HEALTH & COMBATING DISEASE

Issued 18th July 2000

(Extracted from first day cover stiffener)[2]

Realising the immense implications of this subject local artist, Gaye Dixon, has chosen to take a positive view and highlight some locally based organisations which are committed to relieving suffering and fighting diseases which are all too common in Zimbabwe. It is hoped that the designs will promote optimism for the future while drawing attention to the work of the organisations featured.

$2.00 The Ministry of Health and Child Welfare

Runs the Zimbabwe Expanded Programme on Immunisation. In a population of 13 million, the approximately half million children under one year of age are the target group for the immunisation programme. Up to 1999 children were vaccinated against six major diseases in their first year of life: tuberculosis, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, polio and measles. Between January and June last year the hepatitis B vaccination was introduced. Vaccinations are provided free at clinics throughout the country and the programme boasts a high success rate having surpassed in 1990 the universal target of 80% of children being immunised. The government is wholly responsible for the procurement of the vaccines costing in the region of $130 million *(in 2000)*.

$6.70 RAPT

Rehabilitation and Prevention of Tuberculosis, an association which has been in existence in this country since 1956. With its headquarters in Bulawayo the organisation promotes an awareness campaign and, working in conjunction with the Ministry of Health, provides education to industrial workers and rural communities. The association also has representatives in district hospitals throughout Zimbabwe. Their work is funded primarily by the sale of their well-known Christmas seals. *(See the 1982 Dr R Koch issue regarding these Christmas labels)*

$7.70 New Start

New Start centres set up by the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare and coordinated by the NACP for the purposes of voluntary HIV counselling and testing. Individuals are urged to face up to the fact of the AIDS pandemic, take control of their health, make educated choices and act accordingly. Confidential counselling helps to support and advise those who have tested positive. Centres are now open in Harare, Chinhoyi, Mutare, Bulawayo, Gweru, Hwange and Triangle and funding is provided by USAID through AIDSMARK.

$9.10 Riders For Health

Riders for Health is an international organisation which is making considerable impact on the African countries in which it operates: Lesotho, the Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria and Zimbabwe. The system provides government Environmental Health Technicians with motorcycles which they are trained to ride and maintain. This enables them to carry out their duties with a proven 500% greater efficiency and large fleets of motorcycles are run without ever suffering a breakdown. In addition, the new Ranger sidecar will be introduced which has many uses and adaptations. Funding is raised tirelessly from biking communities throughout the world.

New logo subsequent to stamp issue

National Aids Council, not logo shown on stamp, which is that of the Ministry

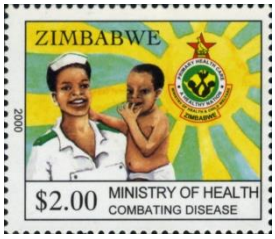
$12.00 NACP

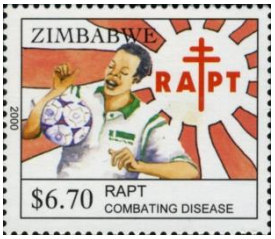
The National Aids Coordination Programme established by the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare working in the field of AIDS prevention and education, population services and family planning. With Zimbabwe being among the countries most severely affected by AIDS the programme plans for the prevention, control and care of HIV/AIDS/STD. This stamp features the "I Care Ribbon" which is worn to demonstrate compassion and support for HIV and AIDS sufferers. The NACP is responsible for an extensive education programme and this year imported 45 million condoms in its effort to fight AIDS and has had success in the distribution and use of the female condom.

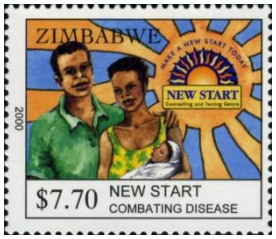
$16.00 Rotary

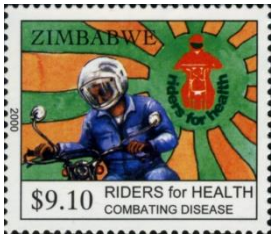
Rotary provides the largest source of private support for public health initiatives. This huge international organisation has particularly targeted the malaria problem in Zimbabwe which kills thousands every year. Research is underway to find methods of sterilising the male mosquito while also providing a safe environment for the masses through the use of suitably impregnated mosquito nets. Rotary clubs are working together to ensure that one day malaria will be wiped off the face of the earth. Rotary International is also at the forefront of the "Kick Polio Out of Africa" campaign both in financial contributions and volunteer work at clinics and immunisation centres.

