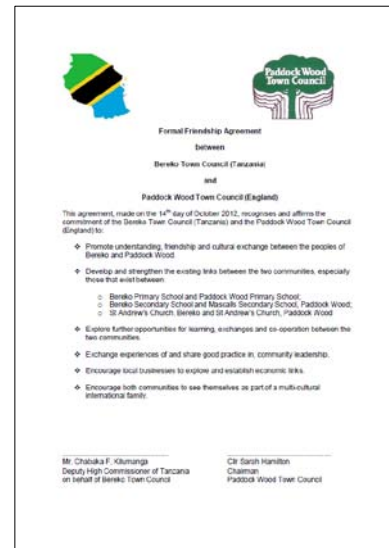




# The Formal Friendship between Bereko and Paddock Wood

Feedback from our community visit October/November 2016



# Background



- Bereko is a small town in the District (and Diocese) of Kondo, Tanzania
- Bereko Community Partnership set up 2016. Members are:
  - Paddock Wood Town Council
  - Paddock Wood Primary School
  - Mascalls Academy and
  - St Andrew's church
- Website to be launched March 2017 (thank you)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the website for The Bereko Community Partnership. At the top right, there is a search bar with the text "search" and a green "GO" button. Below the search bar is the logo, which consists of stylized leaves in green, yellow, and blue, followed by the text "THE BEREKO COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP". A navigation menu below the logo includes links for "HOME", "ABOUT US", "CHURCHES", "PRIMARY SCHOOLS", "SECONDARY SCHOOLS", "TOWN COUNCILS", and "OTHERS". The main heading reads "Welcome to The Bereko Community Partnership". Below this is a photograph of a group of approximately 12 people, including men and women of various ages, standing together. Underneath the photo, the text says "Welcome to this partnership between two communities" and "Friendship and understanding". At the bottom of the page, there are five icons with corresponding labels: a person icon for "About Bereko", a location pin icon for "Visits", a speech bubble icon for "Our Work", a link icon for "Links", and a calendar icon for "Contacts".



# Visit group



- 8 from St Andrew's church
- 2 primary school teachers
  - one special needs/physiotherapist
- 1 Schools' Inspector (and church)
- 1 scouts representative

We brought letters and gifts from Paddock Wood Town Council and Mascalls Academy

# Family not guests



- Welcomed as family
- Presented with white bead necklaces – great honour – love and peace



Bryan and Bryan  
(Rev'd Richard Suki's first grandson)

# Bereko sub town council

- There have been local elections and the new ward councillor is well known to us
- Many new Town Council members - very welcoming
- We were confident to leave cash with them to decide on best use. We have since heard that money will part fund a classroom at the new Primary School
- Town Council has many challenges to address
- Contact details and letters exchanged
- Women Cllrs proudly told us they are setting up a women's football club!





# The new C to C road



- Goes through middle of Bereko
- The 'caterpillar' cut off the water pipe to town and school
- We met Project Manager and Kondoa District Commissioner and bought parts for school water meter
- Electricity to follow



# The new Health Centre



- Community built walls and government funded roof
- Opened September 2017
- One more ward = a government doctor



Gifting medicines





# 10<sup>th</sup> birthday church service

- A confirmation service with the Bishop
- Bryan's sermon translated by Bereko's Ward Executive Officer
- We presented gifts including a photo book about Paddock Wood and our 10 year friendship
- Four day evangelical conference



# Kikilo (neighbouring village in Bereko parish)



- Wairaq tribe (similar Maasai)
- Baptisms
- Sunday school made 2,000 palm crosses
  - Proceeds will fund church windows
- Gifted 35 bibles



# Kondoa Diocese's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration service



- All faith leaders present
- Five hours of celebration and speeches



Cathedral choir



National MP for Local Government



Kondoa District Commissioner

# Bereko's children with special needs



- Special needs class set up by previous Head Teacher, Laurensia
- She was inspired by visit to UK in 2008
- Laurensia then obtained qualification in Arusha



Laurensia's graduation

# Ali's story

- At first Ali couldn't control head, arm or leg movements
- Cats massaged his limbs, gave him exercises to do, support bandages and shoes
- Cats taught his mum and Laurensia why and what to do



Ali walking for the first time with support

# Mr Lukas' story



- Kindergarten teacher
- Recent brain damage but wants to continue teaching
- School children help him to and from school every day
- Given physio exercises to do and we are now sourcing a handcycle from Arusha

# Primary Schools

- Two schools now
- World Food Aid withdrawn
- Children walk up to 2 hours from home
- Students wrote letters to each other



A play about corruption

# Secondary Schools



- Mascalls link is quieter now but still sent text books, students' letters and uniforms for us to present
- Bereko elders keen to refresh friendship





# Education Inspectors

- We met them early on in Kondoa
- The next week they came to Bereko to see what we were doing
- This caused some panic but was very positive
- Set up first ever meeting between heads of secondary and primary schools to plan seamless education
- Heads and teachers very positive about working together and plans already in place for future joint work



# Conclusion

- The visit had a profound impact on us all. As family, not guests, we saw and experienced more
- We are staying in touch with texts, WhatsApp, Facebook and emails
- We are working on:
  - Promoting benefits of relationship in Paddock Wood
  - Bereko Community Partnership website (thank you)
  - Support for Town Council as it considers risks and opportunities presented by new road
  - Relationship between secondary schools
  - Fund raising for health centre and schools
  - Remedial operations for children with club feet and hand cycle for Mr Lukas
  - Food security - people are hungry now following lack of rain



# Our friendship remains strong

