NATIONAL HEROES (8th Series)

Issued 25th July, 2014

(Extracted from Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 3 of 2014)[2]



30c: Sabina Gabriel Mugabe

Born: 14th October. 1929, Kutama Village. Zvimba. Died: 29th July, 2010, Harare. **Buried:** 1st August, 2010, Heroes Acre.

Tete Sabina, was the younger sister of Robert Gabriel Mugabe and was born in Kutama Village on the 14 October 1929. She attended Kutama Mission School in Zvimba run by the Catholic Priests and completed her primary education in December 1946. She trained for teaching at Empandeni Teachers Training College and taught at Benhura and Ngezi schools in Mhondoro before transferring to Mhandu in her home area. She helped in Highfield community school where she and her sister bought a house. In the late 1960s she went to Battersea College, England.

In 1977, she and her husband, Johannes Zhuwawo went to Nova Scotia in Canada where she obtained a diploma in Fashion Design and another in Social Development.

Returning in 1978 she served for twenty years at Chishawasha Catholic Silvera House where she became head of Applied Nutrition and Development.

During the 1960s she assisted detained nationalists and freedom fighters with food and clothing paid for by her modest proceeds from different commodities. As an informal enterprise, she also provided a communication conduit between imprisoned nationalists and the external wing of ZANU led by Herbert Chitepo. In this she was assisted by her younger sister Bridget, Victoria Chitepo and Ruth Chinamano, sometimes carrying vital letters all the way to Gatooma (Kadoma) for posting so as to minimise risks of detection. She also provided a safe house in Highfield when there were interparty faction fights at the time. Youths from Highfield Community School which she established threw stones at her house. As a result of the riots Salisbury City Council in response to instructions from the Smith regime confiscated the Highfield house. As a result, she went to Ranch House College in Rotten Row run by Rev Ken Mew who sheltered her and helped to get legal advice. By legal action, and also taking her 3 children to the council offices in Harare (Mbari) threatening to leave them there if she did not get her house back!

She succeeded in so doing at the same showing the racist authority who was really oppressing people.

After independence she was elected Secretary for Women Affairs in Mashonaland Province when ZANU PF Women's league was launched in 1984 and she became Secretary for Women's Affairs in the Province, as well as the National Secretary for Production in the Women's League.

She was heavily involved in the 1980's and 1990's in the Freedom from Hunger Campaign which sought to achieve food security and domestic food safety for all Zimbabweans.

She was Member of Parliament for Makonde East in 1985, Zvimba in 1990 and 1995 and Zvimba South in 2000 and became member of the Parliament Portfolio Committee on Mines Environment and Tourism as well as serving on the Accounts Committee of Parliament. She was re-elected in 2005 and established centres for the orphans created by both the HIV epidemic and child abuse.

She also motivated men to eliminate social traditions which bound women to second class citizenship. She became the first mother from Southern African to sit in Parliament with her sons Leo Mugabe and Patrick Zhuwawo.

By that time a widow, (her husband died in 1980) she was renowned for activating child welfare and urged Government to be sensitive to the needs of rural communities where 70% of the country's people actually lived.

She was also serious farmer on her own right, spearheading sourcing of funds for acquisition of the farms. She could not to offer herself for re-election in the 2008 harmonised elections because of ill health, and died after a long illness in the Avenues clinic on Thursday July 29 2010 at the age of 80 years.

75c: Kumbirai Manyika Kangai



Born: 17th February, 1938, Buhera **Died:** 24th August, 2013, Harare. **Buried:** 27th August, 2013. Heroes Acre.

Kumbirai Kangai was born to Jemiel Mukomana Kangai and Josina, his father was a teacher. He changed schools often, and attended four primary schools - Madzivire, Chimbudzi, Bika and Jarama.

He attended Makumbe Mission for standard 4 to 6. In 1955 he went to Zimuto secondary school where his father taught the late General Solomon Mujuru. After school, he then went to teach at Nyashanu mission for two years. He joined the NDP National Democratic Party in 1960 as a teacher. At that time the Rhodesian regime prohibited civil servants from engaging in political activities so he was attending gatherings at night and at the weekends, ensuring that he continued as a teacher.

