



New Beginnings

Safe Homes for Children

Registered Charity No: 1087263

Dear friends and supporters

It has been a challenging year since our last newsletter. On the 5th of December 2015 (my birthday) storm Desmond hit Cumbria and along with many other people, we were flooded out. The downstairs of our Cottage was under four foot six inches of water and we not only lost everything in the way of furniture and personal belongings but even the plaster off the walls. This incident is the first time in the properties history and was never expected. However God was good and quickly we found somewhere to live and for seven months we led a challenging life awaiting the Insurance appointed team rebuilding the cottage. We moved back in July 2016 and we have a new house in an old shell. The local people, churches, businesses all came together to help our community and it was apparent that the spirit of the Lord was at work for all to see.

³We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴We write this to make our joy complete. 1 John 1:3-4

Unfortunately, I moved back into the cottage and immediately caught a cold which turned into bronchitis. It has taken me several weeks to get over this and subsequently missed my planned trip to Ukraine. Thank goodness for Skype, which allows us to keep in constant touch with Genesis House and Ivan our Director in Ukraine on a regular basis.

Genesis House, Ukraine

We hear very little about the war in Ukraine now in the National news but unfortunately our Ukrainian friends and family are finding life very difficult.



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Inflation has gone through the roof, utilities especially gas which comes from Russia has virtually tripled. This has had a knock on effect with businesses having to trim staff resulting in higher un-employment. We are fortunate at Genesis House as we have our large garden in which our Foster Parents and children have grown almost all we will need in fruit and vegetables to see us through the winter



Genesis House Vegetable Garden

Our children have asked Natasha, our Foster Mother if they can have chickens and they will be responsible for looking after them. We feel they will learn how to love and care for them and hopefully be rewarded with lots of eggs to collect every day. I have approved this request and they are currently building a hen house and a secure home for them
Our latest acquisition at Genesis House is a bicycle for Natasha



Natasha's new bike

She will use it to take and collect the youngest child to and from Kindergarten and be able to go to the local shop without the need for fuel in the old minibus. Despite Ukraine being in a state of crisis, our children are so fortunate in that they are safe, loved and cared for. They will have the opportunity for a good education and the help and guidance of our church family who assist our Foster parents whenever they can. I know there are so many children now all over the world needing help and I feel so inadequate and guilty that I cannot help them all but we do not have the resources and I cannot risk compromising our work in Ukraine.

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 5:8-11

Many of you will remember Yan our young boy found in the Market living in a tin box. Yan was adopted and even though he was a difficult boy his new parents who could not have their own children persevered and loved him throughout all the challenges. Now, God has rewarded these people and they are expecting a baby. They have also been accepted to go to the USA as Yan's father has been offered a good job and they rightly think that this is best for their families future. We wish them all the best and we will of course keep in touch. How wonderful that the little three year old boy from the tin box is now a handsome young man with a loving family and has the opportunity to start a new life in another Country. It is successes like these that motivate us and keeps New Beginnings

going. As for our six children currently in Genesis House



Genesis Family Children

they are all well. Our Foster Parents have to meet new challenges daily but they have so much love and a strong faith that they cope admirably with the challenge.

Genesis Hostel, Malawi

You will recall that New Beginnings funded the construction of the Girls dormitory building and dining facilities at the "All Saints Secondary School" in Mtunthama, Malawi. We equiped it out with beds and mattresses and it has now been up and running for around 12 months. Last year we decided to fund a bursary scheme to assist some of the less fortunate girls with their education. We channel all our funding through Medic Malawi a charity which works very much like New Beginnings. This way we know that every pound we provide is spent on exactly what we are funding. At present they are requesting funds for an additional 16 beds and mattresses so we are making a special attempt to raise these funds for them before Christmas. Below are a couple of photos and notes from the girls at the school which I thought you might find interesting.

The students on the first photograph are twin sisters namely **Pemphero and Yankho**. They are some of the boarders whose stay in Genesis Girls hostel is wholly sponsored by New Beginnings via Medic Malawi.



