POOLE-WAU
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Rev Daniel Lual visits Poole

Rev Daniel Lual Kuot from South Sudan re-visited Poole for the first time since 2007, spending almost a week in the deanery in early September.

When he first came here, the partnership had yet to be formed, but he stayed with future PWP Chair Jeff Neagle and his wife Karen, so it was good to see him again after so long. This time he stayed with PWP supporters Ian and Els Jolly and spoke at Lytchett Minster Parish Church and St Dunstan's, Upton on Sunday 6th September.

He was also a guest at a Poole-Wau Partnership Prayer Meeting in St John's Church, Broadstone on Monday 7th. Speaking at the well-attended meeting, Daniel said that he has been working for several years for *Every Village*. *Every Village* (**https://www.everyvillage.org**) is a Christian non-profit organisation based in Texas, which aims to transform rural South Sudan through spreading the gospel and enabling community development. It has established radio stations throughout South Sudan and distributed more than 180,000 solar-powered radios to villages. It also drills water boreholes and carries out repair work on existing ones.

Photo: the prayer meeting at St John's

Daniel is now based in Kampala, Uganda, where he works as Chief of Staff for *Every Village*'s operations in South Sudan. In London to attend a meeting to discuss *Every Village*'s budget for next year, he arranged to visit Poole after that meeting, through his friend Bishop Joseph Mamer.

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Holes Bay Walk raises over £6,000!

The intrepid walkers who completed the 2026 Holes Bay Walk in scorching weather on July 11th raised £5,344, which will come to £6,204 once Gift Aid money has been claimed from the Treasury.

This marvellous amount is almost £1,000 more than the record total raised by 2025's walk. It will go into PWP's unrestricted fund and be used to support the work of St John's College, Wau and other projects in Wau Diocese. Many thanks to all those who so generously sponsored us, to those who walked on 11th July and to our Treasurer Andrew Holt, who dealt with the money, the sponsor forms and all the complex accompanying paperwork.

As previously announced, it has been decided to move the date for next year's walk to **Saturday 24th April 2027** in the hope of the temperature being more comfortable for walkers!

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Daniel told us that he has contacts in Wau and attended Abraham Yel Nial's enthronement as Archbishop of Northern Bahr-el Ghazal Internal Province in 2025.

He explained how the deteriorating security in some parts of South Sudan has affected *Every Village*'s operations, with some units having to be shut down, and how economic pressures have led to the cutting back of budgets. Another major concern currently is the lack of rain in South Sudan in what is usually a season of high rainfall. This is causing crop failure and potential famine, as we have also heard from Bishop Joseph (see story below).

Daniel's visit concluded with a celebratory supper at Ian and Els's house in Lytchett Minster the evening before he left to fly back to Kampala on Thursday 10th September. Many thanks to them for hosting Daniel during his six-day visit - it has been joyful to welcome our first visitor from South Sudan since the visit of six bishops to Poole in 2022.

Facts about Daniel

- He is married to Angelina.
- They have 5 sons & 1 daughter.
- He grew up in the same village as Archbishop Moses and Bishop Joseph Mamer.
- He first came to Britain in 2007 to train as a youth leader.

Fears of famine in South Sudan

A message from our friend Bishop Joseph Mamer, Bishop of Wanyjok, (see photo left) **on 4th September warned that *"the people of Northern Bahr el-Ghazal State and Aweil East County will soon experience a severe hunger and famine as a result of poor rainfall."***

He warned that it may become as catastrophic as the famine experienced in this region in 1988-89. The rainy season from June to September has produced rainfall much lower than average and, although higher rainfall has been forecast for October, this may come too late to prevent crop failure.

Joseph's concerns are confirmed by warnings from international relief agencies working in South Sudan. The World Food Programme and the South Sudanese government, actuated a drought action plan in July, aiming to mitigate likely food shortages. An update was published at the beginning of September by ReliefWeb, an information service from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), which you can read here: https://reliefweb.int/node/4228037.

Bishop Joseph adds that his diocese continues to experience an influx of thousands of returnees and refugees fleeing the conflict in neighbouring Sudan, which adds to pressure on food supplies. He asks us to continue uplifting the people of Wanyjok and elsewhere in South Sudan in prayer for God's intervention to ease their suffering.

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

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