

PROGRESS REPORT

1 February 2020

The BBC reported this week that, according to the Doomsday Clock, our world is closer to global annihilation this January than since the Doomsday Clock was set up in 1947. According to the clock, which is set according to the perceived global threats we face, we are now only one minute and 40 seconds (100 seconds) away from midnight, midnight being a major global catastrophe. Now, few who have been watching the news and keeping abreast of world affairs over the past few months would be at all surprised, and the Clock confirms the fears many of us have about growing insecurity in our world. Of course, threats wax and wane, so the Clock could go backwards again. After all, it has gone backwards and forwards 24 times since 1947, but what is significant is that this year it is closer to midnight than ever before.

So it is with this backdrop that we face a new year and a new decade of our activities at Limapela. I think about the children we serve here in Zambia, none of whom has enjoyed the privileges I enjoyed at the same age. None of them chose to be born in the new millennium, any more than I chose to be born half way through the last. None of them is empowered sufficiently to make significant changes to his or her own life, community or country. *But they could be!* I believe that everyone in any kind of leadership has a responsibility to empower those under our care. Selfishness, greed, violence and materialism do not need to prevail, and it is up to us to keep preaching that message.

It seems strange that life continues in Zambia pretty much as before, even though the economy is more depressed, the cost of living has increased and the country is still short of electricity. Thankfully we are getting good rains so far this season. The term started with a settled staff in both schools. It looks as though we will again have a total enrolment of around 750 children in two schools this year, but clearly it is more of a struggle for parents to find the money to pay their children's meagre school fees. We were delighted that all our grade 9 pupils passed the ECZ Grade 9 exams, and now go on to secondary schools elsewhere. We are also happy to have buildings and facilities to support our teachers in their commitment to the boys and girls.



OVC and Kafakumba Singers member Cleopatra Siamooya

The Kafakumba Singers have regrouped with 22 singers since our arrival back after nearly three months away on leave, and their calendar is filling up with performance commitments. This is a month of pressure for them as they need money for school fees, uniforms, shoes, school bags and transport. I often wish Limapela were able to set up a third school to support these young people and hundreds more in the Baluba-Fisenge area, where most government schools are overcrowded, underfunded and ineffective. But that is for the next generation of Limapela!

Thank you all for your interest and kind support in what we do. We leave you with an encouragement from the book of Psalms:

- ¹ *Happy are those who are concerned for the poor; the Lord will help them when they are in trouble.*
- ² *The Lord will protect them and preserve their lives; he will make them happy in the land; he will not abandon them to the power of their enemies.*
- ³ *The Lord will help them when they are sick and will restore them to health. (Psalm 41: 1-3 —GNT)*

— Matthew Raymond, Trustee



Grenda Siazondo
Grade 2, age: 7



Anthony Chishimba
Grade 2, age: 12



Joshua Sipeya
Grade 5, age: 11



Sasha Kunda
Grade 4, age: 9



Joshua Siamuhuma
Grade 1, age: 7



Gloria Musonda
Grade 3, age: 9

Fee Sponsorship

If you have not already done so, do think seriously about **joining our fee sponsorship programme**. Maybe you already sponsor one child, but would you consider sponsoring a second one? You would need to commit to a monthly payment of NZ\$25 (US\$20, Aus\$25, £15 or ZMW200).

Sponsor a Teacher

A monthly payment of NZ\$ 300 (US\$ 200, Aus\$ 280, £170 or ZMW 2,000) will help to cover a teacher's salary. Why not consider pooling your individual donations and sponsor as a group?

New Zealand and Australian Donors

Donors may send cheques in any major currency, payable to *The Limapela Foundation*, to P. O. Box 80159, Green Bay, Auckland 0643. Donations can also be made using on-line banking to the following account:

Account Name: The Limapela Foundation
Bank: ASB Bank
Branch: 296 Dominion Road
Account No: 12-3016-0608575-00
Sort Code: 123016
Swift Code: ASBBNZ2A

NZ Donors sending through GC Aid

Tax deductible donations may send to GC Aid, P. O. Box 744, Palmerston North 4440. Donations can also be made using on-line banking to the following account. Please record *Limapela* in the reference field and email admin@gc3.org.nz with your details for receipting purposes.

Account Name: GC Aid
Bank: ANZ
Account No: 06-0729-0522196-00

British Donors

Tax deductible donations, tagged for *Limapela*, may send to Echoes of Service, 124 Wells Road, Bath, BA2 3AH. Donations tagged for *Limapela* can also be made using on-line banking to the following account:

Account Name: Echoes of Service
Bank: NatWest
Account No: 00107980
Sort Code: 60-02-05

American Donors

Tax deductible donations, tagged for *Limapela*, may send to Enright Flight Ministries, c/- Eileen Ledgerwood, 1919 Jackson Lane, Port Orange, Florida, 32128.

Zambian Donors

Donations in cash, and cheques payable to *Limapela Development Ltd*, can be deposited in the following account:

Bank: First National Bank
Branch: Ndola — P. O. Box 73642, Ndola
Account Name: Limapela Development Limited
Account No: 62328662102
Sort Code: 260006
Swift Code: FIRNZMLX