

News from the Save Africa Orphanage

A Date for your Diary

We will be holding an information and fund raising event on Saturday August 29th starting 6 pm. More details soon.

The Supplementary Feeding Program

This program for children living at the Save Africa Orphanage was started in December 2014. Food is purchased each Monday from the central market in Arusha and delivered to the orphanage. This is made possible with the help of a good Australian woman, Jodie Condell who runs a hostel for volunteers in Arusha, Tanzania. The orphanage is 25 Km to the east of Arusha in semi-rural Leganga in the district of Usa River.

Kathy Green was a volunteer at the orphanage in 2014 and made a return visit in July 2015 with Christine Fox.

Towards the end of her first visit Kathy took three of the children to the local clinic where one of them was diagnosed with Vitamin A deficiency. The doctor at the clinic said that the three children were all showing signs of malnutrition. As all the children at the orphanage had the same basic diet of rice, beans and wheat it was reasonable to assume they were all malnourished. The doctor advised that the children needed milk, fruit and vegetables, meat and eggs on a regular basis.

From Wikipedia:

Approximately 250,000 to 500,000 malnourished children in the developing world go blind each year from a deficiency of vitamin A, approximately half of whom die within a year of becoming blind. The [United Nations Special Session on Children in 2002](#) set a goal of the elimination of vitamin A deficiency by 2010.

On her return to Australia Kathy asked for sponsors prepared to donate \$10 PER MONTH. This is sufficient to provide these supplementary foods to one child for a whole month. The list of food supplied each week to the orphanage is detailed later in this newsletter.

By July 2015 there were 46 children. There are also two female staff living at the orphanage to care for the children.

We now have 30 sponsors donating a total of \$350 per month with one-off cash donations from a further two people. Two of the four people who originally made a one-off donation are now donating regularly. If you would like to become a regular sponsor for the food program, please contact Kathy at her email address kgsydney@gmail.com

The Program was reviewed in July 2015 with Violet the resident cook. Her comments about the nutritional needs of the children were then taken to a meeting in Arusha with Jodie.

Jodie and Kathy revised the list of food to be supplied each week based on the comments from Violet. An increased amount of eggs, meat and milk will now be delivered, while some other items can be dropped. They also found that approximately \$A25 per week had not been spent, partly because of changes in the exchange rate. Jodie agreed to make up the difference (approx. \$A600) by paying for the food for six weeks from August 3rd to September 7th. **The Net Effect** is that funds will accumulate in the Australian bank account for this 6-week period, providing a financial buffer against unforeseen emergencies.



New Swings

With an increased number of children and an increased number of regular donors, the new list is costed at \$A110 per week or \$A440 in a four-week month.

Revised Weekly Supplementary Food List

Item	Unit	Quantity
Eggs	Tray of 30	4
Beef	Kg	5
Milk	L	18
Lentils	Kg	5
Carrots	Bucket	2
Potatoes	Bucket	2
Zuchini	Tzs	3000
Tomatoes	Bucket	1
Green Pepper	Bucket	0.5
Papaya Large	Each	2
Oranges	Each	30

Other News From The Visit in July 2015

Your Donations Arrived Safely. Kathy and Chris took about 30 Kgs of clothing, footwear, learning materials etc to Tanzania. The clothes were vacuum packed so more could be squeezed into the cases. All the shoes went into a backpack, and were carried on board as Kathy's hand luggage! We had great fun purchasing colourful bedsheets for the boys' dormitory using donated funds.

Changes at the Orphanage since last year

The land at the rear of the Orphanage has now been paved to provide a **multipurpose play area**, donated by Danish volunteers. There children kick balls around, organise games, and work during school time in small groups with volunteers. Next to this area are **two sets of swings**, which are extremely popular. The old plastic slide is worn out and has been retired.

A really worthwhile initiative has been taken by a group of young US volunteers to pay for building **three outdoor toilets and a laundry**. They were still under construction when Kathy and Chris were there, but they are now complete except for the plumbing. Martha, a Canadian volunteer, set up a crowd funding website to raise the necessary money for tiling and plumbing. The target of \$US750 was achieved in less than a week!

The number of children being sponsored to attend primary school has increased rapidly. Eleven children have ongoing sponsorship at Amani, an English medium school nearby; six children have sponsorship at Haradali, an English medium day and boarding school. Five of these children attended Haradali last year (2014), but the sponsors never paid fees, and the Coordinator at the school had to ask the children to leave at the end of 2014. These children have now returned to the school with new sponsors who have committed to a period of seven years' sponsorship. It costs around \$600 a year for a child to attend an English medium private school such as Haradali or Amani.

Last month, a Danish couple and their friends organised for 22 of the children over seven years old, and who had never been to primary school, to enrol at Kilimani, a government school. These children will be taught in Kiswahili. It costs around \$100 a year for a child to attend a Kiswahili medium government primary school.

Returning to School



Raymond Frank is the first child at the Orphanage to **pass the National Grade 7 primary exams** and be admitted to secondary school. Only about 25% of children in Tanzania get to secondary school.



Raymond Frank



Kathy with Pluro

Kathy was very happy to see an **old friend Pluro the dog**, who recognised her immediately. Surprisingly, another female dog, Marle was there too with her six puppies just 6 weeks old! The dog food that formed part of the food program is no longer on the list. The dogs are eating Ugali which is a maize porridge fed to most dogs, including Jodie’s dog. Kathy found an organisation called Mbwa wa Africa which organises occasional free dog neutering. Both Pluro and Marle are now neutered. The last we heard, they were both doing well and homes are being sought for the pups.

Future plans

A much needed project is to provide **shelving for the food store** and a secure door so the chickens don’t get in. The fruit and vegetables will last longer if they are shelved properly, instead of lying together on a sack on the floor. First indications are that this will cost about \$450. We hope to raise sufficient funds here in Australia to complete the project.

There is also a need to install secure fencing around the perimeter of the orphanage grounds to ensure the safety of the children. This will be costly and is probably not going to be achieved in the short term.

Many thanks for your ongoing support. I will return to Tanzania in 2016 to monitor the Supplementary Feeding Program and work with Francis Raymond to improve the lives of the children.

Kathy Green



New Play Area



New Toilets