



Our Vision: A healthy, educated, self-sufficient community in Malawi

Inside this issue

Sam's Village	1
New Office	1
Education	2
Staff News	2
Disability/Health	3
George & Nyomi's UK trip	3
Hampton Court Flower	3
Fundraising Events	4
Thank yous	4



SAM'S VILLAGE

There was a slight delay in building as George and Nyomi visited the UK on an Earth Building conference in Scotland. Permaculture is growing and trees and plants are constantly being planted. After the resident dog ate the chickens, we have now put up fencing to protect new chickens! Trees have been planted all around the Library, so as they grow they will provide shade for visitors reading. The Communal Compost toilet made from recycled bottles will be officially opened within the next month. The kitchen/restaurant has had little progress, but the aim is to complete it by the end of the year so it can be used for Training starting next year. The foundations have been dug for the new Reception/Office and drainage put under the new entrance to Sam's Village, preparing for the coming rains. We will filter the flowing water back into the land to water the area and stop further erosion.



Kondwani with some of the permaculture (above), drainage (below).



Thanks to Bishop McKenzie International School for providing books for the Library in April. With many shelves still to fill, Noel Hayes organised for 6 pallets of books (around 6,000) which have just arrived in Malawi. We are so excited about having a full Library and to start telling the wider community to come and visit.

NEW OFFICE



Laura Duncan, one of our volunteers, spent a month overseeing the building of the new office at the Njewa suburb of Lilongwe, standing in for Nyomi and George while they were at the Clayfest Conference. She said **'The builders at the site and the Landirani office staff made me so welcome and I am honoured to have been welcomed into their lives for a short period.'** She then went on to train some of the office staff with Microsoft Project.

The fence build will be completed within the next few weeks (right). We anticipate the office build to be complete by Christmas and we will be able to move into the new 'phase 1' of the office by Easter 2016 which will help make us sustainable.



Mpotso Molosono and Bashir Ibrahim (assistant builders) with Laura (above). The fence at Njewa (below).



EDUCATION

Three of our primary schools have sustainable food gardens and children are being fed each week. We have also started to implement food gardens at 5 of our CBCCs so that under 5s will be receiving nutritious food.

We've now done our selection process to select 10 orphan and vulnerable students out of the 90 who have applied. Next month we will hear if they have been awarded a scholarship to go to District or National Secondary School. We are looking for 10 sponsors to support them through their next 4 years of education at £18 a month. You can change someone's life for ever!



Children eating sweet potato

FURTHER EDUCATION

Evelyn and Loness (below) are starting their 2nd and 3rd year at University doing nursing. They started life as vulnerable children in the village and now have a bright future ahead of them, along with providing Health support to Malawi. We are PROUD to say we have 5 of our past students selected to University this year and are looking for support. Even £5 per month on a collective basis can help support them.



It is impressive to have 5 students at University, 2 at Polytechnic and 1 at Teacher training college. In Malawi there are only 500 places within Universities so it's an incredible success to gain a place on a course. We're really proud of the effort the students have put in. Would you like to change someone's life? Please support them.



Polytechnic students Steward Pointani (top) and Zion Kafansyanji (bottom)

STAFF NEWS

Unfortunately our funds have been very low this year and we had to make the difficult decision to make two of our staff redundant. Both McLeod Gwirima and Mphatso Kampeni left us in April. We are still struggling to raise funds, so if you have considered setting up a standing order and not done so, please do so through our website.

We have had a lot of wonderful volunteers with us—Gillian Wright (from AidCamps International) for 3 months researching and writing a feasibility report for our biogas at Sam's Village Kitchen/Restaurant who says *'I spend half my time in the head office and the other half at Sam's Village, and although I was working on specific environmental projects, I also got to go out to many of the community partners and schools. I was very lucky to see many aspects of Landirani's work, the challenges they face, the success they have and the potential to go further. The team work hard on a number of very diverse projects but have huge respect for each other. Despite the hard work there is always laughter in the office and at Sam's Village. My short-term colleagues are now long-term friends.'* We also have a consultant, Felix Dyer, who says *'I was very pleased to have been given the opportunity to help develop an important part of AVM's future work practice. It's been a real pleasure working with such a warm and talented staff team and I look forward to seeing the continued fruits of everyone's hard labour within the communities AVM serve.'* (All pictured in Sam's Village above).



Staff of the month for 2015 from April to August—Ida Mwangala, Jack Maduka, Anold Man-khambira and Eric Munthali. Congratulations and thanks for all their hard work.

New Staff— Mistone Abison (left) is replacing Patrick as a guard at the office in Lilongwe.

DISABILITY



So far the total number of people on our disability register is 677, with 40 new patients since February (25 from M'bang'ombe and 15 from Lumbadzi). The number of referrals to get treatment was 51 and we are still working closely with 500 Miles who are fantastic.

