Kanjanji
Children's Village
His heart, His hands, His little children

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Hello almal!

Ek sit nou letterlik onder 'n groot Mopaniboom in Afrika en tik die brief! En kan julle dit glo, hier onder omtrent 'n 100m van my af blaf die seekoeie om mense te waarsku om nie nader aan die Luangwarivier te kom nie. In 'n nabye boom het die bobbejane 'n skermutseling of miskien is daar 'n luiperd naby . . . Ek is nou nie juis baie beskut hier onder my boom nie – so ek hoop die brief kom by julle uit! Lourie het nou-nou gaan houtjies optel en amper groot probleme opgetel. Toe hy opkyk, staan 'n olifant 10m van hom af. Gelukkig was dié net geïntereseerd om sy maag te vul met Mopaniblare. Min het ons geweet dat die olifante so naby aan ons tentjie sou kom in hulle nagtelike wandelinge. Nou ja, as ek jul almal lekker jaloers het – laat ek net gou sê, ons het vandag in die eerste uur hier in South Luangwa Wildcamp al 'n seekoei (uit die water), 'n buffel, baie olifante (hulle kom hou jou in die nag uit die slaap met hul geselsery!) en 'n trop leeus – behalwe al die ander diere gesien.

Hoe het ons nou hier beland? Wel, ons was mos vir die ProChristo sending konferensie na Kabwe. Dit het Dinsdagoggend geëindig en toe besluit ek en Lourie aangesien ons nou so naby die wildtuin is, ons sommer vir twee dae hierheen gaan kom. Wel, dit het twee dae geneem om HIER te kom! Zambië is groot!

Die ProChristo konferensie wat Vrydag begin het en Maandagaand (eintlik Dinsdag vir ons) klaargemaak het was 'n wonderlike belewenis! Daar was by die 700 bywoners (sendelinge en ondersteuners en dan nog baie kinders ook!). Dit was wonderlik om so 'n naweek deur te bring by die voete van ons Meester! Coen en Suria Scholtz was die gashere en ons het ook die voorreg gehad om die stigter, Frans Hancke van Suid Afrika te ontmoet. Die program was regtig stampvol van 7 uur soggens tot byna 10 uur saans. Die wonderlikste sprekers en werkswinkels het mekaar

Hallo to all!

I am sitting under a huge Mopani tree in the middle of Africa writing this letter. You wouldn't believe me, but only 100m away a pod of hippos are letting everyone know not to come closer to the Luangwa River. In a nearby tree a family of baboons are having some dispute or are they perhaps making alarm over oncoming danger, like a leopard or so? I feel a bit vulnerable where I am sitting so I do hope this letter gets to you! Lourie had a close encounter with an elephant a few minutes ago when he went out to get some fire wood. He looked up to see a huge male elephant standing not more than 10 metres away. Luckily the elephant was only interested in filling his tummy with the much sought after mopani leaves. Little did we know that the elephants would come right up to our little tent browsing around at night. After having made you all a little jealous, I just needed to add that we have already seen a hippo on dry land, a buffalo, many elephants and a pride of lions in our first hour here in South Luangwa Wildcamp!

How did we get here? Remember we went to the ProChristo missions' conference in Kabwe. The conference ended Tuesday so we decided to divert for two days on our way back home. One does not realise how big Zambia really is. It took us the best part of two days to get back home!

The ProChristo conference that started on Friday and ended on Monday (Tuesday for us) was a wonderful and blessed experience! There were around 700 missionaries and sponsors and supporters attending the conference. It was just so wonderful to spend the entire time at the feet of our Master! Coen and Suria Scholtz were the hosts and we also had the privilege to meet the founder of Prochristo, Frans Hancke, from South Africa. We had a really busy time from 7am until about 10pm, listening to the most wonderful Bible teachings and we had workshops where we could interact with the missionaries from all around Africa. We made new

afgewissel en dan het ons natuurlik eg tradisionele etes ook as ‘n heerlike ekstra gekry. Ons het boonop baie hegte bande met al ons mede Suid-Afrikaanse “maaikies” gevorm en almal het belowe om vir ons by Kanjanji te kom kuier! Dit was nogal ‘n ontnugtering om te luister na hulle swaarkry stories en soms ook van vervolging wat van die sendelinge moet deurmaak op ‘n daaglikse basis. En ons het gedink ons kry swaar!

