



## News from Australia

AKT Newsletter #15 July 2022

### Fundraising - Caroline bakes for our kids

In December our friend Caroline was very busy making Christmas cakes. She does this every year to raise money for charity. In 2021 Arusha Kids Trust was delighted to receive a whopping \$1000 from Caroline's endeavors.

### Arusha Kids Trust June Appeal – Off we go again!

Thank you to everyone who donated to this appeal. We raised over \$5000. With this money we were able to have two huge stainless steel cooking pots made. We bought extra tables and chairs, provided uniform and backpacks where needed. We purchased a lot of textbooks, dictionaries and geometry sets. We paid for boarding items for students A and E and for transport to get them and all their luggage to school. We also gave all our boarding students, plus five additional older students, a wonderful educational day out in Arusha National Park.

### Kathy flies to Tanzania

Kathy arrived at Kilimanjaro Airport in Tanzania on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June. A mere two years, ten months and four days since the last visit by Trustees. Her first impression? " Goodness, all these young people have grown! "

**Kathy with our students boarding at Haradali Winners Secondary**



## News from Tanzania

### The First Priority – getting the teenagers to their new schools

A, E and E2 all graduated with good marks in the end of Secondary School Form IV CSEE exams in 2021. In late May all three were offered government scholarships to continue their education. It is government policy that scholarship recipients travel long distances to board in schools and colleges in far flung regions of Tanzania. They have to take a great deal of luggage with them. This includes a mattress, books, gardening tools, blanket and pillow, a tin trunk and an extensive uniform. Kathy arrived in time to help A and E get ready for their new schools. E2 will take up his College placement in September.

A travelled to his school in the town of Same (pron. 'Sar-may) with Francis.



**A and E with their CSEE certificates**



**Outdoor assembly in the red dust of Same Senior Secondary School**

Kathy accompanied E on a 1,000 Km, 15 hour bus trip to the west of Tanzania, not far from Lake Victoria. Elizabeth's school is in the Kigoma Region. The last 80 Km were on dirt roads.



On the hot bus with E



New uniform

**S gets an opportunity for further study**

S graduated from secondary school in 2019. He passed the CSSE exams but did not do well enough to be offered a government scholarship. He has decided he would like to study early childhood education. Much to Kathy's surprise there is a college about 10 Km from SAO which offers a one year Certificate course based on Steiner education principles. S and Kathy had to retrieve his CSEE certificate from his old school, Unambwe Secondary, before he could enroll.



**Haradali Primary School - Mukutwarine's big year**



M is now in Standard 7. He is boarding so that he can concentrate on his studies. He will sit the end of primary PSLE exams in November. He is doing well academically and also excels at sport. He is representing the school in District competitions in football, hand ball and volleyball.

**Blue Sky Primary School**

After a three year absence it was inevitable that the population of SAO would have changed. Four children have left to live with extended family, and twelve children have arrived. Most of the arrivals are of pre-school age and are studying at the pre-school run by SAO. This pre-school is now on a separate site from SAO.

Kathy identified there were four older children who needed to be in primary school. She obtained agreement from SAO for Arusha Kids Trust to sponsor the four to Blue Sky Primary School. E3 is 15 and very small for her age. She was in Standard 5 at her previous school when her family fell apart. D, B and V are in Standard 3. All are very happy to have the opportunity to study at Blue Sky.



Kathy and E3



D, B and V

### **Rising food prices**

AKT has assisted SAO with supplementary food supplies since 2014. Kathy found that market prices have nearly doubled over the last six months. This is due to local shortages of supply and the global effects from the Covid pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. SAO needs a 50 Kg sack of beans per week. The wholesale price has now risen from \$37.50 to \$ 70.00. In practice our support over the last few months has included the purchase of staples as well as fruit and vegetables.



### **J finally smiles again**



Motorbikes (bodaboda) are used for passenger transport across Tanzania. In 2018 J had a nasty accident on one. As a result his two front teeth were pushed up into his jawbone leaving a big gap in his smile. Chris took J to the ALMC hospital three times that year for dental work. When we were there in 2019 J was sitting national exams and was not able to take time off school. This year Kathy accompanied J and he got his long-awaited tooth repairs.

### **A new experience for the older girls**

Every weekend many of the boys go off to play football in a local competition. Not so the girls. Kathy invited 12 of the older girls to visit Arusha for the day. They first went to a bookshop to choose a book of their own, then spent the rest of the day in the garden at Kathy's hotel. They had great fun playing ball games. Big tables were set up outside for lunch and quieter activities.



**An afternoon spent reading, drawing and listening to music on Kathy's laptop**



### **Boarding students get a much needed Ranger-guided walk in Arusha National Park**

AKT has eight students boarding at Haradali Winners Secondary School and one boarding at Haradali Primary School. The semesters are long. Particularly so this year, as there is a census and there was no holiday between Semesters 1 and 2. With this in mind a day safari was organized to Arusha National Park. The boarding students and five other SAO teenagers were invited. The kids were accompanied by Kathy, another three supervisors and two drivers. The highlight of the day was a two-hour Ranger-guided walking tour through the scrub and grasslands. The Ranger said the group's encounter with a herd of giraffes was extraordinary. They stayed quietly munching and looking over the bushes for about fifteen minutes.



**Website** Our website documents our purpose, current programs, sponsorship, our newsletters and details of events coming up. Register your interest in school sponsorship or support for our other programs. The link is [www.arushakidstrust.com](http://www.arushakidstrust.com)

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