



When the Kingdom of God comes, things change!

The best way to transform a community is to start church, and, after 7 years of hard work, looking after those in need, feeding, clothing, supporting and sharing Jesus with the community, we finally have a Church with our very own pastor - Pastor Lino. This was always our prayer, our hope and part of our vision and now it's a reality!

Phase Two includes plans to establish businesses to sustain the work in Malawi. Mayeso Lazaro from Hull University is helping this process. The task will be to get power to the area and kick start the important Maize Mill Project, which will generate income and also attract new businesses into the area, creating jobs for the young people. We need an investment of £30,000. Shine New Zealand and Shine UK are preparing for their trip in July and are very excited about meeting with the team and particularly the new Church members, which now number 51! Many have only recently come to faith. Pastor Lino recently organised an outdoor event which 40 people attended and many received prayer for healing. We know this is just the beginning of something special.

Shine's Bursary Scheme Student update.



Shine has continued to support ten students, two of whom are now attending college! Joseph and Beston both graduated from Masongola Secondary School in 2016 and are now half way through their first year at Mikolongwe College, training in electrical engineering. Both young men are really enjoying the course and are determined to make the most of this opportunity to develop new skills.

Ganizani Mtembo who attends Mulunguzi Secondary School is now in his third year gaining over 80% in 7 out of the 11 subjects he is

taking. Ganizani is a boarder at his school and returns to his home in a small village in Kuntumanji during the holidays. Often he stays back at school for extra help. This support began in 2015 when his father became seriously ill and had to stay in hospital, leaving his mother to support a family of eight children alone. Knowing that her son has support to stay in Secondary School each year gives her great peace and is having a lasting impact on their family.

Innocent, who also receives similar support to board at Mulunguzi School, is now preparing for his final exams next month. Orphaned at a young age he has taken on the responsibility for his younger siblings and Grandmother. Extra support given last year motivated him to continue to work hard at school. Earlier this year Shine provided the iron sheets needed to complete Innocent's new home which he built for himself in just four weeks during his summer holidays.



Ben is heading back to Malawi !

Sizzling Sausage Sundays and other church events are helping raise funds for Ben and the New Zealand team to make a return trip. Ben, who attends Timaru Connect Church, is just finishing school. After hearing about the plight of orphans in Malawi he made the trip last year with his mum, Dawn, to see how they could help. It was their first time in Africa and Ben didn't expect to see poverty so close up. He said he was struck by how quickly he felt part of the lives of those living in the community. Ben is looking forward to joining students for our Zomba Mountain Climb, as well as lending a hand at Shine Village.



Prayer : The team ask that we continue to pray Pastor Lino, his wife and family, for the provisions needed to practically care for the children and for God's vision, grace and wisdom to work out their wonderful calling. Please also pray as we send out funding applications and meet with the leaders in Malawi during our visit this summer. Pray for our students during this exam season and for guidance for the next step for all those we have supported over the past few years as many look for work.

A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

Proverbs 11:25

Zomba Mountain Climb 2017



Last September Shine held its first ever fundraising event in Zomba, Malawi, walking to the top of Zomba Mountain with staff and students. Ganizani, pictured above, walked with his friends last year. He was so proud to get to the top and look down over the area where he and his family live. What an opportunity!

More students are now eager to complete this walk, so as means to encourage them to do well at school, we will allocate places for those who have worked particularly hard during the year. Staff members who were unable to make the walk last year will have an opportunity this year. Many of them have never visited this part of Zomba, as they live in the village, so it is great for them to join the fun!

Sheila, our Early Years teacher said after last years walk;

"The experience was awesome and it was my first time climbing a mountain. This was quite an experience and knowing that I was doing it for the betterment of others made me feel good."

This years walk has been kindly sponsored by Pure Renewables in Cottingham, near Hull.

Secondary School education- Mercy's story

Mercy's family did not value her education and like many girls in our area her main role was to care for her relatives. Her sick father and her elderly uncles were very demanding leaving Mercy little time for herself. Mercy was one of the brightest girls at primary school; competing with 200 fellow pupils for her teachers attention, she passed her exams with good grades. which gained her a place at the local Community Day School. Many girls do not get this far; if they do not gain the pass rate required, a place at the districts Night School is the only option for further education. Students rarely take this route, due to location which involves a 7Km country walk, which is unsafe to travel. School fees are also very high and as most can not afford them, they instead look for work and are encouraged to find a husband.

