

The Galaxy

SEP 2023/ 02ND ISSUE



**DIAMOND FM'S
CHAYAMANINGI...
THE BIG ELEPHANT
IN THE STUDIO**

**MR. DOBIE'S
MIRACLE AND
HOW HE BECAME
THE RADIO
FATHER**

**HOT PROPERTY
PACKING THE
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WHEN IRON SHARPENS IRON

**UPCLOSE WITH THE CHAMPIONS
LEAGUE BREAKFAST DUO**

COVERSTORY

The Galaxy

EDITOR'S NOTE

THE SOPHOMORE IS ALWAYS THE MOST CHALLENGING PROJECT

The sophomore is always the most challenging project. Although a major step toward sustenance, it is like a second audition. You are being measured against your own benchmark; your first layer of work becomes a hurdle. Those who coined the adage, 'take the first step,' forgot how complicated the second step is. Like many who have walked great journeys, you do not listen to the sound of your heartbeat; you bite your teeth and proceed towards what could be greatness.

This is where we find ourselves, strengthened by the feedback from the first edition, which many of you loved. We built upon the positives and corrected areas we were encouraged to revisit.

In this edition, our main feature is on two radio mavericks, Phatisani Sibanda and Tinashe Chikuse, who have become an early morning staple among the radio faithful in Zimbabwe. We tell a story about two different radio personalities who came together to write one of the country's most memorable morning radio stories, a history we have been privileged to view from the front seat. We also tap into the thought process of one of Zimbabwe's most eminent business executives, Gloria Zvaravanhu of Old Mutual.

The Zimpapers Radio Division has abundant talent, and this edition, we profile Farai Nzou from Diamond FM in Mutare, who hosts the station's breakfast show. We get to understand what makes the man they call Chayamaningi tick.

From Mashonaland West, where Platinum FM reigns supreme, we speak to Audrey Ngwenya, affectionately known as Hot Property. We get to hear the secret behind her voice, which has left listeners spellbound.

For fear of pre-empting the whole project, I have deliberately decided not to list every story in the magazine. There are some nuggets and tips we promise will make your life easier as you read.

Compiling this magazine project left us fulfilled; we hope the same satisfaction we derived in the process is translated to you as you read.

Happy Reading
Linda Muriro



The Galaxy

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REMINISCENCE OF A GLORIOUS DEBUT

GENERAL MANAGER | COMFORT MBOFANA

A man who has lived as long as I have in an eventful sector like the media is expected to have a strong memory to store all the moments he experienced.



I have experienced some moments that have me pinching myself to check if I was truly awake. Some were glorious, and some were low, but that is what fulfilling journeys are made of.

From joining radio in 1990, in a newly independent country still finding its voice, to being part of the team that delivered Zimbabwe's first commercial radio station. When we started Star Fm, we took a leap of faith, we knew the idea was viable, but we would be lying if we said the love we have received has not been endearing.

I remember the nervy day it all started, down to the very minute on 25 June 2012 at around 10 in the morning. Tichafa Matambanadzo, the first Programming Manager at the station, asked me to start the countdown

in the transmission suite. He had played an important role in the setting up of the station, together with Admire Taderera who was the station's first General Manager.

My instruction was simple but pulsating, counting down at 15-minute intervals as the prescheduled music played. I was not the only one whose heart rate was beating faster than usual. Weston Chakonza, our broadcast engineer in the technical department, kept pacing in and out of the studio, repeatedly checking levels and assuring that all would be well. He wore a big grin on his face, betraying both excitement and fear.

We were all nervous, on the brink of history, readying what was to become Zimbabwe's first commercial radio station. Weston was joined in studio by the station's Chief Engineer, Ivy Dzvova, an extremely talented woman



who eats, speaks and breathes broadcast systems.

Before she bravely agreed to be part of the Star FM project, she was at the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation, the sole broadcaster, before we entered the scene. She had that look of quiet confidence and kept wrapping and re-wrapping her shawl in the studio. Studios are generally kept at around 15 Degrees Celsius to prevent the equipment from overheating.

The only warmth in the room was from her radiant smile, which she wore as she exclaimed, "It is really happening." The studio equipment was and remains the best in the country, with software that is of international standards.

*"We were the first
to use the RCS
software in Africa."*

During the countdown, Tich kept walking in and out of Admire Taderera's office. Admire was sitting behind his desk-his usually unflappable demeanour betrayed by his clasping and unclasping hands. He, too, was understandably nervous. Zimpapers had entrusted him with the onerous task of executing the company's vision of venturing into broadcasting. He was trusted with walking the company into uncharted territory.

Admire didn't know it then, but five years later, the same office he was sitting in would run three more radio stations. Being the prayerful man he is, Admire would whisper silent prayers for the success of the station's first broadcast. One could see him close his eyes and speak softly.

The closer we got to noon, the tenser it became. Munya Mlimo (DJ Munya) was already by the DJ prep area talking loudly with his colleagues, who were all encouraging him and laughing at his banter - a little too enthusiastically. I kept with my countdown as we edged closer to the time. DJ Munya came in at 11:30 AM and sat behind the console, readying himself for what was to be the historic first shift of Star FM, running from 12 noon to 3 PM.

He checked the stacks on the second screen for his imaging and checked the physical spot log to see what he had to expect in the scheduled RCS clock. The console had as many knobs, buttons and little lights resembling the cockpit of a jet carrier...according to me, anyway! Munya, having been in training over the preceding six weeks, was supremely confident behind the desk. He was psyching himself up in between checking and re-checking everything. The atmosphere had become somewhat brittle.

Tich walked in with Admire five minutes before noon; their entry was followed by terse chatter and laughter inspired by something besides humour. The brief silence that followed was broken by the Zimbabwe National Anthem at noon. I know it came on at the precise break of the hour because I was looking at the digital clock when it played. And, with that, the country's first commercial radio station went live on air to soothe expectant Zimbabwean ears. The rest, as they say, is history. Star FM has become the most profitable, most awarded, and biggest urban radio station.



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COVERSTORY

WHEN IRON SHARPENS IRON

WRITTEN BY | GALAXY WRITER

*A case of two radio veterans speaking with one voice.
Picture this, Pep Guardiola and Jose Mourinho sitting on the bench to plot
tactical moves for a lucky team that would have convinced them both to join
them.*

Bavaria Motor Works (BMW) merging forces with Mercedes to come up with perhaps the best-performing sportscar engine. A case of two giants coming together to cement their collective

legacies.

That is the level at which Capitalk FM's Phatisani Sibanda and Tinashe Chikuse are operating. The duo, called the Champions League engaged started off being on the roster across the street at ZBC and eventually joining Zimpapers in April this

year. Perhaps two of the most eminent post-2000 male radio figures in Zimbabwe, although joining forces would have read like a script penned in radio heaven, working together was something they had not imagined.

A minor misunderstanding of the past would have threatened the collaboration which at this point feels as natural as the idea of radio itself. Phatisani explains the incident which almost saw the two talents do away with the idea of friendship.

“With Tinashe it started funny, there is a car deal which went sour ages ago. I was



for years. “A lot of people may think it is a partnership that started on radio. At some point we had issues where we confronted each other and almost fought but we restrained ourselves,” said Tinashe.

