



ACN 613802574

ZANE: Zimbabwe A National Emergency

Over 5,400
children have
received treatment
for clubfoot thanks
to your
generosity.

ZANE
provides weekly
food supplies to
26 care homes in
Zimbabwe.

ZANE
provides food,
shelter and medical
assistance to
2,100 destitute
pensioners.



Summer 2023/24

Newsletter

Thank You

High inflation, the rising cost of living, and high interest rates and energy bills are putting ZANE's fundraising efforts under severe pressure. News headlines are understandably focused on the terrible wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, while the ongoing plight of Zimbabwe's poorest is of little media interest.

These factors have a direct impact on fundraising income. However, thanks to the loyalty of ZANE's supporters, we are still managing to provide lifesaving

aid to over 2,000 destitute pensioners, including some 500 war veterans and their widows. ZANE's clubfoot correction programme is transforming the lives of children – over 5,400 children have been treated to date across Zimbabwe. And in a high-density suburb, our education projects continue to impact the lives of children who otherwise would not be receiving any schooling.

The predictable result of the Zimbabwe election in August gave rise to an atmosphere of defeat and despondency. ZANE beneficiaries face another five years without adequate healthcare or social services. Life

in Zimbabwe is a constant battle for survival; there is little scope to focus on anything other than simply getting through each day.

It is ZANE's kind and generous supporters that enable survival. Your donations provide food, shelter and medicine to those who rely on aid to survive each day. Life for those assisted by ZANE would be so much worse without your support. Please be assured it is never taken for granted and please know it really does save lives.

You can read about how your gifts are helping in this newsletter. On behalf of the ZANE team and all those we help, thank you.

Case Study

Rising Star

Roger*, 78, was a talented sportsman. He excelled at rugby and cricket, playing at a high level for his school and university. After gaining a degree in Economics in South Africa, Roger returned to Zimbabwe where he established a banking career. Coaching sport and refereeing matches in his spare time, he became well-known and respected in his fields.

In the late 1960s, Roger enlisted with the army, rising to the rank of lieutenant. Sadly, he was badly injured when a hand grenade he was holding exploded, leaving him with



brain damage. After years of rehabilitation, Roger was able to walk again but the entire left side of his body was damaged. He was left with permanent short-term memory loss.

With assistance, Roger was able to work in supported admin roles in a building society for many years until his health deteriorated further. With no income and just a tiny army pension, Roger found himself destitute and homeless. ZANE intervened and Roger now lives in a retirement home where he receives three meals a day and the medical assistance he requires.

Without the kindness of ZANE supporters, Roger's life would be very different. "I'm very happy where I live. I am looked after and can watch sport in the communal room with my friends. Thank you. Without your support, I would be penniless."

Bright Futures

The ZANE-funded education programme is flourishing, despite operating in a community experiencing extreme poverty, turmoil and uncertainty. Children attending the pop-up classes continue to thrive in their learning and benefit from the safe and nurturing space the classes provide. In addition to 72 children in six classes, ZANE works with 14 parents assisting with community gardens – crucial to contributing to the food provided at the classes, and in encouraging self-sufficiency.

ZANE is funding 28 scholarships for children attending mainstream schools in the same community – the majority of whom have progressed from the pop-up classes. In addition, ZANE is providing a scholarship for a gifted A level student. Simba, 18, did not attend school during the covid-enforced lockdowns and his family could not afford online tuition. Despite this, he achieved nine A grades in his GCSEs. With his family unable to fund his further education, ZANE provided a scholarship and Simba is predicted three A grades at



A Level. Your donations are making the ZANE-funded education programme possible, and we look forward to following the progress of Simba and all the children fortunate enough to benefit from your generosity.

**Names and images in this newsletter have been changed for security reasons*

Walking Wonders

ZANE founders Tom and Jane Benyon have completed 14 sponsored walks to raise funds for Zimbabwe's destitute pensioners. The first walk, back in 2010, took them from Edinburgh to London. Since then, they have covered much of the UK, most recently walking along the North Norfolk coast. As many ZANE supporters know, Tom and Jane write a blog to accompany the walks – Tom's is a social and political commentary while Jane's is a description of their route and surroundings.

