

'Zuma Save Zimbabwe' read our banners displayed at the Vigil. President Zuma would recognize them because we made them for his State Visit to London in March last year when the Vigil greeted him outside the South African High Commission.

We got a friendly wave from him then and we would like to give him one back: it depends on whether he follows up on the challenging line he took with Mugabe at the SADC Troika Summit on Zimbabwe last month.

Since then the six GPA negotiators have been working on the roadmap for elections to be presented to the SADC Summit in Windhoek on 20th May. Vigil supporter Clifford Mashiri, a former diplomat, is scathing about their work.

He told SW Radio Africa that the draft roadmap was a big joke. Nothing about it was satisfactory. "SADC will need to fulfill its promises and ensure that if there is a roadmap, it is one that ensures the safety of the people and the credibility of a vote. Otherwise this is just a roadmap to disaster."

We suspect Zuma sees it in the same light as he is apparently to visit Harare in the coming week to bang heads together again. Just what is at stake has been spelt out by the MDC's re-elected Treasurer-General Roy Bennett, one of the people who inspired the launch of the Vigil nine years ago. Speaking to South African businessmen in London, Roy warned that the entire region would face disaster if the Zimbabwe crisis was not resolved (http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/may6_2011.html#Z18).

Some of Mugabe's friends in SADC may not take this warning seriously but President Zuma will certainly take heed – especially in light of the findings of a British parliamentary group which recently visited Zimbabwe. They reported that the securocrats remained the main obstacle to reform in Zimbabwe(http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/may7a_2011.html#Z3).

Other points

- One of our supporters Ian Pocock borrowed our Mugabe mask for a protest against the UK selling weapons to unsavoury regimes (<http://london.indymedia.org.uk/articles/8960#comment-2201> for pictures).
- Beverley Mutandiro, who usually leads prayers, was unable to come this week because

she was working night shifts as a nurse. But we all heeded her message to us – ‘everybody sing – it will relieve stress and make you forget your problems’.

· The authentic Vigil atmosphere is captured by a great video of the song ‘Vigil Yedu (our Vigil)’ on youtube. There are lots of shots of the Vigil and Vigil people – check it out you may be on it ([http://www](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QukqctWc3XE)

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). Thanks to Dumi, Farai and Patrick for a brilliant production.

For latest Vigil pictures check: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/zimbabwевigil/> . Please note: Vigil photos can only be downloaded from our Flickr website – they cannot be downloaded from the slideshow on the front page of the Zimvigil website. For the latest ZimVigil TV programme check

<http://www.zimvigiltv.com/>

FOR THE RECORD: 99 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:

www.imusicafrika.com

and to watch the video check:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QukqctWc3XE>

· **ROHR Manchester meeting.** Saturday 14th 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 North East (Newcastle) general meeting.** Saturday 14th May from 12 – 3.30 pm). Venue: Civic Centre, Regent Street, Gateshead NE8 9SJ. 3 mins walk from the Gateshead Interchange. Contact: Susan Ndlovu 07767024586, Sharon Masocha 07751610298, Collin Matongo 07775987006, Rugare Chifungo (Coordinator) 07795070609.

• **ROHR Manchester Vigil.** Saturday 28th May 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.

• **ROHR Nottingham general meeting.** Saturday 28th 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 Chibumu 07775888205, P Chibanguza 07908406069 or P Mapfumo 07915926323 / 07932216070.

• **ROHR West Bromwich general meeting.** Saturday 28th 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/zimbabwевigil> .

• **'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

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). Please contact the co-ordinator Takudzwa Mukiwa (takudzwa.mukiwa@tht.org.uk) if you are interested in taking part.