



17 Sept 08

Hallo to you all!

Let me tell you, there is never a dull moment at the Kanjanji Children's Village. Yesterday, round about midday, Lourie called me to come outside with a real urgency in his voice. I stormed outside just in time to see a whirlwind/tornado heading straight for our little shack. The dust and the debris being swirled around and the force of nature were just unbelievable. Great was the relieve when it made an almost 90 degree turn just before it would have reached our house and headed straight for the main hall. Unfortunately the main hall was not so lucky to escape the wrath of nature and in a matter of seconds the tornado ripped about 30 sheets of iron roofing from the roof and crumpled them like tissue paper and dropped them all around the place.



One advantage, we have so many sky lights in the main hall now, we do not need any electrical lights!



Two twin brothers, aged 8, who are on the waiting list for the orphanage, were brought to the farm today by a member of their extended family and oh, it is just so heartbreaking to see this. Pity I did not take a picture! Can you even begin to imagine how sad it is when the family does not even have enough money to send them to school and then we would sometimes moan about our trials and tribulations. We are talking of an amount as tiny as 15 GBP a year. They have now missed their first year in primary school because the family does not even have enough money to feed themselves. Mrs Kalaluka and I have decided to school them at the orphanage to try and get them ready for

grade 2 next year, so keep fingers crossed and do not stop praying. The head mistress at our local primary school is a really great woman and she is getting some books and material ready so we could follow the national curriculum.

Good news! The girl we took to hospital the other night gave birth to a healthy little girl (picture below) and they have decided to name her after me. Have to say they have a bit of a problem with the right pronunciation so she would probably be called Giezra or something along that line.



Remember that I explained in the previous letter that this is the village which is not very friendly towards us white people but can you believe it, a day or so ago one of the elders from this village came over and offered us an unlimited supply of cow manure for our vegetable gardens, free of cost. You have to understand that over here, DIY- shops like B&Q or Home Base simply do not exist, so you do not just quickly pop into the shop to buy some compost or whatever fertiliser, conveniently bagged and all. You even have to rake and gather the manure yourself! So cow manure is fairly sought after especially if your soil is not rich

enough. That was obviously their way of extending a hand of friendship which we gladly accepted and Lourie did not hesitate to go and collect this token of friendship.

Our local football team is doing rather well in the villagers' league. It was also the last time Thomas, from Canada, played for



them.

Thomas and Colleen have returned to Canada since our last news letter.

Never a dull moment! It seems like the existing bore hole is producing less water by the day because of the terrible drought. So we were forced to flush the old bore hole that was used years ago by the tobacco farmer who used to farm here. According to people who used to work on this farm, there was abundant water in that hole at the time they abandoned the farm. We cannot wait for the water to be tested! We will keep you posted.

Remember our e-mail adres:

gisela.ferreira007@yahoo.com and you can also mail through the Kanjanji website.

Love and blessings to you all!

Gisela en Lourie