



**Autumn  
Newsletter  
2018**

**New  
Possibilities  
Through  
DREAMS**

**Supporters See  
Our Work in  
Zambia First-  
Hand**

**A New Dawn:  
Our Savings  
Group Supports  
a New School**

**...and more!**





# Welcome!

Autumn has arrived, and with it our third newsletter of 2018.

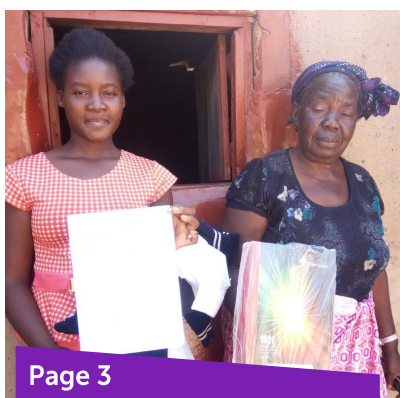
On page 3, we've a new story on the **life-changing outcomes of our DREAMS programme in Chingola**. Linda is one of 900 girls we've helped to stay in school, and together with her grandmother Fanny she now has a brighter future.

Our DREAMS programme was just one highlight of the most **recent supporters trip to Zambia**, which took place in July. A small group of our UK supporters visited Chingola, Kitwe and Lusaka and were able to see the powerful impact of Cecily's Fund's work first-hand. You can read some of their recollections on pages 4 and 5.

Our programmes are helping communities to transform their futures and there's a perfect example on page 6. In Kitwe, **one of our GROW savings groups has helped a member to start a local community school**.

Finally, on page 7 we congratulate Southborough High School for their **London 10K** fundraising, and wish Bedales School the same success for this October's **Great South Run**.

## In this issue...



### Page 3

How our DREAMS programme is giving hope



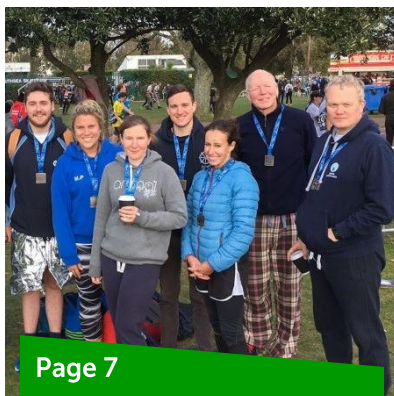
### Page 4-5

Supporters see our work in Zambia first-hand



### Page 6

How a savings group helped start a new school



### Page 7

Bedales School team revisit the Great South Run



## Social

Keep up with our news on Twitter, Facebook and YouTube at /cecilysfund and on Instagram at cecilys.fund



## About and Contact

Cecily's Fund is registered charity **1071660**. Our work makes education possible for orphaned and vulnerable children in Zambia.

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### Page 7

Southborough High School's 10K triumph



Fanny and Linda at their home in Chingola

# New possibilities



## How our DREAMS project is giving Fanny and Linda more hope for the future

As part of the DREAMS Innovation Challenge, Cecily's Fund supports 900 vulnerable girls in Chingola to stay in school, achieve their potential and remain determined, resilient, empowered, AIDS-free, mentored, and safe.

Fanny Chanda, 68, lives in Chingola and knew that her granddaughter Linda would not be able to go to secondary school because the family's poor financial situation made paying the fees impossible. Linda - who lives with Fanny in Chingola's Chiwempala compound - has been identified as being in need of support and has received 100% of the money needed for her fees from the Cecily's Fund programme, enabling her to continue in school.

When Linda was given a school uniform, shoes, books and menstrual hygiene materials Fanny was overwhelmed. She says she is very grateful for the support Linda has received, and feels that these materials will help her complete education and remain independent.

It is not only Linda who has benefited from the programme, but also Fanny herself. "I had an opportunity to learn how to run a business in the Fresh Start training", Fanny says. "I never realised I had the potential to run a business, but after going through the training I am now confident that I can make a profit and sustain the wellbeing of my family."

The **DREAMS Innovations Challenge** is an \$85 million HIV prevention initiative led by PEPFAR, Janssen Pharmaceutica NV (a Johnson & Johnson company), and ViiV Healthcare. The initiative aims to accelerate progress toward achieving a 40 percent reduction in new HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women in the highest-burden areas of 10 sub-Saharan African countries.

"I always tell Linda how education will give her a voice to speak her opinions and be heard, and how education will allow her to make decisions even when she gets married."

