



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

Sixty children (33 girls and 27 boys) graduated from the kindergarten in December 2017 and have made an excellent new start in their primary schools. A big thank you once again, goes to the three teachers Elias Samson, Suzana Ngalesoni and Leah Godwin for their outstanding commitment. We mustn't forget the importance of assistant Esther Daniel who makes the porridge every day for between 60 and 80 children, no mean feat when she has to fetch water from a source more than a 10 minute walk away. Ester with the help of new assistant, Einoth Daudi, also keeps the classrooms and toilets clean. The toilet block was renovated recently.

The kindergarten, normally for 4 to 6 year olds, is now also open for younger children aged 2 and 3.

When I visited in February this year, Suzana was absent due to undergoing surgery. I'm happy to say she has made a good recovery and is back at work. The children were excited to play with their new footballs from UK.

I had a special mission this time on behalf of Stewart Danks who visited Tanzania in 2016 and who had donated educational materials for the children. Sadly he died unexpectedly in 2017 and his partner Jannette Mac Donald asked if I could take his photograph to the school and then send her the photo of



Maasai kindergarten with teachers Leah, Elias and director Ole Supeet

him with the children. Jannette gave ACT a donation of £500 which was collected at Stewart's funeral.

I met an old friend of ACT in Arusha, Val Rogers, who gave me more books to take to the kindergarten. Val had been volunteering in a local orphanage. I also visited Olmuringiringa village primary and met the new head teacher, Mrs Kirika. She has an extremely challenging job and is responsible for

1457 pupils.

In UK we cannot imagine a primary school of that size. My gift of 10 footballs was a drop in the ocean. To top it all there are only 12 classrooms and 21 teachers. The school is 15 teachers short. The community is helping to build 2 new classrooms. These are daily realities in Tanzania and other African developing countries.

Ishbel Brydon

ACT for Action

Let There Be Light!



New Classroom Light

Thanks to a generous donation from Rebecca Ellison, USA, the Maasai Kindergarten in Olmuringiringa village has now got power for the first time since it opened in January 2002.

Both classrooms have lights which will help the children and teachers enormously on those dull mornings in the rainy season. A mobile phone charger has been installed for the use of the teachers and the local community. Thanks to Ole Supeet, the director, for organizing the installation with Mobisol Tanzania. Rebecca also donated money for a selection of children's books.

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 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

ACT's Founder

Since our last newsletter I am very happy to say that ACT's founder Mike Brydon has continued to make a good recovery and following more cancer treatment in India he has recently been able to return to his home in Tanzania. Congratulations, Mike, keep it up!



Phone charger

Education and Family Support

ACT continues to support two sisters, Hawa and Zena Amini, with their secondary education. Zena is now in Form 3 and Hawa is studying for her Form 6 final exams. ACT helps the family of six siblings with house rent as they lost their only parent in November 2016.



Olmuringiringa Primary with sports teachers, students, Head of Primary (second right) and Ishbel Brudon

Thanks

ACT gives special thanks to :

- Janeth Ngoti at Tropical Trails safari company in Arusha
- Ole Supeet, director of the Maasai Kindergarten who volunteers for ACT
- Bob Gray in New Zealand for his website and newsletter designs
- EK Muzungu Club, Angela Kennedy, Lochwinnoch International Aid and Annie Ritchie all UK, and Robert Gunn, USA, for their support
- Jannette MacDonald and in memory Stewart Danks.