Fanita Fatson, a 9 year old girl from Kanamba village was found crawling. After help (Ankle Foot Orthosis), 500 miles assisted her to stand up and walk using a wall. Now, with the effort of her mum, she is walking alone without any support about 2 kilometres and playing with friends. What a fantastic improvement!

There's also Thokozani Thomas, a 14 year old boy from M'bang'ombe, whose hand was amputated after falling from an ox cart . He was unable to do many things but AVM and 500 miles helped him with Trans-humeral which he was fitted with and now he is able to use it to support the other hand.

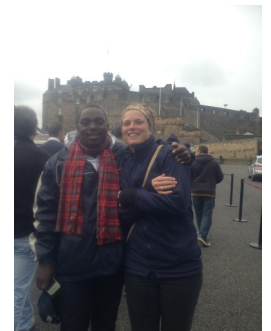


Three children are now going to school independently using their prosthetic legs! Rotary Bwaila Club, Lilongwe donated 7 wheelchairs (above) to our area. Our grateful thanks to their support.

GEORGE AND NYOMI'S VISIT TO THE UK



George and Nyomi came to attend an Earth Building UK (EBUK) conference called Clayfest in Scotland during June. There were many workshops attended over the week. George also helped render planters for Hampton Court Flower Show. This was George's first time out of Africa and although cold and different, he really enjoyed his trip. He also had to give a talk at Clayfest about the work he does for AVM. Scary, but he was brilliant!



ORPHAN AND VULNERABLE

Kay Lennox from Coverage Care Services Ltd went out to Malawi in May with Eileen Speak who was doing our 18 Partnership Link Visits. She distributed blankets to the orphan and vulnerable children. Her Care Home knitted many of the blankets and on her return she commented '*I can honestly say I have a very different view on life now.*'

All Saints Church in Kingston (right) also have an active group knitting blankets, jumpers and hats that go out for the orphans and the new born babies at the maternity



WATER

Patrick McMahon has gone out for the second year to support our water projects. He has been monitoring and evaluating our existing water sources and arranging appropriate training for our staff and local community. We have partnered with 'Tapping Potential' who are an Enactus Sheffield University project promoting empowering communities to have sustainable clean water sources and set up an enterprise for an income generating project to make soap, which can be sold to the community at cost and to hotels at profit, to feed back into supporting treatment of waterborne diseases. Three villages were identified and training took place in August and we are now supplying some of Lilongwe Hotels with community made soap!





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AUGUST 2015

HAMPTON COURT FLOWER SHOW

This year we were lucky enough to have a garden at The Hampton Court Flower Show. Not only did we get a place, but our conceptual garden won a GOLD!



The Malawi Garden gave a powerful message to promote sustainable planting to combat famine. An infinity mirror in a galvanised container at the garden's centre created the appearance of fields of maize stretching into the distance; the illusion posed the question whether food security can be achieved by relying on a single crop. Alternatives to this were shown in beds surrounding the illusion. The 'Three Sisters Bed' contains three crops that benefit each other: maize provides a structure for beans to climb, the beans fix nitrogen into the soil and feed the maize, and the squash spreads along the ground, retaining moisture in the soil. This provides 3 crops instead of 1 and nature works the soil, so no fertilisers are needed.



Thanks to Gabrielle Evans (Gabrielle Gardens) our Garden Designer, Rob Tuck (Vegucate), Marmalade Jam the Construction company and Humpit removals who all donated their time and van for free! Also thanks to many volunteers who came during the week of the show and spent hours talking to people about the garden and the charity.

FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS

Future events:

Exhibition at cornerHOUSE—10th November—showing the amazing 2016 Calendar artwork from Kingston College, Art & Design 1st year graphic students. We will also be showing the artwork of the Christmas cards from 2015 and they will all be on sale along with other Christmas gifts. Complementary drink from 7pm – 9pm. Our '10 Years in Malawi 2016 Calendar' will also be available at the Exhibition and online afterwards.

Golf Tournament at Lilongwe Golf Course — Saturday 10th October from midday. 70,000mwk per team of 4 people. Contact us if you want to enter.

Past events:

Lucy Bromley raised £2,292 in her first ever **Marathon** run in April. This is going to support our Disability projects. Does anyone want a challenge and think they can raise a large amount for the charity? We have one place for the **London Marathon 2016**. Please let us know if you are interested and we will select the person who thinks they can raise the most. We only get this opportunity every 5 years!



We had 10 runners enter into the **London 10km** run on July 12th. Running to change people's lives. They raised £2,082.50



Thanks to NICO Life in Lilongwe Malawi who raised 250,000mwk (£384) through a Golf Tournament in Lilongwe in July. Zikomo kwambiri!

Quiz night in June raised: £645 and thanks to the cornerHOUSE who provided us the room. SOAS Music event in June raised £1,151 and thanks to Kasai Masai, Ras Steve the Dub Promoter, African DJ Mixes by R De BXL and Kizomba Dance Workshop.

10 YEARS IN MALAWI
CELEBRATING 10 YEARS
OF AFRICAN VISION MALAWI