Phatisani says the decision to return behind the mic, although it took a lot of convincing has been fulfilling. He described radio almost in the same manner a priest would extol devotion. After KVG, it was hard to imagine another radio partnership for Phatisani but his with Tinashe was almost instantly easy on the ear. “When we tried it out, it felt right and from then it has been magic,” said Phatisani. Tinashe said working with Phatisani daily has been a learning experience.

“I have learnt a lot of things even though I may have more years from experience I learn from him every day and I am sure there are some things he has learnt from me,” said Tinashe.

angry with him for a while. However, we had a conversation that convinced me to leave my radio sabbatical and here we are,” said Phatisani. Tinashe said radio was the way he felt they could strengthen their friendship which had subsisted

spent 20 years in radio, Tinashe said the gratification he derives from waking up to have a conversation with the country never gets old.

“Every single day I wake up with a dreading feeling, a fear that will I be able to make these millions who

trust my voice happy? Will I be able to motivate someone to change their situation or to lift their mood at the very least?" said Tinashe. His dream now is to cement his legacy as one of the country's radio legends and to inspire his daughter.

His counterpart Phatisani said the only thing he loves more than radio are his children. "My kids will tell you that their dad was the best dad. What people don't know about me is I am a loving father. I have many regrets in this life, but I do not regret having my kids, I will do anything for them. Everything I do, my children come first," said Phatisani.

Their love for the young is shared, Tinashe has been mentoring young radio aspirants. "I do not have a well-established structure I use to mentor, but during my spare time I sit down with budding radio stars.

I try to help them with ideas through listening to our old shows. We also do the same with some colleagues who are already on radio," said Tinashe. He wishes he had someone to mentor him in his early years. "If I was to meet my younger self, I would tell him excel to the best of your abilities and take advantage of all resources and the opportunities you have," Tinashe said.

Phatisani said if he was to have a conversation with his younger version, he would encourage patience.

"I would tell myself to be calm. Everything happens in its own time. I started radio doing midnight to 3 AM and 3AM to 6AM where I had a very few listeners. God's time is the best time," said Phatisani. As his way of giving back to the industry and the society which has celebrated him, he has adopted a conversational role.

"I am open, I love having conversations. My number is open and available to anyone who may want to talk. We sometimes don't realise it, but a lot can be solved by just talking," said Phatisani. Quite the radio rockstar, Phatisani has his own way of preparing for shows which may be a slight deviation from the conventional.

"This may get me in a little bit of trouble, but I do not prepare too much for my shows. What I say comes the moment I step into the studio, I believe something takes over me when I am talking, let us call it Sekuru Shumba. Sometimes I am shocked by the things I say on radio when I replay the sessions," he quipped.

Zimbabwe is a country of two extremes when it comes to partnerships. Either they work in a near perfect manner, or they fail spectacularly. The Champions league appears to have aligned with the former – listeners say their mornings have changed for the better and who are we to argue?





SHE WHO READS AND LEADS WITH GRACE

GALAXY WRITER

Gloria Zvaravanhu is one of the most eminent women in the Zimbabwean corporate space.

It is not possible to list trailblazing women in Zimbabwe and not include her. Insurance has been a central part of her life; she can share insights in her sleep.

At 27, she was Finance Director at First Mutual, making her one of the youngest Zimbabweans to hold the role. She went on to become the second female Institute of Chartered Accountants of Zimbabwe (ICAZ) President in its 105-year history.

She left the role in 2021 to become the Managing Director of Old Mutual Insurance Company, where she currently is. Gloria says that although she had worked in different corporate spaces and firms, she felt her leadership skills were strengthened when she worked under Grace Muradzikwa at NICOZ Diamond.

“I spent most of my professional time at NICOZ Diamond, where I first entered the General Management space. I grew; this is where I was groomed into leadership. Working with someone like Grace Muradzikwa was a great opportunity; she taught us how to secure business and kept encouraging us to read, especially the Power of Nice book. It speaks on the importance of networking,” said Gloria.

The culture of reading has been central to her growth from her formative years to date. “I love books. Ever since I was a little girl, I would not miss a chance to escape into a book. As I grew older, I gravitated toward leadership and motivational content. Insights I learn from the books I encounter inform part of my life, personally

and professionally,” she said.

She lists Dale Carnegie’s *How to Win Friends and Influence People* as one of her favourite all-time reads. She shared some of the principles she has learnt and how they have become part of her work.

“I revisited the book in March to prepare myself for my enrollment into the Masters in Business Psychology Program. The book, which I first read many years back, reminded me of the critical principles in changing people’s attitudes and behaviors,” said Gloria. From the text, she said she learnt to appreciate people’s strengths before pointing out their weaknesses.

“When giving feedback, begin with praise and appreciation. It is easier to listen to unpleasant things after hearing praise for our good points. After praise, the ground is tilled for receiving constructive feedback,” she said. While most leaders see themselves as perfect, Gloria encouraged the introspective approach to leadership.

“Talk of your own mistakes first before criticizing others. Admitting one’s mistakes can help the next person to change their behavior. It takes away judgment and opens the door for sincerity,” she said. She would be among the youngest workforce members in most spaces she has worked, despite holding a high-ranking role.

She says she has managed to navigate dynamics that emerge from that setting by ensuring their collectiveness and that everyone identifies with the vision being pursued. “Ask questions instead of giving direct orders. It makes an order more palatable and stimulates creativity. People are more likely to accept an order if they are involved in decision-making. One of the questions I hardly go through a day without asking is, “What do you suggest we do?” Gloria said.

One of her secrets is correcting people with grace and being slow to anger.

“As the adage goes, there is no need to kick a man while they are down. Make sure the mistake appears easy to correct, and be liberal with your encouragement and support. After all, research says people who make the biggest mistakes and learn from them are keepers. They are unlikely to make the same mistake again,” she said. Gloria lives by the principle that people are more productive if they are seen and encouraged.

“We all crave appreciation and recognition and

will do almost anything. I have heard so many complaints about too many awards now! Are they killing people or building confidence and self-esteem and inducing good feelings? Let each do their own due diligence on the awardee. I am convinced the world does not need a Global Award Adjudication Body. Let us get comfortable celebrating whatever positively impacts another, but do not actively seek to discredit what made another ‘write home’,” she said. Gloria said people deliver better when they have reputations to live up to. “As the saying goes, ‘Give a dog a good name and see what happens! If you are reputed for something good, you will almost always strive to live up to it,’” she said.

The book, she says, has inspired her to keep learning and widening her network in a process she describes as life-long learning.

Gloria Zvaravanhu is the Managing Director of Old Mutual Insurance Company Zimbabwe. She is a Chartered Accountant and a former President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants Zimbabwe.



Have a Fruity Moment



HOT PROPERTY PACKING THE PLATINUM HEAT

| GALAXY WRITER

The radio segment between 3 PM and 6 PM is called the make-or-break segment.

It can either turn a radio personality into a superstar, or it can sink them into a grouping of ordinary men and women who are expected. When Audrey Ngwenya was thrust allocated the slot, it was like a second audition. She was trusted with the most commercial slot on daytime radio.

Did she not bring the heat?

