

# HIGH FIVE CLUB

changing lives in Africa, £5 at a time

## High Five Club Gifted Pupil Sponsorship, Zambia

As school fees are payable for attending secondary school in Zambia, many children living in poor, rural communities leave education after primary school. This is especially true for girls. There are also few secondary schools in rural areas, and even fewer that deliver a quality education. Those families that are willing and able have to therefore struggle to raise the funds to send their most gifted children to a government boarding school, many miles away from home.

During 2017, we have been privileged to continue our sponsorship for the fifth consecutive year of the very gifted and future wildlife conservation star, **Felistus Chikumba**, who lives in Zambia's Luangwa Valley. Due to her outstanding academic performance, Felistus won a place at the best state boarding school in Zambia - **Katete Girls Boarding School**. Without High Five Club's support Felistus would not have been able to take up this opportunity, as her family live in extreme poverty.



Felistus has just sat her final Grade 12 exams - we are awaiting her results with great expectation! This means that this gifted girl has now completed her secondary education. Depending on her results, she may be offered a bursary to continue her studies at the University of Zambia in a year's time. She will also submit an application for a scholarship to attend Pestalozzi in Hastings in the UK. Pestalozzi is a tertiary education establishment that has been evolving for over 50 years, enabling young people in social or financial need to develop their full potential, building opportunities and instigating long term improvements in their home communities. See [www.pestalozzi.org.uk/](http://www.pestalozzi.org.uk/) It would be wonderful to see Felistus continuing her education either in Zambia or the UK. We are extremely excited about her future prospects now she has finished school and to see her become a conservation hero of the future.

Through High Five Club sponsorship Felistus's school, examination and boarding fees were paid again in full throughout 2017 and she has also received:

*School bag, 2 sets of school uniform, socks, leather school shoes, 10 exercise books, maths set, scientific calculator, pencils, pens, ruler, transport money and grocery money.*

Thank you so much for all your continued support which has enabled Felistus to complete her secondary education which she would otherwise have been unlikely to have been able to do. You have made a real difference to her life.

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Also in 2017 we have joined hands together to help fund a place at **Evelyn Hone College** in Lusaka for a very talented young Zambian artist from the Luangwa Valley called **Malafian Chimungu**. Manny has known Malafian for many years and several High Fivers have met him when on field trips to Zambia with us.

Malafian is 22 years old, has 3 sisters and 3 brothers all at school and a younger brother who is studying to be a wildlife vet. His parents are both subsistence farmers. Malafian's parents live apart from their children, who stay in the Luangwa Valley for education purposes, to enable their father to earn a little income for the family through piece work (when it is available) as a carpenter at a local health clinic in the Copperbelt.



Malafian realised his ambition this year of being accepted to study for a Diploma in Art and English. His ambition is to undertake a Degree in Sculpture and become an art teacher to inspire other children back in the Luangwa Valley to become artists. Malafian specialises in making wildlife sculptures out of confiscated snare wire. He donates 20% of the sales of his Snare Art to

Conservation South Luangwa, a Zambian conservation charity that conducts anti-poaching and de-snaring work in and around South Luangwa National Park. See <http://cslzambia.org>. The balance he uses to part-fund his studies and those of his siblings, as his parents are not in a position to do this.

We have joined hands with an American man called Henry and one of the High Fivers, Pam Lawrence, who has met Malafian and sees great potential in him, to together sponsor his studies at Evelyn Hone College. This support covers his course and exam fees, his accommodation and groceries whilst at college, along with his text books and art supplies, etc. Malafian is also contributing from the income he earns from selling his snare art.

**H5C Support:** Felistus's school sponsorship in 2017 totalled £700 and Malafian's contribution from the High Five Club was £493 (6,000 ZK) for the year. This is efficiently and compassionately managed by our long-term partner in Zambia, the **Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust** [www.chipembele.org](http://www.chipembele.org), a charitable organisation that focuses on conservation education for local school children in the area of South Luangwa National Park.

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