

FOUNDATION MALAIKA KIDS NETHERLANDS

Annual Report and Accounts 2020



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Foundation Malaika Kids Netherlands Report of the Board of Trustees

Introduction / Financial results in 2020

The decrease in revenues in 2020 to EUR 116,000 was the direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Netherlands: fewer fundraising activities were possible. Furthermore, the fundraising campaign “Help us to give 10 orphaned children a future” which started in October 2018, came to a close in 2019. New fundraising initiatives will be considered in 2021.

Total Dutch spend on objectives (actual spend in the year) increased by 20% compared to 2019 as a result of new compliance measures for NGOs in Tanzania in 2019-2020. The result for the year in 2020 has been added to the free reserves.

Achievements in 2020

Our achievements are best reflected in what is happening in Malaika Kids Tanzania and internationally. These are described in detail in the appendix starting on page 16.

Goal and mission

Malaika Kids Netherlands is providing support to orphaned and most vulnerable children in Tanzania. We seek to reintegrate those without caregivers into the community and provide a home, education sponsorship, and medical care.

Malaika Kids Netherlands, together with its associated funding foundations Malaika Kids UK and Malaika Kids USA, tries to achieve this goal by providing advice and funding to its associated operational foundation Malaika Kids Tanzania.

Fundraising in 2020

Our loyal supporters have been magnificent during the current Covid pandemic. We have a group of supporters who donate every month or quarter or year (we are very grateful - this is our favourite method). In addition, we also received donations from charitable foundations responding to our request for help in a year in which most fundraising events had to be cancelled.

Special donations were received to pay for good education for our children. Luckily in July it was possible to hold our annual golf event. This year it was the magnificent golf club, The Duke which allowed us to use their facilities for the day. Without the proceeds of this event, we would have had to use part of our reserves to fund the operations in Tanzania.



With the help of one of our long-term volunteers, Aad van Vliet, we were able to apply for support from the annual “Vastenactie” (Lent-project) of the Parochie H. Theresia van Ávila in Dordrecht. The amount awarded was EUR 16,500. This project was particularly aimed at increasing the number of

children we support under our Relatives Support Program. Although the project is not yet finished, we managed to increase the number of children in 2020 by 8. A spin-off from this project was a collection organised in an old-peoples home "De Merwelanden" in Dordrecht resulting in funding for new shoes for all children under our care.

Additionally, an article in the magazine "Onze vriend Antonius" about this fundraiser resulted in another considerable donation to our cause.

A special campaign held in both the Netherlands and the UK in 2019 enabled us to help Mkuranga Primary School with classrooms, desks and toilets. With originally more than 150 children in each class, these extra classrooms will certainly result in smaller numbers of children per classroom and better quality education, not only for our children attending Mkuranga Primary School, but also the local children. Apart from a generous donation by an anonymous trust fund, a school in the Netherlands helped with money but also by sending a container full of used desks and chairs (donated by a secondary school in Zwolle) to Tanzania. This school has already been supporting Malaika Kids for many years. This project was completed in 2020.

Francesca en Alan, both Trustees of Malaika Kids UK, visited Tanzania in January 2020, just before the break-out of Covid. They were able to participate in the opening ceremony of this project. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, it was not possible for members of Malaika Kids Netherlands to visit Tanzania in 2020. Hence, the structural maintenance and construction activities planned by Ton Willemsen and Aad van Vliet have been postponed until further notice.

Governance

Composition of the Board and management team of Malaika Kids Netherlands:

- Ton Willemsen (Chairman)
- Ted Koch (Secretary)
- Maarten Steemers (Treasurer)

The board members have received no remuneration for their services.

The Board of Trustees in the Netherlands met 4 times during the year. The overall development of Malaika Kids International and the specific role and responsibility for Malaika Kids Netherlands were discussed and translated into operational objectives. The board realises that, given the fact that all 3 board members have been trustees of Malaika Kids Netherlands for a long time, new board members and volunteers are required. Within Malaika Kids Netherlands, there is a small group of volunteers helping in specific areas such as fundraising, marketing, social media, etc.

