

# HIGH FIVE CLUB

changing lives in Africa, £5 at a time

## Children's Feeding & Conservation Programme, Malawi



### Background

As one of the poorest countries in the world many Malawians struggle to meet even their most basic of daily needs, including access to nutritious food. Of about two million people currently hungry in Malawi, children, the elderly, and those living with HIV/AIDS, are amongst the hardest hit – with many young children orphaned or vulnerable due to the AIDS epidemic and suffering from severe acute malnutrition. This not only effects the most vulnerable of people in Malawi but

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has a significant knock on effect to wildlife, which is poached and their habitat destroyed in people's desperate attempts to survive.

Since 2013 we have partnered with an inspiring young Malawian called Brown Munthali to support him in his mission to uplift the community where he lives. Brown and his wife have dedicated their lives on a voluntary basis (which is rare in Africa) to try to help alleviate poverty in the community they are part of in the north of Malawi through a community self-help group they have set up called **Happy Faith Based Organisation**.

Along with spearheading several self-help initiatives in his community Brown and his wife have opened up their humble village home to care for and educate 30 orphaned children, all of whom have lost their parents (both parents or one) by the AIDS epidemic. Without their care, these children would be on the streets or placed with extended family members where drink and *chamba* (marijuana) abuse is known to be an issue, along with increased vulnerability to sexual abuse and being kept away from school to do work around the house or in the fields.



As one of the biggest challenges Brown faces is feeding these children, High Five Club members began last year extending a hand to help provide. As a passionate conservationist Brown also teaches the children in the local school he has set up the importance of conserving wildlife. So our support goes hand in hand with conservation messages, the children growing up to respect and conserve the wildlife with which they live.

**High Five Club Support:** Throughout 2020 we are joining hands to provide a monthly food budget to the Happy Faith Based Organisation to purchase provisions locally to contribute towards feeding the 30 orphaned children. Some community members,

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when they can afford, contribute to the feeding programme also. Others collect fallen firewood to cook the food.

We are also providing the funds to pay a small allowance for a local woman to cook the children's meals each day.



**The annual funds we have provided to secure food and to provide a monthly allowance for cooking the meals is £2,216. That is cooked meals all year round for 30 children for just £73.87 per child – how our collective £5's are making a huge impact in this wildlife area of Africa.**

We have additionally supplied the funds (£100) for the provision of hand-washing equipment and soap over the next few months as an emergency response during the COVID-19 outbreak to help keep these children safe, along with at the nursery school Brown runs. This was kindly donated by one of our High Five Club members Ruth. Thank you!

**For more information contact**

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