



Talking Tanzania

Spring/Summer 2026

Welcome!

From Bishop Malcolm Chamberlain, chair of the Tanzania Link Group



It is my great pleasure to welcome you to this latest edition of 'Talking Tanzania' containing news from our Diocesan link with the Dioceses of Mara, Rorya and Tarime in the Anglican Church of Tanzania. Those who have been regular recipients of this newsletter in the past will probably be thinking, "it's about time we had a new edition!" and for that I apologise. The good news is that, even if our communication has been quiet, the work of the link group and our ongoing contact with friends in Tanzania has been anything but!

In November we were delighted to welcome Bishop John, the Bishop of Tarime, to the Diocese of Leeds when he spent a week with us following his induction course in Canterbury. I am indebted to Archdeacon Cat for organising a busy week for Bishop John, which I know he greatly enjoyed and appreciated.

This summer, I will be joining the party from the Diocese of Leeds in visiting our partners in Tanzania. The programme is shaping up to be really exciting (not to mention busy!), and again I am indebted, this time to Jonathan and Rebecca Cain, for all the work they have put into organising this trip. I am greatly looking forward to it, and I'm sure I'm not alone!

One of our hopes for the trip is that we will return with up-to-date stories to tell of what God is doing in and through the churches and mission initiatives in Mara, Rorya and Tarime; stories that will generate renewed energy for the link that we have with our sisters and brothers in those dioceses. Please do get in touch if you would like to invite members of the team to speak about their experience at your church event in the autumn, especially if you think this might spark new interest in starting or developing a local link with Tanzania.

Similarly, if you are interested in becoming more involved yourself in supporting our link, please do get in touch with me. The Link Committee meets regularly, and we are always keen to bring new people into that group.

I hope that reading this edition of 'Talking Tanzania' inspires you to pray for our partner dioceses and get more involved in developing the link we have. Please do also pray for those of us that will be visiting in the summer, that we will be an encouragement to our brothers and sisters in Tanzania and return having received and learnt much through being with them.

With every blessing in our Lord Jesus Christ,

+ Malcolm

DIOCESE OF LEEDS TRIP TO TANZANIA 2026

Bishop Malcom and his wife Jo will be part of an 11 or 12 strong group of travellers from the Diocese of Leeds to visit our friends in Mara, Rorya and Tarime this summer. This will be the bishop's first visit to the link in Tanzania.

The group also includes the Rorya link officer, Revd Bill Henderson, Lynn Clews who manages the Diocesan link with Issenye Secondary School, Emma Turnbull representing the link between Windhill Primary School and Mugango Primary School and Rebecca Cain, link officer for the Mugumu Safe House. We are delighted that several important link projects are represented in the travelling group.

We will fly from Manchester to Nairobi via Amsterdam on 21 July and travel overland to Mogabiri (Tarime Diocese) via the Isebania border crossing. Our itinerary includes two ordination services, time with clergy and staff in Tarime, Rorya and Mara, parish, school and Bible college visits and a trip to the Mara gold mine. We end with two game drives in the Serengeti National Park before returning to Manchester on 06 August.

Please do pray for a safe and fruitful visit and expect lots of stories and pictures on our return!

MONEY MATTERS

Nick Clews has taken over from Sally Firth as the Tanzania Link Treasurer. His role is to ensure that financial contributions made by parishes and individuals through the Diocese of Leeds are passed on to the ultimate recipients in Tanzania as quickly as possible. As part of this process, it is really important that anyone making a one-off donation lets Nick know that they have made the bank transfer or sent the cheque. You can contact him at nicholasclews77@gmail.com.

Gift Aid increases the value of personal donations by 25%. We do not have Gift Aid declarations for a significant number of regular givers: if you're not sure whether you've completed such a declaration, please contact Nick.

News from Mara Diocese

Mugumu Safe House: Message from Melina Galibona

“Currently, the Safe House in Mugumu, Mara District, is caring for 22 children – one boy and 21 girls. We thank God that all is going well, and we deeply appreciate your continued support through both prayers and financial assistance.

“We are also grateful to see a reduction in the number (of FGM victims), compared to previous years. That is an encouraging sign, that little by little, parents are becoming more informed and are changing their attitudes – moving away from harmful cultural practices such as FGM and embracing the importance of protecting their children. We continue to engage with parents through regular discussions, encouraging them to support their children in every aspect of their life.



“At the Safe House, the children are actively involved in various activities, especially during weekends and holidays. These include sewing clothes, making liquid soap, growing vegetables, and learning poultry keeping. However, our highest priority remains nurturing their spiritual growth through reading and learning the Word of God from the Bible.



Making liquid soap

“We are also proud to share a significant milestone: for the 2025–2026 academic year, one of our girls has joined university as a first-year student—something we celebrate with great joy after a long time. Others are continuing their development in vocational training centres, such as the sewing program at the GB Centre, while the rest are in secondary and primary school.

“Additionally, we thank God for providing us with a new kitchen, replacing the old one which was in very poor condition. This has greatly improved our daily living environment.

