



CHANGING LIVES, TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

GARETH DUFFTY
Mission. What's It Got To Do With Me?

A RICH LEGACY
The Rich Mission Resource Centre

LINKS TRIPS
Kenya + Malawi

LINKS SOUTH AFRICA
Cameroon – A Nation In Need

JULY 2011

LINKS INTERNATIONAL 'LINKS' WITH PARTNERS IN THE WEST AND IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO INSPIRE, EDUCATE, EMPOWER AND RESOURCE INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES TO BREAK FREE FROM POVERTY AND DISEASE.

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CONSTANT CHANGE IS HERE TO STAY

Over the years I edited this magazine, there was a phrase which Norman Barnes was very fond of using, and which he used quite regularly. It was “Constant change is here to stay!” Now as, figuratively speaking, I sit in the seat from which he made that statement I understand its truth even more.

You will read in this issue of changes and developments in the ministry of Links International. Some may appear minor, others are more obviously major – but all are important. And through them all I am learning more and more about the creativity of Creator God; how he works in and through people to see them come into new roles and positions, and how he works out his plans in cooperation with our desires. How amazing is that? New people have been added to the Links team, new people are taking up responsibilities, and others are moving on to the new things that God is blessing. Alongside this, new initiatives are emerging in the places in which we are working – initiatives that bear the hallmark of Holy Spirit creativity. It’s exciting!

Can I add a big ‘thank you’ to so many of you for your faithful service to us and the Kingdom of God in your financial giving? We are only too aware that the economic situation in the UK – and the world – is not making things easy for large percentages of the population. However, I have the great privilege of seeing first hand, and hearing directly from recipients, just what a difference your giving makes in the life of people who have almost nothing. Lives are literally being saved and God’s love is being shared. Good news is being shared with the poor. Thank you.



Andy Read
CEO Links International

MISSION. WHAT'S IT GOT TO DO WITH ME?

I cannot read scripture without realising that the Father and the Holy Spirit have a preoccupation with the Christ. Our work and involvement must, therefore, have this same preoccupation. We must be fully occupied with Christ, otherwise the task ahead will overwhelm us and we will lose our way. As a matter of fact the entire occupation of the heavens is Christ. It is so easy for us to focus on and emphasise one particular spiritual truth, value, virtue, gift, or good work, and yet miss Christ – Christ who is the embodiment and incarnation of all these things.

ALL MISSION AND COMMISSION LOSES ITS WAY AND PURPOSE WITHOUT HOLDING ON TO THE ULTIMATE GOAL – GOD

I was recently provoked by the question, “Why was I born in the West with its privileges and culture?” As I pondered this my first thoughts were of great gratitude for all I have been given and entrusted with. I then compared my lot with two thirds of the world and began to ask, “Why? Why, God, was I born here?” As I considered the privileges we are surrounded by I was amazed at what He has made available to us. The privilege of freedom, the privilege of finance – even in a world that is in the middle of recession – we have so much compared to those who live on less than a \$1 a day.

I cannot depart far from the scripture story that starts with the debate for position amongst the young men and women that followed the Christ, debating who would get the best seat in the house. While the debate went on, Jesus told them of a landowner who distributed money to each of his servants for them to invest (steward the entrustment) so that on his return a profit would be seen. This profit would open up further entrustment opportunities – not of finance but of city rulers – those who are faithful with little becoming rulers of much.

This narrative deals with a number of thought patterns, for example the disciple's idea of Kingdom coming NOW. The immediate and sudden NOW, putting Jesus on the throne NOW. The story is however a story of PROCESS – working with and



stewarding our entrustment to bring about God's full intent. We are living in days when, regardless of how much or how little we have been given, we have to see this PROCESS OF STEWARDSHIP. We must deal correctly with what we have been given in order to see the influence of God, and Christ, filling all in all, taking place. As we do, so we will be entrusted further.