Accompanied by their canine companions, Tom and Jane have covered an incredible 3,080 miles for ZANE. The walks remain a significant fundraiser and it is for this reason that, with a combined age of 158, Tom and Jane continue to don their walking boots and embark on these impressive hikes.



They do so with great grace and humour, often accompanied by and generously hosted by ZANE supporters up and down the country.

As Tom recently wrote in his blog: *"Someone asked me why the walks continue to be popular. I reckon loyal supporters assume that Jane and I must be as stiff as stoats after all these years – so they back us 'one last time'. And then, guess what? The following year, we pop up again like a jack in the box with, 'Hello! Here we go again!' And so our supporters think, 'Gosh, one more time it is, where's the cheque book?' And the process repeats itself!"*

The reality is that, as long as they are able, Tom and Jane will continue to walk for the destitute pensioners of Zimbabwe with nowhere else to turn.

They walk because it could be them – and it could be you.



ZANE Regular Giving – help us provide long-term security for beneficiaries

Many thanks to those supporters who have set up a regular direct debit to donate to ZANE. A regular gift helps us to plan our work because it enables us to predict how much income we'll have in the future. It helps us to know, day in and day out, that we will have a steady income stream that we can rely upon. It also allows you to plan your giving and provides you with the flexibility to change it at any time.

If you're able to donate to ZANE via a regular gift, every time you hear about our work, you'll know you've played a part in it. The gift you give to us today will help people wherever the need is greatest.

\$38

**pays for monthly
diabetes medication
for one pensioner.**

\$62

**provides a modest food
parcel for a destitute
pensioner.**

\$96

**pays for a pensioner's
hypertension
medication for
six months.**

A Rescue Mission

Earlier this year, the ZANE team in Harare dealt with one of its most harrowing cases to date. Janet* has been under ZANE's care for many years, benefitting from an annual grant from one of the UK services charities. She worked as a senior aircraft operative, a job she loved. Sadly, Janet abandoned her career after she was attacked and raped on an evening out, resulting in a pregnancy and the birth of her son, Adam*.

Janet later worked as a bookkeeper but struggled to maintain jobs as Adam was a challenging child who would later be diagnosed with a learning disability and schizophrenia. Janet was able to buy a small flat where she and Adam both lived until recently. On previous visits to Janet's flat, the ZANE case worker, Lucy, could see that Janet was just about coping – although it was clear she was struggling with Adam who had stopped taking

his schizophrenia medication. The pair's living conditions were deteriorating, and Adam's behaviour was becoming increasingly challenging and threatening. Despite this, Janet was insistent that she wanted to continue to stay in the flat and care for Adam.

Over the last two years, however, Janet insisted on meeting Lucy outside the flat – she was concerned Lucy's visits would upset Adam who was often aggressive and volatile. It

meant ZANE was not fully aware of how bad the situation had become.

On one such visit earlier this year, it became apparent that Janet's health was rapidly declining and her personal hygiene was poor. The team became very concerned and worried about what would happen to Adam if she died. After time and counselling, Janet agreed to move to a care home as long as ZANE sought medical help for Adam, 49.

The ZANE team quickly put a plan in place and in June this year, an ambulance crew and a psychiatrist arrived at the flat. This in itself was a mission – these things are not straightforward in Zimbabwe and it is testament to the small ZANE team involved that this could be arranged. Further, there was a significant cost incurred and the operation was only possible thanks to the generosity of ZANE supporters.

Adam was sedated and transferred to a psychiatric ward of a government hospital in Harare while Janet was taken to a care home.

Janet and Adam were living in appalling conditions, the worst the ZANE team has ever seen (see photo). Neither had bathed for a long time, their clothing was filthy and Adam's hair had grown past his shoulders. Both were suffering from malnutrition.



Actual photo of Janet and Adam's living conditions



Janet's flat has sold and the proceeds will be used to cover Adam's ongoing care home fees and medical costs.

