

2019 EURO TCK CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS



KEY NOTE SPEAKER

Jackie Mann

Although I now live and work in the middle of England I come from the West Country city of Bristol, with its distinct accent. It was here that I enjoyed my school years both in the classroom and also on the sports field. My life had no room for Jesus until at seventeen when I heard the gospel for the first time through events put on at a friend's church - that changed everything! Over the years since I have lived in South Wales and Oxford before settling in Leamington Spa just after the turn of the century. Prior to taking on a post responsible for training at a local church in Warwick (Myton Church) I had the privilege of working with the British IFES movement (UCCF) for ten years and then Friends International (UK) that equips the local church to reach international students. Across all these roles I have grown a passion for equipping Christians to reflect biblically on the culture around them so they can both live distinctively and reach out. Whilst Leamington is a long way from the sea I love to relax on deserted beaches, plus enjoy any combination of the following: good coffee, red wine, leisurely evenings with friends, log fires, films, the absorption of a jigsaw puzzle!

Workshops



Pre-field orientation for TCKs

Led by Yolanda Jerrard and Janet Chapman

Yolanda has been with New Tribes Mission since 1992, first serving in the Ivory Coast and later Papua New Guinea. She and her husband have 3 wonderful children.

Stephen and Yolanda now work in England at the NTM-UK headquarters in Lincolnshire, providing support, training and advice for missionary families and TCKs.

Janet has been in TCK ministry with OMF International since 1984, teaching TCKs in E Asia, providing orientation, debriefing and leading TCK programmes. She is now UK based as OMF TCK Advisor for 60 British families.

Janet helped compile *30 days of prayer for TCKs*.

In 2002 together with Janet Brown, she started the inter agency, rekonnect camps for TCKs returning to UK. These camps continue to be a highlight of her year!

Janet loves gardening and card making.

Synopsis: Shifting cultures can be exciting, but also an abrupt shock for children. Familiar faces, sights and sounds are replaced with the unknown. We need to prepare children for cross-cultural living before leaving their passport country and on arrival in their host country. Good preparation can't take away the adjustment, but it can provide children with the tools they need to make it work.

Janet Chapman and Yolanda Jerrard will share out of their experiences of single agency Pre Field Orientation courses which run for a few weeks to one day, interagency PFOs which they have run.



Raising Sons and Daughters in a Muslim Context

Led by Robert Miller

Dr. Robert Miner, 65 years old, USAian raised in Germany and USA, gratefully and enthusiastically married with Layne in Austria, 1980, studied psychology in Vienna, Austria, theology in Basel, Switzerland, and linguistics in Strasbourg, France.

Since 1987 based in Amman, Jordan, teaching theology in Arabic in the context of the “Program for Theological Education by Extension” (PTEE—www.ptee.org) and serving with the church of Jesus Christ throughout the Arab World. Five adult children, four married with children in Austria.

Synopsis: Robert will speak from his experience with raising his own children in a Muslim culture.

We will talk about topics like: preparing families for service in Muslim cultures, how to support families living in those cultures, dealing with political instability, religious extremism and intolerance to Christian witness.

How do we prepare children for dealing with suffering and developing their identity in a very protective environment especially for girls with harassment and generally less respect for women?

The workshop will have an interactive nature as well where we can learn from each other.



Debriefing Families

Led by Christian Quartier

Christian is Swiss and lives currently in France, close to Geneva (CH). Married to Simone (CH), they celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in October 2014. They have three young adult daughters. Christian has diploma's in theology and advanced Counseling. He worked with Operation Mobilisation (OM) first in Switzerland later in the UK (with the International membercare).

Christian was the debriefing manager at “Le Rucher Ministries” debriefing centre (2003-2011) and now works in International Membercare as a debriefer / counsellor / trainer. His main focus is: Christian workers, Humanitarian workers, church leaders and their families.

Synopsis: This workshop aims at looking into goals, advantages, and challenges of “Family debriefing”, either being debriefing an individual family or running a family debriefing retreat with different families attending. To do so, we will consider different case studies.



Safeguarding children

Led by Martin Lee

Martin Lee recently retired from his position as the Director of Global Connections, the UK mission network. Previously he worked for CORD, a Christian relief and development agency, which focused on projects with children and refugees.

He has wide experience in many areas that effect mission and a special interest in vulnerable children. He facilitated UK working parties which developed both TCK good practice guidelines and Safeguarding Children guidelines.