WE HAVE BEEN POSITIONED AND ENTRUSTED WITH THE ABILITY TO: REDISTRIBUTE WEALTH, JUSTICE AND LIBERTY; TO BRING CHRIST INTO EVERY SPHERE OF LIFE AND SOCIETY; TO BREAK POVERTY AND DEPENDENCE FOR ALL.

No matter which nation we were born in, we must steward correctly that with which we have been entrusted, so that we might bring an end to poverty. Never mind how tight things are, we still have a charge to steward the little and the much.

Poverty is not fundamentally the lack of money, but imprisonment into dependence on others for liberty, financial and personal freedom. I would like to eradicate 'dead aid' where money is simply poured in time and time again with no sense of building – with no future dependence. I would like to invest in people and take away the cause of dependency on someone else for resources. Through our kindness and giving of money in some cases – often unknowingly – we have added to the poverty mind-set and sustained imprisonment. We have given much when our hearts and emotions moved us. What we fail to realise is that when what we gave broke down, people once again became dependent on another hand out. Let's break poverty and take away dependency. It is not about ceasing giving – far from it – but it is about wisely entrusting to men and women, training in self-sustainability. It is providing them with the mind-set of continuing long after the initial help. This is long term empowerment. This is our mission.

Gareth Duffy



Born in South Wales, Gareth serves as an apostle and is part of a team of ministries. His wife Sandra moves strongly as a prophet and together they minister into the UK, USA, Africa and Asia. Gareth and Sandra have been married for more than 30 years and have three children. He is a member of the Board of Links South Africa.

KENYA – CHANGING ATTITUDES AND ACTIONS

An enthusiastic team of volunteers continued training with community influencers in Nakuru and Miti Mingi, Kenya. They discovered that both groups had been active, teaching one-on-one, in their communities, at Chief's meetings, and even at funerals.

Martha, a young woman from Nakuru, has been teaching family planning and the correct use of condoms – courageous teaching in Kenyan society. Moses, an elder in the community, said, “The teaching was clear and professional and



people listened.” Martha and others are providing life-saving education that is changing attitudes and actions.

The Links volunteers also continued micro-enterprise development training. Two initiatives were established as a result of the last Links Trip, however they had come to a halt and the teams didn't know how to move forward. Additional training and discernment revealed the block – a serious case of ‘poverty spirit’. The administrators and the management team were finding it impossible to consider running the initiatives for anyone but themselves. Hours of teaching and lots of prayer culminated in our partners pronouncing the poverty spirit broken! Last week, a number of small loans were granted to some of the poorest families in the community.

Links volunteer, Janet, continued work with educators from Miti Mingi, reinforcing the benefits of outdoor play and encouraging teaching to be resourceful. This led to inventive creations using empty water bottles and a few energetic team games. The educators reported that working with the

children to implement class rules had had a significant impact on behaviour. The introduction of alternate creative writing tools has improved writing standards.

Finally, the Links volunteers had the privilege of seeing, first hand, how investments in pit latrines, water-carrying donkeys and income-generating projects are making a difference. Paul, our partner in Kenya says, “The mums who have received the gift donkeys are so grateful. Now they are smiling all the long way to fetch water for their families. Let people know that this project is making a big difference. God bless those who gave money to help mums.”

Linden Boothby

Community Development Manager

GO

If you love communicating and have a passion to educate and empower others, join a Links Trip. You could find yourself teaching in Africa, Asia or South America. Check out linksinternational.org.uk/Go.

EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD.
[NELSON MANDELA]

TEACHERS - WE NEED YOU!

Education changes lives in many ways. It's essential for self-esteem, financial security, social justice, health and, in the long run, for community and economic development. It enables people to be effective citizens and participate in community decision making. There is a need to provide children with the opportunity to be educated, and there is also a need to improve the quality of teaching in many countries.

Links International works with teachers in developing countries to identify areas of



need and offer help, ideas and encouragement. Teachers are challenged to use creativity and interaction with students to enhance learning – from nursery to high school.

