



Arusha Kids Trust: Action for Growth and Education

Arusha Kids Trust (AKT) Newsletter October 2018

News from Arusha, Tanzania

The Save Africa Orphanage (SAO) building in Leganga, near Arusha By the time of our visit in July 2018, the rented building in which the children live had been sufficiently renovated to satisfy the Social Welfare Department (*Ustawi wa Jamii*) for the time being.



The two new rooms under construction had been finished and furnished, the outside timber kitchen had been rebuilt using corrugated iron, and the office had been relocated to make more room for dormitories. Each child now has a shelf for their clothes in their allocated dormitory. The site and the buildings are still too small to meet Tanzanian Government requirements but *Ustawi wa Jamii* acknowledge that SAO is doing the best it can.

Supplementary Food Program The SFP operated smoothly between late 2014 and July 2018 with the assistance of Jodie Condell and her Tanzanian NGO Malaika Mdogo. Jodie has recently moved to Zanzibar and can no longer oversee the weekly purchase and delivery of nutritious food. We discussed this with the staff of SAO during our visit. We now have a signed Memorandum of Understanding between AKT and SAO with SAO having the responsibility to buy a defined list of produce direct from the local markets each week.

Placing a child in an orphanage It is now the law that *Ustawi wa Jamii* is the only organization able to admit a child to an orphanage. Earlier this year they admitted Naifat, a 3-year-old girl to the Orphanage because her sole parent had been diagnosed with severe mental health issues. Naifat (in red) is settling in well.



Haradali Pre and Primary School We now sponsor sixteen children at this school. The latest little girl to start school is Enjo, the daughter of teacher Mary who lives at SAO. Enjo has grown up at SAO since she was a baby. The delight on her face when she was given her uniform was a joy to see.

We visited the school several times to hear how the children were progressing and help identify those who needed new uniforms. As usual we bought new shoes for all through a seller at the markets.

Kilimani Government Primary School The SAO children who are sponsored by Soren and Simone from Denmark continue to progress at Kilimani. We visited the Principal, Betty, who said that both attendance and academic results are on the whole pleasing. We bought new uniforms and school shoes as needed, the cost of which was reimbursed to AKT by Simone and Soren.

Amani Primary School Three of the SAO children attending Amani school John, Witness and Joel will graduate in 2019 and will need a place in secondary school. We hope they will be able to follow Augustino and Edwin to Haradali Winners.



Augustino, Kathy, Edwin & Godlisten

Haradali Winners Selective Secondary School

We visited Haradali Winners to meet the two SAO boys Augustino and Edwin who started Form 1 in January 2018 as boarders. We also met Godlisten, a boy we have sponsored for several years, who is now in Form 2. The three boys are studying hard. The School Sponsorship Coordinator, Dominic, showed us around this new and expanding school, with its now completed dining room, extensive vegetable garden, new sports field, as well as an extra dormitory under construction and a library currently in use as the boys' dormitory.



Unambwe Secondary School Elizabeth, the young woman from SAO who went back to school as a mature student, has really grasped her opportunity to learn, and attained A grades in many of her subjects after Semester One this year. Stefano is now in Form 3. Both students are day students, although the majority are boarders. We hope that Stefano might become a boarder next year for his important Form 4 studies.

Lake Tatu Government Secondary School Raymond is the only SAO student at Lake Tatu, he has soldiered on for four years (as we reported earlier this year). The National Form 4 Exams are looming next month; Raymond's future depends a great deal on his results.

Naming of Children The Tanzanian Government now requires every child to have three names for identification purposes. The first is their given name, then their father's given name and their clan name. If the child's parents come from different clans then the third name is the given name of the grandfather on the father's side. Sponsors may see name changes on school reports because of this.

Health and wellbeing In general, we have seen that the children living at SAO are healthier, stronger, taller, and very active. There were only a few issues we addressed while we were there in July. Kathy took two of the boys, Joel and Bariki, to have their eyes checked by an optometrist who had recently opened her office in Arusha. Both needed prescription glasses. After we left Arusha Bariki (photo) spent a week in hospital fighting malaria. Chris took John who attends Amani to the same dentist where Raymond was treated two years before. In 2017 John and



Raymond were in a motorbike accident. They both suffered from broken and impacted front teeth. We agreed that Raymond needed to wait until after his Form 4 exams before he could deal with this. John's teeth were treated to ensure that infection did not set in, but he will need braces to train his teeth down as they only just protrude from his upper jaw now. He may also need crowns.



