

The Great Tanganyikan Adventure 2025

EARLIER this year, the Stapleford Link received an unexpected and pleasant surprise; an email from Robert and Liz Claiborne-Dixon explaining that Liz's parents were married by Rev. Cox in 1952 at St. Andrew's Nachingwea. They were planning to travel to Tanzania, following in the footsteps of Liz's parents who had spent 10 years in Tanganyika as it then was.

Robert wrote: "I launched into some research, googled 'St. Andrew's, Nachingwea' which I thought was as good a starting point as any – and to my surprise and a certain amount of confusion 'St Andrew's Church, Stapleford' was at the top of the list. I tried again with the same result, but this time clicked onto the link. Of course, I soon discovered that the two churches had a long association. I read with interest and impulsively, sent an email to admin@stapleford.org."



Keith and Joselyn on their wedding day, 24 October 1952, outside St Andrew's Church, with Rev Ronald Cox

Since then, there have been email exchanges and a visit to Stapleford in March, about which Robert reports:

"We had a tour of your lovely church, the chapel dedicated to St Andrew's in Nachingwea and the Notice Board which clearly demonstrated an active partnership."

Early in April, Kevin, Chair of the St Andrew's Nachingwea Link Committee wrote:

“We are so happy for the coming of Liz and Robert hope they will give us more information about their parents and the church they have. Next Saturday we will have short meeting about the coming of Liz and Robert. I will write to you soon after the meeting. Thanks so much.”

Following their meeting, Kevin wrote again:

“The Link committee has accepted to host their visit. They have our all cooperation. We have also given introduction to priest in charge and the church in general. We are all preparing for them. Let’s continue to be in touch about it.”

So, a wonderful ‘in person’ opportunity for the strengthening of our Link Partnership is already taking shape. **Robert Claiborne–Dixon, Kevin Bushiri and Trish Maude**

In other news

Thank you to all who attended the quiz at the Three Horseshoes. It was a very enjoyable evening which raised over £750 for our projects.

Congratulations to the winning team ‘Thick Edge’ and special thanks to Jon and Nicky West for organising the quiz and to Duncan and Justine for making us feel so welcome at the pub

The Link May lunch was a huge success, with many thanks to all who came and created a wonderful community celebration, to all who provided



Some of our visitors enjoying the lunch - more photos on page 3

the sumptuous spread, all who worked behind the scenes in so many ways and contributed to and ran the stalls. Special thanks to Committee members Mary Cooper, Julie Moy and Liz Ulas for organising the event.

We are delighted to tell you that the Lunch raised over £1,300 for our projects in Nachingwea and was a wonderful social event much appreciated as a way to spend a lovely afternoon on a dull, rainy day.

Thank you all so much. **The St Andrew’s Stapleford-Nachingwea Link committee**



All photos by Freya West