



The Four Corners

The quarterly Alumni Association newsletter

Issue 44: June 2018

[EDITORIAL](#) | [NEWS IN BRIEF](#) | [DIARY](#) | [EVENTS](#) | [SPOTLIGHT](#) | [PEOPLE](#)

EDITORIAL

Message from the chairman



I have long felt it would be good to compile an oral history of alumni involvement in development over the years. We have profiled and discussed particular books and memoirs of alumni, but I am not aware of any compilation of oral memories. It could be an interesting sequel to Charles Allen's "Tales of the Dark Continent" published in 1979 which drew together a revealing set of stories of those administering Britain's colonies up to independence. Garth's article in this edition about Sudan in 1974 is a reminder of how much I am sure alumni have to tell about their experiences. Further offerings for publication in future editions would be very welcome.

Back to the present, this edition has plenty to reflect on with the wide range of DFID's latest activities and initiatives and the reports and assessments of their work. If you are not already following the detail closely I hope you continue to find this information useful.

I am pleased that our new agreement with DFID (see report of the AGM) will offer new opportunities for joint cooperation and for alumni to share their interest and experience in current issues. As was said at the recent seminar on humanitarian aid, it is not always clear whether lessons can be drawn from experience, given how the world is changing, but as Lord Bates notes in this edition, it certainly makes sense for DFID to tap into the significant body of experience that the alumni represent.

We look forward to your comments and suggestions on this edition and to hearing from those who may be able to help Marc as editor.

I hope you have an enjoyable summer break.

Best Wishes,
Simon Ray

NEWS IN BRIEF



New Foreign Secretary

On 9 July 2018, Boris Johnson MP resigned, and the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP was appointed Foreign Secretary. Mr Hunt was Secretary of State for Health in 2012 to 2018 (Secretary of State for Health and Social Care since January 2018). He has been MP for South West Surrey since 2005. He is married to Lucia Guo. They have three children.

Global Disability Summit

On 24 July 2018, DFID and the Government of Kenya will hold a global disability summit at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London.

DIARY

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

18 September – tour of Greenwich highlights

TBA – Alumni seminar on disability and development

10 December – Christmas party

UK aid gives emergency medical treatment to world's poorest in deadly heatwave

The UK is providing emergency medical treatment to some of the world's poorest people at risk from a deadly heatwave that has seen temperatures in Pakistan reach as high as 45°C, significantly hotter than the temperature in London today which is expected to reach 24°C.

UK aid is providing relief to up to 30,000 vulnerable people, including children and the elderly, in some of the poorest areas of Karachi, Pakistan, where up to 70 people have already died from heat-related symptoms since mid-May.

UK aid is supporting 30 heat stroke relief camps which are equipped with solar fans, cold drinking water and first aid kits. The camps are also providing spaces for people to keep cool, providing temporary shelters for those at high risk of death or falling critically ill from the extreme temperatures.

Specialist medical staff are treating patients with symptoms such as heat exhaustion and heatstroke, which can damage the brain and cause organ failure. Pakistan is one of the UK's top development priorities, with around 60 million people in Pakistan living in poverty meaning nearly 1 in 3 of the population are living on less than 80p a day.

Camps have been set up in some of the region's poorest areas, where many face challenges to their everyday lives including power outages and water shortages.

In 2015, where temperatures were similar to those in parts of Pakistan now, over 1,300 people died. Simple measures, such as providing clean water and keeping people cool, can be the difference between life and death. The heatwaves come in the holy Muslim month of Ramadhan, increasing the risk of dehydration as Muslims fast during the hours of daylight.

UK aid is also supporting the 'Beat the Heat' campaign to educate up to 150,000 people about how to reduce the risks of falling critically ill to the high temperatures. The campaign will distribute brochures and posters with important advice in communities, and display banners at prominent locations including bus stops, schools, hospitals and main roads.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM DFID IN APRIL TO JUNE 2018

April

- The UK allocated £170 million to the humanitarian crisis in Yemen for 2018/19
- Penny Mordaunt MP confirmed that Jordan will receive £110 million of UK aid funding in 2018/19 to boost the resilience and inclusivity of its economy
- UK joined the International Solar Alliance: its aim is to give over 1 billion of the world's poorest people access to clean, cheap and renewable energy
- A £100 million fund to combat malaria was agreed to be matched pound for pound by the private sector
- Penny Mordaunt MP spoke at the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference in Brussels
- UK increased its commitment to protect oceans from plastics and fight illegal wildlife trade at the Global Environmental Facility conference

May

- The UK responded to a recent Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo with a vaccination programme and £5 million from DFID's Crisis Reserve
- The UK government will apply over £30 million to the global fight against antimicrobial resistance
- £10.6 million was awarded to the Darwin Initiative so it can enhance biodiversity
- Minister for the Middle East Alistair Burt announced the UK is providing a new package of life-saving support to help 11 hospitals under pressure in Gaza

June

- The UK provided emergency aid to some of the world's poorest people in light of the deadly heatwave – also supported 'Beat the Heat'
- UK government announced it would match charity donations to improve the lives of the world's poorest
- Harriet Baldwin MP spoke at the Private Equity Africa Investment summit
- The UK supported UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees and will also help UNICEF to ensure 2 million Palestinians in Gaza have safe drinking water
- UK welcomed His Highness the Aga Khan for the opening of a new academic centre in London

UK publishes latest results in tackling global climate change

2018 International Climate Finance results show the impact of UK investments in tackling climate change and protecting vulnerable people.

The 2018 International Climate Finance (ICF) results, published today, illustrate the impact of UK investments in tackling climate change and protecting vulnerable people. ICF supports international poverty eradication now and in the future by supporting investments that have lower carbon emissions such as clean energy, and by helping developing countries build resilience to the impacts of climate change.

The UK has committed to spend at least £5.8 billion on this effort between 2016 and 2021, through DFID, BEIS and Defra. The government announced the latest set of results that show this work has:

- Supported 47 million people to cope with the effects of climate change – equivalent to the population of Spain
- Provided 17 million people with improved access to clean energy
- Reduced or avoided 10.4 million tonnes of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (tCO₂e) – approximately equivalent to the yearly emissions of 2.5 million cars
- Installed 590 MW of clean energy capacity
- Mobilised £3.3 billion public and £910 million private finance for climate change purposes in developing countries.

ICF programmes

One of the programmes to benefit from ICF investment is Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED).

BRACED builds resilience and adaptation to climate extremes and disasters in 13 countries across the Sahel, East Africa and South and Southeast Asia. BRACED has already helped over 5 million people and aims to assist up to 10 million people to cope with - and become more resilient to - extreme weather events and climate extremes.

One of BRACED's programmes creates livestock corridors in Africa's Sahel region to provide benefits for nomadic herders such as animal clinics and solar powered wells where vast droughts and arid land threaten livestock and drive conflict.

Future Climate For Africa (FCFA) research is helping scientists understand the scale and impact of climate change in Africa. For example, in Rwanda, FCFA worked with farmers to protect their most valuable crop, coffee, from the increased temperatures caused by climate change. Farmers were shown how to grow crops such as bananas in the same area as their coffee crops, providing shade for the coffee fruit against the harsh temperatures. The banana plants also provide an extra source of income, access to extra food, and fertiliser for the soil.

Other work includes changing the way clean energy markets operate, with a focus on improving health, safety and economic opportunities. For example, UK aid has provided clean and reliable energy to health clinics helping to save lives in some of the poorest parts of the world. This provides clean, reliable energy to keep medicines from spoiling, and provides lighting and electricity 24/7.

Phoebe, an Assistant Nurse in charge of a health centre in Uganda supported by UK aid said:

For a long time, many women didn't come here. We didn't have any electricity. Mothers would die while giving birth at night. All of us were afraid. The electricity has really helped us. We're now able to carry out all main operations. The community knows about the electricity and they are coming here now. The power provides access anytime.

