



Newsletter

HA KUNA MATATA

Issue 2 - 2019



Reading for a better future

The Italian writer Gianni Rodari once said: *"I would like everyone to read, not to become writers or poets, but so that no one is more a slave."*

We recognize the value of books and reading as a form of freedom and enrichment for children and young people of the "Renato Grandi" Orphanage and for that reason, dedicated reading activities are organized regularly with the children.

Most children in Tanzania have little chance of reading outside of school hours, as books are not readily available in Tanzania in small villages like Illembula or even in the bigger cities. In schools, pupils do not own their textbooks; teachers transcribe texts on the board, while the children copy to their notebooks.

Thanks to the donations in recent years, we have collected nearly a hundred books for the orphanages. Sunday afternoons are usually dedicated to reading with children, with books attracting the attention of children of all ages. During these reading hours, the children lie down in the shade and are completely engrossed. In these moments, with their faces plunged into the pages, the children forget about football and, for a few hours, return to being simply children again, while the little ones sleep peacefully on their backs. Those who are stronger readers will read aloud to those who are not yet able.

"Time spent reading, like time spent loving, increases our lifetime."

- Daniel Pennac, *Better than Life*



HA KUNA MATATA

Wheelchairs

After the success of our last donation of 100 Wheelchairs in 2015, Hakuna Matata trustees, with guidance from our partners in Tanzania, ordered a further 290 rough terrain wheelchairs. After a long journey by sea, the wheelchairs have arrived at Inuka and have been put straight to use.

With their 3 wheel design and wide tyres, these wheelchairs are specially designed for use on uneven ground and frequently used in less developed countries.

Based on the needs of patients at Inuka and in the surrounding villages, staff at the centre will give out the wheelchairs to those most in need.

This is Hosea Manga, an 11-year-old boy from the village of Madeke. Two years ago, after severe punishment by his schoolteacher, Hosea suffered a serious spinal trauma leaving him paralysed from the waist down.

Unfortunately, in Tanzania, corporal punishment is still used, although not usually so severely, therefore Inuka is helping Hosea pursue legal action against his former teacher.

Hosea is now with his father at Inuka's Hospital, receiving an assessment to create his individual rehabilitation plan. He has just received his new wheelchair and in January 2020, he will start school again in the Ilembula inclusive school. "Thanks to my new wheelchair I can move around on my own and get to school. I never thought I would be able to have my own chair, as my family could not afford it. Thank you!"



Happy – A Story of Empowerment

We want to share with you the story of Happy.

Happy was born in 1999 in Makambako, the youngest of 5 children without a father figure. She was born with a debilitating illness that meant she couldn't walk independently and had little control over her legs or feet.

Happy first came to Inuka Rehabilitation Centre when she was 12 and began her treatment the following year. By age 13, she could walk with the help of crutches. Thanks to continuous dedication and perseverance, she has been able to walk unaided for short distances for the past 2 years.

Recently, Happy has attended a sewing course and got involved in *Mikono Yetu* project, a social enterprise making and selling handcraft products, with the aim of creating income for people with disabilities and the members of their families. Happy makes and sells small notebooks, covered in *kitenge*, a traditional Tanzanian fabric.

Thanks to this income, she is saving money with the aim to pay a new mobile orthosis that will allow her to have more control and better movement of her knees and feet.

Stories like Happy's remind us of the important and pioneering work we are supporting in Tanzania. Thanks to Inuka, Happy is able to work towards an independent future without the stigma of her disability preventing her achieve.



Follow us on Instagram @hakuna.matata.charity for weekly updates from Tanzania!

Donate



Online



Bank Transfer

Contact

Phone

+44 (0) 20 3196 2463

Email:

info@hakunamatata-charity.org