Greetings from the Mamie Martin Fund Trustees. We send email updates to supporters every two months. This is a half-yearly update for those without email. Hope you find it interesting.

"It was a pleasure visiting schools and interacting with the MMF girls. I could appreciate the need for supporting these girls. Mercy is a true mother to these girls, she has built in these girls good confidence and they trust her so much. She is the right manager indeed. I am personally impressed."

Trustee visits to Malawi
The pandemic has disrupted our visits from Scotland to Malawi but Alan Laverock, Treasurer, was there for a short time in November. He is going again in July. Mercy is always glad of that support. Remmie Kamanga, one of our Malawian trustees, is also always glad to have another trustee visiting from Scotland.
Happy Birthday to MMF Malawi Patron, Vera Chirwa.

Thanks to Alison and Colin Cameron for sharing this lovely photo of Vera Chirwa celebrating her 90th birthday in Blantyre, Malawi. We are honoured to have her as our Malawi patron. She is a remarkable lady and her autobiography, Vera Chirwa, fearless fighter, is still available.

Schools and numbers

Since our last report, we have agreed to support one extra girl who attends Ekwendeni Girls’ Secondary School. She came in at Form 3 and will be supported by MMF for her final two years there. This takes to 148 the number of girls supported this school year, as per this list:

- 35 girls at Bandawe Girls’ Secondary School
- 33 girls at Karonga Girls’ Secondary School
- 16 girls at Elangeni Secondary school
- 9 girls at Embangweni School for Deaf Children
- 1 girl at Ekwendeni Girls’ Secondary School
- 16 girls at St Mary’s Karonga
- 6 places at Kaseye Girls’ Secondary School, Chitipa
• 16 girls at Mchengautuba Community Day Secondary School in Mzuzu

The school calendar in Malawi has been badly disrupted by the pandemic, as you know. The year which started in January 2022 will finish in September. The new school year will begin in October and then revert to the normal pattern of September – June/July.

Kiltwalk

We had a team of 7 walkers and a dog in the Glasgow Kiltwalk in April. The weather was great and everyone had good fun (and sore feet). The money they raised was topped up by 50% by the Tom Hunter Foundation, taking the total into our account to £1,289.28. We will also have some walkers in the Edinburgh Kiltwalk in September.

Alison Cameron Scholarships

The Alison Cameron scholarships have helped 45 girls at secondary schools through the Mamie Martin Fund. The final group will start Form 4 in September this year. We have also supported 5 women at university in Malawi through this fund. Thanks to the Scottish Government for this generosity.

Fund-raising appeals success

We’ve had two appeals since our Annual Review. We raised £500.00 for maths sets and calculators and £270.00 to help our deaf pupils with transport to and from home.

You will know that we pay fees for the girls selected by the schools for MMF support. They also have other needs and Mercy manages our Ready-to-Learn Fund, giving them help with small expenses. She also provides reusable sanitary wear for our girls every year, through a local Malawian business.

Get involved

You can support our work in a number of ways. Most importantly you are on our mailing list, since you are getting this newsletter.
Thanks for that and for your ongoing support.

We always welcome new people onto our Board of Trustees, even if you just want to serve for a year or two – it’s not a life sentence.

Outside of the Board you can support our work by:

- Becoming a regular donor, even for a very small amount
- Persuading your choir or other group to choose the Mamie Martin Fund as the beneficiary of a concert or event
- Ask your family and friends to donate to the Mamie Martin Fund in your name for big birthdays, rather than getting gifts. We can help you to set up an online page if you’d like to do it that way
- Support any current fundraising activities or donate directly (83-23-10 Account: 12236169)
- Leave a legacy to the Mamie Martin Fund in your Will.

Thanks for your interest and support. It makes a huge difference to the girls we help.

Website –
www.mamiemartin.org - the Mamie Martin Fund website is well worth a visit – there is lots of information there, together with fundraising materials and downloadable documents. The website gives various donation options and if anyone wants any information that is not there please do not hesitate to contact Moira on admin@mamiemartin.org or 0131 225 2755

Mamie Martin and her sisters

The Mamie Martin Fund is registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). Scottish Charity Number SCO21483

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