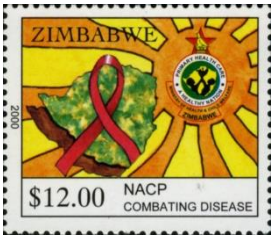
The Stamps

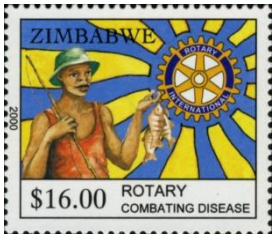












Catalogue listings

SG	ZSC[1]	Value	Description
1032	460	$2.00	Ministry of Health & Child Welfare
1033	461	$6.70	RAPT (Rehabilitation & Prevention of Tuberculous)
1034	462	$7.70	New Start
1035	463	$9.10	Riders for Health
1036	464	$12.00	NACP (National Aids Co-ordination Council)
1037	465	$16.00	Rotary International

Technical details

Stamp size: All values 35 x 30 mm

Sheet Size: 50 stamps (10 rows of 5 stamps), two panes per printed sheet

Artist: Gaye Dixon

Paper: ZSC paper type E - An altogether different paper. It is slightly thicker than HS8 and the gummed side is noticeably non-fluorescent and very dark (mud coloured) under UV. Front fluorescent. PVA creamish gum.

ZSC paper type G – Phosphor coated paper. The phosphor is possibly copper-activated zinc sulphide which exhibits a short yellow-green afterglow and a long white afterglow following excitation by UV. The long white afterglow may also be seen when the phosphor has been activated by ordinary candescent or

	fluorescent light. The paper coating itself fluoresces yellowish-cream under UV, back non-fluorescent See notes below
Print colours:	Cyan, magenta, yellow & black
Perforations:	SG 14½ x 14, ZSC 14¼ x 14 Top margin: Perforated through. Other margins: Imperforate
Printer:	NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe
Printer's Imprint:	Bottom Margin, below Row 10 Columns 3. Imprint printed in black
Cylinder numbers:	Bottom margin above R1/1. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black
Colour register:	Type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R1/1. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black
Sheet Value:	Top margin, above R1/5, printed in black.
Sheet Number:	Type SN 4a with 'PTC' prefix, right margin opposite R1/5, reading down

Print numbers:			
$2.00	2,000,000	$6.70	190,000
$7.70	190,000	$9.10	190,000
$12.00	190,000	$16.00	190,000

Issue date:	18th July, 2000
Withdrawal from sale:	
Demonetarisation:	

Paper Types

This issue introduced a new paper which is described as being 'Phosphor Coated Paper' or PCP. The very clear method of distinguishing this paper from others is the effect following exposure to a UV light. The paper shows up quite bright under the UV light, when the light is switched off the afterglow of the paper takes a short while to disappear. In the previous papers there was very little, if any, afterglow. This paper is referred to as Paper Type G in the Zimbabwe Stamp Catalogue.

In addition to the use of the new paper G, Natprint used a paper that had not been in use since 1997 Cattle Breeds issue, Paper Type E. Whilst the Zimbabwe Stamp Catalogue identifies that the two papers were used in this issue, it did indicate whether all or just some of the stamps could be identified on both papers.

Information brought together from two collections is as shown in the table below.

Paper	$2.00	$6.70	$7.70	$9.10	$12.00	$16.00
G	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
E		✓		✓	✓	

It is certain that Paper G was used for all the values, but this was not necessarily the case with the use of Paper E as shown in the table above. In both collections, however, no blocks of the $6.70 stamp were found, and the only evidence that this value was issued on this paper are single stamps. It is possible therefore that the number of sheets printed for the $6.70 on Paper Type G is fairly small.

Neither $7.70 nor $12.00 stamps have been found, so far, on Paper Type E, this is not to say that they do not exist on this paper. **More information is required**.

Listed varieties

No listed varieties have been noted

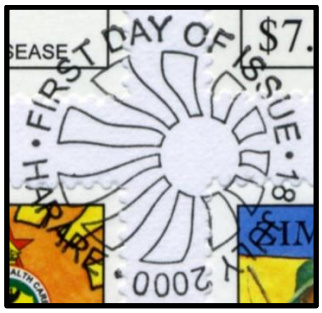
Unlisted Varieties

There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, particularly in the backgrounds.

First Day Cover

The cover numbering comes from the catalogue produced by Geoff Brakspear.

