



## UPDATE Sept 09

### Dear Friends,

Bingu was overwhelmingly re-elected as President and has just had the first 100 days of his 2<sup>nd</sup> term. Malawi was rightly proud of peaceful, well run elections. In June we had a typical whirlwind trip to the UK, squeezing time between Malawi school holidays; followed by hosting visitors here in the UK's school holidays!

### Building? YES but not officially!



We were handed the keys in late July and we have been busy making this structure home. The furniture from DFID has been trucked out from Lilongwe and put

together and some increased security. Many thanks to Nigel Morris for all his help. Electricity is on the way we hope, we have had to pay a staggering £733 to be connected. Water is our next challenge, we are waiting for a reply on an application to use water from the Dam. If unsuccessful, we will need to raise about £4k for a borehole, giving us clean drinking water (which the Dam does not have). *Once we have these services we can then officially open!*



Jose (contractor) and Andrew (architect)

*'It's amazing to think of something so fantastic for the Dalitso Trust family to work from in Malingunde, made partly possible by a £20k gift in the will of someone we had never met. Wow, very humbling'* Tom

### Leaders

On the 25<sup>th</sup> August 28 leaders completed the year long 'Follow Me' course and we had a fun filled graduation ceremony. There was



testimony, dramas, and messages from the UK, speeches, photos, refreshments and singing! *Thanks Fiona for the superb design work and printing of the certificates.*



**Salika** (pictured) is not sure how old he is (well over 60), is lame in one leg yet travels six miles each way on a borrowed bike every week to FM.

*'I now have a good relationship with my wife, my neighbour and my people'* **Filipo**, Village Chief.

*'I have been a leader for many years, but I have never had any training or school to gain more knowledge or understanding ... I am now a good leader, I know what I'm doing'* **Biliat**

*'I now know God is more interested in my heart than my denomination, so everyone must ask themselves, does God see Jesus in my heart?'* **Limon**

*'I was not believing that a person can be healed, by asking God in prayer. After FM I am changed, my life is no longer a high temper'* **Mrs Lozimeli**

*'Before this course I was nothing, now I know which path to take and where to lead people'* **Chiveka.**

These leaders and more will start Follow Me and FM2 on Sept 29<sup>th</sup>.

### More Graduates!



Rhodes has also graduated after 6 months residential training in nursery education. She is pictured here with the Deputy Minister of Gender. Thank you to Anna Marie for her dedication in running the Women's Training centre and investing so much in Rhodes personally.



Rhodes is shown here with husband Limon who has completed part one of three of his Diploma in Community Development.

*'As an organisation we want to train and equip our staff to the highest levels possible. It is a privilege to see them grow and develop.'* Tom

### Youth Work

Local churches are helping oversee these groups and we are taking a step back. This has happened a lot quicker than we had planned, but due to financial constraints we are trying to be proactive in stewarding our resources wisely. This is the first time we have shut a programme due to lack of funding. Symon is still overseeing these groups and we will continue to train and encourage the leaders when funds allow.

## Community Health Evangelism

CHE now represents over 50% of our work and Chippo is such an asset. He is now going to be writing this section, so welcome Chippo!

Hi, my name is Chippo Chale. My family and I moved to Malingunde in late January. It has been hard to settle in as a family, due to moving from a town to a village.



We are now comfortable and expect our third child in December! I feel most welcome in the Dalitso family and had a lot of help from the other staff. In terms of CHE we are working in Mbanga community, three families and Ndumira Church.

We are finishing our research and awareness meetings. This means that Kevin and Erica from Lifewind in South Africa are travelling up to run our next CHE training course from the 14th to 18th September. We are too much excited as this will equip us for the next step; committee formation, training them and then the training of local health visitors. So it's a challenging, exciting time!

I have just come from Zambia where the nearest CHE project is. I went to learn from Lovemore who has been doing CHE for more than 10 years in Lusaka. We are just starting, so it is good to learn from someone who has been doing it for sometime. Nick and Fiona visited in August with their 3 girls to see CHE first hand together, a great encouragement to us.

### Crunch

As we are starting to feel the effects of the crunch with financial support decreasing, we have finished our youth programmes early and plan to sell one of our older motorbikes. As you are probably aware, The Dalitso Trust family is resourced mainly by individuals who have come to know us personally, share in the vision and believe in changing Malawi through relationships.

## Visitors

In August we hosted the Morris and Harding families.



The Morris family



The Harding family in a CHE village



Evie Harding looking in a maize store

We also fed and watered a visiting team from **Links International** in Littlehampton. They were in Malawi for 2 weeks teaching health in a very similar way to CHE.



Linden (pictured) who heads up their work spent

a day in Malingunde which really blessed the whole team. We hope to liaise more with Links next year.

## Happy Faces

Rhodes is back with the team as we enter an intense time with CHE for the rest of September. Then we will trial some sessions for parents to attend with their child to learn about educational play and parenting skills. Thanks so much to Claire Thomas for partnering with us; for help with the curriculum, advice on purchasing

equipment and fundraising – what a star! We hope to begin this provision in full next year, finances permitting. According to the UN only 15% of children in Malawi receive early childhood development from a nursery/preschool etc.

The bigger picture beyond local families is to be a beacon and a centre of excellence to encourage and inspire the local communities around us to develop their own play centres. We are currently looking for funding for this project, so if you can help please contact us.

## The Husbands Family

We hope you have seen our blog spot. Just a reminder, the address is <http://husbandsfamily.blogspot.com>

## Highlights/Challenges

'To have a home for DT in Malingunde is amazing. Can't wait for water and electricity!' *Tom*

'Having our own building that speaks of our desire to remain and invest in the Malingunde area.' *Ali*

## Thank you

- The building work is finished and to such a high standard.
- For all our 28 graduates and to Rhodes & Limon too.
- CHE in Zambia in sharing their projects with us and Linden for sharing her expertise.

## Requests

- To steward our resources in the current economic downturn.
- Development of the CHE programme through the community, church and families.
- Protection for the whole team and especially the team's health in Malingunde.

**Tom & Alison**

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