

Sebakwe News

Editor : John Gripper

www.blackrhino.org

Registered Charity : 328461

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Opening of New Chalet at the Sebakwe Education Centre

On Sunday 16th of September the new chalet at Sebakwe Conservation and Education Centre was officially opened by John Gripper as the Guest of Honour. This chalet will provide new accommodation for visitors to the Centre such as research students, officials and volunteers.



We are very grateful to the Beit Trust for providing the funding for this new Chalet. The Beit Trust was set up in 1906 by the will of Mr Alfred Beit and called the Beit Railway Fund to develop improved communications in Northern and Southern Rhodesia. This Trust has built most of the great bridges of Central Africa. In 1946 the Trust's benevolent mandate was redefined to the countries of Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi, where the income could be applied to education, public or other charitable purposes such as health, welfare and the conservation of endangered species. The Trust also provides a limited number of postgraduate scholarships.



We have now made progress in drawing up a structured programme for volunteers to come to the Conservancy for a four week period, where they will receive an introduction into life in the real Africa and its wildlife rather than just as tourists staying at safari lodges. Their time as volunteers will be spent by helping at the Education Centre, visiting local schools and tracking black rhino.

Further details of the scheme can be obtained from the Conservator - Dave Strydom on his email: midlandsblackrhino@gmail.com

School Visits

At my recent visit in September I was able to visit all eight schools in the conservancy area to get an update and prioritise their needs. We were a party of fifteen people in three vehicles which included other head teachers, seven representatives from Ward 2 Advisory Board, the voluntary education officer, three students attached to the Centre and the black rhino scholarship co-ordinator.

Msena Primary School

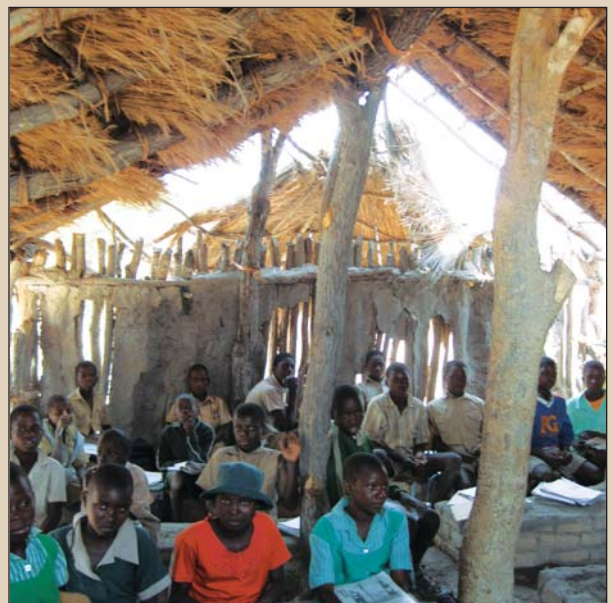
The headmaster is Mr Bere and the school has 213 pupils and 6 teachers. The school has no proper brick buildings and all the four class rooms are made of pole and mortar. There are no staff houses. Grade C classroom has fallen down and the parents are renovating some of the other classrooms. All of these classrooms have thatched roofs which are now leaking and need re-thatching.



Parents have sponsored the construction of one new classroom block which is built of a single brick line but has no window frames or doors. This block was built with no cement and has no floor. The school has no funds to build proper classroom blocks but can make bricks.



The classrooms have no furniture. There is no borehole. Water has to be carried by the children each day. The school has 50 Aids orphans who are failing to pay their levies of USD\$10 each per term.

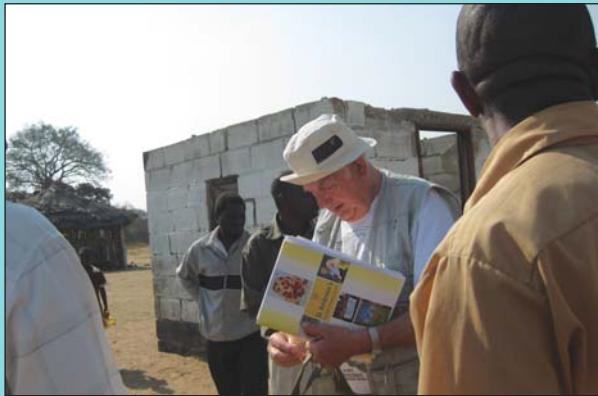


Chiwodza Primary School

The new borehole has dried up and has to be resited and re-drilled. We have agreed to fund this additional work. New pegs have been installed but the diviner will have to approve. Once again teachers and schoolchildren are fetching water from a distance of 4KM.