The UK has committed to spend at least £5.8 billion of International Climate Finance (ICF) between 2016 and 2021. This builds on the £3.87bn that the UK spent on climate activities between 2011 and 2015. UK ICF supports a portfolio of investments managed by the Department for International Development, Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy, and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

While quality assuring data used for this publication, the UK government identified an error in how expected results were calculated which has resulted in a downward revision in the expected results for the 'Number of people with improved access to clean energy' from 77 million to 36 million people. Due to time lags in confirming results achieved, these results may not fully represent those actually delivered by ICF programmes by the time of reporting. Where a programme receives funding from other donors or sources, the results attributable to the UK's ICF are calculated as a percentage share of the overall results achieved. The results percentage share is equal to the percentage share of the donor funding that HMG has provided.

£30m to tackle antimicrobial resistance

The funding will be delivered through 4 new projects as part of the Global AMR Innovation Fund (GAMRIF):

£20 million to the Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria Biopharmaceutical Accelerator – a non-profit international partnership supporting research on the most dangerous drug-resistant bacteria. This commitment will support scientific research around the world to develop new vaccines and alternatives-to-antibiotics against drug-resistant bacterial infections in humans

£5 million for a new bilateral partnership with Argentina supporting research to tackle AMR in agriculture and the impact on the environment – delivered via the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and the Natural Environment Research Council. The bilateral partnership will be delivered and matched-funded, on a resource basis, by the National Scientific and Technical Research Council in Argentina

£5 million invested in the Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND) – a global non-profit organisation aimed at the development, evaluation and delivery of high-quality affordable diagnostic tests for poverty-related diseases. This funding will support FIND's work to enhance the impact of diagnostic tools, in particular the connectivity of diagnostics for AMR surveillance

£1 million invested in the Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP) – a non-profit research and development initiative addressing global public health needs by developing, delivering and assuring sustainable access of new or improved antibiotic treatments. This funding will support GARDP's programme on sexually transmitted infections, focusing on the development of an antibiotic for drug-resistant gonorrhoea.

These projects are funded by UK aid and will primarily benefit people in low- and middle-income countries, where the burden of infection is greatest. AMR occurs when microbes, including bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites, no longer respond to the drugs that would normally kill them, such as antibiotics. This leaves us powerless to treat what are normally routine infections. It is estimated that 5,000 deaths are caused every year in the UK because antibiotics no longer work for some infections.

EDITOR NEEDED!

Could you edit – or help to edit - The Four Corners? Marc Taylor has been its editor since 2013. It is time for a change. We would welcome a new editor who can bring new ideas and new interests to keep the Association's quarterly newsletter relevant to the needs of alumni around the world. Please contact Marc (c.marc.taylor@gmail.com) or another member of the DFID Alumni Committee to find out more.

A major research project by the UK's Stabilisation Unit explores the vital role of political deal-making in reducing violent conflict.

The [Elite Bargains and Political Deals research](#) indicates that greater focus on the politics of conflicts, and those who control power and resources on the ground, is crucial to reducing violence.

The Minister for the Middle East and for International Development Alistair Burt said:

"This research report sets out to answer two of the most difficult questions in foreign policy today: How can we help reduce levels of violent conflict? And how do we deal with the often unsavoury groups and individuals that sustain them?"

Today, thousands are suffering in seemingly intractable conflicts across the world. We must do what we can to reduce their plight and minimise the dangers that conflict and instability pose to our own national security.

We need to keep reviewing our approach in light of experience, and that is what this report seeks to do."

The report is the result of 18 months of research by cross-government and independent academics and was launched on 14 June at Chatham House.

The study seeks to provide a more robust evidence base for the UK's approach to stabilisation and to help policymakers provide more effective interventions in conflict contexts. Lessons from global conflicts, past and present, are identified in the report.

The Stabilisation Unit is a cross-government unit that provides advice and expertise to prevent and de-escalate conflict and meet national security challenges in high-risk environments.

Humanitarian Reform: where next? 12 June 2018

Jim Drummond

This is a chair's summary of the main points from the speakers – Joanna Macrae, Mukesh Kapila, Sara Pantuliano and Owen Barder - at the DFID/Alumni seminar on 12 June 2018.

The panel's remit was to be challenging. We took as read that DFID's humanitarian staff do a tough job well and are leading many of the best new policy initiatives!

There have been three waves of reform:

2004/5 – clusters, the Central Emergency Response Fund, Country Pooled Funds;

2011 - the Transformative Agenda – improved leadership and surge including L3 designation

2016 – the Grand Bargain with 51 recommendations including more local ownership, cash etc.

The UK has played a leading role in all of these. All such initiatives were well intentioned and of their time: the first two were largely managerial and tactical, creating incentives to get the existing UN led system to work better. It is too early to judge the third.

In the wider world things some things are changing:

- Wars were never fought nicely but things are particularly difficult now, where national security and commercial interests supersede the humanitarian as for the UK in Yemen. This is damaging western principle-based humanitarian leadership.
- More countries are taking responsibility for managing their own crises and new humanitarian donors are joining. Neither group is so interested in reforming a western led humanitarian system. The

Objective

To identify lessons from previous humanitarian reform efforts and ideas for next steps.

The new Secretary of State for International Development is interested in ideas for the next steps in strengthening the international humanitarian system following the World Humanitarian Summit and the government's 2017 Humanitarian Policy Paper. This leads to the following questions:

- Previous humanitarian reform efforts, up to and including the Grand Bargain – what has worked, what has not; what issues have proven most intransigent and why? What has driven successes?
- Are we clear on our ultimate reform vision: what does good look like? How do we measure progress, and set meaningful milestones? Should we push for fundamental changes or incremental improvements? What are the key 'next steps'?
- How can DFID best leverage its financial, political, and intellectual capital within the humanitarian system to drive change. How can it harness Ministers' energy to best effect?

world is providing more humanitarian aid than ever before, and its recipients have never been so questioning.

- New technologies, not available in 2004, are potential mould breakers if they are allowed to be.

And some are not:

- Some natural hazard related disasters aside, most humanitarian crises are long term, but still met by far too short-term humanitarian responses.
- Two thirds of humanitarian funding is provided by 5 donors – US, UK, Germany, EU; Turkey is the only new addition to this group. They have more power that they are using.
- Three UN agencies – WFP, UNHCR, and UNICEF - still dominate and spend more than half of the global humanitarian budget, hardly changed from 2003. Power is rarely ceded voluntarily.
- And they still set norms, make their own assessments of need, raise resources, deliver assistance and assess their own performance, and are reluctant to collect and share data on what they have done. In almost all areas of public life these functions would be separated.

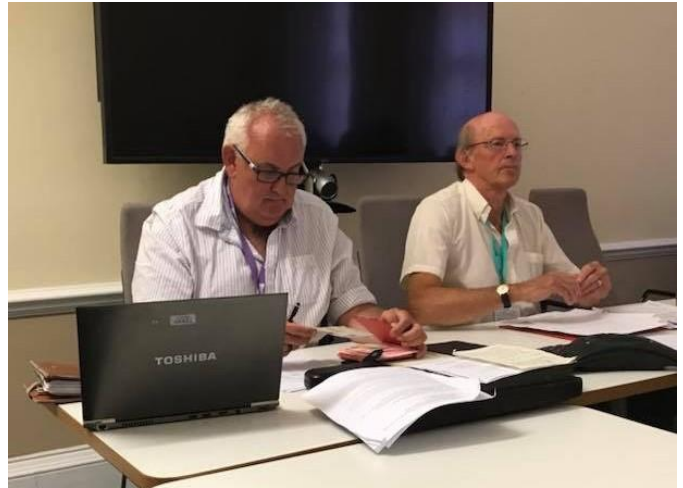
What can be done?

