

## NATIONAL HEROES (9<sup>th</sup> Series)

Issued 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2015

(Extracted from Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 3 of 2015)<sup>2</sup>

### 40c: Sunny Ntombiyelanga Takawira

Born 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1927 in Dube village Insiza Filabusi. Died 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010 Mt. Pleasant, Harare. Buried Heroes Acre, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

She grew up to be married to the Lion of Chirumhanzu Cde Leopold Takawira, and was very active in the United Church of Christ preaching frequently. She was educated at Hope Fountain Mission. She was moved with her family by the Rhodesian government to Nkayi where farming was very difficult. She then trained as a nurse (SEN) at Mnene Mission hospital in Belingwe (now Mberengwa).



She worked at Goes hospital and later in 1958 she joined newly opened Harari hospital (Pagomo). Sunny married Leopold on 2nd September 1955 in Gokwe. Adopting the stepchildren Therisa, Agnes and Patrick, she also looked after Joseph, Anna and Hellen, children of her husband through Nyamande. She herself had three children Samuel Handishe Takawira, Leo Tafirenyika 1960 and Getrude Ratidzo 1963.

Her duties in the liberation war were very much underplayed and at her home no. 3851 Jabavu Drive, Highfield, she cared for a lot of leaders who had been incarcerated and continued to do so even after the untimely death of her husband Leopold in Salisbury Prison. She protested as a trained nurse that the prison authorities had failed to attend to her husband for four hours and then held him in the prison clinic till 5 pm. He died from treatable condition (diabetes type II) as a result of long term inappropriate care.

She was also hurt in 1979 by being betrayed by sell outs. She then became involved in the old age home Melfort drawing her strength from her faith, providing guidance and support to younger women from all walks of life.

She remained humble. The President, Robert Mugabe described her at her burial always providing welcome to all her children. She died from an operation of ovarian cysts at the age of 82.

### 75c: David Isheunesu Godi Karimanzira



Born 25<sup>th</sup> May 1947 at Farm No. 7 Chitowa Mrewa District. Died 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2011 West End Clinic, Harare. Buried at Heroes Acre, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

He attended schools in Mrewa, Bubi, Nhowe and Dadaya in Zvishavane, finally, going to Goromonzi High School for his secondary education. In 1971 David enrolled for a Bachelor of Arts Degree at the University of Rhodesia, completing the programme in 1993.

He then obtained a Master's degree in Administration at Oxford University in U.K in 1976 and in 1978 he attained a Master's degree in Education from University of Birmingham proceeding to a PhD in Educational Psychology at that same University.

There he met and married his wife Rungano Ushewokunze. During his political career in the U.K he served in various party positions including Treasurer, Chairman and then political commissar for ZANU PF U.K as well as Secretary for Administration ZANU PF U.K. He became Deputy Secretary for Finance in Mashonaland East Province which also included Salisbury (Harare). In 1982 he became

Secretary for Finance for ZANU PF.

He worked in the City Marketing Department becoming general manager in 1984, and was appointed Minister of Youth Sports and Culture in 1985. From 1990 to 1993 he was Minister of Higher Education and Technology. In 1993 he was reassigned as Minister of Information Posts and Telecommunications in which he served until 1995. One significant achievement of his was the approval by Cabinet of the new Zimbabwe national anthem.

In 1995 he was appointed Resident Minister and Government for Mashonaland East Province and served in the same portfolio to the enlarged Harare Metropolitan Province in 2005, a position which he held until his death.

### **85c: Nolan Chipso Makombe**

Born 20<sup>th</sup> February 1932 Zimuto. Died in Harare 30<sup>th</sup> of May 1998. Buried at Heroes Acre, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1998.

After doing his primary school standard 6 at Morgenster Mission where he his father was a teacher and devout NGK Christian, he enrolled into the University of London for a diploma in Public Administration. He taught at Zimuto mission from 1950 to 1952. Then he did Public Health inspector course in Norton during his employment by Salisbury City Council from 1953 to 1955.

He was a founder member of ZANU and first Provincial Chairman for that party for Masvingo until 1979. He was detained from 1964 to 1966 at Hwahwa later transferring to Skombela with prominent leaders of the party like Robert Mugabe, Ndabaningi Sithole, Leopold Takawira, Edson Sithole and Eddison Zvobgo. His brother Emon maintained his resilience, courage and perseverance inherited from his grandfather Ushe Makota who fought in the first Chimurenga war.

He was the composer of the popular Chimurenga "song" Nyika Yedu Ye Zimbabwe" which became ZANU's national anthem during the liberation struggle and was sung every morning by the detainees and restrictees at parade.

