

**ZANE: ZIMBABWE A NATIONAL EMERGENCY
(Limited by Guarantee)**

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 5 APRIL 2007

The trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 5 April 2007.

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 October 2005 and registered as a charity (number 1112949) on 7 February 2006.

The charity was created by its Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. The full list of Trustees who served during the year is shown on page 2. The ZANE Council of Reference is headed up by Lord Hastings of Scarisbrick CBE.

The trustees have established an executive board, which meets regularly and are advised on all material matters as they occur; they take decisions on the various projects the charity undertakes.

Risk Management

The trustees examine the major risks that the charity faces each financial year and confirm that they have taken all prudent steps to ensure that the charity operates in line with other similar charities. The trustees have developed systems to ensure that risks and security are monitored to mitigate any impact they may have on the charity in future.

Objectives

The objects of the charity are to seek to alleviate suffering on the part of those:

- (a) who lack food and medicines in particular amongst selected WWII veterans and their widows in Zimbabwe; in this we act in conjunction with various services charities;
- (b) on the part of clients of Prison Fellowship;
- (c) on the part of those caught up in Operation Clear Up Rubbish;
- (d) on the part of Aids sufferers and orphans in Zimbabwe.

Financial Review

ZANE has never sought, nor does it receive any support from the UK Government. All ZANE work is funded through private subscriptions.

Since the birth of ZANE the trustees have striven not to raise the expectations of those in need in Zimbabwe, that the present level of financial support by the charity could be supplied indefinitely, or that the quantum of funds could necessarily be increased to meet the ever rising demand for aid. However, we accept that inevitably expectations have been raised and therefore we will continue to do the best we can.

Five years ago we thought that the inevitability of death of the majority of the WWII veterans and their widows would ineluctably reduce our onerous responsibilities to a nominal level. But the

conditions in Zimbabwe have grown far worse than we could imagine at the outset of the initiative. Today's 4000% plus inflation (the real level depends on who you last spoke to) means that the Zimbabwe dollar has lost 99% of its value since 2002; as a consequence, many people who were independent in 2002 find today that their assets and pensions have been reduced to zero; as a result more and more people need the urgent assistance from ZANE just to stay alive.

The market for charitable donations in the UK remains very competitive for often donors are generous but have to meet numerous demands and request, and many refuse to give to the same charity twice. Therefore, we cannot take our donors for granted. We are aware that there will always be the equivalent of a Tsunami disaster that rightly attracts the attention and generosity of our present donors away from ZANE. Furthermore, there may be some kind of stock-market hiatus that serves to limit the depths of the pocket of potential benefactors. Therefore, despite our significant donor base we continue to seek to generate new donors through advertising and professionally generated mail-shots, both of which are expensive. ZANE uses mailing lists and advertises in carefully selected periodicals, or seeks donors through personal contacts.

The ZANE trustees operate a policy of not employing professional fundraisers and full time staff in the UK. There is no office base, either in the UK or Zimbabwe. On grounds of cost, much of the administrative and accounting work is sited in Zimbabwe. The charity only employs the services of professionals as and when they are needed.

All cheques have to be signed by two Trustees. ZANE's affairs are effectively run by an executive committee comprising two executive trustees who are heavily involved in running the UK side of the charity. They receive no remuneration for this work.

Since 2006 the scale of the charity's affairs has grown ever more time consuming; an additional part time worker has been employed to shoulder some of the administrative responsibilities; it is not envisaged that this will diminish. In order to maintain an accurate record of what the charity really costs to run, the trustees charge out of pocket expenses in some cases, they make donations to ZANE in excess of these expenses.

Achievements and Performance

On grounds of security, the details of ZANE's method of operations, the scale of its work and its financial programmes are confidential to its trustees. In brief ZANE liases with other charities and organisations both in Zimbabwe and the UK to ensure that the distribution of donor money is deployed efficiently so that, for example, the same person does not receive two grants. Some 41 care and nursing homes and many others living in the community are today dependent on ZANE. We have been told repeatedly by our people in Zimbabwe that without this help many would not have survived.

During the year, some 6000 people were gently means-tested and then received ZANE grants. These are people who otherwise would be denied food, medicines and financial support. Without this vital assistance they would face acute hardship, starvation, untreated illness and an untimely death.

ZANE continues to work with the UK services charities through the RCEL (Royal Commonwealth Ex Services League) and OSPA (Overseas Services Pensioner's Association) in identifying people who may qualify for their charitable aid. The ZANE trustees are very

greatful for the assistance and vigorous co-operation that has been offered by these charities since ZANE began.

ZANE has also assisted the black community across the country and is expanding this programme, concentrating on those with AIDS, widows and orphans. ZANE has assisted financially a rape clinic in Bulawayo and Prison Fellowship for the past four years through the Thomas Benyon Charitable Settlement Trust. The ZANE trustees are very grateful to all those involved with its work, its Council of Reference and of course our generous donors without whose support this work would be still-born long since.

Plans for the Future

ZANE is now a separate entity from that of its previous host, The Thomas Benyon Charitable Settlement Trust, the accounts of which relating to the work in Zimbabwe have been run down and monies transferred to the new ZANE charity.

The work of ZANE is continually expanding. We are fortunate that over the last five years ZANE has managed to attract a first class team and now has established systems so that its operations efficiently and economically cover the country.

Trustees' Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the profit or loss of the company for that year. In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- I. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- I. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- I. state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts and;
- I. prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees have prepared this report in accordance with the special provision of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Board on 10 August 2007 and signed on its behalf by

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Mr T Y Benyon