Teachers in Manila have received training in Classroom Management, Handling Difficult Students, and Teaching Styles and Strategies. Education consultant and Links volunteer, Janet Leeson, says, "We have worked on developing ways to incorporate more interactive and creative work into the classroom with the emphasis on Mathematics, Science and English. The work in Manila has been very rewarding and it has been good to see many of the ideas and new skills put into action."

The work in Malawi and Kenya is very different and mainly in rural areas where resources are scarce. Despite some teachers being in charge of 60 to 180 children, they are enthusiastic to learn and adapt.

Janet says, "There is much work to be done within the education remit and a further task is to recruit more teachers to join in Links' vision and help spread the work even further."

If you're a teacher with a passion to empower others, we need you. Join a Links Trip and be part of a team that changes lives and transforms communities. Contact office@linksinternational.org.uk today.





LINKS TRIP – MALAWI

A multidisciplinary team of ten travelled to Malawi in May to provide micro-enterprise, marriage, youth leadership, vocational, education, and community healthcare training for Links partners in three communities.

Links Trip volunteer, Dave Boniface writes, 'After a discussion with a village chief on the disconnection of the youth and their lack of basic skills, we created a carpentry course with the young and the old working alongside each other in small groups. Timber has to be sourced from the timber yard and entering a working yard is life threatening. Logs are prepared a hair's width away from body parts, devoid of safety devices and protection. Once cut, three metre lengths are strapped to an aging bicycle whose owner has the unenviable task of negotiating peak hour traffic to the finishing yard a kilometre away.

The cross-generational groups started a little awkwardly at first. Hierarchical habits are difficult to challenge without losing face or challenging traditional values, however laughter and learning new skills

are a great leveller. Short demonstrations of mortise and tenon joinery tested the translators linguistic skills, goats and chickens meandered through, and small crowds of children pressed in to watch. The sessions were noisy and good humoured as the men outdid each other with their newly learnt skills.'

Links International 'links' education to life-saving and income-generating projects. A needs assessment for our partners at VIBITAC covered five villages – Mukuwonda, Wilson, Chiweyo,



Chagono and Terah. Links discovered that additional bore holes are needed and that many existing holes require substantial repairs to deliver essential drinking water. Village chiefs and health committees have requested 33 pit latrines for community use. Links also discovered that very little food and crops are grown due to lack of water. Portable pumps and pipework are needed to feed water to fertile areas and enable villagers to grow not one, but two crops annually. Recent donations have enabled Sydney, at VIBITAC, to invest in irrigation, pumps,



tanks and sprinklers for a two hectare garden. A mixture of vegetables, maize, soya and sunflowers will be grown on rotation – soya and sunflowers used as a base ingredient for animal feed. Sydney has restarted a small poultry farm and purchased 230 chicks to fatten and sell, and there are plans to expand the farm with additional cows and pigs, and to shell and mill maize for farmers in surrounding villages.

Lina Read writes, 'Andrew Southwood and I were responsible for training a local team to run a small micro-enterprise development programme. Links will provide £1,000 for small business capital and the team will be responsible for

considering applications for loans, deciding who to lend to and how much, and giving out the money and getting it back again, in order that the money can be recycled to provide further loans to other villagers.

Our team consisted of two members of the Hope Mission team and two ladies from the village – one of whom was Chief Chapsinja's wife. Neither of these ladies has been educated past basic primary schooling and they can't read or write. They are, however, intelligent and quickly grasped the principles we were covering, including quite complex calculations on whether a business is likely to be profitable. They were very appreciative of the basic business training we gave



and we are confident that the team is equipped with the knowledge they need to make wise decisions about the loans they grant and the administration procedures they need to put into place.'

Links Trips change lives. If you have a passion to teach, empower and inspire others – we need you. Join a Links Trip today.