- Reassert the humanitarian principles – there will always be a tension between humanitarian and security/national interests, but we need to rebalance now. So mobilise the same political capital for the Rohingya and South Sudanese as for Syrian refugees in Jordan and Lebanon.
- Separate powers. Fund only independent needs assessments and increase competition for delivery of humanitarian assistance.
- Insist on the same quality and range of data – outcomes, coverage, recipient experience and cost –for humanitarian interventions as for other aid spend and publish it.
- Use the UN peace keeping formula to pay for humanitarian response.
- Fund the UN's role as guardian of norms and standards separately from interventions. Don't tax the response funds to pay for the norms.
- Support country based pooled funds which get closer to local needs.
- Use cash as the default option. Its success has been extensively evaluated, but it is still less than 5% of the total humanitarian spend. It does not need to be overseen/delivered by a UN agency.
- Use new technology to find out what those in need want and what they think of what they get.
- Take more (calculated) risk with funding local agencies to respond to crises.
- End long term refugee camps.

Donors have the power to make change. Do they have the will?

Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Alumni Association was held on 2 July. Jan Ketelaar was elected and Kathy Marshall and John Stuppel were re-elected as members of the Alumni Association Committee. Pauline Hayes was co-opted to the Committee. Simon Ray will continue for the present as Chair.



A new Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between DFID and the Alumni Association to put relations on a more structured basis. In liaison with DFID, further work will be done to develop the alumni data base in a way that meets our requirements but complies with necessary protection and security issues.

We will continue our programme of lunchtime events on topical issues; a session on disability is proposed after the Summit in July (see page 8). Members have suggested several other ideas which we will explore.

There was a wish for more personal stories to include in the quarterly newsletter; members were encouraged to contribute these to the editor. We will continue the programme of social events.

The winter party in London is provisionally planned for 10 December 2018 and a visit to Greenwich is planned for Tuesday 18 September. Chapters of the Alumni Association around the world were encouraged to organise and report on their activities and plans.

The Committee will next meet on 25 September.

Summer gathering, 2 July

The Annual General Meeting was followed by our Summer Gathering at 18.30 to 21.30 in Committee Room G at the House of Lords. Over 60 members were there.



Thanks to Lord Bruce for hosting the event.



We were glad to welcome Lord Bates.



Message from Lord Bates

Dear all,

At your recent Alumni event in the House of Lords, I was thoroughly impressed by your continued passion and commitment to helping the world's poorest and most vulnerable, despite having left DFID. I am grateful that you have stayed in touch with the Department's work through this network, as it is of the utmost importance that DFID continues to benefit from the expertise and skills that you all have as a result of your years of dedication to development.

During my time at DFID, it has been my aim to ensure that two people are always at the forefront of our decision-making process; the recipient of UK aid, who benefits from UK taxpayers' money by being given a better and brighter future, whether it be through education, healthcare or economic opportunities; and the taxpayer, whose money we spend to end extreme poverty around the world.

As Minister, I recognise the value of working with the rest of Whitehall and with external partners on delivering the Global Goals, which is something the Secretary of State, Penny Mordaunt, emphasised in her Great Partnership speech at Chatham House last month. However, it is also necessary for the Department to continue to work with its Alumni, who understand the complexities of delivering aid in challenging situations and who are able to provide valuable insight from their own experiences.

Like you, I am proud of the work of the Department, but there is still a long way to go in terms of eradicating poverty and meeting the Sustainable Development Goals. Your engagement is strongly valued and needed, in order to continue to drive forward efficiencies and deliver UK aid in the best possible way.

Thank you,

The Rt Hon Lord Bates

Global Disability Summit 2018



On 24 July 2018 the UK government will co-host its first ever Global Disability Summit with the [International Disability Alliance](#) and the [Government of Kenya](#).

The summit will take place at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London and will bring together more than 700 delegates from governments, donors, private sector organisations, charities and organisations of persons with disabilities.

[Find out more about the Global Disability Summit](#)



Simon Ray spoke at the Summer gathering to welcome our guests and report on the Association's plans.

Greenwich highlights, 18 September

We shall meet at Westminster to board the 12:55 Thames Clipper to Greenwich. Stroll to the meeting point for the 1415 Greenwich Highlights walking tour which lasts 90 minutes and costs £8.00. Here is the [link for further details](#).

To express interest, tell [Pam Jenkins](#), who will book in advance. She can also book a drink and a light meal at a riverfront bar or restaurant if you want.

Make your own way home e.g. Thames Clipper back to Westminster or DLR, bus etc.



Penny Mordaunt used sign language at the despatch box in Parliament to highlight the Global Disability Summit

SPOTLIGHT

Parliament and DFID

The British Parliament scrutinises the work of the Department for International Development through inquiries by the International Development Committee (IDC) of the House of Commons.

In the present Parliament starting in 2017, the IDC has conducted inquiries into the Humanitarian situation in Gaza; DFID's Economic Development Strategy; Sexual exploitation and abuse in the aid sector; the Definition and administration of ODA; and DFID's work on Bangladesh, Burma and the Rohingya crisis

It has published the following reports in this session:

- [5th Report - Definition and administration of ODA](#) | [PDF version 5th Report - Definition and administration of ODA](#) (PDF) HC 547 | Published 05 June 2018
- [4th Report - Bangladesh, Burma and the Rohingya crisis](#) | [PDF version 4th Report - Bangladesh, Burma and the Rohingya crisis](#) (PDF) HC 1054 | Published 22 May 2018
- [3rd Report - Bangladesh and Burma: the Rohingya crisis - monsoon preparedness in Cox's Bazar](#) | [PDF version 3rd Report - Bangladesh and Burma: the Rohingya crisis - monsoon preparedness in Cox's Bazar](#) (PDF) HC 904 | Published 20 March 2018
- [2nd Report - Bangladesh and Burma: the Rohingya crisis](#) | [PDF version 2nd Report - Bangladesh and Burma: the Rohingya crisis](#) (PDF) HC 504 | Published 15 January 2018
- [1st Report - DFID's work on education: Leaving no one behind?](#) | [PDF version 1st Report - DFID's work on education: Leaving no one behind?](#) (PDF) HC 367 | Published 21 November 2017

Stephen Twigg chairs the Committee. Its other members are:

Richard Burden	Labour
Nigel Evans	Conservative
Mrs Pauline Latham	Conservative
Chris Law	Scottish National Party
Ivan Lewis	Independent
Mark Menzies	Conservative
Lloyd Russell-Moyle	Labour (Co-op)
Paul Scully	Conservative
Mr Virendra Sharma	Labour
Henry Smith	Conservative

House of Lords

The House of Lords does not have a select committee devoted to international development. Lord Howell of Guildford chairs its [International Relations Committee](#).

The Committee's last report, published on 27 June 2018, was on the UN General Assembly 2018.

EU Home Affairs Sub-committee of the House of Lords EU Committee

DFID Alumni member Michael Jay – Lord Jay of Ewelme – is a cross-bench member of the House of Lords. He chairs its EU Home Affairs Sub-committee.

The other members of the Sub-committee are:

Baroness Browning	Conservative
Lord Crisp	Crossbench
Baroness Janke	Liberal Democrat
Lord Kirkhope of Harrogate	Conservative
Baroness Massey of Darwen	Labour
Lord O'Neill of Clackmannan	Labour
Baroness Pinnock	Liberal Democrat
Lord Ribeiro	Conservative
Lord Ricketts	Crossbench
Lord Soley	Labour
Lord Watts	Labour

In the present Parliament from 2017, the Sub-committee is undertaking the following inquiries.

