

Final £5000 grant agreed to complete new building at St John's College, Wau

In a wonderful answer to prayer, the last tranche of money needed to complete the Poole-Wau Partnership Building at St John's College, Wau has been secured. On 3rd February we heard from the Slavanka Trust that our application for a grant of £5000 to enable the college to complete the final stage of construction (fitting the doors, windows and wall, floor & ceiling finishes) has been successful.

As reported in Newsletter 63, in November PWP sent £15,000 to Wau to enable work on this last stage of the project to begin, and also applied to the Slavanka Trust for a £5000 grant to complete it. PWP Trustee **Richard Tazewell**, who drew up and submitted the application on our behalf, received the wonderful news from John Owen, Secretary of the trust: *"At our Trustees Meeting last Monday we agreed a grant of £5,000 in line with your application."*

After just over two years, our Appeal to fund this project to provide St John's College with four purpose-built lecture rooms and two offices has been successful. In all PWP has raised just over **£40,000** for this project (including £16,500 in grants from the Slavanka Trust and Charis Trust), while also continuing to send £18,000 per year to the college to help pay teaching staff salaries and other running costs.

Our grateful thanks go to all our supporters and churches in Poole & North Bournemouth Deanery who have contributed generously towards bringing this project to fruition, as well as to the Slavanka and Charis Trusts.

February 2024: £5,000 Slavanka Trust grant completes funding for final phase



April 2023: Roof built £12,300

November 2023: £15,000 raised to start work on doors, windows & interior finishes



August 2022: Walls completed £8,000



July 2021: Foundations laid



The Poole-Wau Partnership

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The Poole-Wau Partnership

linking Poole Deanery churches with Wau Diocese, South Sudan since 2011

Trauma awareness training in Wau

A week-long course for community trauma awareness trainers took place in late January at the Good Shepherd Cathedral in Wau.

The course, supported by USAID-funded Sheja Salam, aimed to train the participants to recognize signs of trauma, often the result of years of civil war, in people of the communities in which they serve. Bicycles were presented to those who took part in the course to help them travel to different communities during their trauma awareness work (see right).

The course was delivered by **CLIP** (Church Leaders Initiative for Peace), founded by Archbishop Moses Deng Bol and other church leaders to promote peace and reconciliation throughout South Sudan. It followed a three-day dialogue in the cathedral in late November 2023, also organised by CLIP and supported by Sheja Salam, which brought together representatives from eight ethnic groups.

"I always believe," commented Archbishop Moses, "that these small initiatives will eventually culminate in peace and reconciliation among the people of South Sudan."



Book Aid sends 1100 books to St John's College

The UK charity Book Aid International has sent a consignment of 1,092 books for St John's College, Wau. The thirty-eight cartons of books are expected to arrive at the University of Juba in mid-February, from where St John's staff will collect them.

This will be a highly beneficial boost to St John's College Library, which will support students for years to come.

All the books sent out by Book Aid International are brand new, and the consignment has been carefully chosen to support the courses offered at the college. Publishers, including Bloomsbury, Hachette UK, HarperCollins, Macmillan, Oxford University Press, and Penguin Random House donate overstocks, office copies and returns to Book Aid International, which then sends them to more than 185 partner organisations in many parts of the world.

Thanks to St John's College Principal, **Philip Abiel**, for sharing this good news with us. You can find out more about Book Aid International here: <https://bookaid.org>.

March Prayer Meeting

Our next Prayer Meeting will be at **1230 on Monday 4th March**. In keeping with our policy of rotating the venues for prayer meetings around the Deanery, this will take place at **St John's Church, Heatherlands, Parkstone**. All are welcome to join us to pray for our friends in South Sudan. Coffee/tea will be provided; bring your own packed lunch if you wish.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. Acts 2:42

The Poole-Wau Partnership

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