



Updates and Horizons

April 2023



St Paul's
D O R K I N G



Oasis India We are very excited to tell you that two people from Oasis: Vishwas Udgirkar (Fundraising and Communication Manager), and Jessica Gunjal (Social Work Manager), will be visiting St Pauls on **Sunday 21st May**. They will be attending both morning services and we will be showing a short video explaining their work.

Learn about their backgrounds here - [Jess's profile](#) and [Vishwas' profile](#).

Join us for afternoon tea in the church room at 16.00 to meet them and have more in-depth conversations. Jessica and Vishwas will then be speaking at **The 6** service at 18.00, so please come along to find out more about their work.



St Paul's started supporting anti trafficking projects in India, including Oasis, in September 2018, and from January 2021, following a change in policy at Tearfund, we have been supporting them directly.

Oasis is a Christian charity whose vision is 'for a community, a place where everyone is included, making a contribution and reaching their God-given potential.' Oasis India's website contains more information - <https://www.oasisindia.org>.

What is trafficking: Human trafficking is the trade of humans for the purpose of forced labour, sexual slavery, or commercial sexual exploitation. According to **Stop the Traffik**, while the true scale of human trafficking and modern slavery is an unknown, there are an estimated **40.3 million victims trapped in modern-day slavery**, with **24.9 million** exploited for labour and **15.4 million** in forced marriages. This means there are **5.4 victims** of modern slavery for every 1,000 people in the world.

Human trafficking and modern slavery do not discriminate; they affect all genders and all ages.

By Gender

71% of trafficking victims around the world are women and girls and 29% are men and boys.

**N.B due to a lack of data we cannot report on the breakdown impacting other genders at this time.*

By Age

30.2 million victims (75%) are aged 18 or older, with the number of children estimated at 10.1 million (25%).

- 37% of victims of trafficking in forced marriage are children.
- 21% of victims of sexual exploitation are children.

Please watch this Ted Talk **From brokenness to wholeness**, which sheds light on several aspects of human trafficking, given by Kimsain Jidung, Oasis' Manager of Grants & Programme Quality [TEDxTalks](#)

Whilst in Mumbai in February 2020, the team from St Paul's visited a number of projects in the red-light areas of Mumbai managed by Oasis. These included:

- Classes for children aged 5-18. Most children at best only get ½ day at school, so Oasis provides secure areas for children to work and play sports. We spent time doing a number of activities with them.
- Training, including dressmaking and hairdressing, and in certain cases external specialist training.
- Adult education, including health, hygiene and cooking and supplying cleaning goods etc.
- Legal help, most of the ladies 'don't exist' in legal terms, so the teams help them to register with the local authorities.



Here is one recent story from Oasis: One of the greatest highlights from Mukthi Bike Challenge 2022* ride is our staff re-connecting with Asha**, who was a victim of human trafficking. She and her son were part of Oasis India's programmes and greatly benefited from them when they lived in the red-light district of Mumbai. Our staff worked with her and reintegrated her with her family in Andhra Pradesh. She was HIV+, but with good health care, she has led a healthy life. Currently, Asha lives with her husband in a joint family and works in a hospital. This is why we at Oasis do what we do! Asha deserves a happy and dignified life and so do the many other women from the red-light areas.



* [Mukthi Bike Challenge – Drive for Change](#)

**name changed



Visit on 16th April by Penny and Juan Carlos Marcés from Lima in Peru



We were delighted to welcome Penny and Juan Carlos to St Paul's on 16th April, where they updated us on their news from Peru, and Penny gave us a great talk as part of the services on the subject of "faithfulness". It was a great eyeopener for many, and, for those of us who sang



Great is Thy Faithfulness over Easter, brought that to life. Penny pointed out all the amazing things that God has blessed us with in the past – including sending his Son to die for us on the cross. Is He then going to suddenly wash his hands of us? Of course not, *Great is His Faithfulness*.

Penny and Juan Carlos told us much more of their recent work in Peru over a shared lunch, enjoyed by nearly 30 of the church family. One of the churches where they work, Jesus el Nazareno, situated in a poorer area of Lima, is still very small. With only two male congregants, Penny and Juan Carlos asked St Paul's in 2019 for prayer to increase this to SEVEN men. This has just been achieved – the Power of Prayer!



In the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd, in a middle-class area where there is an English-speaking congregation, and where there has been a vacancy since March 2022, the congregation HAS grown – because *God is Faithful* and has brought new people in. A carol service was announced before Christmas, and 15 people signed up for the new choir. *God is Faithful!*



On 15th March 2020, the family of a young lady in the Church opened a stall selling food staples. This was, with God's help, the day before lockdown in Peru. Originally just planned for two weeks, the length of the lockdown grew, as did the struggle of many local people, depending on daily wages in informal work and now unable to work. St Paul's had been the first church to send funds to help provide food. Penny started sending out hand-written vouchers so that those struggling could go to the stall and pick up some basic provision. As time went on, Penny realised she had no idea how much was left in their bank account after paying for so many vouchers. Once again, *Great was His Faithfulness* – still in the black – just!



Penny and Juan Carlos deal with daily challenges and rely on God's guidance. As the lockdown progressed, and communal kitchens reopened, they changed the system to support two, then three Community Kitchens, feeding those in the neighbourhood who could not

afford to buy food.

Penny, who works with Sunday Schools, had for some time created worksheets or projects for young children who received these via WhatsApp. During lockdown, these became almost daily and provided a precious occupation for children who were forbidden by the authorities from leaving their homes and had no available education.

When these rules were relaxed slightly, Penny and a local teacher ran a series of literacy workshops – vital for those who had missed two years of basic schooling.

**SOCIALLY DISTANCED
LITERACY TEACHING
FOR 8 YR OLDS**



**Let's
Pray!**

For the proposed teenagers' group. Currently, a local boy will be supporting a well-qualified leader (a volunteer from UK), who does not speak Spanish.

PRAY for a new Rector for the English-speaking Good Shepherd congregation.





A Rocha are issuing snippets each month to help raise our awareness of practical things we can do to make our surroundings better for wildlife .

For practical ways to enjoy, nurture and defend nature, please check out [Wild Christian - A Rocha UK](#).

MAY

Say no to the mow. Mowing your lawn less, and letting parts of it grow long, saves you time and helps give nature a home. If you want to make an even bigger impact for wildlife, don't mow your lawn or a section of it all until August to help even more animals



On 21st May, members of Oasis India are coming to St Paul's.

9.00am and 10.30am Jessica and Vishwas will be at both services and you will see a video of the work of Oasis India.

4.00pm Afternoon tea (provided) with an opportunity to chat to our guests.

6.00pm Jessica and Vishwas will be speaking at The 6.



For information about any of the above, please contact **St Paul's World Church Team:** Carlton Beasley, Annabel Blanch, Sally Hulbert, Jonathan Papworth and Elizabeth Shaw worldchurch@stpaulsdorking.org.uk
More information about our Mission Partners: [Dave Bookless A Rocha](#), [Centre de la Réconciliation - Lille](#); [New Hope Children's Centre - Kenya](#); [Jenny and Stuart O](#); [Oasis, Mumbai - India](#); [Open Doors - Syria](#); [Penny and Juan Carlos Marcés - Peru](#)