

## TARIRO PIGS

As you may see from these pictures the Tariro pigs are looking good. About 3 years ago the Fellowship of St John generously gave us the money to start a pig project in Zimbabwe. It has taken time to get it going as these projects are always a mission in Zimbabwe – cement disappears from the shops, builder lets you down, pigs aren't ready – then we had a drought so that the borehole dried up and there was a shortage of pig food. Fortunately, Fr Mutasa, our chairman in Zimbabwe, raises pigs himself so he knows how to solve these problems. At the moment he is concentrating on building up a good breeding stock and selling just a few to fund that. Shortly they will be selling larger numbers which should provide a stream of income for the Tariro Youth Project which will lessen their dependence on UK donors.

The two young men you see in these pictures are both orphans from Anglican children's homes. Blessing and Chengetai are very nice young chaps and have shown themselves to be reliable and hard working. It is a great that we can give them a meaningful job with a future. It's also really good that they can make a contribution to the supply of food in Zimbabwe.

Fifty years ago I first encountered pigs on a mission in Wedza where I worked and I fell in love with them. They are friendly, noisy and great eaters. In UK and the West generally there is a lot of unhappiness at how pigs are treated, raised in crowded conditions and fed artificial rubbish. In Zimbabwe, as you can see, we treat them well and raise them in an entirely natural manner. We do have to kill them in the end – that is the only reason for keeping them, but until that moment they really do seem to be happy pigs.

Thank you Fellowship of St John for providing us with these.







