

'n Week sonder gas! Die enigste plek in Choma wat gas verkoop is nie seker wanneer hulle volgende aflewering gaan wees nie . . . wel, ons het belyd dat dit ons nie kan pla nie, en soos die Zambiers het ons ons maar verlaat op 'n charcoal vuur op die voorstoep om ons kos voor te berei! Gelukkig is daar baie "charcoal burners" hier (mense wat charcoal maak vir 'n lewe) maar ongelukkig sal hulle elke boom in sig afkap. So mens kan nie sommer gou in die oggend 'n warm bad tap nie. Lourie moet vyf uur soggens opstaan om ons stortwater warm te kry op die brazer . . . partykeer nog vroeër. En dan het ons natuurlik ook water nodig vir koffie! Vir dit om alles te gebeur moet 'n mens seker maak jy het genoeg charcoal, en ook water van die put af.

Gelukkig is dit nie te moeilik om so vroeg op te staan nie, want ons haal skaars 9 uur saans! Hoe hou julle stadsjapies daarvan? Kan julle julleself indink, 'n lewe sonder TV, radio, CD's of DVD's. Dit is eintlik baie bevrydend moet ek vir julle sê. Gepraat van elektrisiteit, die kar laaier het opgehou werk, so nou moet ons ons verlaat op die generator om te laai wat pap is.

Die "chickencoop" vorder mooi (die hoenders staan in afwagting!). Ons kry die stene van 'n steenmaker hier in die area. Dis baie interessant om te sien hoe hulle dit maak. Die stene word gevorm van grond wat hulle van reuse miershope af kry. Dis die "spoeg" wat die miere gebruik om die miershope te bou wat die stene sterk maak. Die kinders help baie graag.

Lourie het gehelp om pa-Tembo se huisie bietjie op te gradeer . . . hy is met die plaas geërf so ons probeer sy laaste dae bietjie meer aangenaam maak. Ons vermoed Social Services sal vereis dat ons van hom moet ontslae raak. Al gesprek wat ons met hom het is: Leza kabuto! God is goed! Die ander enetjie wat help stene aanry is die verstandelik vertraagde enetjie – Singani. Hy is van die



Nr 2 - 10/07/2008



One week without LP-gas! The only place in town selling LP-gas was not sure when the next delivery would be . . . well we decided not to be deterred by that and like true Zambians, we started preparing our meals on the front porch on an open charcoal fire. Fortunately there are many "charcoal burners" (people who make charcoal for a living) around, but unfortunately they would cut down almost every tree in sight. So there is just no such thing as quickly running your bath in the morning, it does take a bit of planning and you cannot do it quickly. Lourie has to get up around five in the morning (sometimes even earlier) to get the fire going, to boil water for coffee and for washing in our makeshift shower. For that to happen you have to make sure you have enough charcoal and that you got enough water from the well, the previous day.

Getting up so early is fortunately not too difficult because bedtime is around 9 in the evening. How do you city folk like that? Can you even start to imagine your life without TV, radio, CD's and DVD's? It is actually quite liberating I'll have you know! Talking of electricity, the car charger has decided to quit so we have to rely on the generator for now, to charge whatever needs charging.

In the mean time the chicken coup is taking shape (the hens are waiting in anticipation!) and we are getting bricks from a brick maker nearby. It's very interesting to see how they actually do it. The bricks are moulded from soil which they get from huge big ant hills. The "saliva" which the ants use to build these big ant hills is what gives the bricks their strength. The children are very keen to help.

Lourie helped to update Ba-Tembo's little shack. We inherited him with the orphanage. However we suspect Social Services will ask us to get rid of him. The only words we can exchange are: Leza kabuto! (God is good!). The other chap on one of the photos helping to transport the bricks is Singani. He is mentally retarded. He comes from a

nabygelee village. Hy volg Lourie soos 'n skaduwee. Hy ken ons nou en lag kliphard as hy ons by die kerk of oppad sien. Hy klap sy hande om hello te sê. Lourie het 'n paar woordjies in Tonga soos "kom", "bring", "gee aan" neergeskryf en dis hulle twee se kommunikasie. Singani ruik soos hy lyk! Thomas en Colleen (die 2 Kanadese wat hier werk) het vir hom 'n hemp gegee, maar ons vermoed iemand het dit seker beter gedink om sy hemp te "nick" vir geld . . . shame.

Ek en Lourie het die Chieft ontmoet Vrydag. Hy is (natuurlik!! Hahaha!) baie beindruk met ons! Hy gaan ons Maandag help met die krag . . . Ek moes spesiaal 'n rok maak vir die geleentheid! Ons moes ook 'n geskenk saamneem (jy mag nie met leë hande daar opdaag nie!). Ons het nie eens soveel as 'n beker bier of 'n koppie tee gekry nie . . . hahaha.

Ek heg 'n foto van my twee kinders aan: Pienki en Buddy. Hulle is dierbaar en baie goed gemanierd. Al wat hulle heeldag doen is "og,og" en vreet! Sjoë . . . ek is nou regtig verdeeld tussen die wesies en die varkies!

Wel ouens, dit is al my nuus. Ek moet hol en my kinders gaan voer!

Leza amololeke!

(God seën julle!)



nearby village. He follows Lourie like a shadow! He has warmed up to us and will now laugh out loud when he sees us in church or when we meet him on the dirt road. He claps his hands to say hello. Lourie wrote down a few words in Tonga such as "come, give, pass" and they communicate in that way. Singani smells as he looks! Thomas en Colleen (2 Canadians that work here) gave him a shirt, but someone nicked it for money. So sad!

We met the Chief on Friday. He was (needless to say . . . hahaha!) very impressed with us. He is going to help us with the power on Monday. I am wearing the dress specially made for the occasion! We also had to take a present along. No ways you can pitch up without some present for the Chief! And . . . no, we did not even get any sweet beer or a cup of tea!

Here is a picture of my 2 kids – Pinky and Buddy. They are so sweet and well trained! They only say "oink oink" and eat all day! Wow . . . I am really torn between the orphans and the piglets!

OK, guys – that's all for now. I have to run to go and feed my children!

Leza amololeke!

(God bless you!)

Gisela & Lourie

[www.kanjanji.com](http://www.kanjanji.com)  
[childrensvillage@kanjanji.com](mailto:childrensvillage@kanjanji.com)

✉ PO Box 630677, Choma, Zambia

