

# HIGH FIVE CLUB

changing lives in Africa, £5 at a time

## High Five Club Gifted Pupil Sponsorship, Zambia & Kenya



**Paul is on the right with our H5C Co-ordinator in Zambia  
Isaac Banda**

As school fees are payable for attending secondary schools and colleges in Zambia, Kenya and many other African countries, 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 no colleges), 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.

High Five Club supports the continuing education of a small number of gifted students living in wildlife areas of Zambia and Kenya.

### **Paul Ngoma - Zambia**

During 2020 we continued our support of Paul Ngoma who is now in the third of a four year Diploma course at Chipata Bible School. He is studying part-time alongside his ministry as a village pastor in the Luangwa Valley where the rural church he leads has grown from 50 members three years ago to now over 400 members. High Five Club have joined hands with some of our individual members that

met Paul on a visit to Zambia with H5C Trustees Manny and Cheryl Mvula back in 2016, to together fund Paul's college fees, his transport and accommodation when he is required to attend college in Chipata, along with his text books and stationary. As Paul is a subsistence farmer, and his church ministry work is unpaid, he would not have been able to pursue his studies if not for a helping hand from the High Five Club. Supporting this young village pastor also helps to provide for the community's spiritual and pastoral needs in a community where many do not know where their next meal is coming from or how they will be able to pay for healthcare when their children are sick.

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## Mescent Banda - Zambia

For the second consecutive year we have joined hands together to support Mescent Banda, a high achieving young girl from the Luangwa Valley. She won a place to study at Eastern Girls Technical Secondary School, one of Zambia's top state boarding schools for girls, after achieving outstanding exam results at Grade 9. Her father works for Mnkhanya Community Resources Board, working tirelessly to conserve wildlife and uplift his community out of poverty. Because of corruption, however, Mescent's father (and all the other employees of Community Resources Boards in Zambia) does not receive his monthly salary regularly – often going without any wages for several months at a time. He struggles, therefore, to pay Mescent's school fees. High Five Club members have contributed half of Mescent's school fees and cost of school uniform, with her father providing the balance. We are thrilled that this gifted girl will be able to realise her full potential by completing her secondary school education at this prestigious school. Poverty and corruption have not won out.



## Yiano Kilelu - Kenya

Yiano Kilelu is the young Maasai girl that we began supporting last year after she did really well in her final primary school exams at the rural Maasai school, Ol Moti Primary School next to Amboseli National Park in Kenya. So well that she was selected to attend St. Claire girls' secondary school in Rombo, one of the best schools in Loitokitok Sub-county. With his limited resources Yiano's Father prioritises the education of his sons over his daughter's education. So without our support Yiano would have been forced to leave school at just 11 years old. Yiano (now aged 13) is desperate to continue her education and, critically, to keep herself safe from the suitors that come to her home daily to try and persuade her Father to let them take her for

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marriage. So many Maasai girls' futures are ruined by this practice of 'early marriage'. High Five Club is contributing towards her school fees, with other well-wishers also contributing, to allow her to continue her education and hopefully work her way out of poverty. Her Father is still keen to marry her off, so our partner on the ground is working hard to persuade her Father to allow her to complete her secondary education.

**H5C Support:** Our support during 2020 towards the education of these 3 gifted young people totalled just **£818.99**, without which they would not have been able to take up the opportunities to advance their education and change their lives.

Our support of Paul and Mescent is managed on our behalf by our long-term community-based partner in Zambia, **Mnkhanya Community Resources Board**. And our support of Yiano is managed on our behalf by **Born Free Kenya** [www.bornfree.org.uk](http://www.bornfree.org.uk) as part of their community outreach in the Amboseli ecosystem.

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