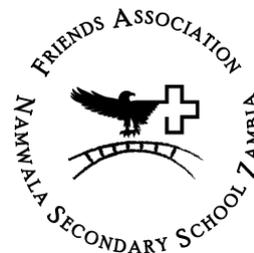


Baar 2.11.14

2. Newsletter



Dear Friends of Namwala

Back from my stay in Namwala at the end of October, there is a lot to report. It showed again how important it is to visit the place periodically as well as having regular telephone calls and emails. Together with the head teacher Mr. Mulamfu, teacher Christopher Mukuwa and contractors we discussed the current projects and planned a few new ones: the completion of the upgrading of the school kitchen, the building of new toilets and a second three-classroom block. Additionally we decided to erect a new metal fence for the orchard.

I also had the opportunity to meet Elias Klaey from Switzerland, who has worked as a volunteer at the Namwala Secondary School since 24<sup>th</sup> September. He will stay for three months.

Originally I hoped to attend the Shiakaumpa Ceremony in the chiefdom of Chief Mukobela. This is similar to the Shimunenga Ceremony in the neighbouring chiefdom of Chief Mungaila which I visited last year [Link]. Unfortunately on the day of our arrival the message reached Zambia that President Michael Sata had died in hospital in London. The ceremony was therefore postponed for three weeks. Perhaps I am able to visit it next year.

The literature list [Link] has been extended. If somebody is interested in books on this list, please contact me.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported our projects. I hope you enjoy reading our second newsletter

*Johannes van der Weijden*

### **School extension: the second three-classroom block**

After two years of building, the [three-classroom block](#) will be opened at the beginning of the new school year on 1st January 2015. The building project was quite a challenge for the school because the cooperation with the contractors was very difficult.

In the meantime the number of pupils has further increased, which requires the construction of a second three-classroom block. Head teacher Mr. Mulamfu is confident that it will be ready within six months, since the contracting is connected with time targets. Teacher Christopher Mukuwa will again make the window frames and school furniture, as he did for the first block. Namwalafriends will support the school by financing the project.



### **New toilets**

Although the number of pupils has nearly doubled since 1968, the number of [toilets](#) has remained the same. Soon the school will begin the construction of the first of three further toilet blocks. The money for the building materials for the first block will be paid by Namwalafriends.



### Completion of the upgrading of the kitchen

At the beginning of the holidays in August 2014 the renovation of the [school kitchen](#) was started. This was necessary after the intervention of the health authorities, who complained about the hygienic conditions. Because unexpected defects were discovered, only the floor was ready at school begin. The remaining repair of the walls and ceiling will be finished by the end of this year.



### Volunteer Elias Klaey

Since 24th September [Elias Klaey](#), a professional roofer from Switzerland, has worked for a three month period at the school and is doing an excellent job. With his skills he has been able to carry out different maintenance work such as the repair of school furniture. He has also welded window bars for the dining hall and assembly hall to prevent unwanted intruders.

At the moment he is finishing the erection of the metal fence for the orchard and before he leaves Namwala he will install the power backup system for the new three-classroom block.



### Orchard: Improvement of the fence and the watering

The second reinforced fence of the [orchard](#), which was built in 2011, also failed to give enough protection against the hungry cows and goats. Termites assisted them by eating the wooden poles. The only long-lasting solution was the erection of a metal fence. Additionally, a second water reservoir will be built to water the lower part of the orchard. The costs of the material will be paid by us.



### Namwala-visit in March 2015

At the beginning of March 2015 a group of former pupils of the Stiftsschule will visit the Namwala Secondary School. They will work in different areas which will be of help to the school such as IT and electrical installations, or complete projects connected to their university studies like mission history and environmental science.

Johannes van der Weijden will conduct a second Mathematics-Workshop at the school. This course will also be offered at two other secondary schools in the district. The realization of this workshop takes place in close cooperation with the district educational secretary (DEBS).

### Photovoltaics: streetlights and power backup system for three-classroom block

Six [solar powered streetlights](#) were installed outside the dormitories by Christopher Mukuwa, together with some pupils. This way the premises are also lit when the electrical power breaks down. Additionally a power backup system was installed on the roof the new three-classroom block.



### Namwala-Library

Johannes van der Weijden has collected books about Zambia since 2004, with emphasis on the Namwala area. These books are now catalogued and can be borrowed from him. The travel report of [David Livingstone](#) from 1865 is one of these books. Surprisingly, an almost 150 year old article from the New York newspaper *The Daily Witness* about the death of David Livingstone was hidden in this book.....

