



Joining with Mark and Sarah Newnham as they
serve with MAF in Kenya

Riveted Together

Spring 2024



Following a great time with Sarah's Dad over the Christmas and New Year period we started the new year knowing changes were afoot. Sarah's work permit came through quicker than expected between Christmas and New Year so Sarah started her new Speech Therapy role, on the 8th January.

Also, knowing Amy will remain in the UK this autumn after our Home Assignment means lots of thinking, planning and arrangements to be made. It has been a good start to the year, and although tired we are currently enjoying a much needed week away during the Easter School holidays.

What's been going on in the Newnham's Nyumbani (home)

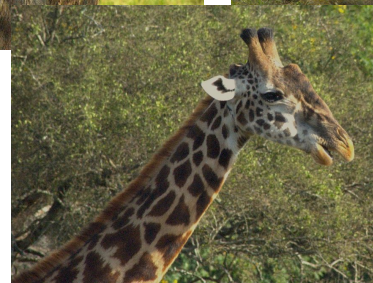
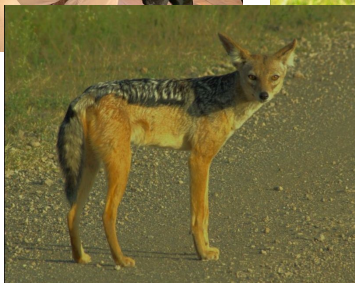
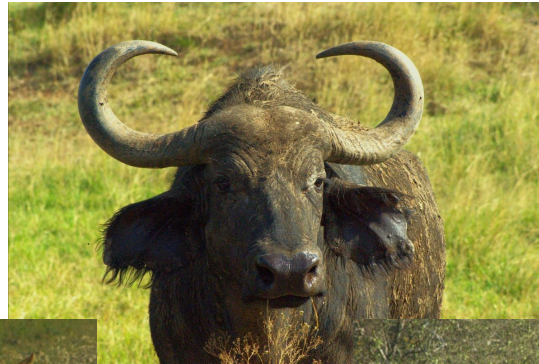
Amy is busy studying for her A Levels which start after the Easter Break! Following offers from all 5 Universities she applied for, all at home fee tuition rates for which we are very thankful, she will soon need to cut her choices down to her two preferred Universities.

She is very involved with our church's youth group and just enjoyed an event where they fasted and spent times of focused personal reflection.

Amy also just enjoyed being in the choir for the High School production of High School Musical.



Josh enjoyed his school trip to Singapore and Malaysia at the end of last year and is doing well with this BTEC's. BTEC's are suiting his learning style very well! He continues to love all things to do with wildlife, photography, Formula 1 racing and aviation. Josh recently turned 17 and enjoyed a trip into Nairobi National Park as part of his Birthday celebrations. He especially enjoyed sharing his knowledge of the animals we saw and his photos with MAF colleagues visiting from the UK, that we took along. On his Birthday, we enjoyed Mexican food at a favourite restaurant across town.



Abby has been extremely busy this term. She continues to develop her love of art and drama. She has participated in an inter school poetry recital, came 3rd for her costume as William Beech from Good Night Mr Tom on World Book Day, performed as Atlantis the mermaid in her school play and won a handful of awards for overall achievement and attainment in art and geography at the end of term assembly last week.

She continues to enjoy horse riding and has been excited to start jumping in her recent lessons. Whilst she may be our youngest, she is also determined to keep up with two older siblings and recently we watched our 'not so little' girl, head off to her first school dance.



Marks Mumbblings...

As I get into my new role more fully, I have been asked to lead a feasibility study for a project within MAF that is looking at a new model for how we structure Maintenance support for our aircraft in East Africa. This is in light of the complexity of operating and maintaining aircraft with multiple regulators across the counties we serve in.

Our aim is to be able to have more flexibility in where and by whom our aircraft can be maintained, and less complexity in the licences our engineers need in order to do that.

One of my new regular responsibilities, along with a colleague, is the development of the software we use to track, plan and record our maintenance. This is to determine criteria for new functionality and ensure that is implemented and then rolled out properly.

I am also still involved with recruiting a replacement for my old role with assessments and interviews planned in few weeks time. I am very much praying for one of the candidates to be the right person for the job!

Sarah's Stepping Up

The last three months have flown by. In an answer to prayer, my work permit was granted very quickly, and I began working with Bee Heard as a Speech Therapist at the beginning of January. I am thrilled to be able to use my speech therapy skills again. After many years doing a little bit of voluntary work alone, it is refreshing to work as part of a team with other SLT's and have the opportunity for Professional Development. I still get that feeling of joy when I work with children with learning difficulties and am often humbled by the determination and resilience of both them and their families.

The thing I miss most is having the flexibility to attend some MAF events or as much time to connect with friends regularly.

I am hugely thankful to my family for stepping up and being more flexible when it comes to school runs, schedules and chores around the home. I could not have made this transition without their support.



Blooper reel from family photo shoot...

When you see the 'perfect' family photo on our prayer card you have no idea how many other photo's got thrown in the archives! Friend and photographer Kavat, shows true dedication to getting the perfect shot even when threatened by his own umbrella...



Praises

- That Sarah's work permit was issued so quickly and that she is enjoying the opportunity to develop in her role as a Speech & Language Therapist.
- That Mark is enjoying the challenge of his new role and being involved in projects that will enable MAF to serve our customers well, making the best use of resources available to us for the years ahead.
- We have already experienced changes of routine with Mark & Sarah beginning new jobs/ roles. This year we also will face times of transition as our children grow up and we make the transition to living in different countries. We are thankful that God goes before us even when the future is not totally known/clear.

Prayers

- For Amy as she studies for A-levels in May/June and for her to know Gods direction with regards to shortlisting universities to attend. She will begin in September 2024.
- For interviews that will take place soon for a replacement to take on Marks old role.
- For each of us to find the right balance between work, serving within our local church and family.
- The pastor of our church here in Nairobi will be leaving in July. As a church we are spending more time specifically seeking Christ and what his plan is for the future of Renewal is. mark & I lead a community group. Pray for us as we support and encourage those in our group.
- For the country of Kenya & it's people. Life is not getting any easier and the cost of living is a real challenge for many of the folk we know

Home assignment 2024

We are looking forward to being back in the UK for a few weeks this summer.
We will be in UK from 26th July to 6th September.

We hope to see as many of you as possible during this time so please come to one of the venues we will be speaking at or get in touch with us.

The current dates on our calendar are:

Sunday 28th July -TBC (in Gillingham, Kent)

Sunday 4th august - Redmire/Castle Bolton, Yorkshire

Sunday 11th August -TBC (in Lancashire area)

Sunday 18th august - St Johns, Beckenham

Sunday 25th August -Village temple, Mold, Flintshire

Sunday 1st Sept - (In Staffordshire)

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