Malaika Kids Netherlands is a large part of our international effort. When we look at our finances overall, we have 2.8 years of continuity reserves earmarked in our international accounts. This is sufficient to continue operations, until we can start growing again.

Ton Willemsen, Chairman, and Maarten Steemers, Treasurer, are in regular contact with the Tanzanian organisation to discuss local operations and the wellbeing of the children.

Communication with stakeholders

Communication with stakeholders takes place through our website, MailChimp newsletters, regular contacts with our major and regular donors and reports to donors on specific projects.

Looking forward to 2021

At the moment of writing this report, our organisation in Tanzania has not been directly hit by Covid. Nor have we yet seen a wave of kids orphaned by Covid deaths of elderly carers. We shall see what 2021 brings – we are in good shape to be there for new children, while continuing to look after and educate the kids we already have.

There is no governmental support for Malaika Kids in Tanzania or elsewhere. No major institution gives us multi-year support. We are reliant on our loyal supporters and donations from trust funds every year in order to continue our work.

So far, our donors have done us proud, and we have some reserves. But what we would really like to have is a regular monthly income that we can plan around. Approximately 90% of donations we receive go directly towards helping our children in Tanzania, giving them a stable and caring upbringing.

You might want to consider helping us with a monthly standing order to the account of Malaika Kids Netherlands, account number IBAN NL56 INGB 0009 694 938, BIC INGBNL2A.

You may also like to remember Malaika Kids Netherlands if you are updating your will. We also express our sincere appreciation and thanks to our patrons and all volunteers and companies in the Netherlands, who have given so much of their spare time, money and materials to help us organize the many events which provided us with funds needed for our cause.

The Hague, July 2021
Ton Willemsen, Chairman
Ted Koch, Secretary
Maarten Steemers, Treasurer

Malaika Kids Netherlands Annual Accounts

Balance sheet as at December 31, 2020

ASSETS	Note	2020	2019
CURRENT ASSETS		€	€
Receivables	A	0	1,840
Cash and cash equivalents	B	382,134	376,477
Total		382,134	378,317
RESERVES, FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
RESERVES	C		
Continuity reserve		272,000	248,000
Restricted reserves		79,000	98,000
Other reserves		6,134	7,317
Total reserves		357,134	353,317
FUNDS			
Restricted funds	D	25,000	25,000
Current liabilities		0	0
Total reserves, funds and liabilities		382,134	378,317

Statement of Income and Expenditure 2020

	Note	Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2019
INCOME		€	€	€
Donations private individuals	E	40,281	40,000	39,123
Donations businesses	F	14,426	15,000	11,566
Donations charity funds	G	61,567	50,000	106,650
Total income		116,274	105,000	157,339
EXPENDITURE				
Spent on objectives	H			
Reception Home		15,144	8,000	12,190
Relatives Support Programme		8,620	8,000	9,916
Children Village Mkuranga		46,121	45,000	48,421
Construction Children Village		2,400	0	0
Management Malaika Orphanage Foundation, TZ		28,239	12,000	12,965
Agriculture project		0	2,000	0
Education		0	5,000	0
Total spent on objectives		100,524	80,000	83,492
Cost of fundraising	I	11,491	14,000	15,638
Management and administration	J	335	1,000	486
Total expenditure before financial income/charges		112,350	95,000	99,616
Financial income	K	-107	-	107
Result for the year		3,817	10,000	57,830

ALLOCATION OF RESULT 2020/2019

	€	Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2019
	€	€	€	€
Continuity reserve		24,000	20,000	48,000
Restricted reserves		-19,000	-10,000	2,400
Other reserves		-1,183	0	3,430
Restricted funds		-	0	4,000
Total		3,817	10,000	57,830

Notes to the 2020 Annual Accounts

General

The annual accounts 2020 have been prepared in accordance with the Dutch Directive for Annual Reporting for small fundraising organisations (RJK c2, as revised in 2017). Foundation Malaika Kids Netherlands (official name Stichting Malaika Kids Netherlands, hereinafter also referred to as Malaika Kids Netherlands) acts as fundraiser for a sister foundation in Tanzania, Malaika Orphanage Foundation, where the activities in respect of childcare are carried out. Malaika Kids Netherlands is liable for the debts and obligations of Malaika Orphanage Foundation up to the amount of its available reserves.

