

Wider World Malawi Link

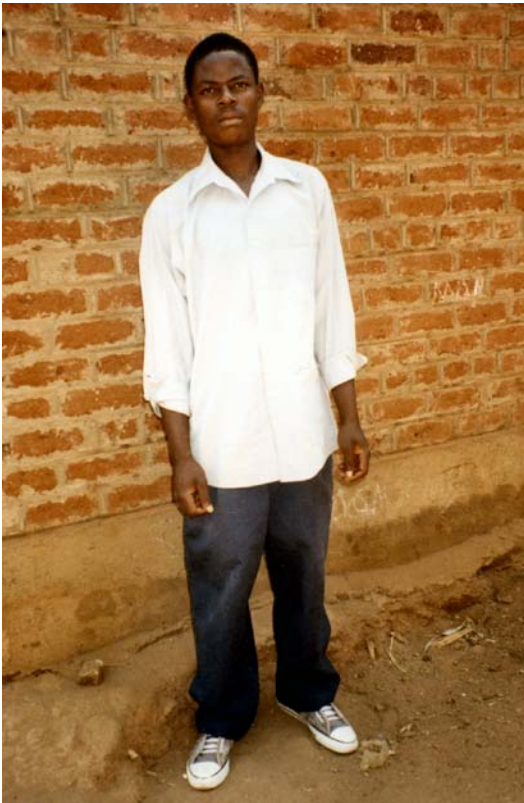
For several years we have been sponsoring students for secondary school in Zomba and surrounding villages where Howard works. Primary school education is free but secondary school requires a fee of £90 pa plus uniform, books, writing materials and lunch. Howard has recommended to us needy students who are orphans, or from single parent families etc.. They go to secondary school for 4 years and we guarantee that we will continue to sponsor them until the end of form 4. It has become clear to us that many students go to school when they have some money and take a break when that money runs out, so that some of them are trying to do level 1 or 2 when they are about 18 years old, working as labourers on the land or as housekeepers to raise funds in between levels. So far we have avoided helping those above 16 years giving priority to the younger ones. It now seems that others are desperate for help.

Continuing from previous years are:- Chiletso Nkomba now in form 4. You may remember we sponsored her sister Mbumba when their parents died and she would have needed to leave school in her final examination year. The four sisters have continued to care for each other.

Spiwe and Hellen Sanane in form 2 and 3 - sisters whose father lost his job and could not make ends meet for the family.

Stephen Chiwalo an orphan, who was taken in by the Msusa family but they could not afford to pay for his

education. Mr Msusa is a labourer and his wife works in the family maize field. Stephen is in form 2, but he looks older than Abigail! We had a copy of Stephen's school report. His best subjects are Maths., Bookkeeping and History, and he came 21st out of 65 pupils in the one class. The comment from the form teacher was, "he has passed but needs to work harder". That sounds pretty normal!



This year the new students are Michello Kayuni who is 12 years and in form 1, Abigail Kazambe who is 16 and in form 3. Also Mofolo Bosco form 1, aged 16 (no photo yet).



Unfortunately,

Howard has already been in hospital twice this year with malaria. His latest plea was for money to complete the building of a bore hole in Dawa (the village with the large church) because they ran out of money half way through building it!! It is the way they work!

Many thanks to friends who pay for school sponsorship. It is possible to pay monthly into the church account, or annually to sponsor one student or to join with others to sponsor one student between a few of us. Anyone interested in joining the scheme can speak to Pam Williams our treasurer. We also need to increase the size of our committee - volunteers will be very welcome.

Beryl Starkey March 09