



NEWSLETTER

August 2017

FASHION SHOW 2017

On Friday 19th May 2017 on a typical rainy evening in Killearn Kirk Halls, Killearn Malawi Group hosted a Fashion Show in collaboration with M & Co.'s Milngavie branch. Despite the atmosphere outside, the hall was alive with anticipation for the exciting night ahead.

With a short introduction on the aim of the event, our local celebrity, Pamela Maxwell compered the show with a humorous and entertaining take on events. Our glamorous, hand selected models from Killearn and Balfron bravely paraded their stunning outfits, a casual followed by a formal outfit, to an enthusiastic and appreciative audience. Matching accessories were worn to highlight their chosen outfit. A huge thank you must go to Elizabeth Simpson, Doreen Snadden, Nancy Bates, Pat Dickie and Eva Mailer for taking to the catwalk with great style that wouldn't go amiss in Paris or Milan.

The evening continued with wine flowing, as was the chat. Everybody appeared to be having an excellent evening, filled with laughter and enjoyment. Thanks to Lesley Svenson and Peggy Brown for bringing light to the foyer with their wonderful stalls.

A full raffle brought the evening to an end with fabulous raffle prizes. Thanks to everyone who donated so generously with special thanks to The Old Mill, The Three Sisters Bake, Kerr at the Aizle Gym, Laura Bruce (Beautician), David MacDonald (Butcher Drymen) and Endrick Blooms.

A massive THANK YOU must go to all the staff at

M&Co.
Milngavie
for their
continuous
support be-
fore and on
the evening.



A grand total of... £1174.43 was raised and will help fund projects in Malawi, including support for a women's craft group, and buying chairs and desks for a secondary school.

The KMG Committee is very grateful to Shona Kelday and Helen Mailer who put in a huge amount of work to organise this successful event.



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KMG WEBSITE and LOGO

The Killearn Malawi Group now has a website:
www.killearnmalawigroup.org .

The website has been designed and constructed for us by George Hope Chidziwisano, who is a PhD research student at Michigan State University in USA. He and some graduate colleagues from Chancellor College, University of Malawi, have set up a webhosting company, Netsoft Malawi, which has generously offered their services to KMG for free, with a year's hosting. We are very grateful for this generous gift, and we are also very happy to be supported by a new Malawian company.

Please copy and paste the address to access the website, and take some time to explore it. We would be grateful for feedback on the website and logo.

Please send any comments to:

info@killearnmalawigroup.org

**Date for your diary:
AGM
THURSDAY
5TH OCTOBER
KILLEARN KIRK HALL
7.30pm**

**Refreshments
Followed by a talk by
Ms Margaret Colvin, of Drymen
Dental Practice, about the visit in
September of Drymen Dentists to
Northern Malawi, with the charity
Smileawi.**

SPONSOR A PRIZE:KILLEARN-REGSON SCHOLARSHIPS



Scholarship winners with Ken Allen, Kondwani Chidziwisano and Mr Tsamkhwimbi, the Head Teacher

Last year, 6 scholarships were awarded to successful students in Forms 2, 3 and 4 at Nkhande Day Secondary School. The prizes consisted of the payment of school fees, and items to help the students, including solar lamps to help them study. A boy and a girl were awarded the prize in each of the years, to pay for the next year's fees.

Ken Allen met most of the students when he visited the school last September. He interviewed one of the students, Gombeza, who said that he would not have been able to continue his studies without the scholarship, because his parents did not have the money to pay them. Gombeza is highly regarded in the school, where he is the Head Boy.

The shocking thing for us is that the fees for a Community Secondary School are only MKW8000 per term, MKW 24000 per year, or less than £27, (There are about 900 Malawi Kwacha MKW to the Pound) Yet these fees are either beyond some of the students' families, or are a major struggle to find.

The KMG Committee would like to continue these scholarships, in conjunction with Mr Tsamkhwimbi, the Head-teacher, and Kondwani and Victor Chidziwisano, who come from the area. The prizes will be awarded by the staff of the school, according to their criteria for judging the most successful students. This year we hope to identify 2 students coming from Primary School into Form 1, from the qualifying exam results. The intake for each year is 50, equally boys and girls. This would mean awarding 8 Scholarships in total.

£30 would fund one scholarship for a year, and would allow the purchase of some basic school materials, like pens and pencils.

If you would like to sponsor a Killearn-Regson Scholarship, please contact any of the committee, email us at: info@killearnmalawigroup.org or phone Ken Allen at 01360 550415.



Gombeza
the Head Boy