

St Patrick's Church, Wallington



..Jesus said... "I will build my church... "
Matthew 16.18

Gift Day for Mission
Sunday 12th June 2022

Contents

	Page
Introduction	4

Full time Partners

Andrew & Lisa Peart (CMS, Bolivia)	5
Ginny Drake (Operation Mobilisation)	6
International Needs	7
Jo & Mark Plummer (YWAM)	8
Joe & Rachel Clarke (Crosslinks, Portugal)	9
Open Doors	10
pro DEO Church, Romania	11
Study by Extension to All Nations (SEAN) (with Terry & Pancha Barratt)	12
Sutton Schools Work	13

No longer full time but still working in Mission

Peter Bisset	14
Peter Empson	15

Introduction

This year St Patrick's Gift Day for Mission will be on Sunday 12th June, and we look forward to welcoming as our preacher Pastor Doru Tiulete and his wife Naci from pro DEO, our partner church in Craiova, Romania.

I have been actively involved in support for our mission partners for around 20 years, and in that time I have had the pleasure and privilege of getting to know our mission partners personally. They are different personalities with varied ministries, but they all have certain things in common, most notably:

- deep and steadfast self-giving faith;
- a sense of calling to serve our Lord full time;
- perseverance; *and*
- resilience.

They have had to draw deeply on these qualities over two years dominated by COVID, but they kept going and God has been faithful through the challenges they faced. Each has a different story to tell. But how encouraging it is to read, for example, of how Sutton Schoolwork is now experiencing more openings in schools than ever before. And I am continually amazed at the commitment and resourcefulness of proDEO church in reaching out to their local community. How encouraged they must have been by the first ever baptism of teenagers at the church, and by the sacrificial giving of the congregation which raised \$20,000 in a week.

I do hope you too will find the stories in this booklet interesting and encouraging! I hope too that you will want to give generously and to pray earnestly for our partners.

On a personal note, this is the last introduction I shall be writing to an edition of Mission News, as I am moving to Nottingham in late May. After 36 years here I am sad to be leaving St Pat's and ending my involvement with our mission partners, but I thank God for all that I have received and learnt from them and you; and I shall pray that the Lord will continue working out His purposes in all of us, to His glory.

Ros Johnson
Retiring leader of
St Patrick's World Mission Team
June 2022

Andrew and Lisa Peart

Working with Cristo Luz del Mundo, Santa Cruz Bolivia



Church Mission Society

Call: Share the gospel message through serving the local community in one of the fastest growing cities in South America

Role: Partnering with the local church to develop missional outreach and community engagement

As mission partners with CMS in Bolivia, we work alongside the local Anglican Church to increase engagement with the local community – an exciting, yet challenging opportunity as Bolivia slowly emerges from the pandemic amidst serious long term social and economic effects; death and unemployment have led to an increase of homelessness, mental illness, crime, broken community, lack of education, and many church/ ministry closures. Schools only just reopened in February of this year; **most children have not been educated** for the last 2 years.

Our microfinance ministry exists to address the economic divide and social injustice among lower income families by investment; equipping and empowering them to open small businesses, create sustainable income and enhance their local community. Exciting news-The Financial Freedom for Families course(F4 course) Spanish translation has recently been completed. Raul and Rosario Mendez, a couple in our church are completing the course led by Andrew to join us as facilitators ready for the launch in September 2022 to parents at a local school and to our current microfinance partners, in collaboration with our church, Cristo Luz del Mundo. Pray for godly wisdom and grace as we roll out this course, for the Lord to open the eyes and hearts of the families that attend and for them to see the Lord at work in and through their lives and the lives of others. We are constantly reminded of and thankful for the Lord's faithfulness, goodness and provision through our mission partnership with St Pat's – Bendiciones - Blessings!

Andrew, Lisa, Liliana and Anayah x



* Peart Family



* Raul, Rosario Mendez & Family



* Local outreach prayer time

<https://churchmissionsociety.org/people-in-mission/andrew-and-lisa-peart-bolivia>



Ginny Drake

Short-Term Opportunities Lead Operation Mobilisation – OM in the UK

Hello from our Head office in Shropshire!

Our short-term motto is “Inspiring engagement in mission through short-term opportunities” but it still looks different from our pre-covid days, and pre-Ukrainian war days. Clare from Scotland joined my team and together we are processing 70 applicants for 2022 so far.



