



PRESIDENTS' REPORT 2021

As the Covid 19 pandemic has continued to create havoc on the world with severe illness, deaths, lockdowns, travel restrictions, family separations, emotional and economic hardship, and great uncertainty, we have all felt the impact on many aspects of our lives.

Despite these challenges, the ZimSEF committee have continued their activities remotely and we managed to fulfil our commitments for 2021.

We have said goodbye to Julie Hanley as our treasurer and thank her sincerely for her participation in the committee, particularly her assistance in the preparation of the financial reports.

We are very pleased to welcome Sally Maiden to the committee. Sally is well known to ZimSEF team as she has worked as a volunteer for many of our fundraising events over the past ten years. We are grateful she has taken on the role as Treasurer.

Throughout the year Harare schools have experienced continual lockdowns so the normal school terms have been disrupted. Despite the difficulties YASD has been able to continue with the ZimSEF Education Fund and support 7 children in the programme. We've also continued our focus on delivering community projects to the broader Hatcliffe community in partnership with local organisation Young Achievement Sports for Development (YASD).

Once again, fundraising has been postponed due to lockdowns in Sydney and other day to day disruptions. We have funded this year's activities through sponsorships and donations.

Our thanks go out to the YASD team, all our sponsors and donors and the ZimSEF committee for their ongoing support during this challenging time.

EDUCATION FUND

In 2021, Zimbabwe experienced extremely difficult circumstances and extended school closures were a regular occurrence. Our focus was to continue supporting our beneficiaries with food, stationary, uniforms and other needs, while at the same time developing projects to provide access to education beyond the classroom.

With the uncertainties faced over the past two years due to the pandemic and the limits placed on our ability to raise funds, the Committee decided to cap the intake of our Education Fund to only those students with regular sponsors. Seven children completed the school year.

We would like to thank Sean and Claire Henderson for their generous donation at the start of 2021 which enabled our beneficiaries and those associated with YASD programs to have access to masks, hand sanitiser and extra work books this year!

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Our community project was our primary achievement this year. Through a fortuitous collaboration with Cricket Without Borders, a donation of almost a container's worth of education and sporting equipment was safely delivered to YASD in Harare in October 2021.

In total, the consignment comprised 10 cubic metres (138 bags and boxes) of donations which included almost 1,000 items of sports clothing, 150 pairs of shoes, 100 sets of cricket gear, 40 tennis racquets, 200 tennis balls, 2,500 books, 400 sets of pencils, 500 grey lead pencils, 500 pens, 600 exercise books and 100 pairs of knitting needles and 30kg of wool.



This project has already been hugely impactful. Much of the cricketing equipment donated has been put toward YASD's Over The Boundary (OTB) program which offers mentorship and cricket coaching to young people in marginalised communities and promotes the inclusion of women in sport by making the game of cricket accessible and fun for young women and girls. In October 2021, OTB put on the tri-T10 tournament, a safe space where young women can play cricket without fear of judgement.



YASD will retain part of the equipment for its sports training programs run out of Hatcliffe 3 Primary School which reach up to 250 children per week. YASD reports that they are overwhelmed by the number of children that take part in their activities and that with more sports equipment they will be able to have more socially distanced children playing at the same time.



The school equipment has been donated to Hatcliffe 3 Primary School, a school with which YASD is closely aligned and out of which it runs many of its programs. Hatcliffe 3 has an enrolment of nearly one thousand pupils and is operating with a distinct lack of resources. Textbooks are reserved for teachers and as many of the children that are enrolled come from very poor families who cannot afford food, school needs can become a burden to them and often means going without. The donation of textbooks and stationery will go some way toward alleviating this burden.

We wish to formally thank Natarsha Scott and the team at Cricket without Borders, Grassroots Cricket and the Australian Cricket Institute for their efforts and goodwill and for enabling these opportunities to be provided to the children and community of Hatcliffe.

THE FUTURE

Our goal is to continue with the Education Fund, with the support of our sponsors, so the current beneficiaries will complete their primary and secondary education.

Whilst the Education Fund remains a core pillar of our work, we are increasingly looking to focus our efforts on developing and implementing community projects and other initiatives that will overcome barriers to education and support the Hatcliffe community more broadly.

We intend to hold our first fundraiser since 2019 in March 2022 to raise funds to cover the cost of the shipment of the goods to Harare and to continue our activities into 2022. We hope

that with the lifting of lockdowns and restrictions, we'll be able to hold an in-person event as we've missed connecting with our supporters over the past couple of years.

As always, we rely on our supporters, family and friends to continue the work of the ZimSEF and YASD teams. We thank them for their ongoing and unwavering support.

Tempe McMinn

President

Amber Maiden

Vice-President

