



The latest news from Temwa

- SIFT Media Tree Project • Film Project • AIDS Action Clubs
- Repeat VCT Funding • Wetlands Project • Temwa NGO Registration

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Malawi update

Wow! What a Donation!

Christmas brought more good tidings than even our wildest dreams could have conjured. After reading an article about Temwa in Folio Magazine, a local businessman got in touch with us and – following an initial meeting - decided to make an incredibly generous donation to Temwa. Much as we would like to thank them publicly, our donor is determined to remain anonymous - which just goes to show what a selfless act of huge generosity this was.

The funds have already arrived and have been transferred to Temwa Malawi, where they are already making huge waves in our ongoing work. The donation is being used to fund a large Farmer Training Support project as well as the purchase of a boat, a staff car and part of the purchase of a more reliable 4x4 vehicle which have all now been purchased and are making the work of our staff in Malawi a large degree easier and safer.

The Farmer Training Support project is now in its initial stages and its objective is to alleviate poverty by improving the income and food security status of vulnerable households. It will do this through training in sustainable farming

methods. Its beneficiaries receive training in water conservation, soil fertility, pest & disease control, organic growing techniques and agri-business (producing crops to sell and how to market them). By the end of the project it is estimated that over 800 households will have the capacity to apply such techniques in food production. 15 schools will also receive this training.

The difference this money will make to countless people's lives in Usisya is limitless and we are extremely humbled by this infinitely magnanimous act.



Temwa's new boat is launched

Temwa Registered as an NGO in Malawi

Temwa are very pleased to announce that they have recently been registered as an official NGO in Malawi with the Association of Trustees.

Although we were legally able to operate before this official registration came through we are delighted that we are now recognised by the Association of Trustees too. Tonderai Manoto, our Programme Manager in Malawi, has been working hard on this for many months and we would like to congratulate him on his success.

Official registration has several big advantages. In Tonderai's own words, "Temwa can now tap into local talent by having a Malawian board of trustees. These will provide much needed guidance and expertise, working as a sounding board for ideas and solutions to development problems. It also puts Temwa in a much better position to tap into all available local funding in Malawi."

As many NGOs in Malawi rely almost solely on in-country funding, we are very excited by the possibilities this will open up for Temwa's future fundraising and project scope.

'Protecting The Next Generation' Film Project

The pre-production stage of our collaborative film project involving Temwa, Purple Field Productions (PFP) and Malawi-based Youth Net & Counselling (YONECO), is now complete. Filmed last June in Zomba, Malawi, it is titled 'Mawa Langa' (My Tomorrow) and is aimed at 5 to 12 year olds. The film hopes to teach these children ways in which they can protect themselves from contracting HIV.

The finished film has been sent to the Malawi Censorship Board and has recently received approval. The next step is to get the DVDs manufactured with the hope that the first batch can be air freighted to Malawi sometime during April.

Malawi and UK film premieres are currently being arranged for the end of April or early May, with the UK premiere

planned to take place in Bristol.

YONECO & Temwa will both arrange distribution of the film throughout Malawi. 3,000 copies will be distributed nationally to schools, youth groups, NGOs and community groups over a 12 month period beginning in April. The target we have set is to directly reach at least 70,000 young people by December 2011.

SIFT Media Tree Project Underway

A new community tree project has recently been started, using funds raised at the SIFT Media - Software Satisfaction Awards last year.

Continuing the work of our last community forestry project, this exciting project involves: the establishment of a community tree nursery; the training of local people in the growing and care of trees; the distribution of trees, and the educating of the whole community as to the importance of trees.



Nyambe and Benson in the tree nursery

Deforestation is a major problem in Usisya. The loss of ground cover causes disasters such as increased flooding, excessive winds and soil erosion – all of which contribute to increasingly low crop yields and general environmental degradation.

In November, due to the fast oncoming wet season, Temwa staff were busy establishing a tree nursery at the Usisya Community Centre with the initial growing of 3,000 seedlings. Three months later and the nursery now has 12 growing beds and over 9,000 tree seedlings.

To speed things along, several varieties of fast growing trees have been planted, including native forest species, fruit trees, fast growing species for fuel wood and other agroforestry species. The distribution and planting of these saplings throughout the local communities

has begun. Thus far, over 1,500 trees have been given to local farmers, four local primary schools and the Usisya Community Day Secondary School. The remaining seedlings are to be distributed throughout the Usisya region over the coming months.

We are also very pleased to have taken on a new member of staff to look after and run the nursery. Fostina has been a longstanding supporter of Temwa and we would like to welcome her to the Temwa team.



Distributing trees to a local school

Wetlands Utilization Project Update

This year-long project begun in October. The overall objective is to utilize wetland areas for agriculture in order to alleviate the poverty of vulnerable households.

Since its conception the project has grown and now includes a total of 198 participating farmers (100 in the original proposal). The project was made possible through generous grants from the LUSH Charity Pot and another anonymous donor.

16 community awareness and mobilization meetings took place in October and November in the two areas in which the project will take

place. The meetings were very well attended, attracting a total of 324 people.