The accounts are presented in Euros, the functional currency of the foundation.

Reporting period

These annual accounts cover the book year of the foundation, which coincides with the calendar year.

Accounting principles for the valuation of assets and liabilities

The valuation of assets and liabilities and the determination of the results are done in accordance with the historical cost convention. Assets and liabilities are valued at nominal value, unless stated otherwise. Income and expense are accounted for on the accrual's basis.

Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into the Euro at the rates of exchange prevailing on the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange approximating those at the date of the transaction. Resulting exchange differences are taken to income currently.

Use of estimate

The preparation of the annual accounts require that the Trustees make estimates and assumptions about the application of the accounting principles and the reported values of assets, liabilities and obligations, and of income and expenses. The actual amounts may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on a regular basis. Revisions of the estimates are reported in the period in which the estimates are revised, and in future periods in which the revisions have consequences.

Accounting principles for the valuation of assets and liabilities

Receivables and prepaid expenses

Receivables are valued at nominal value less any provision for non-collectability. Provisions are determined on an individual basis.

Continuity reserve

Because the Malaika Kids foundations do not have committed ongoing source of funds, the trustees of Malaika Kids internationally have decided to hold a minimum continuity reserve equivalent to approximately 3 years of the future liabilities for taking care of the children in our care, and to limit the growth of the operations in Tanzania in line with the combined continuity reserve in the books of Malaika Kids Netherlands, Malaika Kids UK and Malaika Kids USA. Malaika Kids UK and Malaika Kids Netherlands are now close to that required level, and expect to reach the combined minimum continuity reserve in 2022. The required level will be reviewed each year.

Restricted reserves

The spending of the restricted reserves is determined by the Trustees. It does not constitute a contractual obligation, and the Trustees may lift the restriction at any time.

Other reserves

Other reserves are the balance of the reserves and are freely available.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds acquired and especially restricted by the donors. As at December 31, 2020 and 2019 a number of funds were received from donors which were not yet spent for the purposes as earmarked.

Accounting principles for the determination of results

Donations from private individuals

Donations from private individuals received are reported in the year in which they are received.

Donations from businesses and charity funds

Donations from businesses and charity funds received are reported in the year in which they are received or granted by the businesses and charity funds.

Expenses

Expenses are reported in the year using the accruals basis.

Personnel

The foundation did not employ any personnel in 2020 and 2019.

Allocation of expenses

Expenses are allocated to the objectives, expenses for fundraising and management and administration on the basis of the following allocation keys:

- Directly related expenses are allocated to the respective expense category
- Not-directly related expenses are allocated as follows:
 - Publicity and communication: 25% allocated to each of the objectives Reception Home, Relatives Support Programme and Construction Village and cost of own fundraising
 - General and office cost: 50% to each of cost of own fundraising and management and administration.

Notes to the balance sheet as at December 31, 2020

A. Receivables

Receivables at the end of 2020 are nil.

B. Cash and cash equivalents

All balances are freely available.

C. Reserves

	€	December, 31 2019	Allocations 2020	Utilisations 2020	December 31, 2020
	€	€	€	€	€
Continuity reserve		248,000	24,000	-	272,000
Restricted reserves					
Reception Home Dar es Salaam		15,000	-	-	15,000
Relatives Support Programme		14,000	-	5,000	9,000
Children's Village Mkuranga		53,000	-	7,000	46,000
Management Malaika Orphanage Foundation, Tanzania		16,000	-	7,000	9,000
Total restricted reserves		98,000	-	19,000	79,000
Other reserve, freely available		7,317	3,817	5,000	6,134

D. Funds

Restricted funds	€	December, 31 2019	Allocations 2020	Utilisations 2020	December 31, 2020
	€	€	€	€	€
Farm Operations		-	-	-	-
Education		25,000	-	-	25,000
RSP-CBR		-	-	-	-
Total restricted funds		25,000	-	-	25,000

Notes to the statement of income and expense

E. Donations from private individuals

Income from private individuals consists of cash donations received from private donors. Total donations in 2020 remained stable compared to 2019.