He later taught at Murehwa district school where because of his involvement became a member of ZAPU at its formation in 1961 and then the Zimbabwe African National Union late in 1963.

He was briefly arrested by the police and then got a scholarship to go to the United States to study Public Health and Clinical Laboratory Pathology in 1965. In 1972 at University of California he studied Medical Technology. He was elected secretary for publicity in the US based Zimbabwe student union, where he met many of the exiled comrades including Herbert Chitepo, Josiah Tongogara and Rugare Gumbo. In 1973 he was elected as Secretary for Transport and Social Welfare as part of the revolutionary council of ZANU, which had the responsibility of promoting the liberation struggle.

In 1975 the Zambian Government falsely accused him amongst others of assassinating Herbert Chitepo. He was among those leaders who rejected Ndabaningi Sithole and promotedRobert Mugabe as leader of ZANU. At Chimoio Conference in 1977, Robert Mugabe was assured leadership as President and First Secretary. Kangai was again elected Secretary for Transport and Social Welfare. On transfer to Mozambique the ZANU PF was formed, and that led to the delegation attending the Lancaster House Conference.

Following ZANU's victory in 1980 Kumbirai Kangai was MP for Buhera South and was appointed as Minister of Labour and Social Welfare. In 1984 he was made Minister of Industry and Technology. Subsequently in 1987, he was appointed Minister of Energy and Water Resources Development.

He probably is most famed for revealing the information from Clare Short repudiating the commitment which Britain made towards the land purchase in a letter dated 6 November 1997 to Minister of Lands and Agriculture, which he became in 1996. So that sparked land reform effort, repeatedly emphasizing the need for acquiring land for the indigenous majority. Eventually, it led to the Third Chimurenga by which Zimbabwe was to regain its land. Kumibirai Kangai, or K K as many of the leaders called him, was a principled cadre of the revolution, a fearless leader and a man of impeccable war credentials as well as being jovial in character, all the while showing his humility.

He died on 24/08/2013 at a private clinic in Harare, to which he had been rushed when he had a heart attack which sadly was fatal.

85c: Stephen Kenneth Sesulelo Vuma

Born: 18th April, 1936 Ghogo Tribal Trust, Selukwe (Shurugwi), **Died:** 6th May, 1997, Harben Park Plot, Gweru. Buried: 10th May, 1997, Heroes Acre.

Third child of a family of ten children, his father worked hard as a farmer to educate his children, eventually acquiring a farm in Silobela through the African Purchase Area Scheme.

His early education at Gloag Range, Zhaugwe Infants school, later graduating at Dadaya Mission in 1958, after which he then worked for the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry in Salisbury (Harare), as a bookkeeper. He became actively involved in recruiting black people and popularizing the SRANC. He was arrested, and sent to jail in June 1959 and subsequently restricted in 1962 to his father's farm in Silobela. He had already networked with Leopold Takawira, Muchachi, Nhema and Jason Moyo in Kesi, Joshua M. Nkomo in Simukwe and Robert Mugabe in Zvimba to consider the idea of sending Garfield Todd, Josiah Chinamano and Nathan Shamuyarira to the United Nations Security Council to present the Nationalist agenda for our country's independence.

He was again arrested two days after his return from Zvimba, and incarcerated at Salisbury Maximum Prison for another year. In 1963 he worked, briefly, in Bulawayo, and then was sent to Dar-es-Salaam, appointed to run ZAPU party accounts. On the way he met Emmerson Mnangagwa, Willie Musarurwa and Andrew Bhijo Ngwenya, who subsequently recommended him for military training.

While in exile, realizing that an independent Zimbabwe would need a skilled workforce, he enrolled at the Kiev Institute of National Economy in USSR, graduating with an MSc in National Economic Planning, a diploma in Political Science and a diploma in Cybernetics and Econometrics. He worked tirelessly in raising financial support for the liberation movement, whilst ensuring proper accountability and administration of the finances of ZAPU and ZIPRA.

As a result, he held several high offices in first the youth and then the main wings of an NDP and ZAPU.

At independence he was the PF ZAPU Secretary for Finance and also financial Director of several PF ZAPU companies. In 1990 he became Member of Parliament for Silobela and during his time as MP he made very fruitful interventions and remained a capable, effective and active, member of the Parliament.

During that time, he became member of the ruling party ZANU PF Central Committee until his death in 1997. He became Deputy Secretary for Finance in the Politburo because of his long experience in Party financial administration and at the time of his death was undertaking a nationwide programme to monitor the ruling party's financial position.

$1: Eric Nyakudya Gwanzura

Born: 23rd October, 1924, Mashonganyika Village, Zvimba. Died: 9th December, 2013, Chegutu. Buried: 14th December, 2013, Heroes Acre.

Eric N Gwanzura was born in Mashonganyika Village, Zvimba to Rev Enock and his wife Maria. They were founder members of Apostolic Faith Church. Eric Gwanzura attended Govathema primary school, later attending St Xavier Kutama College for secondary education where President Robert Mugabe was also a student. He then went to Waddilove to train as a builder. He became a teacher at Sandringham Secondary School for 2 years before moving to a Salvation Army school in Mhondoro, where he taught construction for two years.

He moved to Salisbury (now Harare) where he started a construction company with his brother Phanuel to build schools for marginalised black people because they were not allowed to attend Government white only schools. Afterwards they built a stadium in Highfield called Gwanzura opening in 1964 as part of the effort to provide recreational facilities and it subsequently became the venue for the first Confederation of Africa Football games in the country. It was first used by the local games approved by CAF in 1973.

The company continued at Usher Institute in Matabeleland South again with the intention of improving infrastructure for the majority black people. As a result together with Cde Reuben Jamela they promoted Trade Unions: in organising, industrial action.

In 1960 he became the mastermind of African township resistance in Rhodesian urban freedom. He met nationalists from other countries such as Tom Mboya of Zambia. Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, Jomo Kenyatta. He joined the NDP with Joshua Mqabuko Nkomo, T G Silundika, Manzira Masanga, Michael Mawema and many others.

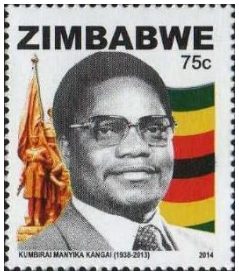
He was invited by the President of Ghana, Kwame Nkrumah to share strategies on the improvement of African workers and continued to support the party by underground communications with ZANLA. As a result, he was detained for two years at Hwahwa prison. After his release, he was required to report every day to Southerton Police Station. He was re-arrested at Goromonzi and sent back to HwaHwa for another two years,

Subsequently, he travelled to Zambia to brief the leadership in exile about the political situation in Rhodesia. He attended the Geneva Conference in 1976 and the Lancaster House talks in 1979.

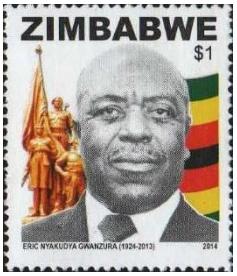
In 1980 he served as a Senator in the new Parliament of Zimbabwe. He was active in Mashonaland West leading to the signing of the historic Unity Accord in December 1987, and was member of the central committee until his retirement.

The Stamps









Catalogue Listings

SG	ZSC[1]	Value	Description
1374	775	30c	Sabrina Mugabe
1375	776	75c	Kumbirai Kangai
1376	777	85c	Stephen Vuma
1377	778	$1	Eric Gwanzura

Technical details

Stamp size: Sheet stamps: 30 x 35 mm

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

Artist: Lucia Marisamhuka – Terrie Lue Graphics

Paper: 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

Print colours:	Blue, magenta, yellow & black
Perforations:	SG 14 x 14½; ZSC 14 x 14¼ Left margin: Perforated through Other margins: Imperforate
Printer:	NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe
Printer's Imprint:	Bottom Margin, below Row 5 Columns 5 and 6. Imprint printed in black
Cylinder numbers:	Bottom margin below R5/1. Colours from left – blue, magenta, yellow, black
Colour register:	Type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R5/1. Colours reading down – blue, magenta, yellow, black
Sheet Value:	Bottom margin, below R5/10, printed in black
Sheet Number:	Type SN 7 with printed 'ZIMPOST' prefix, right margin opposite R5/10 reading down
Bar codes:	No bar codes were applied to this issue.
Print numbers:	30c 200,000 75c 10,000 85c 10,000 $1 10,000
Issue date:	29th July 2014

