



Berkshire Scouts
Project Africa

Malawi 2024



About Malawi 2024 (Berkshire Scouts – Project Africa)

Berkshire Scouts have been operating an active and successful international community programme (*Project Africa*) for more than a decade. The aim of the programme is to help our young people understand the lives of their peers in a different culture and to provide support through projects. *Young people supporting young people.*

Since 2011, more than 300 Scouts (14–18 years) and leaders have travelled to Uganda to take part in project work. In addition to helping local communities, it will be appreciated the Scouts have also benefitted enormously from the experience and several have gone on to make their careers in the area of international development. Our journey so far can be seen via this link: www.berkshirescouts.org.uk/project-africa-uganda/

Following time lost to Covid, *Project Africa* is now entering a new phase and plans are well underway to travel with just under 100 Scouts and leaders to Malawi in 2024 to partner with 'Joshua in Malawi' (a British charity): www.joshuainmalawi.org.uk/

The charity supports 17 feeding stations and community centres in the area of Blantyre (southern Malawi). A recent recce to Malawi by four leaders has seen the great work by 'Joshua' and identified the projects for 2024. A short video of the recce can be seen via: www.berkshirescouts.org.uk/project-africa-2024/

The projects in Malawi will be similar to those completed in Uganda, ie: working alongside local builders to build a local community centre and to refurbish existing centres and schools. The second page to this information letter shows a building completed by 'Joshua' which Berkshire Scouts will replicate in the village of Milo (near Blantyre) as well as refurbishing a community centre in a nearby village.

Southern Malawi suffered a catastrophic cyclone ('Freddy') earlier this year and much of village infrastructure was swept away in floods and mud slides and so there is a great need for rebuilding local community infrastructure.

The individual Scouts have a real challenge in funding their part in the project (£3,750 each for training, travel, food, camping equipment, insurance, and a modest contribution to project costs, etc) Therefore, Berkshire Scouts are seeking central funding to support the major share of project work which is estimated at £27,000. It's hoped the majority of project costs can be secured through central fundraising.

continued



A community centre built by 'Joshua in Malawi' (2 rooms plus a store).

A similar building will be funded and constructed by Berkshire Scouts in the village of Milo.



The Berkshire Scouts recce team (August 2023) met the pre-school children that will benefit from the new building in Milo.



Berkshire Scouts will also be refurbishing an existing community centre in a nearby village to Milo.

If funding and time permits, there is a need to improve local latrines.

The recce team can be seen in this photo.