



Arusha is in the north of Tanzania, East Africa.  
ACT is a small educational charity  
operating since December 1999

## Maasai Kindergarten Olmuringiringa Village near Arusha

This year the kindergarten in Olmuringiringa village has 54 children from 3 to 5 years of age. Previously the children started kindergarten at age 4 but the government has encouraged parents and early years centres to start at age 3. This creates extra responsibility for the teachers who have risen to the new challenge. We are lucky to have the same dedicated teachers, Suzana Ngalesoni, Leah Godwin and Elias Samson. Both Suzana and Leah had babies in February this year which gave Elias an extra challenge but he had the help of our two very capable assistants, Esther Daniel and Einoth Daudi. Under Tanzanian law maternity leave is very short compared to UK. Suzana and Leah only had 3 months off before returning to work. Well done, ladies!

Thirty children graduated in December 2018. The parents always help the teachers to make it a day to remember. These children leave to go to different primary schools in the area and have the basic skills and confidence to continue in Standard One.

Ole Supeet is the director of the kindergarten, which in Maasai language is called Elang'ata E Maa, which means A Bridge for the Maasai. Ole himself is like a bridge as he reaches out to the immediate community and travels much further afield to visit other early



*Children and staff at the Kindergarten*

childhood centres to collaborate and network with other teachers and to share the knowledge with his staff.

Due to ACT's shortfall of funds the kindergarten has a new donor and NGO to pay the teachers' and assistants' salaries. ACT gave the teachers and assistants a generous end of contract payment but will continue to support the

centre with educational materials, furniture and porridge.

Many thanks to Rebecca Ellison from the USA and her NGO in Tanzania.

*Ishbel Brydon*



*Ready to go Home*

## President's Visit

In December 2018 the village received a visit from the president, John Magafuli, who is keen to develop all the small villages in the area by providing water and electricity supplies and tarmac roads. No one in the village has water inside their houses. They either go to a communal tap or to a nearby stream. The kindergarten has solar power. Only one teacher in the kindergarten has electricity.

## ACT's Founder - Mike Brydon

Unfortunately Mike was diagnosed recently with a second brain tumour but he continues to stay positive. We all thank the doctors in Bangalore, India, for their specialist care..

## How can you help?

ACT is a small educational charity which relies on regular donations and is run entirely by volunteers.

In order to keep the Maasai Kindergarten open in 2019, to pay the teachers and give the children their daily porridge we desperately need your continued support. It costs £300 per month to run.

Please feel free to forward the newsletter to your friends, family and colleagues at work. All the money goes to the projects. Please visit ACT's website for more information. A Big Thank You from Ishbel Brydon

Donations can be made through Paypal via the website [www.arushachildrenstrust.org](http://www.arushachildrenstrust.org) or directly to:

**Bank of Scotland**  
**43 Comely Bank Road**  
**Edinburgh**  
**EH4 1AF**  
**United Kingdom**

**Arusha Children A/C**  
**Sort Code 80-11-05**  
**Sterling Account No. 06002520**

## Education and Family Support

ACT continues to support the Amini family with rent and with secondary school support for Zena Amini and primary school support for her younger brother Johnson. Zena is in Form 4 this year and will sit national government exams in October. She lives with her two sisters and three brothers in Arusha. They lost their only remaining parent three years ago. Although school fees were abolished in government schools there are uniforms, books, stationery and lunches to pay for.



*Zena, Johnson and big sister Hawa*

## Visitors from Abroad

Visitors are always welcome at the kindergarten and the primary school nearby.

A visiting group from Canada, from Wanderlust Adventures, have pre-ordered desks to be made and will present them to the primary in September. They will also visit the kindergarten. Tropical Trails and Karama Lodge clients gave a total of 28kgs of stationery to the kindergarten.

## Thanks

ACT gives special thanks to :

- Janeth Ngoti at Tropical Trails safari company in Arusha
- Ole Supeet, director of Elang'ata E Maa Kindergarten
- Bob Gray in New Zealand for ACT's website and newsletter design
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