

# One day at a time



## The newsletter of Open Arms, Malawi

It's been a challenging year for both Open Arms and Neville and Rosemarie Bevis. However much progress has been made with our activities as will be evident from this belated newsletter.

The trustees in Malawi and in the UK have been very grateful to David Vincent and Bronnie Driscoll who have provided, and are still providing, invaluable support to Mrs. Phiri and Mrs Mwuamba in Rosemarie's absence and making it possible for Neville to commute between the UK and OAIH. It has been a difficult year for the poor people due to yet another season of poor rainfall and food shortage. However the children in our care and their families have benefited from the continued support of our donors all around the world.

As well as the developments described in this newsletter we are thrilled to report that Richmond House Prep School of Leeds in the UK have made it possible for us to acquire the second of our phase three houses, which of course will be called "Richmond House" A major development has our ongoing relationship with DePuy. Forty of their employees spent the month of May with us working on the feeding station and nursery schools at Namalo and Ndirande. We were also honoured by visits from GAIA and members of the Scottish Parliament.



Mrs Maxwell's Orphan Care Centre in Ndirande Township prior to rebuilding (below).



Funding for this and the other new Outreach station at Namalo was provided by DePuy and the Global Aids Interfaith Alliance. GAIA president, Bill Rankin is seen having a conversation with Mrs. Phiri through the window. Mrs. Maxwell looks on.



Bronnie Driscoll & Luwiza

Baby Luwiza arrived at approximately three months. During her first year repeated admission to Queens Hospital found her to be HIV positive. At eighteen months she was able to be treated with paediatric antiretro-viral drugs (ARVs) and by twenty seven months she was well enough to go home with her late mother's sister and several cousins to her village at Thondwe. She is registered at Zomba hospital where her treatment continues. Mrs. Phiri and the Outreach program will continue to

Luwiza going home with Mrs. Muwamba & her relatives



monitor her progress and to make sure that her family remains food secure. The Outreach program will also locate a nursery school if possible where her fees will be paid. Of the 52 children in residential care currently only four have had to be returned to the main home for further and hopefully temporary care.



Lousiza's new home in Thondwe

The feeding station and nursery schools at Namalo and Ndirande were constructed by builders from Open Arms and labour was provided by the forty members of DePuy staff who visited us during May. Up to 50 orphaned children in each location receive a basic nursery education and one good meal a day. All food at these stations is sponsored by The Strathclyde University Malawi Millennium Project. Both stations cater for the needs of Open Arms returnees and other vulnerable children from the surrounding villages.

Right - De Puy Labourers



Nicola Hurley (seen here with Neville Bevis) held a garden party for 170 guests, held in a village in Leicestershire on Sunday 2nd July. Nicola's efforts raised a fantastic £12,000 for the home. Nicola is spending six weeks with us in September and October. We'd like to thank all those who helped her.



On a recent visit Members of the Scottish Parliament visited Open Arms. Karen Gillon (pictured with baby Chkonde and Sarah Banda) has visited us twice before and has taken a special interest in the well being of the four children living at Rose's house.



The Scottish Parliamentarians have taken a special interest in the children of Rose's house, seen pictured here in their new school uniforms.



DePuy staff being thanked by matrons Mrs. Phiri and Mrs. Mwamba



All those picture above (including Bonzo in blue) were left homeless after the collapse of their house, seen in the background.



Work carries on with Bonzo's new house

**A House for Junior Bonzo**  
Junior came to us at three months old after the death of both his mother. He returned at two years of age to his grandmother and six siblings and cousins, also in her care. Last rainy season their house, built of sun dried bricks, collapsed upon them leaving the family with nowhere to go. Volunteers from DePut heard of this story and organised the finance for the building of a new and sturdy replacement, Bonzo will be able to return to his family within two or three weeks.