



Updates and Horizons

July 2023



St Paul's
D O R K I N G



A Rocha International is a Christian wildlife conservation organisation, based in 20 countries and working with communities to protect their local habitats: sometimes forests, wetlands or grasslands of global importance, sometimes small patches of urban land.



Dave Bookless, one of St Paul's mission partners, is Director of Theology for A Rocha International. He leads work to embed creation care into global and international Christian organisations, theological institutions, and mission movements. He serves as a "Lausanne Global Catalyst for Creation Care", co-leading the global [Lausanne / World Evangelical Alliance Creation Care Network](#) (LWCCN). The LWCCN is a collaborative effort of both Lausanne and the WEA to mobilise the global church to respond to environmental challenges, encouraging Christians across the world to work together to heal God's creation. In addition, Dave is on the Church of England's Environment Working Group and the global [Season of Creation](#) Steering Committee. Dave is also a member of the A Rocha International (ARI) Management Team, providing advice and resources for ARI's Trustees, team and national A Rocha organisations. Early in July, Dave was speaking at a major

regional Lausanne Caribbean Consultation in Guyana on the subject of 'Climate, the Caribbean and Biblical Creation Care'. This Autumn he has a very busy schedule: he is with A Rocha in Portugal for 10 days, then in Lebanon and Jordan, followed by South Korea. He will then attend Trustee meetings in Switzerland.

His wife Anne is fairly newly ordained and is priest-in-charge at St Mary's Church in Norwood Green, London. They have four daughters.

Last week, Dave sent the following prayer requests to St Paul's:



New Executive Director for A Rocha International: The previous Executive Director, Simon Stuart, recently retired, and we're delighted to have recruited Ed Walker as our new Executive Director, following a global search with really high calibre applicants. Ed worked in Darfur with Tearfund before founding 'Hope into Action' enabling churches to home the homeless and he is passionate about A Rocha's values and mission. Ed will start on 1st September.



New appointment as Director of Church Engagement: For years, I have been the only international A Rocha employee working with theology and churches, so it's with great joy that I can share that A Rocha International is about to appoint a new Director of Church Engagement. This is a senior post that will head up our global programme to engage churches and Christian organisations through our national partners around the world. I will be able to focus more on writing, speaking and ambassadorial work.



Please pray for the health and wellbeing for my family, especially during this busy time.





TRANSFORMING
BURUNDI
& BEYOND
www.greatlakesoutreach.org

This month, £1,000 was sent from St Paul's to Great Lakes Outreach, working in Burundi. We received this response from Wendy, the coordinator for Supporter Care with Great Lakes Outreach:

Thank you so much for the incredibly generous donation from St Paul's Church, Dorking. We are so grateful to you for your generosity and kindness. Your donation helps us to transform the lives of men, women and children in Burundi who live in desperate circumstances, by helping to fund the incredible work being carried out by our partners. We have specifically allocated your gift to our Outreach and Discipleship fund, where it will be used to help fund summer camps for young people run by many of the GLO partners. These are incredibly impactful times, where young people enjoy times of teaching, prayer, discipleship training and fellowship - and for some who come, meeting the Lord for the first time.

GLO founder Simon Guillebaud recalls a camp where the worship time changed the course of one teenage girl's life and saved the lives of many others. "As we were singing in a meeting at a regional schools camp, a teenage girl walked past and stopped to listen. She had a grenade and was on her way to blow up her family's killers. Entranced by the music, she ventured inside, joined with the singing, and had a profound encounter with God! She pulled out the grenade, shared what she had been about to do, and how she now knew that revenge would only lead to more bloodshed. What a turnaround!"



Peter attended a camp run by GLO Partner, Scripture Union. For him too, it was a game-changing, life-shaping experience. ***"I thought the Bible camp would be an opportunity to meet a girl. Instead, I heard a talk about salvation and encountered forgiveness. Today, I've made the decision to turn from my sin and follow Christ!"***

Please join with us in praying for more explosive encounters with God this summer!

Christian summer camps in the UK typically cost anything between £200 and £450 for one week. In Burundi, the cost is the equivalent of around £20 per student. The donation from St Paul's will therefore help to fund around 50 places, so thank you from all at Team GLO for your wonderful generosity.

If interested, you can follow us on social media ([Facebook](#) / [Instagram](#) / [Twitter](#)). For inspiration on how to pray with us, please visit glo.org.uk/pray



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](#)