

Kailean and Kim Khongsai

Link Letter no. 34 | April 2022

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The call in action

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Dear friends,

Warmest greetings in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is spring again. God is good, loves his creation, sustains and renews his creation. What a God we have!

God is so faithful in our lives even though we went through some difficult times last year (losing some of our good friends and relatives). Kim and I are able to divert our minds by getting more involved in the life of our local church. Our daughter Limmy, who just turned 10, can now join the church worship team on Sundays. She plays a keyboard or bass guitar depending on what is needed. Her mum and I are pleased that she is beginning to develop her skills and confidence. Her litter sister Zouli also loves singing, and is sometimes the loudest voice singing in the church. It is Kim's and my prayer that they continue to develop their passion for music and singing for God's glory.

Kim and I have continued to help with our local church's outreach ministries. We love it, as we see more opportunity to meet with people from different cultural and faith backgrounds and others with no faith. One of these ministries is The Table, which is an informal Jesus-centred worship gathering with stories, prayer, music and food. We usually have a dozen people every week. Southall Outside Church, which is also an informal outdoor gathering, with a focus on worshipping God in his creation, is attracting people who wouldn't usually go to church. Through these ministries we are witnessing the real needs of the community and people's willingness to share their faith journey and story. We love our community and our church!

With regard to our ministry with A Rocha UK, we can't thank God enough for his faithfulness and generosity. We have witnessed more church involvement at the Wolf Fields reserve than in any other year. We are delighted that even before the season of spring Wolf Fields witnessed five local churches and two churches from outside London coming forward to get their hands dirty to help our reserve flourish. The daffodil bulbs planted by St Paul's Church Dorking last year are now blooming beautifully. The church visited again last month to help us maintain the sensory garden.

Local schools are back for outdoor learning as the weather gets warmer. They are enjoying the site as it is looking tidy and beautiful now.



Name: Kailean and Kim Khongsai

Location: Southall, West London

Our call: To do all we can to preserve God's wonderful world, which he lovingly created and entrusted to our care.

Our role: Building bridges among different faith communities through environmental projects and activities.



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Bird hide damaged by storm

Last month, Storm Eunice caused some damage to our reserve (blowing off the roofs of both bird hide and bee hide and some parts of our art project) but there is no major damage. We feel fortunate!

As mentioned briefly in our last link letter, we are beginning to expand our wildflower area to make Wolf Fields more and more attractive for wildlife and people. We have cleared another scrubby area – scraping off topsoil using a mini digger last February as the soil was too rich in nutrients for wildflowers. St Andrew's Church Oxshott recently took soil samples and sent them to the Royal Horticultural Society to help us establish the right seed mix for our planned flower meadow extension. They also donated a dozen sets of children's tools and a box full of new gloves for Wolf Fields volunteers, for which we are extremely thankful!

We have finally completed our disability project with the help of our amazing volunteers who help us construct raised beds and a mobility path. We can now welcome more people with physical disabilities and wheelchair users. God is good!

Currently, we're working with the Labyrinth project in partnership with Southall Outside Church, Ealing Grace team and Wolf Fields Friends. The project is funded by Ealing Deanery. God willing, we hope to fully complete the project by April.

The local schools are continuing to use Wolf Fields for forest school, especially Wolf Fields Primary School and Greenfields Nursery, who have used the reserve weekly. Other local schools have also started visiting the reserve. We hope the site will continue to attract and inspire more schools, youth groups and community groups to learn and reconnect with nature.

One of our volunteers who has been under serious depression and had been disappearing from the Wolf Fields community group recently started reappearing. He said, "I am longing for the Wolf Fields community and prayer that is freely offered at the reserve." I am moved hearing his personal story. He is yet to recover fully but has faith in healing through reconnecting with the community and nature. There are a few others, too, who have been through similar situations. Therefore, for Kim and I, Wolf Fields is not just the place of our work but a venue where we practically demonstrate God's love and care for his creation and people. We love it and thank God every day for all the opportunities.

Here are some of our upcoming events, May–June.

A few church-related events:

- Guided walk and picnic – with Southall Mental Health Support Project, 7 May
- Act for Nature (training event for churches) Saturday 25 June 11–3pm.
- Other community events: art event (Saturday 18 May), gardening and picnic (Southall Mental Health Support Project).

Prayers of thanks:

- for more churches' involvement and support
- for people who come to the reserve seeking physical and mental healing

Prayer requests:

- pray for volunteers who are yet to recover from illness
- pray for the success of our newly installed projects – raised beds, labyrinth and wildflower meadow.

Kailean, Kim, Limmy and Zoui Khongsai



Photos from top to bottom: Limmy at the church; soil sampling; volunteer constructing raised beds, and mini digger clearing site for wildflowers; work party at sensory garden

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You can give to Kailean and Kim at:
churchmissionsociety.org/khongsai

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If you would like to discuss your mailings with us or to receive this link letter on a regular basis, please email supporter.care@churchmissionsociety.org or call 01865 787400

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