Twinning letters were exchanged from the St Ambrose's Catholic Primary School in Kidderminster. This was followed by a very energetic dance for our entertainment.



Chiwodza Secondary School

The headmaster is Mr Masora. When we visited this school a year ago we saw there was a half built block of new classrooms which had been left uncompleted for seven years. Ray Gripper, one of our trustees, then wrote to the local Member of Parliament who is the Defence Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa, pointing out that it would be more cost effective to complete the building of this block rather than start afresh with new buildings.

We were delighted to hear that soon after this letter had been sent, that the Ministry of Education had provided funding of USD\$120,000 to complete the building. Already two new classroom blocks have been finished and the building materials have been delivered for a third block. This funding will also provide for the building of three new staff houses.



Bushy Park Primary & Secondary Schools

This school has 650 pupils in four classrooms which they share between Primary and Secondary schools. The Secondary school uses one classroom and the Primary school uses three classrooms. They have no furniture in the classrooms with the children sitting on the floor and only the teachers have tables and chairs. Nursery school is held under a tree.



The school has no borehole, just an unprotected well which has too little water and the water is too dirty to drink so the children have to go elsewhere and collect the water. There is an urgent need for this school to have a borehole which can supply clean water.



Sebakwe Primary School

This school now only has 70 pupils. This reduction in numbers has been affected by the reduction in farm workers and their families and the growth of other schools in the area which are nearer to the children's homes. However some of the buildings are in disrepair and need maintenance. They have a supply of fresh water from the borehole at the Sebakwe Conservation and Education Centre.



Pauldale (Gutsaruzhinji) School

The Headmaster is Mr Matarirano. This school still has to complete its building programme and has one unfinished staff house and one unfinished classroom block. They have got the materials for this house from the parents but it has no floor, doors or windows frames. This school has been chosen as the site for the bee keeping.



The headmaster appealed for help on behalf of Honest Bema who dropped out of University after completing his second year studying industrial engineering due to financial constraints after his mother had a serious accident. Honest is seeking help to finish his studies and it was agreed that full details of his papers should be forwarded to the Chairman of the Trust for consideration.

Rhino Secondary School

The Headmaster is Mr Chiyangwa. They intend to eventually build two classroom blocks and six staff houses. They have enough building material to build one classroom block and one staff house but they do not have cement or roofing material.

They have received aid from the Zibagwe Rural District Council in the form of a borehole and 60 bags of cement to build a 10 squat Blair toilet. The toilet is almost at slab level. This toilet requires 10,000 bricks which the parents are supplying. They have built a storeroom and have enough material for another staff house.



Rockvale (Tagwireyi) Primary School

Mr Mugwidi is the Headmaster. This school still has one classroom which does not yet have a roof, window panes or doors. We were able to deliver a bundle of letters to the Headmaster from schoolchildren at the Lindridge Church of England Primary School at Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire



Island Dam on the Munyati River

Zimplats Zimbabwe is the countries largest mining operation and is part of Impala Platinum of South Africa. They are embarking on an expansion programme at their Ngezi Mine in the Kadoma Rural District Council. This project will include the establishment of a primary platinum ore processing plant in the vicinity of Ngezi Mine, and thus economise on the long distance haulage of bulk ore. An assured supply of raw water will be essential for the operation of the new processing plant and Zimplats has identified the need to build the Island Dam to ensure there is sufficient raw water supply for the operations.

Arup Zimbabwe was awarded the tender to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and this was conducted to assess the environmental impacts of the proposed project on the riverine ecological set-up and the community at large. It was the view of the consultants that most of the identified negative impacts can be reversed by the adoption of mitigation measures.



The Island Dam will be constructed on the Munyati River by building a masonry dam wall. Dams will also be constructed on each branch of a large island in the river. The reason for the selection of the Munyati River as the ideal site for the construction of the island dam is that the Munyati River has a large catchment area and better runoff characteristics in comparison to the nearby Ngezi River.