LINKS TRIPS 2011

UGANDA	September 17-24
INDIA	September 24-October 1
MALAWI	October 1-15
KENYA	November 12-26
UGANDA	November 19-26
TANZANIA	December 3-10

Places are limited and subject to approval, trips and dates subject to change. Trip Information online at linksinternational.org.uk.

THE RICH MISSION RESOURCE CENTRE – NORTH EAST INDIA

It was in 1990 that Rich Hubbard first received and accepted an invitation from Sanga Miller to minister in Shillong, North East India. This was the very beginning of his call to the nations of the world – and the start of a very precious and significant friendship with Sanga, his wife Nimri, their family, ministry, and church. In the years to follow Rich, along with various teams and members of Arun Community Church, travelled to Shillong

once or sometimes twice a year to minister, encourage and support Sanga in all that he was doing for the Kingdom of God.

Exactly twenty years later in February 2010, when Rich was battling cancer, he was moved to tears by a report he received from Sanga outlining the poverty of the Sakachep tribe in Langkarcha village, just 100km from Shillong. It

seemed so appropriate, therefore, that Lynda and the family should stand alongside Sanga once again and donate £2500 from Rich's Memorial Fund to this particular area of need.

Village authorities here recently donated more than four acres of fertile land. The memorial donation will enable Sanga to fulfil a vision and complete construction of the Rich Mission Resource Centre.



The centre will be a base for evangelism and community development. It will provide training in pig rearing, livestock, poultry and fishing. It will provide farmers with agricultural training and will eventually house a seed bank. The centre itself is designed to be self-sustaining – sourcing and selling goods, and providing training, support and services to farmers at a fair price.

Lynda, Sam, Amy, Anne (Rich's mum) and the wider family would like to say a huge heartfelt 'thank you' to all those who gave so generously as a tribute to Rich, in order that his heart and passion to change lives and transform communities all over the world may live on.



HOW CAN BUYING GIFTS CONTRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION?

During our first visit to a community in Uganda, we asked “How many children under five have died as a result of simple diarrhoea?” The answer? “Too many to count!” So, we taught the community basic hygiene and sanitation and we linked the teaching to a practical project – pit latrines.

During the second visit, the training took place on the community rubbish dump, so it wasn't surprising that the needs assessment listed rubbish and disease control as key issues. Had there been an improvement? Undoubtedly. Only 35 children under five had died from simple diarrhoea since our last visit.

On the third visit, it was overwhelming to see healthy crops growing where the rubbish dump had previously been and to discover that not even one child had died as a result of simple diarrhoea!

By working holistically we help communities lift themselves out of poverty. When you purchase from our selection of Links Gifts you are, quite practically, part of community transformation.

Mosquito Nets – Africa

Malaria kills more people around the world than the AIDS virus and a mosquito net can protect a whole family.



One net £5
Code: 011

Eggs – Northern Thailand

A new hen will lay about 400 eggs in ten months and excess eggs can be sold.



One hen £5
Hen feed for ten months £10
Code: 001

Goats – Malawi

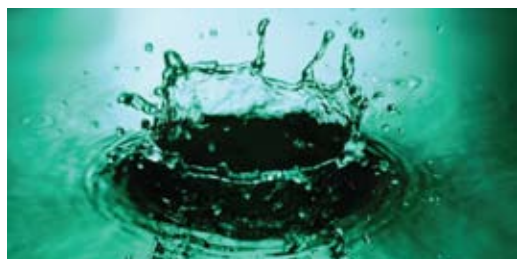
A goat provides a family with milk and a chance to earn money through breeding and selling offspring.



One goat £25
Code: 018

Clean Water – Worldwide

Lifewater Filter Kits kill 99.99% of harmful bacteria, producing ten litres of clean water per hour for a year.



One kit (including spare candle)
provides two years' clean water £40
Code: 013

Micro-enterprise Investment – Worldwide

Setting up a family in a sustainable small business enables them to work their way out of poverty. Loans are repaid over six months so the investment helps two families each and every year!



