that program is 'Homes of Hope', but what is a home if there are relationship issues, and divorce is rife? What is a home if children are not cared for? What is a home if the children are absent from school and are sent out to the streets to work? What is a home if there are parenting struggles?

Today, Malcolm, Yanet, Patricia, and Samuel are ministering to families to bring hope into their homes. They are working closely with the city's pastors, presenting programmes on radio and TV teaching about marriage and parenting values, leading evangelistic and community outreaches, hosting prayer times in public institutions, sharing marriage and pre-marriage courses, teaching in conferences and much more...

Please pray with them as they seek the Lord's guidance how to resource their family's needs as volunteer missionaries and their ministry:

- Pray for the return of visiting mission teams to build homes and renovate local Churches.
- Pray for increased monthly donors to help sustain their family's needs.
- Pray for sponsorship for the education of Patricia and Samuel.
- Pray that each of their ministries will be a blessing to the people of the Dominican Republic.

For more information please visit: www.ywamseries23.org

Email: info@ywamseries23.org

Terekeka School in South Sudan by Mike Quinlan

Wareham Parish has had a link with St Stephen's School in Terekeka since 2005 and I was privileged to visit the school in March 2020 and meet Bishop Paul Modi and senior staff. South Sudan is one of the poorest countries in the world and has the highest rate of illiteracy with only 27% of the population able to read and write.



St Stephen's School provides education for over 800 children at primary and secondary levels. Children join the school at different ages. So, there may be 18-year-old students still in Primary School classes. Sadly, the proportion of girls decreases higher up the school as many girls are withdrawn by their parents for early marriages or to help in the home. The parents are asked to pay fees, which range from £12 to £30 per year, but about half of the parents are unable to pay even these small amounts. The money that we send helps to supplement these fees, to pay teachers' salaries and to pay for repair of buildings and resources.

We aim as a parish to give at least £3,000 each year but in the last two years we have sent over £4,000 each year, despite the loss of income from coffee after

church and collections at school carol services. We are really grateful to all who have given generously on Mission Sundays in 2020 and 2021. After we sent money in January this year Bishop Paul emailed to say: 'Thank you so much for the transfer you made. This came on time as we had need for two classes which had financial shortages but now you have solved our problems.'

Bishop Paul is very busy in his Diocese, running training conferences, ordaining priests and deacons, visiting different churches and attending peace conferences. South Sudan is badly affected by communal violence, but the church is working hard to bring peace between different groups.

We are hoping that Bishop Paul and his wife, Mama Edina, will be able to visit us in Wareham from 8th to 12th August this year following the Lambeth conference.



What about our local initiatives? How are they doing?

Not Just Sundaes, in South Street

We were able to reopen fully, after the lifting of the of pandemic restrictions, in May 2021. The majority of the volunteers have returned along with our regular customers. We also have been blessed by those who do work experience with us from local organisations who support those with special needs, such as Employ my Ability and Allsort'd.



We have been pleased to welcome back the groups that use our premises regularly. These include Dorchester Volunteer Centre, Needlework and Knitting group, play therapy, Recovery Support Group, First Point and many others; and Hilary Bond holds an 'open table' session on Thursdays, where all are welcome for discussion.

Our outreach to the community continues with the suspended coffee scheme, where we are able to pass on sustenance to those who are in need. We have been proud to become the home of the Wareham and Sandford Community Fridge.

Felicity Roberts, Café Manager

The Wareham Blessing Fund

The Blessing Fund is now in its seventh year of existence. It was originally formed to try to meet acute need and it was our intention that it should be a resource for all of the churches in the Wareham area to bless the community in which we live.

Since 2015, the fund has been supported through regular giving and donations large and small. To date you have raised and we have spent a good proportion of some £24,198. And, in the last twelve months alone, we have spent a little over £4,405 providing items such as: Washing machines, Fridge/Freezers, Carpets, Car Tyres, Fuel and Groceries, a Sofa Bed to give a young mum somewhere to sleep, and we were even able to assist with the cost of fees to enable a couple to get married.

We cannot thank you enough for your enormous generosity without which many in our community would struggle just to keep going. The Blessing Fund is a tremendous witness showing that you, the Church, cares about all in our community.

Thank you all so very much.

Barbara and Steve Wells and Jean Dixon

How can you help?

Firstly, please use the updates in this document to help you to pray for our mission partners overseas and locally.

Secondly, if you are able to give financially to support our mission partners, donations can be made through the online giving page <https://ladystmarywareham.myknowchurch.co.uk/giving> using the drop-down bar to select your chosen Mission Partner.

If you would like to give to more than one, please use the 'Mission Sunday 2022' drop-down bar and send an email to Debs Barclay at parish.office@warehamchurches.org.uk to let her know the amounts to go to each of your chosen Mission Partners.

If you are not able to give online, you can use the attached response form and put your donation (cheque or cash) and the form in an envelope marked 'Mission Sunday'. This can either be placed in the collection bowl or delivered to the Church Office, which is now open from 9am to 1pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. It would be helpful if donations could be received by Sunday 19th June.

If you would like further information about any of the people or organisations mentioned please also contact the Parish Office on 01929 550905 or Email: parish.office@warehamchurches.org.uk

Thank you for supporting God's church in mission, both overseas and locally, during this challenging time.

This bulletin comes to you from the PCC's Mission Committee.

Wareham Parish Mission Sunday May 29th 2022

Partnership letters for news and prayer

(Please tick the appropriate boxes)

I would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail/hard copy from:-

Malcolm and Yanet Taylor with YWAM in San Pedro

Ruth Guinness with SIM in Malawi

Giving to our partnerships

Please fill in below the amount of your gift.

If you do not specify how you want your gift to be allocated, it will be divided equally for each partnership.

Please make your cheque payable to “**PCC of Wareham**”

- use a special envelope at the back of church to return it to the Office or place it in the Collection by June 19th.

I enclose £ (cheque/cash) to support the mission work of:-

St Stephen's School, Terekeka, South Sudan £

Malcolm and Yanet Taylor with YWAM in Dominican Republic £

Ruth Guinness with SIM in Malawi £

Mission to Seafarers £

Not Just Sundaes £

The Wareham Blessings Fund £

Guest Mission: A Rocha £

Full name.....

Address

Post codee-mail.....

Gift Aid?

YES/NO

If you are a taxpayer, by 'Gift Aiding' your donation, you increase its value by 25% at no cost to you.