



Newsletter

January 2010

After a welcome break for us all over the Christmas period we are back and hard at it getting Kaya ready for April



So it finally came, our first proper rain fell yesterday for all of three hours, but just enough for the river to run and prove that the new drainage we have put in reclaiming the area around the old watersports area from flooding has worked, relief all around as the foundations for the new bar (pictured left) and toilet block have been built in this very area.

The rains as ever bring an added dimension of challenge. Rather than planning a job for the week we plan first thing in the morning, climbing to the highest point of Kaya scouting the horizon either looking for the next break in the weather or the next shower. We are however incredibly lucky that most of our rain falls during the night and that the rains have been so late this year. None the less a downpour whilst finishing off a pool could be a disaster.

After the excitement of our first shipment arriving my head is befuddled by new technology, instructions books for our new solar power system, building recipes, plumbing parts and designs. However bit by bit it all seems to make sense, quite often at the critical moment of 'shall i turn it on now'...So far so good!

So whilst January is going to prove to be the toughest of the refit months as we get used to working in the rain and the light at the end of the tunnel seems miles away. At the same time i know it is going to be one of the most exciting as we finish off areas of the lodge which are probably going to make the most impact.



The view from the new pool at Mainja House

Likoma Fact.

There are over 1300 species of fresh water fish in Lake Malawi. Over 500 of those are Cyclids (mouth breeders) and 8 of the species are endemic only to Likoma Island.

Kaya Mawa