He attended the 1976 Geneva constitutional conference and after the successful conclusion of the Lancaster Conference, he vigorously campaigned for ZANU PF in Masvingo District where the party won all eleven seats.

At independence, the party recognising the sterling role he had played in the liberation movement from its inception made him President of the Senate in 1980. In that capacity he was the constitutional Deputy State President. He continued in that role until the Unity Accord of 1987.

He then became Speaker of Parliament under the unicameral system introduced by that agreement. As Speaker of the House, he successfully accused Didymus Mutasa of defamatory statements about the members of the house because Mutasa alleged that some of the statements in the house were unwitty thus impugning members of parliament. He retired from active politics in 1996.



### **\$1: Nathan Mawirakuwa Smamuyarira**

Born 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1929. Died 4<sup>th</sup> June 2014 at West End Clinic, Harare. Buried at Heroes Acre, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2014

Born in Mhondoro, his father settled in Marondera District in Mahusekwa. Nathan was educated at Waddilove school and then became a teacher at a number of primary schools in the area while completing his secondary education by correspondence. He then taught at Tengwane School in Plumtree before going to Domboshava Training Centre where he taught animal husbandry in 1950 to 1953.

Being near Salisbury he got into the media profession in 1953 in the African Newspapers, became editor of the Daily News (not the present Daily News) in 1956. He became editor and Chief of African Newspapers Limited from 1959 -1962.

He was forced to resign because of the repugnant racial policies (African newspapers Ltd was part of the Argus Group). Other independent African countries had achieved independence and a few had become independent by 1959 when he went on a six week tour in Britain and three months in United States to counter negative western press reports, which it required a courageous and patriotic journalist like Shamuyarira to resist that.

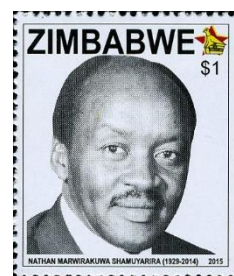
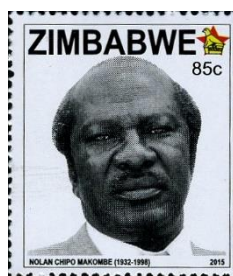
In 1962 Nathan Shamurayira became an active member of ZAPU and naturally a target of the settler regime surveillance monitoring system. When ZAPU was banned he emigrated to study political science at Princeton University in United States, then became a lecturer at Dares-salaam in Tanzania while also involved in trying to bring together ZANU and ZAPU as one liberation force. He became involved in yet another political party frontline led by James Chikelema but by 1973 he became disillusioned by the way the party was run and so resumed in lecturership at Dar-es-Salaam in their University.

Eventually his Robert Mugabe persuaded him to re-join ZANU PF of which he had been a founder member and went to Mozambique in 1977, where in 1978 he was appointed deputy Secretary for Information and Publicity, writing and editing Mugabe speeches in Maputo.

After Independence he became Foreign Minister promoting Zimbabwe to former enemies. As President Mugabe said at his official burial ceremony, he contributed immensely to the overall projection and virility of Zimbabwe and Pan African countries founded on the values of solidarity. In his subsequent careers of Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Industry and Commerce. He introduced the National Social Services Authority (NSSA) scheme. He adhered to the Leadership Code introduced in 1985 and steadfastly refused allocation of a farm under the fast track land reform programme.

He died at West End Clinic after protracted illness being survived by wife Dorothy, who had been the first black head of nursing in the Parirenyatwa hospital, and a daughter.

## The Stamps



## Catalogue Listings

SG	ZSC <sup>1</sup>	Value	Description
1403	801	40c	Sunny Takawira
1404	802	75c	David Karimanzira
1405	803	85c	Nolan Makombe
1406	804	\$1	Nathan Shamuyarira