“We remain thankful for your partnership and support as we continue this important work.”



The new kitchen

Melina

Members of the Tanzanian Link Committee are delighted to be going to visit the Safe House in July 2026 on their trip to Mara, Rorya and Tarime.

For more information on the Safe House visit <https://www.leeds.anglican.org/tanzania> or contact Rebecca Cain: rebeccaacain@outlook.com

Issenye Secondary School

Lynn Clews has taken over from Peta Moffat as the Issenye School Link Officer. Peta made what was possibly her last visit to the School in February 2026. Currently Leeds Diocese is providing bursaries for 11 pupils, six girls and five boys. Issenye’s roll numbers have been



falling in recent years. When the school was established over 20 years ago the government of Tanzania did not provide state funded secondary education. In recent years this has changed and two government secondary schools have opened close to Issenye. These schools have class sizes of up to 100 pupils and often students do not complete a full four years, unlike the students at Issenye who do. The students at the school are

boarders and therefore attendance is consistent, class sizes are much smaller and exam results higher. An annual bursary at the school costs £600. The Bishop of Mara is very committed to ensuring the school remains viable, ensuring that students have access to a good quality and completed secondary education.



Currently the school is undertaking a much-needed refurbishment of the girls' toilet block. First-time visitors to the school are often surprised by how basic toilet facilities are. Leeds diocese is committed to supporting this refurbishment: so far we have sent £2000. When we visit the school in July of this year we hope to see that the work is well under way.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF ISSENYE SCHOOL CONTACT LYNN CLEWS: CLEWS.LYNN@YAHOO.COM

St. John's Rastrick/Nyakiswa Link

St John's link with Nyakiswa began in 1990 and has steadily developed over the years with regular communication in both directions. Approximately 16 people associated with St. John's have travelled to Mara and have enjoyed and been humbled by Tanzanian hospitality in Nyakiswa and Musoma and witnessed the sights and sounds of the Serengeti National Park.

We in Rastrick have been delighted to host many visitors from Tanzania including Bishops, priests, link officers and Monika Joab, the link person in Nyakiswa.

In recent years, St. John's has sponsored four girls from Nyakiswa to do a one-year sewing and tailoring course run by the Mothers Union in Musoma. This enabled the girls to set up small businesses and make a living. Currently, two girls are being sponsored to do a two-year secretarial course at the Vocational Training Centre at the Diocesan Offices in Musoma. On completion in June 2026, they should both get good jobs in the town.

Oriel Kelly, Link Officer

Monthly breakfast at the two St Marys'

Breakfast is provided to the parishioners of St Mary's Church Mmazami, thanks to its link with St Mary's Luddenden. Every second Sunday of the month, around 150 children in Mmazami enjoy breakfast, funded by St Mary's Luddenden. To mark this, the congregation in Luddenden also enjoy food after the service – often sausages - organised by the Parish Link Officer, Keith Rowe.

Tarime News

The link between the United Benefice of Batley and Nyamongo in Tarime has flourished over the years.

Recently Nyamongo Deanery have planted a church in M'rito. At first the Villagers met with a few chairs under a tarpaulin but as the congregation grew it was decided to build a church. Progress was slow at first but the Batley area Churches have sent money from their Harvest Collections over the past few years and the Church is beginning to take shape.

Liz Benson

Bishop of Tarime visits schools and link parishes

The Right Reverend John Msuma Nyaitara, Bishop of Tarime had a busy schedule when he came to the diocese in November. He attended a meeting of the Leeds Diocesan Board, a 'Follow Me' gathering in Wakefield Cathedral and visited a number of schools and parishes with links to Tanzania. Here are some snapshots of his trip.



With Bishop Malcolm



Blessing pupils and staff at St Aidan's CofE Academy, Skelmanthorpe



Visiting Batley



At All Saints Church Featherstone

Parish to parish links have always been an important part of our Diocesan Link with Mara, Rorya and Tarime Dioceses in northern Tanzania. Their main aim is to promote friendship and fellowship through prayer and the exchange of news. Several parishes in Leeds Diocese also financially support projects in their link parishes or, in Mara Diocese, projects like the Safe House. Communication between link parishes is now much easier as many people in Tanzania have mobile phones and can use WhatsApp.

If your church would like to link with a parish in Tanzania or maybe you would like to refresh a lapsed link, then please contact Bishop Malcolm, chair of the Tanzania Link Committee: bishop.malcolm@leeds.anglican.org

COULD YOU BE THE VITAL LINK FOR OUR SCHOOLS?

The Tanzania Link Committee is looking for someone to take on the role of Schools Links Officer. We have a number of thriving links between schools in the Leeds Diocese and in our three link dioceses – but there's potential for more. If you think that's something you'd like to oversee, or if you'd just like more information, please contact Bishop Malcolm at bishop.malcolm@leeds.anglican.org

TANZANIA LINK COMMITTEE

For details of membership of the Link Committee and who looks after what, visit the Tanzania Link website: <https://www.leeds.anglican.org/tanzania>