

Abbas Rest Orphans-helping children in Africa Newsletter February 2011

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Hi there all, hope you are all recovered from the festivities and are not complaining about your weight too much. Most of us do overeat at Xmas. Well you are not alone, every child under ARO on Christmas day had full stomachs and every guardian was full as well. With some generous donations, we managed to include everyone. It was a day to remember for the children and especially the elderly guardians.



One of the hardest things to do is to get smiles for the camera, as you can see.

There seems to have been some good rains this time with William and Charlie being hopeful for a good crop of maize. But as to price, there is no indication as yet. One of our supporters had made a provision for ARO in her will. She had been thinking about the legacy and rightly thought that with devalue of the legacy through inflation, the actual amount of the legacy would be less, so she decided to give ARO the legacy now in that we could make better use of the money now. We send you our heartfelt thanks. Basic prices are climbing higher all over Africa and Malawi is no exception. It means the poor suffer more as the price of bread, basic foodstuff and other essential items are becoming more difficult for them to buy due to their lack of finances. We will need to keep an eye on the situation in the surrounding areas of our centres as inevitably it is the children that suffer most. As the mail deliveries in Malawi are not getting any better and some worse, some of you elected to give us money to get the presents for your sponsored children, goats and chickens also, this was all bought in Malawi and given at Christmas

This maximised the gift you gave us as we could send it as a lump sum with instructions what you wished to be bought for your child. We feel excitement for ARO this year. We believe God is in charge and as long as we keep it that way He will guide us. Jer 29:11 says, For I know the thoughts I have for you towards you says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. We are on the brink of something special and are eagerly waiting for it. Lydia, a Pastor's 15 year old daughter sold her boat and gave the proceeds to ARO, the children will be very grateful, thanks



Lydia for your kind heart. Other people and groups are fund raising for the children, too many to mention here but no less important to ARO. We thank you all for your efforts.

Charles and Lytone are modelling the latest close friends shorts, instead of each one having identical wear ,they can share one leg each. Ha! Ha! These shorts were in a bale of clothes we bought for 7 to 14 year old boys.



This is a picture that says it all "**don't mess with us**". Does it remind you of anybody ladies and gents? These three girls are learning early, the postures that needs no words. Reports from our

managers in Malawi are good, everything is progressing well, and we know it as William is not giving us many troubles. William and Aubrey are working well together in Chiringa. Harry, our manager in Muona with Gladys our matron , are making sure their centre is running like a well oiled machine. Please keep them all in your prayers as they are looking after the welfare of the children. Sorry to say we are no further forward with a container yet. We will keep praying about it.



Here is one of our new toilet and washing facilities. They are being built as funds allow. Each unit will be for the child on the program and also the

guardian. As you can see the opening on the right is the entrance into the washing cubicle and on the left side is the toilet. The hole dug for the toilet is three meters deep and will last 3 to 4 years before needing replaced. We are over half way to completing this project. It does not seem like a year ago I was making preparations to go to Malawi, and here i am getting things together to go back. I am looking forward to the trip already to see all the staff and see how much the children have grown. I will be there for three months again and will have some great times I am sure.

I hope to see Fasani, the boy who had the operation to reattach his bowel after 5 years. I am sure I will see a big difference in him since he is now in an ARO school class and being able to play with other children without being shunned.



Also meeting up with the smiling faces again, These two form Beka are busy picking up the fallen maize, not one piece of maize is wasted as it is preferable to having hunger pains. Most children without any aid go hungry

more times than not. We would like to be there for the hungry children. We can only do as our funds allow. We feel that although we are a small charity, we do make a difference, if we were not there to care for the children then more children would suffer with the smallest ones first. We are only there because of your continued support and trust.



Jim and I were in Castle Douglas at a coffee morning at the end of January. It was organised by Jenny Spence and friends in St. Ninians Church. It was a great success, and the helpers were on the go all the time. It was making me tired watching them.

Thank you to all concerned for your hard work. I lost my willpower and succumbed to the home made cakes.

Thank you to all who have sent back the gift aid forms, they make such a difference to ARO If you have not sent yours back yet, could you please do so? Thanks a lot.



This is our newest sub station which was opened last March. This was their first ever Christmas meal and looking at the faces, they really enjoyed it.

I will be going to Malawi at the end of March, so if you need to get in touch with me personally by email allow a few days for me get back to you. All general enquiries please to Jim at his email at jimbee37@yahoo.co.uk or the PO Box , thanks. Also please note that the May newsletter will probably be at the end of June when i return from Malawi.

As we are moving house, the telephone number at top of the newsletter is the only one you will be able to contact me on before I leave for Malawi thanks, Richard

Please keep ARO in your prayers that we make the right decisions at the right time for the maximum benefit of the children under our care.

May the Lord make your love increase for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. 1Th 3:12 . NIV