



# Ann-Marie Wilson

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**Location:** Britain



**What I do:** Working to end FGM and violence against women and girls, specifically across Africa and the diaspora where FGM is practised.



**Empowering** people pushed to the edges of life to reach their God-given potential

Dear colleagues and friends,

As we close another rich and eventful quarter, I reflect on the journey from May to July, a season marked by learning, ministry, connection and travel and renewed clarity in my calling. From meaningful pilgrimages to energising conferences, each aspect of this season has shaped and strengthened my vocational path and the vows I reconfirmed this summer at Malling Abbey and Church Mission Society (CMS).

Work with the Orchid Project continues to positively impact communities and unify efforts to end FGM. February and March were especially active, with the International Day of Zero Tolerance (6 February) and our attendance at the 69th Commission on the Status of Women. We launched a campaign calling for global action through stronger commitment and investment to end FGM. In April, the Horn of Africa dialogue series led to three new resources: Signs of Change, Accelerating Change, and Evidence of Change, all available via webinar at [fgmcri.org](https://fgmcri.org)

In May, our advocacy team launched the miniseries Changing the World One Moment at a Time, using TikTok, Spotify, and Apple Podcasts to try and engage a younger audience. We continued to collaborate with the University of Birmingham to amplify awareness that FGM contributes to over 44,000 deaths annually, equivalent to one girl dying every 12 minutes. We developed a policy brief that aims to reframe FGM as a public health emergency and a major contributor to child mortality.

By July, we completed fieldwork and reports for Malaysia ([fgmcri.org/country/malaysia/](https://fgmcri.org/country/malaysia/)) and delivered the final report to the UK government's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). We have almost completed the Indonesia report and will launch it in the next few months.

I recently joined the Diocese of London's disability group and took part in Edmonton's Diocesan Disability Awareness training day. We explored access, equity and dignity in healthcare, alongside the theology of disability. This experience reaffirmed the importance of inclusive design and joined-up policy, particularly for those with visible and invisible disabilities, aligned with my recent neurodiversity training.

In mid-May, I spent a few days at Malling Abbey, Kent, where I serve as a lay sister. The retreat included spiritual guidance, reading, and six daily Benedictine services called offices, with the community of nine sisters. The peaceful rhythm of the Abbey was a chance to pause and reflect.

I was honoured to celebrate 60 years of All Nations College with over 500 alumni. I studied there from 2007–



*All Nations Christian  
College 60th Celebrations*

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**With Jesus  
With each other  
To the edges**

