

ARTPEACE AND FRIENDS

MAKING IT HAPPEN! No wonder ArtPeace look ecstatic! They had just heard that Marlow URC had decided to make a tremendous donation covering their families' annual seed and fertiliser requirement plus lots of water purification tablets. Marlow's treasurer transferred their donation to me on Thursday. On Saturday, the artists



bought supplies and sent photos and messages of gratitude which were shown to Marlow's congregation on Sunday! *Above right:* a delighted Lizeni. *Below left:* Coster and Shingi loading a truck for delivery to their homes. *Below:*



ArtPeace artists in Harare



Fortune using his water purification tablets to protect his and neighbours' families from cholera.



GLIMPSES OF LIFE IN ZIMBABWE – THE GOOD: This tranquil scene of Growthpoint a village near Kwekwe, taken by artist Herbert, makes one wonder whether we are any happier than these poor villagers despite all our material wealth etc. I doubt Zimbabweans will be appointing a Minister for Loneliness! There are so many lonely people in the UK and near empty churches: methinks we are missing

a trick somewhere?

THE BAD: From Lovemore: 'Hi John, I'm having sleepless nights over my daughter Enviolata who is unable to go to school. It is so painful for me especially as I am a good artist but the frustrating situation our country faces means I cannot raise her enrolment fees. I have tried several doors, but none are being opened for my lovely daughter. It is not good at her age being at home for 2 years working in the fields. Please John, I beg for your support - help me please. I can write English, but my daughter cannot - without this she has no future.'



and **THE UGLY:**



From Coster: 'Hi John. Yesterday evening I was coming from town and encountered some thugs who wanted to rob me. When I realised they were thieves I started to run away and dropped the old phone you sent me in long grass by the roadside, but they caught up with me and beat me up badly. I think my ribs may be broken and I have a swollen head. Early the following day, fortunately I managed to find my phone and went to the police station. My problem is I don't have any money to go and visit the doctor and am now in bed resting.'

BLESSED IS THE HAND THAT GIVES: Artist Herbert said: 'An old man (*below left with Herbert*) approached my workshop asking for food so I shared what little I had and gave him some old clothes. Many years ago, Mr Banda moved to Zimbabwe from Mozambique coz of war and hunger and worked at a mine for 20 years. He was promised a pension but when the mine shut no money was given. He used to live in this (*left*) terrible compound where 10 to 15 families shared one toilet. His wife died 4 years ago, and



[he now lives alone in the bush.](#)' Herbert, whose art is displayed in the Southwark Cathedral shop is now reduced to collecting and cleaning old bottles (*above right*) which he sells for 25 cents each to supplement his income - such is life for many in Zimbabwe. **Johnston Simpson**