- Brexit: the proposed UK-EU security treaty (Inquiry announced 02 March 2018)
- Brexit: movement of people in sport and culture (Inquiry announced 31 January 2018)
- Brexit: reciprocal healthcare (Inquiry announced 08 September 2017, report published 28 March 2018, government response published 13 June 2018, [debated](#) on 2 July.)

Find out more about the EU Home Affairs Sub-committee's work at <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/eu-home-affairs-subcommittee/>

PEOPLE

Queen's Birthday Honours 2018



Congratulations to DfID's Chief Economist, Dr Stefan Dercon. He was awarded the CMG (Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George) for services to economics and international development. (Stefan is Belgian, so his honour appears in the Overseas list.)

David Kinder, Dr John Kirkby and Professor Robert Moon were awarded the CBE.

- David is Alternate Executive Director for the UK at the World Bank Group. His honour was awarded for public service and services to mental wellbeing abroad.
- Dr John Kirkby founded Christians Against Poverty. His honour was awarded for services to poverty relief.
- Professor Moon's honour was awarded for services to education in developing countries.

Ahmed Bedry, Mary-Jane Butler and Colin Hodgetts were awarded the MBE.

- Ahmed founded the Sudan Supplementary School and the Sudan Volunteer programme. His honour was awarded for services to education.
- Mary-Jane Butler's honour was awarded for charitable service in Kenya.

- Colin Hodgett's honour was awarded for services to refugees through the Refugee Action charity.

Connie Smillie, Executive Officer, Programme Support to UK Aid Direct, was awarded the British Empire Medal for public and voluntary service.

We welcome our newly co-opted committee member, Pauline Hayes

Pauline began her career with DFID in 1993 as a Governance Adviser, based in Nairobi as part of a team covering Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Prior to joining DFID, Pauline worked for The British Council in the UK and overseas.

In 1998 Pauline was posted to London, leading DFID's governance work in Central Europe and the Balkans. In 2003 she was posted to DFID India where she headed up a seven person governance advisory team.

In late 2003 Pauline moved back to London and took up a new post managing DFID's Iraq programme. In 2005 she was briefly Deputy Head of Middle East and North Africa Department before moving to East Jerusalem where she was seconded to the Office of the Quarter Special Envoy, responsible for improving donor coordination in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

In 2006 Pauline was promoted to the SCS and returned to London to head up Eastern Europe and Central Asia Department. She continued in this role until 2008, (by then many of DFID's country programmes in the region were winding down), when she took on responsibility for DFID's expanding work in Burma.

In 2010-2012 Pauline was Head of DFID Afghanistan, based in Kabul. In 2013 she returned to London as Deputy Director, Western Asia Division (covering Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Central Asia region). She became Acting Director in late 2013 and remained in this post until September 2015.

In 2014 Pauline additionally led DFID's response to the Ukraine crisis and set up the Good Governance Fund for Eastern Europe, a new joint initiative with the FCO.

Pauline had originally planned to retire from DFID in 2015 but stayed on in a part time role until October 2016, leading DFID's inputs to the final stages of the Chilcot Inquiry.

Pauline is currently a trustee on two NGO boards, and is also on the advisory panel of a small governance consultancy and training organisation.

Since 2017 she has been closely involved in a project which has developed and launched a new Index that seeks to measure civil service effectiveness globally. Pauline also acts as a mentor on a MOD training course which seeks to improve civil-military working.

Sad news: Bernard Mitchell.

Robert Graham-Harrison writes:

Kathy and I have heard from his family the sad news of the death [on 24 April] of Bernard Mitchell. A lovely man and fine colleague, who many of us enjoyed working with - in Kathy's case, in Indonesia, and in my case, in East Asia Department - before he retired in the late 80s.

The funeral was held on Tuesday 15 May.

What are you doing and thinking now?

Do you have a new role, interest or achievement?

Do you remember a curious incident or experience that enlivened your life with DFID?

Do you have an insight on development policy or practice that could be the focus of a seminar?

Share them with fellow DFID Alumni.

Please send your news and views for the next edition of *The Four Corners* to Marc Taylor by 30 September: c.marc.taylor@gmail.com.

Travelling in Sudan in 1974

Garth Glentworth

This is an account of a journey I made by Land Rover from Khartoum to Juba and round the district capitals of Southern Sudan in the 'seventies. How old you are determines whether you think this is comparatively recent or long ago.

In 1974 I was a young lecturer in a development studies institute in Birmingham University. The Institute had won a contract from the Ministry of Overseas Development (ODM now DFID) to run training courses for Sudanese local government administrators. The first courses were to be for Southerners who were taking over from Northerners after the Addis Abba Agreement of 1982. A more senior colleague and I were selected to prepare and run the first courses in Juba.

This straightforward objective began one of the hardest and most challenging experiences of my life. I had previously lived in Uganda and Lesotho for nearly four years, but nothing there prepared me for the Sudan.

Our preparations for the journey were different from current arrangements. We did fly to Khartoum and stayed in the old Grand Hotel, still filled with Victorian furniture, equipped with straw and water-filled air coolers and with staff –it appeared -of almost similar vintage. Sitting on the terrace overlooking the Nile and drinking 'limun' in the cool of the evening was part of a very pleasant introduction to Khartoum.

Another difference which turned out not to be so pleasant was taking possession of our brand new long wheelbase Land Rover which had been airfreighted out to Khartoum and 'converted ' for safari use by a now long deceased firm in Kingston upon Thames. This 'conveyance' had to be equipped for our safari from Khartoum to the South. We both had a vague idea of what to expect- or to be honest- I had no idea and my colleague who had been a colonial officer in West Africa was thinking nostalgically of trekking with porters.

So we equipped the Land Rover accordingly, first buying a large wooden box to sit on the roof rack, which would carry our supplies until they were unloaded in our camp each night by 'servants unknown'. In fact all the support we had was Ahmed Ali Bilal, a professional driver from Western Sudan, who stayed with us throughout the journey. Without Ahmed, we would have been in very serious trouble several times as we drove South.

The supplies we loaded reflected our image of the journey. Lots of dried beans (to be soaked by the servants before we arrived each evening), tins of

Chinese corned beef and dried biscuits .We also equipped ourselves with wood and canvas wash basins and stands, similar canvas camp beds and canvas director chairs. In Khartoum in 1974, there was still at least one shop in the city centre that supplied these items, which had changed little since the Condominium period.

Then we set off across the desert to Kosti following the Nile. At the time we were travelling, there were no roads, only tracks across the sand. Four wheel drives and the galleon-like heavily loaded trucks picked their way, following the routes established by previous traffic. Driving over sand is comparatively easy as long as you do not veer of the tracks and get stuck; driving over soil and top - dressed corrugated roads is much harder. We found bouncing at speed over corrugations extremely uncomfortable. Ahmed's hands were bleeding after holding the vehicle in a straight line for eight to ten hours driving each day.

As we left Khartoum, the Land Rover ride became incredibly hard and uncomfortable. On investigation we found that the tyres had been inflated in the UK for British temperatures. Once we reduced tyre pressures by forty pounds the ride became relatively more comfortable. Other essential improvements were draining the anti-freeze loaded in Kingston and following the standard Sudanese practice of throwing away the thermostat – both required to stop the engine repeatedly boiling over.

Two additional problems developed as we drove past Kosti on our way to Malakal. The first involved our supplies in the wooden box. These were so heavy that they overloaded the roof rack causing the body work on the Land Rover to slip. For a couple of days until we unloaded the supplies and box and sold them in Malakal, the only way into the vehicle was through the driver's window for the very slim Ahmed and for the more generously proportioned "hawaijas" through the back door. The second problem showed that the safari conversion in Kingston might have been sufficient for a safari up the M1 to Woburn Abbey, but was not much use in the Sudan. The sink, cupboard and table bounced out in response to the corrugations and would in any case been unusable because of the heat and the dust.

