

# AQUAID LIFELINE NEWS

## FROM MALAWI, CENTRAL AFRICA



□ Chipiliro, left, and Precious Kachingwe, photographed at Gomani **Aquaid Lifeline** Home for Children became best friends when they lived as street boys in Blantyre City in the southern region of Malawi, Precious' father died when he was 6 years old, his mother was unable to provide for the family without any support.

Here is his story in his own words, "Due to hunger and lack of clothing I was unable to go to school. I was forced to go into the streets to live, begging, stealing and eating leftovers from bins, I was sleeping in town under the stalls in Blantyre market. One day I met Chipiliro. I became a friend to him but nobody was on our side because we were homeless, we were taken to cells because we were stealing and severely beaten. One day Chipiliro said we should try to go to the social welfare for help. Lucky enough they took us to **Aquaid's** Philip Veale home for children. We were 5 street boys and a girl. I compare life in the street with life at **Aquaid**. I tell you life here at **Aquaid** is good. It has changed my story from street kid to beloved son!"

John Searle writes, "Both these boys are intelligent and well behaved. They have a bright future and have adjusted remarkably well to the family life at our Gomani Centre. The centre was built in the memory of the late Philip Veale at the request of his family, and is funded by members and friends of St Mary's Church, Hitchin, Hertfordshire.



□ Stella Govati is a courageous and remarkable young lady although she comes from a background of extreme poverty. She is presently working as a qualified nurse in the **Aquaid Lifeline** clinic at our village at Namisu, where we care for 500 children. Stella's inspirational account of her education is a testimony to determination and perseverance. Although a gifted scholar her family were unable to pay school fees and she tells how she worked long hours without food in other people's fields during holidays in order to pay her school fees, she was never paid for her hard work and faced the inevitable dismissal from secondary school. On the fateful day, as the names of the unfortunate non payers were called out and those students were dismissed, Stella's name was mysteriously missing from the list. At the end of a tense term, Stella's housemaster, impressed by her potential and ambition, told her that he had applied to **Aquaid Lifeline** Scholarship Fund, and she had been accepted. Despite pressure from relatives to marry, Stella refused, and in 2010 applied to our vocational training scheme for nursing training. She was accepted, worked hard and has now graduated as a qualified nurse. Stella writes, "Thank you **Aquaid Lifeline** because you have made me look the way I look, dress the way I dress, eat the way I am eating. I hope and believe that I will fulfill my ambition which is to be a Hospital Matron or a lecturer in Nursing College".



□ One of hundreds of babies, orphaned at birth regularly brought to our village at Namisu by a desperate relative, usually a grandmother. Formula milk is far beyond the means of most rural Malawian folk, and fatalities among mothers are all too common during childbirth. Without help there would be no hope or future for little Florence, **Aquaid Lifeline** is not only committed to the rescue and care of infants, but our purpose is to provide them with education and vocational training.



□ One of our classrooms with students and teachers from our new Secondary School, at Namaritha, Zomba, opened in September 2013. We are committed to attaining the highest standards in our children's education.



□ John Searle writes: While in Blantyre, I called at a garage for attention to one of our vehicles. The owner recommended Jonas Saoneka to sort out our problem. "My best mechanic" he told us. "Never late, very reliable and a knowledgeable and steady worker". Having done the job while we waited, Jonas asked me why I hadn't recognised him, "I was one of your first students" he told me. "You paid my school fees as an orphan, and then paid for my training. Jonas is helping to support his family and is engaged to be married in August this year. "Life," he says, "is good!".

### □ AT THE END OF THE DAY!

Two of our handicapped tailors, Solomon, left, and Johnny Jackson, set off for home on the hand-pedalled tricycles which **Aquaid Lifeline** have provided for many disabled folk. There are five handicapped staff in the tailors' shop which is known as "The Happy House"!

**Aquaid Lifeline** has employed more than 20 handicapped men and women



□ Above: Esnat Malango, one of the students who have benefitted from **Aquaid Lifeline**. Esnat writes "I strongly believe that without **Aquaid** my life could have been completely miserable until I died! but **Aquaid** brought hope by bringing education to me and providing me with food, clothing and all the essentials necessary for my survival. **Aquaid** has supported me through Primary and Secondary Schools and College and I have graduated as a qualified teacher. I don't know what I could've done without **Aquaid Lifeline**. I am a living witness of what **Aquaid** has done for the lives of so many hopeless children and I believe that being a teacher is not the end of my education, and that one day I will be the holder of a degree!

John Searle's note: "This testimonial was totally unsolicited, and handed to me on 14th Feb 2014 by Esnat at our centre in Mwanza, where she is currently teaching our children"



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