

# REPORT FROM MAKANG'WA

October 2012

Greetings from the Amani Family.

The times they are a'changin! It is the dry season yet there are flowers on one of our Poncianna Trees. Here they are known as "Christmas Trees" as they usually flower in December. Maybe they will now be called 'October Trees'. The forecast is for heavy rains this coming wet season. Nature may have an understanding of the months to come.

Katie Chapman, visiting from Australia, has arrived and has settled in very well. Katie is a Captain in the Australian Army. She can cook, service vehicles, build walls – and mix very well with the people. I am pleased she will be here while I am in the USA. I depart Dar es salaam on October 23<sup>rd</sup> arriving in Billings, MT the evening of the 24<sup>th</sup>. Departure from Billings is on December 4th. It all seems so very close with much to do.

Althea Abraham has also arrived back in Dodoma. Althea and Gordon will be deeply involved at St. John's Anglican University in Dodoma. Presently Althea is spending three days per week visiting at the Prince of Peace Preschool at Mvumi Makulu. Her skills and experience as a teacher are greatly appreciated by teachers and children.

Prince of Peace is a happy school. It is a joy to share with the staff and students. Work continues on the new Administration Building. It will be a fine addition to the school facilities. We hope the bus will commence operation next week. Finding a competent driver has been a challenge. I have no doubt that within a year we shall need a second and larger bus to transport children from Mvumi Mission where the interest is strong.

The two young men from Sokoine University of Agriculture have been busy. Azalia has been away on a three day trip conducting a survey of improved dairy cattle at two centers to the east of here. We are hoping to have Project Details prepared for my trip to the USA. Abel has been working on a Vegetable Project at Kikombo Village east of here. The first foot operated water pumps were delivered yesterday, October 5th.

A major new development is the arrival of electricity at Makang'wa Village! The poles are in place and wire is being strung. As this is a specially funded project it will move along quite quickly. We have been able, through the support of both Foundations, to contract for the wiring of all buildings and the Water Pump at the Amani Center and also all buildings at Children of Peace Center, Igondola. The availability of power will greatly enhance the development of activities there. Water is already connected! Many thanks to the members of the Southport Rotary Club, Queensland, Australia for generous support towards this project. Now we have heard that Rotary Club of Highton Kardinia, Geelong, Australia is providing funds to take water to the Igondola Project land and the communities along the way. Last Sunday afternoon I participated in the Board meeting of the DCMP – the group caring for the former street children on Dodoma. Two very able school teachers have joined the Board. It was an encouraging meeting. We are yet hopeful of strong support for this work at Mahoma Makulu. Yes, 'the times they are a'changin'!

The new College/University year has commenced for year 2012/13. Thank you to all who so generously support the students. As all fees have increased this is an anxious time for many students – and young adults seeking to commence studies at this level. I have needed to

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say “No” to a growing number of people this year. Thankfully we are able to continue support for current students and several new students. The new ones are Secondary/ High School Students we have sponsored and having done well, are now advancing on. One of our students, Furaha Menda, and Education Faculty student at the University of Dar es salaam has done exceptionally well in his first year gaining one B with all other subjects B+ and A. Furaha is keen to return to Prince of Peace following Graduation.

Recently children from the Canon Mwaka English Medium School, Dodoma spent their Annual Camp at the Amani Center. This is the second visit. It seems that it will become an annual event. Even in the dry season the environment is attractive, especially when the grapes are ripening! This and other gatherings have made it obvious that the Center is becoming well known as a welcoming and attractive place. As we watched how the children used the area on the hill it became evident that we need to do some further landscaping between the main house and the guest house mostly to provide suitable spaces to erect two-man tents and a safer place for the children to camp. Within the power project there will also be two outdoor lights. I shall return to further ‘transformation’! The area will be known as ‘Nixon Place’ in memory of the parents of Alison Jackson, a Board member of Hearts for Africa Foundation in Australia.

Thank you for your continuing prayers and generosity extended to Amani.

Every blessing,

John Naumann  
Managing Director

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