F. Donations from businesses

Donations from businesses in 2020 consist of cash donations received from companies and fell sharply as compared to 2019.

G. Donations from charity funds

The donations from charitable foundations decreased in 2020 with € 45,000 as compared to 2019. The donations in 2019 included the results of the fundraising campaign aimed at charitable foundations.

H. Spent on objectives

The explicit intention of the Trustees of Malaika Kids is to engage in activities only to the extent that donations are received. Commitments for projects are only made if and when the funding for an identifiable part of the project is secured.

Included in the objective Agricultural Project in 2019 is € 9,454 transferred to Malaika Kids Tanzania, specifically earmarked by the donor Wings of Support for the development of the farm operations.

Percentage of spending

The spending on the objectives as a percentage of total income is as follows:

€	2020	2019
Total cash spend on objectives	100,524	83,492
Total income	116,274	157,339
Percentage of actual cash spending	86.5%	53.1%

The total actual cash spend on objectives may vary depending on donations made by Malaika Kids UK, Malaika Kids USA and other donors, directly to Malaika Kids Tanzania. In our opinion the total actual cash spend on objectives plus the movements in reserves present a better insight in spending versus income, as follows:

€	2020	2019
Total cash spend on objectives	100,524	83,492
Movement in restricted reserves and funds	-	54,400
<i>Total actual cash spend plus movements in restricted reserves and funds</i>	<i>100,524</i>	<i>137,892</i>
<i>Total income</i>	<i>116,274</i>	<i>157,339</i>
Percentage of actual cash spending plus reserve and funds movements	86.5%	87.6%

I. Cost of fundraising

Cost of own fundraising consists of publicity materials such as flyers and banners, web and server services and subscription fees for charity events. In 2018 a special fundraising campaign was launched at the charitable foundations with the assistance of a professional fundraiser. The costs associated with the campaign amount to approx. 14.5% of the funds raised. The campaign was completed in 2019.

J. Cost of management and administration

Cost of management and administration comprises costs for the registration of the Malaika Kids name and logo, notarial costs, audit fees and general costs incurred.

K. Interest income

Interest income is earned on the balances with the banks (current accounts and internet savings accounts).

L. Remuneration of Trustees

The Trustees receive no remuneration for their activities for Malaika Kids Netherlands.

The Hague, July 2021

The Trustees:

Ton Willemsen, Chairman

Ted Koch, Secretary

Maarten Steemers, Treasurer

Other information

Notification regarding the absence of an auditors' report

The foundation has no statutory requirement for an audit. Hence, an auditors' report is absent.

Compilation report from the auditors

ACCOUNTANT'S COMPILATION REPORT

To the Board of Trustees

The financial statements of Stichting Malaika Kids Nederland at 's-Gravenhage have been compiled by us using the information provided by you. The financial statements on page 7 to 16 comprise the balance sheet as at 31 december 2020 and the statement of income and expenditure for the year 2020 with the accompanying explanatory notes. These notes include a summary of the accounting policies which have been applied.

This compilation engagement has been performed by us in accordance with Dutch law, including the Dutch Standard 4410, "Compilation engagements", which is applicable to accountants. The standard requires us to assist you in the preparation and presentation of the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the Netherlands, including the Dutch Directive for Annual Reporting for small fundraising organizations RJk C2. To this end we have applied our professional expertise in accounting and financial reporting. In a compilation engagement, you are responsible for ensuring that you provide us with all relevant information and that this information is correct.

Therefore, we have conducted our work, in accordance with the applicable regulations, on the assumption that you have fulfilled your responsibility. To conclude our work, we have read the financial statements as a whole to consider whether the financial statements as presented correspond with our understanding of Stichting Malaika Kids Nederland. We have not performed any audit or review procedures which would enable us to express an opinion or a conclusion as to the fair presentation of the financial statements.

During this engagement we have complied with the relevant ethical requirements prescribed by the "Verordening Gedrags- en Beroepsregels Accountants" (VGBA). You and other users of these financial statements may therefore assume that we have conducted the engagement in a professional, competent and objective manner and with due care and integrity and that we will treat all information provided to us as confidential.

