

Mission Partners

Andrew and Maria Leake



Andrew and Maria Leake serve with the Anglican Church in Northern Argentina. They work in environmental mission, sharing the Good News through addressing environmental needs and social justice among the poor in northern Argentina.

Deforestation, caused by the expansion of agro-industry into the dry tropical forests of the Chaco, is undermining the livelihoods and well-being of ever larger numbers of poor rural communities. Their voices are deliberately silenced or simply unheard in the rush to clear the forest and convert land to planting soya. Andrew and Maria run a local charity, Land for Life, which aims to equip churches and communities with information so that they can have a voice and, thereby, a better chance in their campaigns to protect their local environments. The Gospel becomes visible to those affected by environmental threats as the church seeks to transform unjust structures, challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation.

Andrew shares his working time between CMS and Compassion International, and is also a member of the Anglican Communion Environmental Network (ACEN), which supports bishops around the world to develop and strengthen local initiatives to help congregations cope with climate change.



We have a long association with the Leake family.

Andrew's grandfather, Alfred, went to Argentina more than 90 years ago as missionary to the Toba people. This ministry was continued by Andrew's father, David, who served as the Anglican bishop in Salta from 1963. Deforestation was not such a big issue at that time. The major problem was that the indigenous people were not recognised as citizens, so much of David's ministry was supporting them in their struggles with officialdom.

Andrew took up the ministry in 1999. The need for advocacy is now more urgent than ever, and Andrew has recently written a book with his daughter, Cecilia, who is the fourth generation of Leakes engaged in this drawn-out struggle for land rights for the Toba and Wichi peoples.

Contact us about this Mission Partner:
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