Op een van die foto’s is ‘n paar van ons nuwe vriende. Links van ons is Jaco en Susan van der Merwe (Lichtenburg) en dan staan Coen Scholtz (ProChristo-Zambië) langs Lourie en Annerie Nel van Hermanus regs. Ek het agtergekom dat dit een van die moeilikste take is om ‘n klomp Suid-Afrikaners bymekaar te kry vir ‘n foto! Ons het ook vir Ds Willem Badenhorst daar raakgeloop wat nou die nuwe predikant is by Moreletapark, Pretoria (Ds Dirkie se kerk).

Nou ja, julle sal nie glo nie maar oppad terug (omtrent so 170km van Choma) sien ons ‘n man met ‘n waentjie agter sy fiets. Op die waentjie is ‘n reuse Jesus plakker. Ons besluit toe om hallo te sê . . . wel, toe ons uitklim, vra hy dadelik “Praat julle Afrikaans?” Hahaha! Hy is besig om van Blantyre, Malawi na Kaapstad te trap (ter insameling van sy tehuis vir straatkinders/wesies in Blantyre). Hy sê toe hy sal die volgende dag in Choma wees en by ons inloer vir ‘n braai. Hy het toe sommer die aand by ons oornag. Nou ja. Ons het vir Felix Starker vanoggend dou-voor-dag weer in Choma afgelaai om sy tog voort te sit. Hy sê hy ry so 17km per uur en op ‘n goeie dag doen hy so 150km. Die volgende been van sy tog is na Livingstone, so 190km van Choma af.

Volgende week sal ek rapporteer oor die vordering by Kanjanji. Ons kry Dinsdag inspeksie van Social Services. Soos julle weet, is ons nou op die net! Baie dankie aan almal wat so hard gewerk het aan die webwerf! Ons dink dis puik gedoen! Groetnis en seën bid ons julle toe.

Gisela & Lourie

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friends and they all promised to come and visit us at Kanjaji. It was such an eye opener to listen to the stories of the hardships and persecution some of the missionaries have to endure on a daily basis. We thought that we are having a difficult time!

On the photo there are a few of the many new friends we made at the meeting. On our left are Jaco and Susan (Lichtenburg, SA). Coen Scholtz (ProChristo Zambia) is next to Lourie together with Annerie Nel (Hermanus, SA). These are only a few of them as it proved to be difficult to try and gather everyone around for a photo during such a busy time. On another photo is Pastor Willem Badenhorst from Moreletapark Congregation in S.A.

On our way back from the conference we passed a lonely guy on his bicycle, with a little trailer (with a big JESUS sticker stuck on the back of it) behind him. We decided to say hello and the first thing he asked was whether we could speak Afrikaans. His name is Felix Starker and he is cycling all the way from Blantyre, Malawi, to Cape Town, SA to raise money for the orphanage for abandoned street children, which he is running in Blantyre. He said he would be in Choma the next day and he would come around for a chat and a barbecue. He ended up staying for the night and we put him back on the road about seven the next morning. He says he covers about 17 kilometres in an hour and on a good day he can do about 150 kilometres. So the next stage of his trip would take him down to Livingston, which is 190 kilometres from Choma.

Next week we will report on the progress at Kanjanji. Social Services are meeting us on Tuesday. As most of you know we are on the web now! Big thanks to everyone who has worked so tirelessly to get the website going. You have done an excellent job!

Blessings we pray for you!

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