Being multilingual, she easily relates to people from different sections of Mashonaland West who speak Nambya, Tonga, Ndebele, Shona, English and Nyanja – all of which she is conversant. Her shows are engaging and not soliloquies where presenters talk over the audience's ear without feedback.



Since 2020, she has served the station with distinction and has been a consummate professional in her execution of duties. Her current show, the PT78, on drive time between 2 PM and 6 PM, has

become a staple among listeners and advertisers. Indeed, we do have a Hot Property on our hands. Platinum FM is found on 102.3 FM in Chinhoyi, 103.4 FM in Karoi and 94.5 FM in Kariba.



Mash West is sounding Platinum



THE BIG ELEPHANT IN THE STUDIO

| GALAXY WRITER

Mornings in Manicaland have been different since Diamond FM started broadcasting on 13 May 2016.



They are now energy filled, driven by one of the most powerful voices to grace Manicaland since Diamond FM was opened – Farai Nzou. The 36-year-old has been part of the station since its inception and is known as Chayamaningi.

His unique moniker, according to him, captures how he likes to play music, sometimes known as “kurova ma number” in urban parlance. Chayamaningi says he derives gratification from the shows he hosts, especially in the morning as he also gets fulfilment from the process. “I love making Diamond FM listeners smile. This is who I am. Every session I host, I feel like I am transferring a glowing smile from our studio to every home in Manicaland,” he said.

Chayamaningi said his favourite session is The Boost from 6 AM to 9 AM, as he gets a chance to motivate people to be productive as they go about their days. His love to spread joy and happiness is anchored in his Christian beliefs.

The faith, which he speaks of proudly, was informed by a situation he faced earlier in his life. “I fell ill in 2012 and was admitted for the first time in my life. The condition needed an expensive heart operation in South Africa. It was dreadful. I kept the faith and was healed without any operation, I saw God’s hand,” he said.

That background underpins the positivity he tries to drive in his programs. Besides radio, Chayamaningi is an entrepreneur. He used to sell mobile phones and accessories. He has a small craft business which specialises in manufacturing African-themed beads. Chayamaningi has also tried his hand at music, he was part of the Loveworld Musical Festival in South Africa.

He shared the stage with names Eben and Frank Edwards, both from West Africa, Flame B and Sabelo from Zimbabwe. He is one of radio’s most prolific polygots, as he speaks English, Ndau, Manyika, Chewa and Isindebele.

AARON'S MIRACLE AND HOW HE BECAME THE RADIO FATHER

| GALAXY WRITER

*Aaron Dobie held a lifelong dream to become a radio presenter.
He wanted his voice to speak to the hearts of Zimbabwe.*

At first, it was a remote idea, until a chance encounter on a train from Harare to Bulawayo when he was a teenager strengthened his resolve. “When I was 14, I remember meeting a man on a train. I sat on his lap for the duration of the trip, and we conversed along the way. His voice was strikingly familiar, and I asked if he was the same guy from radio, but he said no,” Dobie said. At the end of the trip, the man confirmed Dobie’s earlier suspicion he was indeed Jackson Madzimba, that time attached with Spot Fm under the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation.

“As we were disembarking, he gave me his business card, introduced himself, and said I am Jackson Madzimba. I don’t know what that conversation did to me. That day, I decided I wanted to be on

radio,” said Dobie. The decision to be on radio was followed by a humbling process which tested his dedication.

Between 2012 and 2019, Dobie tried his hand at every audition. “I spent seven years trying to get on radio. I would attend every audition that was advertised. On occasions, I was given hope by the adjudicators, but I was never invited afterwards,” he said. The disappointments led him to decide against auditioning, ready to find other vocations far from radio that had appeared closed to him despite his deep desire.

“After I had given up, a cousin of mine called and said there were auditions. I told him to let me be, as I had suffered enough heartbreak in my life,” said Dobie. A day before the auditions, he changed his mind and decided to give the audition a chance. “I thought to myself, I may never be on radio, but

| PRESENTER PROFILE

the closest I can get to being on radio is through these auditions,” Dobie said.

The audition was supposed to be a two-minute radio piece, but he was stopped midway through and told to leave his details with the team recording participant details. If successful, he would be part of the Radio Presenters Masterclass, a new concept which was being tested by former radio presenter Napoleon Nyanhi, Napster. “I went there with one goal in mind. I did not want to win or lose; I just wanted to have fun. I had given up on the prospect of being on radio.

So, I went before a panel with judges, including Tete Tildah and Napster,” said Dobie. After a few months, he was invited to be part of the Radio Presenter Masterclass. “I trained for six months. I came out top of my class; I was one of the best students,” he said. As a reward for his performance, at the end of their training in October 2019, he was tasked to interview Jah Prayzah. “I asked him two questions, and of the two questions, it wowed the crowd, which had program managers from different stations,” said Dobie.

A few months later, Dobie was invited to a meeting by Iyati and RK at the Star FM studios. What followed was him being thrown into the deep end. “I was given an opportunity to do the 3 to 6 Express. The regular hosts at the time, Phatisani and KVG, had gone to South Africa on work business, and I hosted it with Erica Ndoro,” he recalled. This marked the birth of the radio character Ndini Baba Vako, who has become a regular on Star FM, Zimbabwe’s largest commercial radio station. “That is the miracle of how I joined Star FM,” he said.





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IMPACT OF AI IN RADIO BROADCASTING



WRITTEN BY | ALLEN MANGWANYA

Artificial Intelligence (AI), (the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines, especially computer systems)

Artificial Intelligence (AI), (the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines, especially computer systems) is revolutionizing radio broadcasting by automating various processes, improving personalization and interactivity, enhancing content creation and curation, and providing valuable audience insights. This technology has the potential to transform the radio industry and offer listeners a more customized and immersive experience if implemented well. There are AI applications that can be implemented in radio broadcasting:

1. Automated program scheduling:

AI algorithms can analyse audience data, music preferences, and listening habits to automatically generate optimized program schedules. This eliminates the need for manual scheduling and allows for a more personalized and targeted broadcasting experience.

2. Voice recognition and virtual assistants:

AI-powered voice recognition technology enables radio listeners to interact with virtual assistants, such as Amazon's Alexa or Google Assistant, to request specific songs, ask for information, or control other aspects of the radio broadcast. This revolutionizes the way people engage with radio and allows for a more interactive and hands-free listening experience.

3. Content creation and curation:

AI algorithms can analyse vast amounts of data, including music, news, and other content, to curate personalized playlists or create tailored radio segments. This helps radio stations provide personalized content to their listeners, ensuring that they receive relevant and engaging programming.

4. Dynamic ad insertion and targeting:

AI algorithms can analyse listener data and preferences to dynamically insert targeted advertisements into radio broadcasts. This enables advertisers to deliver personalized and relevant ads to specific audiences, increasing the effectiveness of their campaigns.

5. Automatic transcription and closed captioning:



AI-powered speech recognition technology can automatically transcribe radio broadcasts and provide closed captions in real-time. This aids accessibility for individuals with hearing impairments and allows for more inclusive radio broadcasting.

6. Smart audio editing and mixing:

AI algorithms can analyse audio recordings to automatically remove background noise, enhance audio quality, or mix different audio tracks together. This streamlines the editing and production process for radio broadcasters and ensures a high-quality listening experience for the audience.

