

## NEWSLETTER



S4 students at Nkhande Community Day Secondary School

### NKHANDE SECONDARY SCHOOL

Nkhande Community Day Secondary School is the most southerly Secondary School in Malawi. It is very poorly equipped. There are only four classrooms, in two blocks for the 200 students, and an office block for the Head Teacher and staff. There are very few books. There is no electricity or water—there are dry toilets. There are not even proper desks. Community Secondary Schools are built and maintained by local communities, but staff are employed and paid by the government, which also provides a budget. Pupils pay fees of about £15 per year, but even that is beyond many families.

When Ken Allen visited the school in September 2016, he discussed possible projects with the HT, Mr Tsamkhwimbi. The lack of a Science lab, Library and Computing facilities has prompted the KMG Committee to agree to finance a new block to be built in partnership with the Community Committee, overseen by Kondwani and Victor Chidziwisano. We are drawing up a Memorandum of Understanding with them. We are also investigating the possibility of installing a small solar power scheme.

Another priority for the HT is a girls' hostel, because the girls who come from a distance and are boarding near the school are at serious risk, and many drop out.



Assembly before!



Prototype new desk

MARCH 2017

## JUMBLE SALE 11th MARCH 2017

Killearn Kirk Hall

Friday 10th March:

Hall open for contributions from 6-8pm

Saturday 11th March : 10am—12am

The annual Jumble Sale in aid of our projects in Malawi will take place in the Kirk Hall, Killearn on Saturday 11th March, from 10-12am.

Entrance: £1

Contributions for the sale will be gratefully accepted at the Kirk Hall only on Friday evening 10th March, from 6-8pm.



We can only accept the following items:

Books, CDs, DVDs, Bric-a-brac, Clothes, Shoes, Linen, Toys.

**NO ELECTRICAL OR BULKY ITEMS CAN BE ACCEPTED, because of limited space in the hall.**

Enquiries to: Jenifer Barrett (01360 550508)

Items not sold will go to another charity and will thus be recycled.

### NEW DESKS for NKHANDE



Assembly with new chairs!

Ken Allen delivered 60 chairs for the students at Nkande School, bought by KMG and sourced by Kondwani and Victor Chidziwisano. They have also employed a welder in

Blantyre, the largest city in Malawi, to make durable metal desks for the school. The KMG Committee has now ordered 30 of these double desks which should be ready in a few weeks to be transported down to the school. We think that it is important to source articles locally wherever possible.

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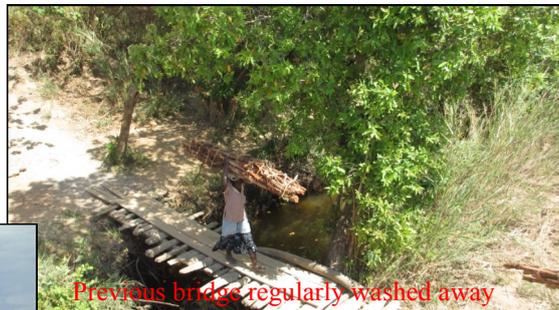
### SHONGA BRIDGE OPENED



Shonga Bridge, which has been built by the Raven Trust with a substantial contribution from the Killearn Malawi Group, was opened in December. Below is the announcement on the Raven Trust website:

‘There was great rejoicing at the official opening of the new Shonga Bridge. The people of the area will now have year round access to health and education services and to markets. Before the bridge was built the villagers were cut off from these services as, in the rainy season, the whole area floods and the old bridge is submerged to a depth of 6 feet. To cross the flooded river safely, the new walkway bridge has been built some 9 feet above the old bridge level. The length of the bridge is 130 feet and was designed by Prof Alan McGown.’

The previous bridges were regularly washed away every rainy season.



The massive task of planning and organising the building of the bridge was the final work of John Challis OBE before his retirement from the Raven Trust.



### NEWS FROM KMG COMMITTEE

We are pleased that Shona Kelday, one of the Trustees, has agreed to take on the post of Secretary.

Sue Beck, Treasurer, and Ken Allen, Chairperson, recently attended seminars at The Gathering, in the SECC in Glasgow. This is the largest event in the UK for Third Sector Organisations, is held over two days, and is very busy. Sue and Ken managed to book into talks concerning Charity’s Financial regulations and the role of the Treasurer and Trustees. There were also many charity exhibitors.

**Contributions to the work of KMG can be made at:**

[www.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/)  
**and enter Killearn Malawi Group in the Find Charity box.**

**Contact KMG at:**

[killearnmalawigroup@gmail.com](mailto:killearnmalawigroup@gmail.com)

KMG is a member of the Scotland-Malawi Partnership, which is an umbrella organisation for individuals and charities which are involved in Malawi. Its website is:

[www.scotland-malawipartnership.org/](http://www.scotland-malawipartnership.org/)

### KILLEARN 10KM RACE—SPONSORSHIP

If you are considering taking part in the Killearn 10km Race on Saturday 3rd June, you may consider making the Killearn Malawi Group your sponsored charity. Or you may know someone who is competing and would be willing to do this. If interested, please contact Ken Allen at 01360 550415