I should have mentioned the purpose of our safari. Our first objective was a survey of the implementation of the Peoples' Local Government Act of 1971. This was an innovatory almost visionary piece of legislation in Sudan, introducing, for example, quotas for women on local councils, radical action in the social climate in rural Sudan in the 1970's. The second was a survey of social service availability and development potentials, covering the South's twenty four districts and three provincial headquarters. The context was the

destruction involved in the First Civil War, ended by the Addis Abba Agreement of the early seventies and fought between the National government and the Anyanya led by General Joseph Lagu.

Understandably there were no central records in the Regional Capital Juba, let alone in the Provincial Headquarters (Wau, Malakal and Juba at that time) and District Capitals. Any that had existed had either been destroyed during the war or taken away by the departing Northern administrators and would be inaccurate anyway after the war. There was no alternative to actually visiting as many district HQ as possible. We eventually managed to obtain statistics for all 24 and visited most of them, missing out only Bentiu, Pibor Post and Raja. What we were collecting were only local administrators 'estimates' of schools, medical facilities etc., but this was difficult enough and more than anyone else was producing at the time.

Malakal was one of our centres from which we visited most of the districts in Bahr el Ghazal. These visits were not without incident. Crossing the Nile on an ancient ferry and making our way North to visit the Shilluk district of Kodok (the "Fashoda Incident" location), we managed to drive into and out of a minefield. This was only marked by an obscure red flag, which we missed. As a penalty for surviving, we were arrested by a platoon of soldiers for entering a forbidden military area. Fortunately our explanation of ignorance was accepted.

Visiting Akobo as the wet season got thoroughly under way, we got stuck overnight after I insisted against his protests that Ahmed avoid a particularly deeply rutted and flooded section of the track. The lessons are never contradict a driver who knows the local conditions and check that your shovel is not so old that the handle breaks off immediately you start digging out.

Back in Malakal, I wanted to do a bit of sightseeing along the Nile. A particularly picturesque spot was by a group of river steamers that were no longer in use and had actually been used as gunboats in the Battle of Omdurman (or so it was claimed). Unfortunately a group of soldiers were having a bath in the Nile under the stern of one of the steamers and took exception to being photographed bathing. Another arrest followed, though again fortunately my explanation of photographing the steamer and not the soldiers was eventually accepted with only the loss of the film in my ancient Kodak camera.

Calling on the Provincial Police Station in Malakal to have our travel permits reauthorized, we were introduced to a Nuer "Kujur", who was being held there. He had come in to submit to the Government from his fortress on Zeraf Island in the middle of the Sudd Swamp, where he was reputed to have 10000 followers armed with Kalashnikovs. Whether this was

true or not, he cut an extraordinary figure. Dressed in a robe in order to be allowed to visit the town, covered in traditionally healed cicatricial wounds as a battle hardened old warrior, he had with him a young boy who carried his ceremonial shield and spear. Kujurs were not only military leaders, but were possessed of magical powers which did not permit them to touch, shake hands with or look directly at other human beings. Given the importance of shaking hands in Sudan, this hugely annoyed the police officers trying to negotiate an agreement with him.

Leaving Malakal (much lighter without our full box of mis-purchased provisions), we set off up the Nile skirting the Eastern side of the Sudd Swamp and huge infestations of water hyacinth in the main river and its tributaries such as the Sobat. Water hyacinth reminds me of the famous book by John Wyndham, "The Day of the Triffids" where plant life developed a mind and action on its own. Many readers will know that water hyacinth grows on the surface of rivers and soon forms an almost impenetrable mass of vegetation that chokes off sunlight and oxygen –and seems to take over. The only ways to get rid of it are by poisoning or dredging. We called on the Bulgarian camp from which they were flying small crop spraying planes to implement the poisoning option. But it seemed they were fighting a losing battle. Water hyacinth reproduces faster than it can be killed and even when as an alternative it is hauled onto land it has virtually no nutritional value.

Juba was obviously our main destination as the headquarters of the Southern Regional Government under Vice-president Abel Alie. From Kostit through Bor with side trips and other adventures, we reached Juba after two weeks on the road from Khartoum. The plan was then to make two major trips: one to Torit and Kapoeta in the East and a much longer circuit via Yei, Maridi, Yambio, Tombura to Wau, from which we would make day trips to Aweil and Gogrial, returning to Juba via Wau, Rumbek and Yirol.

We happened to arrive in Yei on the day when one of Idi Amin's principal lieutenants, a Kakwa -Brigadier Marela- returned to his home town. Reputedly he was driven away from Uganda by Amin because of a dispute and his brutality. He had returned with his 'earnings': two big Fiat trucks with trailers full of looted household possessions from the Asian expulsions two years earlier; around fifteen large saloon cars (such as Peugeot 404s) again stolen from their Ugandan owners; a number of body guards; and an unknown but large amount of hard cash in American dollars.

The impact on the very poor citizens in and around Yei was considerable. Uganda was obviously a land of milk and honey, if this was what a semi -literate soldier

could collect in two or three years. Why not go across and take his place? Southern Ugandans were not of your tribe and were fair game. Amin needed reliable soldiers without too many scruples. However, we subsequently heard that setting up as businessman and building three large houses around Yei did not stop Marela sliding rapidly into bankruptcy and losing everything.

Moving south west, we drove through the vast teak forests planted during the colonial period. If they are still there, they will be enormously valuable if there is ever enough security and access to get them exported. Land mines were not a general problem in those days and we made very good progress on well -built murram roads which had been virtually unused for twenty years. In Yambio we visited the cotton mill that had been set up in the Condominium period to utilise the cotton grown by the Zande in the far South West. It had operated throughout the first war in isolation, using the original equipment and the original vehicles –early 'fifties almost original Land Rovers. They had continued to produce and sell "damhuri", the all-purpose rough cotton cloth used by all Sudanese.

Transiting from Yambio to Tombura in a ferocious tropical storm, the windscreen wipers simply blew away and we were unable to find them again. Not that they would have been of much use in the rain storms we were then experiencing.

In Wau, we followed our now well established pattern of district questionnaire completion. Two side trips to Aweil and Gogrial were the highlights. In both we encountered some of the tallest Dinka that we had ever met- seven feet for the men and over six feet for the women seemed almost standard. In conversation, local leaders bemoaned the fact that heights seemed to be diminishing, put down to the dilution of the traditional diet of blood, milk and dura, still the norm in the cattle camps but not in the towns and settled villages.

From Wau it was time to begin the return to Juba through Rumbek and Yirol. We called in on Rumbek School, then known as the "Eton" of Southern Sudan, which was just beginning to function again with new intakes and in spite of the damage to the buildings during the fighting. The roads were good and we made excellent time.

In Juba no consultancy would have been complete without the obligatory concluding workshop to present our preliminary findings to the Sudanese stakeholders. This included a trip to Yei for participants to visit a training centre run by the World Bank, set up to show what could be achieved in agriculture as it revived after the Addis Peace Agreement. The visit itself was an eye opener to the predominantly pastoralist officials–Dinka, Nuer, Shilluk and Anuak.

The journey from Juba to Yei was something of an adventure in itself. It took us two days as the brakes failed on the bus we hired - fortunately on a fairly level section of road.

Our proposed training programme was accepted by the principal stakeholders –ODM and the Regional Ministry of People's Local Government and went ahead on an annual basis in Juba for a period of five years. The main target groups were Southerners recruited as Inspectors of Local Government and Executive Officers of local councils. They made up very diverse group: some ex –Anyanya; teachers; young recent graduates; and carry overs from the previous administration in the South. Educational backgrounds varied from graduates to a few years after primary school. There was no correlation between education and field ability and energy and backgrounds.

