



NATIONAL TRUST OF ZIMBABWE
OCTOBER 2012 NEWSLETTER
VOL. 2 OF 2012

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Warm greetings to all our members and welcome to our 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. NTZ AGM AND COUNCIL MEETING - 25TH AUGUST 2012

A copy of the past Chairman's Report is being circulated to members which gives an update on the last 2 years activities and areas of focus. The audited financial statements are available for anyone interested, just send us an email! A Council meeting was held immediately following the AGM and we welcome new Council members Corrado Trinci, Edone Ann Logan and Bill Johnstone. David Scott was appointed Chairman of the Board of Trustees and The Council. The next Council meeting is being held at La Rochelle over the weekend of 13/14 October.

The NTZ has embarked on a 'New Strategic Direction' after a recent workshop. 'Working Parties' have been set up to address NTZ's immediate issues/needs, raise funding and develop management plans aimed at restoring NTZ's assets to their former glory. The objective is to grow the activities of NTZ in a businesslike manner and drive forward any future developments/opportunities. All this is aimed at ensuring a sustainable future for NTZ and each of its properties. This "New Direction" is complimentary to the work done during the visit last year of Karen Dickin from the National Trust of UK.

Each NTZ property and a "National" group (focusing on the business of NTZ) will have its own 'Working Party' reporting to Council and acting on strategic priorities and the development of

longer term management plans. Those management plans will encompass financial forecasts, marketing and public relations, fund-raising, membership and property development/maintenance in order to ensure NTZ remains a financially viable and relevant entity.

A lot of work still needs to be done, but we have an enthusiastic and passionate group of people determined to “make things happen”! Members will be updated on progress in subsequent newsletters.



NTZ Council at work!!

2. MEMBERSHIP

Between the June Borrowdale Craft Fair and the Hayhill Market we had 23 new members join for the 2012/2013 membership period. Please note that we have a dedicated email address for membership or membership enquiries which is: - ntzimbabwe@gmail.com. A very pleasing number of former members have rejoined. Mutare membership is increasing. (Please ‘like’ our FACEBOOK page too and have a look at some of the lovely pictures which have been posted – look for NATIONAL TRUST OF ZIMBABWE on Facebook!!) Mutare membership is increasing and we are happy to note that we have ‘lapsed’ members re-joining after several years absence!!! This is very encouraging indeed.

3. FUND-RAISING

Fira Bache writes on the Fair “The National Trust had a stand at the Annual Borrowdale Craft Fair held 24 June 2012 at Old Georgians’ Sports Club in Harare.

We were fortunate to be given a stand which was in a good position and were blessed with a wonderful warm, sunny winter’s day which helped to entice members of the public to our stand.

Visitors to the stand were, in the most part, totally unaware of our existence and were very interested in the history of the Trust, and we were delighted to welcome 17 new members with the possibility of additional members as some people took the application forms away to complete at leisure. Copies of the last newsletter and the Australian Trust magazine were forwarded to all the new members.

We were also visited by life members who were pleased to learn that we had become more active.

We had 50 booklets printed – the latest booklet which Sharon had painstakingly updated and which has beautiful colour pictures of La Rochelle, were on sale, together with homemade jams, 6 different varieties, from Nyanga which Edone Ann Logan of the Nyanga Committee very kindly brought up for us. Also on sale were some beautiful prints of La Rochelle, signed by the artist Margie Grobelaar.

New membership, the sale of jams, Historical Street Maps of Harare and the new Trust booklet led to a very successful day for the Trust.”

Our grateful thanks to those members of the Council who gave of their time to help at the Stand – Fira and Clive Bache, Sharon Waterworth, Clare Peech, Helen, Charles and John Hyslop.



Borrowdale Craft Fair - NTZ stand

Our thanks too, to Clare Peech who hosted a NTZ stand at the Hayhill Weavers Fair in August. Welcome to the new members who signed up at the fair.



NTZ stand at Hayhill Weavers

We still have some of the delicious jams made in Nyanga available at \$3 a bottle – please call Helen Hyslop on 860202 or Lin Goncalves on 0772 359 087 if you would like to collect a few bottles. Supporting National Trust of Zimbabwe and the Nyanga residents too! The La Rochelle prints are also still available, as are copies of ‘The Last Shangri-La’, the story of Sir Stephen and Lady Courtauld.