Relieved to find that her results had secured her a place at Nson-dole Secondary School, Mercy still needed to find work to pay for her school fees. She continued to care for her large family single handed, as her mother had sadly died when she was very young. The copious amount of chores weighed heavily on her shoulders. Her journey to school would also eat into precious study time and during the rainy season her route to school became inaccessible. Life was very hard.

Shine's support to Mercy began when she was in form 1 and she received yearly school fees and support with the school resources she lacked and also household items. Special projects over the years meant that Mercy and her fellow students received solar lamps which helped with study during the night hours. The greatest gift Mercy received was a bicycle which ensured she could get to school in a fraction of the time! Mercy sat for her MSCE in 2015 and passed with 40 points. Even though the results she gained were not enough to get into a nursing college, which had been her aim, Shine found her a place at a teaching college under ministry of education in order for her to study further.

When Mercy found the course too difficult she had to review her plans and looked for a full-time job. With her certificate, Mercy gained work and is now employed as a cashier at Steers, a new restaurant chain in Malawi. She loves her work and firmly believes her life would not have worked out this way had she not received the support and love from Shine. The encouragement she received gave her the strength she needed to complete her education. Unlike many of the girls from her village, she now has confidence in her abilities and can stand on her own feet. Mercy now has the means to support herself and she wants to encourage all girls to stay in school and work hard. She says "There is more to life. Look what I have achieved! Thank you to all Shine family."



Mary's Mats Maize sacks and recycled t-shirts together in perfect harmony! Mary has been busy selling her lovely bath mats at Sir Harry School Fare in Zomba. She has taught other women in the community how to make these colourful mats as well as handmade, sandals from recycled tyres!! Mary received training at Shine centre and is now receiving many orders, which the women at Shine Village will help to deliver.



This income makes a huge difference to their lives. Orders taken for July trip contact NZ:shinerelief.nz@gmail.com or UK:deborah@shine-relief.org

Gifts of Love 2016



Agnes and Shilulu collecting their monthly family provisions

Between November and April families across rural Southern Malawi were desperately trying to stay alive as famine hit many parts of Africa. Shine responded by providing maize to children left with no food in their stores. Living in a country without any form social security or food banks, vulnerable families come to Shine Village to share their situation. With limited resources and food and transport costs rocketing, meeting our increasing programme costs was a major challenge.

SHINE GIFTS OF LOVE Christmas campaign ensured that this essential extra support was, as gifts of maize and Early Years porridge were purchased as alternative Christmas presents. The Souter Trust kindly gave a grant towards our project costs.

Thankfully this years harvest is looking more promising and or the first time in three years families with large fields may harvest enough for the year, however vulnerable families will still need food to supplement their stores.

£15 provides a bag of maize for a family headed by a child or a disabled or elderly guardian.

Taking steps together to achieve all that God has for us.

Pastor Lino, his wife Eunice and two children have been living Shine Village for six months and have been happily helping to put the finishing touches to the children's rooms and to the exterior. It is easy to see how wonderful this environment will be for the children, as they will remain very much a part of village life, attending the local schools, and playing in the playground with other children and they will also have that love and attention which is the foundation which will take them through every school year and prepare them for their adult life.

The couple have quickly become very much part of the community, many locals and staff members are involved in church life; bible studies and prayer take place each week, providing opportunity for friendship, discussions and fundraising! This group of people has already come together to buy items needed for their church! How awesome is that!



Afterschool club

With primary school classes numbering up to 200, young children struggle to learn and often fail their exams. Every day at our Early Years the children speak English. This is giving them the head start they need. Shine has plans to host an afterschool club, to improve the standard of education by providing resources for both children and young people in our area.

Beatrice who recently began work at Shine Early Years, graduated Secondary School last year. She had attended Night School, to re-sit the final two years she had failed. She found it very difficult, however through the support she received she was encouraged her to keep going and now she finally has paid work helping the Shine Early Years children to develop their skills and knowledge at Shine Centre.



Become a friend of Shine Hold a coffee morning or a cake stall to raise funds for play resources at our centre!

1 chair costs £4.00

Start fundraising with **JustGiving**

Shine Relief works with families, many headed by children themselves, in an area where 9 out of 10 people have no regular income. Relying mainly on subsistence farming, many have been left vulnerable to food shortages currently plaguing the region. Shine Village provides support in many ways, feeding over 120 children at Shine Village and a further 200 in the community. To donate or volunteer visit www.shine-relief.org | email info@shine-relief.org | call 07762243302 | to set up a page visit www.justgiving.com/shine.relief/shinealight2017