

New for May 2015 Shine car and solar panels – thank you everyone



Meeting Students and visiting schools

I met up with 16 year old Harrison at Shine Centre on a dry, hot lunchtime as he ate in the shade cast by the wall. He was picking up his bike which he had previously left for repairs. He felt unwell and had a high fever. I saw him and gave him some Paracetamol that I had in my pocket and prayed with him. Harrison was soon smiling again. He failed his final year at Primary School and is now enrolled in the districts night school some 5 miles from his home. Without a bike he would need 3 hours 20 minutes for his round trip. His bike saves him precious time however it suffers daily damage on the rural track and is frequently needing attention, hence the repairs. Having lived as an orphan for the past 10 years with no one to teach him essential life skills Shine's new staff team at Shine center have the capacity to train him. The Centre now has free solar power, so it can remain open into the evening - literally shining in the darkness.



Lifa is himself an orphan and wants to help other children in his community

Our staff, volunteers and the young people all have contributed towards developing Shine Village and they have done a great job. We could see how hard they all worked, held together by Suzen and Hastings. The couple organised teams and "travelled up and down" to see the vision become a reality.

We see God's love and faithfulness in action as strong ties are forming between families, so they can meet together at Shine Village Centre. Practical help with school work, farming and other income generating projects will now be much easier for the team.

Please pray for the team as they work together under Suzen's leadership to inspire the children and the community, serving Christ with gladness. Together they have overcome many difficulties this year, being steadfast in their determination with the work of Shine. To see this wonderful oasis in the middle of Kuntumanji is testimony to the faithfulness of our God.

Returning to Malawi after 18 months - Things felt different, development was taking place and things were happening. The road to Zomba was so smooth, it was unrecognisable. Back in the villages life is very much the same as before. Surviving after the floods, they live one day at a time, struggling to get by on the smallest of provision.

A visit to Mulungusi Boarding School and time spent with the head teacher revealed again how important our bursary scheme continues to be – providing school fees and support; a lifeline to those without help. There were 33 first year students in danger of being sent home. They had been selected to attend this school because of their excellent grades. But this was the result of government cuts. So far 30 managed to secure bursaries from NGOs like Shine. Sadly we were unable to offer support to any further students at this time. It was really tough to know that children with enormous potential would not receive the education they had worked so hard for. Innocent was one of the fortunate ones - he is one of the 5 children we support in Boarding school. He was the first in Nsondole to gain a place and is now completing his second year of secondary school. He was happy to know he was not among those being sent home.

Zikomo kwambiri from Shine staff team!



The support given over the years with food, education and shelter have helped meet essential needs of so many families. There has been renewed hope here, **but it is just the start**. Families we support are constantly developing and facing new challenges. Discussions around the next phase of development which is to set up church, residential facilities and a clinic are all on the agenda. We have the plans and the costings in place, now we need your prayers.