The Hague, 16 July 2021.

Bollard Accountants ✓ Belastingadviseurs



S.C.M. Dalmulder AA RB

Malaika Kids Netherlands contact details

Registered Address: Stichting Malaika Kids Netherlands
Beukplein 13
2565 ZE Den Haag

Bank: NL56 INGB 0009 6949 38; BIC INGBNL2A

ANBI number: 53564

RSIN/Fiscal number: 816803845

Email: info@malaika-kids.org

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APPENDIX - The operations in Tanzania in 2020

Introduction

Structural Changes

While this year has been dominated by Covid, 2019 and 2020 have also been years of structural change for Malaika Kids.

New legislation in Tanzania through The *Written (Miscellaneous Amendment) Act, NO 3 of 2019* amended various laws including the Trustees Act and the Non-Governmental Organisations Act of 2002. The said Act specifically required all organisations dealing with charitable activities to be registered with the NGO Act and not any other Act. Hence Malaika Orphanage Foundation (also referred to as Malaika Kids Tanzania) shifted from the registry of Trust to the registry of NGOs in Tanzania. For Malaika Kids Tanzania this resulted in a new constitution effective in 2020. This puts all the legal power for running Malaika Kids Tanzania explicitly into Tanzanian hands.

Malaika Kids Netherlands nevertheless retain significant influence as far as funding support is concerned. We communicate on a regular basis by Skype and we share the same focus on the welfare of the children that the local management has. We did not visit in 2020 due to COVID-19, and we look forward to visiting again as soon as it is safe to do so.

We are party to the annual budget and, along with MKUK, contract to fund that and any other unforeseen amount that everyone agrees to (other than around 10 percent that is raised inside Tanzania). We transfer money monthly on an as-needed basis, and we have full visibility of the Tanzanian accounts via QuickBooks accounting software for transparency and to make sure the funds are well spent.

The monthly funds transfer request is prepared in Tanzania. It is scrutinised by Maarten Steemers on behalf of both MKNL and MKUK, before going to the chairmen of MKUK and MKNL for approval. The transfer is then managed by each party on a more or less rotating basis. It is assumed that MKUK will provide 60% and MKNL 40% of the balance required (though contractually, MKNL guarantees the MKUK payment in case of default, and vice versa).

With the new constitution under the NGO Act, Malaika Kids Tanzania is also subject to a number of new regulations. Compliance with such regulations has been a major administrative challenge in 2020.

So far, the change in legal structure has proceeded smoothly. The trustees of MKUK and MKNL meet jointly once a month by Zoom. We fundraise independently but share information on developments in Tanzania.

The next part of this report describes what has been happening in Malaika Kids Tanzania in 2020.

Operations in Tanzania

Reception Home

Our Reception Home in Kinondoni (situated in a central and poor part of Dar es Salaam) is where Malaika Kids began.

When Welfare needs a safe haven for a child found on the street or being abused, and perhaps when a parent is taken to court, we are often asked to take care of the child for a period of time. Sometimes, it is safe to return the child to another family member; sometimes we need to offer on-going care.



Najma and Shezan typically spend several weeks checking out the options for a child who is brought to us. We often use a local tv station as an aid. If no family-based solution is available, we then seek to transfer the child to our Children's Village in Mkuranga.

There are movements from the Reception Home to the Children's Village but also vice versa from the Children's Village to the Reception Home -- especially when an older child living in the Children's Village needs to return to Dar es Salaam in order to follow training courses that are more readily available there. As of year-end, in the Reception Home, we had four "Welfare kids" under assessment (this figure fluctuates through the year) and nine older children doing training courses.

The Reception Home is also valuable as the site from which we operate the Relatives Support Programme. This is where the children and their carers supported under this program attend to collect basic food parcels, which include soap, every two weeks.

Summary of the number of children at Malaika Kids Tanzania:

	Reception Home	Relatives Support Programme	Children's Village	Total
Children at beginning of year	19	81	67	167
Incoming - external	22	15	1	38
Moved from Children's Village	1		1	0
Placed with family	13		5	18
Moved to Children's Village	11		11	0
Left Malaika Kids	5	7	1	13
Total at end of year	13	89	72	174



Children and staff at the Reception Home during lockdown

Relatives Support Programme

Malaika Kids currently supports 89 children through our Relatives Support Programme. The following seven joined us in 2020.