A field facilitator with a farmers maize crop

The beneficiaries were then chosen by Temwa and given 2.5kg of both maize and bean seed. These seeds will be grown on their existing plots during the wet season for the purpose of stockpiling seed for the dry growing season and establishing a rotating seed bank to protect farmers against a lack of seed as a result of possible poor yields in the future.

Training begins this month and beneficiaries will then be provided with their full vegetable seed allowances in April, to start growing during the dry season on their wetland plots - thus providing them with a steady supply of food throughout the year.

AIDS Action Clubs in Schools Repeat VCT Funding

Community sensitisation meetings have recently been undertaken, marking the start of a new project to tackle the spread of HIV & AIDS. This project is going to involve setting up AIDS Action Clubs in primary and secondary schools to allow children to take centre stage in the fight against HIV & AIDS. The intervention will also seek to empower all adolescents to take charge of their sexual and reproductive health by equipping them with the requisite knowledge, attitudes and practices which will see them leading safer lives.

Each school will organise students into a voluntary AIDS Action Club, which will undertake several activities to help fight HIV & AIDS. The objective is to get 30 clubs up and running: 25 in primary schools and 5 in secondary schools.

There will also be an income generation element, with 30 projects initiated to help vulnerable children coping with the effects of HIV & AIDS. These projects will help pay for school fees and buy school uniform and materials for 300 vulnerable children.

We are delighted to announce that the TJ Meyer Family Foundation has given Temwa a repeat grant to continue the HIV & AIDS projects that began in April 2009 for another year.

The phase II mobile VCT project aims to test a minimum of 3,000 individuals in 20 locations throughout Nkhata Bay North. The project will also include nine mobile HIV & AIDS video shows across this region to help spread awareness and reduce the stigma against those diagnosed with HIV & AIDS.

UK update

Temwa LUSH Charity Pots

Temwa are extremely excited to announce that their own brand of LUSH Charity Pots have recently hit the shelves of all the 93 LUSH stores across the UK. This is particularly exciting not only because of the national exposure that Temwa will gain but because the sale of the pots will fund the grant that LUSH recently awarded to Temwa to part fund an agricultural project. Head on down to your local LUSH store to get your hands on one.



2010 Marathons

After a superb 2009 marathon season, Temwa are now looking for runners for the upcoming 2010 events. We will be securing places in all the same events for 2010 with the schedule being the Bristol 10K on Sunday 9th May, the Bristol Half Marathon on Sunday 5th September and the Cardiff Half Marathon on Sunday 17th October. If you are interested in taking part in any of these runs please contact sally@temwa.org.uk for entry forms and information.

Temwa Fundraising

- **Temwa & Lake of Stars 'Party For Malawi'** – Our first ever joint fundraiser with the Lake of Stars festival crew took place at Basement 45 on November 21st. The all star line up included Nihal (Radio 1), Ross Allen, Kool Money Kwame, Mr Lingo, Arsequake and Dubious. Many thanks to The Blast and Funk From The Trunk crews that helped out organising this event as well as to all the artists and to Basement 45 for waiving the hire fee.
- **Sponsored Climb** – Undercover Rock climbing centre hosted Temwa's first sponsored climb on November 27th where 38 intrepid climbers were attempting to climb the vertical height of Mount Everest (8,848m). Well, they not only achieved this but they absolutely smashed it and climbed over 12,000m! Many thanks to all the climbers that took part in this and especially to all the staff at Undercover Rock that helped out.
- **Go Go Fandango** – December 4th saw the latest and greatest in our series of Go Go Fandango cabaret events. The event featured The Zen Hussies, Little Stampede, Mr Benn & Souls Liberation, DJ Ned, Dubrovnik (DJ Set), Funk From The Trunk DJs, The Red Hot Frilly Kickers, Mancan, The Corsettes, Captain Grimace, Harry Hornsey and was hosted by Little Tom from Babyhead. A massive thanks goes out to all the artists and an especially large thank you goes to Mair for organising the lion's share of the evening.
- **Big Chill Bar** – There have been several events here over the past months including 'I Spit On Your Rave' Halloween Zombie Party on 31st October, Monster Piece event on 13th Nov, the Monster Piece Christmas Party on 18th December and another Monster Piece event on 15th Jan. A gigantic thanks goes out to our ever faithful DJs, The Wise Guys and The Disco Two, for donating their fees to Temwa.
- **'A Night of Comedy in Aid of Malawi'** – On Sunday January 17th we had a star studded line up at our first Bristol comedy night in a long time. Taking place in new upstairs room at Bristol's The Lanes retro bowling alley that was very kindly donated, the line up included Bristol's Mark Olver, Toby Longworth, TV's Ben Norris and Edinburgh Award Winner Dan Antopolski. A side splitting evening was had by all and a huge thanks goes out to all the comedians who performed for free for the event.
- **Folk, Tales and Magic** – Another first over the last few months was our recent 'Folk Tales and Magic' event at The Folk House on January 22nd. This was the first event of its kind that we have organised and it was a roaring success. Temwa would like to wholeheartedly thank all the wonderful artists that played including Rachael Dadd, Stanton Delaplaine, Jess Lewin, Spindrift, Kieron The Mighty, Émigré, Roving Blades and the compere and storyteller Martin Maudsley. A whopping great thanks goes out to Graham for organising the event, Bryony for painting the amazing flyer and all the volunteers that helped on the night.
- **The Kappa Circus** – Our friends at Blowpop organised us a great fundraiser at The Thekla on January 29th called 'The Kappa Circus'. It was a night in honour of our nations favourite chav heroes and included tracksuited performances from The Cuban Brothers, Dub Mafia, Rinky Dinks, DJ Smerin & Yoshi, Minster Craig, Hero 73, Stereo 8, Real Nice, Ben Parker & Kasparov, Anil & Ned (Duvet Vous) and Dr Moody. Thanks to everyone involved, especially Blowpop, for doing all the work.

