



**vana trust**

# Newsletter

HARVEST 2010

## Success & Challenge at St. David's

### Diary dates

#### **Vana Trust Fashion Show**

2-6pm Friday 29th October  
**STaSS** event celebrating  
Black History Month  
The Hub Theatre  
Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK7 6AA

### Latest updates

- Daily 'Breakfast Club' great success feeding meals to 500 children at St. David's School in Zimbabwe
- St. David's School in need of urgent repair
- Vana Trust Farm Fete fantastic fun for all
- Want lovely fresh veg? Call Sharon

On a recent visit to the UK, Lucy, our wonderful and tireless coordinator in Zimbabwe and mother of Nyasha Gwatidzo, founder of **Vana Trust**, gave us an update on St. David's School in Nyandoro. We now finance the education of 100 children whose lives have been affected by HIV / AIDS and poverty. We also support the school by supplying equipment, services and books.

**Vana Trust's** daily 'Breakfast Club', cooked fresh each day by local volunteers, feeds 500+ children at the elementary school. Teachers report that the children are more alert at their lessons and have also gained weight.

Lucy makes the arduous trip from Harare to Nyandoro several times a month with supplies and to facilitate our programme there. She reports that parents have thanked her for the



'Breakfast Club' and reported how much it has helped the children.

Lucy also gave us the sad news that one of the school room blocks (3 rooms) has been hit by a tree, knocking in the roof and affecting the overall structure. We will soon initiate a special fund raising effort for rebuilding the classrooms. Watch this space! Or donate NOW!

## Back to School

Just a couple of decades ago, Zimbabwe had the best educational system in Africa. Now, according to the UN, school attendance is just over 20% with many rural schools

closed. A child cannot attend school without a uniform or paying a mandatory school fee.

### **School uniform & shoes**

**£25 + fees**

**£10 = £35**

£35 per child is a fortune in Zimbabwe where unemployment is 90% and the annual average income is just £325. If you have just kitted out your children for the start of school, why not do the same for one of ours. We would be so grateful.



Senior school students sponsored by **Vana Trust**

Donate at [www.vanatruster.org.uk](http://www.vanatruster.org.uk)



## Summer Fun at the Farm

The **SUMMER FETE** on Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. We raised over £700 for **Vana Trust**. Despite the very hot weather we all had enormous fun.



Follow us at:

@VanaTrust on Twitter

VanaTrust on Facebook

Vana Trust blog

<http://vanatruster.wordpress.com/>

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who helped out on the day and to the organizations that donated prizes: Waterperry Gardens, Bekonscot Model Village and Railway, Rumsey's Chocolaterie, Feet First, Somerset Personalised Chocolate, Pioneer, Sarah Henrys Jewellery, Natalie Beach and to Cinda Hill who designed and donated all the decorations.



We would also like to thank the **Halton Pony Club**, Aylesbury Bucks., for organizing a

sponsored **WALK** in July to benefit **Vana Trust**. Sharon (Vana Trust farm manager), the volunteers and friends had tremendous fun walking and picnicking in Wendover Woods.

## Vana Trust Farm's First Harvest

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[www.vanatrusterfarm.org.uk](http://www.vanatrusterfarm.org.uk)

Vana Trust was registered as a charity in 2004  
Vana Trust Registered Charity No. 1105276

The farm continues to grow and thrive with lots of new volunteers and interested visitors. We have wonderful new raised beds. Our lovely pigs, Rosemary & Thyme, will soon be joined by goats.

We have harvested our first crops and are especially proud of our marrows and beetroot. We have produced a wide range of vegetables including onions, tomatoes, red lettuce, rocket and radish. If you live locally and would like to order any of our organically grown vegetables, please contact the farm manager.