Start-up capital £50-£150

Code: 015

Pit Latrines – Africa

A pit latrine makes a real, permanent difference to the overall health of a community.



One pit latrine £500

Code: 009

Donkeys - Kenya

Donkeys help mothers whose only water supply can be two hour's walk away.



One donkey including four water carriers: £110

Code: 019

IT'S EASY!

Did you know you can donate using your mobile? Simply text LINK01 £X (any amount up to £10) to 70070.

You can also go to easyfundraising.co.uk before you shop online to raise money for Links International. No additional cost!

LINKS GIFTS ORDER FORM

PLEASE TICK IF GIFT VOUCHERS ARE REQUIRED

TITLE:

FORENAME:

SURNAME:

ADDRESS:

COUNTRY:

POSTCODE:

TELEPHONE:

EMAIL:

CODE

ITEM DESCRIPTION

PRICE

QTY.

TOTAL

I ENCLOSE AN ADDITIONAL DONATION OF £

TOTAL £

GIFT AID DECLARATION

I am a UK tax payer and want Links International to reclaim tax on all my donations from the date below onwards.
I understand that I must pay sufficient tax to cover the amount reclaimed.
I will advise Links if I become a non tax-payer or if I change my name or address.

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

please cut along the dotted line

RUNNING FOR LIFE

On 17 April 2011 five friends of Links International 'ran for life' and completed the Virgin London Marathon. Their determination and sweat over 26.2 miles raised much needed funds that will enable many more lives to be changed.

Alison Daniels writes, 'Leon and I work together in the Maths department and had been talking about the idea of running the marathon for a while. He has family contacts with Links and I subsequently discovered that Norman Barnes was a member of my church here in Romford many years ago. Although not having had much connection with Links beforehand I was really pleased to be able to run for a Christian charity. I collected £1,140 in total and was really amazed at how generous people were. It was a fabulous day with many people from church and other friends coming up to cheer me on. So pleased I did it but can't say I'll be rushing to do another one!'

Huge respect and a very big 'thank you' to Alison, Paul Handley-Garland, Leon Thomas, Chris Webster and Links Magazine designer, Sam Hubbard. Thanks also to everyone who cheered them on and generously donated.



A FIVER SAVES LIVES

The fact is that 3,000 children under the age of five die each day from malaria in Africa; that 90% of all malaria cases are in sub-saharan Africa, and that malaria kills more people around the world than the AIDS virus.

Please help! £5 will purchase one mosquito net and save lives.



SHOP AND SAVE LIVES

Shop online at your favourite stores and help us save lives and transform communities.

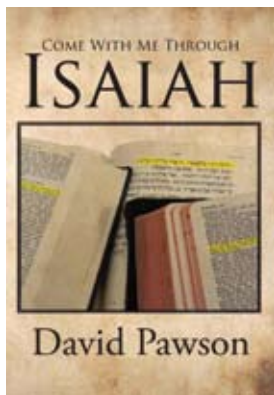
It's easy. Go to easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/linksinternational, click to support Links International, register, and start shopping. Choose from over 2,000 of the UK's best known retailers and up to 15% from every purchase will help Links International.

LINKS INTERNATIONAL PROVIDES 'SPIRITUAL FAMINE RELIEF' TO WORKERS AROUND THE WORLD, MANY WITHOUT ACCESS TO CHRISTIAN RESOURCES. WE CURRENTLY SEND 125 PARCELS TO 40 NATIONS 3 TIMES A YEAR. THE LAST PARCEL CONTAINED THESE ITEMS:

Book

Come With Me Through Isaiah by David Pawson

David Pawson (born 1930) is a prominent Bible teacher based in Great Britain. He is the author of more than thirty books. *Come With Me Through Isaiah* began as studies, first given verbally by David to his congregation. Now in print, readers are invited to 'come along with me through' these marvellous messages which are as timely as they are timeless.