7. Predictive analytics and audience insights:

AI algorithms can analyse listener data, social media trends, and other data sources to provide broadcasters with valuable insights about their audience, such as their preferences, behaviour patterns, and interests. This helps radio stations make informed programming decisions and improve

their content to better meet audience's needs and preferences.

This revolution being brought by AI is having a significant impact on radio and broadcasting. In the past, radio stations relied on human DJs to select and play music, create playlists, and interact with listeners. However, with these advancements in AI technology, radio stations now have the ability to automate these tasks and enhance their broadcasting capabilities with accuracy from data insights.

Although AI has made significant advancements in radio broadcasting, humans still play a vital role in complementing AI technology. While AI algorithms can generate playlists and analyse trends, humans are essential in curating content. DJs and music programmers have the emotional understanding and connection between songs and the context in which they are played, which AI may lack. AI may be able to automate music playback, but live shows and interviews require human hosts and presenters who can engage with the audience and provide a unique on-air experience. Human hosts bring their personality, humour, and ability to connect with listeners, which enhances the overall radio

experience.

In summary, while AI technology brings automation and efficiency to radio broadcasting, humans are still indispensable in content creation, live shows, adapting content, fostering creativity, and establishing an emotional connection with the audience. The combination of AI and human expertise allows radio stations to offer a unique and engaging broadcasting experience.

"While AI algorithms can generate playlists and analyse trends, humans are essential in curating content. DJs and music programmers have the emotional understanding and connection between songs and the context in which they are played, which AI may lack."

10 KEY NUGGETS FOR BECOMING A SUCCESSFUL MANAGER



**GENERAL MANAGER
MARKETING DOVES HOLDINGS**
| JOEL GOMBERA

*Take your pick! "Remember
Procrastination is 'The Sniper' of
Dreams"*

1-Lead Yourself

Before you go ahead and lead others, you have to lead yourself, you have to decide that you want your life to leave an indelible mark in those that you come into contact with. The Civil rights leader Martin Luther King Junior lived until the age of 39, but the amount of impact he made is still being felt today, decades and decades after his promotion to glory!

Remember- It's not the number of years but the life in your years that count!" "Adlai Stevenson

2-Invest in your personal development

This is a no brainer, we live in a D-vuca-D world, (Dynamic, Volatile Uncertain, Complex, Ambiguous and Disruptive) and you need to continuously refine yourself. Join dynamic organisations like Toastmasters, Rotary, JCI, Lions, Ted Talks etc. Remember it is never too late to go back to school.

3-Audit your brand online

I will simply ask you, if we search your name online what sort of information comes out, does it serve to grow your personal ground or it shoots you down, Food for thought!

4-Become a Serial Networker

It is often said 'Your network is your Net-worth' Networking unlocks priceless and countless opportunities. I recommend that you look for and invest time in reading a book called 'Never Eat Alone' by accomplished author Keith Ferrazzi. You will thank me later!

5-Show me your friends and I will show you your future" Cathie Laurie

Journey with me into the scriptures to explain this point!

- Bad company corrupts good character (I Corinthians 15-33)
- He that walketh with the wise shall be



wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed (Provers 13:20)

Need I say more?

6: Kick out Negativity

Dirty Water does not stop plants from growing! so never allow negative words or vibes to deter your growth! They are enough negative voices in the world to drown you, you just have to be resilient and focus on your on your goals and stay afloat.

7-Be a Critical Thinker

Your must appreciate that your leadership journey will include more frequent pathway changes. Critical thinking is a kind of thinking in which you question, analyse, interpret, evaluate and make a judgement about what you read, hear, say, or write. The term critical comes from the Greek word kritikos meaning “able to judge or discern”

While agility is key in today’s fast paced world, in your agility don’t rush to make impulsive decisions which are not well thought out, embrace critical thinking.

8-Be Selfless

A successful manager rejoices when their team succeeds, don’t be the kind of leader whose team is always sending them messages to say” Boss, your thoughts” on everything that comes their way, empower them to think and make decisions. because when they succeed you also succeed as the team leader!

9-Hard work beats talent when talent doesn’t work hard” Tim Notke

It does not matter if you are God’s gift to the word in terms of your talent, as long as you do not have a strong work ethic, you will be but chasing after the wind.

10-Take Action

Finally, as brilliant as you might be, as good as plans you might have, as long as you do not take decisive action, you will not succeed.” Not taking action is like sitting in a stationery fancy car and hope it move”.

There are 3 kinds of people, the first group fold their arms and watch the action unfold, the second group completely miss the action and wonder what happened, the third group set hairy and audacious goals and take decisive cation to achieve their goals,

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WHO'S YOUR BOYFRIEND?!



WRITTEN BY | IYATI

In fashion design, "boyfriend" is a style of women's clothing that draws heavily from corresponding men's garments. Boyfriend-style clothes are designed to be looser or boxier and tend to be oversized — giving the appearance that one is wearing their boyfriend's clothing.

What do you mean by Boyfriend Jeans?

What Are Boyfriend Jeans? Boyfriend jeans are slouchy denim pants with a loose fit through the thighs and waist, meant to capture the look of a person borrowing their boyfriend's worn-in jeans. Boyfriend jeans come in high-waist styles but traditionally sit lower on the waist to create a baggy silhouette.

Not just jeans, its a whole fashion life style.

The style can be traced back to the 1960s, when Marilyn Monroe wore her boyfriend's loosely-fitting jeans that highly contrasted with her feminine looks in favor of a masculine aesthetic.

[1] Modern boyfriend-style clothes are often designed to look unisex and fit most women.

[2] As the trend continues to grow, many brands such as Gap, Forever 21, H&M, and Urban Outfitters, have created boyfriend or men's-inspired fashion targeted at female consumers.

Let your Boyfriend Look reflect "Who is your Boyfriend" with style. Learn more about/shop for denims by sending 'add me' to +263777 638830

HOW TO ACHIEVE AN EVERYDAY MAKE UP LOOK FOR THE WORKPLACE



WRITTEN BY |
GWEN MUGAURI



They say beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder, but in makeup artistry beauty lies in the 'hands of the skilled!' Possession of high quality makeup skills, applied on a healthy canvas and for the appropriate occasion can bring out the beauty in any living being.

It is highly perceived that makeup is fraudulent, as it alters women's natural features to make them 'look beautiful.' For others, makeup is pasting foundation onto the face to cover blemishes, coloring the lips red and furnishing the eyes with eye-shadow plus long eyelashes. While the above may not necessarily be false, if the application technique is poor, one may forever scoff at makeup. Forget about the quality of products at this level, it's all about the skill and of course the tools of the trade. World Class make-up

artiste Bobby Brown believes you should wear makeup that makes you feel confident without getting in the way of your job. No matter where you work, you want your everyday makeup to appear polished and professional. Here are my ten tips to achieve a polished professional makeup look for everyday work, be it in the corporate or creative sector.

