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Dear friends

Whilst you may be wondering whether your winter weather will ever come to an end, I am thinking much the same about the intense heat of a Pemba summer. But this summer the rains have not been good, and that will bring a problem for many, when crops fail.

I would like to say a huge thank you for praying about my need for a vehicle, and especially to those who gave a gift towards it. I approached AoG's Kingdom Bank to see if they would be willing to increase my mortgage, once again, to complete the purchase of a vehicle. To my surprise and delight they agreed. I set off by bus to Nampula, a city somewhat larger than Pemba, to search for transport. I returned in a 2002 Nissan Liberty, just imported from Japan. A very nice vehicle, and excellent on good roads, but without 4x4, and high ground clearance, unable to go everywhere. So Notting Hill



"Lazarus' sister"

Community Church, London, stepped in at this point. They have given a wonderfully generous gift, which means that I can upgrade to a more suitable vehicle.

I have not yet been able to make the change due to a document problem. I still do not have the papers required to show that I own the Nissan, which obviously makes the sale of it slightly problematical. It's a slow process but, following a return trip to Nampula last week, I am a step closer. Everything will come together in time.

The accommodation at the ministry house is now quite full. Strangely this hasn't stopped the thieves attempting to break in. Fortunately all that they have achieved is broken shutters and door locks. They have not gained access to any of the rooms, on their more recent visits.

Assane Caisse was pastor of our church in the district of Mecufi. He decided it would be beneficial to move with his wife and 5 children into Pemba. He generously gave his house in Mecufi to the church, to be used for their meetings. It was rebuilt by the members, and I helped with material to replace the roof. He left the church in the care of his deputy. Here in Pemba, accommodation was a problem for him. All 7 were living in the home of a family member, but things were not going well. I offered them the possibility of living on the church site, and they were delighted. So far, the arrangement is working well. Assane has been employed as a night guard by our neighbour, which is a great help to the family.



A young man, going by the name of Banana Antonio, was sent to Pemba by his family, from a village called Ancuabe, to enable him to complete his schooling. The family member here in Pemba, where he was meant to stay, rejected him after some months. So he now occupies a room at the church site, and has become my responsibility for the moment.

Joana Jorge is now helping with the children's ministry here. She is showing a real gift in this area, and developing an excellent relationship with the children. About 40 participate here each Saturday. Meanwhile the children's work across town, at Ceramica, now has over 200 coming along. That's a lot of biscuits to be distributed each week. My grateful thanks go to the family who are overseeing this.

And my grateful thanks go to you for enabling me to be here and, together, bring hope to the people of Pemba.

With love in Jesus

Gillian Harris