We are focusing our efforts on providing servant-hearted people to live out God's love in **Ukraine's** neighbouring countries: Our teams in Poland, Hungary and Moldova are grateful for short-termers going for 1 or 2 weeks to help, pray, drive, cook and minister with Ukrainian refugees who are hurting, needy and traumatised. Hugs and teddies go a long way! Another new team member is Sarah, who is coordinating our first **UK TeenStreet** – a one week camp near Ledbury for 13-17 year olds in July. It's challenging starting a new project.

This is Pastor Mark & his 13-year old son Theo. They joined a team of 13 that trekked up a 4997m **Himalayan** peak over Easter! On the journey they visited OM's AIDS Link ministry, walked over Langtang Valley where a village was smothered by a landslide in 2015, and prayed with locals and other trekkers. They are now inspired to reach those with little access to the gospel in their own town. **This summer** we will send some short-termers to our ship Logos Hope for a 3-month short-term exposure programme, some to North Africa and many to Eastern Europe. We will even host an outreach in Birmingham during the Commonwealth Games - never a dull moment!



Many thank yous for your prayerful & financial support and encouragement.

With much love, *Ginny* xox

www.uk.om.org/shorts





International Needs

Helping families create a sustainable future

Emerging from the pandemic and helping refugee families

Working within a network of 31 partner organisations around the world, we support inspirational local Christian leaders to bring holistic transformation for families in their communities. We run schools, build toilets, train pastors, create Christian resources and more. Since 2020, we have been operating in crisis mode, helping families desperate for food, healthcare and other basic services to get what they need whilst also staying connected to local churches within the limitations of lockdowns. But unfortunately, more crises have emerged.

Classrooms for Refugees, Burkina Faso

With global focus on the war in Ukraine, fewer people know about the increasing conflict and terror in Burkina Faso. Violence, conflict and displacement are rising, and many lives being lost at the hands of Islamic Extremists. Families are fleeing to safer regions such as Bobo-Dioulasso where our partners are based. Kadidatou (right) had to flee with her mother and brothers after her father was killed “without a valid reason”. Our team in Burkina Faso are helping her family and others, but their school and medical centre are overwhelmed. To help this, we are building four new classrooms for 200 children at La Bonne Nouvelle school costing a total of £84,169 and just £19.50 per square foot.



Safety for Ukrainian Refugees

In Slovakia and Romania, our partners are helping Ukrainian refugees arriving in desperation. We are providing food, shelter, transport, and also bringing people together for prayer, worship and devotions. We are helping hundreds of refugees each day, refugees like Vicki (right) who arrived with her young family.



Thank you for the prayer and support from St Patrick's Church. With your help, we were able to support over 60,000 people in 2021. Thank you for making this possible.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for the safety of our partners, the wellbeing of all refugee families arriving to our ministries, and for Christ's hope to be known in these desperate situations.

To find out more go to www.ineeds.org.uk or get in touch inuk@ineeds.org.uk



Mark & Jo Plummer

Working in West Sussex, UK with
Youth With A Mission (YWAM)
& **Waverley Abbey College**



Eddie (20), Evie (14), Mark, Jo, Jack (22)

Hello from West Sussex!

For more than 20 years we have been working in ministry where 'Faith', 'Business' and 'Mission' come together. Now we are doing that from West Sussex, and Mark has a new opportunity to work with Waverley Abbey College. The circumstances are changing, but the vision remains the same: To release the potential of business for God's mission purposes! We believe God is raising up more workers for the harvest field and business skills are some of the most needed in global mission today!

Mission and Business...

'Business as Mission' (BAM) is now a core strategy for many doing global mission work. It's a way of sharing the gospel in word and deed, as needed jobs are created in areas of dire poverty and those vulnerable to human-trafficking and slavery are protected. Business can also help bring the good news of Jesus to places and people it otherwise couldn't reach. Business people can go anywhere in the world as well-respected community members, in places otherwise closed to traditional mission work. People can hear the gospel in the course of daily work life and real relationships can be built through businesses. This is true whether you are in London, Lahore or Lima!

Jo continues to co-lead **BAM Global**, a global network that serves all mission agencies and networks resourcing them for business as mission. This year she will edit a report on 'BAM & Mission Agencies', in partnership with 25 global agencies, that will help mission agencies engage with this mission strategy more effectively.

Mark has recently been engaged by **Waverley Abbey College** (part of Waverley Abbey Trust, well known for Bible reading notes '*Every Day with Jesus*') to develop a proposal for a 'Faith and Enterprise' faculty and curriculum at the college. This is a short term opportunity that has opened up whilst hosting in-person BAM courses and conferences has remained difficult due to the pandemic situation. This may turn into a longer term position focused on equipping business professionals in the UK to integrate faith and work more fully and discover how God can use their vocational skills in his Kingdom work. This is an exciting new development that we hope to be able to share more about later this year!

