



Date: January 19, 2021

## NEWSLETTER Q4-20

Friends of the Beter Malawi Foundation,

First of all, of course, best wishes. That it'll become a year in which wishes can be fulfilled. The Malawians and we certainly have a number of wishes for Malawi, and with small steps we are getting closer to the fulfillment of those wishes, partly thanks to your help.

### Corona-update

With the publication of this newsletter, the numbers are: 6935 registered infections and 196 deaths. Compared to the previous newsletter, that is 'only' 1099 more infections and 15 more deaths. Fortunately, the impact of the virus in Malawi seems to be little. Our contact person Joseph also confirms that it is quiet in 'our' Zomba with Corona infections. Schools have now started again and masks are worn and hands washed more often. Washing hands is slightly different than in Holland, because after all, there's no water from the tap. In Malawi they have large buckets with a tap at the bottom, which they place on a chair. It is a kind of small version of the rain barrel that we know, only in Malawi the water comes in the bucket because someone has taken water from a well and then put it in that big bucket...

### Schoolfees

For this topic we asked the School Fees Committee of Mawa to write about their work. We received a 2 A4 document, which is unfortunately too long for this newsletter. Below is a summary; the full report will be placed on our website as an attachment to this newsletter.

As a Partner of Beter Malawi we also want to contribute to this newsletter today. Our contribution is aimed at education, also known as School Fees Committee. This is a Commission concerned with the welfare of students who are about to drop out of secondary school because they are needy for various reasons such as orphan, poverty, hunger. The Commission is aware that education is an important tool for promoting Malawi's development and is keen to give children in need an opportunity to get an education.

To make this go smoothly, a School Fees Committee was formed in 2013 and currently consists of Hastings Linkwa as Chairman, Clifford Mwanyowa, Rosemary Kalulu, Gerald Saidi and Doreen Mapereka as Committee members with Maliko Gama as an ex-official member.



Hastings Linkwa,  
Chairman School Fees Committee



Rosemary Kalulu,  
Committee member

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A pupil can make himself known to the Commission, but this can also be done by the community or, for example, the single mother. Then home visits are made to determine the seriousness of the situation. The children are then allowed to tell their story for the Commission and share their dreams for the future.

The names of the children who are able to convince the Commission are passed on to Stichting Beter Malawi, together with a letter with the individual requests. When the Beter Malawi Foundation has found a sponsor, the Commission will talk to the pupil and / or the parents / carers to emphasize what a great opportunity they have, but that something in return is expected of them.

The Committee periodically holds consultations in which the school results are discussed about and with the students. These are also fed back to the Beter Malawi Foundation.

The Commission is happy about the cooperation and opportunities for the students.

On behalf of Hastings Linkwa, Chairman of the Mawa School Fees Committee.

### Leading Farmer Project (LFP)

There has been a moment of silence on this subject, but the season has started again with sowing the maize. At Namajoka Primary School, the students are busy with their vegetable garden. It is very important that work is done neatly, plants neatly apart, weeds neatly ... ..And learned young ... ..

They have now used the fertilizer and the first results are looking good!



Within our LFP there are now a few farmers who have started using compost instead of fertilizer. That is really a first. Next time the story of the farmer who dared to do this.

### Project 'Books'

The 'Books' project has shown its first positive effects. We had 80 boxes of English books to be distributed among 4 selected primary schools. In order to 'earn' the books, they have been instructed to organize their current library properly. ISE (International School Eindhoven) has made a video for this with a number of tips. And the result is impressive!

On the left a photo of Namadidi's library. And on the right a photo of a tidy and newly furnished library, in this case of Namajoka Primary School. As far as we are concerned, they are certainly entitled to the books!



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### Classrooms Namajoka Primary School

Wednesday, November 4 was the day. More than 200 children from groups 4 and 5 of the International School Eindhoven were anxiously waiting for the results of the drawing competition. They had been commissioned to design a new logo for the Wilde Ganzen Foundation. In it they had to incorporate elements such as: a goose, something from Malawi, building classrooms, helping others or children playing.

Two teachers from International School Eindhoven (ISE), Lizzy and Mandy, had set up this competition to bring to the attention of the children and parents that the Wilde Ganzen Foundation is doing many good things in Malawi, including support in the construction of 2 new classrooms for Namajoka Primary School.

The board of the Wilde Ganzen Foundation, together with the board of Beter Malawi, had selected 4 winners from the enormous amount of beautiful submissions. Özcan, Lakshan, Aviv and Raju were invited to explain their drawings in front of the class and received a beautiful cuddly goose as a reward for their efforts. For all 9 classes there was also a picture book of "The boy who harnessed the wind" so that they could all feel like winners.



The winning drawing of Group 4, made by Aviv



The winning drawing of Group 5, made by Özcan

### ISE (International School Eindhoven)

ISE had conceived the plan to give 1600 (!) Backpacks to their students which they could then fill at home with useful / fun things for the children in Malawi. They could also put a note in it and tell something about themselves. ISE has asked us to mediate with the transport of the backpacks to Malawi. After some phone calls, the chain was completed: DHL Eindhoven helped us again, this time to bring the ISE backpacks to the sea container. The Harrie van den Brekel Foundation has taken care of part of the transport costs and will ultimately ensure that the container with items will arrive in Malawi in a few months. On the photo Corry and Joan from ISE and Wigo Sleutjes from DHL Eindhoven.



The Better Malawi Team  
Erik, Dick, Marleen en Manon

We can now also be found on instagram!

<https://www.instagram.com/stichtingbetermalawi/?igshid=1sihrj4h6bzkv>