- Fanny

**Determined**

**Resilient**

**Empowered**

**AIDS-Free**

**Mentored**

**Safe**





Supporters meet Peer Educators in Kitwe



## Seeing Change First-hand

This summer, supporters had the chance to see for themselves our work in Kitwe, Chingola and Lusaka



A bicycle repair business in Kitwe



Homes in Chingola, where our DREAMS programme takes place

In July a small group of Cecily's Fund supporters, staff and trustees visited Zambia where they had the chance to see our programmes first-hand. By meeting children and young people, teachers, community members and our partner staff, they learned more about the situation facing Zambian society and the difference our work is making.

One highlight of the trip was a trip to Chingola in Zambia's Copperbelt, where our DREAMS Innovation Challenge programme takes place, as supporter Hal Moggridge writes:

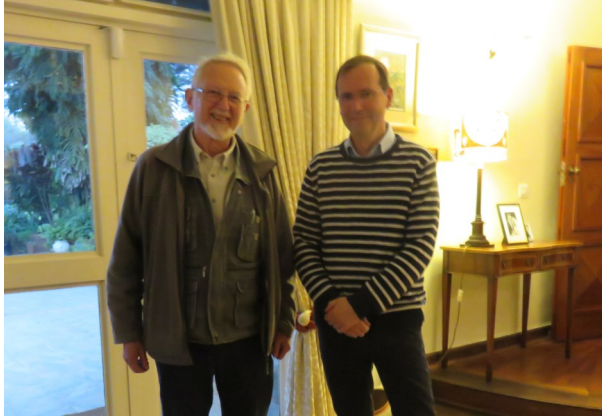
"The programme is proving a great success - the girls have come to love school and only five of the 900 have dropped out of the programme. Most of the girls are expected to be capable of proceeding to the next grade in secondary school. Parent groups are being set up, though resources are small. In the more remote schools, the children are wearing shoes and smart uniforms for the first time.

900 girls who had dropped out of education after free primary provision are being supported in 20 government schools. They are vulnerable children and some orphans, and are at the critical early teen age - 13 - 14 year olds or older. The schools receive 50 or 100% of the \$50 annual fee and the girls get uniforms, shoes and textbooks. The project is supported by three Afya Mzuri staff assisted by volunteers, 24 grade 11 trained peer group leaders who encourage the girls to persist, 10 fresh start advisers and 38 Join In Circuit (JIC) advisors on sex education outside the school."



**"Our students joined us after finishing an exam. They looked very cheerful, and all anticipated a pass! They told us that they would not have had this great opportunity without the help of Cecily's Fund."**

Marion Gilpin, visiting Kitwe Vocational Training Centre



Cecily's Fund co-founder Basil Eastwood meets British High Commissioner to Zambia Fergus Cochrane-Dyet



Wusakile Secondary School, Kitwe

Marion Gilpin had the chance to visit a further education centre which provides young people in Kitwe with vital training opportunities after they leave school:

"We visited Kitwe Vocational Training Centre run by the Ministry of Education. This provides 2.5 years of training in practical subjects: heavy duty machinery repair, metal fabrication, electrical engineering and automotive repair. Eleven Sunshine Club members are currently studying at the Centre. Applicants must first apply to the centre, be assessed and then, if accepted, apply for a government bursary. With a letter of recommendation from Cecily's Fund local partner CHEP, 90% of Sunshine club members are accepted onto courses and get bursaries. A certificate is given at the end of the course. Our 11 students get full tuition scholarships but must still find their own accommodation and food and safety boots, helmets and overalls.

The Principal told us that the college capacity was 600 students, but only 300 places had been taken up, due to funding issues. Tuition fees for 1 term are 2,200 kwacha."

Craig Covil, a Director of American Friends of Cecily's Fund, met a young woman supported by us and who has a bright future:

"As we were leaving the Afya Mzuri offices we met Jane Salimata, a Cecily's Fund sponsored student who has graduated from Grade 12 and is now in university. It was pleasing to see a child go through the whole programme and now be gainfully employed." Jane has recently completed an internship with Afya Mzuri.

### **Simon and Emily: committed to further education**

At Wusakile Secondary School, Hal met Simon (18) and Emily (17). Both have been supported by Cecily's Fund, having 50% of their school fees paid. They also have in common a strong determination to go on to complete their education - Simon hopes to become a pilot one day, while Emily plans to study medicine.

Hal later learned that the classroom where he met Simon and Emily is used by a teacher who was himself supported to complete his education by Cecily's Fund.







