



## ZHEST Newsletter

### Issue 4 - Autumn/Winter 2015

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. We have had a busy summer. As we look forward to our fourth annual general meeting we hope you enjoy a festive winter (or summer if you are in the southern hemisphere!)

#### ZHEST 4th Annual General Meeting

Saturday 6th February 2016

2pm to 3pm

at

Community Centre @ Christ Church

Cricklade Street, Swindon, SN1 3HB

Followed by Afternoon Tea

**COME AND HAVE A SAY IN OUR PLANS FOR THE  
FUTURE**

**All members and supporters welcome.**

**Please confirm attendance by phone or email:**

[mutsai@zhest.org](mailto:mutsai@zhest.org)

01793 322184

#### MyDonate



To make a donation to ZHEST using your Debit/Credit Card, or to create your own fundraising page for ZHEST, go to:

<https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/zimbabwehealtheducationandsustainabilitytrust>

#### ZHEST membership

If you would like to have a say and be actively involved in deciding ZHEST's priorities then become a member. Membership is free. You will be kept abreast of charity activities and invited to participate in the events we run throughout the year.

For more information on membership and for a membership form contact Robert Bird on 01793 322184 e-mail: [robert.bird@zhest.org](mailto:robert.bird@zhest.org)

#### Trustees sought

We are seeking individuals with a commitment to our vision to join our board of trustees. We are particularly seeking those with experience of education, business and fundraising. While no previous experience of being a trustee is required, energy, time and making things happen are a requirement. If you are interested please contact Mutsai on 01793 322184 or [mutsai@zhest.org](mailto:mutsai@zhest.org)

## Sponsor a Child Appeal

Many families living in rural communities struggle to support themselves. The economic situation in Zimbabwe in recent years has particularly affected the education sector in rural areas. Challenges include children leaving school to help families in subsistence farming, low teacher retention rates and dilapidated school infrastructure. As part of our school fees project we currently pay school fees for 50 children in primary and secondary school. With increasing demand, we need your help.

Your sponsorship commitment will enable a child in a rural community to hope for a better future.

Once sponsorship is set up if you wish to, you will receive an introduction letter and annual updates from the child you sponsor. You will also be able to introduce yourself to the child. All communication with children and their families will be through ZHEST.

At present school fees are £30 per year for primary school and £100 per year for secondary school.

Setting up a monthly donation is the most effective way of sponsoring a child. If you would like to sponsor a child, please set up your standing order with the bank details below:

**ZHEST, The Co-operative Bank, Sort Code 089299, Account Number 65500684**

Then contact [info@zhest.org](mailto:info@zhest.org) to inform us of your standing order and for assistance.

If for any reason you should decide to discontinue your sponsorship please let us know.

There are also other ways of making a donation towards our school fees project:

### On Line

Please use above bank details to make a donation.

### Mydonate

To make a donation using your Debit/Credit Card, or to create your own school fees project fundraising page for ZHEST, go to: <https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/zimbabwehealtheducationandsustainabilitytrust>

**By post:** You can also send cheques to ZHEST, C/O 63 The Mall, Swindon, SN1 4JA or contact us on 01793 322184 for more information

### Gift Aid

If you are a UK tax payer and you make a donation through your bank, please contact [info@zhest.org](mailto:info@zhest.org) to gift aid your donation so that we can claim 25p for every £1 that you donate.



## Spotlight on Chingezi

Chingezi is a village in the Mberengwa district of the Midlands province of Zimbabwe. ZHEST has been supporting Chingezi primary school since 2013. This year of the 20 children that we have been paying school fees for in primary school seven progressed to Zvamagwiro secondary school. There are plans to furnish year zero (reception) classrooms and start a community income generation project.



### Our New Community representative

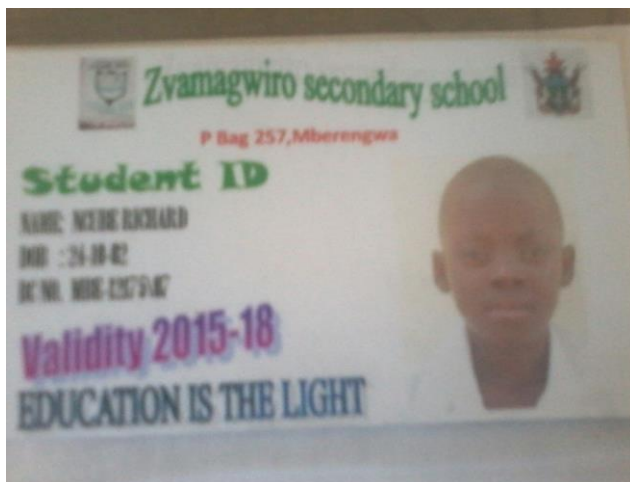
Rev. Joshua Zinungwa Shoko became our community representative in January 2015. He is the resident Lutheran minister for Chingezi parish.



Born and brought up in rural Mberengwa, he is one of six children. He can relate to some of the challenges encountered by families we are supporting as his family struggled to raise school fees for him and his siblings' education. On completing his secondary education he moved to Harare to seek employment. He worked for several companies before training to become a pastor. Rev Shoko graduated from United Theological College in Harare with diplomas in Religious studies and Theology in 2009. He has been working in Mberengwa since 2010 and was posted to Chingezi this year. He enjoys being a community representative as it is in keeping with his pastoral mission.

He is married and has three children ranging in ages from 11 years to 7 months.

### On a sad note



It was with sadness that we learnt of the death of one of the students we have been supporting.

Richard Ncube who had started secondary school at Zvamagwiro in January died in August following a period of illness bravely borne. He was 13. Our thoughts are with his family and friends.



## Thank you for your Support

Spring/ Summer tends to be our busiest time of the year for fundraising. Highlights included our African Fusion Supper Club at Christ Church, Swindon, Old Town Festival Open Gardens, Swindon, Mutsai Hove Bird's 50 mile sponsored walk on the Kennet and Avon Canal tow path and a Sky Dive by Wendy Hove.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported us this year by donating goods, money, buying crafts or supporting our fundraising activities.

By Christmas we will have raised over £8000. All the funds raised will go towards increasing the number of children we pay school fees for, providing equipment and furniture for schools and income generation projects for rural communities in Zimbabwe.



### Gift Aid

As a charity, ZHEST is now registered for Gift Aid, a government scheme which enables charities in the United Kingdom to claim the tax back from HMRC on donations. If you are currently a UK taxpayer and you fill out a Gift Aid declaration when you make a donation to us, we can claim back 25p for every £1 that you donate.

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[www.zhest.org](http://www.zhest.org)



Zimbabwe Health Education and Sustainability Trust