

Letter from Malawi

Dear Friends

Thank you for your continued support for people in Malawi. This year there are several significant graduations to report, along with food aid for street children, substantial help with oxygen provision in hospital, some small business success and support for new teachers starting school positions.

The general news in Malawi

Malawi has had 3 COVID waves which have resulted in protracted travel restrictions and a huge contraction in the tourist industry. Many businesses have contracted too, as import/export has been difficult. The price of fuel (which impacts transport) and utilities increased this year and families have found things difficult. Medically, we have developed high competence at dealing with large numbers of COVID patients and have enjoyed great medical success. The oxygen has been critical, as have been PPE and good organisation of staff.



The patients view of my ward round – a man who spent 2 weeks with us on oxygen and lived.

Some of our giving this year (£1135) was used to expand the number of bed-head oxygen regulators so that a greater number of patients could use the oxygen provided by the plant installed last year.

Specific project news (details of donation spend in accounts below)

Blantyre Education and Supplementary Training fund (BEST)

Last year we reported that Getrude Chilunguni has been top of her year for the previous 3 years. This year, she finished school and has won a place at Dental School. The Dental School opened for the first entrants 2 years ago and so in a short time, Malawi will graduate its first dentists. It is good that Gertrude will be one of the early graduates – if we can find the fees.

This year Iso Mphande and Juma Napanga graduated as Clinical Officers. They are now completing internships in the Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital where Melita and I work. They are being mentored by Anstead Kankwatira, a senior Clinical Officer that we have known for 20 years. Other successes were that Sandra Ndale and Patience Selemani (both from STEKA see below) graduated in TV production and Madalitso Sumbuleta graduated from Pius XII school with sufficient grades to enter training for the priesthood.

Food aid and relief

As last year, Godknows Maseko made a strategic decision to buy good food for STEKA when prices were at their lowest. STEKA is an organisation and children's home to rescue street children and in

most cases restore them to the family village. Godknows Maseko, the STEKA Director, was himself on the street at one time. We also made small donations to support fertiliser and seed for vulnerable elderly and frail people in the villages.

Solar lights for teachers

The Emmanuel Teacher Training College has now been registered as Emmanuel University. The graduates of recent years are encouraged as the Ministry of Health will recruit 2000 new teachers this year to very needed positions in classrooms around the country. We will continue to encourage young teachers with a gift of a solar light set this year, but did not allocate resource there last year as there was low teacher recruitment.

Business ideas

It is very, very hard to build a small business in Malawi. Patrick Khaworeya started his small-scale dairy business 2 years ago and is now selling milk as well as raising quails, chickens, and rabbits. He is expanding the business to the point where he can reduce his gardener's job to 1/3 time. This is a very exciting stage for him, as he launches out in January 2022.

Boniface Mteko started his phone repair business in 2016 and later trained in small gadget repairs to expand the business. This year he and his family hope to install electricity in their house. The business is not strong enough for Boniface to leave his job as a night guard.

Dick Mizati works for the National Audit Office and teaches Chichewa in his own time. He aims to fulfil a long-held ambition to have a degree in Business Management and is one semester away from this ambition which would allow him to apply for promotion, and send his children to better schools.

Our day jobs at the Malawi Liverpool Wellcome (MLW) Research Programme (no donations)

We have completed the pharmacy building and construction of the CREATOR – Clinical Research Excellence and Training Open Resource – building has begun. This huge project now has a project management team, and we are free to think about how the building will be used when it opens in 86 weeks (early 2023). The vision of specialist training in medicine, developing research leaders and expanding the MLW Programme will require considerable imagination, effort, team building and organisation to achieve.

We moved house this year – our previous house had become surrounded by a beautiful garden as we worked on it, kept cows, and managed the stream. The landlord has plans to turn it into a yoga centre and prayer garden. We are now in a new rented home, turning the rocky garden into a place of beauty. In family news, we had a wonderful break in England/Scotland after the tension and rigour of the COVID period. This included the St Cuthbert's way pilgrimage. Melita led a silent retreat recently and plans to complete training as a lay reader this year. Our son Tim married Ruth in October at a wonderful wedding in Exeter.

Thank you again for your prayers, your interest, and your help in what we do. Please feel free to be in touch if you would like more detail, or to increase your engagement with the work.