Worship CD

Encounter Worship Volume 04

Described as "The best put together selection of songs that have been released from different albums in the last four years, and the perfect selection to take to your church to be used in your time of worship." The album was produced by Paul Burton and includes tracks by Hillsong United, Matt Redman, Delirious? and Tim Hughes.



Teaching

Unblock the Well by Andy Read

Given during the conference to open the new building of The Abbey Church in Azle, Texas, this talk uses events from the life of Isaac to reflect upon issues of transition and honour, and what prevents us flourishing as we seek to go forward in God. Will our history be our ceiling or our foundation?



£40 BLESSES SOMEONE WITH THREE PARCELS A YEAR. THE PARCELS REMIND MISSIONARIES AND WORKERS THAT THEY ARE LOVED AND THOUGHT OF. HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE MANY 'THANK YOU' EMAILS WE RECENTLY RECEIVED:

Thanks for all the books and CD worship. It's a great blessing. Our Bible studies continue and we reach the needy people in the island.

The Philippines

We thank God for the ministry of Links International from which we receive resource materials from time to time. The music CDs have been a great blessing to our worship team and the books have enriched our Bible teaching ministry. We continue to uphold you and the team in our prayers. God Bless you.

India

Just to let you know that the package from Links arrived safely and we look forward to listening to the worship, a message, the book on Isaiah, and Links magazine. What a treat! We are so grateful to have been able receive these encouraging packs all the years we were in Thailand, and can now continue to enjoy them in our new location in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Many thanks and blessings.

Cambodia

I just want to say thank you for your love sending me these packages, I am so blessed, I count this is a blessing to me. Thank you very much it has been a great help in my life. It has been showing me the way God is working in the community. God has called me in the area of marriages, so I was so happy to read about Graham and Ruth working with marriages. My heart is to see marriages changed and be the way God planned. Thank you for your encouragement.

Tanzania

Thank you for all the 'Kingdom Resources' that you keep sending from your office for the leadership and spiritual development of the churches in the developing world such as India! I am blessed always by these resources. We keep thinking of the good work that Links has done and continues to do for His Kingdom, and thanking God for the present and past leadership of Links. With much love and regards in Jesus' name!

India

Thank you once again for the parcel which arrived last week. We were particularly delighted to get the book on Isaiah by David Pawson as we both love anything written by him. Also my husband was just about to begin studying Isaiah, so that was a treat. So...thanks for blessing us once again.

Portugal



MALAWI MARRIAGE SEMINARS

Bible-Based Marriage brings the truths of the Bible, concerning marriage, to those in the developing world so they can enjoy marriage the way it was intended. Scripture, mixed with life experience form the basis of the seminars and result in healing, hope, and healthy marriages.

Marriage seminars began in Bunda and Nkhwazi village. John and Brenda Thomas write, 'At Nkhwazi we encountered issues that some of the women had with husbands who are serious drinkers, wife beaters, and unfaithful. It is always a challenge to know how to give meaningful help and advice.'

Seminars continued with sixteen couples in Machinjiri. Many were moved during the discussion on divorce of the heart, and the need for forgiveness and reconciliation. Couples in Blantyre were challenged by teaching on money – that husbands and wives should share what they have. One man testified that he would, in future, share his money with his wife. John and Brenda said, 'It is always surprising that even in the city with more

educated people, they say that much of this teaching is new to them. This emphasizes the need for Bible-Based Marriage ministry in these countries.'

During seminars in Mzuzu, couples confessed to not giving time to each other and publicly said that they would change and ask their partners for forgiveness. A special time of prayer followed and each couple made a recommitment to each other.



We're excited. We've seen how healthy marriages and healthy families lead to healthier communities. Help us give couples in the developing world the opportunity to attend a Bible-Based Marriage Seminar. Donate today or join a Links Trip.