Synopsis: Safeguarding children: “All children have a right to be protected from harm and have their welfare promoted - whoever they are and wherever they are.”

Safeguarding requires commitment from organisations, churches, personnel and their families to achieve the highest level of protection for children with whom they come into contact.

Many organisations have good policies and procedures in place, but do we recognise the need for contextualisation, appropriate translation, how to work in locations that may have no policy or procedures, or how to respond to the differing legal frameworks in Europe and in the local situation?

How should we respond when allegations are made, including those of a historic nature? How do we find and implement appropriate training in an international context? This workshop will address some of these issues through the framework of some best practice guidelines developed in the UK.



Re-entry: basic overall view

Led by Yolanda Jerrard

Yolanda has been with New Tribes Mission since 1992, first serving in the Ivory Coast and later Papua New Guinea. She and her husband have 3 wonderful children.

Stephen and Yolanda now work in England at the NTM-UK headquarters in Lincolnshire, providing support, training and advice for missionary families and TCKs.

Synopsis: This workshop will look at the significance and challenges of re-entry for the TCK. Questions such as, what are the normal reactions to change, how do people experience transition, and how are young people in particular affected, will be considered. There will be interaction and opportunity to discuss the issues raised, and we will hear from real experiences of TCKs.



Debriefing Teens

Led by Birgit Knebel

Birgit is a german nurse, married to Matthias since 21 years. They have two teenage daughters, aged 15 and 18. The family has lived 14 years as missionaries in Kenya and is back in Germany since 2009.

After returning from the mission-field Birgit worked in the mission-organisation in the area of membercare. She did a training in counselling , debriefing and coaching.

Since 4 years Birgit and her husband are working in "Neue Hoffnung", a ministry, where fulltime church-workers and missionaries can have a time out, receive counselling or debriefing in order to reflect on their lives. To help families in the re-entry process is very much on her heart

Synopsis: This workshop will help the delegates to identify the special needs teenagers have. They will learn practical debriefing skills and see how debriefing can help teenagers and their families to understand the challenges they are going through as TCK's.



Debriefing for children up to 12 yrs of age

Led by Janet Chapman

Janet has been in TCK ministry with OMF International since 1984, teaching TCKs in E Asia, providing orientation, debriefing and leading TCK programmes. She is now UK based as OMF TCK Advisor for 60 British families. Janet helped compile *30 days of prayer for TCKs*.

In 2002 together with Janet Brown, she started the inter agency, rekonnect camps for TCKs returning to UK. These camps continue to be a highlight of her year! Janet loves gardening and card making.

Synopsis: Each person in a family is impacted in a unique way by living overseas. It is important to bring agencies and families on board with the value of debriefing children on their return to their passport culture. Why? When? and Where? and Who? can be involved in debriefs will be covered but the main emphasis will be on How? to debrief children.

Participants will be introduced to a variety of creative opportunities which can be provided to help TCKs recall their experiences and feelings. Janet is beginning to offer family debriefs but in this workshop she will share out of her experiences of debriefing TCKs alone, with siblings or in small groups of the same age.



TCK in marriage

Led by Esther Brumme

Esther is an ATCK, born in Switzerland to British/American parents. She grew up in a north-African neighborhood in Paris, attending local schools and later, higher education in the UK, France and Germany.

After a rocky start to their marriage, Esther and her husband spent two years in China, specifically to be in a neutral place and go through culture shock together. It wasn't glamorous, but it brought them together with a new realization: their greatest differences can be their greatest strength.

After Asia, they returned to the USA and Esther had to work through the many hard transition dynamics TCKs face, being away for 20 years.

A decade later, Andrew and Esther are still working on their marriage. Today, they make their home in a French farmhouse, with three loud TCKs.

Synopsis: We've all heard the stories. TCK returns to his/her passport country. TCK wades through the pain of transition and fairly soon, falls in love head over heels with the first person who shows them attention. At last they are understood. But are they really? And does TCK understand themselves? Are they really ready for a relationship, let alone marriage?

In this interactive workshop, Esther will give those working with counselling TCKs in their marriage relationships tools and some humour to help these marriages. Some of the topics we'll cover is how caregivers and parents can lovingly accompany the TCK who is interested in a relationship, pointers for TCKs to best understand their monocultural spouse, and some of the pitfalls and strengths of TCKs within the context of marriage. We'll talk about the joy in creating a new culture within marriage and how vital (and freeing!) it is to have worked on our TCK journey before jumping into the throws of parenting little ones.



