

# AQUAID LIFELINE NEWS

## FROM MALAWI, CENTRAL AFRICA



Our Co-ordinator writes, "I came across Joseph during a famine in February 2002 at the roadside in Chikwawa, Southern Malawi. He was gnawing at a piece of sugarcane, begged from a vendor and was suffering from a ghastly wound which was seriously infected and smothered with flies. He had been driven out by his stepfather who refused to feed him. With his mother's permission and the agreement of the village chief, I took him to the **Aquaid Lifeline** Children's village at Namisu. Although deeply traumatised by his experiences, Joseph slowly recovered after surgery and skin grafting. Below is a picture of Joseph taken this year. He is now a fine young man who is established in a thriving metal working business operating from Namisu village. His mentor and instructor is Yanjanane, one of the disabled orphan boys who studied at our school where he learned his trade. Yanjanane is now a metalwork teacher at Namisu village primary school. Joseph now pays regular visits to his home village in Chikwawa."

Below - a picture of Mr Jumbe, our village 'father', and co-ordinator of education with Paul Chambimbo an unsighted young man. Paul was brought to our village in 2003 by a desperate grandmother who was suffering from a terminal disease, she begged us to relieve her anxiety by caring for him. He had been orphaned at the age of seven. We took Paul under our wing, funded his secondary school education and his subsequent studies at Teacher's Training College. He is now a teacher at a Government School which caters for visually impaired students. The **Lifeline** fund currently cares for 18 unsighted people, providing for a variety of deeds from simple monthly food support to education and vocational training.



Orphaned at birth, this tiny baby is being cared for by his elderly grandparents. Their isolated home is in a remote, mountainous area. Baby John was one day old when his grandma walked the 10 miles to our village looking for help. We are committed to supporting this child until his education is complete.



### IRRESISTIBLE IMAGES FROM THE DAWN CENTRE FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

Featuring SAMSON the Dawn Centre Chauffeur! The **Lifeline** Co-ordinator says, "I have never seen Samson riding in his buggy without a passenger, nor have I ever witnessed more loyal friendship or camaraderie than that which exists among our disabled children. In the picture below, Samson is Chauffeur-ing Madalitso, (English translation is blessings). Madalitso was seriously affected by cerebral malaria when just 4 months old. When he was 3, he suffered terrible burns in a fire. So severe were his injuries that he was left fighting for his life for several days, and his left leg had to be amputated at the hip. When I visited him in hospital I gave him a small teddy bear, and he actually smiled! (See insert, top right). I have never heard Madalitso cry or complain. His enthusiasm, courage and patient endurance are a constant challenge to all who meet him."



Chifundo, left, and Samson, share a joke with the **Aquaid Lifeline** co-ordinator. Chifundo is a boy of considerable talent and resourcefulness... Watch this space!



We are currently caring for 36 resident disabled children along with 20 others who benefit from special needs schooling and daycare, but we cannot cope with a waiting list of 65 more desperately needy ones. We are therefore building a large new centre with improved facilities, including residences, schoolrooms and administration accommodation and a physiotherapy unit. We are most grateful to the youth and leadership of St Andrews Church, Arbroath for their pledge to help in building an extensive adventure play area with exciting remedial facilities.

The **AQUAID LIFELINE** Fund offers grateful thanks for continuing magnificent support from **COOLERAID** U.K. Ltd. and the many other donors, which has enabled us to rescue so many and offer hope to those who had none. For further information Tel. John Searle, **AQUAID LIFELINE** Fund Co-ordinator, on (01223) 276710