4. UPDATE ON LOCAL PROPERTIES

Rhodes Nyanga Exhibition at Rhodes Hotel and World’s View

Refurbishment work is on-going and the Nyanga Committee is doing tremendous work in getting the exhibition back into an acceptable state to welcome visitors. Our most grateful thanks for the very kind and generous donations and loans of a good quantity of historical material for display, which depicts the history of the area and its people through many generations and changing times.



A section of the Feminine Corner and display of items bequeathed by Peter Turnbull Kemp, including two of his kites flown to entice raptors, etc. from the heights of Inyangani, for recording purposes. The history of the introduction of trout into the Nyanga streams is recorded on the display board, and a record of the 2012 National Parks trout stocking programme in each NP dam. Pages from the fishermen's comment book from the early days of Rhodes Hotel are copied on the board. Old photographs of the Moodie Family are displayed on the right.

Our thanks to the committee members in Nyanga who have donated time, effort and materials to realizing this project. Work is continuing on the display of new and existing items in the exhibition, with the help of the members and interested parties, and it should soon be looking great!

Work is also planned to refurbish the building in which the exhibition is housed, maintaining all the historical aspects and importance of the structure.

The Rhodes Nyanga Hotel, adjacent to the Historical Display, is open and looking very good. Under new management, it is promising to be another nice venue in the area for weekend getaways.

World's View at this time of the year burns....which for the first-time visitor might look like a scene from a moon-scape, but in no time at all, the wild flowers and grasses are sprouting and with the first rains the area will look bright and fresh and colourful once more.



World's View

La Rochelle

Efforts continue to try to raise the necessary funding for work to be done on the tower and on the main building. It is hoped that there will be a breakthrough in this respect quite soon which will offer a reprieve to this lovely site and the valuable gardens.

An article has been published in the May edition of TRUST NEWS of AUSTRALIA on La Rochelle. If any members would like a PDF version of the article, please let us know by email – it might be worth forwarding on to friends and family overseas. (lingoncalves@zol.co.zw)

The next Council meeting on the 14th October, will be held at La Rochelle.

Murahwa's Hill

A new Working Party will continue to source funding to build an interpretive centre on this site as it is a valuable source of archaeological and historical interest for school groups and other visitors to this area.

Mabukuwene

This is a beautiful site in Bulawayo where members of the Meikle family are buried. It is hoped that the Trust will be able to refurbish the site and encourage other groups to make use of it.

Sebakwepoort

It is hoped that some Council members will be able to visit the site soon to establish the condition of this area.

5. INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

INTO (International National Trusts Organisation) will be holding the 15th Conference next year 2013 in Entebbe, Uganda, the first to be held on the African continent.

INTO is a network of National Trusts and similar organisations from around the world, united by their common interest in the conservation and enjoyment of our shared heritage – built and natural, tangible and intangible.

INTO responds to the critical need to better protect and preserve both tangible and intangible heritage of national, regional, and local significance, and especially to integrate heritage conservation into national and local programmes for sustainable development.

The INTO Conferences are held every two years. At the last conference, held in Victoria, Canada, more than 260 delegates from 34 countries and including Zimbabwe and a representative from NTZ, representing over 6 million members sharing a common vision to safeguard the world's natural and cultural heritage came together.

INTO's next conference, the **15th International Conference of National Trusts**, will be co-hosted by the Cross-Cultural Foundation of Uganda, a local NGO with an active heritage promotion programme and member of INTO. The invitation, however, will be extended by all INTO members in Africa and the conference will adopt a continent-wide 'label'.

TO BE THE CUSTODIANS OF THOSE PROPERTIES AND SITES OF CULTURAL HERITAGE AND NATURAL BEAUTY WHICH WE HOLD IN TRUST AND TO MAINTAIN AND MANAGE THEM FOR THE BENEFIT AND ENJOYMENT OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE AND OUR FRIENDS NOW, AND AS A LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS