

Report from Makang'wa

June 2010 – Part One

The photo was taken one morning last week outside of the Office. Every morning people come with letters from the Village Offices seeking work for food or for some other relief.



Dear Friends,

How should I begin? There is so very much to share. We are 'buried' in the work at present. As I sat down to write the draft of this letter our secretary Dinna said, "There is a young mother waiting to see you. She has just been diagnosed as HIV positive and has been advised to cease breast feeding her baby. She has four children. Her husband refused to be tested and has run away. The doctor has sent her here. She needs work for two days a week to access milk and other needs for her child." She also has three older children! What can we say? We are stressed financially and yet..... ! I find that I cannot turn such a mother away. She is now left to care for the family in the midst of this developing food crisis. If the next wet season brings use rains still the present situation will continue into early 2011! I know this seems to be a recurring theme in the Reports but maybe this is why God has put Amani in the midst of these wonderful yet needy people. Just to make you smile..... Some Rotarians from Spain visited Arusha recently and have expressed strong interest in Children of Peace. After returning they sent an email to our Uni. student, Ndilito, in Arusha saying that an elderly woman was going to collect money in her 'piggy bank' for the children. The question was, "What on earth is a piggy bank?"

Related to the stresses here is the closing of our Tuition Programme at Igondola. Local people are not able to contribute even the small monthly fee – and we cannot operate without some local contribution. However the Children of Peace programme continues to develop and strengthen. Two weeks ago we celebrated the Graduation of our two sponsored local women, Doris Jackson and Leah Mundo, as certified Kindergarten/Pre School teachers. With Pendo that make three Amani has sponsored so far. We expect to sponsor a further two for this next academic year. Óur' Doris topped the class this year!

World Water Day, Billings, MT has sent a gift of \$1,850.00 to install fascia boards, rain water guttering and necessary fittings to convey water from our large multipurpose building to the large water cistern. This will enable a good supply of clean drinking water for Children of Peace. As the food shortage deepens the porridge provided daily to the children is ever more important.



To close this first section of the Report I have included two photographs of our most recent visitors from Australia, Clare



Carrigan and Antoinette Shaeffer. Clare and Antoinette immersed themselves in the activities of Amani. In the first photo they are seen with Joyce Lazaro, leader of the Children of Peace Saturday program. In the second Clare is doing her impersonation of an Emu, in full stride. We heard that later children were seen doing the 'emu walk' on the way home!

Dear Friends, we are in urgent need of gifts for the **General Fund**. This Fund undergirds all else that Amani does. Without it everything would cease. Today as I type this in the office I should be at a village to the north of here celebrating communion. However on the way home from the Graduation yesterday a tire began to collapse. How else can I explain it! We arrive home but today we are stranded until I can replace the tire. It is foolish to go anywhere without a reliable spare. These are the things which 'happen'. The car is necessary for EVERYTHING we do and is funded through the General Fund. I mention this to emphasize that the Fund is FOUNDATIONAL to all Amani activity. Please search you 'piggy bank'.

With thanksgiving,

John Naumann

Managing Director, AMANI CARE (Amani Development Organization)

For further information:

www.amanidevelopment.org

June 2010 – Part Two

Dear Friends,

In our drive towards a greater degree of local sustainability our keen emphasis is on the development and extension of the grape development. Through the training and encouragement of the officers from the Government Grape Research Center and training received from Mr. Dirk Bosman of DISTELL, South Africa (Voluntarily offered) our team is now well trained. At the Center we expect to plant two further sections by the end of the year. On June 15 the Chenin Blanc will be harvested (VERY SWEET). The Makutupora Red will be harvested in late July or early August. This expanding program will, over the coming years, provide a substantial contribution towards local sustainability. However of even more significance is the training of local people in the growing of strong and productive grape vines. It is now encouraging to see regional grape growers coming and asking if our team can visit their



grape farms to offer advice on the development of their vineyards. By the end of this year we shall have three developed teams: Amani Center, Igondola Project and Mvumi Makulu. Vocational training is at the heart of what we do. Each team will consist of men and women.

Our two Australian visitors, Clare and Antoinette, spent many, many hours training about 800 young Chenin Blanc vines to the support lines. As with children early care is absolutely essential to healthy growth. Recently we were inspected by officers from the Department of Agriculture. Our team received an A+ approval for their work! This is great joy for them and for us. It means that the vision for this Center is unfolding. I hope that this encourages you in your support for Amani Care.

The great need in the region is WATER. The living standard of many, many thousands would be raised if people has access to sufficient water. There is plentiful water underground. We now provide water to several local grape growers but very few can afford the cost of transport. An investment of \$1,000,000.00 in regional water wells would, in a few years, convert to many, many millions of shillings in local household income. Transformation!

Our pig project is moving ahead. You have not heard much about this as it is my 'baby'. We now have 20 pigs, 18 little porkers and a sow (in the maternity ward) and a boar. We shall keep two of the present young sows for breeding – more little porkers! Currently the men are building a second pig sty which includes a feed store. This project is essentially integrated with the Oil Seed Mill and the Grain Mill. Both of these activities are now kept very busy and are starting to provide some income for the center's activities. But the main benefit is the service provided to local people. As with every activity here all is operated by local people.



