

Thank you to each of you wonderful supporters of the work at Home of Hope.

This has been an exciting few months, as we have worked in partnership with the tireless, faithful staff in Malawi.

An Afternoon at the Opera

You are invited to "An Afternoon at the Opera" on October 13th at 3pm in St Paul's Church, Bedford, we'd love to see you at our fundraising concert. Come and bring friends to enjoy an hour of inspirational opera favorites, performed by professional Bedford-based musicians Katherine Crompton, Ed Grint, and Tim Grant-Jones. Husband and wife, pictured below, vocalists Ed and Katy are well established in the international opera scene, with recent performances including the Royal Opera House Covent Garden. Tim is also music adviser and chief accompanist for the annual Bedfordshire Festival of music. The event will include a short presentation about Home of Hope, so it's a great opportunity for friends and colleagues to catch the vision while enjoying some wonderful music! For tickets and further details, go to bit.ly/operamalawi, or see our MOF website. All proceeds to Malawi Orphan Fund.



An Afternoon at the Opera



In aid of children in Malawi



All-through schooling

Having had an encouraging meeting with 27 teachers who gave us a day of their holidays, MOF are keen to build links with schools in the UK and other countries to support the all-through schooling of Nursery, Primary, Secondary and Vocational Training Centre classes at Home of Hope. The Malawian Government employ the staff, who follow the Malawian curriculum. One wish expressed by the staff is Continuous Professional Development. There are many others, including desks, textbooks, and refurbishment of the Secondary classrooms. Thanks to your fundraising efforts the VTC staff were able to buy materials for the new term.

Visits to Home of Hope September 2024

Without using any of MOF funds, Trustees of MOF have been able to continue to build the positive relationships with the amazing staff at Home of Hope this month. Rev Chipeta now 97, Mrs Chipeta 86, Lucy, Linda, Dolly, Thomson, Joseph, and the rest of the hard working staff send their greetings. During term time, 715 children are supported and educated at the schools within the Home of Hope, with 378 living on-site. Most of these return to

relatives during school holidays to maintain family connections, however, around 60 children remain at the Home year-round, as they have no known family. A group of 3 Trustees and 2 supporters spent 10 days at Home of Hope before the children returned for the beginning of term on 16th September. To update the information on children covered by the sponsorship programme, Jane visited during term time when all the children live at Home of Hope. We were warmly welcomed, and personal visits assure Home of Hope that MOF wants to provide more than just financial support. It is so helpful to hear of and see developments at Home of Hope, and understanding the impact of MOF's regular financial donations, only possible thanks to those who give regularly or as a one off. Your help goes directly to improving the life chances of these vulnerable children, preparing them for an independent adult life. There is a detailed account of both visits can be found on: <https://malawiorphanfund.blogspot.com/>. Thank you to the many who gave a range of useful items for us to fill the 14 suitcases included in the air fare. We know people who always make the most of recycling items like fabric, sport bibs, irons, knitted hats & jumpers, nappies & bras, buying paracetamol, pens & a variety too wide to cover.

Protection for Education

Due to the many who add a pack of underwear to their supermarket shop, a case containing 546 pairs of underwear, poppers, scissors and thread was taken to continue this essential work. We were also able to repair 2 machines and demonstrate how to clean and oil to maintain the hard working sewing machines, as well as paying the local electrician to re connect power to allow the use of electric machines recently donated. Work continues all term, making washable sanitary pads and supporting the teenage girls at Home of Hope. The hope is to start selling children's clothes and pads made at Home of Hope to help this enterprise become self sufficient and, in time, even contribute to Home of Hope running costs.



Essential Building Repairs



Farming

It's encouraging to see first hand the difference irrigation is making to how the generous acreage of land at Home of Hope is being farmed. As well as the traditional harvest, planted in October and harvested in January, 2 other growing seasons are now possible. A variety of beans, tomatoes and cabbages are planted between the staple crop of maize, which helps the soil and gives the children a varied diet.

Currently this irrigation uses a diesel generator, the hope is to provide a solar powered pump. There is no shortage of sun in Malawi!

Thanks to generous donations from building companies O'Brien Contractors Ltd & Roofdec Ltd the Home of Hope have been purchasing materials to reinstate the site wide village/school drainage, guttering and waterways in advance of the rainy season. This vital maintenance work will improve the safety conditions of the staff and students as they travel around the site. We saw for ourselves the damage the heavy rains can inflict removing

layers of soil, leaving large steps up to the classroom. There are also funds to repair/replace toilets that are required to be undertaken for the secondary school girls and boys toilets. Roofing work to replace the kitchen iron sheets will also be undertaken. We are so grateful to businesses and companies that provide these amazing donations to allow this vital building work, allowing the Home of Hope to carry on their operations.



MOF Prayer Letter

We would love you to join us in praying for the Home of Hope and the work of Malawi Orphan Fund. Our prayer letters, full of thanksgiving for answered prayers and news to inspire your prayers, are sent out three times a year. To join the growing number of subscribers, go to the homepage of our website <https://malawiorphanfund.uk> , scroll down, then click and follow the link under 'Sign up for our prayer letter' to receive a digital copy.

Where possible we prefer to send newsletters and prayer letters by email to reduce expenses, however we can send hard copies if you would prefer. Please email us at info@malawiorphanfund.uk or write to us at our registered address. We can also supply a set of newsletters for a church, community centre or an event - contact us as above.