Pemphero (Prayer) AND Yankho (Answer)

They are needy students. Elizabeth, the In-charge at AMAO orphanage identified them as needy since last academic year. They used to go to Elizabeth's house to drink porridge because every morning they were coming to school without breakfast despite the fact that they were coming from far, about nine kilometres away from school. Their mother could not provide breakfast for them because she is not working and not married. She is also HIV positive and weak. Before they were admitted in the boarding, they used to work in farmers gardens, watering and weeding gardens. There after they were given vegetables which used to be food for the family on each day. This was a trend after they had knocked off from school late in the afternoon. Today, Pemphero (Prayer) and Yankho (Answer) are the happiest students because of support they are getting from Medic Malawi. Both have just passed J.C.E and now are in form three. They are hardworking students and well behaved.

My name is Doreen Phiri. Aged 19, born on 25 March 1997. I come from Malomo, where it is 18 kilometers away from Mtunthama All Saints Secondary School. We are six in our family and I am the third born. But unfortunately we had lost our second born, Samuel Phiri, but all in all we are still six because my mother raised my uncle's daughter whose parents died and left her while she was two years old and her brother was five years old. Now she is ten years old. In total with our parents we are eight. The past 7 years my father, Nelson Ghooster Phiri, was a teacher but now he is a farmer. The time my father got retired, our family begun facing

different problems like lack of enough food since we were staying with my father's relatives, lack of good condition of the house since we were staying in brick house, with iron sheets but without cement on the floor, just a floor like outside the house. Things changed in 2015 when I was in form 2 after hearing that we are chosen and find donors who were going to pay school fees for hostel and to me I was not understanding and believing that I will be in the hostel according to the situation which our family was meeting and I realize that this is now a good time for me to achieve good goals so that I can help my family, my friends and even community after using the chance in my life.



Doreen Phiri in Genesis Hostel

From the time I was told about the bursary I was happy and up to now I'm still remembering that time or I can say, it is an unforgettable day for me, my family and friends who are also on bursary and others come from very far areas away, but because of the bursary program now we are staying in the hostel where we are able to study having good food as well. Therefore, I write to appreciate for everything that you are doing for me by paying my school fees. Let me also explain that there are a lot of things that have changed just because of your help. This is in terms of my performance in class. Now I am scoring good grades than ever before and my daily life has also changed for the better. Before this bursary, things were difficult for me. It was hard for me to study and find enough time for

discussions with my friends about different subjects. This was just because of different house hold chores that a girl is supposed to do in everyday life for example; washing plates, clothes, cooking, drawing water, sometimes during the rainy season going to the farm. Therefore it was difficult for me to pass examinations. But now I and my fellow students especially girls in the hostel we are lucky now just because of your sponsorship. For example I am able to pass every end of term examinations. This is in contrast to what was happening before the bursary. I have a good example; I have managed to be in position 27 out of 95 students. I want to get good grades during my Malawi school Certificate examinations in 2017 To end with, I am happy to communicate with you and I know that it is very far from here but just know that I and other girls we are receiving your help and I am really appreciating for all things you have done for me. May the Good Lord bless you and all people who support us especially me and good Lord should give you longer life so that you can continue helping me until I accomplish my goals and you should see the fruits of your assistance. Having this I am saying have prosperous life as we are approaching Christmas time. Thank you.

Pat Writes

It has been a challenging year but we have, with the Lords help and love and support of our community, met the challenge successfully.

For, "All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord endures forever." 1 Peter 1:24-25

Now we can look forward to the future knowing we are doing the Lords work and with your help we will meet all our new challenges. Since dictating these News notes I have fallen in Church and broken

my right arm in two places so thank the Lord I got this far before becoming incapable.

You, LORD, are God! You have promised these good things to your servant. Now you have been pleased to bless the house of your servant, that it may continue forever in your sight; for you, LORD, have blessed it, and it will be blessed forever." 1 Chronicles 17:26-27

I wish you all a Joyous Christmas and healthy New Year.

Thank You and God bless.

Patricia Harrison MBE

Founder, Trustee & Chairman



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