This little boy is eight. His parents are dead, and he lives with his grandmother, who is blind.



This boy also lives with his grandmother. She breaks stones for building sites or sells cassava to bring in some money to buy food and pay the rent on this one room home.



This little girl lives with her mother, a young widow. The mother sells chapattis at the side of the road in order to help support them both.



Two brothers and their cousin (ages 13, 11 and 6) live with their single mothers and grandmother in a one-room house. Usually, they play outside and only go into the house to sleep so the rainy season is hard for them. One of the mothers is deaf; the other helps out in other homes minding the young children while the parents work in the fields.



The grandmother (centre) is shown here with two Malaika Kids members of staff, Mama Amina (left) and Mama K (right). They are checking on the health of the children and examining the school reports to make sure they are all attending school.



An older girl lives with her single mother. She has cerebral palsy and particularly needs help to pay for medicine. Our CEO, Najma Manji (on the right), recently visited her at the request of hospital social workers. We agreed to pay for health insurance for this girl so she is now entitled to free medicine.

Every two weeks all these children, and another 82 like them, receive a food package from Malaika Kids. We also provide medical insurance, without which it would be almost impossible to see a doctor and receive prescribed medicines. In addition, we make sure that children have school supplies and school uniforms. Without a school uniform, no child may attend school.

Children's Village in Lockdown

In March, all the schools in Tanzania were closed due to the Coronavirus. Najma moved every child that she could to our Village in Mkuranga, including 13 children from the Reception Home in Dar es Salaam - mainly teenagers who were doing an apprenticeship and other courses that were temporarily closed down. All 75 children in the Village responded positively to the challenges facing them. Older children helped younger children with their homework...



And the computer room was used intensively under the expert guidance of Mama Haruma.

One of our younger girls had a nasty fall, resulting in a deep cut that needed 6 stitches. In the past, we would have taken her to the local hospital, where a competent job would have been done after a wait of several hours. We were loath to do this during lockdown as we feared the virus was already present in Mkuranga town, so our own Mama Martha, a trained nurse, was able to undertake the procedure herself.

Home-schooling was the rule in the morning, while teenagers were then available to help with various jobs around the village during the rest of the day. As well as taking turns as guards, the older boys also helped out with odd jobs and by painting the inside of some of our buildings. The library was open during the day and is full of both English and Kiswahili books, many donated by International Book Aid and Biblionef. We also recently received a gift of uniforms which the younger children are proud to wear for in-house schooling each morning.

We minimised traffic into and out of the Village. During the daytime, we no longer used guards from outside. Instead, the older boys were on a rota to keep visitors out. Our two field workers were not allowed inside the gates. Staff had to live inside the Village or take extended leave. Some of the older 'children' who had left our care sent messages to us.

"I hope you are fine, Corona virus appeared in Tanzania in Arusha after one woman came with the virus from another country. This corona it affects a big number of people in the world. I am now learning many things. I help with the baby class and help some of the younger children with their homework."

Many of the children were concerned about us and anxious to tell us, in case we did not know, about the symptoms of coronavirus. We need to watch out for a cough and a fever.

“Please stay at home and wash your hands with clean water. It is a very serious disease. Look after your families and protect yourselves.”

Others had serious questions for which they needed answers...

- How many people have died in your country?
- Is the condition very bad in your country?
- Who was the first person who discovered this disease?
- How do you feel during this period?
- Is it true this year you may not come to Tanzania to see us?

We replied to each of the children's emails individually.

Education

The schools returned in the second half of the year and national exams took place as usual. Four older children took the equivalent of O levels. Two will now go on to do A levels; one will look to do a business course and one will train as a teacher.

Meanwhile, three children leaving primary school (grade 7) all received A grade passes; a further six younger kids in grade 4 all got A's or B's.

Qualifications are important for our kids as the job market is very tough. Some recent 'Malaika Kids graduates' have found work in a pipe factory, a restaurant and a food shop; some are still job hunting. Two of our boys are training as carpenters.