Read more at: businessasmission.com - bamglobal.org - waverleyabbeytrust.org.

Thank you, St Pats, for your support & prayers!

Student evangelism and discipleship

We are mission partners with Crosslinks, an Anglican mission society whose vision is to bring God's Word to God's world. We moved to Coimbra, Portugal, in August 2015 and are working with the Christian student movement called the GBU (Grupo Bíblico Universitário), discipling and training Portuguese men and women to live for Jesus and reach out to others with the gospel.



The Clarkes

In a 2012 tweet, the American pastor John Piper perceptively wrote that "God is always doing 10,000 things in your life, and you may be aware of three of them." We are so grateful to God for the times over this past year when we have been able to clearly see Him at work, strengthening and building His people up in Christ, and calling others out of darkness into His wonderful light.

In many ways, it has been an especially challenging year for us, but one with many encouragements. The bread and butter of our work is meeting up with different students and reading the bible with them, and it has been a joy watching several of the students really growing in their knowledge and love for the Lord, striving to put to death their sin and seeking to live for Jesus in every area of their life. The small group bible studies and weekly meetings have continued, but with various staff leaving, we have now been working not just in Coimbra, but in Porto and Braga as well. Moreover, Joe was temporarily put in charge of leading the national movement whilst a new General Secretary was appointed, a process which took about 9 months.



Hosting a student conference in our home – Rachel was cooking for 38!

However, even though it was busy, this time of transition gave us various gospel opportunities within the student movement, as we were able to re-focus the GBU on Word-centred ministry. This was massively encouraging, as we saw students, not just in Coimbra, grow in their conviction that it is the Word of God that has power to change hearts and minds, and to give life to the dead.

Please give thanks to God for Vasco and Ricardo, two students who have professed faith in Jesus during this past year. Also give thanks for four Portuguese friends who are currently studying at Cornhill. **Pray** that God would keep working in all who heard the gospel this year and might draw some more to Him. Also pray for the church planting project we are hoping to lead next year!

www.crosslinks.org



Open Doors is an international ministry serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide by supplying Bibles, leadership training, literacy programmes, livelihood support and advocacy services.

They seek to mobilise the church to serve Christians living under religious persecution.

According to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, by mid- 2021, the number of forcibly displaced people worldwide had surpassed 84 million – and that was before the tragedy of the war in Ukraine. Many of these are Christians fleeing persecution. The majority are displaced through violence. Many Christians were among the millions fleeing for their lives in Afghanistan, while in countries such as Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria, churches and communities have been attacked. Even where there is no active conflict, Christian refugees from places like Iran leave because they have simply had enough of the daily struggle against discrimination. All they want is somewhere to be free and safe. Sadly, life on the move or in refugee camps is even more fragile, and exposes them to discrimination, extortion, human trafficking and rape. **A displaced church is a vulnerable church.**



Right now, nowhere in the world is more dangerous for Christians than Afghanistan.

The Taliban's victory is devastating for Christians way beyond the borders of Afghanistan. It has given jihadist groups throughout the world a profound psychological boost. It has strengthened Islamist groups in neighbouring Pakistan and may well embolden jihadist groups in other regions. Islamic militancy has been steadily growing in sub-Saharan Africa, with the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Central African Republic, Mozambique and Cameroon joining Nigeria in the countries where Christians face most violence. **The Taliban's success encourages extremists around the world.**

pro DEO Baptist Church, Craiova, Romania

Led by Pastor Doru Tiulete

We exist to glorify God and to be part of His expanding Kingdom.

Mission: leading the next generation into a growing relationship with Christ.

Highlights of 2021:

- **International Children's Day** – special time with a bunch of kids who don't know their Maker.
- **The church building** is advancing every day - still a lot of work needs to be done.
- **Miraculous giving** – we needed \$ 20.000 for an important work at the building, and we raised it only from our members in a week. That was amazing!
- **Baptism of Sara and Evelyn** – first teens baptized in pro DEO
- **Andreea (a teenage from a Muslim family)** joined pro DEO church, and she really wants to know more about our Saviour. She is part of our community now and joins us regularly.

2021 was an intense and challenging year. We worked very hard on the church building, but also on the church body. We are thankful to God that we managed to reconnect with lots of kids from outside the church, but also to restart our Sunday School classes for them.

