

# One day at a time



## The newsletter of Open Arms, Malawi

### Malawi Facts

Malawi is one of the six poorest countries in the world.

40 Percent of Malawi's population does not have access to a protected water source.

Nationally less than 5 percent of Malawi's population has access to electricity in their homes.

It is estimated that 17.5% of the adult population of Malawi is HIV positive.

Maternal mortality rate is in excess of 1200 per 100,000 live births in the year 2000, largely due to AIDS related complications.

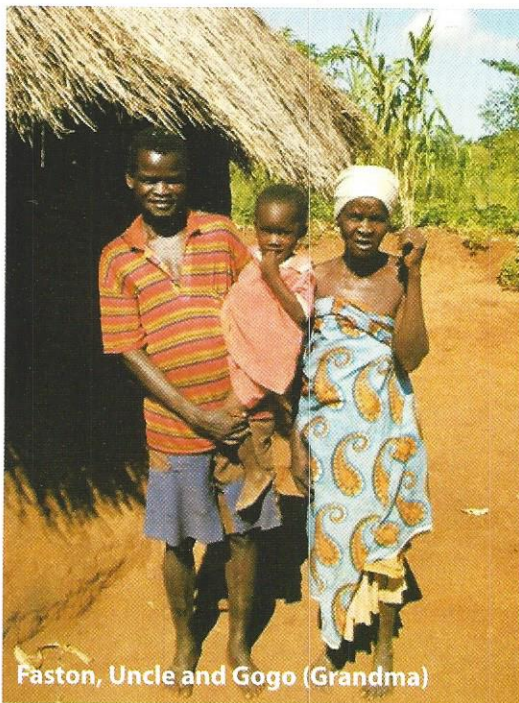
The death rate for adults has tripled since 1990, now in excess of 70,000 per year.

**Lucas Radebe's Testimonial match at Elland Road on May 2nd was a great success with 38,000 fans attending the game.**

**Open Arms is one of the chosen charities to receive donations from the Testimonial events taking place**

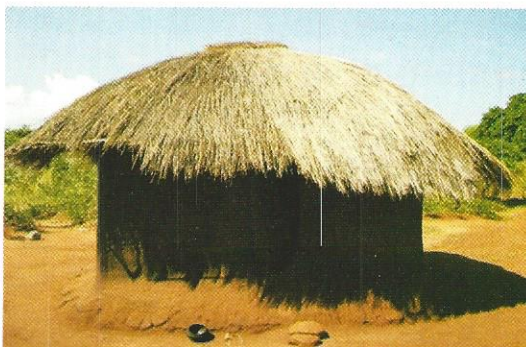
### VISIT TO FASTON

Faston Banda was orphaned on the 3rd February 2002, when he was one day old. He stayed with us at Open Arms until March 2004 at which time



Faston, Uncle and Gogo (Grandma)

he was returned to his village of Kutaja, 30 kilometres from Blantyre. After the second Outreach visit he was found to be severely malnourished and was admitted to the nutrition unit at Queen Elizabeth Hospital. One year later all is fine as the above picture of him, his grandmother and his uncle clearly shows. Below is the hut that they share.



### ROSE'S HOUSE & MARATHON DAD

Seven year old Rose Jeffries died in November 2003 from a rare stomach condition. Rose's parents Steve and Bronwen raised thousands of pounds to fund new playground equipment for a Harrogate park in her memory.



They also wished to do something for the orphans of Malawi so they have embarked on a further fundraising scheme to help us provide foster houses for Open Arms children who have nowhere else. To date they have raised six thousand pounds.

### ST PATRICKS NIGHT - MALAWI

The dwindling, but nonetheless dynamic Irish community of Blantyre selected Open Arms as their charity this year. A Paddy's Night bash at Dougals was well supported over 200 guests from all of Malawi's cultural communities. The whole evening was helped by generous supplies of iced cold Guinness, imported specially from South Africa! Half a million Kwacha, (2,500 pounds) was raised during the evening.





## About Open Arms

Open Arms Infant Home is a private charity transit home for orphaned babies from birth to two years. The home provides orphaned babies with what the family cannot: good, nutritious food, medical care and security. The babies receive an abundance of loving care.

There is no charge to the families who are encouraged to visit as often as possible to maintain a family bond.

## MAJOR DONORS

Chirwa Trust

GZB Holland

G.A.I.A. US

Strathclyde University

Zoeterwoude Mission

care of Carlijn Hooimans

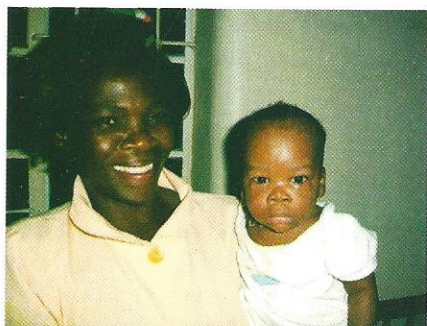
## NEWS

Ripon Natural Health Centre is selling recordings of their concert (Dec 03 at Fibbers in York) featuring :

- Rock & Roll from HarkenGrunge
- Punk rock from Toyshef
- Djembe Drumming from Rainmaker
- Mali/Celtic/English acoustic Fusion from Ben Young.

CD's are £9 (incl. p&p) Tel: **01765**

**601447** Cheques payable to Open Arms Malawi.



Yohane and surrogate mother

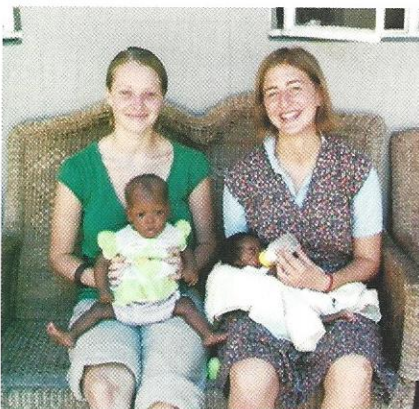
## OUR FAMOUS BABY!

Yohane's mother was murdered whilst he was still in the womb. He was removed from there by a primitive caesarean section and stolen by a childless mother. When she was apprehended Yohane was removed from her and delivered to us. Yohane has regularly featured on the radio, newspaper and even the television. Staff from Open Arms are often stopped in the street and asked about the progress of our "famous baby". As you can see here, pictured with his surrogate house mother, Esther Murea, he is thriving.



## HANDOVER OF LAND TO OPEN ARMS

Traditional chiefs, Ntaja and Kumanda handing over a plot upon which our new Outreach nursery school and feeding station will be built. Students from Ashville College will provide the labour in the early stages of construction this July. The existing school (seen below), has temporarily occupied a church building for the last two years.



## VOLUNTEERS ROSIE & DAISY

From Wales and England, respectively Rosie is holding baby Luwiza whose life was recently transformed when she was accepted on to the paediatric anti retroviral program (Anti HIV & AIDS treatment for infants). Two other toddlers are also enjoying this new lease

## THE BIG RED BUS!

There was huge excitement in December 04 when a big red double decker bus, all the way from London arrived with three young English men. The men who drove it, were raising our profile from London to Cape town, and yes the wheels on the bus went round and round, except when they were stuck in Malawi mud!



Scottish members of parliament visited Open Arms in January, bearing gifts and smiles for the children of Open Arms.

