Annual Newsletter Issue no 20 - 2020



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 Maasai Kindergarten has 75 children, 37 girls and 38 boys.

2020 proved to be a difficult year for the families and the children missed three and a half months of school from mid-March till the end of June due to government policy to combat the spread of Covid-19.

I am extremely happy to report that there have been no deaths due to Covid-19 in the village. The teachers have followed strict handwashing rules and the children have remained healthy. Attendance has been consistently good.

Rebecca Ellison(USA) continued to pay the teachers' salaries throughout the lockdown.

I was lucky enough to be in Tanzania in January and February, then later in October and November, and so enjoyed several visits to the kindergarten. The same dedicated teachers welcomed me, Elias Samson, Suzanna Ngalesoni and Leah Godwin. Ole Supeet continues as the director, as



December 2020's Graduating Group at the Kindergarten with their 3 teachers

do Esther Daniel and Einoth Daudi, the assistants.

In November 2019 36 children graduated and this year in December 2020, 45 children graduated and will go onto Standard One in the local primary

in January 2021.

As well as providing educational materials, sports equipment and various supplies, ACT paid for roof and ceiling repairs to the main building.

Ishbel Brydon

## **ACT** for Action

### **Education and Family Support**



The Amini Family from left Hawa, Johnson and Zena

ACT continues to support the Amini family with rent, primary education support for Johnson who goes into Standard 6 in 2021, and further education support for Zena and Hawa.

Hawa is completing her first year at the Tengeru Institute for Community Development and starts second year in March 2021. She successfully completed a 2 month field study in a local hospital maternity ward.

Zena started a one-year course in banking at the Arusha Institute for Accountancy in November 2020. ACT has paid all the fees for the sisters and provided them with a laptop.



Morning Porridge Time at the Kindergarten

### ACT's Founder - Mike Brydon

It is with great sadness that I have to tell you that Mike died on the 27th of December 2019.

Mike had suffered two brain tumours and despite putting up a good fight his immune system couldn't overcome serious pneumonia in December. Mike was 68. He was cremated in Arusha on the 2nd of January 2020.

Tanzania was his home for 30 years and he was the Director of Tropical/Wilderness Trails Safari Company and Karama Lodge, Arusha.

### How can you help?

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

ACT provides educational materials, classroom maintenance and sports equipment. It gives support to primary, secondary and further education students and their families.

Please visit ACT's website for more information about our projects.

Please feel free to forward the newsletter to your friends, family and colleagues at work. All the money goes to the projects.

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

#### **Thanks**

ACT gives special thanks to:

- Bob Gray in New Zealand for ACT's website and newsletter design
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- Ole Supeet, the Teachers and Assistants at the Maasai Kindergarten
- EK Muzungu Club, Angela and Peter Kennedy,
- Lochwinnoch International Aid,
- Annie Ritchie, Robert Gunn and Rebecca Ellison
- Chris Morris, Director of Into Africa, UK Ltd