Tip1: Use only a few products

To begin with, you do not need a suitcase of all the

make-up items for your polished everyday look, only focus on the few major basics. Remember you do not want it to be time consuming. I suggest a no foundation look unless absolutely necessary according to one's taste. Focus on concealer to highlight dark zones e.g under eyes and the t-zone area. All in all, you need a good moisturiser, a 30-50 sun protection factor (SPF) sunscreen, primer (optional) black and brown brow and eyeliner, foundation (optional), concealer (for brows contouring and dark zones highlighting) compact powder for setting the whole face, mascara, brown lip-liner, nude lipstick (optional), neutral eye-shadow palette (optional) lip-gloss, blush and setting spray (optional).

Tip 2: Know your Audience

It is very important to know the kind of people you interact with on a daily basis. This allows you to measure the level of professional makeup you require depending on whether or not the day is ordinary or special. One day may require a normal clean natural look with no eyelashes or lipstick while the other may require a subtle look with a touch of glam including cream blush, warm neutral eye-shadows, eyelashes and a nude lipstick. This completes a clean subtle professional look for the office or public appearance.

Tip 3: Invest in basic makeup tools

It is impossible to achieve best results in any practical trade without the correct tools. This means you have to cautiously invest in basic makeup tools accompanied by the skill.

These include different sized powder brushes, a flat angled brush for brow sculpting, eye-shadow blending brushes, a beauty blenders, tweezers for eyelash application and a small face mirror. Also learn how to use your fingers to blend makeup products from foundation, concealer to eye-shadow. This should secure you even when applying the most basic makeup look, it will have a professional touch.

Tip 4: Focus on these 3

Do not be tempted to go dramatic with the cat eye, or unnecessarily dark eyebrows with a shouting red lip. There are three most important features to focus on when trying to achieve everyday make-up for work. Focus on well sculpted eyebrows, an evenly light-powdered face and a bold or nude lip depending on mood. Also, do not forget to put on mascara if there are no eyelashes to be worn to give the eyes a pop.

Tip 5: Maintain good looking skin

No amount of make-up can cover up for bad looking skin. In fact it will take more time trying to cover up the blemishes. It is therefore important to have a good daily skin-care routine. Cleanse and moisturize every day before going to sleep to allow the skin to breathe, eat healthy fruits and vegetables rich in Vitamin C and E, drink lots of water for hydration and always wear a sunscreen underneath the makeup to prevent sunrays from breaking down the collagen in your skin cells. Visit a dermatologist once in a while for skin profiling, to detect deficiencies in your skin and have corrective procedures prescribed by a specialist.



Tip 6: Highlight your best features

You do not always need a full face-beat to have your best features emphasized. Know your best features be it eyes, lips or cheekbones, then focus on those areas in your light make-up for work. Always wear a bold lipstick if the lips are your best feature, always wear blush if you have high cheekbones and keep those eyelashes on if they give your eyes the flatter and pop you like. This helps not just to keep your time in check but also produces a branded statement look in a professional manner.

Tip 7: Keep it comfortable

If you have to constantly feel extra cautious of how you look or your eyelashes keep sweeping over your nose or make you feel teary then something is wrong. Your natural everyday makeup is not supposed to distract you from your work. Wear comfortable makeup, which you do not have to feel the urge to touch up every hour. You should feel comfortable, proud and confident.

Tip 8: Keep a little touch up bag

This does not mean carrying the whole make-up box to work. A little touch up cosmetic bag with your colored lip gloss, wet wipes, blotting paper towels, powder brush and a translucent powder can be of great value. These are items that will neither add nor remove already applied makeup on your face but rather freshen it up.

Tip 9: Thoroughly cleanse off makeup every night

Never ever sleep without removing makeup applied during the day. Even if there was no makeup applied, do no sleep without cleansing the face with at least a face wash or scrub. This assists in removing impurities that accumulate throughout the day. Exfoliate the skin twice or thrice a week, use toner once every two days for removal of last traces of dirt stuck in your pores after cleansing. Always moisturize even with Vaseline.

Tip 10: Get adequate sleep

You may follow all of the above mentioned tips but if you do not get adequate sleep as part of your skin-care routine then forget it! Sleep is a natural way of combatting ageing signs such as wrinkling and sagging. It helps restore the natural components of collagen through blood circulation which also flashes out toxins and gets rid of dead skin cells. Lack of sleep results in skin looking dehydrated with the appearance of fine lines and eye-bags becoming more visible. At least 8 hours of sleep daily combined with a good daily skin routine and a healthy diet will work magic on your skin.





BREAKING THE CYCLE: PREVENTING CHILDHOOD TRAUMA FROM BEING PASSED ON

WRITTEN BY | CHITUMBA HAZEL SHAMISO.

Children tend to grow and adapt to the environment they are raised in. Growing up in a happy family can instill positive values and create a desire to create a happy family of their own. Similarly, being raised in an abusive family can lead one to believe that such behavior is acceptable in family relationships.

Parents who have experienced trauma themselves may unintentionally pass it on to their children if they have not had the opportunity to express their emotions and heal from their past. They may also give advice based on their own experiences, such as advising their children to stay in toxic relationships. This can perpetuate a cycle of unhealthy behavior across generations.

True parental love is rare and can either create a loving heart or a heart of darkness. However, it is time to change the world and give children the love

they need. Seeking advice on better ways to raise children and counseling to address past trauma is not a sign of weakness, but rather an act of bravery that can break the cycle of childhood trauma.

We can all be the support system that our children need. We can listen to them, guide them, and be their support. Family issues are a major cause of depression and suicidal thoughts, but we can reduce these rates by creating a healthy and happy society. It is time to teach children the importance of mental well-being and to take their mental health seriously. Let us break the cycle and prevent childhood trauma from being passed on to the next generation.



UNDERSTANDING DEMENTIA

As the population ages, people with dementia are expected to increase. This has consequences for both society and individuals. Dementia is a public health concern and priority as it affects 55 million people worldwide.



WRITTEN BY
| MANDIDA GUSHA

Dementia is a term used to describe symptoms affecting memory, thinking and social abilities severely enough to interfere with one's daily life. Affecting 55 million people worldwide, dementia is not a specific disease but can be caused by several diseases. Its common symptoms are poor memory, thinking and social abilities, severely affecting one's daily life. Dementia is not a specific disease, but several conditions can cause dementia. Though dementia generally involves memory loss, memory loss has different causes. Memory loss alone doesn't mean one has dementia, although it is often one of the early signs of the condition.

There is no effective treatment for dementia; it, however, can be managed through prevention, timely diagnosis and care. It is estimated that 115 million people will live with dementia by 2050. The causes of dementia are a result of damage to or loss of nerve cells and their connections in the brain. Depending on the area of the brain that is damaged, dementia can affect people differently and cause different symptoms.

There are different types of dementias that progress and aren't reversible, include;

Alzheimer Disease

This is the most common cause of dementia, this can be inherited. This develops when abnormal structures called plaques and tangles form in the brain and eventually cause brain cells to die. It is the most common type of dementia and tends to cause problems with memory and thinking fast.

Vascular Dementia

This type of dementia is caused by damage to the vessels that supply blood to your brain. Blood vessel problems can cause strokes or affect the brain in other ways, such as by damaging the fibres in the white matter of the brain. The most common signs of vascular dementia include difficulties with problem solving, slowed thinking, and loss of focus and organisation. They tend to be noticeable than memory loss.

