

Prayer Diary

December 2021 • February 2022

friends
INTERNATIONAL



Thirteen weeks of prayer points



**Thank you for your continued prayers
and support for international students.**

New Starts



Week 1
6th Dec

Bath, London

'Praise God for an encouraging Welcome Meal, for good links with the University, and for growing numbers at the cafés.

Globe Café (CU led on campus) is seeing very high numbers. Life Chat online has seen much fruit, with several students studying the Bible out of weekly conversations.' 'Please pray for the recruitment of new staff in London, for financial partners to support the ministry and resource new staff and ministry projects. Praise God for local partner groups and pray we will work well together, so more international students will be welcomed and introduced to Jesus.'

Adam Kinnison, Centre Team Leader, Bath; **Kirsten Wynn**, Centre Team Leader, London

Week 2
13th Dec

Coventry

This term we have launched a Globe Café alongside the Christian Union at Warwick University, with around 20 students engaging each week. Please be praying that this community will continue to grow together and that deeper conversations about faith will occur. Our English discussion group has been meeting in a local coffee shop. Please do be praying that international students continue to engage. We host a meal on 16th December where students will be able to hear the Christmas story.

Jeremy Wardle, Apprentice Staff Worker, Coventry

Week 3
20th Dec

Norwich, St Andrews

Praise God for higher numbers of international students at our International Hangout, many of whom come from countries where it is hard to preach the Gospel.

Praise God for the good partnership with Norwich churches and CU. Pray for the start of the Bible study. We are grateful to God for small beginnings with Stephen Horrocks-Birss joining staff in St Andrews; in a world that feels very different, we are searching for ways to connect with students, with more opportunities to develop meaningful friendships and faith sharing.

Raquel Medina, Centre Team Leader, Norwich; **Fiona Barnard**, Centre Team Leader, St Andrews

Week 4
27th Dec

Guildford

We had a very encouraging start to the term: students signed up to the app, some of whom registered for Local Link. Gift bags were given out during Freshers' Fairs, students joined a UK Culture seminar delivered for Surrey University Welcome Week, students attended our Welcome Party and joined our first autumn walk. Pray that these students would continue to connect with our events and our volunteers, and we'd see friendships made which lead to gospel conversations.

Phil Duncalfe, Interim Centre Team Leader, Guildford



Campus Events Weeks



Week 5
3rd Jan

Dublin

There have been a couple of international cafés run by churches in the past in Dublin, but due to various circumstances those have stopped over the past two years.

We would love to see them restart and there is one in particular in South Dublin that is hoping to restart in January. Please pray for a venue, for willing volunteers and for good connections with students.

Praise God for this door opening and pray for other open doors too.

Heledd Job, Senior Staff Worker, Dublin

Week 6
10th Jan

Lancaster

Our big prayer for this new year is the growth and rebuilding of the ministry in Lancaster. Please pray that there would be a core group of students coming to our events that we can connect with and befriend. Please pray too that more local Christians can see the privilege we have in sharing the gospel with students from all over the world and that they would want to be involved in this ministry themselves.

Sally Miller, Centre Team Leader Lancaster

Week 7
17th Jan

Reading, Exeter

Making contacts with church leaders in Reading and key volunteers is an early priority. Supporting Small World Café student leaders promoting the gospel is also vital. The Christian Union events week is at the end of January with an international student track. This January, we are planning on starting a seeker's Bible study in Exeter after our weekly Globe café. Pray that this will be well received and that many students will choose to stay and learn about who Jesus is and how they can have hope in Him.

David Hubbard, Centre Team Leader, Reading; **Helen Morrissey**, Centre Team Leader, Exeter

Week 8
24th Jan

Bournemouth

We are planning to organise a vision and training day at the end of January for new volunteers to join us. Pray this event will bring new people who have a passion for international student ministry. Antoine will be speaking at two mission weeks (Canterbury and Bournemouth) in February and will be hosting a Moorlands Bible College student doing a placement. Pray for wisdom and guidance as there will be many things to plan, write and organise.

Antoine Thenin, Centre Team Leader, Bournemouth



Week 9
31st Jan

Cambridge

A lot of our events feel slightly normal again. With a lot of change on the staff team recently, pray for us all to settle into a good rhythm of teamwork, support and ongoing ministry. We have been encouraged by seeing lots of interest in our Bible studies and seeing students going on to a local Explore course. Please pray for wisdom around the Easter break; we are thinking about running an evangelistic holiday and need to decide how to do it.

Josh Bell, Centre Team Leader, Cambridge

Week 10
7th Feb

Belfast

This month, Christian Unions across Belfast are hosting a city-wide events (mission) week for the first time. The week includes evening meals with talks aimed at international students. Please pray for our guest speakers from Friends International and for unity as we work together. Also pray for CUs and churches to intentionally share the Good News of Jesus and that international students would respond in faith.

Kim Becker, Senior Staff Worker, Belfast

Into the Future

Week 11
14th Feb

Durham, Birmingham

Give thanks for seeds planted in the lives of internationals in Durham who are now continuing their spiritual journey back in their home countries. Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic we found that hosts with social media skills came into their own, often checking in with isolated students and meeting them outside when permitted. Pray students from many nations will find a household to welcome them

while in the UK and in doing so will also find Jesus. **Tom Hudson**, Staff Worker, Durham; **Mike and Rachel Hill**, Centre Team Leaders, Birmingham

Week 12
21st Feb

Stirling, Leicester

Pray for more local churches to join us in our work seeking to reach international students and for more volunteers who can build relationships with students that we come into contact with. Pray that students who've heard the Gospel already would be willing to study the Bible with us. Pray for strong and healthy relationships within the staff team and volunteers, as well as Christian Unions and universities.

Ivana Bajic, Centre Team Leader, Stirling;
Ruth Duffin, Centre Team Leader, Leicester

Week 13
28th Feb

Oxford, Sheffield

Oxford staff partner with local churches and Christian Unions, reaching out to international students studying at both universities and language schools. Pray for a sustainable team, good fundraising within the city, and new visionary members for our local branch. Pray that we can work together effectively with churches and the Christian Union in Sheffield. We have met five Christian international students this academic year; pray that they will find good churches quickly.

Jonnie Green, Centre Team Leader, Oxford;
Carol Forbes, Staff Worker, Sheffield

friends
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