Meetings have been held with the local community and the issues of compensation and relocation have been agreed with the local villagers. This building of the dam will create employment opportunities and will improve a sustainable source of water for primary purposes and agriculture. The issue of the secondary school which the villagers say they have been struggling to construct, was raised during the meetings and this school is now being built as a social corporate priority by Zimplats.



Conserving Trees through Beekeeping by Joe Chiwira

The goal of preserving nature is often in conflict with the aspirations of rural people. In order to reach an understanding with the people, activities that improve their livelihoods can be put into action at the same time as conserving natural resources.

A beekeeping project is a good example of an activity which can be used in the conservation of forests without neglecting the economic and social aspects of human beings. The economic benefits can include generation of cash income from selling honey, bees wax and other processed products such as candles.

Honey can also be sold as pure honey or as a by-product in the manufacturing of medicines, foodstuffs and in the cosmetology industry. This entails that there is a ready market for honey and its products and to be quite frank, Zimbabwe is failing to meet its export threshold.

In a broader view beekeeping can be a way for conserving forests. This can come as a result of understanding the value of trees for honey production which can encourage people to plant and protect trees. In this way people will stop cutting down trees for the purpose of selling firewood and instead guard forests jealously as they will be getting benefits from forests with little capital injection.

Beekeeping projects are ideal conservation projects as they require low capital injection and they require no land use exchange or clearing up of land to set up apiaries but instead can be set up as integrated systems in which bees and trees can form symbiotic relationships. In this sense bees collect nectar from trees and in return they help with pollination of trees. Not only do they pollinate trees but farmers can also benefit from improved yields resulting from bees pollinating their crops.

Beekeeping projects have many advantages as apiaries can be set up on small pieces of land without altering the state of the areas preferred. Also they are not gender discriminating. Women, youths, the elderly and the semi-physically challenged can earn a living through beekeeping as this type of farming is not labour intensive, as long as there is enough forage and water, the bees can work for you whilst you attend to other commitments such as working in the fields and you only need to wait for the harvesting periods to enjoy the benefits of conserving forests.



In order to achieve the objective of conserving forest, the Sebakwe Conservation and Education Centre, with the help of the Czech Embassy have established a beekeeping project in Pauldale, one of its surrounding communities. This project is aimed at poverty alleviation, reducing pressure on the environment and addressing the marginalisation of women and underemployed youth. In the near future we are hoping to see the results of conserving trees through beekeeping on a large scale.

Sebakwe Football & Netball Tournament

The annual Sebakwe football and netball competitions took place on Saturday 22nd of September and attracted a large gathering. The Guest of Honour who gave out the prizes was Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa, the local Member of Parliament and Defence Minister. In his speech he discouraged poaching and promised to make the MBRC tournament bigger by expanding to other districts.



Sebakwe Health Clinic



The Sebakwe Clinic is planning to expand its facilities and provide a better maternity service. It is building a new nurses living quarters and a new maternity ward.

Recycle Inkjet cartridges

You can now recycle your used inkjet cartridges and old mobile phones and raise money for black rhino. Go online to www.recycle4charity.co.uk and select Sebakwe Rhino Trust as your charity and they will send you free postbags.



Newsletter by email

Would you prefer to receive this newsletter by e.mail and save us postage. If so please write to us with your e-mail address.

Windrush Valley School

Many thanks to Windrush Valley School at Ascott under Wychwood for the gifts of blue sweat shirts. These were given to the children of the guards in the black rhino Conservancy. Dorothee, a volunteer is standing behind children and parents.



Thank You Pam

Once again we were well entertained by Pam Ayres at a concert at the Theatre at Chipping Norton. All of the tickets were sold well in advance and Pam and her husband Dudley generously donated all of their concert fees to the Sebakwe Black Rhino Trust. After the show Pam signed her latest book.



Adopt a Rhino



Tangarira
44 yr old male



Tendai
9 yr old female



Tsaka
9 yr old male



Ranzi
8 yr old male



Ronda
5 yr old female

To adopt a rhino please see next page.

Please Help Us !!!

Adopting a rhino cost just £30 for two years and is an excellent Birthday or Wedding present for your friends or relations. Our Website (www.blackrhino.org) has a full list and display of pictures of the rhinos for adoption.

