

December 2018

Dear Friend of ZANE

2018 has been an exciting year for ZANE Australia. While still relying on ZANE UK for help to some extent, we are finally finding our feet and beginning to manage our own affairs to a much greater degree while seeing the charity grow on all fronts.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking our wonderful team of volunteer office holders and, more especially, our growing band of friends and donors – without your commitment, we would not be able to make any contribution at all to the amazing work that is carried out day to day in our beloved Zimbabwe.

This time last year, there was a deep sense of hope and expectation in Zimbabwe. The Mugabe era had finally ended and the country put its faith in the democratic process for long-term change. Sadly, the July elections have led, not to the hoped-for change, but to yet another round of economic and social meltdown. So dire is the situation that the work of ZANE is more desperately needed than ever before as the exhausted people of Zimbabwe struggle to find a way of surviving.

While ZANE continues to work closely with the UK services' charities to bring help to the many Zimbabweans who served the Crown, we were sad to see that Zimbabwe was not invited to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph in London to commemorate the many Zimbabweans who had laid down their lives in both World Wars. ZANE is forever mindful of the great sacrifice made by people of all creeds and races and determined to walk alongside the veterans and their widows to the end of their journeys.

It can seem an overwhelming task to find enough money to keep ZANE's work going in such difficult circumstances, but this year has shown how each small amount raised can be brought together to make an enormous difference to the folk who receive it.

Many of our donors write short notes with their donations and the following is typical of the feelings with which people give to ZANE:

*I am the child of missionaries- we lived in Rhodesia and Zambia from 1962 to 1970. My heart breaks for the country and the pensioners left with nothing and nowhere to go.*

*I was very pleased to see from Facebook that friends of mine had hosted the young man who is hiking the Appalachian trail for ZANE. Thank you so much for all you are doing.*

The following is a letter from one of our beneficiaries:

*I have been writing to you in my mind, in my heart and on paper. I truly thank God for the work and love you have for the elderly here in Zimbabwe.*

Through ZANE, the emotions which prompt our wonderful donors to give, are shared directly with those left behind in Zimbabwe. We thank you all and encourage you to keep walking with us.

With every good wish for the festive season.

*Nicky Passaportis*

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