You might be able to control the following risk factors for dementia:

Diet And Exercise

Research shows that lack of exercise increases the risk of dementia. And while no specific diet is known to reduce dementia in people who eat an unhealthy diet compared with those who follow a Mediterranean- style diet rich in produce, whole grains, nuts and seeds.

Excessive Alcohol Use

drinking large amounts of alcohol has long been known to cause brain changes. Several large studies and reviews found that alcohol use disorders were linked to an increased risk of dementia particularly early onset dementia.

Cardiovascular Risk Factors.

These include high blood pressure (hypertension), high cholesterol, buildup of fats in your artery walls and obesity. The brain diseases that cause dementia often start many years or even decades before a person has noticeable problems with their memory or thinking. This means that the best way to reduce your risk of dementia is to start as early as possible during your 40s, 50s or 60s.

Complications

Dementia can affect many body systems and therefore the ability to function dementia can lead to

- Poor nutrition
- Pneumonia
- Inability to perform self care task

Risk factors that you can not change if you have dementia

Age

Over the age of 65 the risk of developing dementia doubles every 5 years , however around 1 in 20 people living with dementia develop it before the age of 65. This is known as young onset dementia.

Genes

They are certain genes that may be passed down (inherited from a parent that increases the chances of getting dementia.

Gender And Sex

Overall there are more women than men who are living with dementia. This is mostly because women tend to live longer than men.

Ethnic Origin

A few studies have suggested that people from Black African, Black Caribbean and South Asian ethnic groups are more likely to get dementia than people from white ethnic groups. Possible reasons for this include in risk of differences in diabetes and cardiovascular disease (CVD) between these groups.



Candice Mwakalyelye | Andy Hodges | Marisa Marinda

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EASTXCAPE – PULSE OF THE EASTERN HIGHLANDS



WRITTEN BY
| JABULANI MANGEZI

American Author and Journalist, Phillip Connors said of mountains: “The greatest gift of life on the mountain is time. Time to think or not think, read or not read, scribble or not scribble—to sleep and cook and walk in the woods, to sit and stare at the shapes of the hills.”

EDITION 1 “THE WHITE HORSE INN – A DANCE IN THE MISTY MOUNTAINS”

Well, nestled at the foot of the majestic Vumba Mountains, at the bottom of a winding tree lined road, is a quaint little place that gifts you all this and more. The White Horse Inn, situated a short 20minute drive from the bustle of Mutare, is the perfect place for escape, to discover the mythical gifts shrouded in the mist that is Vumba. Although only officially licenced as a hotel in

1959, “The Horse”, as it is popularly known, is steeped in history. Built as a cottage in the 1930s, different owners down the years have contributed in various ways, including being the factory of the old Rob Roy Jam, to the palpable sense of old world charm that the Inn exudes.

Twelve deluxe rooms and two suites, all superbly appointed in soft hues that are an extension of the luxuriant outdoors, provide the traveller with a warm homely feel that belies the Vumba’s temperate climate. A near permanent feature is the roaring fire in the small cosy pub, which boasts a wide selection of both local and exotic wines and the adjacent lounge where guests can recline in Victorian era

surroundings.

To step into the gardens is to embrace nature at its most pristine. Clivias, Petunia, Roses and Bougainvillea are some of the flowers that dot the terraced gardens which are broken by indigenous trees, replete with green ivy and soft powdery moss. Native bird species like the golden Swynnerton's Robin, the more common Silvery Cheeked Horn Bill and the Chirinda Apalis, whose name betrays the Vumba's keens-ship to the distant home of the big tree at Mt Selinda in Chipinge, compete for space with the rare Samango monkey which is reputed to have the unique ability of changing course mid- flight between trees.

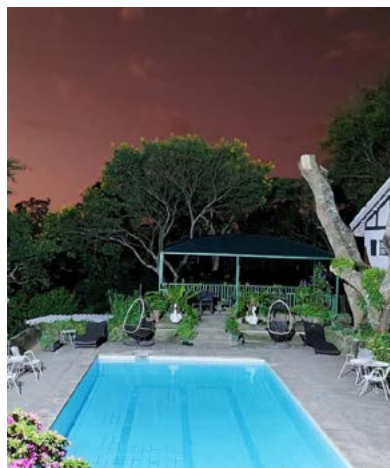
Frank Marembo, Director of the Inn, revealed that an expert resident guide is available for guided bird walks and, to round off the experience, he said the Inn retains the services of one of arguably the best chefs in the eastern-highlands.

“We have established a tradition of some of the finest cuisine to be found in the eastern highlands, our Chefs have crafted a menu that combines local delicacies with unusual exotic dishes.” Said Mr Marembo, “Guests and walk in diners can experience world class cuisine, that is localised for a truly unique culinary experience., we call it a

five-star cuisine with two-star economy.”

“Our spacious gardens make the White Horse an ideal venue for events from weddings, anniversaries and even corporate events in our conference room”

For the more athletic, numerous paths beckon invitingly and meander up the misty mountains, which reward any who scale the summit with amazing views and a chance to breath and kiss the mist that give the Vumba its singularly magical allure. So next time you need to step away from the mundane drudgery of everyday existence, to stop thinking, or reading, if you want a place to walk around in the woods, to sit around all day, staring at the shapes of the hills, White Horse Inn provides the perfect escape.



JULIAN IS THE ZIMNTULIKAZI KING



BY | LASTWORD MUSEKIWA



United States-based Zimbabwean singer Julian King dominated the #Zimntulikazi charts with his hit song, One by One. The song, which features Saintflow, was the most requested song during July, the month dedicated to exclusively playing Zimbabwean music on Star FM. One by One's performance on the charts confirmed the figures recorded on YouTube, where it has garnered 2.5 million views within four months of release. Julian King took to social media to thank his fans for their support. He said, "Thank you KingdomNation. Numbers don't lie! I'm ready to work! The best is yet to come."

Apart from making music, Julian King is an accountant and has toured South Carolina, Mississippi, Kansas and Texas, raising scholarships for thousands of children from disadvantaged backgrounds at Africa University. Zimbabwe's leading commercial radio station, Star FM, celebrates homegrown talent annually in July, which has become widely known as #Zimntulikazi.

Throughout the month, the feedback and engagement on social media were overwhelming as listeners tagged their favourite local artists. According to Star FM, the idea of #Zimntulikazi is to uplift and amplify local talent, and the station has been at the forefront of doing so since its inception in June 2012. Star FM celebrated 11 years of Sounding Good All The Time this year.

WRITERS, WRITE.



BY | TSITSI NGWENYA

At one time in 2013, during a Symposium for Chinua Achebe held at University of Pretoria in SA, I listened in total admiration as speaker after speaker from all over Africa quoted either Marechera, Yvonne Vera, Chinodya and Chenjerai Hove.



