

Lunch then Jazz- What a treat !

THANK you for all your support of our recent fundraising activities.

The May lunch on Monday 5 May at the Pavilion proved to be a very enjoyable and congenial Get Together for friends, family and neighbours who enjoyed a delicious meal and the opportunity to discuss recent events in the village. We are so pleased that around £1,230 was donated in aid of Health, Education and Food Security projects.

On Friday 9 May in St Andrew's Church we were treated to a wonderful Jazz concert by the accomplished 440 Jazz group followed by the vibrant Duxford Music Workshop Jazz Band. The enthusiastic audience enjoyed the varied and dynamic music from the two bands of energetic musicians. A real toe-tapping evening!

We are also very grateful to Mary Antcliff, a retired chiropodist, who donated her chiropody equipment to the Link. These photographs show some of the medical staff receiving the parcel. Kevin, the chair of the Nachingwea committee, has sent the following message of thanks: Dr Rahia Sultan gave her great gratitude to St Andrew's Stapleford and Stapleford Link Committee for their frequent support to Nachingwea district hospital. She said there were now some of received equipment in the hospital's shelves so receiving these will not only reduce deficit but also is the great support to Nachingwea people who will be treated here by using this equipment." **The St Andrew's Stapleford Link Committee**



Obituary

Canon Ronald Thomas Cox

The following obituary was found on the website of Tanzanian Affairs. Father Ronald Cox was instrumental in founding the Link and the Link Committee thought it would interest members and supporters of the Link.

FATHER Cox, as he was most widely known, was born in 1912 and died on 23 January 1991. He will be remembered well both in the Diocese of Masasi in



The Rev Ronald Cox was Vicar at St Andrew's Church in Nachingwea and is seen here with Keith and Joselyn Mather on their wedding day, 24 October 1952

Tanzania and also in the Parish of Ermington in Devon, UK.

After serving his curacy in Gorton, Manchester, he offered himself to the missionary society founded by David Livingstone, the Universities Mission to Central Africa, and was posted to the Diocese of Masasi in 1944 where he remained until 1972.

The full story of those 28 years can never be told but he has left a

tremendous legacy in buildings, and, such was his personality, that no doubt he is even now a legend among Tanzanians. 'Bwana Kelele' (Mr Noise) had a powerful voice which went with his physique as well as his generous and enthusiastic Christian service to those around him, regardless of the cost to himself.

Amongst other places he served at Newala (1944), Chidya, Nachingwea (1952-56) and Mtwara (1956-62) before becoming Procurator of Masasi Cathedral in 1963 while Trevor Huddleston was Bishop of Masasi. Bishop

Huddleston has said about those years at Masasi “I can’t imagine I would have achieved anything without him. He was a ‘Jack of all trades’ and a master of each one”.

Bishop Huddleston’s first priority on arriving in Masasi was to rebuild the Theological Training College, St Cyprian’s at a beautiful site on the Rondo



The stained-glass windows depict the Creation with African plants and animals (photo: churchtimes.co.uk)

fitting memorial to Ronnie”

Father Cox also built a new Nursing School, children’s ward and operating theatre at Mkomaindo Hospital. There were village churches rebuilt; Mtwara and Nachingwea churches; the Diocesan Library; the girl’s department at Mahiwa Farm School (now CCM); and many other smaller buildings.

Leaving Africa was a great wrench for Father Cox but he proved equal to the challenge and served the Parish of Ermington well from 1973 to 1988 when he retired. In Ermington there was undoubtedly a small corner of Masasi. He was made an honorary Canon of Masasi Cathedral and Commissary to Bishop Richard of Masasi in 1984. Without neglecting his parishioners, even inspiring them to help, he continued to work tirelessly for Tanzania and was planning a visit to Masasi in July this year (1991). **Christine Lawrence**

Plateau. Father Cox was given the task of building the chapel, an octagonal building with seven stained glass windows telling the story of creation designed by Jonathan Kingdon. Bishop Huddleston writes “If of Christopher Wren’s St Paul’s Cathedral, it could be said ‘Si monumentum requiris circumspice’ (if you went a memorial look around you) so could it be said of the glorious little chapel at the Rondo, a