



# AFRICAN VISION MALAWI

CREATING LASTING CHANGE



**CHRISTMAS APPEAL! PLEASE SEE THE BACK PAGE  
YOU CAN DONATE £5 AND MAGICALLY IT MAKES £20!**



## Inside this issue

Education	1
Disability	2
New office	2
Staff Update	3
Volunteers	3
Sam's village	3
Christmas Appeal	4
Fundraising Events	4
Thank You	4

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

### EDUCATION



Julius

**University scholarship** Education is a key way out of poverty. Our vision for supporting orphan and vulnerable children who have potential, through Secondary School, was always to continue that support into further education, so they can contribute something back to Malawi. Last year's leavers from Secondary School did amazingly well and from the 10 that passed their final exams, 5 were selected to go to university. We are already supporting 7 students, so this brings our number up to 12!



Evelyn

Statistics based on educational attainment of 15 – 24 year olds from 2010, show 5% received no education at all, 57% failed to complete primary school, 11% studied until the end of primary, 19% attended secondary school but failed to complete their secondary education, 7% completed secondary education and 1% studied beyond secondary level. We have done pretty well !

We already know we have a potential 4 students who might be selected to university next year. **If you would like to part sponsor one and change their lives for ever, please let us know. Payments will start August 1st 2017.**



Ester



Songwe bridge



Chitedze 2 School

**School Partnerships** Heather Palmer visited two school partnerships, Chitedze 2 (left) and Songwe Primary (below) and passed on letters from the UK pupils to their friends in Malawi. All 19 Primary Schools in Malawi have sent letters back to the UK.



Songwe school block

**Songwe Block:** We have been working in partnership with another charity, **Love Support Unite** who have raised funds through **NIPSA733** in Ireland to build the school block at Songwe. We spent some time with the volunteers from NIPSA who arranged some activities with the students at Songwe and left some teaching resources for them. Our grateful thanks goes out to them for providing the first school block at Songwe!



Songwe partnership

The MP Amayi Tembo has secured Government funds to build the bridge at Songwe, (above left) which is going to make such a difference in giving access to pupils the other side of the river.



NIPSA volunteers

M'teza CBC (right) had porridge making training by Fixon Phiri and now the numbers are increasing with the feeding programme started. The food was contributed from the community.



M'teza pre-school



M'teza feeding programme

**DISABILITY**



Chikondi



Gasina



Mtisunge



Madilitso



Moses

Julie Ndalama our Disability Outreach Worker has done a couple of training sessions at Malawi Action for Physical Disability (MAP), one on cerebral palsy and the other on club foot. She did some outreach work in November, where she visited clients in their homes, particularly focusing on those that had received wheelchairs from Rotary Club Bwaila. Whilst visiting Lucy at M'khalapadzuwa another boy, Chikondi (top left) turned up with his mother carrying his two prosthetic limbs and crutches. He is a growing boy and has outgrown his prosthetic legs. We are now getting him a referral back to '500 Miles' for a refitting. Gasina (top) has the most amazing smile and was very happy to try to play the drum whilst in her wheelchair. Moses (left) is 15 and became disabled after getting cerebral malaria, which is very common in our area. Many end up with epilepsy too. He is 15 and his younger brother of 14 is next to him, and you can see how his disability has also affected his growth. We came across Mtisunge (top) while doing the school partnership at Chitedze 2 school. She was



Zozo

crawling across the ground and we were trying to protect her from being trampled by the excited children. Her mother carries her on her back to and from school, 2km each way. We are now getting a referral to MAP and hope to get her a wheelchair. Madalitso (top right) is a new child we were taken to for referral and Julie will now get him referred to MAP. His mother has 2 older children and twin babies, so she certainly has her hands full! Zozo (right) had a stroke some 8 years ago and we take him a food parcel each month. We gave him a solar light which was one of 19 donated by Dean and Melanie Creedy in Australia. As you can see he was amazed by the technology and it will help him see at night.

**If you want to support any of these children and our disability programme in general, please make a monthly donation through the website [www.africanvision.org.uk](http://www.africanvision.org.uk)**



HIV support

Sam Palmer (left) donated a bicycle to the Chitsime HIV Support Group. This will enable them to cycle the 15km to the nearest clinic for testing and ARV treatment.



