

# AQUAID LIFELINE NEWSLETTER

## FACT FILE:

Since **Aquaid Lifeline** Fund was founded in June 1999, the following objectives have been achieved.

5) MALAWI has more than its share of physically challenged people. The crippling effects of polio, blindness, and the ravages of malnutrition and premature ageing leave many unable to till the plot of land, which is their only hope of survival. Such people are painfully vulnerable, and **AQUAID LIFELINE** cares for 350 of them in the 30 or so villages around Namisu. Twice monthly our lorry sets out on its MERCY RUN, when these genuinely desperate people are helped with provisions of food, blankets etc. In addition at critical times of shortage and famine, typically from December to April, **AQUAID LIFELINE** provides MAIZE RELIEF to 14 centres scattered throughout Malawi. This initiative targets only the genuinely needy and vulnerable.

6) Of our 90 + staff, **AQUAID LIFELINE** has ensured that as many "disabled" people as possible have been employed. Among the 15 PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED members of our workforce, are those who are BLIND, DEAF, AMPUTEES, PARTIALLY PARALYSED, AND TOTALLY LAME. We have found these employees to be LOYAL AND HARD WORKING, and have set a number up in business as tailors and tinsmiths, selling their products in our own shop in Lungu Township along with our excess tomatoes and eggs.

7) **AQUAID LIFELINE'S** vision for the future includes the RELIEF of FAMINE through increased food production. As noted in paragraph 1, this has been spectacularly achieved at our orphan village, due to the practices of COMPOSTING AND IRRIGATION. Our aim in the coming year is to SIGNIFICANTLY EXPAND THIS SIMPLE TECHNOLOGY in other needy areas, encouraging SELF-SUFFICIENCY and DIGNITY where at present there is hunger and despair.

8) Without education, young Malawians, however gifted, are consigned to a life without hope. Unfortunately, secondary schooling is not free, and the average £50 per annum school fee is far beyond the means of many rural guardians of orphans. **AQUAID LIFELINE** ORPHAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND is presently paying the school fees of around 700 pupils.

9) GRADUATES OF OUR ORPHAN SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME are offered places on the **AQUAID LIFELINE** VOCATIONAL TRAINING SCHEME. At present 98 young people are enjoying the benefits of this assistance. 17 are studying agriculture and irrigation at the university of Malawi. The others are training as nurses and clinical officers. Some are at teachers training college and others at polytechnic college doing various trade training programmes. This is a significant investment, which involves heavy expenditure, but we consider it to be a vital and effective use of resources.

10) On behalf of the thousands who have benefited from our activities in Malawi since June 1999, the trustees of the **AQUAID LIFELINE** Fund offer grateful thanks to Aquaid UK Ltd; through whose generous support we have been able to achieve so much in such a short time. Contributions have totalled £701,184.70 since the founding of **AQUAID LIFELINE** in June 1999.

In addition, we sincerely thank all those who have supported our work by making unsolicited donations, including companies, churches and kind hearted individuals. All of you have reason to take pride in the wonderful changes that your generosity has brought about in the lives of so many.

*"Where there's despair in life, let us bring hope..." St. Francis of Assisi*



The **AQUAID LIFELINE** Fund offers grateful thanks for continuing magnificent support from **AQUAID 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) 811550

1) Land purchased at NAMISU, near BLANTYRE, MALAWI has been used to build a village for the care of orphans. Facilities for the 80 children who benefit from residential care, and the 320 from day care include healthcare supervised by our resident PAEDIATRIC NURSE, A SPORTS PLAYGROUND, QUALITY PRIMARY SCHOOLING with fine purpose built classrooms and all necessary facilities, and a DEDICATED STAFF OF 15 TEACHERS. CLEAN RUNNING WATER IS PUMPED FROM DEEP BOREHOLES to each residential house by solar power, and an IRRIGATION SYSTEM, powered by both WIND AND SOLAR ENERGY, enables our farm staff to grow sufficient vegetables, tomatoes, bananas etc, for all our needs, as well as producing an excess which is sold to local traders. In addition to fresh vegetables, our children's diet includes FISH, MEAT, EGGS (PRODUCED BY OUR 2000 LAYING HENS), RICE, MAIZE, POTATOES AND FRESH BREAD, baked in our own hand built ovens. Our children greatly enjoy vocational training in skills such as CARPENTRY, METALWORK, BRICKLAYING, AGRICULTURE, KNITTING, SEWING, COOKING, BREAD MAKING ETC.



2) Land gifted by local chiefs at Namarita, near Zomba, has enabled us to build a school where no educational facilities had ever existed. 385 pupils presently enjoy the facilities provided by the 8 classrooms and 14 QUALIFIED STAFF. This quality project which includes extensive SPORTS FACILITIES and a PLAYGROUND has been funded almost entirely by PARTNERS IN PARENTING of Willingham, Cambridgeshire, and provides an extensive vocational training programme, a piggery, a profitable small dried fish industry, a bakery and a chicken project. There is a thriving nursery school where more than 100 children are cared for with the advantages of pre school education, cooked meals and clothing.

3) Land gifted from various chiefs from Malawi's central region down into the southern regions of Chikwawa and Nsanje, has been used to build orphan day care centres. These are staffed by reliable widows who receive training from our experienced staff at Namisu Orphan Village. Each day care centre has a borehole on site, and with the help of staff, the children learn how to FEND FOR THEMSELVES BY GROWING THEIR OWN VEGETABLES. All receive a NUTRITIOUS BALANCED DIET, HEALTHCARE AND CLOTHING, as well as extra curricular education. Each centre is provided with a PLAYGROUND and a SEWING MACHINE, along with ADEQUATE TRAINING in TAILORING SKILLS. At present, Aquaid Lifeline is caring for 638 NEEDY ORPHANS through our day care centres. We are currently building a NEW CENTRE EVERY 6 WEEKS!

4) **AQUAID LIFELINE** INFANT RESCUE PROGRAMME is designed to save the lives of babies orphaned at birth, and includes HEALTHCARE, BABY FOOD, CLOTHING and AIDS TO HYGIENE. 35 BABIES are under our care from Namisu Orphan Village area, and we plan to extend this vital programme to our day care centres.

