

# Smile Malawi



## NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2014 – 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

Smile Malawi was registered as a charity in the UK in November 2004 and we are celebrating some of the successes of the organisation over the last ten years as well as reporting on latest developments after founder Elspeth's recent visit in September. The original orphanage building was finished in 2006 and the photo below shows the first 11 children after they had settled in. By this time we were also registered as an NGO in Malawi - a massive success in itself!



Now there are 39 children, all rescued from a life of destitution, as well as 21 staff from the local villages who have an income and a better standard of living.



Our children are growing up fast and many of the original ones are now doing well at secondary school. This year saw Natasha also off to Government Boarding Secondary school - a huge achievement for her.



Congratulations also go to Gift who passed to a local Government

secondary school after he achieved position 39 out of 142 in his year 8.



Looking back to 2009, Elijah's life was saved after we arranged for surgery at the Maputo Heart Institute in Mozambique, through Dr Beatriz Ferreira and 'Chain of Hope'.



Elijah is now 16 and in his last year of school. Here he is looking very healthy (he's the tallest one) with his sister Funny, when they were reunited last week with their 3 brothers who live at SOS Children's Village in Malawi. Eight year old Julius had never met Elijah as he was only a baby when the family was split up, after their mother passed away in 2007. They all had a wonderful time together and we will arrange regular visits from now on.



With a growing family to feed, we are always looking at different ways of cooking and we recently took delivery of a new type of outdoor oven, which uses a small amount of firewood and cooks lovely bread and sweet buns. 17year old Caroline is in charge as she

loves baking at weekends and is keen to develop the idea into a small business with potential for the future.



Our new children have settled really well and Wilson is fully recovered from his illness in March. Chisomo and Happiness smile all the time and loved colouring and reading with Elspeth's friend Margaret, who also visited with her husband Mike, in September. 6 year old Carolin started school as well.



Finally we all went to the wedding of our gardener Patrick. He looked very smart, his wife was beautiful and the whole village had a wonderful time.

