



The National Trust of Zimbabwe (NTZ) is a corporate body that acts as a custodian for the nation through the acquisition of properties of national, archaeological, historical, educational or aesthetic interest.

NATIONAL TRUST OF ZIMBABWE
APRIL 2013 NEWSLETTER
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Warm greetings to all our members, we are happy to welcome those new members who have recently joined. We hope that you will be inspired to take an active interest in the National Trust of Zimbabwe and all that the Trust represents.

1. MEMBERSHIP

We have continued to attract new members at various functions and thanks to the efforts of our Committee members who encourage people to join. We have embarked on a 'profile raising' and awareness campaign which will hopefully make more people more aware of the National Trust and what it represents to Zimbabweans and the benefits it can bring members.

Membership Benefits

Being a member of the NTZ has benefits both inside the country as well as around the world, as the organization enjoys reciprocity with other National Trust properties in England and Wales, Scotland, Guernsey, Jersey, Barbados, Ireland, Malaysia, Bahamas, Bermuda, New Zealand, Australia, Tasmania, and Stichtings Kasteelen en Geldersch Landschap in the Netherlands

Heritage is precious: treasure it

In joining the National Trust of Zimbabwe, paid-up members enjoy free entry to the properties and the National Galleries of Zimbabwe, receive discounted tickets for Reps Theatre's and enjoy free entry to numerous other Trust properties worldwide.

2. FUND-RAISING

We still have some of the delicious jams made in Nyanga available at \$3 a bottle – please call Helen Hyslop on 860202 if you would like to collect a few bottles. Supporting National Trust of Zimbabwe and the Nyanga residents too!

For the first time, some of the La Rochelle orchids were available for sale at the bi-annual Orchid Show over the weekend 13th/14th April.

Grateful thanks to the Orchid Society Chairman and his wife, Joe and Georgette Goncalves, who very kindly collected the plants from La Rochelle and transported them to Mukuvisi Woodlands for us.

3. UPDATE ON LOCAL PROPERTIES

La Rochelle



TREE LABELING AT LA ROCHELLE – grateful thanks to Karen Dickin of the National Trust in the UK for making this possible – she arranged for the tree labels from the National Trust of UK and they have been placed on a number of the indigenous and the exotic trees at La Rochelle, in the arboretum and in the botanical garden. Now visitors can identify the trees and know of their origin.

It is hoped to continue this identification process to extend to the orchid collection.

Members of the Mutare Committee assisting with the tree-labelling exercise recently at La Rochelle!



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Rhodes Inyanga Historical Exhibition

The Exhibition is looking great and a lot of hard work has been undertaken by the Nyanga Committee. A lot of very positive comments are being received by visitors.

Positive news is that the Reading and Research Room is almost ready. Wiring and lighting has been re-done and books are ready to be sorted, catalogued and displayed. We now have a professional Librarian spending four days here this week. Donations of more books, bookcases and now a desk from a member of the History Society have given us sufficient to begin using the room as planned. Those wishing to use the books will be asked to pay a small Research fee.

We now have permission to go ahead with the new signage on the road. One of the NTZ Councillors has very generously offered to donate some of the money needed for this, personally, which we really appreciate.

Worlds View

Worlds View now has its own committee, and members report directly to the NTZ. The planting programme is going forward, and we are sure that the site will soon look lovely. Work continues on upgrading not only Worlds View but all the other properties, with new signage, membership forms available at each site, posters and more information for visitors to have access to.

4. INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

The International National Trusts Organisation (INTO) Conference is being held this year on the African continent for the first time, in Entebbe, Uganda, 30th September to 4th October 2013.

Organised by the CCFU (Cross Cultural Foundation of Uganda), the themes for this year's INTO Conference are:

- HERITAGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
- CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND RIGHTS
- SAFEGUARDING OUR HERITAGE and
- UNLOCKING OUR DIVERSE POTENTIAL

The National Trust of Zimbabwe is working to present a paper and give a talk to the delegates on the National Trust of Zimbabwe, which is the ONLY National Trust in Africa.

The National Trust of Zimbabwe has been represented at the last two Conferences, in Dublin (2009) and in Victoria, Canada (2011), both of which were an excellent opportunity to introduce our NTZ to the international platform and to renew contacts and friendships with global members of INTO.

The organizers this year, the Cross-Cultural Foundation of Uganda, are not a National Trust as such, and are deeply committed to the preservation and recognition of all aspects of our history, culture and legacies, both tangible and intangible.

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5. LOCAL NEWS - HARARE HERITAGE HOUSES

Firstly, we wish to thank all our members who have kindly come forward with suggestions of interesting properties. The process of investigation is hard work and time consuming, but quite fascinating.

The following properties which had already been identified were discussed in detail and group members allocated for special responsibilities.

1. 5 Garden Lane, Avondale 1949. Brocius style architecture.
2. George Fleming House 1929, 232 Herbert Chitepo Ave, Harare. Established 1911.
3. 10 East Road, Belgravia, circa. 1920. Still being investigated.
5. 28 Cork Rd, Avondale. Still being investigated.
6. Dorothy Duncan, Braille Library circa 1929, 119 Fife Ave, Harare. Still being investigated.
7. Stodart Hall. Report not yet completed by NMMZ.

Reports on No's 1 & 2 are available for any members wishing to read them. In addition we have been given a list of peri urban Harare farms to investigate. However, until we have more personnel we regretfully decided to leave these for the time being. We have also received a request from Prof. Tony Hyland to start a similar project in Bulawayo. That too will have to wait until perhaps we have a committee in Bulawayo.

Trust members living in England and in South Africa have written with suggestions and various contacts for which we are most grateful.

From all this, it can be seen that we are in need of more members for our group which we hope to have soon. The way we have arranged it is that specific members are responsible for one or two properties at a time and report back to the group when concluded. Thus concentration can be properly focused on one property at a time.

It is felt that there should be a policy change in the matter of selection of properties. There is a need to incorporate heritage houses from different ethnic groups e.g. Zimbabwean, Jewish, Greek, Muslim. Until now the selection has been exclusively from the conventional Anglo Saxon Pioneer heritage.

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