I am always awed by the impact made by Zimbabwean writers like Yvonne Vera, Chenjerai Hove, Charles Mungoshi, Marechera, Barbara Makhalisa and others of their generation. Their names are always mentioned and their work

"Some manuscripts can be rejected, but does not mean a writer must give up. Many celebrated writers had their manuscripts rejected but still they made it after improving their work"

generates so much discussion in literature events worldwide till this day. At one time in 2013, during a Symposium for Chinua Achebe held at University of Pretoria in SA, I listened in total admiration as speaker after speaker from all over Africa quoted either Marechera, Yvonne Vera, Chinodya and Chenjerai Hove. I discovered that, from talking to some of those writers I had the privilege to meet, this generation of writers wrote what they knew, they worked with professional editors who contributed too in the production of their literature. These writers of the older generation wrote from a deep source of inspiration, took time in perfecting their craft. Writers must write. Stories need to be told. In storytelling more is gained when the writer shows and does not explain and judge their characters, that is for the audience to do. However, the challenge we have with the new generation

of writers is that besides lack of local publishing houses which can publish their stories, most lack patience. This generation of writer's hurry editors or do not get their books edited at all.

They rush to printers who call themselves 'publishers. These companies just charge the writer and go on to print whatever story it is, also they print very few copies which they sell to their relatives and friends just before hurried book launches. These dubious printers can print as little as ten copies at a time. Such published books disappear from the literature space as fast they were produced. What hurts is that sometimes the plot, the themes of such books are brilliant that if proper process are followed in diligence, they could be best sellers. Writers write.

Once a writer has completed a manuscript, they should send to proper publishing houses who will give to different readers who will take their time to read and write a report with comments to the publisher. Some manuscripts can be rejected, but does not mean a writer must give up. Many celebrated writers had their manuscripts rejected but still they made it after improving their work. Also, writers come from readers. You cannot be a writer if you are not a reader first. I have been asked by a lot of young and new writers how they can get their books published. I am always happy to give advice on the book production process.

I explain to them that first, after they have perfected their work, they should send their manuscripts to publishing houses who have guidelines on submission of manuscripts. Then they must wait for the publishing house to contact them after they have been given reports by their readers. These first readers read to check if the stories are worth publishing, they are concerned about the plot, the themes, the structure and other important issues. Once the publisher has read the reports from different readers, they write the writer a report as well advising on findings of their story. There is a story which can be edited for grammar and structure

and be published, and there are stories which may need improvement, that means if the issues mentioned are corrected and addressed then that story can be published.

Then, there are stories that are so unconvincing or badly written that the publisher rejects outright. When the author is forthcoming and is willing to work with the publisher then the editing process starts, the author works with different editors who are mostly selected by the publisher in their professional work ethics. After editing there is proofreading, these are people who read and correct grammar, punctuation and other mistakes which may cause the book to be rejected by serious audience like the academic. That goes on and on until everyone involved is satisfied. Then a publisher will send a manuscript to a printer who will typeset and print a dummy copy, this dummy will be checked and read by everyone involved in the book production. Then after this, copies of the book can be produced. This whole process is at the expense of the publisher.

"Writers come from readers. You cannot be a writer if you are not a reader first"

The Galaxy

HOT TOPICS

01

My wife and stepdaughter are ganging against me

I am a 53-year-old man, I need your help. I was previously married, and unfortunately, my wife passed away eight years ago. I remarried two years ago after I felt I was ready for a new marriage. My burning issue is my 26-year-old stepdaughter bought a very expensive car last year. She drives a Mercedes Benz and recently moved into a nice apartment in a low-density suburb.

I told my wife that something does not add up, our daughter our daughter sells cosmetics products, and she does not afford to buy such an expensive car and apartment. My wife quickly dismissed the issue and rubbished my concern. The child is bringing gifts for her mother and is buying groceries for the house. I asked her where she is getting this money and she told me that her boyfriend is funding her lifestyle. She did not come home for some time after I told her that I wanted to meet her boyfriend. I told her to introduce us to her boyfriend if she wants to continue bringing groceries from her boyfriend.

She came with him, the guy looked like my age mate. He started talking about marriage, I asked him if he was married, and he dodged the question. I had a conversation with my wife about our daughter's boyfriend and she seemed like she was okay with him and insisted that they must get married soon. We had a dispute with my wife after I told her that I disapprove of this man and that we would not receive more groceries from this guy. She was furious and angry, she basically said that I must not get in-between her relationship with her daughter. They have been spending a lot of time together lately, she takes her out for lunch every now and then. My wife and I are not talking these days. What should I do?

02

Doubled-faced husband

I am a lady aged 42 and I have one child from my previous marriage. I remarried eight years ago, to a pastor. My husband is loved by the church but at home he is a monster. He is constantly cheating on me. Our church is small, his salary cannot sustain our lifestyle with our two kids, a maid, and a gardener. I'm the bread winner, I have a formal job that pays well, I travel a lot and I always make sure I bring him nice suits.

When I bought a Range rover, I gave him my previous car a Mercedes Benz. He crushed it and I was hurt to find out that he had a young lady with him. Thank God both did not get injured. In my head I thought he would fix the car; he parked it, and it has been there for two months. My issue is I counsel young couples at church and I teach them values that I am not upholding in my own home. I fake happiness when I'm in public with my husband but at home we hate each other.

My daughter knows my situation, she has seen us quarrel multiple times and she resorted to moving out to stay with her dad because of this situation at home. I have thought about divorce, but people will be shocked since we have put up a class act all these years as the happy couple. I was in an abusive relationship before and this time I hoped it would be different with a God-fearing man, but it's worse. I have been treated for STIs multiple times to the extent that I now refuse intimacy with my husband. I am a prayer warrior who feels defeated and helpless. This is my first time opening up about my situation. What can I do?

The Galaxy

HOT TOPICS

03

Should I or should I not?

I am a woman aged 24. Five years ago, our family relocated. I got bored because I was lonely and did not have friends of my age, so I asked my best friend who was my co-worker at the time on how to get friends.

She told me about a dating app which I downloaded and within a short period of time I met a guy on this dating app, and we started dating. The guy is from one of the Western African countries. Things were moving fast and we moved in together.

I later got pregnant, and he became violent so I left him and I moved to my parent's house. It has been very difficult for me to date since then. My headache is I met this amazing guy with a very good voice, every time I talk to him or hear his voice my heart skips beat. I really like this guy. The problem is, I am miles and miles away from him, I have a couple of things going on so am not planning on coming back to Zimbabwe anytime soon. What should I do? Should I tell him how I feel or should I just ignore my feelings for him, chill and just ignore enjoy the vibe?



Taste the
CRUNCH

#LetsGetCrunching

new



Makes food go

KABOOM



GRILLED GARLIC & ROSEMARY KARIBA BREAM



WRITTEN BY |
RUMBIE FROM ZIMBOKITCHEN

Rumbie has extensive experience in the food and beverage industry. She is the recipe developer, cofounder, and Lead Chef at ZimboKitchen Foods in Zimbabwe, where she focuses on recipe development, culinary coaching, and culinary community engagement. She is also the author of more than 20 digital recipe books

Apart from the health benefits we gain from consuming fish, most of us also love it because it just tastes good!! Especially when you vary how you prepare it. This is one more fish recipe to have under your belt. Go ahead and try it out. Before you know it, it'll be finished and you'll still be wanting more!! You can serve this with your preferred starch, which could be sadza, potatoes, rice, etc. Or with just a scrumptious green lettuce and/or purple lettuce salad.