Our annual church retreat (Sukkot 2021) was very encouraging and mobilizing. A very special moment was Christmas time and the caroling we did. After the pandemic times, the impact was even greater. People who didn't know us at all opened their door and invited us to sing for them. 2021 was not easy, but it was good for pro DEO unity!



Pray with me for:

- Boldness and wisdom in following God's work in Craiova
- Being able to organize kid's camp this summer
 - right children to participate
 - human and financial resources



- The Nehemiah project – for the construction to be finished in due time, for funds and for us to be ready to serve the young community surrounding it.
- For Luca's protection (my son) in Worksop College.

www.facebook.com/biserica.proDEO/ / <https://www.facebook.com/prodeoteen/>
<https://www.facebook.com/prodeokids/> / www.facebook.com/OSCECraiova

Terry and Pancha Barratt

working with **S.E.A.N** (Study by Extension for All Nations)

www.seaninternational.org



SEAN has been serving the worldwide church for 50 years by sharing their Bible training courses with partner ministries that mobilise God's people in discipleship and ministry in 100 countries in 80 languages. Some two hundred thousand students train each year using SEAN courses.

One such partner ministry is ORTA, which serves different denominations in the vast territories from far east Russia to western Russia. ORTA was founded in 2004 by national church leaders with a vision to help God's people grow in Christ and serve His church. Thousands of believers have studied SEAN/ORTA courses, and many lives have been transformed for God's glory.

Because of COVID restrictions many churches had to stop services, but many ORTA groups continued their studies in small groups or online. Also, Group Leader courses were organised online, training new leaders in remote areas.



Last year, 13 seminars resulted in the training of 233 new group leaders and the start-up of many new study groups.

The tragic war between Russia and Ukraine has caused big divisions in many churches, however despite many uncertainties, the ORTA team is full of determination to continue their God-given ministry.

Elena, an ORTA group leader in Volzhsky shares: *"We started SEAN's Abundant Life course two weeks ago. There is revival among people who have been church members for many years, home groups have really begun to participate in discussions. They learned what it means to be born again. Yesterday at the group meeting the Holy Spirit convicted people of sins and everyone repented. Students have realised what they need to have an abundant life Thank you SEAN for this course and for making it available for us. God bless you!"*

Thank you St. Pat's for your support over these 50 years.

Please join us in prayer for ORTA students in Russia and Ukraine, as they seek to be instruments of God's peace in the midst of a savage war.

Please also pray for SEAN, that we can continue to share our courses with our many partner ministries world wide.

SSW works in every school in Sutton, seeking to a) assist teachers as they deliver the Christianity element of the RE curriculum, b) encourage pupils and staff to discover the truth of the Good News of Jesus Christ, c) support pupils in the spiritual, moral and social development and d) be the link between churches and their local schools. The charity has been in existence for over 25 years and has established a fantastic reputation across the borough for its excellence, depth and range of delivery, and for the enthusiasm of our staff. We are supported by over half the churches in Sutton, and hundreds of local believers, united across denominations as they pray for the vital work we undertake.

What's been happening?

2021 to 2022 has been another extraordinary year. We have emerged from the constraints of lockdowns to find ourselves once again inundated with requests for delivery, increased numbers of Christian Unions, new projects up and running, additional staff members, prayers answered....sometimes it can feel a bit of a whirlwind!

Our primary schoolwork shows no sign of letting up. Although many schools have yet to return to full assemblies, most of them have asked us back to deliver to year groups. We received more requests for Discover Christmas than ever before, and CSI Easter has also seen a rise in bookings. Easter Experience returned and we told the wonderful story of the death and resurrection to over 1500 children all over the borough, involving believers from multiple churches. Sarah Skinner was on maternity leave for the entire period, and God enabled us to appoint Rachel Marlow for two complete terms which meant we could continue to deliver to the same high standard as previously. Miraculously, God has enabled us to welcome Sarah back, whilst still retaining Rachel! He'll be able to do even more next year through these wonderful servants of His.

Secondary schoolwork simply exploded. We finish the year to date with more CUs than at any time in the past 4 years and having delivered more lessons in 3 schools these last 2 terms than at any time in our memory, and more to come next term.

Please pray for us:

- For contact with pupils
- For links with schools that are still not fully engaged
- For finances to continue to be healthy, and,
- For the word of God to be heard.



Peter Bisset



Formerly worked in Nepal with the International Nepal Fellowship (INF). Now lives in Wallington but promotes ITEEN courses among Nepalis around the world and also in England, and visits Nepal once a year

No trip to Nepal again this year – but opportunities for ministry to Nepalis in UK continue.

