

Work proceeds rapidly on St John's College extension: latest photos

Philip Abiel, Principal of St John's College, Wau has been in touch to let us know that work on the final stages of construction of the new building at the college is well advanced, following the transfer of £15,000 from the Poole-Wau Partnership in November 2023.

The speed with which this project in South Sudan has proceeded once the funds became available would be the envy of many colleges and churches in the UK. "We used the funding," writes Principal Abiel, "to purchase windows and doors; installation of electricity; and plastering and slabbing." The additional grant of £5,000 kindly provided to PWP by the Slavanka Trust will be sufficient to complete the ceilings. Only painting and the construction of a verandah in front of the building will remain to be done.

"On behalf of St John's College, I would like to register our sincere appreciation to you all for funding construction processes of the extension building for the College;" Principal Abiel continues, "without your support this good work would not have been possible to reach where it is now. God bless you abundantly!"

December 2023: work on rendering the outside walls begins



2024: windows already in place, work on laying the concrete floors is under way



March 2024: the new building with rendering complete and windows and doors in place

The Poole-Wau Partnership

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The Poole-Wau Partnership

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

3 successful conferences reach people “thirsty for the gospel” in NBEG province

A *Rooted in Jesus* team ran three conferences in January and February in the dioceses of Gogrial, Tonj and Nyamlel within Archbishop Moses Deng Bol's Northern Bahr el-Ghazal Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan. The courses were run at the request of the three bishops of these dioceses.



Leaders and participants at the Gogrial conference
(Photo: *Rooted in Jesus*)

Rooted in Jesus is an interactive group course in Christian discipleship specifically designed for use in Africa, written by Dr Alison Morgan and published by The Mathetes Trust, a UK registered charity. A team from the Poole-Wau Partnership took part in a *Rooted in Jesus* conference in Wau back in 2013.

The three conferences were attended by evangelists, pastors, leaders of the Mothers Union, Sunday School, youth groups & students from the host dioceses, while the teaching was provided by a joint UK & South Sudanese team. The desire to learn more about following Jesus and sharing the faith were far greater than had been seen in previous conferences. A total of 331 new leaders were trained and commissioned, and 27 existing leaders (in Nyamlel) refreshed and encouraged. Bishop Peter Yuol of Tonj sent this message after the conference there: *“May I take this golden opportunity to thank Rooted in Jesus as a Christian organisation for reaching places which have never been reached in the world. No missionaries have ever come to this place, therefore people are thirsty for the gospel.”*

The full report on all three conferences may be found on the *Rooted in Jesus* blog:

<https://rootedinjesus.blog/2024/03/04/rooted-in-jesus-in-the-northern-bahr-el-ghazal-internal-province-south-sudan/>

Upcoming events for your diary:

- **Monday 8th April 12.30pm at St Dunstan's Church, Upton: PWP Prayer Meeting.** You are most welcome to join us to pray for Wau Diocese, our partnership and South Sudan in general. There is a large car park at St Dunstan's. Tea and coffee will be provided; please bring your own packed lunch if you would like to. Please note this is on 8th April, not 1st, which is Easter Monday, a Bank Holiday. A reminder will be emailed to our supporters a few days beforehand.
- **Sunday 28th April 2024 2pm-5pm: Open Garden** at 24A Western Avenue, Branksome Park, Poole. PWP supporter Judy Hudson will be selling teas and cakes, as well as her famous jams and chutneys. There is an entry charge of £6 per person in aid of National Garden Scheme charities, but all proceeds from sale of teas, cakes, jams and chutneys will go to the Poole-Wau Partnership. It is a wonderful garden and Judy's jams, chutneys and cakes are delicious!
- **Saturday 13th July 2024 from 9.30am: The Holes Bay Walk.** The Poole-Wau Partnership's main fundraising event. 7-mile or 3-mile options. More details will be in the next issue of our newsletter and on our website.

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