Thank You's

- Mrs Rogers and her merry knitters
- Mrs Williamson for her generous donation
- Yvonne and Mike Fortey for their Christmas donation
- Jean and Simon Evans for their Christmas donation
- Jean and Mike Burgess for their Christmas donation
- Vicky Lidiard for donating the proceeds from her open house event
- Steve Maxwell for his invaluable ongoing excel support
- Phil Stringer and Roger Harlow for help with DVD duplication
- Rosie Johnston for creating a Christmas design
- Richard Jacob of Driveline
- Jane Lanciault for selling teddies
- Cas B Whetham for her generous donation
- Lorraine Palmer for her generous schools donation
- Polly and Phil Harvey for donations instead of getting wedding presents
- Charlotte McLeod for donations rather than getting birthday presents
- Temwa climbers for all their hard work climbing Everest!
- All our dedicated Bath Half Marathon runners

An interview with... **Anderson Mlinda**

...a beneficiary of several Temwa projects in Usisya, Malawi

1) Which Temwa project were you a participant in?

Among Temwa's projects, I have been participating in several HIV & AIDS projects and have benefitted from Horticulture, Wetland/Dambo Utilisation and the Agriculture Training Centre.

2) In detail, what did you learn during the project?

i) **HIV/AIDS** - I was trained as a Home Based Care giver. During this training, since I am living with HIV, I gained skills on how to take care of myself, my family members and other chronically ill patients without infecting other people. I was also oriented on how to administer basic home based care.

ii) **Horticulture** - Acquired basic skills and techniques in vegetable production like procedures to follow in controlling soil erosion, making vegetable beds that fever all seasons, methods of sowing seeds on a nursery bed, spacing of different vegetables, compost manure making, pest and disease control using natural pesticides, running a successful agribusiness and establishment of seed banks just to mention a few.

iii) **Wetland** - During the distribution of seeds, we were oriented on how to optimise maize and beans production. We were asked to use compost manure rather than chemical fertilizers which are expensive to buy. They also destroy soil texture and its chemical composition.

3) How has the project benefited you and your family?

Getting involved in all the three projects, it gave me courage and assurance that I can become self dependant in growing vegetables and make food as well as money to help myself and my family. For example, after attending an 11 day course in horticulture, particularly vegetable production, I established my own kitchen garden which was the starting point to test my capability in running a vegetable garden of my own. I produced a lot of surplus tomatoes, leafy vegetables which I was selling to the community and made a good chunk of money which I was using to cover basic needs for my family. I also own a fishing net that I bought using the same money I realized from vegetable sales from the kitchen garden.

I have been so fortunate that this year Temwa offered me beans and maize seeds, through Wetland Utilisation project. I have a lot of maize and some beans in my field which gives me hope that this year I will have enough maize and beans in my family. I have already started very delicious vegetable dish from bean leave. This will definitely improve my

family nutritional status.

The Home Based Care givers' training also helps me a lot since I know how I can handle myself and my entire family despite being HIV positive. When I or one of my family members or even my neighbour gets sick or is involved in accident, I know what preventive steps to follow before reaching a clinic.

4) How do you think the project has benefited the community?

Now when you walk around especially during the dry season, many families have vegetable gardens at their backyards. This is because they admire us and we are able to share the skills with them. In addition to this many people were coming to buy vegetables from me but now many people are realising that there is money in vegetable production. Furthermore, Usisya as a community we have now started breaking the syndrome of saying vegetables do not do well in Usisya since the soil is sandy. But now many people are having vegetables behind their houses.

5) Which parts of the project did you enjoy most?

To be honest, I was doubtful during the trainings that the materials we were being trained on, were going to work for me as I am living with the virus. However, when I started realizing the benefits from selling my produce from the garden, that was when I started to enjoy the horticulture project. Despite the fact that the community was discriminating me because I am HIV positive, I became famous because of the home based care service I was offering besides vegetables I was producing and many people were coming to me to buy vegetables while others were seeking skills from me so that they can also use the very skills in their gardens. This made me feel happy and humbled since I was feeling like the people's syndrome of discriminating against me is becoming reduced.

6) Are there any other Temwa projects that you would like to see in Usisya?

As a community member of Usisya, I would like Temwa to start embarking of the following projects:

- Soft loans
- Water sanitation around Usisya
- Small juice industries



Temwa's Agricultural Training Centre



Anderson and his wife and children



An HIV & AIDS support group meeting