



GONDWANA

CARE TRUST
NAMIBIA

Newsletter

May – June 2017

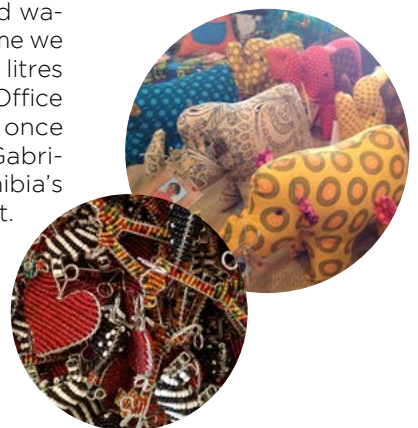
WINDHOEK TOURISM EXPO NAMIBIA 31 May to 03 June 2017



The Gondwana Collection opened its hall to worthy social and environmental projects for the duration of the Tourism Expo. This presented an opportunity for several entrepreneurs to get known by the public better and for some associations to get new sponsors!

Between the "Wild Horses", the "Little Bugs Pre-school" in Sosusvlei, to "Mammadu Trust" and "Sister Namibia" in Windhoek and so many more, we cannot thank the public who made the effort to visit the stands and contribute to their projects, enough.

The **MealForTwo** campaign was also launched, in association with Bank Windhoek, to feed those who cannot provide a meal for themselves. Following the launch, **DAWN Namibia (Dial A Water Namibia)** has joined forces with Gondwana Collection and Bank Windhoek and has provided us with eighteen bottles of purified water to be delivered every time we deliver meat. Bottles of 25 litres each, are stored at Head Office and are refilled by Dawn once a month. Thank you Mr Gabriel Malakia and Dawn Namibia's team for your kind support.



MEAL FOR TWO
BY GONDWANA CARE TRUST

SISTER PADS PROJECT

In the past months, we were also looking for sponsors to help us with the Sister Pads to complete the Seringkop project.

Thank you once again Potentia, for your generosity and continuous support. Forty-two female learners have benefited from your support. Sister Namibia joined forces and added thirty pads following the support by the public, during the Tourism Expo.

Seringkop School near Etosha

22 girls above twelve years, each received a pad, total value of about: +/- N\$4 400.00

23 girls already received a pad on Tuesday, 18 April as part of a donation that Etosha Safari Camp organised.

Total pads: 45

Potentia sponsored the needed 22 pads, so all female learners have now received a kit!

Don Bosco Hostel in Keetmanshoop

A group of 55 girls received their pads, total value of about: +/- N\$11 000.00

Thirty pads were donated by Sister Namibia thanks to support received at the Tourism Expo, and twenty-five pads sponsored by Potentia.

Total pads: 55

Khorixas Sunrise Welfare

And finally, thanks to a few individuals (who will remain anonymous), we have also raised enough for the last ten pads needed for Khorixas Sunrise Welfare. Ten girls have received a kit, total value about: +/- N\$2 000.00 **Total pads: 10**

We will pick up the pads – 87 in total – so we can distribute them to the three receiving parties. Pictures will be posted in the next newsletter with some feedback, including from the 23 female learners who had already received the pads in April.

Total donation: 110 Pads since April

Again, some background on the project for those who have just joined our newsletter:

The project we are looking into, aims at the situation in which hundreds of learners are finding themselves in every month. Due to menstruation, many learners are unable to go to school. Girls as young as nine years old are menstruating. These young girls are most vulnerable during this time as they are left alone at home and sometimes are sexually abused as they can't get pregnant. Many do not return to school and the circle of abuse and poverty continues.

Five days out of the month represents about 15 to 25% of school time during which learners miss important curriculum / information and exams! We

would like to contribute to learners, by helping them to empower themselves so they can get the best chance possible and follow 100% of the curriculum at school.

To buy disposable sanitary pads is expensive in Namibia and the actual "disposal of the pad" is also a problem in some areas. Many end up blocking drains at schools and eventually causes a bigger problem for all.

This is not a subject that is generally spoken of, but it is part of our lives and at the end of the day and affects the whole community. Blocked drains / waste in nature / most importantly the fact that too many girls will miss out on educating themselves due to a natural human factor.

The re-usable pad has an advantage that it is not thrown into nature and can, with proper care, be used it for almost two years. Giving her the confidence to stay in school and be able to get a better education. Sister Namibia is manufacturing the pad in Namibia for N\$200.00 per kit.



Please feel free to visit the website for the Sister Pads – we would buy the pads from them and at the same time contribute to empowering more women. SisterPADS info:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qrOoqrAf_00&t=2s

<https://sisternamibia.com/sisterpads/>

In collaboration with the Multidisciplinary Research Centre at UNAM, Sister Namibia is in the process of having the SisterPADS tested. This includes bacterial growth under different conditions as well as best practice in cleaning and maintaining the product.

The Don Bosco Hostel – Keetmanshoop school – Sr. Tooispan

donboscop@iway.na

Thanks to Potentia Windhoek and Sister Namibia, for sponsoring Don Bosco female learners with the Sister Pad. (details mentioned above)

We will post the pictures as soon as the pads have made their way to Keetmanshoop.

These donations are really making a difference in these children's everyday lives when they stay in hostel. The parents cannot always afford a lot and children are left with very little. To look after one's self-image, is a step forward to making positive change in your confidence and interactions with others.

