

MWiB Marshside Road.

Dates for your diary

The Circuit Get-together will be held on Thursday, 27th October 2016 at 7:30pm in the Hall. All women are welcome to come.

The Liverpool District Project 2016/2017 will be Mary's Meals, there will be a Brunch on 14th January 2017 to support this worthy cause. (see next page).

The Southport Circuit Easter Offering Service will be held in the Church Lounge on Thursday, 27th April 2017, 2:30pm.

Everyone welcome.

Sheila Jones

MARY'S MEALS.

Mary's meals is a global movement that sets up school feeding programmes in some of the world's poorest communities, where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining education.

It's a simple idea that works. We can provide one daily meal in a place of learning in order to attract chronically hungry children into the classroom where they receive an education that can, in the future, be their ladder out of poverty.

The Mary's Meals campaign was born in 2002 when Magnus Macfarlane-Barrow visited Malawi during a famine and met a mother dying from Aids. When Magnus asked her eldest son Edward what his dreams were in life, he replied simply "I want to have enough food to eat and to go to school one day". That moment was the inspiration leading to Mary's Meals, which began by feeding just 200 children at a Malawian primary school in 2002.

Today, we are reaching over one million children with a nutritious daily school meal in 12 of the world's poorest countries. With 59 million children out of primary education all over the world, our work is just beginning. It costs just £12.00 to feed a child for a whole school year, this equates to 6p a meal. Mary's Meals works hard to keep running costs low to ensure that at least 93p of every £1.00 donated to us is spent directly on our charitable work. Our school feeding programmes are community-run and require absolute dedication from local volunteers who collect firewood and manage the school kitchen, as well as preparing and serving the meals to the children.

Wherever possible, Mary's Meals uses locally grown food to support the local economy, favouring producers who support small hold farmers.

University student Veronica Chiphwanya was one of the first children to benefit from the school feeding programme in Malawi more than 10 years ago. Many Malawian girls of her age are already married, but Veronica, was determined to be educated and improve her prospects. Her father died when she was a baby and she lost her mother when she was 9 years old. She remembers how difficult it was to become an orphan at

such a young age, "back then my brothers and sisters weren't working, sometimes I would go for a whole week without food, I was very weak." The promise of a hot meal in school encouraged her to keep attending classes. She said "I was doing my best before the porridge, but the food and support from Mary's Meals improved my performance." Thanks to Mary's Meals she was able to concentrate and move into further education. She now is studying Business and Education at University.