



Arusha Kids Trust: Action for Growth and Education

Arusha Kids Trust Newsletter September 2016

News from Australia

Setting up our organisation in Australia Since our last newsletter we have set up the Arusha Kids Trust or AKT. There are three members on the Trust Board, Kathy Green, Christine Fox and Janene Hanna. Kathy is also the Public Officer. The Trust has an ABN and we have opened a Trust bank account. After submitting a lot of documentation we are very happy to announce the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission has registered AKT as a Charity.

Raising funds The inaugural Trivia Fundraiser Event for the Arusha Kids Trust was organised by Janene Hanna and held on Friday 6th May 2016 at Casual Mondays Café, Balmain. The evening was a great success and attended by over 100 guests with just over \$5000 raised. The Trust would like to thank all of those who attended the fundraiser along with many other supporters who generously donated. A very special thank you to Rob and Helen Reid of Casual Mondays Café for their generosity, hard work and continued support.

Our new logo We are very proud of our beautiful new logo (top left) which was designed by Kit Fox.

Our new Facebook page is up and running. Find us by putting Arusha Kids Trust Facebook into your Search Engine. **Like** us to follow us.

News from Tanzania

Save Africa Orphanage (SAO) Over three weeks in July 2016 we visited the SAO almost every day.

During the day, there were a lot of small children from the local village attending the preschool at SAO. Some of these children's parents are able to make a contribution to the cost of running the pre-school.

It's interesting to note that all of the children who live at SAO now attend primary or secondary school except for five children. The four youngest are under school age. The fifth child is Bariki a girl aged eight who recently arrived at SAO.

Raymond is one of the older boys at SAO. He had broken his front teeth so we made enquiries and found he could be treated at the Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre. Chris accompanied Raymond on four lengthy visits to the dentist there. Raymond had been embarrassed by how he looked so was pleased with the outcome. He has temporary prostheses now and will need a follow up at the hospital next year.

Safety For the first time SAO is using electricity regularly. We were pleased to fund the necessary work to ensure the lights and power sockets were safe to use.

Roof Parts of the roof leaked badly in the Big Rains. This was particularly so in the boys' bedroom where ceiling panels were covered in black mould. We are in discussions with Francis the Director about arranging repairs before the rains come again.

The vegetable farm In the first half of 2015, a well-wisher for the Orphanage bought a piece of arable land, about an hour's walk away from SAO. The plan was to develop a vegetable farm to provide a sustainable supply of food for the kids. Last year we were shown this land but it was not in use. This year vegetables and fruit trees have been planted, and a hut has been built for the use of the gardener, Isa. The first leafy green vegetables have already been harvested and taken to SAO. Another large piece of land, further away from SAO, has been rented for growing maize and bananas. We used AKT funds to purchase a bicycle for Isa so he could travel the distances to tend both plots of land and bring back produce to SAO.



Shopping for the children This year the kids needed shoes, socks, underwear, backpacks (for the newly enrolled), some raincoats, and for some of the older children, geometry sets.

On the first 'shoe excursion', we took eight of the children to a busy Saturday market in the local town to buy them new school shoes and sports shoes. The shoes were piled high at the stands of various vendors, and it was up to us and the kids to find a shoe that fitted, and then to find its pair! After that, we arranged for the shoe vendor to come directly to SAO with a sack full of school shoes to fit another 35 children with shoes. All up, we bought about 50 pairs of good secondhand shoes. A success!

Supplementary Food Program We have re-negotiated the contract with our on-the-ground partners Malaika Mdogo for the period 2016-17. Some prices have gone up and at the request of the Orphanage we have added more fruit. The cost per week is now \$125. We need 2 more donors prepared to contribute \$10 a month to make the food program fully self-funding.



New bunk room We bought four new bunk beds (4 x2 beds) to fit out an extra bedroom for the older boys, together with new mattresses, sheets and blankets. We also bought mattresses to replace old ones for other beds. The mattresses were for sale at a mattress shop up the road from SAO. We asked some of the older kids to come and help us take mattresses back to SAO. Here they are happily walking home from the shop! Luckily the shopkeeper organised for a truck to deliver the rest the following week.

School news

Kilimani School We paid a visit to Kilimani Government primary school in Leganga to check out how the nine children from SAO were faring. A Danish sponsoring family, Soren and his wife Simone, had enrolled children at this school last year. We spent time with some of the teachers and realised that the school uses corporal punishment. We were less than impressed by this school. Our visit highlighted to us the huge differences in attitude between this school and the private Haradali English Medium School which supports its students to learn and does not use corporal punishment.

Haradali English Medium School The six children already studying at this school all appeared happy and settled.

This year we enrolled another five school-age children in Haradali English Medium School. We enrolled Rose and Dorcas who are now eight-years old and we obtained sponsorship for their schooling through Naila and Diane who live in the US. Naila volunteered at the Orphanage in 2015. We also enrolled Mkutwarini, Abdul and his sister Swaiba who are all new to the Orphanage.



Mkutwarini



Abdul, Swaiba, Dorcas & Rose



Stephano (red t-shirt) Stephano was not in secondary school even though he completed his primary schooling in 2015. This boy attended Leganga Primary School whilst living at SAO. This government school does not do well in the National Year 7 exams but Stephano put up a creditable performance with Grade C in English and Swahili and Grade D in 3 other subjects. The Orphanage was able to obtain his certificate and we then enrolled him mid-year in Unambwe Secondary School.



We will be asking for **School Sponsors for 2017**.

Haradali – Abdul, Swaiba and Mkutwarini need sponsors for 2017 onwards.

Stephano needs sponsors for 4 years for Unambwe Secondary School.

Bariki (A new girl, pictured at left) aged 8 needs a place at school.