Ingredients

SERVES: 5
TAKES: 30 - 40 MINUTES

5 small-medium bream fish
2 tsp garlic, minced
2 tsp rosemary, finely chopped
Rind (finely grated lemon peel) from 1 lemon
Juice from 1 lemon
1 tsp salt
1/2 tsp freshly ground black pepper
2 tbsp oil

Instructions

1. Get your ingredients together. De-scale, clean and pat dry your fish. With a sharp knife, cut two diagonal slits on each side of the fish and set aside.
2. In a measuring jug/ small bowl. Put the garlic, lemon rind, rosemary, salt, oil and lemon juice. Give a good mix until the salt dissolves.
3. Put the fish in a marinating container. Pour the lemon, rosemary and garlic liquid into the slits of fish. Tuck the remaining solids (garlic, rosemary and lemon rind) into each of the slits. Cover then refrigerate for at least 30 min to an hour to allow the fish to sip in all the flavours.
4. Line the oven tray with the foil paper (if using). Lightly grease the oven tray/ foil paper with oil. Take marinated fish and lay it on the foil paper.
5. Grill in the oven for 30-45 min or until it begins to turn golden brown. Enjoy!

CHEVRONS BREAK ZIMBABWE'S HEART



WRITTEN BY |
RUKUDZO VENGENSA

The Zimbabwe men's national cricket team came within a whisker of reaching the 2023 50-over Cricket World Cup in India, but fell short at the very final hurdle in front of a partisan crowd at Queen's Sports Club in Bulawayo.



It had begun so well for the Chevrons, who started the World Cup Qualifier tournament in Harare with thumping wins over Nepal and the Netherlands. Then came a serious test in the form of 2-time world champions the West Indies. That match was played in front of a record crowd of more than 20000 people at Harare Sports Club, as the nation fell in love with the team and showed up in droves to support them. That large attendance certainly made the difference, helping the team to recover from setting their opponents a seemingly low run target by managing to defend it with scintillating bowling at the end to win a crucial match and set themselves up for another tilt

at qualification. One more academic victory against the United States sealed a comfortable group phase for Zimbabwe, who now had to win just 2 games out of 3 in the Super 6 stage to reach India.

But it started to unravel as the team moved down to Bulawayo. A shaky win over Oman in the first match proved to be a harbinger of terrible things to come, as the players began to lose steam physically - the toll of 5 one-day international matches in 11 days started to catch up to them, as well as a change in pitch conditions at Queen's Sports Club. Tournament favourites Sri Lanka were next, and they pulled Zimbabwe apart with ease to seal their own spot in the global showpiece with a match to

spare. Only one more ticket remained.

That all meant the hosts had to beat Scotland in the final Super 6 game to join the Asian island nation, but it all fell apart in devastating fashion. After a really great showing with the ball restricted Scotland to just 234 runs, the Chevrons would have fancied their chances to win the match with ease. But some exceptional pace bowling from the Scots, coupled with reckless shot-making by the Zimbabwean batsmen, left the hosts reeling very early in their innings and they failed to recover. Regular wickets fell despite some resistance from the likes of Ryan Burl and Wessly Madhevere. In the end, the Chevrons were bowled out 31 runs short of the target, and the World Cup dream went up in smoke. The Queen's Sports Club crowd which had shown up in massive numbers was left heartbroken, just like the fans in Harare who were in attendance when Zimbabwe also failed to get over the line against the United Arab Emirates back in the 2018 World Cup Qualifier.

It was doom and gloom at the very end, but before then we had seen some incredible cricket from Zimbabwe. Veteran batsman Sean Williams was named Player of the Tournament after he scored exactly 600 runs in the 7 matches, featuring 3 centuries and 2 more half-centuries as he almost single-handedly fired the hosts to India. He was ably supported by star all-rounder Sikandar Raza and seamer Richard Ngarava, both of whom were

also named in the team of the tournament after lighting up the matches.

And the world got to witness the passion for the sport that Zimbabwean fans have. The colour and the noise were on full display throughout, especially with the famous Castle Corner supporting unit dressed in khaki school uniforms against Nepal and wearing red overalls and white hard-hats for the match against the West Indies. The songs and war-cries came through very loud and clear on the international television broadcasts, and it was obvious to all that Zimbabwe loves its cricket team again after so many years of poor performances.

The Netherlands joined Sri Lanka in reaching the World Cup, and that would normally be the headline of the tournament. But Zimbabwe were incredible hosts, and the fans brought what would normally be a mundane competition to life with their interest, their fervour and their noise. That is a great sign for when the nation welcomes the world again for the 2026 U-19 Men's Cricket World Cup, and then co-hosts the 2027 Men's Cricket World Cup, along with South Africa and Namibia.

And thankfully, Zimbabwe will not have to qualify for either tournament, meaning the days of cricket heartbreak are over for a very long time.





ZIMBABWE RETURNS TO THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL FOLD



WRITTEN BY |
RUKUDZO VENGESE

After 18 months in the wilderness, the Zimbabwe Football Association finally had its suspension from all international football lifted by the global governing body FIFA this month.

Zimbabwe had been barred from all football activities outside of the country on the 24 February 2022 after FIFA took issue with the Sports and Recreation Commission's decision to suspend the Zifa board led by former president Felton Kamambo for alleged misappropriation of funds, alleged sexual harassment of female referees and for the poor directing of women's and grassroots football development. Fifa felt the SRC's intervention was third-party interference in the affairs of a national football governing body by a government, which is explicitly forbidden in Fifa's statutes. The global body then insisted that the suspension would only be lifted once

the Kamambo-led executive was re-instated with full authority over the affairs of Zifa, as well as the dissolution of a restructuring committee set up by the SRC to create a roadmap for the future administration of the local governing body ahead of new elections, among other demands.

The SRC refused to budge however, causing a stand-off that paralysed Zimbabwean football for 18 months. In that time, the SRC's restructuring committee laid out its plans to improve the administration of the game locally, and a new Zifa board led by former vice-president Gift Banda was appointed after Kamambo and his board's members Philemon Machana, Stanley Chapeta and Brighton Malandule were recalled by the Zifa councillors.

However, the tides began to turn and FIFA softened its stance towards Zimbabwe in the last few months, and it began to hold talks with the SRC and Zifa on how to re-integrate the nation into the international body. On 10 July, FIFA wrote a letter to Zifa acknowledging that the mandate of the Kamambo-led board had expired in December 2022 at the end of its 4 year term. That meant they could not legally resume their duties in charge of the local governing body and as such, Zifa was effectively leaderless. The restructuring committee had also been disbanded after the completion of its work in the same month so that FIFA condition was met. Therefore Fifa confirmed the appointment of a normalisation committee led by former Dynamos chairman Lincoln Mutasa to run the affairs of Zifa until fresh elections for a new board can be held.

In the meantime, the country can resume playing international matches, beginning with the 2026 World Cup qualifiers that are scheduled to begin in November.

The senior men's national team were drawn in a tough group featuring West African giants Nigeria, neighbours South Africa, Rwanda, Benin and Lesotho. Only one team from that group will qualify directly for the World Cup finals to be held in the US, Mexico and Canada in 3 years' time, while the second-placed finisher may have the opportunity to get there via an African then a Global qualifying tournament. Zimbabwe will be significant underdogs to reach their first-ever global showpiece, but it will be wonderful to see the Warriors back in action against the African continent's best nations.



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