

MalawiLink

The Cashman Family in Malawi

john@malawilink.org
robyn@malawilink.org
www.malawilink.org

Christmas 2010 / New Year 2011



It hardly seems possible that 2011 is only just around the corner and another year has sped past. It has been a year marked for us a family by God's faithfulness rather than a sense of great achievements! Life here in Malawi continues to prove a daily blessing, all be it mixed with challenges and opportunities at every turn:

- We sadly felt compelled to move churches recently as we felt that the girls were finding it increasingly challenging and were starting to dread Sundays. We very much miss our Malawian friends from our previous local church and have not yet really settled completely in a new one.



- John managed to acquire his first serious penetrating injury whilst operating on an

HIV positive patient. This necessitated a month of anti-viral therapy that makes one feel pretty grim. We are so grateful that this is the first such work-related injury in over 3 years of high risk exposure. We also have renewed empathy with HIV positive patients who sometimes are required to take similar drugs for protracted periods!



Happy families after hand surgery

John's work with CURE continues to be a daily privilege. Being part of a team that can offer healing and love to children and their families who have been laid low with not only the pain and



Bent legs—straight legs: getting children walking again at CURE

frustrations of physical handicaps, but also with cultural stigmatism and the brunt of superstitions surround such disabilities.



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For each of us the highpoints of the last six months include:

For Rachel; taking first proper swimming strokes, enjoying her new nursery at the same school as big sister, acquiring a new dog to "train" which is even smaller than she is .. (Doberman cross pup called "Tess")



For Hannah: Swimming for the school swimming squad in her year, and now being able to catch Dad in the swimming pool with usually painful consequences for her poor abused father.



For Robyn and John: Finding out that Robyn is pregnant again and expecting a new member of the family in early May! We are all really excited and thankful to God – we had always wondered.....



The latter piece of news has rather eclipsed any other plans for next year as it will mandate us returning back to the UK for over 3 months in 2011 to have the baby. John has been given paternity leave by CURE and we

are looking forward to the new adventures ahead. All we need now is to find a place to stay in the Bath area (mid April to end of June) John fancies a Bedouin lifestyle in a camper van – Robyn is not so sure!



Robyn fruit and veg shopping. A bit different from former days in Sainsbury's

Whether you read this before or after Christmas – we do hope it will be a very special time this year for you of rest, renewed relationships and renewal for the year ahead.

With our love and very best wishes for 2011,

John, Robyn, Hannah and Rachel

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Paul and Viv Nicholson, 43 Partis Way, Newbridge, Bath. BA1 3QQ