The course contents reflected the predominant pattern of coming new to administration and bureaucracy generally. Everything had to be covered from how to write reports, keep records and submit requests to development potentials in the areas of the South where they would be posted. What would now be called the Rule of Law was a major theme and was particularly new to some of the ex-Anyanya. The main lecturers were the few experienced officials in the Regional Government with the staff from Birmingham organising and back-stopping where necessary.

Looking back:

Nineteen seventy four was a time of hope in South Sudan, but my main reflexions are rather sad ones. The South's history since then has been one of decline into ever increasing division and conflict.

For a period in the seventies, there was peace and political stability- admittedly starting from a very low base. The Regional Government governed as did the three provincial administrations. Autonomy from the North was being put in place, but the need for continuing interdependence was recognised and continued until the latter years of the decade. Anyanya forces were absorbed into the National Army as part of the Addis Agreement. Life for citizens was a lot better than it is over forty years later –no land mines, warlords at least temporarily under control, famines created by climate and not the impact of fighting

Though retrospectively, it can be seen that many mistakes were made, at the time there was a general air of optimism in the South. This lasted until the Anyanya were forcibly disbanded by John Garang's creation of the SPLA around 1980 and the resumption of fighting between the North and the South.

On a personal note -in spite of all our travel difficulties, it was much easier and safer to move round the South in 1974 than it is today.

Bog roll challenge

On 9 July the Rt Hon Boris Johnson PM resigned as Foreign Secretary. Before leaving office he used toilet tissue as a metaphor for exiting the EU.

Taking his lead, The Four Corners [invites members to share their views and experiences](#). How do you rate the competing merits of the lavatories and lavatory paper which you have experienced around the world?

To get you started....



- Soft and comforting.
- Goes on and on.
- May dissolve if it gets too wet.
- Is it tough enough for a really clean Brexit?



- Strong, shiny and white.
- Comes out one sheet at a time.
- Individual sheets look small and thin.
- Will it jam or run out if Brexit gets messy?

It's the little things we remember: Annie Feltham and Garth Glentworth reminisce about toilets.....

Annie writes:

My first piece of work for the Know How Fund was in 1992. Three of us went out to Russia to do some work for the new Health Sector Strategy. We went to Kemerovo, an industrial and mining city in south-west Siberia. Off they took us into the countryside to show us Siberia. Lunch was in a large, attractive, but unheated wooden cottage. The woods were wet and autumnal. They apologised that the local hotel was closed and took us to spend the night in what was inappropriately called a tourist base.

Accommodation was a single storey building propped up on bricks. The toilet was a shack across an expanse of mud to be reached via a wooden path, avoiding a huge angry dog tethered on a wire. The next morning as the only Russian speaker my colleagues agreed that I could ask our hosts to take us back into the city so we could get on with our work. So I did. The large Siberian men got into a huddle and then agreed, but asked us first to go to the breakfast which they had already organised. I agreed, but asked for them to find us a normally flushing toilet. They got into another huddle. They agreed. I was taken to what I have always maintained must have been the only pink flushing toilet in Siberia. Well - perhaps the whole of Russia. I have never seen another one.

Over the years Garth and I bickered over who had been to the worst toilet. He maintains that the worst one ever was in the Greek Club in Juba. How would I know? Anyway years later I was in Bangkok as the DFID speaker at a conference on disability. I was working the room and noticed an African from a tribe I certainly didn't recognise. He said he was from Juba and suddenly I remembered the toilets and couldn't stop the recollection crossing my face. "Have you been there, madam?" "No. But I know someone who has." A limp reply, but the best I could think of.

Garth writes....

I was visiting Southern Sudan in the mid-seventies. It wasn't even Juba, but Malakal on the edge of the SUDD swamp. Toilets may seem like a strange preoccupation among visitors to the South, but –as will be revealed below –for very good reasons.

Apart from the banks of the River, Juba is largely built on 'ironstone'-hard red soil laced through with large numbers of stones. This makes the "long drop" toilets which would be the most economical and healthy alternative- if dug to the right depth- almost impossible to construct. Even if there were adequate space in the built-up area, spades and shovels and the occasional digger were almost totally ineffective – eighteen feet being the right depth to discourage breeding mosquitos (according to the advanced "Blair Toilet" model developed in Zimbabwe).

The alternative developed during the later Colonial Period in Sudan was the "bucket system" which was still in use in the 'seventies. Essentially what was involved was a concrete or wooden platform with holes under which were positioned cast- iron buckets. This system could work well as long as two vital conditions were met: relatively low density usage and efficient night soil collection arrangements. Neither applied in Juba in the mid-seventies. The population increase after the First Civil War had increased so massively as to put intolerable pressure on the facilities. At the same time, the collection system had comprehensively broken down.

It was in the central market area where the effects were most observable, particularly during the wet season. At that time it should be noted that ironstone is basically impermeable so that water and other movables washed down even the most modest of slopes to collect in pools at the bottom. Visual imagery I shall have to leave to the reader's imagination.

There were of course examples of water closets and cess pits -growing in numbers with the construction of modern buildings and the growing presence of Aid Agencies and NGOs. Chemical toilets were beginning to make an appearance in some of the embryonic IDP camps. Construction was not always efficient. The system in what was then the Senior Government Rest House had a habit of backing up and reversing during the wet season.

Though without the population pressure, outside Juba facilities deteriorated –which brings me to Malakal and the Greek Club. The system in operation in the Club could best be described as "blocked lateral" and it had operated on this basis for months if not years. Dancing and toilet visiting had had to become complementary skills. And that is why the Greek Club in Malakal is my nomination.

Postscript: My wife claims the Shell garage between Kano and Kaduna wins.....

Committee members

At the DFID Alumni Association's AGM on Monday 2 July, three committee members were elected:

- Jan Ketelaar (committee member)
- Kathy Marshall (committee member, re-elected)
- John Stuppel (Secretary, re-elected)

Seven members of the committee continue in post:

- Simon Ray (Chairman)
- John Burton (Treasurer)
- Isobel Doig
- Jim Drummond
- Janet Grimshaw
- Pam Jenkins
- Marc Taylor

Having served as chairman since June 2013, Simon Ray told the AGM that he intends to retire as soon as a successor can be found.

The committee agreed at its meeting on 2 July to co-opt Pauline Hayes as a member.

New Members of the Association

We welcome our new members who joined the DFID Alumni in April to June 2018.

Anna Laslo

Anne Fraser

Colin Benham

Members can find previous editions of this newsletter at dgroups.org and on the DFID Alumni Association web site.

The Four Corners has appeared quarterly since 2007. Members of the DFID Alumni Association can download any of the previous editions – and other documents - from the DFID Alumni [Library on dgroups](https://dgroups.org).

Dgroups (at <https://dgroups.org>) hosts a private on-line resource for our members. Members can request a password, or ask for a new password, [here](#).

Editions of The Four Corners since December 2013 are available for anyone, whether a member or not, to download from the Association's web site at www.dfid-alumni.org.

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**International Development Secretary's
speech at the Chatham House London
conference 2018:
*The Great Partnership: Delivering Global
Britain***



Good morning. I'm deeply honoured to have been invited to talk to you this morning, to such an esteemed, situationally aware and well-informed audience. It is such a pleasure not to have to explain that when I'm talking about championing the Global Goals, I'm not talking about Panama 4-0.

The video that you have just seen flows from the work we have done to relaunch and reset UK aid so that it better delivers the Global Goals. So it is fit for purpose in a fast changing diplomatic and economic landscape. And so that it also works in the national interest. This was done very deliberately to respond to the public concerns about how we have operated UK aid in the past, based on the public's views and on the values that they hold dear.