Membership, Adoption, Quiz, Scholarship & Donations form

Tick Amount £

- Family Membership - £25
- Adult Membership - £15
- Junior Membership - £5
- (12 years and below)
- Adoption Donation - £30
- Scholarship Fund - £
- Quiz - £
- Schools Water Project - £
- General donations - £

Total enclosed £

Cheques - Please make payable to SBRT

Visa/Mastercard

Card Number

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Valid From

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Expires End

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CV2 No (last 3 digits on rear)

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Signature.....

I wish to ADOPT for TWO YEARS:-

- TANGARIRA - 44 yr old male
- TENDAI - 9 yr old female
- TSAKA - 9 yr old male
- RONDA - 5 yr old female
- RANZI - 8 yr old male

Name of Adopter for certificate.....Special date (if required).....

PLEASE PRINT

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

.....

Postcode.....

Tel:.....

Completed forms to be returned to:-

**Annie Gripper
Manor Farm
Ascott under Wychwood
Chipping Norton
OXON
OX7 6AL**

Tel: +44 (0)1993 830 278

Fax: +44 (0)1993 830 395

Address of Adopter:-

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Post Code.....

From.....

.....

Tel:.....

Please sign the following form so that we can reclaim 28%GIFT AID tax relief.

I am a UK taxpayer and want the Sebakwe Black Rhino Trust to treat all donations I have made since 6th April 2000 and all donations that I make from the date of this declaration, unless I notify you otherwise, as gift donations.

Signature.....

Date.....

RHINO XMAS QUIZ 2012

All the answers contain a creature i.e. Storyteller 8 is Narrator

1	Quarrelsome	10	26	Sauce	11
2	Plump	6	27	Ammunition	6
3	Out of Breath	7	28	Nose Job	11
4	Asian Shrub	8	29	Problem	4
5	Who wants to be a ?	11	30	Roughly Spoken	5
6	... and Toe	4	31	Warning	5
7	Free	8	32	Scrubbing Stone	6
8	Brightly Coloured	10	33	M.P's Expenses	8
9	Royal	5	34	Green Vegetable	9
10	Addition	7	35	Butterfly	7
11	Not Stirred	6	36	Smelly	6
12	Red Complexion	5	37	Guiding	8
13	Fish Soup	7	38	Red Vegetable	8
14	Insufferable	10	39	Force to Move	9
15	Disperse	7	40	Hat for Walkers	11
16	Very Small	8	41	Tool	6
17	Able to Stretch	10	42	Anger	5
18	Small Plug	6	43	Robin's Friend	6
19	Knot	10	44	Warmer	6
20	Dodged	6	45	Jewellery	9
21	Large Cask	8	46	Sir Isaac	6
22	N.Z.City	7	47	Stillwater	8
23	Suffocate	7	48	Desire	7
24	Wealthy Man	7	49	Dance	7
25	Searching	7	50	Badminton Aid	11

Cont....

Cont....

51	Food Poisoning	10	76	Canoe	5
52	Steps	6	77	Invocation	6
53	Small Amount	8	78	Planted	4
54	On the Edge	7	79	Last Tune	8
55	Thief	5	80	Thin Cut	5
56	Flinching	8	81	Too Many Wives?	5
57	Copy	7	82	Hairstyle	8
58	Joint	8	83	Pastry	6
59	Formal	6	84	Supporting Post	5
60	Incapacitate	7	85	Scrubs	8
61	Whipping Boy	9	86	Fruit	10
62	Airborne	6	87	Perceptive	6
63	Frightening	10	88	Large Bottle	6
64	Student Worker	6	89	Light Motorbike	7
65	Easily Tricked	8	90	Mountaineering Tool	7
66	Righthand Side	9	91	Holiday Destination	7
67	Poisonous Mushroom	9	92	Floor Covering	6
68	Adhere	5	93	Very Hungary	8
69	Study of Poisons	10	94	USA Weapon	8
70	Rank	5	95	Hot Air	7
71	Lucky	9	96	As Plain as a	9
72	Old Race Course	10	97	Board Game	8
73	Explosive	8	98	Flower	8
74	Mischievous Nonsense	10	99	Diplomate	10
75	Ridge	10	100	Larceny	8

Each entry costs £2 (Cheques to SBRT). Please return your entry by Friday 11th of January 2013 to:-
 Annie Gripper, Manor Farm, Ascott-under-Wychwood, Chipping Norton, OXON. OX7 6AL.
 If you would like a copy of the correct answers then please enclose a s.a.e.