Love and prayers

Stephen and Melita



Accounts – Dec 2020, Jan 2021, July 2021, Sept 2021 and totals

Filing system	BEST accounts Dec 2020									
	Name	School	Date	Fees	Books	Other	Total	MK	GBP	update
1	Gertrude Chilunguni	Nkhamenya School	01/10/2020	144000			144000	1010	142.57	
2	Iso Ken Mphande	Clinical Officer	02/11/2020	200000			200000	1010	198.02	
3	Patience Selemeni	BSc in Nursing	02/11/2020	200000			200000	1010	198.02	
4	Sandra Ndale	Dip TV production	02/11/2020	460000			460000	1010	455.45	
8	Miriam Bwanali	Soche Hill Sec School	20/10/2020	160000			160000	1010	158.42	
9	Fraser Galimoto	Malamulo School	01/10/2020	305000			305000	1010	301.98	
10	Abbey Kambwela	House repairs	10/11/2020	225000			225000	1010	222.77	
13	Wakana Maliwa	return to school	16/10/2020	150000			150000	1010	148.51	
14	Mary Chipojola	School (Alex daughter)	22/10/2020	53000			53000	1010	52.48	
15	Stephano Muotcha	Domasi Sec School		260000			260000	1010	257.43	
16	Blessings Muotcha	African Bible College BA in Christian Leadr		300000			300000	1010	297.03	
18	FFAFF	Packages of 80000MK	03/12/2020	720000			720000	1010	712.87	
22	Kelvin Kuseli	Newspaper and fertiliser	12/11/2020	50000			50000	1010	49.50	
24	Xmas presents for staff	9x90000+ Kangombe 50000	23/12/2021	940000			940000	1010	930.69	
25	Lake and Liwonde	80k	23/12/2021	80000			80000	1010	79.21	
									4125.74	
Filing system	BEST accounts Jan 2021									
	Name	School	Date	Fees	Books	Other	Total	MK	GBP	update
1	Gertrude Chilunguni	Nkhamenya School					0	1050	0.00	Good grades. Hoping to go to medical scho
2	Iso Ken Mphande	Clinical Officer	19/01/2021			70000	70000	1050	66.67	Registered MMC and wants intern stipend
3	Patience Selemeni	BSc in Nursing	15/01/2021	250000		80000	330000	1050	314.29	
8	Miriam Bwanali	Soche Hill Sec School	19/01/2021	200000			200000	1050	190.48	
9	Fraser Galimoto	Malamulo School	21/04/2021	330000			330000	1050	314.29	
13	Wakana Maliwa	return to school	16/01/2021	133750			133750	1050	127.38	
14	Mary Chipojola	School (Alex daughter)	25/03/2021	64000			64000	1050	60.95	
20	STEKA	Food	21/04/2021	1000000			1000000	1050	952.38	
23	Oxygen fittings	Flow meters etc	13/08/2020				1135000	1050	1080.95	
24	Dick Mizati	Diploma in Business studies	25/03/2021	400000		80000	480000	1050	457.14	
25	MLW hospitality	Housewarming	15/04/2021	140000			140000	1050	133.33	
26	Davis Kazembe	BSc	01/02/2021	676430			676430	1050	644.22	
									4342.08	
Filing system	BEST accounts July 2021									
	Name	School	Date	Fees	Books	Other	Total	MK	GBP	update
2	Iso Ken Mphande	Clinical Officer	24/07/2021	50000			50000	1050	47.62	Registered MMC and wants intern stipend
3	Patience Selemeni	BSc in Nursing	26/07/2021	200000	50000	450000	700000	1050	666.67	
4	Sandra Ndale	Dip TV production	17/02/2021	480000			480000	1050	457.14	
5	Maness Kazembe	Midwifery Catholic Univ	01/07/2021	565000		335000	900000	1050	857.14	
6	Davis Kazembe	Development	01/07/2021	515430			515430	1050	490.89	
8	Miriam Bwanali	Soche Hill Sec School	21/04/2021	160000			160000	1050	152.38	
10	Dick Mizati	Dip Bus Man	21/04/2021	400000			400000	1050	380.95	
12	Juma Napwanga	Clinical Officer	23/07/2021			50000	50000	1050	47.62	Registered MMC and wants intern stipend
13	Wakana Maliwa	return to school	18/07/2021	60000	19500	32000	111500	1050	106.19	
15	Stephano Muotcha	Domasi Sec School	06/06/2021	280000			280000	1050	266.67	
16	Blessings Muotcha	African Bible College BA in Christian Leadership and Business Admin	06/06/2021	600000			600000	1050	571.43	
									4044.70	
Filing system	BEST accounts Sept 2021									
	Name	School	Date	Fees	Books	Other	Total	MK	GBP	update
2	Iso Ken Mphande	Clinical Officer	01/08/2021	450000			450000	1100	409.09	Registered MMC and wants intern stipend
3	Juma Napwanga	Clinical Officer	01/08/2021	450000			450000	1100	409.09	
7	Davis Kazembe	BSc Community Development	17/09/2021	475000		295000	770000	1100	700.00	
8	Solar lights for teachers	Robert Badenburg					0	1100	0.00	
9	Miriam Bwanali	Soche Hill Sec School	15/09/2021	60000		140000	200000	1100	181.82	
10	Fraser Galimoto	Malamulo School	10/09/2021	300000		30000	330000	1100	300.00	
13	Wakana Maliwa	return to school	01/09/2021	110500			110500	1100	100.45	
14	Mary Chipojola	School (Alex daughter)	10/09/2021	60000		12000	72000	1100	65.45	
15	Stephano Muotcha	Domasi Sec School	02/09/2021	280000			280000	1100	254.55	
16	Blessings Muotcha	African Bible College BA in Christian Leadership and Business Admin	02/09/2021	600000			600000	1100	545.45	
20	STEKA	Food	06/09/2021				0	1100	500.00	
21	CPC	Manase project	01/09/2021				0	1100	2000.00	
23	CPC	Monthly subscription £200/mth	28/08/2021					1100	200.00	
									5665.91	

Paid out 2020-21 from Oct 2020 to end Sept 2021

Dec 2020	£4125.74
Jan 2021	£4342.08
July 2021	£4044.70
Sept 2021	£5665.91
	£18178.42

Donations 2020-21

St Brigids 3WG	£5,000.00
Private gifts	£13,178.42
	£18178.42