



Snap Shots

A word from Jane Crawford; Chair of Trustees

Happy New Year to you all – we hope and pray that you all have had a good start to 2014 and that there are many good times ahead.

Our news of Home of Hope, Mchinji, which is the orphanage supported by Malawi Orphan Fund, is a mixture of encouraging, exciting but also sad things.

There is a great deal to rejoice over, such as the tremendous progress already realized in the creation of the Vocational Centre. A number of classrooms have been built and there is funding in the pipeline for at least 2 more in the next couple of months. Very soon now skills such as carpentry and tin-smithing will be taught from these teaching blocks, thus giving students a useful trade for building an independent life once they have left the home.

Thanks to Emma Makepeace, a student from Australia, 6 girls were trail blazers at the Vocational Centre in September – they took part in a week long workshop devoted to sewing. Each girl was helped in the use of scissors (in some cases, for the first time), hand and machine sewing, also budgeting and marketing their hand-made goods. At their first bazaar they sold many of their goods and now they are setting up an on-line store. What an encouraging start! For more information on this, please do look on the website – you may wish to order something yourself!

We heard just recently of the death of one of the teenage girls at Home of Hope who passed away over the Christmas holidays. Eunice, aged 15, was diagnosed in October with Leukemia but the hospital in Lilongwe was not able to treat her and so she returned to her village, very ill. She, like many of the children in Malawi did not have the paper work to seek for a passport and so she was not able to travel to South Africa where she might have been successfully treated. It is hard to hear of someone so very ill with no possibility of being treated but we do know that Eunice was loved and valued at HOH; she will be missed.

Thank you all for your continued support of Malawi Orphan Fund; apart from the costs involved in the production of these newsletters, all the money you send us goes straight to Home of Hope, Mchinji.



NEWSLETTERS:

If you would prefer to receive our newsletters via email rather than by post, please supply your name and email address to us (see below). This would enable M.O.F to cut down on the cost of postage. Many Thanks!

secretary.malawiorphanfund.uk@googlemail.com

Address:

Please note that mailing address for Malawi Orphan Fund UK has moved to;

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Rest In Peace Eunice

As Jane, our Chair of Trustees has already mentioned, in December one of the girls from the Home of Hope, sadly passed away from Leukaemia. Sadly in Malawi it is a common occurrence for those who do not have paperwork to petition for a passport, to receive treatment.



Sewing & Small Business Training Project

In October 2013, six of the older girls earned a certificate, when they took part in a six day 'sewing & small business training project'. During this training they each learnt how to use a manual sewing machine, make something out of a pattern, hem and create pieces of clothing from scratch. This course will stand the girls in good stead when they leave the orphanage. They are now calling their work Chisomo Design's and are selling some of their goods in Lilongwe as well as going online (with the help of Emma Makepeace).



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71st Northampton Girl Guide Visit

In August 2013 a group from 71st Northampton Girl Guides visited the Home of Hope. They played with the children, showing them love and care. The Guides had a fantastic time, and seeing the children's faces light up when they were out playing and talking with them was fantastic to see.