Not just to persuade them that we are doing a good thing, but to actually give them a stake in it. To reconnect them with what they enable. To earn their trust in our action. And to make them proud of their country. In my speech today I will briefly recap what we have done to achieve that. How we are changing and how we are changing what we do. And also resetting our work across government. So UK aid can deliver for the whole of Whitehall. And the whole of Whitehall can deliver the Global Goals.

But I will also tell you why our reforms cannot stop at Whitehall. Because if they do we will not have understood the opportunity or potential ambition for Global Britain or the necessity of radical reform in how one HMG operates to deliver it. And why ultimately public approval for UK aid matters so much.

But I am going to start by telling you why Global Britain matters. At your conference you will contemplate some of the world's greatest challenges for our generation. Sometimes they seem overwhelming. How to achieve peace and stability in the Middle East. Ending extreme poverty in Africa. To deliver the Global Goals from which we are so far adrift.

Other challenges that you perhaps might not examine today - global health security and antimicrobial resistance. The need to cope with more extreme weather events. The challenges of ensuring that new technology is a force for good. Protecting the environment and biodiversity, dealing with the consequences of climate change. The sobering realisation that the challenges and crises that we face today are largely man-made – conflict, crime, corruption. And a fast approaching migration crisis of epic proportions. A growing number of displaced and stateless people. The demand for more livelihoods just at a time when robots are making people redundant.

And this is against the backdrop of the good old reliable rules based order being altogether less dependable. As are some old friends and allies. And when we have the emergence of new powers and superpowers who will have an increasing say on how the world is run, with which we need to forge new relationships and have a new offer. The challenge of China, the threat from Russia. The ever changing shape of violent extremism and terrorism. Cyber threats. Organised crime, the drugs trade, the scourge of modern slavery. All that woe.

The need for a strategy and an action plan to cope with all of that is magnified for our citizens through the prism of social media, which demands the impossible from its politicians - immediate and simple answers to complex, long-burn challenges. And we look weak. We look ineffective. And amidst all of this we have Brexit.

There is a sense. Just at a time when the world should be pulling together. We are pulling things apart. The world seems to be falling apart. I know that is how it feels. And how it feels matters.

It affects our ambition. It affects what we believe is possible. It affects our direction as a nation. So I want you to feel better. I want to cheer you up. The world is improving. By any standards, or any research, the world is actually becoming a better place. Over the last few decades we have reduced global poverty by around a billion people, largely thanks to the liberalisation of trade. In 1990 almost 50% more of the world's children are now in school.

We have become more resilient, more able to withstand natural disasters. Since 1990 almost 50% more of the world's children are now in school. Health has improved dramatically. People are living longer - the number of children dying before their fifth birthday has almost halved from 12 million since 1990. We have the ability to halt Ebola, and plague and famine. And there will shortly be a proud day, in the not too distant future, when UK aid and British Rotarians finally eradicate polio.

Yes, the Rotarians. That global network of 1.2 million neighbours, friends, leaders, problem-solvers, who want a world where people unite and take action and create lasting change across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. There is goodwill towards the multilateral system, as demonstrated by the landmark deal agreed earlier this year to secure additional resources and reforms to the World Bank. The UK played a pivotal role in securing that deal, which will lead to an increased focus on the poorest and most fragile.

With new technology we have breath-taking possibilities. New solutions to old problems. And a faster way of finding those who can help. One piece of child birthing kit, which helps babies stuck in the birth canal, saving them and their mothers, was invented by an Argentinian car mechanic, who heard about the problem from one of our tech call outs. He said, "Do you know what, I've got something in the back that will fix it", and he did, and he will save thousands of lives. There is growing democracy and human rights across the world. Women, LGBT, minority rights are improving. Sometimes too slowly. But they are improving. We could even see the first signs of a move towards peace in Afghanistan.

So as you contemplate the challenges facing the world today you should remember how far we've come. That is important because we seem to lack confidence about the future.

The problem is that all of that good news is eclipsed by what appears to be a crisis of leadership in the West. People feel let down by their leaders and their institutions. With good reason, mind you! We've had the banking crisis in 2008. Institutions methodically pulling the rug out under the feet of wealth-creating entrepreneurs in order to keep their own balance sheet strong. Big business cheating the consumer. The vehicle emissions scandal, the failure of regulations, the failure to protect the consumer. And my own sector has not been immune from this. Many charities have lost support from hard-working donors and life-long believers due to incompetence, or extravagance, or the tolerance of predatory behaviour towards the most world's vulnerable people.

In recent times, our politics has sometimes failed to lead those it serves. This is true overseas as it is at home. The consensus seems to have melted away. Despite the British public's generosity towards people on the other side of the world that they will never meet, despite their understanding of the global connections upon which our own health, peace, security and prosperity depends, they are sceptical about how their political leaders are spending their money.

It's not a lack of logic or a lack of love that causes scepticism about the aid budget - it is a lack of trust. They have had similar feelings about our foreign policy- that it has failed to understand the long-term consequences of a chosen course of action. And, as we know, there is a view that the executive can no longer be trusted to deploy Her Majesty's armed forces without a parliament check.

Cynicism and pessimism prevails. Love is in short supply. It is easier to give up than try. Or better still, let's not start at all. Better to disengage, better to retreat. To save our resource, to save our energy. Protectionism, tied aid, populism appear a much safer bet. Have we lost confidence in our own ability and right to exercise hard and soft power? Have we forgotten why we have the values that we do? Why free trade and freedom matter? Are we afraid of the future?

As we leave the EU we need to get our mojo back. And that is why the people of this country want a vision set out. What is Britain's role in the world? What is it that we are trying to get done? How will we do it? What will Brexit look like? What will Global Britain look like? And what does it mean for me?

They apparently don't want a 'safer bet'. They said "no thanks" to that during the referendum. They want to be part of a nation that does have the inclination and ability to act, to influence, to deter, and to intervene. Even when that means us standing alone. Brexit was a vote of self-determination of confidence and hope. And its successful delivery will be too. We want the public to have confidence and trust in our international relations. They want the country and the world, to pull together for their children's sake. They want to unite behind a vision and they want to help.

It is in our national psyche to come together and to get stuck in. Our greatest accomplishments have been driven by that courage and that care. Courage and care. To fight, whether with arms, or knowledge or science or discovery, argument or compassion against evil, against hunger, and disease and tyranny for humanity's sake. We are strong because we are leaders.

There will be people who look at the disagreements in our politics and in our international institutions and groupings, and say we are divided and weak. Thinking differently is not a weakness. On the contrary, there are many countries around the world where there is no debate, no disagreement, no alternative opinion. Those disagreements are actually a sign of great strength. It is the very reason why democracies and democratic organisations are strong. That's why democracies always, always beat dictatorships in the long-run.

So if our old friends and allies seem a little unreliable, or our parliament a little fraught - I urge you not to lose faith in them. We are strong because we are a democracy and because we embrace international rules. We believe in democracy because it values diversity. Everyone gets a vote. It is one manifestation of our nation's unselfish values. We believe in sharing, in helping. We volunteer, we pay tax. We donate millions to charities and DEC appeals and UK aid is the pragmatic manifestation of that love.

There will be people who say our actions are outdated, unfit for a changing world. I say we are strong because of our values, we are strong because we are capable. Just think about the incredible response to our diplomatic efforts in the wake of the Salisbury attack. The esteem in which the UK is held as a development superpower. And that our Armed Forces are still the prototype others seek to emulate, and the defence partner of choice.