## Technical details

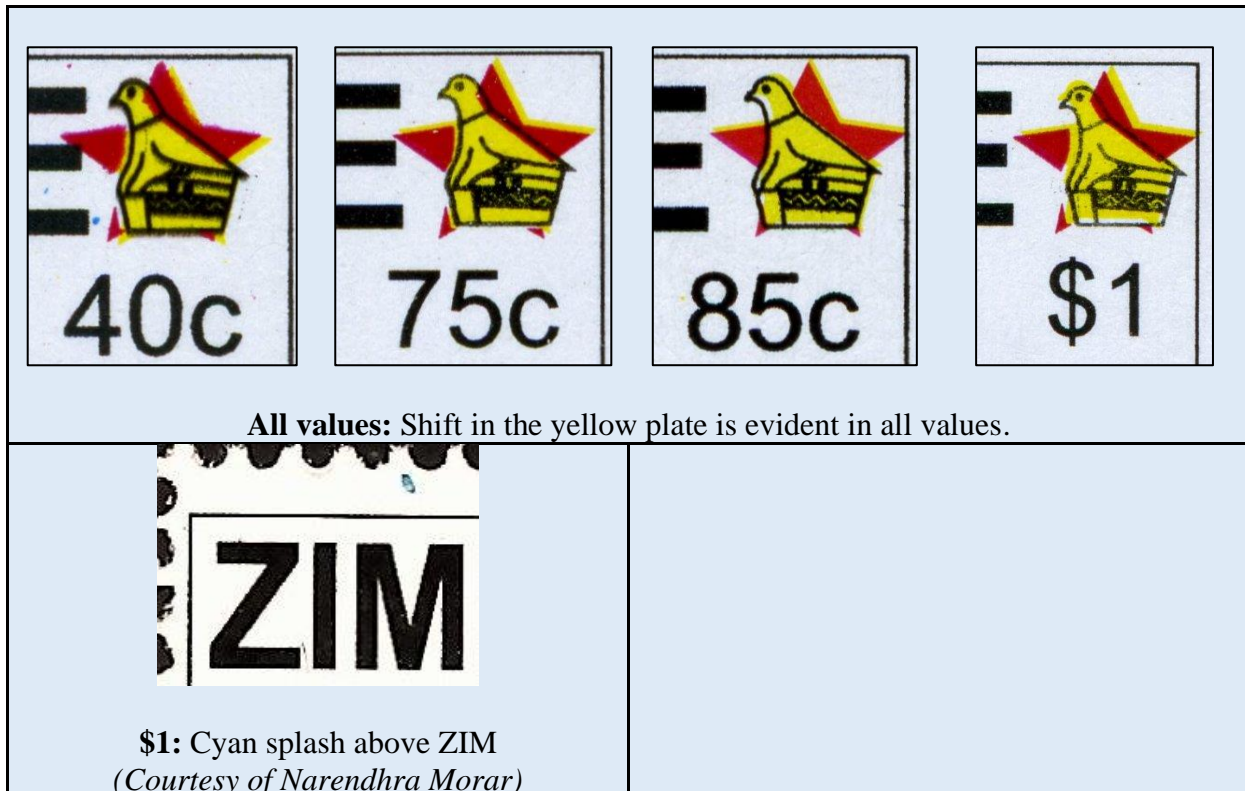
<b>Stamp size:</b>	Sheet stamps:	30 x 35 mm
<b>Sheet Size:</b>	50 stamps (5 rows of 10 stamps), two panes per printed sheet	
<b>Artist:</b>	Lucia Marisamhuka	
<b>Paper:</b>	ZSC paper type J: paper described by Zimpost as “Chancellor Litho PVA Gummed Postage Stamp Paper”. This paper is produced by Tullis Russell Coaters of Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland. Under UV there is no fluorescence either front or back, the stamp appears to be very dark	
<b>Print colours:</b>	Cyan, magenta, yellow & black (Although cyan is seen on the colour indicators and control, it was not used in the stamps image)	
<b>Perforations:</b>	SG 14 x 14½; ZSC 14 x 14¼ Left margin: Perforated through Other margins: Imperforate	
<b>Printer:</b>	NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe	
<b>Printer’s Imprint:</b>	Bottom margin, below Row 5 Columns 5 & 6. Imprint printed in black	
<b>Cylinder numbers:</b>	Bottom margin below R5/1. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black	
<b>Colour register:</b>	Type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R5/1. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black	
<b>Sheet Value:</b>	Bottom margin, below R5/10, printed in black	
<b>Sheet Number:</b>	Type SN 7 with printed ‘ZIMPOST’ prefix, right margin opposite R5/10 reading down	
<b>Bar codes:</b>	Opposite R1/10, printed in black, numbers: 40c            2 009113 000301 75c            2 009113 000318 85c            2 009113 000325 \$1             2 009113 000332	
<b>Print numbers:</b>	40c            200,000            75c            10,000 85c            10,000            \$1             10,000	
<b>Issue date:</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> July 2015	

## Listed varieties

No listed varieties have been reported.

## Unlisted Varieties

There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, particularly in the backgrounds which are more noticeable with the solid colours



## First Day Cover

No first day covers were made available by the Philatelic Bureau, covers can, however be found with the Harare First Day of Issue canceller on plain covers and Bureau manila stationery.

## Bibliography:

1. "The Zimbabwean Concise Postage Stamp Catalogue", published by Harare Stamp Company, edited by Ken Allanson, Mike Amos and Geoff Brakspear. The catalogue continues to be updated and expanded by Geoff Brakspear, and is now published on the Rhodesian Study Circle website.
2. Zimbabwe Post, Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 3 of 2015