This has been a harrowing and distressing case, but one that we wanted to share with you. It highlights that ZANE is about so much more than providing financial aid. The care, compassion, initiative and tenacity of the team involved saved the lives of Janet and Adam.

Janet will live her final days with dignity – she and Adam would otherwise have died in squalor, alone and isolated.

In supporting ZANE, you enable us to resolve complex cases like this one, and to gift dignity and comfort to people in the depths of despair. Thank you.

"I was so overwhelmed and couldn't think straight. The ZANE team rescued me. Life is so much easier now. Bless you all."

Adam stabilised quickly with the right medication and care. He has now moved to the same care home as Janet. Sadly, Janet has been diagnosed with breast cancer, which doctors suspect has spread to her bones. She is receiving palliative care and will spend her remaining time being looked after in comfort. She and Adam regularly have their meals together and enjoy playing bingo.

Janet is receiving an increased grant from the UK services charities to cover her care home fees and ZANE is paying for her medication and living costs. After an industrial deep clean,

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A Lasting Legacy

For over 20 years, ZANE has been here for Zimbabwe's destitute pensioners, providing aid towards shelter, food, medicine and essential living costs. In this period, we've been able to help more people thanks to the generosity of those leaving ZANE a gift in their will.

A gift in your will to ZANE is an incredible way to celebrate your love for Zimbabwe and help pensioners in the evening of their lives. Gifts in wills are vital to all areas of our work, so any gift you give, whatever size, will make a big difference to our work.

By remembering ZANE in your will, you'll ensure that we can continue to be here for ZANE's destitute pensioners for as long as we're needed.

To add ZANE to your will, you simply need to contact your attorney or estate planner and provide them with the following details:

Charity Name: ZANE: Zimbabwe A National Emergency
Registered Charity Number: ABN 36251392094

It could not be easier. Thank you.



“ ZANE does invaluable, literally lifesaving work in Zimbabwe in providing essential support for those who can no longer help themselves - especially amongst our senior citizens. As ZANE extends its fundraising activities to Australia, I am pleased to endorse the importance of its work and guarantee that the money raised goes where it is needed most. I encourage fellow Australians to support ZANE generously.

Matthew E K Neuhaus

Former Australian Ambassador to Zimbabwe **”**

\$159

pays for a nourishing meal for 12 children in our pop-up classes for a month.

\$272

is spent on bananas for care home residents every three months.

\$460

successfully treats a child with clubfoot.



“ I have known ZANE for many years. ZANE does great work in Zimbabwe looking after pensioners, veterans and the vulnerable. Please give ZANE your full support.

Andy Flower OBE

Former Captain Zimbabwe National Cricket Team and England team coach **”**

Thank You

– letters from those you are helping in Zimbabwe

Dear Donors,
Thank you for your kindness. Since losing our farm, and my husband, I have nobody and I have nothing. Without your generosity, I would not be able to survive. It helps with paying my rent and buying food. You will never begin to understand what your help means to me and what would I do without it. Thank you again and bless you.

I just want to say a very big thank you for the wonderful blessing your donations have been to me. Without your generous monetary gifts and food hampers I would not be able to get through each month. So once again I say thank you very much and may God bless you all.

Thank you thank you. Those words however, will never be enough to convey our gratitude to you for the support we receive from you all. Your self sacrifice for people you don't even know, living thousands of miles away is remarkable and very much appreciated. Thank you all once again

Dear Donors,
I would like to thank everyone most sincerely for the donation I receive from ZANE. I have been receiving this donation since 2005 and is the only income I receive. I have been blessed through your kindness, which pays for my rent and monthly medications. Once again, many grateful thanks

Jump for Joy

Your donations have enabled ZANE to successfully treat over 5,400 children born with clubfoot.

Left untreated, clubfoot causes disfigurement and disability. Children with untreated clubfoot in Zimbabwe face poor life chances, pain, stigma and in many cases, abuse and neglect. Yet, treated early, clubfoot can be corrected without invasive surgery. Just \$460 can successfully treat a child with clubfoot, leaving them free to lead a life free of disability and to be able to jump for joy.



