

The latest news from Temwenani

- Tailoring course ● Employee update ● HIV/AIDS update
- Monster Piece ● Christmas cards ● UK update

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Registered Charity No.1101090

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Malawi update

The tailoring course has now been completed, with nine of the students passing and three students initially failing. However, the students that failed were given a second chance to pass the course by completing an assessment, which was overseen by students that had already successfully completed the course. All three went on to pass the course, which gave Temwenani's second skills development initiative (SDI) a 100 per cent pass rate.

The graduation for the tailoring course took place on the 22nd December and was attended by one family member for each student, the Temwenani Committee, Arthur and Jenga from TEVET, all the chiefs, and a guest speaker, who was the Chairman from the ADC (Action Development Committee). Other speeches were made by the Chairman of the Temwenani Committee, Arthur, one of the participants and Rebecca. On completion of the course, each student was given a starter pack, which consisted of two big



pieces of fabric, an iron, a tape measure, a pair of scissors, ribbon, elastic, oil to maintain sewing machines, buttons, needles and thread. The students had to pay a deposit of 500MK for a sewing machine.

The newly trained tailors are hoping to work alongside the ADC to form a tailoring group and perhaps get a stall set up in Usisya market. We look forward to keeping you updated with their progress.

Employee update

Temwenani has been very fortunate to have had a volunteer on board in Malawi called Christina Brakebill. From the USA, she has worked in the Peace Corps, has invaluable experience in the health sector and has specialized in monitoring and evaluation. She has been working extremely hard, helping with the day-to-day running of Temwenani, but mainly focusing on sensitisation in Usisya. This involves regular village meetings, within which she gains an understanding of the community's views on Temwenani. From this research, Christina has reported that the people of Usisya are praising Temwenani and are happy with the development it has and continues to bring. We are sad to announce that Christina will be leaving after helping Temwenani for three months. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work.

We are also currently in the process of looking for an Assistant Project Manager in Malawi. Advertisements were put up in the local area announcing the position. A shortlist of candidates was then put together and they were invited to an interview on the 10th February. The successful candidate will be announced shortly and we hope they will start work in Usisya by mid March.

Rebecca will also be leaving her role as Project Manager at the beginning of July and we are currently looking for her replacement. We are looking, ideally, for someone with a diploma, degree or masters in Development Studies and has experience working with NGOs/charities in Africa. We will keep you posted on these appointments.



Successful graduates from the tailoring course



Rebecca and Jenga – the tailoring trainer

Thank yous

● **Martin Collins from CVS** in

Leicestershire has kindly donated a truck. He is custom building the four-wheel drive truck and has arranged to have the body donated by MFI. Martin has also agreed to donate half of the cost for shipping the truck out to Malawi (£4,000) Not only that, he has also agreed to personally fly out to Tanzania, where the truck will be shipped, and drive it to Usisya himself. Very generous and very kind!

● **Joanne McGarry** for the benefit night held in Ireland, she raised a fantastic £775

● Everyone that came to **Down Time** — the Monster Piece night held at the **Park Bar** on the 1st December: £450 was raised; another was held on the 3rd February and £300 was raised. Thanks to **James** and **Ben** from the Park Bar for organising the sponsorship for these events. They have also donated £100 to Temwenani from the bar takings

● All those who attended the **Quiz Night at Bar Excellence**, the next one will be in March

● The girls of **Chatham Grammar School** for raising £337

● **Halloween night at Sukoshi** that raised £600

● **Stretham House School** for their donation from the cake sale

Christmas cards

Thank you to **Clare Smith** and **Rupert Boyle** who together organised the Temwenani Christmas cards. Rupert arranged for the artwork to be designed by Bristol's **TCF Crew**. The five designs were created by graffiti artists AJI, SEZA, EKO, XENZ and ZIML. Clare then arranged the printing of the cards. This was done by **Mark Davis at Colourworks**. She then purchased envelopes and got the cards packed in groups of five.

The cards were sold in **Eat the Beat, Replay Records, Alterior, 50/50, Mack Daddys, Osiris, Cooshti, Road-BS8 and DNA as well as to family and friends**. They were extremely successful and the total raised from their sale is currently standing at over £700. Temwenani would like to say a massive thank you to all those involved with this venture.

HIV/AIDS update

Temwenani has received the funding from the National AIDS Commission that was announced in the last newsletter. The grant is an estimated £7,600 and will be spent on a highly recommended programme called Stepping Stones.

This programme will involve people from Usisya being trained as facilitators, with drama and theatre workshops being shown around villages, portraying the story of HIV/AIDS, and promoting awareness and prevention of the virus.

Temwenani hopes the outcome of the programme will encourage people in Usisya to be tested for HIV/AIDS and then, in turn, receive counselling and encouragement to live a longer, healthier life. All the work done with Stepping Stones will be monitored and evaluated to ensure Temwenani has accurate records and evidence to prove the programme is making a difference.

UK update

We held a number of events at the beginning of 2005, including another very successful Monster Piece night at the Thekla on 28th January: £1,618 was raised. Thanks to all those who were involved in making the night such a success. A fancy-dress Halloween night was also held back in November. A big thank you to all the folk that made such an effort with their costumes (see pics below) and also those that carved some impressive pumpkins that decorated the venue! An equally impressive £600 was collected on the night.

Temwenani's donor base is gradually increasing and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved. We wish you all a prosperous and happy new year!

