

PWP group visiting Wau

Six Trustees and committee members of the Poole-Wau Partnership are visiting Wau from 2nd to 12th February 2025, the first such visit for seven years.

The group consists of our Chair Jeff Neagle, Janet Davies, Rev. Penny Draper, Andrew Holt, Mark Rathbone and Richard Tazewell. A busy programme has been planned, including a three-day training conference for church leaders based on St Luke's gospel and the opening ceremony of the new Poole-Wau Partnership Building at St John's College. Details of the programme are on page 2 of this newsletter.

Ian Jolly, a long-standing supporter of PWP from Lytchett Minster Parish Church, has kindly agreed to coordinate prayer support for the team during our visit to South Sudan.

As usual on the first Monday of the month, on 3rd February from 1230 to 1315 there is a **PWP Prayer Meeting at St Dunstan's Church, Upton**. You are welcome to arrive from 1215 and to bring your own sandwich lunch if you wish. Tea and coffee will be provided, and the meeting will be led by Ian. **The PWP team in Wau would greatly value your prayers!**

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

New building at St John's College to open

The opening ceremony of the new Poole-Wau Partnership Building, which provides St John's College Wau with four lecture rooms and two offices, is to be take place on Saturday 8th February 2025.

The foundations were laid in 2021, and in January 2022, PWP launched an appeal, initially for £8,000 to build the walls. Since then, thanks to the generosity of our loyal supporters and £16,500 in grants from the Slavanka Trust and Charis Trust, we have raised over £50,000 for this building.

With main construction already complete, work began in November 2024 on the verandah, a traditional feature of buildings in South Sudan which will provide shade for students and help to keep the temperature inside the building slightly cooler. A further sum of approximately £7000 was sent out in early January 2025 to cover the cost of interior and exterior painting, which it is hoped will be completed in time for the official opening ceremony. Our Appeal to fund this project has achieved its final goal after three years and we are particularly pleased that a group of us from PWP will be attending the opening ceremony.



The verandah takes shape.

The Poole-Wau Partnership

St Dunstan's Church Office, Poole Road, Upton BH16 5JA

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Programme for our visit to Wau

- Sunday 2nd** Travel to Heathrow Airport. Kenya Airways flight at 1725 to Nairobi, Kenya.
- Monday 3rd** Flight from Nairobi at 7am to Juba, then BADR flight from Juba to Wau, arriving 1330. Although the plan had been to stay in the Cathedral Guest House (which was the first PWP project back in 2015), it is currently in need of repair, so in a last-minute change, the team will be staying at a nearby hotel.
- Tuesday 4th** Penny & Mark liaise with team on the ground about arrangements for the conference.
Penny & Janet to visit the Primary school in the Cathedral compound. (Penny has a song to teach the children/choir to sing at the celebration on Saturday.)
- Wednesday 5th to Friday 7th: Conference: Learning from Luke's Gospel.**
- Wednesday:** Introduction to Luke's Gospel
Preaching from Luke
- Thursday:** Luke & Women's Role in the Church
- Friday:** Salvation in Luke's Gospel & Acts
- Saturday 8th** **Opening Ceremony of the Poole-Wau Partnership Building**
at St John's College, followed by celebration in the evening.
- Sunday 9th** Team splitting up and taking greetings from Poole to various churches, in the Wau area, including Wau Cathedral.
- Monday 10th** BADR flight from Wau to Juba; overnight stay in ECSS church Guest House. Penny & Mark to visit the campus of The Episcopal University in Juba.
- Tuesday 11th** 1445 Kenya Airways flight from Juba to Nairobi
2350 Kenya Airways flight from Nairobi to Paris
- Weds 12th** 0735 flight from Paris to London and onward travel home.

All the members of the PWP team will have their own parts to play during our visit to Wau. Penny, Jeff & Mark will be leading the conference. Meanwhile Andrew will be offering tech support to the College and Diocesan offices; Jan helping to plan and prepare for the opening ceremony & engaging with the primary school; Richard scouting out possible future projects for PWP and visiting Thurlith School and Warrup Town.

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