I am particularly pleased with the pig project. The chief 'friend of pigs' is our young man Obed. Obed has a mental disability. When we first came here in early 2006 he was regarded as the village idiot and was the butt of jokes. This does not happen any more. Through his work here Obed has developed in his abilities and can express himself quite well. He is totally reliable (if at time a little over enthusiastic) and gives the pigs kindly care. AND, has consistently saved from his weekly pay. His house now has an **iron roof**. He has a **bed** and no longer sleeps on the ground – AND he recently **married!** He is a supremely happy young man. Amid all of the stresses here these are the things which make life so worthwhile.

I hope that you do not find this method of sending Reports a nuisance. Life has been so busy it has been difficult to find the time to do this but today's car problem has opened the door!

Every blessing.

John Naumann

Managing Director, Amani Care (Amani Development Organization)

June 2010 – Part Three

This segment of the report concentrates on the Children of Peace Project and related developments. Th

The photograph shows a happy gathering at the recent Graduation at Mtumba . Doris and Leah now join Pendo as fully trained Kindy/Pre School teachers. Shukrani and Neema hope to commence training shortly. Leah is on the left with Doris on the right. Pendo, trained last year, is second for the left. Dinna our secretary is second right. Center are Shukrani and Neema. All except Dinna have been sponsored or will be sponsored through Amani Care. Dinna was sponsored from Billings, MT. This is all immensely worthwhile!



Igondola Grape Project

Closely related to the work with the Children of Peace is the Project on the Mvumi Mission Rd., about 4km from the Center. Over the past year I have managed to buy small adjoining parcels of land which now total seven acres. Part of this is low lying land with a high water table. Two 20 ft deep traditional wells have been dug and brick lined. Some coconut trees have been planted. We are now in the early stages of developing a vineyard on the land. By year's end there will be at least 80 lines of vines – maybe more, supported with an established water system. This development was commenced with a gift from Australia and is now funded through the sale of a gift of shares given several years ago by friends in Billings, Montana. We are confident that the income from this land will, in about three years, largely fund the basic operation of the Children of Peace Kindy and Pre School.

Sponsorships will still be urgently important to meet the personal needs of over 260 small children. To put this in some context our Children of peace secretary left us last week to join the staff at a district Compassion Center. Compassion is able to pay very much higher salaries than we can manage. In fact for a village situation they are substantial! There has to be a 'volunteer' element in every participation in Children of Peace. Our sponsorship program 'volunteers' alongside the work of the local leaders and teachers. Thank you for your prayers, contributions and Good Will towards this work. We intend that the income from the Grain Mill will also support this work but presently so much depends upon support for the General Fund.

To the right is the 'plant nursery' at the Project land with over 1,500 young grape plants, grown from last season's prunings. There is a growing demand for grape plants. Next season we shall have several thousand plants to sell to local growers at 'bargain' prices. The income will assist the basic operation of this work and the sales will also be a good step towards expanding the grape industry in this region. Yesterday, Saturday, two of our team were out responding to requests for advice on grape growing.



Every blessing,

John Naumann

Managing Director, Amani care (Amani Development Organization)

June 2010 – Part Four

Amani has an extensive student sponsorship program. This is a most demanding but exceedingly important aspect of our work. Institutions here seldom seem able to give a student the full costs for the year at the commencement of first term so we often have to scramble for the extras which come along. These are usually not large sums but they do have to be fulfilled. Somehow – we manage. Scripture has a number of illustrations of this special grace of God: able to provide oil, flour, fish and bread when there seemed to be no hope at all. He still provides. BUT – we MUST note that his wonderful provision is in response to our acts of compassion! It is wonderfully worthwhile to assist these people to attain a good education. I hope that all sponsors understand yourselves to be blessed through your participation from such a distance.



On June 12th (yesterday) I was Celebrant for the Eucharist at the Graduation at the Catechist Training Center at Matumbulu. Three of the graduating students came from Makang'wa, sponsored by 'friends of mine'. These particular sponsorships are not tax deductible in Australia as they relate directly to the Christian ministry.

On July 3rd I shall be Guest of Honor at the Graduation of students at the laboratory Training School, Mvumi Mission Hospital. Do understand that I am 'standing in' for the actual sponsors of the students. I wish you could be here to share the joy and thankfulness. Pictured to the left is the student sponsored from Australia who graduates this year. Two more graduate next year. They will form an important part of the medical care community in



Tanzania. Christina Liani is an exceptional young woman, highly intelligent. Two young men who participated in our Tuition Program at Igondola are now preparing to enter Teacher Training College. Both were placed in the Second Division in the Form VI examinations. These are excellent results and give them a helpful Government scholarship for College. However it is partial and each need a further \$200.00AUST to complete the fees. Both are named Erik and both are worthy of support. If this speaks to you contact the appropriate Foundation (and email me) so that we do not have multiple sponsorships. I will advise the Foundations if this is the case.

Blessings,

John Naumann, Amani Care (Amani Development Organization)