Pre-school

Madam Tumaini (the Kiswahili word for 'hope') lives in Mkuranga town and walks to our Village every weekday to teach our pre-primary children. She also runs some remedial classes for our primary age children. She returned after lockdown and said:

“I am so very happy to be back. It was good to have more time with my own children”, (Hatiba, Lulu and Lukman), “But I missed my children in the village.”

We were very fortunate that in Tumaini's absence one of our older Malaika kids, recently qualified as an early year's Montessori teacher, was able to step in temporarily to teach our children.

Madam Tumaini began working for us part-time in 2012 and moved to a full-time post the following year. She trained as a teacher in Zanzibar and taught there for 5 years before moving to Mkuranga.

She has a well-equipped classroom with lots of bright pictures and educational aids on the walls.

During our last visit, she asked for better toilet facilities for her younger children – we have been able to make some inexpensive alterations that the children are very happy with, especially with the emphasis now on washing hands frequently because of the virus.



It is always great fun to accompany Tumaini on the weekly walk she undertakes with the children. They explore our farm and the bush surrounding it. There is always a new plant to see or a new animal to investigate.

Tumaini arrives at our village at 7:45 in the morning. She leaves us around 4 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, after the children have had a 45-minute sleep and she has cleaned the classroom and prepared the materials for the next day. Three days a week she leaves at 5 pm, as she teaches an hour-long remedial class for some of our less academic primary school children. Our children are generally doing very well at primary school in large part due to Tumaini's expertise.

She says:

"My heart is happy for the Standard 4 kids who did so well at the end of last year in the national exams. Teaching is my hobby. I love my job."



Farm and Maintenance Work

Julius, our farm and maintenance manager, is out of his house by 7 am and takes 20 minutes to walk to the Children's Village. He will have a working breakfast with James, the Village Manager, and Emanuel, our Child Support Manager. There is time for a quick chat beforehand with Baraka and Saidi, who work full time on the farm.



Julius, James and Emanuel ready to attend a ceremony at Mkuranga primary school

Depending on the time of year, Julius's 12-hour day is spent either on the farm or on the maintenance of the village. The climate is very unforgiving and almost every year we have a weather-induced emergency! In 2020 it was unusually heavy rains from February to May. Our land was flooded and many crops were waterlogged. In addition, we had to cope with a sharp rise in the groundwater level which left half our toilets and showers unusable for weeks. It was Julius's remit to sort out all of this.

Julius is very well qualified for the job he is doing for us. He has a Diploma in Water Supply and Sanitation Engineering and a Degree in Civil Irrigation and Engineering. Before joining Malaika Kids he worked for 2 years on dam construction for the Ministry of Water in northern Tanzania. It was there that he met his partner.

Julius joined us on 1 December 2016 and it is no exaggeration to say that he has revolutionised both our farm and our maintenance programmes.

Before he joined us the farm was struggling badly. Failed initiatives with goats and chickens and biogas generation had cost us considerable money and time. His approach has been incremental; to find out what we are good at and then do more of it. So he has concentrated on crops that suit our extraordinarily sandy soil - cassava, pineapples, bananas and cashew nuts. The latter crop is particularly valuable to us as there is a guaranteed market for it from the government.



Teaching our children about the crops

As far as maintenance is concerned, Julius has involved the older children in helping out, particularly in the school holidays. When we last visited, the boys were helping install new mosquito nets and they have also painted classrooms and watched and learned as Julius fixed damaged water pumps. Julius can turn his hand to anything practical, making new washbasin stands for the younger kids and installing new netball posts so that the girls and mamas can further improve their already impressive shooting abilities.



Fixing the water pump

Every evening at 5 pm, all the village kids have an hour of exercise before getting ready for supper. Julius is the key supervisor as kids play football, volleyball or netball. Sometimes, he organises an athletics evening: this involves mixed ability relay races, long jumps and all sorts of made-up events to keep everyone happy and involved (and supervised and safe).



Julius fixes everything around the village, even beds!

When we asked him how long he would like to stay with us, he replied, *"I am very happy here. I have no limit."*

And we are delighted to hear it!

