

Family & Work Update – October 2024

After a long selection process, Ritah received an amazing opportunity for an all-expenses-paid, three-week trip to the U.S. as she was chosen to take part in the Women in Leadership program run by the U.S. Foreign Office. She headed off last week which means I am currently holding down the fort at home, alone. It has been going well, and in reality, my girls are super easy to look after. However, it has got me thinking about those amazing people who cope with family life without the support of a spouse. You guys are true heroes. But even without Ritah, I'm not really alone, I have the support of friends and family who have been helping out. I now have a renewed appreciation for all those people who join us on this journey we call life. Thank you all (near and far).

Azizi Life & Beautiful Creations



Work continues with the artisans, and we have a potential order to produce 35,000 sisal ornaments that will hopefully be placed before the end of the month, providing work for them and many others in our community. Please pray we are successful in securing that order.

For the last few months, we have been working on upgrading our honey processing facility, and we are now in the final stages of getting our FDA (Food and Drug Administration) approval to export honey. Stay tuned for Rwandan honey coming your way!

Toddle Care

For several months, the team has been working on creating a box of educational toys for schools, all made from recycled wood (off-cuts from furniture manufacturers in Rwanda). The first boxes have been distributed, and the feedback from the preschools is that they love them! This project also enabled Toddle Care to apply for a Green Fund Grant, which they successfully received. The grant money is being used to purchase the machines necessary to scale up the production of the educational toy boxes, allowing us to get them into even more preschools. Please join us in praising God for this amazing success and that the team will be able to provide even more educational toys to support the continued development of children in Rwanda.



Azizi Life Impact Projects



This summer, Azizi Life hosted a team of students from Manchester University, who partnered with Rwandan volunteers. These students worked on three projects: one to capture photos and videos of our work, one to create hiking trails around our head office, and one to measure our carbon footprint. Our impact team hopes to take on more carbon-reducing projects to offset the emissions from our export activities. The good news is that our existing projects of fuel-efficient stoves and water filter distribution are already having a positive impact.

Through Amor Europe, we have also connected with the Women's Institute (WI) in the UK. The ladies there have been knitting some amazing baby onesies, hats and blankets. We have already distributed a batch through a local clinic, which has used this free-gift to encourage more mums to attend the free postnatal care they provide. So, not only do the babies get a lovely woollen items to keep them warm, but they also receive a vital health check.

This month, thanks to a very kind donation from a friend in the UK, we were able to build a house for a very vulnerable family. There are still many more family's that need a place to call home in the area near where our main office is. Please join us in praying as we explore ways to best tackle this housing problem.



Family Stuff

We had a wonderful summer trip to the UK and would like to thank everyone we met for making it simply awesome. We would also like to apologize to all the people we didn't get a chance to catch up with. Time always seems to fly by so fast, and there's never enough of it to do everything we want to.



As some of you may know we rent out half our house to other people to pay for the girl's schools fees. The current tenant (after almost 2 years) told us that they are moving on and wont need the place any more. This was quite a blow to our finances; however, we are praising God because after just one day on the market we now have a new tenant booked in to take the place, as soon as they move out.

Our girls started new school years in September and were getting back into their swimming and other sports clubs. Sadly, Rwanda is currently battling a deadly Marburg virus, so all sports activities have been put on pause until it is eliminated. There are also increased health checks and hand-washing protocols. We are not in full lockdown yet, so apart from these precautions, life continues as normal. Please pray, particularly for the healthcare providers, as they are on the front line and at the highest risk.