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Alliance for Vulnerable Mission Bulletin

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Editor: Jim Harries, PhD, Chairman of the AVM.



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The Alliance for Vulnerable Mission encourages some missionaries from the West to engage in their ministries using local languages and resources.





Please suggest contributions to this Bulletin to jim@vulnerablemission.org

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Webinar, 25th January 2024, Andy McCullough

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**Four day gathering of 20 scholars and practitioners
based in Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand**

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Upcoming webinars in 2024



25th January 2024: Andy McCullough

Demons come back
Why we're sometimes
not as humble as we
think we are, and how
God can help us to do
better



Webinar, 25th January 2024, Andy McCullough.

Details and registration:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/avm-webinar-with-andy-mccullough-tickets-736593780827?aff=ebsdoporgprofile>

..ooOoo..



The Mission: Documentary film on John Chau’s mission to North Sentinel Island

For more on the film see here:

<https://films.nationalgeographic.com/the-mission>

Discussion on this by The Christian Post here:

[https://www.christianpost.com/voices/5-years-ago-john-chau-became-a-gospel-hero.html?uid=*\[UNIQID\]*&utm_source=The+Christian+Post+List&utm_campaign=CP-Newsletter&utm_medium=email](https://www.christianpost.com/voices/5-years-ago-john-chau-became-a-gospel-hero.html?uid=*[UNIQID]*&utm_source=The+Christian+Post+List&utm_campaign=CP-Newsletter&utm_medium=email)

Write up from missio-nexus:

<https://missionexus.org/john-chau-and-missions-to-uncontacted-peoples-the-rest-of-the-story/>

We cannot know how things might have worked out had John survived his effort at reaching the Sentinel Islanders. Perhaps his mission-style would not have been vulnerable mission as we know it? His endeavour at reaching those people for Jesus has been an inspiration for many – myself (Jim) included.

I have seen little discussion speculating on the after-effects on the community on the island of John’s martyrdom. Let us pray that it was, and continues to be, positive, in the sense that John’s dedication has challenged the islanders to consider their walk with God.

..ooOoo..

Four day gathering of 20 scholars and practitioners based in Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand



In November, AVM board member Deborah Bernhard organised a four-day gathering of 20 scholars and practitioners based in Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand. Attendees were chosen based on

their openness to different perspectives, out-of-the-box thinking, and a desire to be part of changing how we approach reaching the Buddhist world for Christ. This is the fifth Rethinking Forum for the Buddhist world and was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand. We heard from speakers and discussed topics such as decolonisation of mission, cultural humility, and how to practice vulnerable living and discipleship in our communities. Various issues were raised, such as how can we see Jesus movements within the predominant socio-cultural context that are



organic and not driven by western funds or influence? What does it mean to decolonise our thinking and lives as we immerse ourselves in local communities? And, what does it look like to “do no harm” to a society as a whole or individuals in the society, as we carry the message of Jesus?









These are just some examples of what we came together to do. The plan is to follow up with quarterly online huddles until we meet again next year!

We also discussed the need for a book that addresses ways that God is working in the lives and communities of Buddhists outside the box of ‘Christianity’. Several RF members plan to contribute chapters. Deborah will be the main editor and hopes to do further on-the-ground research in preparation. Funding is still lacking however.



For more information write to: dmbernhard@protonmail.com

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| <p>25th January 2024: Andy McCullough</p> <p>Demons come back Why we're sometimes not as humble as we think we are, and how God can help us to do better</p>   | <p>18th April 2024: Tamie Davis</p> <p>Truth in contextual ministry Relative, different or expanded?</p>   |
| <p>25th July 2024: Dr. Natalie Mullen</p> <p>The When's and How's of language learning as basis for fruitful cross-cultural ministry</p>   | <p>17th October 2024: Craig McCorkindale</p> <p>Teaching the Bible cross-culturally in a local language Benefits and requirements</p>   |

Upcoming webinars in 2024

Details and registration: <https://www.vulnerablemission.org/quarterly-webinar>