Barti and the goat SAO now has a small flock of goats. One day one of the goats walked out of the adjoining field and trotted in through the main gate. Little Barti aged four saw the goat and quickly turned on the outside tap to fill the bucket underneath. The goat ran to the tap and drank gratefully straight from the falling water. Good on you Barti!



Blackie gets a bite Blackie is the new dog at SAO. He got confused soon after his arrival and ran off to where he used to live. On the way he was involved in a brawl and got a nasty bite on his ear. We called in Jens from *Mbwa wa Africa* who patiently cleaned up the ear with the help of Abdul. Abdul is good with the dogs and he held Blackie and soothed him. The ear had healed completely by the time we left.



A car for Anuari One day a small boy in a pink anorak asked Kathy if he could please have a car. It was a reasonable request as we had just bought dresses for several girls who needed them. It was agreed a car would be got. Fortunately we found hand-made safari cars with hand-made wheels and pop-up roofs in the Maasai markets. They were made by an enterprising woman. We bought a few for the younger boys. They were so popular with everybody we had to go back for more! Violet introduced a rule – one between two – we were very pleased to see how good the children were at sharing.

News from Australia

Fundraising We have asked a lot from our supporters and friends this year.

"Arusha Kids Trust - Keep Them Safe" GoFundMe Campaign In May we had word that suitable premises for the Orphanage had come up for sale. We saw this as an opportunity to provide certainty for the children going forward. The land was four times the size of the current site and the buildings also bigger. Orphanage premises must either have a long term lease or be owned outright but we have been unable to secure a written lease for the current site. We agreed with the Orphanage that we would mount a fundraising campaign by contacting Volunteers who had visited the Orphanage, together with our own list of friends and supporters. We quickly raised \$5217.33 through a GoFundMe campaign. This was a fantastic effort but was a small fraction of the \$140,000 needed. We are very grateful to all who generously responded. This money has been set aside for purchase of premises.



Jazz in the Afternoon Our first fundraising event in 2018 was *Jazz in the Afternoon*. This was held at a local Sydney theatre the Red Rattler in June. The Inside Out Quartet jazz band (photo) donated their time in support of AKT. The Band was led by Eric Dunan on trumpet, together with Marley on keyboards, Zac on double bass and Toby on drums. It was a great sound and well mixed by Sound Engineer Shannon. We were

most grateful to Suzanna from the Red Rattler for her cheerful assistance throughout booking and using the venue. The event raised \$1871.71.



Reflections from Tanzania In September we hosted *Reflections from Tanzania* a photographic exhibition held over a weekend in the delightful Studio MV. With a lot of help from Photographer Kay Hathway we selected and hung our best photos of the children we work with in Arusha. We created ten large story boards which gave in-depth glimpses into some of the children's lives. We also selected some of Kathy's safari photos for display and sale and printed sets of 10 safari photo cards.

We had a silent auction on the Saturday night with works donated by Jan Shaw, Kay Hathway, Janet Westerman and Crista Wocadlo. Thanks to Michelle Leonard for gifting us the Studio and to all those who helped during the weekend. We couldn't have done it without you.

We raised \$3317.88.



Thank you so much for your support and encouragement throughout this busy year.

The AKT Trustees Last month, Janene Hanna, one of our three Trustees, resigned. Together with Kathy Green and Chris Fox, she has been part of our team since 2016, and we are very grateful for her support. We now welcome Margo Moore as a Trustee. Margo lives in Sydney and has been a supporter of AKT since its inception. She brings a wealth of experience to AKT.

Website Our website is used to document our purpose, goals, current programs and sponsorship. It allows access to all our newsletters and gives details of events past and to come. Go to the website to register your interest in school sponsorship or support for our other programs. The link is www.arushakidstrust.com

Facebook

To link with us on Facebook go to <https://www.facebook.com/arushakidstrust/> Please like us on Facebook! We have posted news and photos of our visits to Arusha and there is a large selection of photos for you to browse. Go to our Page to see links to fundraising events (the next event will be held in 2019).

Contact Us For any queries or comments, please contact the Trustees Kathy Green (Public Officer) Chris Fox and Margo Moore via the AKT email: arushakidstrust@gmail.com