

Newsletter

November 2014

BT MyDonate

Malawi Orphan Fund has set up a new donation page. Through BT MyDonate you can donate to Malawi Orphan Fund, either one off donations or as a result of a special fundraising initiative.

If you are able and interested in fundraising for the Malawi Orphan Fund please do use our BT MyDonate page and contact us should you need any literature or any other information.

BT MyDonate;

www.mydonate.bt.com/charities/malawiorphanfund



Our New Website

Over the past few weeks we have been designing and writing a new website which has up to date information and a much easier navigation system.

Through the site, you can find out more about the Home of Hope whom we support and how your financial donations are spent to benefit the children. Every donation is gratefully received.

We have a designated area on the new site for fundraising – happy browsing.

www.malawiorphanfund.uk



Malawi Orphan Fund

Malawi Orphan Fund supports the Home of Hope, an orphanage in Mchinji, Malawi, which cares for over 600 orphans from all over Malawi, providing food, shelter and good quality education in a loving environment.

About us

The Malawi Orphan Fund is a UK based charity that both financially and prayerfully supports the Home of Hope

Sponsorship

The Malawi Orphan Fund runs a sponsorship scheme, which has been running since 2006. We are always looking for new sponsors and at the same time we are extremely grateful to those who are already sponsoring children through us.

When you sponsor a child, you can expect to receive a twice-yearly short letter or drawing (depending on the age of the child) and some comment from the school as to how he or she is progressing with education. We hope to be able to offer this link to all the orphaned children at HOH in the near future.



Email us at: info@malawiorphanfund.uk

Malawi Orphan Fund; Registered in England and Wales, Charity No. 1110640
Beeches Barn, 52 Holman Road, Aylsham, Norfolk. NN11 6BZ

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A Report from one of Our Trustees recent Visit to Home of Hope (HoH)

This summer a group of 6th-formers and 5 adult leaders visited HoH from Christ Church, Bedford. Building on the experience of previous visits in 2011 and 2013, the team extended their program of interaction through play by running daily craft activities, a mentoring group for the older girls discussing life issues, and a day spent visiting local villages.

Revered Chipeta, now 85 (and describing himself as “getting younger and younger”), was as ever a wonderful host along with Lucy, Shinghai and the wider staff team. Having been at HoH myself in 2011 I was very encouraged to note progress on many fronts: the Vocational Training Centre developing well, an irrigation scheme at the Home’s farm bearing fruit in an extended growing season during the dry months, and the wonderful gift of fully funded Government teachers for the Home’s schools.

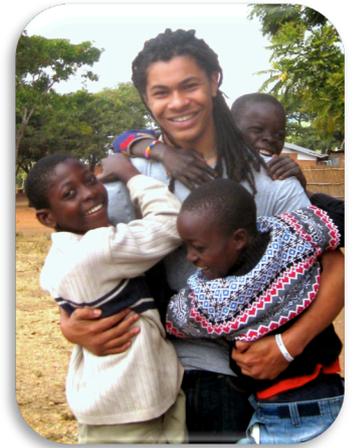
Our visits to Kachinga and Mduwa villages (3 and 25km from HoH respectively) made a deep impression on us, and threw in to sharp focus the contrast between the Home and its surroundings. In Mduwa we found that one of two wells serving many hundreds of villagers was without a proper well-head – making it unsafe. The two bags of cement required could not be afforded, so we quickly provided what was needed. At the Home, springs from the hills above feed a water tower. In Kachinga, and at the farm, the residents do not have the means to construct even a simple school building, so children walk miles to the over-crowded government school.

All this made the Home’s vigorous Outreach Program make even greater sense to us. Rev Chipeta is wisely mindful of the possibility of resentment, and stretches to be generous. We left with the impression that supporting Home of Hope does much more than supporting the welfare of the resident children: it is influencing the region. Indeed, the vision for the Vocational Training Centre is to be a seedbed of entrepreneurialism – sending out young people trained not only in tradecraft but also with some business skills.

Written By Alex Mnatzaganian



A couple of images from Christ Church’s visit.



Introducing Our Trustees

Over the next few newsletters, we will be introducing our trustees. In this edition meet our Chair of Trustees along with our newsletter and publications officer.

Jane Crawford
Chair of Trustees



Occupation: Teacher
Trustee Since: 2007
Location: Norfolk
Visited HoH: Yes

Jane Lambert
Newsletter & Publications Officer



Occupation: Film Director
Trustee Date: 2007
Location: Bedford / LA
Visited HoH: Yes

Please help us, as we try to cut down our expenses, when sending out newsletters and updates to our supporters by providing us with your email address. You can either email or write to us at our registered address. Your help is always appreciated. Our new email is below!

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A Message from our Chair of Trustees

Good news! The promised Vocational Centre at Home Of Hope (HoH), Mchinji is progressing extremely well - 3 classroom blocks are now complete and the foundations have been dug for 8 more. Revd. Chipeta is determined that carpentry classes will begin in January 2015 and the first job on the schedule is to build benches and furniture for the classrooms.

A retained workforce of two foremen now supports work at HoH, along with a number of local labourers who are able to respond quickly to building and maintenance needs. A recent gift from the UK enabled much needed funds to completely refurbish a toilet block in one of the large dormitories - this small group of men worked quickly and efficiently to enable the dormitory to meet good hygiene requirements.

Another piece of good news is that, after a number of years asking, ten government teachers have been sent to work at HoH, in both junior and senior schools and there is an undertaking from the government that they will provide staff for the Vocational Centre in due course. This means that: the teachers will be of a reliably high standard, that less of HoH's funds will be needed for education from now on but there are many financial needs towards providing good quality accommodation for the new teachers. The house for the new Headmaster has been completed but we have been asked to think about funds for the others.

Shinghai Chipeta, Revd. Chipeta's grandson and one of the Directors of the orphanage, has recently just missed being elected as a local MP -Shinghai's campaign was fought very much on local community matters and reflected his energetic passion for the welfare of people in and around Mchinji. We wish him well as he continues to raise the profile of Home of Hope both locally and nationally - it has become a very well respected organisation.

Back in the UK, Malawi Orphan Fund are pleased to announce the launch of our new website which we hope you will find user friendly, informative and helpful. Please do communicate with us, we do love to hear from you. Please find relevant contact details below. More content to follow in the next couple of months.

The photographs in this edition of our newsletter are from the recent visit of 16 young people from Christ Church, Bedford. The team were able to offer help to the house mothers, by spending most daylight hours with the young children and to offer further computer training to HoH office staff. Revd. Chipeta sent the team back to the UK as ambassadors for HoH. A challenge, which they accepted gladly!

Jane Crawford
Chair of Trustees

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