



UPDATE Apr 10

Dear Friends,

The rains have finished and Malawi seems to have had enough for a good harvest – we await the official figures though. President Bingu was married on the 17th April and the country enjoyed the celebrations. The ash cloud has stranded many people here, so we wait to see how quickly flights will resume and our current visitors can return and new visitors arrive!

Dalitso Play

We now have 2 trial sessions running which have been going for just over 8 weeks now. *To serve mothers by equipping them to play with their children at home, not with physical resources, but with skills and knowledge that they can then take away and adapt to suit their own situation.* The women are so keen to learn a new way of interacting with their children, and they have thrown themselves in to it and we can see real progress.

Rhodes *"I can see the Mums improving, spending time with their children and enjoying it. When I visit them I see them playing"*

Kristina who attends with her 2 children *"Before, I saw time with my children as useless, but I have been changed through Happy Faces. Now I feel encouraged when I spend time with my children as a way of teaching them. My life is improved through the different activities we do – I praise God for this vision -to*

see that our lives and our children can be really changed"

Janet *"I thought maybe the Happy Faces vision is impossible. Now I see the children learning and we are going to help them not to struggle at school. It is great Happy Faces has come in time for these children– I am enjoying it a lot!"*

London Marathon 2010



Way to go James! – the last count was over £1000 raised. All the best for the big day! If you'd like to donate to Happy Faces, please visit:

www.justgiving.com/James-Husbands



Happy Faces Singing

Building



We are still facing a challenge to be connected to electricity and are looking forward to a busy few months hosting various activities with visiting teams from UK and a CHE team from Zambia.

Dalitso Leaders

We have the pleasure to host Bill Dixon next week who has invested so deeply in both of us and the Trust and see him deliver some of the Follow Me material he wrote specifically for us. We can't wait to see him here again and he is loved

deeply by people in Malingunde who have benefited from his commitment and visits to Malawi over the last 12 years or so.



We are sad to announce the death of Kaputeni, one of our Follow Me course members. He was from Chala and our prayers are with his wife and the church congregation there.

Dalitso Health – Chippo's bit

Hi, I am pleased to report that I had a wonderful time in Nairobi at the Community Health Evangelism Conference. It was so helpful and inspiring to meet others from all over Africa who are doing CHE. In response to this we have a CHE team coming from Zambia in May – they have over 10 years experience so we are really excited to share our work with them.



We recently received 5 bikes for CHE – thank you for the gift! They have made our way easy, that we can bike to the community within 15 minutes and this has made us to have more time with people.

Community CHE

In Mbanga village the committee chose twenty five village health visitors to equip and teach. Mbanga is a remote village. Very few people know how to read and write Chichewa. There is no Christian church in their area, they believe in the spirits of their ancestors which is full of fear and control. Although there are these struggles good things are happening, the lives of people are changing, spiritually and physically. Chibise has made great physical changes around his home because he has a new mind and new faith. Before he did not have a toilet – he would go anywhere, no bathroom – he would wash in-between banana plants, no refuse pit – throwing rubbish all around. He now has all of them and more as a result of change on the inside which shows itself on the outside in action!



Happy Faces - horse drawn cart!

In Ndimira the committee is functioning and 19 home health visitors (CHEs) are now being trained. Health in terms of social, emotional and agriculture lessons are identified by a survey which is done in the community. There have been challenges to do a survey, in some homes it was denied, some homes gave false information just in case any handouts might arise and others were suspicious calling the CHEs satanic as people are very wary in the village. This didn't stop the survey and a plan will be developed so the community's needs that they have highlighted can be taught on first.

Family CHE - healthy families creating healthy villages.

We have a new family who will work alongside the Zindondo family called Nicholas. We have started working with them and we hope to succeed.

The Bakayawo family have changed a lot. The husband is now full of faith and has become active in village development. We plan to help them to start passing the information learned from CHE to the neighbours through home visits and small group Bible study. The only struggle with this family is, they enjoy practical lessons but they struggle to change their own home. Help us in prayers for them to value having a healthy home.

The Mazinga family has made wonderful practical changes around their home as a sign that they believe in a healthy home which helps to minimize the spread of common sicknesses. We will now encourage them to start sharing things they have learned to their neighbours.

Chippo.



Happy Faces - rings!

Giving

Thank you for your continued support – we have had people raising money for us on Just Giving

resulting in 4 different pages Wow! www.justgiving.com/dalitsotrust Trust finances are still tight and on that note we want to share that Tom is seeking a temporary part time job here in Lilongwe, to ease the situation further.

The Husbands Family



Grace helping with Peace and Janet

Our family news is at <http://husbandsfamily.blogspot.com> We are due to be in the UK at the end of June and for July; we hope to see many of you then!

Highlights

'It is such an encouragement to 4 Just Giving pages! Also to have Bill with us again is just brilliant!' **Tom**
'Seeing Sarah arrive first every week so keenly to Happy Faces' **Ali**

Thank you

- 1) For bikes and gifts to enable us to serve rural people
- 2) Community acceptance of Happy Faces and CHE.

Requests

- 3) For good harvests
- 4) Successful Training of Community Health Visitors (CHEs)
- 5) Protection for the whole team and especially the team's health in Malingunde.

Tom and Alison

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