



Newsletter Hobo family

January 2017

Dear friends, family and acquaintances,

From a dry and warm Juba, here is our first newsletter of this year.

Latest situation: Juba and South Sudan

The situation in Juba has become quite calm in the last months. At the moment, we can once again walk through the streets and everything seems to be the same as when we first arrived. Unfortunately, in many places in South Sudan it is still unstable and dangerous. Added to that, there is a massive food shortage. So, help is perhaps, more than ever, desperately needed.



Flights

Wim has flown a lot in the past few months. About 95% of the flights was for mission organizations and local churches. He flew Bible translators to the villages, food and Bibles to mission stations, doctors to a refugee camp and local church leaders to peace conferences. All these people are very pleased with Wim's small aircraft, also called "the mosquito". Travelling by road is in most places very unsafe.

By flying regularly to the same airstrips, Wim gets to know people better. He sometimes enjoys sitting together with a couple of missionaries at an airstrip hearing about their needs.

He also enjoys chatting with a security officer, who before looked surly ahead, but now (after several meetings) kindly shakes hands.

Dryness and stay in Nairobi

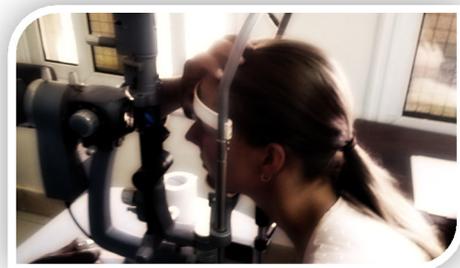
Here in Juba there are no frost or snow-covered roads, like in the Netherlands, but at the moment drought, dust and temperatures around 38 degrees.

One advantage of this is that we have a lot fewer problems with mosquitoes. On the other hand, we find ants, which are looking for water, everywhere, even in the kettle.

Around Christmas and New Year, the MAF program and Yenthe's school were closed for two weeks. We spent that time at the MAF compound in Nairobi. It was nice to have a break from the heat and do some shopping; for items that are not available or priceless here in Juba.

Eye infection

Marlies has recently suffered an eye infection and corneal injury. After a visit to an eye clinic and a few days of treatment in Juba, there was little progress. Because she was in great pain and could hardly see anymore, she stayed a week in Nairobi for a second opinion and treatment. It is expected that it could still take several weeks before the eye has fully recovered.



Baby Bible

Every Wednesday, Baby Bible is being organized for the little children on our compound. We tell

them about God, we sing together and we pray with them. Marlies soon had the idea to pick up a few of the young children at the orphanage every week and take them to Baby Bible. They love to sing the songs with actions and afterwards they enjoy playing with the other children. Every week she sees the smiling faces of children who can join that week!



Thanks!

We are grateful that we can work here in South Sudan! Amid hunger, war and sorrow we can contribute to the spreading of God's Word and we see lives being saved by flying in necessary help.

Do you also enjoy being part of this important work from within the Netherlands? We would like to thank you for all your support, prayers and cards in the past year. We hope that you will remain committed with us in this work in 2017 for the people of South Sudan.

To thank for:

- The relatively stable situation in Juba
- The many flights that Wim and his colleagues could do in the past months

To pray for:

- Complete healing of Marlies' eye
- Safety for the pilots during the flights and the families in Juba
- Peace and stability in the rest of the country



Feel free to contact us. We are always happy to hear from you!

Warm_Regards,
Wim Marlies and Yenthe

FROM OUR SUPPORT TEAM

The year 2016 is over, so much has happened! We want to thank you all! Through your commitment, prayer and financial support, Wim & Marlies can continue their work, serving the people of South Sudan!

The Beatrix school in Papendrecht has recently been busy with actions for South Sudan. Thank you!

New activities

The canoe event last year was a great success! We are planning to repeat this on 9 September 2017. Put the date in your diary!