Vegetables

**NEW OFFICE**

We hope to move into the new earth-built office by February 2017. The main area that may delay us is the supply of the services. We already have water on site and electricity is going in and septic tank shortly. The main building is complete with some work to be done on the side-roofing, internal flooring, stairs and services. Alex Banda (opposite page) has been project managing the site since the beginning of November. Sam Palmer has painted our logo on the entrance gate (below).

Walter (right) has done an amazing job of changing the landscape of a football pitch and growing lots of fruit trees and vegetables. We are all looking forward to moving in!



Walter



Entrance Gate



Adobe (earth bag) meeting areas



Front of new office

**STAFF UPDATE**



*Ida leaving*

We were very sad to say goodbye to Ida Mwangala (left) on 21<sup>st</sup> October, as she follows her husband to live in Rwanda on 6<sup>th</sup> December. We thank her for all her support over the past 3 years and hope she and her family settle well into their new country, schools, surroundings and make friends to help support them. We very much welcome Duncan Chiyani (right) our new Country Manager who joined us on 8<sup>th</sup> November. He has worked for SCOM (Student Christian Organisation of Malawi) for 13 years. He has taken to the job with confidence and energy, looking at the positive impact that we are making within the rural community. Takulandirani Duncan!



*Duncan Chiyani (left)*

Jack Maduka, our Education Manager, left us in August to pursue his dream of doing an MA in US. We wish him well and miss him as part of the team. His role will be replaced in December and we thank Gift, Fixon, Ida, Eric and Chikondi for supporting his role in the interim time.

Esther Mvula completed her temporary 3 month contract to project manage the build of the new office and we were very fortunate that Alex Banda contacted us to follow on with 4 months work experience as part of his Civil Engineering Degree. He has been doing a great job, progressing the build of the Njewa Office.



*Alex Banda*

Staff of the month in September was Walter, for his amazing growing skills at the new office, which provides vegetables for the staff lunches. October staff of the month was aptly chosen to be Ida Mwangala for being an amazing Country Manager! November was Irene Mwale, assistant Librarian for always being happy and helpful!

**VOLUNTEERS**



*Liz Bartley*

We were very fortunate that Liz Bartley (left) came back to Malawi for a couple of weeks at the beginning of September. This was very timely, as she was the previous Education Manager and helped Gift Banda support the Secondary School scholarship scheme. She was bowled over by the progress of the scholarship scheme and that we now have 12 students in university!



*Marcus Collie and Sam Palmer*

Marcus Collie (right) joined us for 3 months from AfID (Accountants for International Development). He has been introducing the charity to a new accounting software called QuickBooks along with supporting areas that Dan Cocks had identified (another AfID volunteer) earlier in the year.



*LBC Cluster Meeting*

Sam Palmer (right) was out for 5 weeks and helped build a water harvester (below) at Sam's Village and also support the volunteer group who funded the Songwe School Block building. His design for the rammed earth water harvester maybe the first! We thank Wimslow Wells for funding this project and some future water harvesters.

We held our LBC (Local Based Committee) cluster meeting at Sam's Village. All 98 volunteers got together to discuss their issues, share solutions and good practice. It was a positive meeting identifying areas that need improvement to make us more effective. We thank all these volunteers for their commitment.

**SAM'S VILLAGE**



*Water harvester*

We have been making steady progress and were very pleased to have Noel Hayes visit the Village on 4th December. The main building work of the Reception is close to completion, as is the workshop. We are making the kitchen and restaurant our priority at the moment. We have started to use it for internal training and had our LBC Cluster meeting held in the restaurant in November (above). We shall now be continuing to use it as an internal training facility and short-term daily training until the accommodation blocks are complete. Our aim is to be fully functional by June 2017, with just 2 additional accommodation blocks to be completed.

The local goats have been a big nuisance and eating the vegetables, so we have taken on a rescue dog, who is named by the local team as Takondwa which means 'we are happy!' to keep them away. Lack of water has also been an issue and we continue to try to drill another borehole, but so far without success as there is a rock plate under the whole Village.