CAMEROON – A NATION IN NEED

Hatfield Church in Pretoria asked if Links South Africa would undertake a reconnoitre in Buea, Cameroon, to see if we could serve them in developing small business enterprises, and by working with Genesis Tinshu, leader of Buea Community Church. We agreed and I set off on yet another adventure.

My first impression of this beautiful fertile country reminded me of stepping into Uganda 24 years ago! It's a third world nation with a quiet, calm and yet resilient people.

Genesis Tinshu is a man on a mission. Having declined invitations to pastor churches in the USA, he and his wife Marceline began a work in Buea, a growing town with a university. He said "We are building brick by brick!" That 'building' was evident when I spent time with this young church, ministering and teaching business planning to 40 potential entrepreneurs, some of whom were local but not Christians. A three-day training programme produced great interest – from pig farming to mobile food restaurants – it was great!

As Genesis and I visited projects and looked at many opportunities, I cried out to the Lord to give us insight, wisdom, and the means to accomplish what was before us. There is no doubt that micro-enterprise development is still a major key to seeing people lifted out of poverty – none more so than in war torn third world countries like Cameroon. We want to serve this nation by beginning in Buea. Will you help us? Beryl and I intend to return in October 2011 to begin establishing projects.

Mike Godward
Links South Africa



Please pray for us and our partners in Buea

Please give and help fund new projects

Consider being part of the October Links Trip

ESOL IN UGANDA

In April 2010, at a meeting between Norman Barnes (Links International founder), Eve and Herbert Wanjala (Wellspring, Uganda), and Jill Johnson (Arun Church, England), it was suggested that a small team from the UK travel to Wellspring to 'pilot' an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) course for our partners in Uganda.

English is the official language in Uganda, though most speak a local dialect. There is a degree of prestige in being able to use English, and some proficiency generally results in better job prospects.

In January 2011, Jill Johnson and Su Read (both qualified ESOL professionals) made the trip to serve Links partners, Wellspring, and evaluate the need for future ESOL courses. Classes were run for children and adults and Jill and Sue reported that 'No-one who wasn't one already was going to be a fluent speaker by the end of the time, but we felt that everyone showed improvement in confidence if not accuracy and this alone made our time worthwhile.'



you and support the outreach and work of Wellspring.

We left at the end of the two weeks with some very happy memories of a good trip. It was hard work and required a lot of preparation, but we saw many prayers answered and it was good to see how the learners developed their skills in English.'

This is an area Links is keen to explore and offer for community and personal development. If you are a qualified ESOL teacher interested in this initiative, please contact the Links UK office.

Recognising that there are limits to what can be achieved in a two-week course, discussions also covered the possibility of teams identifying and training nationals, proficient in English, as Language Trainers. The Trainers would be given the tools and resources to develop and facilitate English courses at Wellspring.

In their report and recommendation to Links, Jill and Su wrote, 'Thank you for your warm welcome on this, our first visit to Uganda: it was a joy to partner with



HELPING HANDS BRAZIL

Links International handles accounts and acts as a charitable umbrella for 86 churches, individuals, missionaries, organisations and business people to enable them to fulfil their vision without the difficulty of forming their own charitable trust. We call it Act4You and Helping Hands Brazil is one of those organisations. Richard and Sylvia Green tell their story:

Our first visit in January 2009 to the favela known as Bela Vista, came after two years spent researching life on the margins in Curitiba, Brazil. The endless cycle of poverty ensnares millions in Brazil but God planted a strategy in our hearts centred on children aged five to twelve.

Communities like Bela Vista are illegally established with minimal public services, steeped in fear, and subject to all manner of violence and abuse. Children are at greatest risk with little exposure to godly life-changing influences. Bela Vista has around 2,500 inhabitants of which 650 are children.

People are very suspicious, even violent, towards strangers yet one family invited us to engage with their four children. Armed with balloons, coloured pencils, colouring books and a guitar, we returned with our daughter Amanda and three local Christians. Before long the faces of neighbouring children were peering through the fence eager to see what was going on and wanting to join in.

