

ARTPEACE AND FRIENDS

ARTPEACE were overjoyed when I broke the news that at their recent church meeting, Marlow URC's congregation had again agreed to cover the cost of seed and bags of compound fertilizers



for the whole cooperative. Their generous donation arrived in Harare 2 days later enabling the group to meet and purchase these essentials which, nature permitting, will hopefully provide their extended families with basic food for most of next year. The following Sunday, the good folk of Marlow saw these joyful photos as the exorbitant prices

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ARTPEACE like countless other Zimbabweans, do not have any regular income and are largely dependent on our UK sculpture sales plus donations. Sadly, sales at Southwark Cathedral have fallen away hopefully temporarily and little is sold at St Andrew's nowadays. However, I had a welcome visitor from Toller URC, Kettering recently in the form of Eleanor Patrick a church

elder, who travelled down by train with her suitcase which I packed with lots of lovely stone carvings. Eleanor will endeavour to sell the contents at her church in the run up to Christmas. It was lovely to see her again as she and



her congregation are tremendous supporters of ArtPeace who on hearing the news replied: 'Big thanks to our lovely kind friend Eleanor. May God bless her and her church.'



Unusual exquisite carvings in the form of whale tails in semi-precious Lepidolite stone by Arthur Fata an internationally known artist are now on sale in St Andrew's Gateway along with other exciting pieces.

STRUGGLE: Many artists are struggling big time, unable to afford basic food and rents. Artist Herbert sent these photos of his neighbour's family who were evicted from their modest home through rent arrears and now live or rather exist outside under a tree. Another scrounges for food from a bin.



JOY FOR ENVIOLATA! Artist Lovemore James's 14-year-old daughter Enviolata was stuck at home with



toddlers (photo extreme left) unable to attend school as the family could not afford fees. However, a fairy godmother from St. Andrew's stepped in again with a donation covering a term's education - look at the transformation in Enviolata – she

is one very happy schoolgirl clad in her uniform and with new leisure clothes - back with her school chums!

ZIMBABWEANS still have a sense of humour virtue this cartoon sent by artist Mike. However, it's no joking



matter. Queues are everywhere - for bread, fuel, money or water. Most businesses have collapsed. People try to cope with eighteen hours a day power cuts with electricity only coming on in the middle of the night for a few hours. Desperate shoppers stalk the supermarket food aisles looking for anything affordable to buy to feed their families. People are nearing the end of their tether and shake their heads in disbelief at the massive price increases often forcing them to leave empty handed. This is the face of a nation whose livelihoods, salaries, life savings and pensions have been virtually rendered worthless in just eight months after their US dollars were converted to Zimbabwe dollars.

UNBELIEVEABLE: Beitbridge District Hospital had suspended mortuary services "as a result of lengthy power cuts and high temperatures rendering mortuary equipment non-functional." In response to this appalling situation the President's spokesman George Charamba caused a storm on social media after he wrote on Twitter: "Keep your corpse at your house... Don't burden the state with corpses."

Johnston Simpson