

Six young men and women were recently supported in training (both full-time and part-time) at three different colleges in Kenya, including Michael and Haizel who studied at Carlile College in Nairobi, Kenya.

One student from the diocese is training with Crosslinks in South Africa.

Adam Tomalin, from Sussex, began training at George Whitefield College, Cape Town in 2021. He has been sending encouraging updates on his training and his life in Cape Town with his wife Nomfundo.

Pictured left: Michael Ole Lemei  
Pictured right: Adam and Nomfundo



## How can you help?

The Diocesan Overseas Committee is responsible for our companion links. This includes fundraising from parishes in the Diocese of Chichester to support mission and ministry in our link dioceses in West Africa and Kenya, focusing especially on training those in Christian work. There is also an opportunity to donate to a specific Mothers' Union project in Sierra Leone. We would be grateful for any contributions to support this work.

If you would like to sponsor a student or raise funds for any overseas project then please do get in touch with The Revd James Campbell the Diocesan Companion Links Officer. [You can donate straight to our CAF fundraising page.](#)

Alternatively, if your parish would like to consider supporting a parish or school in one of our link dioceses, please contact the committee via the email below.



[companion.links@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:companion.links@chichester.anglican.org)



[www.chichester.anglican.org/overseas-mission-and-companion-links/](http://www.chichester.anglican.org/overseas-mission-and-companion-links/)

Pictured: Esperine helping learner to write

## Overseas Mission and Companion Links Update

### 2023

In this leaflet you will read about the ongoing work of the Diocesan Overseas Committee (DOC) and its overseas companion links, which are: The Internal Province of West Africa: The dioceses of The Gambia (inc. Senegal), Guinea (Conkry and Bissau), Bo and Freetown (Sierra Leone), Liberia and Cameroon. The Church of Kenya: the dioceses of Kericho, Nakuru, Nyanhuru, Baringo and Maralal in the Rift Valley in Western Kenya.

As well as funding theological students, we have supported projects with our linked partners. Please read on to find out how you might support this work.



## A message from Bishop Ruth

It was a great joy to welcome our Link Bishops from east and west Africa last summer, who visited our diocese as part of their trip to the Lambeth Conference. It was a valuable time to deepen our fellowship and strengthen the links between us.

One common prayer request from our link dioceses concerns the great need for education and training for the rising generation of Anglican church leaders – both priests and lay ministers. It is our privilege to be able to sponsor a number of students in African theological colleges with the scholarships they need for their

studies as they pursue their calling to our sister churches. If you would like to give financially to replenish the availability of these scholarships, you will find the details in this leaflet.

We are also honoured to partner with the work of the Mother's Union – and our focus this year is on fundraising for their work to raise literacy levels among women in Sierra Leone.

Again, if you would like to give – the details are here. As our bonds with our brother and sister Anglicans grow stronger, so does our desire to pray for them – and them for us; for the Lord's blessing and protection as they seek to know, love, and follow the Lord Jesus and work for the expansion of his kingdom in their parishes and dioceses.

**+Bishop Ruth**



### The Province of West Africa

The dioceses of The Gambia (inc. Senegal), Guinea (Conkry and Bissau), Bo and Freetown (Sierra Leone), Liberia and Cameroon.

### The Church of Kenya

The dioceses of Kericho, Nakuru, Nyanhururu, Baringo and Maralal in the Rift Valley in Western Kenya.

Pictured: Kamango diocese



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## New bishop in The Gambia

Margaret Lumley, overseas committee member, reflects on her relationship with the Diocese in Gambia and her recent visit to attend the consecration and enthronement of the new Bishop, Rt Revd Obed Arist Kojo Baiden in June 2023.

She writes: The Diocese of Chichester has been linked with the Gambia for many years now and we have attended a number of important events over that time. Indeed, the first I attended was the 50th anniversary of the the Diocese in 1985.

I was privileged to attend the consecration and enthronement of the new Bishop, Rt Revd Obed Arist Kojo Baiden in June, an event I will never forget. Previous celebrations took place on one day only with a service in the Cathedral, but the new bishop decided to have the two services over the whole weekend, with the Archbishop and 7 bishops from the area all playing a role and plenty of hymn singing in the context of a communion service. Even the bishops' wives, who travelled with them, had a role to play, welcoming the new bishop's wife.

The Sunday service was particularly moving as all present who came from The Gambia wore suits, shirts or dresses made from the same material, designed for the occasion, printed with photos of Bishop Kojo. I had a dress made for me, as a longtime friend, which really made me feel part of the occasion. It is a lovely style, and it will always remind me of our wonderful longtime link with the Diocese of Gambia.

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## Mothers Union project plans to empower communities in Sierra Leone

The Mothers' Union are currently hoping to fund a project in Sierra Leone that will empower communities.

Mothers Union have been involved in setting up Literacy and Numeracy Circles for 23 years.

Literacy and Numeracy Circles are successful because the indigenous population run them.

A village will choose a respected member of their community to be trained, and return to teach both men and women, but usually women, literacy and numeracy skills. This empowers the community to sort out local problems and empowers the group to go forward into starting Co-operative micro businesses, helping to raise the village out of poverty. They are called Circles because it has been identified that adults learn better in circles.

So effective have the Circles been, that UNESCO recognised how successful they are and adopted the technique.