Building community: Adult TCKs and Non-Romantic Relationships

Led by Simon

Simon was born in Germany (3 siblings, 2 parents), grew up in Panama, spent some time in Asia and currently lives in Germany (again). He is happily married (most of the time).

He studied bioprocess engineering and loves music and programming.

Synopsis: A question that comes up regularly in my work with adult TCKs is, "How do I get community; a place to belong where I am living now?" Accustomed to transitory living, many adult TCKs feel overwhelmed and vulnerable at the prospect of generating community for themselves in their current location.

While the internet has much to offer by way of virtual community, and email and Facebook allow the maintenance of friendships across the miles, many TCKs feel the pull of local, as well as global, community. The muscles that are so well developed and suited to global-minded connection can feel much less confident at building long-lasting local connection.

In this workshop we will explore a few different ways of approaching community-building that stretch and strengthen our ability to forge commitments to both friends and places on a local scale. With strategies in place, adult TCKs can feel more confidence in their ability to build community, and in the hope that such connection brings.



Sitting in the unknown, dealing with ambiguity

Led by Katha von Dessien

Katha could probably find a bed to sleep in most countries and connecting with people and their stories is her passion. But maintaining relationships with the many people she met around the globe is incredibly challenging when life and life phases are in constant transition.

She spent a few years in Uganda and South Africa and is now based in Southern Germany where she works as a teacher. In an international setting, of course.

Synopsis: In the international, unpredictable, ever-changing world we live in, TCKs often struggle to navigate the different people, cultures and faith concepts they encounter. Learning to engage ambiguity (to become curious about not knowing) provides an incredible tool for connecting more deeply with the highs and lows of this mobile lifestyle.

This interactive session will challenge you to name your own ambiguities to manage the balance between finding answers and maintaining a sense of curiosity. Let's open up the discussion about the question marks in our lives.



Re-entry for teens

Led by Marion Knell

Marion has served on the leadership of Member Care Europe, Global Member Care, and EuroTCK. She inaugurated the MA in Member Care at Redcliffe College. Marion travels internationally speaking on aspects of Member Care and TCKs and works as a cross-cultural consultant with an international relocation company training expatriates and their families on acculturation issues.

She has written two books, “Families on the Move” and “Burn-up or Splashdown – the survival guide to re-entry” and is currently working on a handbook for churches and agencies “Foundations for Member Care”.

Since January 2015 Marion has been involved with the Refugee Highway Partnership working on training issues. She is now point person for the Member Care and Trauma response unit of EEA’s Hope for Europe- Refugees project.

Marion has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is a rugby football fanatic.

Synopsis: This workshop will focus on the issues of re-integration for teens. Bearing in mind the challenges faced at re-entry, what factors help teens to integrate their TCK experiences into a healthy new identity and assimilation into their passport culture. We will look at case studies and tools to facilitate the integration.



Why do they do that -Understanding GenZ

Led by Jackie Mann

After the morning plenary on attitudes to faith & belief, truth & authority, story & experience this workshop will look more closely at the trends of youth today.

Sexuality in a changing world

led by Jackie Mann

In the morning session we looked at what it is to be human and we covered some basic themes, the workshop will focus on exploring some specific issues with regards to sexuality

Engaging with technology

led by Jackie Mann

This will be a question and answer session about teenagers and technology. So come with your questions.



Education options going to the field

Led by Steve Bryant and Heylane Vonk

Steve was a teacher at Bourofaye Christian School in Senegal from 1990 - 2001 where he was the head teacher from 1993 onwards. In 2001 he and Gill took over as the WEC International MK Consultants, a role which has taken them to around 30 countries. Steve enjoys running.

Heylane is a teacher who has worked in many different settings (boarding school, home schooling, regular schools in Holland and UK, teaching adults, second language teaching and teaching by Skype etc). She advises parents going overseas about the education of their children and teaches homeschoolers in Africa about home schooling and TCK-issues. She loves writing and gardening.

Synopsis: Education of children is thought to be the second highest reason families leave their field of assignment unexpectedly.

Steve and Heylane aim to share out of their experience and expertise how to help parents establish their educational perspective or philosophy for their family as they prepare to take up an assignment outside their passport country.