Listed varieties

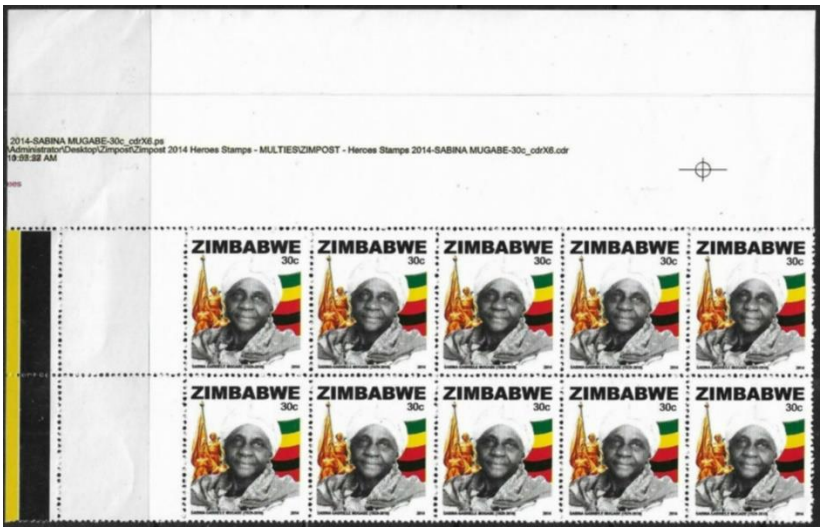
No listed varieties have been reported.

Unlisted Varieties

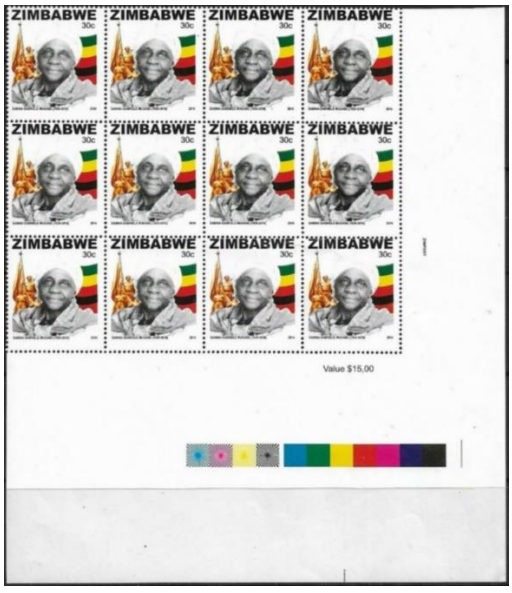
There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, particularly in the backgrounds which are more noticeable with the solid colours. There are slight shifts of the printing plates, giving the flag behind variations in its appearance. The shifts also create a "shadow" to the portrait.

Related Material

Proof material



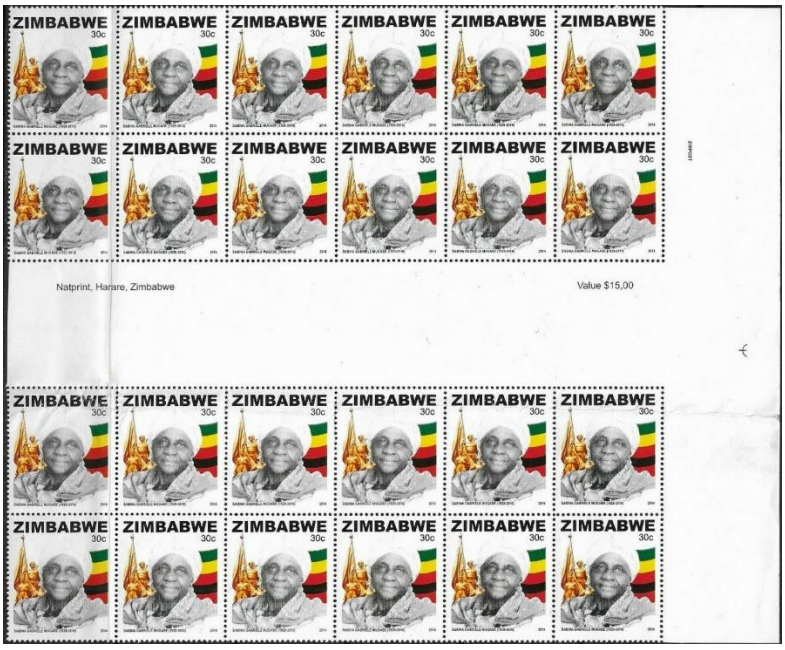
30: Top left corner of the printing sheet, pane 1A, uncut. Includes computer file reference and yellow and black bars to right of sheet
(Source eBay January 2022)