*Reception*



*Reception interior*



*Noel Hayes by bottle window*



*George Phiri with Takondwa*



[www.africanvision.org.uk](http://www.africanvision.org.uk)



[www.facebook.com/africanvision](https://www.facebook.com/africanvision)



[www.youtube.com/landirani](https://www.youtube.com/landirani)



[www.twitter.com/avmalawi](https://www.twitter.com/avmalawi)

African Vision Malawi  
P.O. Box 851A  
Kingston Upon Thames  
KT1 9FD

Phone: 020 8287 8169

Email:

[info@africanvision.org.uk](mailto:info@africanvision.org.uk)

Charity no 1113786



**THANKS TO:  
KINGSTON ROTARY CLUB  
FOMA**

**SARAH PARSLÖE  
LORRAINE MOLE  
SAM PALMER  
MINESH AMIN  
PROJECT4AFRICA  
OUR MALAWI TEAM  
ALL SUPPORTERS  
ALEX BANDA  
JOLLY JUMPERS  
ALL SAINTS KNITTERS  
ALL TRUSTEES  
KAY LENNOX  
ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH  
KINGSTON COLLEGE  
EILEEN SPEAK  
GAYNOR COOK  
OUR PARTNERSHIP  
SCHOOLS  
JANE THOMPSON  
MARCUS COLLIE  
BOBBY WYETH  
KRISTAL DIGITAL  
IMAGING CENTRE**

## M'KUNKHU OPENING OF FEEDING PROGRAMME



Feeding programme



M'kunkhu



Traditional dancers

**Love Support Unite** opened their feeding programme on 9th November with great celebration as they now start to feed all the children in the school twice a week. The food has been grown in the nearby fields and is completely organic. They are doing great work in supporting this community and building a school from nothing, to a thriving one.

## FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS

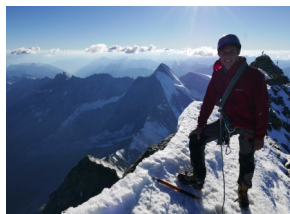
**Christmas Appeal**—Our Christmas Appeal this year is to raise the final £32,000 needed to complete Sam's Village. We now need to fit out the Village with accommodation, solar energy, benches and training materials for the workshop to complete it.

Have a look at the overview film of Sam's Village, a drone's-eye view! <https://vimeo.com/188256678>

With your help, Sam's Village, the first of its type will start to support thousands of local people, providing free training on vocational and life skills; giving hand-ups rather than hand-outs.

We are delighted to announce that a 'Champion' has come forward to support our Christmas appeal. Earlier this year we sought and found 'pledgers' who offered to match-fund donations of up to £8,000. So if you donated £5, another £5 would be added to this, from the 'pot' of £8,000. What is really exciting is that our Champion will further double this once again. So if you were to pledge £5 this would be quadrupled to £20. If you could pledge £5 a month, over the year the contributions we would receive with Gift Aid would actually reach £300!!

If you would like to support us in getting Sam's Village complete, please just click on any of the Donate buttons on our website [www.africanvision.org.uk](http://www.africanvision.org.uk) and where it says: "I would like to leave the charity a message" just type 'Xmas'.



### Past Fundraising events—

Sam Palmer climbed the Matterhorn in August, with a very scary descent in the dark, getting back to basecamp at midnight! He raised an amazing £3,600 towards our Health and Disability programmes. Thanks Sam!



### Current and future events:

**Celebration Tree** – We have a yarn bombed tree appearing in Kingston, just at the front of All Saints Church. This is to celebrate loved ones past and present. Very aptly, the knitting group are knitting squares and baubles that can be sponsored to raise money for the charity. If you would like to support this fundraiser please go to <http://www.africanvision.org.uk/2016/10/28/celebration-tree-a-celebration-of-those-you-love/>. All left over squares will make blankets to go to the orphans.



**Rainer Struck** had to postpone his mega cycle ride from UK to Marseille in France as sadly he lost his mother. It has now been rescheduled for this coming May/June. Please support him by donating at <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/rainerstruckpedaltoempower> or follow him on <http://www.follow-rainer.com>

**Indulgence Day:** We will hold our popular Indulgence Day on **June 24<sup>th</sup>** and we will be having some yoga sessions along with the popular men's haircuts and beer tent! Put the date in your diary.

Visit our website to buy your [Christmas gifts](#) that can make a difference.....

If you would like to organise a challenge or fundraiser, please make contact with us and we will support you as much as we can!