In January 2010 we rolled out a full programme of activities, arranged over three days, accommodating 24 children. They developed creative skills, learned about health and hygiene, received help with their education and enjoyed lots of free time to play games.



By the year-end the established team enabled an increase of children in our care to 48. Support now comes from a number of different sources providing much needed finance, food parcels, clothing and practical resources. Two years on, children who were once withdrawn, troubled and moody, show real signs of change and an open-heartedness towards Kingdom values. Hugs are readily exchanged and children once indifferent to prayer now actively participate with an expectant heart. He is changing lives.

Find out more at helpinghandsbrazil.org or for information about Act4You contact Lynda at the Links UK office.

THANK YOU, LINDEN

Regular readers will be very familiar with Linden's name. Linden has been a central member of the team built by previous CEO Rich Hubbard acting as the Community Healthcare Manager and, more latterly, as Community Development Manager. In the months leading up to Rich's death, Linden often deputised for him, working hard to ensure Links fulfilled its calling.

Linden played a key role in shaping policy, led numerous teams, and demonstrated God's love to both team members and partners in developing countries. She, along with husband John, are loved and respected in villages and communities all over the world!

Linden has decided that the time has now come to move on to new things. Her last day with Links was late June.

Please join all of us at Links in praying huge blessings upon Linden and her husband John in this new phase of their lives. Thank you, Linden, for all you have done!



LINKS CANADA

A few years ago we started on a journey to explore how Links might connect into Canada, working through team member Edith Watt. Links International Canada was set up as a body, with Trustees Edith, Monica Chow and David Gotts. Links Canada started raising awareness of our mission and raising funds. However, as the process of making this body a 'fully fledged' charity continued, we began to sense that the Lord was leading in other directions. We finally agreed to close down Links Canada – at least for now. We appreciate the time and energy given by Edith and the Trustees.

At the same time Edith was exploring how the Lord was leading her personally.

She's now completed her season with Links and we thank her for everything she invested. Edith writes, 'It has been a highlight to work for Links International in Canada. I have learned a great deal about the dynamics of cross-cultural ministry and sustainable community development. Even though I love what God has moved me onto, I miss working alongside people like John and Linden Boothby, Kirsten Britcher, and those I've come to love who have gone on the same Links Trips with me (you know who you are!). Thank you for all the memorable experiences.'

We also want to thank and acknowledge former Links team members, Richard Sampey, Steve West, and Paul Smith. We appreciate you and all you've invested.



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ASSOCIATE MINISTRIES

Links International works in association with the following ministries to present the
 challenge of world mission to the Church.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Links Magazine is sent free of charge to our partners and on request. All gifts to Links International are acknowledged and used as directed and designated; if the designated project has already been fully funded, discontinued, or cannot be completed for reasons beyond the control of Links International, the Board of Trustees reserves the right to use the funds for other similar projects, where most needed. Undesignated gifts are used for the general purposes of the Trust under the direction of the Trustees. Our accounts are audited annually. A copy of our report and accounts is available upon request. As a registered charity, Links operates its own Gift Aid scheme. Further details are available on request. All cheques should be made payable to Links International.

Registered charity number 327000

Links International is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and Global Connections.

SAFE WATER SAVES LIVES

Water Facts

- 884 million people (approximately one in eight) lack access to safe water supplies
- 3.575 million people die each year from water-related disease
- Diarrhoea is the second leading cause of death among children under five globally. It kills more young children than AIDS, malaria and measles combined
- Every 20 seconds, a child dies from a water-related disease

Links International distributes LifeWater Filter Kits to families and communities at risk. The kits kill 99.9% of harmful bacteria without the need to boil, or use chemicals or electricity. £40 will purchase one full kit, an additional filter, and deliver safe drinking water for more than 24 months.

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'WATER FACTS' FROM WATER.ORG

THANK YOU

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