

The Diocese of Western Tanganyika

In partnership with the Diocese of Gloucester

We thank God for:

A new toilet block for Murubona School, Kasulu

In 2019, when four members of St Philip and St James Church, Hucclecote, travelled to the Diocese of Western Tanganyika, they discovered that Murubona Primary School, near to Lake Tanganyika Theological College, had just one toilet block of ten cubicles with no running water for its 1300 pupils. The conditions were so bad that those children who used the toilets and couldn't afford shoes had to be injected against worms every few months. Over the next year, the church raised £5,000. Two separate toilet blocks for girls and boys, with a joint cesspit and running water, have now been constructed, and the existing toilets refurbished. The project was expertly and enthusiastically managed by Fr Kalebu from the College, who was appointed by Bishop Sadock to undertake this task. Bishop Sadock officially opened the new toilet blocks in November (see photo on right, with Fr Kalebu on the nearside of the front row).

Student Sponsorship

We continue our programme of student sponsorship at the Bible college, now with 22 students sponsored by individuals and churches here (this is a third of the total number of students). The students, all from rural villages, are training for ministry – the men to be ordained, and the women to serve as deacons. Our sponsorship covers their tuition and accommodation costs, so relieving the pressure on themselves or their local churches to find such fees. We were able to send them a small cash gift for Christmas enabling them to have a Christmas meal with their families. Our thanks to Sue Lyon of Hucclecote Church for running this programme. We always welcome new sponsors, so do please be in touch if you may be interested.

Sponsored students at LTTC



'Though we are many, we are one body'

New toilets at Murubona School



Opening Day



New Schools Partnership

We are delighted to have set up a new primary school partnership between Clearwater C of E primary school in Quedgeley, and Kasulu Primary School. This has been made possible by the enthusiasm of Clearwater to have an overseas focus, and the help of Fr Kalebu in DWT who is acting as our schools link officer. The schools are very different, with 90 pupils at Clearwater (a very new school), and over 3000 at Kasulu, and of course the facilities do not bear comparison. But both schools are looking forward to learning from each other, sharing joys and challenges, and helping all the children understand about life in a different culture.

Thobias' House

Thobias is one of our sponsored students at the Bible College. In heavy floods in January 2020 his mud-built house was washed away. From the generous donations received at our Celebration evening (see page 2) we were able to send money to him and his family to start rebuilding; and they are now settled again in a well-built brick house.



Tables and Chairs for Vocational Courses

As previously reported, the Tanzanian government has asked Lake Tanganyika Theological College to provide vocational courses to help young people find future employment. The courses will include carpentry, driving, secretarial and computer skills. With donations sent last year, the College has been able to make desks and chairs for these students.



A Party – rejoicing in the Kingdom of God!

Helen Sammon writes:

In January this year, I retired from parish ministry in the Highnam Benefice. Sadly we were unable to have a farewell party, but a very generous collection was made. We have been able to send this money to the Bible College, asking them to have a party instead - recognising that when one part of the Kingdom rejoices we all rejoice together. With 50kg of rice, 25 chickens, 20kg of meat, crates of soda.... the students and staff have had a wonderful celebration. I was there in the form of a photo! The rest of the money will be put towards repairs to the college dormitories, particularly to put in new windows with more light and good mosquito netting.



All Saints' Academy

Dorrie Gaylard writes:

All Saints' Academy, Cheltenham, has been in partnership with DWT since 2013. Two mission teams have visited the diocese, one in 2013 and more recently in 2017.

In 2019, we were fortunate enough to be able to host two teachers from DWT thanks to the amazing efforts of the students at All Saints' to fundraise! Another team was selected to visit DWT in 2020 and fundraising had already begun before the national lockdown of March 2020. The decision was made to postpone the trip until July 2021 but as the lockdown extended it became clear that it would be unsafe for all involved to make the journey at all. Students who were involved in the unsuccessful mission team have generously asked for all monies raised to remain in the schools partnership fund to be used for future visits.

Please pray that we are able to continue our partnership via online platforms this summer, and that a new mission team will be able to visit DWT when it is safe to travel again.

The 2020 Tanzania Team with our visitors Madame Rose and Rev. Shedrack

Celebration Evening!

It is now a year since our wonderful DWT Celebration evening at Hucclecote church. It feels a 'world away' remembering a gathering of over 60 people, a shared Tanzanian meal, and enjoying stories, games and music together - and everyone dressed in brightly coloured garments.

We hope to plan another such evening as soon as life allows.



Tanzania Media News

The situation in Tanzania with regard to Covid-19 has been in the news lately. At the time of writing, it can be summarised as follows:

Tanzania has been much slower than many other African countries to acknowledge both the spread and strength of the Covid-19 virus. However, after some very high profile deaths, the health ministry is now emphasising hand washing, social distancing, and the wearing of masks, but is as yet to fully endorse a vaccination programme for the country. The Roman Catholic Church, as well as doctors' and lawyers' associations, continue to present robust arguments for presentation of relevant data.

In other news of Tanzania:

- Agricultural challenges include uncertain climate patterns as well as swarms of locusts in the north of the country.
- Recently the Ministry of education has introduced a Tanzanian History syllabus at all levels to balance the African/World history already taught.

To access Tanzanian daily news, recommended websites include the Britain Tanzania Society, Al Jazeera, BBC News and NewsNow.



There are many ways to be involved in the DWT-Gloucester Partnership if you wish to:

Form a partnership: with a church, a school, or a church group such as a prayer group, Mothers' Union etc.

Sponsor a Bible College student: many students come to LITC for training for ministry from rural areas, and struggle to pay the fees. We run a personal sponsor programme, whereby you will be linked to your own student to share photos, letters etc. Sponsorship costs £270 per year.

Support financially: there are many projects that we support from Gloucester, such as helping to build new churches and facilities, and helping individuals in their studies. A little here goes a long way, and every donation is a sign of our friendship and support. If you would like to donate, we will let you know the current needs, and send updates about how your money has been used.

Keep in touch: join an email list so that you receive updates from DWT, prayer requests and college newsletters.

Please be in touch with our Link Officer for more information and an informal conversation:

Revd Helen Sammon

Email: helen.sammon@gmail.com

For information on the Diocese of Western Tanganyika, see

<https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/about-us/our-global-partners/western-tanganyika-tanzania/>



DWT Partnership Team

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