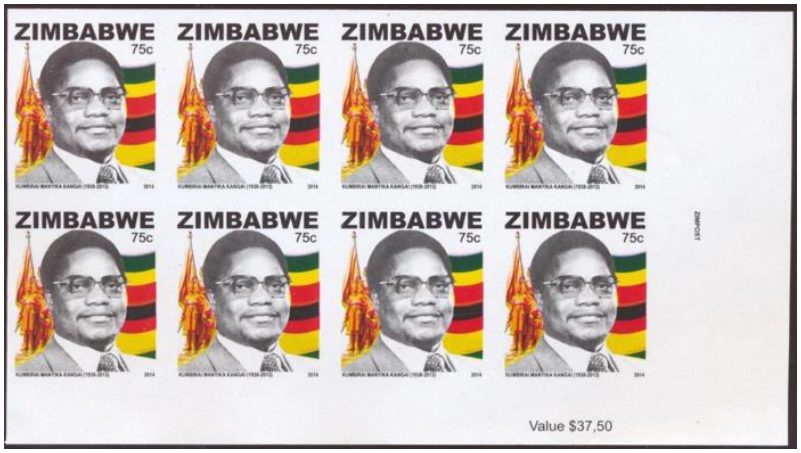
30c: Bottom right corner of the printing sheet, pane 1B, with colour bar below.
(Source eBay January 2022)



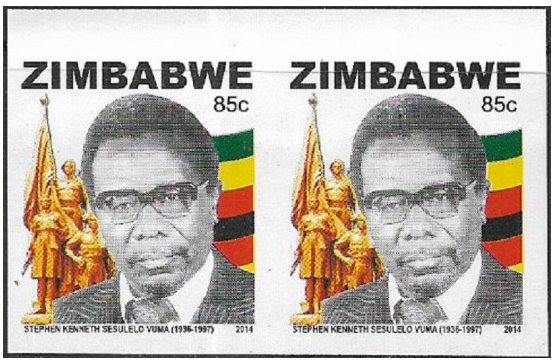
30c: Interpanneau block between the two panes of the printing sheet, 1A above. With yellow and black bars to right of the printing sheet.
(Source eBay January 2022)



30c: Interpanneau block with printer's imprint, sheet value and "Zimpost" part of sheet numbering
(Source eBay May 2022)

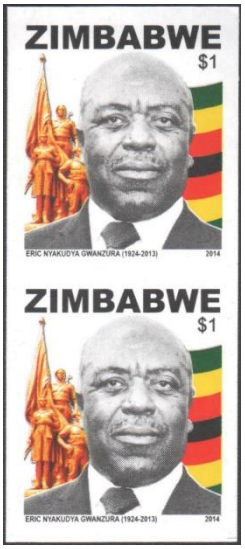


75c: Imperforate proof block with sheet value
(Source eBay July 2025)



85c: Imperforate proof pair

(Source eBay December 2023)



$1: Imperforate proof pair
(Courtesy of Jefferson Ritson)



Computer printout of the four duties dated 10 July 2014
(Courtesy of Pat Flanagan)

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 2014

Additions/Changes since December 2020	
3-2022	30c: Three large blocks from uncut printing sheet
	$1: imperforate proof pair
8-2022	30c: Interpanneau block with imprint etc
3-2023	Computer printout of four duties
4-2024	85c – imperf proof pair
12-2024	75c – proof strip of 4
8-2025	75c - change of image for proof