A pictorial first day of issue canceller was produced for this issued and was used by the Philatelic Bureau. Other first day cover cancellers continued to be used at main post offices.



ZW086.1 (PTC)



220 x 110 mm

Related Material

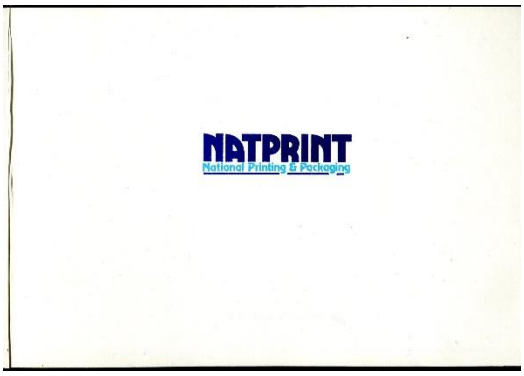


First Day Cover signed by the artist, Gaye Dixon

Natprint Proof Presentation Cards

Presentation cards produced by Natprint with imperforate proofs of the stamps to be issued. The presentation cards were forwarded to the PTC for approval of the final product.

(Courtesy of Jefferson Ritson)



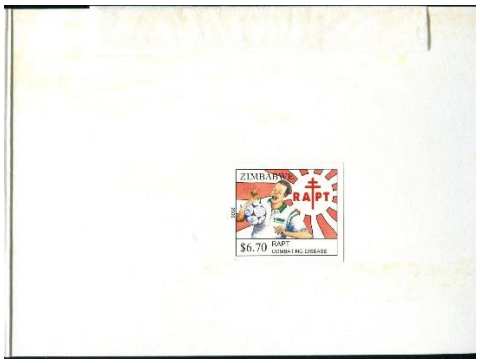
Front cover



Inside front cover



$2.00 stamp



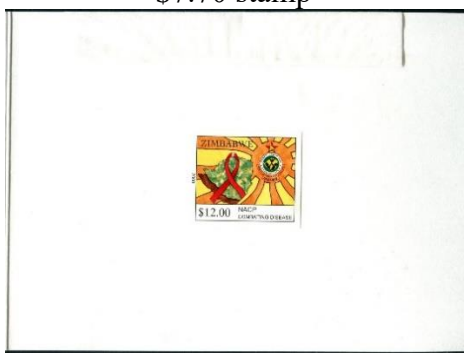
$6.70 stamp



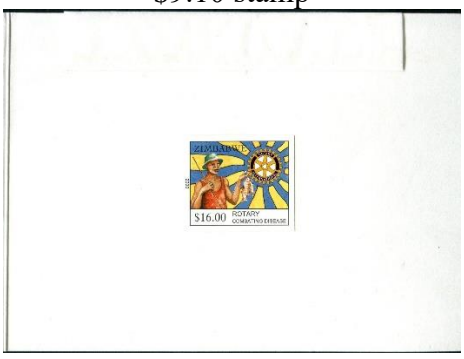
$7.70 stamp



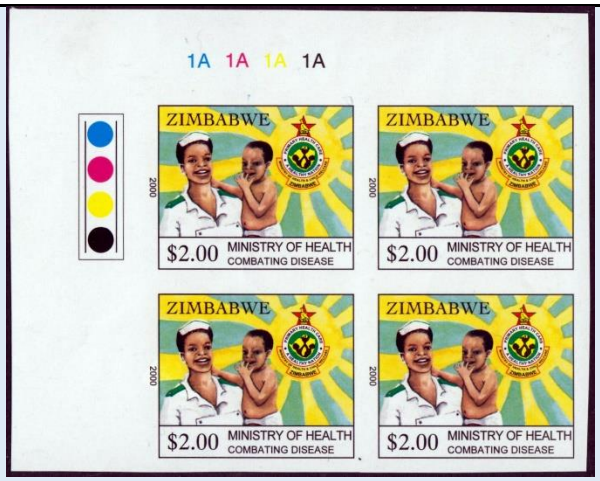
$9.10 stamp



$12.00 stamp



$16.00 stamp



$2.00: Proof block from top left corner, cyl 1A
(Source eBay October 2021)



$7.70: Proof block from top left corner, cyl 1B
(Source eBay August 2025)



$12: Proof block from top left corner, cyl 1A
(Source eBay June 2025)

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
2. Stiffener within First Day Cover.

Additions/Changes since December 2020	
12-2021	$2.00 proof block
8-2025	Proof blocks of $7.70 & $12 duties