They will share tools to help parents think through what they consider to be important for their children's education and well-being and how to develop a thoughtful and flexible long-term plan that will fit the whole family, even when original expectations need to change.



Anchoring Identity for TCKs

Led by Maria Techow

Maria is living in Denmark with her husband and 4 children. She has been serving in the Danish IFES movement for two years and she and her husband were parts of the pioneers who planted the Copenhagen Church – an Evangelical Free Church.

She is a Clinical Psychologist, head of department for Psychiatry & Existence, and Competence Unit for Expats at Center for Family Development in Copenhagen.

Maria has recently published a guidebook for TCK's from 6-13 years to support children in creating meaning and coherence by writing, telling, painting, collecting memories and sharing their narratives before, during and after their expatriation.

Synopsis: 'Who am I? Or who is everybody else' – as an 11-year old TCK boy recently asked in one of our TCK groups. Knowing who we are and forming a stable sense of self is essential for all of us. Identity is formed and developed in connections with others in a complex developmental task, and it often becomes even more complicated for TCK's whose connections are in several countries and often replaced or broken.

This workshop will look into the complexities of anchoring an identity but also focusing on the strengths of forming a TCK identity.

As another 13-year old girl proudly proclaimed in our TCK-group: 'I used to struggle with the concept of who am I – but now I know and I feel comfort in knowing that I am a Danish TCK'.



Does this TCK thing ever end? Navigating Life Transitions

Led by Katha von Dessien

Katha could probably find a bed to sleep in most countries and connecting with people and their stories is her passion. But maintaining relationships with the many people she met around the globe is incredibly challenging when life and life phases are in constant transition.

She spent a few years in Uganda and South Africa and is now based in Southern Germany where she works as a teacher. In an international setting, of course.

Synopsis: I have returned to my passport country, I have gone through re-entry seminars – I am done being a TCK." That's how it works, right? While many TCKs manage to successfully settle into their passport culture, they often stumble across the same questions they thought they had put to bed for good – home, identity, belonging – as they continue to build their lives in education, houses, long-lasting relationships.

In this session we want to discuss how we can engage our TCK identity throughout major life transitions and make it work for us rather than let it haunt us.



Transition for children

Led by Maria Techow

Maria is living in Denmark with her husband and 4 children. She has been serving in the Danish IFES movement for two years and she and her husband were parts of the pioneers who planted the Copenhagen Church – an Evangelical Free Church. She is a Clinical Psychologist, head of department for Psychiatry & Existence, and Competence Unit for Expats at Center for Family Development in Copenhagen.

Maria has recently published a guidebook for TCK's from 6-13 years to support children in creating meaning and coherence by writing, telling, painting, collecting memories and sharing their narratives before, during and after their expatriation.

Synopsis: Moving abroad for a period of time can be a great and challenging transition for both TCK's and adults. Not to mention moving back to one's passport country and readjusting after an international posting. But transition in a TCK's life is not just to and from the field, but their lives are affected by all the transitions they experience. This workshop will focus on all the transitions in a TCK's life, how transitions affect children from 6-14, and how to use transitions as a resource and prevent the negative consequences.

For TCK's to thrive and better cope with these circumstances it is of great significance that they form and maintain secure relationships. TCK's need to experience a "sense of coherence" about their lives and the challenges that arise, thus experiencing TCK-life as comprehensive, manageable, and meaningful.

Building resilience in TCK's is essentially about helping children in a secure relationship deal with the challenges they will inevitably face, so they have the courage to bounce back up if they fall, and to continue curiously exploring the world around them.



Counseling Adult TCKs

Led by Christian Cartier

Christian is Swiss and lives currently in France, close to Geneva (CH). Married to Simone (CH), they celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in October 2014. They have three young adult daughters. Christian has diploma's in theology and advanced Counseling. He worked with Operation Mobilisation (OM) first in Switzerland later in the UK (with the International membercare). Christian was the debriefing manager at "Le Rucher Ministries" debriefing centre (2003-2011) and now works in International Membercare as a debriefer / counsellor / trainer. His main focus is: Christian workers, Humanitarian workers, church leaders and their families.

Synopsis: In this workshop, we will consider issues A-TCKs encounter and explore some creative ways to help them work through these issues. The aim will be to explore creative ways to provide the A-TCKs hope, whilst encouraging them to appreciate their value as an individual and as a person of worth within their home, church and community; and to take responsibility for their own lives and the process of change and growth.