Happy Feet!

Food for Thought

- ZANE distributes around 16 tonnes of e'Pap each year. This is a nutritious, pre-cooked porridge that is a blend of maize and soya enriched with vitamins and minerals.

- ZANE provides care homes with 168,000 eggs, over 28,000 bananas and around 5,000 cabbages each year.

- A ZANE food parcel provided to destitute pensioners includes oats, cooking oil, juice, tinned fruit, baked beans, soup, tomato puree, tinned sardines, tea, coffee, powdered milk, sugar, marmalade, rice, biscuits and toilet roll.

- ZANE provides over 15,000 hot meals each year for children and teaching mentors attending the pop-up classes – for most, it is their only meal of the day. These meals are supplemented with vegetables grown by beneficiaries in community gardens.



3 ways to give:

- **Donate online** – <http://zaneaustalia.org.au/donate/>
- **Call us:** +61 (0) 421 600 040
- **Or return this form to:**
ZANE Australia, Unit 4, 50-52 Cypress Crescent
Leopold VIC 3224, Australia

Preferred use of gift:

- ☐ Trustees' Discretion ☐ Veterans' Work
☐ Impoverished Communities ☐ Clubfoot

I would like to donate:

- ☐ A single gift of \$ _____
☐ A monthly gift of \$ _____



ACN 613 802 574



ABN 36251392094

My details:

Title	Initials	Surname
Address		
		Postcode
Tel		Mobile:
Email		

Please complete form overleaf.

REASONS TO SUPPORT ZANE

1. **ZANE** provides aid, comfort and support to 2,100 impoverished pensioners with nowhere else to turn. Only those genuinely in need of assistance receive it.
2. Donors can choose which area of **ZANE**'s work they wish to support.
3. **ZANE** was the Telegraph Group Overseas Charity of the year.
4. **ZANE** is looking after around 500 aged and frail veterans and their widows. These people fought for the Crown in WW2, Malaya, Korea and Aden. Without **ZANE**, they would be living with insufficient food and no healthcare.
5. **ZANE** runs education programmes in the high-density areas, assisting women and children living in extreme poverty.
6. **ZANE** funded the first clubfoot correction programme in Zimbabwe.
7. **ZANE** funds a unique medical programme, providing basic medication to pensioners (including war veterans and their widows) for the treatment of conditions such as hypertension, diabetes and prostate issues.
8. **ZANE**'s funds are subject to rigorous audit and **ZANE** is proud that since its foundation, it has never lost money to collapsed banks, middlemen or corruption.
9. An independent consultancy reviewed **ZANE** and the report stated: "*The charity thrives on its responsiveness, flexibility and lack of bureaucracy. Operationally, ZANE is frugal, focused and effective in delivering aid to the needy.*"

Fifteen treatment centres have been established and more than 5,400 children have received treatment to date.



“There are many people in Zimbabwe who today remain in desperate need of help, through no fault of their own. **ZANE** is a dedicated charity devoted to providing a lifeline to these people. The **ZANE** team is hard-working and focused, bringing impressive results for the poorest and least advantaged, and is most worthy of our support.

Jonathan Sheppard

Former Australian Ambassador to Zimbabwe
Board member, **ZANE** Australia



You can save a life today

Please donate below, or donate online at www.zaneaustralia.org.au/donate

ZANE Australia, Unit 4, 50-52 Cypress Crescent, Leopold VIC 3224

ZANE will not pass on your details to third parties. If a specified project is fully funded, donations will be used where most needed.

How did you first hear about **ZANE** Australia? _____

I would like to donate by:

☐ Cheque

☐ Credit card ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card Expiry /

Cardholder's name _____

Card number:

3-digit Verification number:

☐ Online Direct Deposit to:

ZANE Australia Limited, BSB: 032023, Account: 305217

Payment Reference:

your name _____

Thank you for your support.