

Newsletter / October 2023

Flexibility is the key

Dear members and sponsors of the Association of Swiss Friends of Sethule Orphans' Trust,

The Director of Sethule Orphans' Trust, Thabbeth Cotton (foreground left in the photo), visited Zimbabwe again in July and August. This period was marked by the elections in the country, in which the outgoing President of Zimbabwe was elected. There were reports of violence and lack of transparency. We are concerned that this will have an impact on the country's external relations and further reduce much needed investment.

Some of Sethule's programmes were affected by the elections. Staff were unable to visit villages and make contact with families and relatives as they usually did. As a result, the birth certificate project had to be temporarily suspended. However, contact with schools was maintained. As a result, some children were still able to receive assistance in obtaining their birth certificates. Workshops in schools continued and some pupils were encouraged to ask for individual help. The ATTIC summer camp, which welcomed 150 young people and adults, was again a great success. Food parcels continued to be distributed. However, families had to collect the parcels from the schools.

The **annual team meeting** at the end of August with Director Thabbeth Cotton evaluated programmes and developed strategies to ensure accountability and sustainability of ongoing work.

Thank you for helping the staff of Sethule Orphans' Trust to continue their work with skill, commitment, team spirit and confidence!



Break during the annual team meeting

Our bank account:

CH62 0076 7000 E560 9363 3

Banque Cantonale Vaudoise, 1854 Leysin, on behalf of: Swiss Friends of Sethule Orphans' Trust,
3073 Gümligen

(Payment slip attached)

Please excuse that this new account was blocked in the month of July. We had to struggle with the forms!

Thank you for your loyalty and best regards,



Anne-Marie Saxer-Steinlin, President of the association

PS1: All tasks in our association are carried out on a voluntary basis and most material expenses are sponsored. In 2022 we had less than 1% administration costs!

PS2: If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please send an email to info@sethule.ch.