This year I have continued to do interpreting for NHS and Ministry of Justice and have enjoyed being able to help Nepalis in both these places to understand what is being said to them and to be able to give their answers back in English. With the NHS many of the appointments are for either Ex- Gurkhas or their wives. They can range in age from 60s into their 80s. When these Nepalis were recruited into the British Army many would not have had any schooling but would have been working on their father's farm. Many of their wives are still illiterate now.



One morning I had to go to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital and when the parents and the child arrived for the appointment there was another young man (who was also a Gurkha) with them who looked exactly like a boy who had been in a teenager's group that I had run in my church in Nepal. I discovered that he was the younger brother of the

lad who had been in my group. Both he and his brother are committed Christians and live in the Aldershot area and are part of probably the largest Nepali Church in UK – 300 members. This church is actively doing the SEAN courses in Nepali and a small group of about 5 of them have studied up to Book 4 of the Life of Christ.



Also, I have been involved on a Saturday morning from around 9.45am (3.30pm Nepal time) with a Nepali Fellowship online. 4 of us are here in the Croydon Area and there are another 8 – 10 in Nepal! It lasts about an hour and there is a rota for leading, speaking and sharing testimony. We do it as a group on Facebook. Singing together is very difficult but we make a joyful noise to the Lord.

Saha and her husband at Praise in the Park. Living in South Croydon. She is a Christian, he not yet! He wants to do all the rituals for his mother when she dies before he becomes a Christian. (Mt 8:21, Lk 9:59) She is a nurse at Croydon University Hospital. She joins online fellowship as her shifts allow her.

This last Christmas I was invited to Swindon Nepali Church to give the message. There was a service, drama, dances and a feast of curry and rice! Met with many friends!

Atrial Flutter I developed this in July last year. 'Why was I getting so breathless climbing the steps at East Croydon Station?' However, I was only able to have treatment (an ablation) on 26th April and although the flutter has been stopped and my heart is functioning normally I am still struggling with some breathlessness and have been told by others, who have gone through the procedure, that it could take up to 6 weeks to get back to one's previous strength.



Thank you for all your prayers, care and concern, *Peter*

Cynthia & Peter Empson

Almost Retired Independent Children's Consultants

Previously working for 15 years with MAF until 1987, followed by Crusaders (now Urban Saints).

Prior to the Pandemic, we were training Christians to be able to relate to children and enable them to share the Good News of Christ with them on a regular basis. Most of the training was overseas - wherever we were invited.

Since the restrictions of the pandemic, Peter has spent most of his time writing a biography of the way Jesus has guided us and worked in the many different situations during the time we were in MAF. He is currently completing Book 5, including drawing many pictures and diagrams. No idea re publishing.

We are currently wondering if Jesus would have us engage with the many ethnic groups here in Ipswich. Yes, we are over 80 but still have some reasonable left-over health available. Please Lord boot us back into mission/evangelism ... just one more time before our final graduation.



Other Prayer Points: That we may get the books to the next stage for publication.

Continue to pray, please, for Jennifer from Lebanon (we have known her since she was 5) who is completing her Masters at Southampton University in Psychology and has gained distinctions with most assignments. She writes, "I am starting a placement for behavioural therapy for autistic children ... I want to reach the Arab population in my country for Jesus."

Many thanks for your love and prayers.

Cynthia & Peter Empson

peterempson9@gmail.com

Partnering with Mission

We hope that you have enjoyed reading about our Mission Partners. The Mission Gift Day is a real opportunity to bless these individuals who have been so bold in serving God, by contributing financially to their needs. It is a great way to spend our money on something which will have an eternal effect.

Please now complete your Pledge Form and make a payment in any of the following three ways:

- Make a bank transfer to St Patrick's Church and either scan the pledge form and email it to Treasurer@stpats.org.uk or post it to the address given on the return envelope. It's important that you return the pledge form even if you plan to give by direct bank transfer.
- Put your cheque and pledge form in the pre-addressed envelope provided, add a stamp and post it.
- If you would like to make a cash donation do not send any money by post, simply return your pledge form either by email or in the envelope provided. You can bring the envelope to the Mission Gift Day service on 12th June or alternatively put the envelope in the church office pigeon hole or deliver it to the church office at any time.

If you have any query regarding your donation to Gift Day for Mission, please do contact our Treasurer, Janis Hawkins on 020 8642 5951. We will need your pledge sheet because:

- ✓ it will tell us how you'd like your donation to be allocated; and
- ✓ if you are a UK taxpayer and complete the Gift Aid part of the pledge form, you can significantly increase your donation at no extra cost to yourself.

Thank You