That's what our nation does. And that means our nation is a protector. It's a wealth bringer. A capacity builder. A problem solver. A life-saver. And a peace broker. A commonwealth member. A global 0.7, 2 per cent nation. At a time when the interests of other nations is so diverse. At a time when the world is changing so fast. We are the game changer nation. What other nation has so much to offer to so many? We are strong because we are capable and we are relevant. Global Britain is the margin of victory in delivering the Global Goals and a more peaceful, prosperous and secure world.

So we better make sure we do. That has been the motivation for our rethink at DFID. To restore faith, to regain that mojo, to be ready to help our nation embrace that opportunity. In January, I outlined a new higher spending bar for the department. From now on aid money will not just be spent well but we will show that it could not be better spent. We must do the most good with the money that we have and that means effective aid spending, but also if we can achieve that and help the national interest in a more direct way, then we will do so.

This has led to more co-designed and co-funded projects with other government departments. We are looking at how UK Aid can work with the Ministry of Defence to support stability and development overseas, in support of national security objectives. We are exploring ideas, such as peacekeeping, disaster relief training for UK and overseas military personnel, and realising the benefits of more joint training. We should work towards greater cooperation - maximising the most benefit for our nation from our respective budgets, and we should be sweating those taxpayer-funded assets.

We are working with the Department for Work and Pensions to make the International Citizenship Service deliver the skills and confidence boost to help disadvantaged UK young people get into work. And with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs we are funding projects to protect the environment, to tackle the scourge of plastics in our oceans and protect endangered species. With trade we are developing a new Brexit ready offer created by both departments and this will connect all we have to offer with the opportunities to invest abroad. With Health we are developing new treatments and combating antimicrobial resistance.

By funding things that will support the British people or causes that they care passionately about, we do not dilute the good aid does, we double it. We will

seek a win for the developing world and a win for the UK in all we do. Funding decisions will also take into account what nations can afford to spend on their own people and whether they actually do. The World Bank is developing a new Human Capital Index which will help quantify this for the first time, and Bill Gates and I are its first champions. We are moving from a project-based approach to methodically capacity building in developing nations. We want the healthcare programs to yield healthcare systems for the long run.

My first action as Secretary of State was to set up a new unit to help nations collect tax, and part of our new development offer is a greater effort and the tools to combat illicit money flows and capital flight. And we will not fund things that others can.

I have spoken also about the reforms that we need to deliver our new offer and our new approach. The UK's commitment to spend seven pence out of every £10 of income on the world's poorest people is absolutely in line with our national values and our national interest. But we need to ensure that how we are meeting the 0.7 is sensible and works for the British public in the long term, so we are focused on ensuring that there is nothing that hinders the most effective use of those funds. We are working with Treasury to ensure that our compliance with that world-leading pledge is done in the most effective way possible. And we will continue to push for reform of the DAC rules where we think they prevent spending on legitimate humanitarian missions and that counting as ODA.

We have won the argument regarding doubling the proportion of our UN peacekeeping costs that count as ODA and we are winning the argument that countries that slide back into poverty can be ODA eligible again. Within Whitehall, we will continue to work with Treasury and other government departments to ensure we are spending our aid money in the most effective and efficient way possible.

In March, I chaired my first Ministerial group of all government departments that spend ODA, to raise the quality, consistency and coherence of spending along the principles of good quality aid spent in the national interest pursuing of the Global Goals. DFID is also working closely with the Cabinet Office to support the strategy and governance of the cross government ODA funds; the Prosperity Fund and the CSSF. These structures together with a maturing NSC, with a fusion philosophy, will ensure that the

tools of hard and soft power are used coherently, strategically and effectively.

In April I announced the largest shift in what DFID does and how it will do it in that department's history, which will ensure that we are providing a comprehensive response to the development challenges of the future, dealing with both the direct and indirect causes of poverty. This will include a clear focus on Africa where DFID, the FCO and others work jointly to deliver a new partnership.

We will step up our engagement with the world's financial centres – critical hubs that determine how money flows into and out of the developing world. We are investigating whether our own impact is limited by the financial instruments that are currently available to us. For example, is there a case for using new aid instruments such as sovereign lending? We are looking closely at the development needs of a wide range of countries that have transitioned out of extreme poverty in recent years, but still face challenges, particularly of growth and job creation. We need to work with these countries to build their markets so they can grow. And as the world relies more on the economies of countries such as China to drive growth, we are looking at how to deepen our partnership with them as their global impact on the rules-based international system and global public goods increases.

In the Middle East, we will continue to respond generously to meet humanitarian needs in Yemen and in Syria, but we will shift relationships with countries like Jordan and Lebanon to increase stability, reduce conflict and build resilience - because it's in their interest and it's in our interest too. So DFID is changing, and we are helping Whitehall get the most impact from ODA, but we are going to go much further still. We have taken a conscious and methodical approach to break down the silos. So one HMG can be truly effective.

Around 60 of my team are embedded with the Department for Trade to form a joint team responsible for shaping the UK's future trade arrangements with developing countries. FCO secondees sit in our building. From the start of my tenure I have chosen to take my entire ministerial team to Foreign Office prayers, their weekly ministerial meeting. And I have spent time with the leadership team of ambassadors, trade envoys and diplomats in the UK service. We have had a joint executive board with the DIT.

I am mapping key planning decisions in internationally facing government departments, and when they are taken. So the decisions we take, whether in programmes or replenishments are the best informed and the most impactful. My goal was to replicate the tight-knit country teams we see in our embassies and missions around the world here in Whitehall. There have long been calls for this close working and I am proud that it's my department DFID, which has reach and relevance, into every government department, that is delivering that culture change.

I know people get very excited about the machinery of government, but where the real action is lies beyond Whitehall. Because although government can be a catalyst, an enabler, it is not government that will deliver Global Britain. It is the sum of what we as a nation have to offer. It is our town-halls, our great cities, our business and entrepreneurs, our technology, our science base, our education institutions, our creative law, our tax inspectors.

I'm tempted to say, Harry Kane's right boot. Harry Kane's left boot. The city of London, our civil society and our social enterprises, our faith and community groups. Of the five priorities I announced in that reset of UK aid earlier this year, the fifth was the Great Partnership. At the same time as we unite Whitehall around a more coherent ODA offer, we will unite the nation behind a national mission, in the national interest. Global Britain delivering Global Goals. To connect all our nation has to all that it can help.

And that is why the trust of the British public in what we do with their money to help the world's poorest is critical. Because we want them to help. Because without their help, without their talents, without their entrepreneurial spirit, their business opportunities, their inventions, their discoveries and without connecting all citizens with those elsewhere in the world who share their ambitions we will not deliver those ambitions.

Global Britain is about looking out into the world and seizing the opportunities that come from those freedoms we gain by leaving the EU. But it also needs to be about our own communities and organisations, businesses, charities, institutions and the people that make them. DFID is already doing this through UK aid match, and our new small grants programme. The diversification of our suppliers and other initiatives give us a good base to work from. But we will go much further, working

strategically with big business, and building networks of entrepreneurs, civil society, and community groups, to connect them with people and opportunities.

So as well as seeing us in places like Singapore and Dubai in the future you will also see DFID in Belfast and Glasgow and Newcastle and in fact every region of the UK, talking to local businesses who are keen to bring their expertise and skills to help the world's poorest. As part of a cross-government commercial approach, my teams have already been to Birmingham, Leeds and Cardiff to discuss how businesses there can apply for DFID funding.

This is about harnessing all we have to offer as a nation and the spirit of our times to tackle the remaining challenges of our times. That is why the public's view of the strategy and execution of our diplomacy, our development assistance and our defence of this nation is critical. Because they are critical to its delivery. Because the world needs their leadership. And their humanity.

Want a vision for Global Britain? Then look at the people of this country, look at who we are. Courageous, compassionate, committed to democracy. And with those values, just think what we can become. Thank you.

Penny Mordaunt MP delivered this speech on 21 June 2018