

It's been a busy week for Vigil supporters, with our Independence Day demonstration against violence and our appeal to the Foreign Office to withdraw the invitation to attend the Royal Wedding unthinkingly issued to Mugabe's Ambassador in London.

Naturally we follow the doings of the Foreign Office quite closely and this week proved an unusually interesting one – one which gave us hope of a more robust approach to Southern African despots. This is how it developed:

- Monday: word from Malawi that the British High Commissioner was to be sent packing for privately criticizing the government of Mugabe's ally, President Mutharika – who has been given a stolen farm in Zimbabwe and in return named a highway after his hero.
- Tuesday: the Foreign Office whispers in Mutharika's ear that his country is bankrupt and kept afloat by the generosity of British taxpayers.
- Wednesday: grovelling apology from Mutharika – 'Britain is our best friend' (what about Mugabe?)

What about Mugabe indeed! The Vigil wants the Foreign Office to spell out similar home truths to the other Mugabe acolytes receiving handouts from Britain.

Even the most obtuse of SADC leaders knows the sanctions issue is a nonsense but nevertheless it has surfaced again in Harare's submission to President Zuma for his roadmap for elections.

The Vigil suggests that – to save the obtuse faces – it might be an idea to offer to suspend the targeted sanctions if the EU, US etc are satisfied with the election arrangements and are allowed to send observers.

After all the aim is to achieve free and fair elections. We can always deal with the crooks later.

For latest Vigil pictures check: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/zimbabwевigil/> . For the latest ZimVigil TV programme check <http://www.zimvigil.tv/>

**FOR THE RECORD:** 87 signed the register.

**EVENTS AND NOTICES:**

- **The Restoration of Human Rights in Zimbabwe (ROHR)** is the Vigil's partner organisation based in Zimbabwe. ROHR grew out of the need for the Vigil to have an organisation on the ground in Zimbabwe which reflected the Vigil's mission statement in a practical way. ROHR in the UK actively fundraises through membership subscriptions, events, sales etc to support the activities of ROHR in Zimbabwe.
- **ZBN News.** The Vigil management team wish to make it clear that the Zimbabwe Vigil is not responsible for Zimbabwe Broadcasting Network News (ZBN News). We are happy that they attend our activities and provide television coverage but we have no control over them. All enquiries about ZBN News should be addressed to ZBN News.
- The Zim Vigil band (Farai Marema and Dumi Tutani) has launched its theme song 'Vigil Yedu (our Vigil)' to raise awareness through music. To download this single, visit website: [www.imusicafrica.com](http://www.imusicafrica.com)
- **Swazi Protest against Royal Wedding Invitation.** Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2011 from 6 - 8 pm. Venue: Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, London W1K 1QA – protest located at main entrance to hotel on public footway in Deanery St W1. Tube: Hyde Park Corner or Marble Arch. Please join the Swaziland Vigil's protest outside the Dorchester Hotel where King Mswati who is attending the Royal Wedding will be staying. He is bringing an entourage of 50 to the UK.
- **ROHR Manchester Vigil.** Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April from 2 – 5 pm. Venue: Cathedral Gardens, Manchester City Centre (subject to change to Piccadilly Gardens). Contact: Delina Tafadzwa Mutyambizi 07775313637, Chamunorwa Chihota 07799446404, Panyika Karimanzira 07551062161, Artwell Pfende 07886839353, P Mapfumo 07915926323/07932216070 or P Chibanguza 07908406069. Future demonstration: 28<sup>th</sup> May. Same time and venue.
- **ROHR Bournemouth general meeting.** Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April from 2 – 5.30 pm. Venue: East Cliff Reformed Church opposite ASDA store, Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AY. Contact: Sekai 07772211220, Sledge 07788850146, Abi Nzimba 07780831455.
- **ROHR Harlow general meeting.** Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May from 2 – 6 pm. Venue: Sherards Hatch Nursery, Ployters Road, Harlow CM18 7PS. MP Mr Robert Halfon, ROHR President, UK National executive and a well-known immigration lawyer will be present. Contact Bothwell Nyemba 07725208657, Grace Kachingwe 07405637283, Aleck Kayima 07961907097, Lloyd Kashangura 07506481334 or P Mapfumo 07915926323 / 07932216070.
- **ROHR Woking general meeting.** Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May from 2 – 6pm. Venue: Woking Homes, Oriental Road, Woking, GU22 7BE. Contact, Isaac Mudzamiri 07774044873, Sithokozile Hlokana 07886203113, Saziso Zulu 07861028280 or P.Mapfumo 07915926323/07932216070.

- **ROHR Manchester meeting.** Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May: (committee meeting from 11 am – 1 pm, general meeting from 2 – 5 pm). Venue:  
The Salvation Army Citadel, 71 Grosvenor Road,  
Manchester  
M13 9UB.  
Contact: Delina Tafadzwa Mutyambizi 07775313637, Chamunorwa Chihota 07799446404, Panyika Karimanzira 07551062161, Artwell Pfende 07886839353, P Mapfumo 07915926323 / 07932216070 or P Chibanguza 07908406069.
- **ROHR Nottingham general meeting.** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May from 2 – 5 pm. Venue: St Saviours in the Meadows Church, Arkwright Walk, Nottingham NG2 2JU. The church is just a few minutes walk from the train station. ROHR National Executive members will be attending to discuss the abuse of human rights and political situation in Zimbabwe. Contact: Allan Nhemhara 07810197576, Mary Chabvamuperu 07412074928, Christopher Chibumbu 07775888205, P Chibanguza 07908406069 or P Mapfumo 07915926323 / 07932216070.
- **ROHR West Bromwich general meeting.** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May from 12.30 – 4 pm.  
Venue **St Peters Church Hall,  
White Hall Road, B70 0HF, West Bromwich.**  
ROHR President, National executive members and a well-known lawyer present. Contact: Pamela Dunduru 07958386718, Peter Nkomo 07817096594, Diana Mtendereki 07771708800, Paradzai Mapfumo 07915926323 or Phylis Chibanguza 07908406069.
- **Vigil Facebook page:** <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=8157345519&ref=ts> .
- **Vigil Myspace page:** <http://www.myspace.com/zimbabwewigil> .
- **'Through the Darkness'**, Judith Todd's acclaimed account of the rise of Mugabe. To receive a copy by post in the UK please email confirmation of your order and postal address to [ngwenyasr@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ngwenyasr@yahoo.co.uk) and send a cheque for £10 payable to "Budiro Trust" to Emily Chadburn, 15 Burners Close, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 0QA. All proceeds go to the Budiro Trust which provides bursaries to needy A Level students in Zimbabwe
- **Workshops aiming to engage African men on HIV testing and other sexual health issue** s. Organised by the Terrence Higgins Trust ( [www.tht.org.uk](http://www.tht.org.uk) ). Please contact the co-ordinator Takudzwa Mukiwa ( [takudzwa.mukiwa@tht.org.uk](mailto:takudzwa.mukiwa@tht.org.uk) ) if you are interested in taking part.