Children gather at Sunrise Community School

## A New Dawn

### How Sunrise Community School was set up with the support of a Cecily's Fund savings group

Kitwe's Ipusukilo ward is densely populated - 43,000 people live in a small area, and 20% of them are children. The community faces many challenges, but one of the most difficult is that only one government school exists to serve this entire population.

The name of the ward means "saviour", and Gift Chama is doing her part to try to lead Ipusukilo to a better future. She saw the serious educational shortfall in Ipusukilo and decided to take action. By contacting a local farmer, she was able to secure the use of an unused building. Next, she recruited volunteer teachers who also saw the depth of need in Ipusukilo. Together, they could create their own school - but they still needed financial support.

That crucial financial help came from an unexpected source. GROW stands for "grassroots owning our wealth", and the name is used for special savings groups set up to enable poor people save small amounts of money and grow their wealth.

Through our Connecting Communities Programme, Ipusukilo now has a thriving GROW group which enables local people to save money, free from the high interest charged by banks.

Members are able to borrow small amounts of money from the group to support small business start-ups. This brings much needed income to families and helps them save for school fees. Through the support of Ipusukilo GROW group, Gift has been able to start Sunrise Community School where she is the head teacher and makes sure to never turn a child away.

Now, five teachers run classes from 7:40am to 3:15pm each day and there are 284 pupils who are taught across all grades in just one room.

The success of Sunrise Community School demonstrates how GROW groups are not only changing individual lives - by addressing gaps in education provision, they are helping to transform entire communities.

"I have one boy here who was living without parents. I didn't have the money to send him to school, so I decided to start a school at my place, teaching him with my own children. I was committed to starting a school because of the number of children I saw begging. The GROW group has helped a lot in the community"

- Gift Chama





## Returning to the Great South Run

Last year, the community around **Bedales School** - where Cecily was educated - gathered a team of over 40 runners to take part in the Great South Run in Portsmouth. This huge fundraising effort raised over £8,000 which was split equally between Cecily's Fund and the John Badley Foundation.

This October, a new team of Bedales staff, pupils, parents and alumni will return to Portsmouth and the Great South Run. The event takes place on **October 21 and 22**, and a Pledgit fundraising page is open now.

Once again, the Country House Company is generously matching the first £1,000 raised - with your support, the Bedales community can beat their fantastic 2017 total, and Cecily's Fund make an even greater impact this year!

**"As one of the runners in the Great South Run last year I am delighted that we are going to organise a repeat once again this year [...] raising some good money for the two excellent causes being the John Badley Foundation and Cecily's Fund."**

- Stephen Wells, Bedales parent



### Southborough High School lead the way in London 10K

Cecily's Fund is hugely grateful to the 20 people who ran the Virgin Sport British 10K on Sunday July 15th. The team, drawn from Southborough High School, Doughty Street Chambers, and independent runners, have together raised a fantastic total of over **£4,260!** This is enough for us to help over 80 orphans and vulnerable children remain in school for a year - a fantastic result.

We're particularly grateful to the 14 members of staff from Southborough High School who took part on the day and have together raised a tremendous sum of £2,131 including Gift Aid.

### How to donate

Visit **[pledgit.net/campaign/ad4485/](https://pledgit.net/campaign/ad4485/)**  
to add your donation today!



## Your chance to help out

Donate today and help us change lives in Zambia

Whatever amount you can give, whether regular or as a one-time donation, can help Cecily's Fund build brighter futures for Zambia's orphaned and vulnerable children. Just **£5** supports our feeding programme, while **£50** can help us keep a child in school for a year.

**Yes**, I want to give Cecily's Fund a one-off donation of...

£

Please tick to agree with the following statement: I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference. This includes any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years.

Please tick to confirm the above:

☐

Title

First name or initial(s)

Surname

Full home address

Postcode

Email

Date

Signature

**This form **must** be signed in order to be valid**

Please return this form to:

**Cecily's Fund**  
**Ground Floor, 6 Church Green**  
**Witney**  
**Oxon**  
**OX28 4AW**

Single and regular donations can also be made online at [www.cecilysfund.org](http://www.cecilysfund.org). Thank you for your support!

### Bank Standing Order Mandate

**(Please also fill in the left-hand side)**

This is an instruction to your bank. Please fill in the form, return it to us, and we will process it for you.

Please pay Cecily's Fund

CAF Gold, Sort Code 40-52-40 A/C No. 00089893

The sum of: £

Each month

☐

Each quarter

☐

until further notice

Each year

☐

Date of first payment

Bank name

Bank address

Name of account holder

Account number

Sort code

Signature

Date