



Arusha Kids Trust (AKT) Newsletter September 2017

Thank you to AKT Supporters and Sponsors in Australia and around the world!

Arusha Kids Trust has now been a registered not-for-profit Trust for over a year. Your support for the children at the Save Africa Orphanage (SAO) has made a big difference since 2014, when Kathy first became involved with SAO. We have sponsors and donors in Australia, the UK and the USA. We also have friends in Denmark and Canada who do a lot to support the SAO. Kathy and Chris are just back from visiting the kids in Arusha, so we have plenty of news to share!

News from Arusha

The SAO building in Leganga

We arrived in Arusha on Thursday evening, 3rd August, and went straight out to the SAO in the village of Leganga the next morning. As usual, we were greeted warmly by kids and by Mary (teacher) and Violet (assistant manager). It felt like we were arriving at our second home!



Children at SAO sporting T-shirts
gifted by Kathy's Mum

However, we found there were two problems. First, the landlord of the building had announced he was considering selling, and wanted the property vacant by November. Secondly, the Social Welfare Department of the Tanzanian Government had visited SAO and found that the building did not comply with some of the government regulations on accommodation.

Mary (teacher) and Violet
(Assistant Manager) with
Chris at SAO



A few days later and on the advice of people we know in Arusha, Kathy hired a Tanzanian legal team to help us sort through these issues. We are pleased to say that through the two lawyers Asella Msando and Andrew Akyoo, we have been negotiating with the landlord and with Social Welfare. As we write this, we are heading towards certainty that the problems will be addressed. The legal expenses are not being paid by AKT.

New Tanzanian Trust

We have applied to the Tanzanian government to establish a Tanzanian Trust. The name of the trust is *Mfuko wa Watoto Arusha* (Trust for the Children of Arusha). Kathy and Chris are Trustees, along with Asella and Andrew. We are very excited that we can now negotiate locally with SAO and Social Welfare to promote further development and education opportunities for our kids.

News from the Schools

Haradali Primary School Your support has allowed AKT to sponsor 12 children to attend the Haradali Primary School in Arusha, Tanzania. We made several visits to the school this year and enrolled two more students, Jaladin and Issa who are both aged 7. Jaladin (at right) has recently lost his Mum and is very sad. There was a shortage of school sweaters this time as they are made in Kenya and there was a disruption of deliveries due to fear of violence during elections there.



Kilimani Primary School Fourteen SAO children are still sponsored by Soren and Simone from Denmark. We spoke at length with Betty the Principal who said that the children had improved a great deal since last year, their attendance is good, their grades have gone up. We purchased uniforms and shoes for these children. The cost will be reimbursed by our friends in Denmark.



Health Education for Girls Before we came to Arusha this year, we made enquiries as to how the girls reaching maturity could access some form of counselling or health education. Zion, a professional speaker at schools offered to provide a two-hour session with our girls at SAO, in confidence. By all reports from the six girls, it was a great success. Thank you Zion!



Eye Tests With charts from our local optometrist we gave the school aged children a basic eye test to see if any of them were having problems reading. We found that Joel on Kathy's left could not read the last 3 lines on the chart. Here he is with glasses purchased in Australia before our visit. They are 1.0 diopetre strength. Rose is also in the photo. She is the child diagnosed with Vitamin A deficiency in 2014. She is now 8 and still very small.



Shopping for the children This year we fitted a total of 56 pairs of second-hand school shoes, and 15 pairs of football boots over three lengthy sessions. We provided 28 new schoolbags and dozens of pairs of socks and underwear. We bought text books, stationery and geometry sets for the older children.



Transport for Raymond Raymond walks an hour each way to Lake Tatu Secondary School. Last year we promised him a bike, Chris and Kathy bought him a second-hand one on the last day of our visit. His first reaction was to give little boy Chris a ride!



First Corn Crop from the Farm One day, we noticed a large pile of corn on the cob on the front porch. This was taken away and processed and came back as a large sack of corn kernels. Here is Jesca with the sack. Not much later the kids were eating a delicious corn and vegetable soup.



Not a single egg broken!



Supplementary Food Program The SFP has now been running since December 2014. Over 140 weekly deliveries have been made. We observed the delivery by *boda boda* (motor bike), including 4 large trays of fresh eggs strapped to the side of the bike--not a single egg broken!

Getting to know Naila Francis One of our education sponsors from the USA arranged to be in Arusha in August to coincide with our visit. Naila (on the left) seen here with Elizabeth who works at SAO, first visited SAO in 2015. Naila, her family and friends, are valued supporters of AKT. It was lovely to be able to discuss the needs of the children with another person who knows SAO and the children first hand.

We are seeking Education Sponsors for four children from January 2018

Sponsors receive regular updates on their sponsored child. At least one Trustee travels to Arusha each year, visits the school, spends time with the child, and brings back information on their education, health and wellbeing. Some children are sponsored by six people; others are sponsored by one person. It takes about AUD \$700 to educate one child per year, including fees, books and stationery, transport, shoes and uniform.

If you can donate \$10 a month or more by EFT you can be a part sponsor.

Please Email us at arushakidstrust@gmail.com or call Kathy on 0438 191 872