

## Trustees Visit 2022

September was a very exciting month for MOF, as we were able to have our first Trustees visit to the Home of Hope in three years! Ruth, Phil and Alex were delighted to travel back to visit Home of Hope to listen, learn, and serve in friendship.

Thanks to the generosity of so many friends and colleagues the team were able to take many items that the staff had requested, including laptops for University students and medical equipment for the clinic (thank you Sheffmed!). There is so much wonderful news to update from the trip; we have included a small amount below but please do visit Alex's brilliant daily blog of the trip for lots more information.: <https://visithomeofhope.blogspot.com/>



*At Lilongwe airport, with Linda, Lucy and 8 suitcases of donated items!*



*At the farm with Rev. Chipeta*



*An evening with the Chipetas*



*Smiles all round*

One key focus of the trip was to learn about the progress and needs at the Home's schools. The team met staff from each of the Vocational Training College (VTC) and Secondary and Primary schools. A fantastic encouragement was shared: in 2020, Home of Hope's Primary School student attainment was the highest among the 15 government Primary Schools in the local area: of 44 Standard 8 learners (nominally 13-year olds, though in Malawi as in some other countries students are "held back" if they don't pass end-of year assessments), almost all gained places at government Secondary Schools. A priority for the VTC at the moment is housing – more (ten in total) are needed in order for the Government to provide more teachers. Each semi-detached pair cost \$20,000 to build. One is progressing after a recent donation from the UK in response to the Chipetas' 70th Wedding Anniversary fundraising drive!

The Trustees also sat down with the Home of Hope management to learn about their vision and objectives for the Home. Across key areas of Village (which includes food, care and accommodation for the children), Schools, Vocational Training Centre and Farm, they heard from each person their vision at one, three, seven and fifteen year timeframes. They found this experience simultaneously inspiring and sobering. At the heart of the team's vision is the desire see the best possible outcomes for the young people in their care: "In fifteen years' time we want to see the leadership of our country include graduates from Home of Hope." There are already many amazing stories of success from previous Home of Hope students which the team were able to celebrate when meeting with some graduates on their way back to Lilongwe. One amazing story is of Kate\*, brought to Home of Hope age 3 months where she lived until she was 18, attending both the primary and secondary school before attending a separate Technical College to study textiles. She now co-owns a successful tailoring business in Dedza, south of the capital Lilongwe. Kate was also sponsored by an MOF supporter from the age of 16 and her sponsor has loved keeping up with her life journey (see page 2 of this newsletter for more info on how to sponsor!).

*\*name changed for anonymity*



*Preparing for the party*



*Meeting graduates in Lilongwe*



*Kate tailoring on her new sewing machine, donated by an MOF supporter*



## Fundraising

Thank you for all your ongoing encouragements. As we are brainstorming for our 2022 Christmas Appeal (watch this space!) we wanted to give another reminder and thank you for all your generosity last year: 'Lights and Loos' reached £941 which has been sent to Home of Hope and used to buy many lights and (5!) loos that the team saw on their trip.



## Protection for Education

Work continues sending funds so that Home of Hope can produce washable sanitary pads and support the teenage girls at Home of Hope. A case was sent out to with the Trustees containing buttons, underwear and fabric to continue this great enterprise.



*Gillian with housemothers of Home of Hope in 2019*



*Alex showing some of the children video footage*



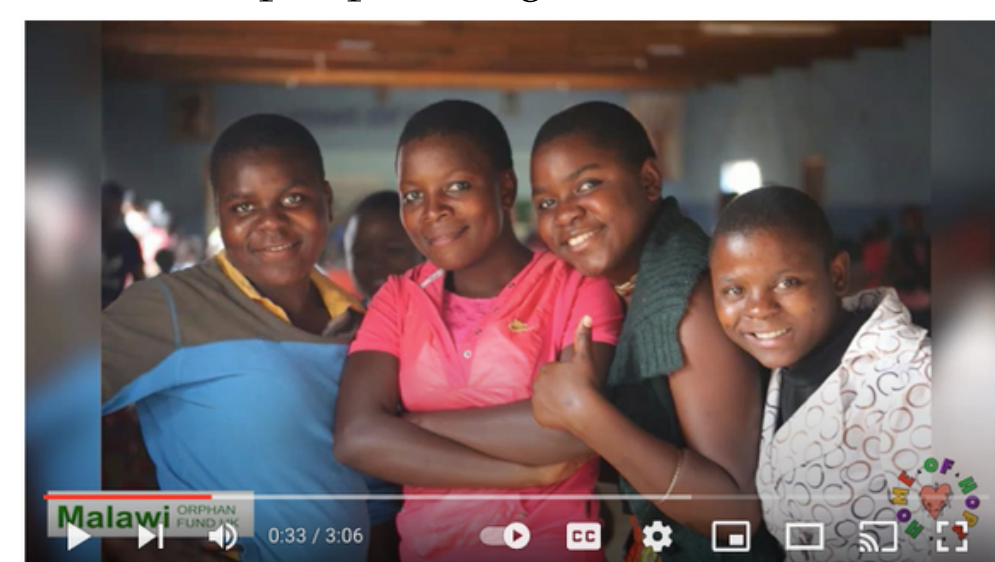
*Donation to the project taken on the Trustee visit*

## MOF Team update

There have been some exciting updates to our team back in the UK. Our long-serving Trustee and website guru Matthew Pridden has taken a step back to focus on many other impressive commitments: thank you so much Matthew for all your hard work and dedication to Home of Hope. We are really grateful to Christopher Young who has agreed to give his time to support with the website. We also have three new trustees (though longstanding friends and supporters) Alex Mnaztaganian, Kathy Pridden and Gillian Lindley who we're really thankful to have on board.

## Sponsorship

Our sponsorship lead Jane has produced a wonderful video on the Sponsorship programme (our primary source of fundraising revenue) which you can access and share with interested friends, family or colleagues below. Jane has also been working to simplify the sponsorship process, and you can now express interest in the scheme via this [Google Form](#) which also gives the option to choose your own financial contribution (usually £25) to allow for more people to get involved no matter what they can give.



Home of Hope Malawi, Child Sponsorship with Malawi Orphan Fund

*Click on the photo to access the video*



**Receiving this as a new supporter?**

**For more information about us or how you can support Home of Hope, please visit our website at <https://malawiorphanfund.uk/>**