



HEATHER IN MOZ - NOVEMBER 2015

Waiting for rain

We've now moved from the 'sticky' season into, what we like to call, the 'drippy' season as the heat, humidity and yes, sweat increases in uncomfortable proportions! It's the time of the year when we are all looking at the sky willing the clouds to get bigger and give us some much needed rain. But as yet the proper big rains have not come and for a lot of people now finding useable water is a problem and a task that requires walking and carrying containers over long distances. The water finding and gathering is women's and girl's work here and sadly it means that girls, particularly in the rural areas drop out of school at this time of year in order to help with the carrying or with the house work or looking after younger siblings. At kedesh, we still have water in our well but the levels are as such that water is rationed and we only have running water for a couple of hours a day. But still, I'm extremely grateful for this! We also have our pond, which although is getting low, is still a much appreciated 'water hole' for the boys to cool off in!



Welcoming Toni & his Grandmother

Last month we welcomed Toni to live with us at Kedesh and his grandmother into our group of elderly widows that we support. Toni's grandmother came to our gate asking for food. When we visited her we discovered that she lived with Toni, her 10 year old grandson, after both his mother and father (her son) passed away earlier in the year. Toni was really 'running wild' in many ways, not going to school but instead running about the neighbourhood. Their house was an incomplete, badly built mud and bamboo structure and after speaking with the grandmother and Toni, it was decided that it would be better for Toni to come and live with us at Kedesh. Since then, Toni has been settling in well. Initially he was very scared of our dogs and took quite a lot of time for

him to accept the necessity of taking a bath, using the toilet (rather than outside) and wearing clean clothes (this we are still working on!). But he is doing well and will start school next year when the school term starts up again. We have also since started building a new traditionally built house for his grandmother that is making good progress.



A trip to Nampula

Last month I was able to visit friends, Riemer and Jen and their family, in Nampula, in the North of Mozambique. They have been in Nampula for almost 4 years now, starting up and running an agricultural training programme called Ebenezer, for local young people. I had visited them about 3 years ago so it was great to catch up with them all and see all the progress they had made. It is very challenging work and they've come up against many obstacles including repeatedly having malaria, robberies, lack of water but you can see clearly the ways God has been using them and their family to impact that community and the lives of the young people in their programme. Please pray for them in their work.



Boys getting jobs

This month, 4 of our oldest boys who are nearing the stage of moving on from Kedesh started full time jobs. It is always a challenge getting good jobs here, mainly because, sadly corruption is still such an issue that, more often than not, you need to pay your way into a job rather than it being based on the actual merit and skills of the person. So I was very happy to be given the contact (from friends at the international church) of a Korean couple who were planning to open up a factory and not only needed workers but were particularly interested in those who spoke English. The boys went to meet them and they immediately seemed to like each other and as a result all four were given jobs which started this month. The boys are Tito, Santinho, Jona and Paizinho.

World Race team visit

In September we had a World race team to stay for a few weeks. They were a big help and got stuck in with anything that needed doing, from painting and tiling the kitchen, to visiting widows and just playing games with the boys. Several of the team visited Orlando, the father of Gabriel and Delso, two of our boys, and someone we support. Their father has been blind since he was a child from stepping on a mine and two years ago, he had a stroke which meant that he is no longer able to walk. Orlando spoke about his roof needing to be fixed, as now when it rains, the house quickly floods and he is vulnerable if he's on his own (Orlando has two older sons who live with him but who are often out during the day). The house is quite big so the cost for a new roof was more than Kedesh could manage at the moment but Racquel from the World Race team felt a heart for Orlando and this need and went about asking friends and family back home for money specifically for his roof. And Praise God the money has been raised and we are in the process of fixing his new roof right now. Thanks to Racquel, her team and their friends and family who took it upon themselves to help in this way.



A visit from an 'old boy'

Many of you who read this will know Joao Simao but for those of you who don't, Joao Simao did most of his growing-up years at Kedesh. After doing a discipleship training course with YWAM, he heading to a YWAM base in South Africa to be a leader of their discipleship training course. There he met a lady from The Netherlands and so Joao moved to the Netherlands to marry, live and work. He has now been there almost 6 years, is a Dutch citizen and has 2 children. He came back to Mozambique recently, his 'Motherland' as he calls it, accompanied by two of his brothers-in-law and spent a couple of days with us at Kedesh. It was lovely to see him again and hear about how well he is doing in the Netherlands and the great family and extended family he has there. He was also very popular at Kedesh amongst the boys as he brought for them 3 footballs!



Other random news

Super heroes - Friends recently left Beira and gave me a random bag of items before they left. One of the things that was in the bag was several eye masks you get given on aeroplanes which we were able to turn perfectly into super hero masks!



A new calf is born - Last month one of our cows gave birth for the 3rd time to a beautiful calf. You could

tell it was her 3rd time as it literally slid out seemingly effortlessly as she was standing up eating some grass!



Trainee helpers - For 4 weeks, we have four extra helpers at Kedesh every morning, Monday to Friday. They are students, doing a one year course of social care and asked to do their practical placement with us. They seem willing to get involved in anything we ask them to do but are benefitting us a lot in the area of tutoring the boys and listening to them read.



Termite clay 'play dough' - Who needs play dough when you can make your very own termite clay dough! The good thing about it is that once you've found your termite mound (there are many!), dug out some clay and got it nice and wet and malleable, it is easy to create whatever you like with it - from aeroplanes, to super heroes. After completing your sculpture, you leave it out in the sun and it hardens up so that you can play with it some more!



Answers to prayer/Thanks

- For Toni coming to live with us and his grandmother joining our elderly widows group.
- For money being given from a friend in Canada to build a new traditional style house for Toni's grandmother.
- For the World Race team and the help they gave and fun we had with them.
- For the money being raised for Orlando's roof
- For a lovely time catching up with Riemer, Jen and their children Emily and Lucas
- For a new calf being born
- For the pond that allows the boys to have a place to cool off
- For the visit from Joao Simao and his brothers,
- For the 'trainee' helpers we have this month
- For Tito, Santinho, Jona and Paizinho starting new jobs
- For safety and good health

Prayer needed

- For Toni to continue to settle in well
- For the boys to do well in their new jobs and in their preparation to move out of Kedesh
- For Angelina - her health to improve.
- For proper rain to come.
- For Riemer, Jen, Emily and Lucas and the work that they are doing running Ebenezer Agricultural training course near Nampula.
- For finances to continue well in order for us to continue to improve Kedesh and support Widows and other vulnerable people.
- For fun and productive times during the school holidays which are almost beginning.
- For the political situation, which is still unstable, with renewed conflicts since I last wrote. Please pray for peace and resolution amongst the different political parties.
- For continued safety and good health.

Much love and blessings to you all and thank you for your continued prayers, interest and support. Feel free to contact me - hevdawnpev@gmail.com

Heather