

The government of national unity may have reached its first hundred days but the Vigil is resigned to a long struggle until our mission statement is accomplished – to see internationally-monitored free and fair elections.

With the continuing failure to observe the 'Global Political Agreement', members of the Vigil management team discussed our way forward and next Saturday we are to hold our first forum. Many of us gather after the Vigil at the nearby Theodore Bullfrog pub. The plan is that once a month we will book a private room at the Bullfrog where we can discuss ideas and get to know each other better. Every week there are dozens of newcomers at the Vigil and we want to engage them more on what the Vigil is about.

One of the subjects we'll be discussing at the forum is the asylum issue. Many people are questioned at asylum hearings about their attendance at the Vigil and we want people to know what to say. The Vigil is not an asylum organisation: we point people to our partner organisation the Zimbabwe Association. But we write letters for regular attenders, though Vigil Co-ordinator Dumi Tutani stressed 'The Vigil is really about human rights at home'.

Another matter we want to clarify is the relationship between the Vigil and our partner organisation Restoration of Human Rights in Zimbabwe, whose activities in Britain are becoming more widespread.

Other points:

Our luck held out and the threatened rain failed to materialize. We are very vulnerable at present as we are unable to use our tarpaulin because of a temporary invasion of our space by the water board.

Thanks to the extra people who helped look after the two tables this week: Eunita Masolo, Priscilla Kwembeya and Rebecca Rutsito.

For latest Vigil pictures check our pictures page

Zimbabwe Vigil Diary – 16th May 2009

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 17 May 2009 19:32 - Last Updated Sunday, 17 May 2009 20:10

FOR THE RECORD: 249 signed the register.

FOR YOUR DIARY:

- Central London Zimbabwe Forum. Monday 18th May at 7.30 pm. A discussion on why the GNU is failing. Venue: Bell and Compass, 9-11 Villiers Street, London, WC2N 6NA, next to Charing Cross Station at the corner of Villiers Street and John Adam Street.

- First Zimbabwe Vigil Forum. Saturday 23rd May at 6.30 pm. Upstairs at the Theodore Bullfrog, John Adam Street, London WC2N 6HL.

- ROHR Milton Keynes launch meeting. Saturday 23rd May from 1.30 – 5.30 pm. Venue: The Old Bath House, 205 Stratford Road, Wolverton, Milton Keynes MK12 5RL. Contact Martha Jiya 07727016098, Josephine Sibongile Phiri 07853572982 / 07930276126, P Mandere 07946717754 or P Mapfumo 07915926323 / 07932216070.

- ROHR Northampton and Kettering general meeting. Saturday, 30th May from 1.30 – 5.30 pm
Venue: St Mary's Church, Abbey Road

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Northampton

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NN4 8EZ

- Rohr President and Executive plus a well known lawyer present. Substantive committee to be elected. Contact: Norian Chindowa 07954379426, A Chimimba 07799855806, Willard Mudonzvo 07591686724, Marshall

Rusike 07884246888, Hazvineyi Masuka 07795164664, P Mapfumo 07915926323/07932216070.

- ROHR Brighton general meeting. Saturday, 30th May from 1.30 – 5.30 pm. Venue: The Community Base, Queens Road, Brighton. Some committee gap fillings to be done. Contact: Sinikiwe Dube 07824668763, Phyllis Chibanguza 07908406069/07535936460, Seph Mpofu 07786164808 or P Mapfumo 07915926323/07932216070.

- ROHR West Bromwich launch meeting. Saturday, 6th June from 1.30 – 5.30 pm. Venue: West Bromwich Town Hall, High Street, B70 8DT. Contact: Pamela Dunduru 07958386718, Rejoice Moyo 07884126754 or P Mapfumo 07915926323/07932216070

- Service of solidarity with the torture survivors of Zimbabwe. Friday 26th June from 7 – 8 pm. Venue: Southwark Cathedral. This is the 8th year the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum has marked UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. For more information,

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visit:

<http://www.hrforumzim.com>

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· Zimbabwe Association's Women's Weekly Drop-in Centre. Fridays 10.30 am – 4 pm.

Venue: The

Fire Station

Community and ICT Centre,

84 Mayton Street

,
London

N7 6QT, Tel: 020 7607 9764. Nearest underground:

Finsbury

Park

. For more information contact the Zimbabwe Association 020 7549 0355 (open Tuesdays and Thursdays).