If you would like to support the cause through contributions, we are always in need of soaps / deodorants roll-on for boys and girls / toothbrushes / toothpaste / Vaseline and body cream / towels and face cloths. We truly appreciate your support.



RUMWE primary school – Rundu



Once the structure has been delivered and installed on site, we can further assist the school with tables and chairs, and educational goods for the children.

More pictures will follow in our next newsletter, once everything is built and assembled. We rely heavily on transport and space on the truck so some pieces are still in Walvis Bay, and will be transported as soon as we get space on another truck. Thank you very to the Gondwana Collection, for the use of your transportation.

Along the floodplains of the Okavango river in the Kavango region (-17.880074° S, 19.662704° E).

This little primary school has been operating for a few years with little to no support. This school aims to offer children the opportunity to attend school before moving to the higher grades and creating a solid foundation for them to work from.

Unfortunately, the whole school was destroyed in the last flood.

The Hakusembe Community Development Fund and Gondwana Collection have been assisting the community and they have already requested a quote to replace the school. A new structure will be put in place and it will be stronger, to resist weather damage. A special thanks to all who supported our efforts in this cause.



If you would like to get involved in this project, we are in need of chairs, tables and educational material. In Walvis Bay, there is a shop (Learning Nation) that provides lots of educational material for teachers to use. If anyone should be interested in supporting the school, please contact the Gondwana Collection for more information.

We previously bought items for Mwad-inomo pre-school and the teachers are very happy with the goods and the children are also doing very well.

Here are a few pictures of the school structure being built, including the Jungle Gym...

The cement slab has been completed and the pre-fab structure is being put together... There is still a need for the fence material to be put around the plot. The Jungle Gym will then be installed next to the school as well.



Seringkop Community

Dawid Khamuxab Primary School – Etosha

The kids have now moved into the hostel. The official opening has not yet been done but the new principal has opened the doors and the children are now sleeping in beds. Thank you to everyone who supported this project!

become the future entrepreneurs, leaders, doctors and nurses of tomorrow.

Thank you to Simon Andreas for Etosha Safari Lodge for sending us these pictures.

These children can now pursue their academic dream and hopefully they will reach their goals and



The Dagbreek School – Windhoek

Principal Mr Paul Du Plessis – dagbreeschool@iway.na

As done every year, the Dagbreek School takes some of the students on a trip that they would probably not be able to experience on their own.

Thanks to the Gondwana Collection, the kids were welcomed at one of the lodges for a few nights on a complimentary basis. This is done so that they can expand their knowledge of the country and also on the environment. This year they visited the Etosha National Park again and they were very lucky to see a lot of wildlife.

This type of trip will remain with the children forever and it is an opportunity for the children to use their social skills and feel special.

Here are some pictures - thank you to Paul Du Plessis who accompanied the group this year.



NaDEET Centre – NamibRand Nature Reserve

Maltahöhe - Viktoria Keding (Director)
www.nadeet.org

Since 2003, NaDEET has been running an environmental education programme for school children and communities at the NaDEET Centre.



now they need funding for fuel and drivers. Two of the schools are from Stampriet- Jacob Soul and Stampriet PS.

Due to the very short notice of this project, we sent private messages to a few sponsors so we could raise enough funds to assist this wonderful project.

First National Bank, immediately contacted us and they have decided to sponsor all the transport needed for the Stampriet schools!

A donation of N\$37 000.00 towards NaDEET! **Thank you so very much FNB Namibia** for your generous donation! The children of Stampriet Jacob Soul and Stampriet PS will be able to participate in this once in a lifetime opportunity to learn and expand their knowledge in conservation! We are so grateful!

Since 2011, the schools have been receiving transport support from the Hardap Regional Ministry of Education offices. This has been a tremendous help as it allows many schools that could otherwise not afford it, to visit the Centre.

But with the new budget crunch, they have had to cancel this support. This has a dramatic impact on the centre as the schools would all have to cancel their programmes due to lack of transportation.

Luckily Viktoria has been able to negotiate with them that they do provide the vehicles, however

We will continue to support NaDEET in the future as this program has really made a difference in so many children's perspective in Namibia. They will continue their work but they will need further support next year.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
- Nelson Mandela

Thank you to NaDEET for sharing the photographs with us.



Seniorpark, Pionerspark – Windhoek

Contact Mr Majiedt 081 383 95 04 or Mrs Majiedt 081 310 53 93

Mrs Majiedt contacted us during the Tourism Expo, particularly after the launch of the MealForTwo project.

They have 150 tenants – living in separate houses. Average age is between 60 and 90 years old. Mr Majiedt is turning 80 years old and still cares for the village. The pensioners survive with very little and the average pension is about N\$1 100.00 per month, and this is very little indeed to cover any basic needs.

Our elderly live in poor conditions and little is done to support them. Their most urgent needs include, blankets, food supply (none perishable) and any other items one can assist with.

Ms Maria Mvula from the Human Relations Department and Ms Sonia Corsini-Noirfalise, have visited the Senior Park. We were able to make a small donation – thanks to the Delight Hotel – of linen and towels.

Much more is needed and we will be looking at some food donation to provide a warm meal to the senior citizens.



Story-teller Doriaan Haarhoff

in Swakopmund

Renowned story-teller Dorian Haarhoff recently stayed at The Delight Hotel in Swakopmund, while facilitating workshops for teachers, parents and concerned parties who work with special needs children.

These workshops were aimed to inspire creativity and imagination in children with autism and other mental challenges, as well as emotional or physical needs. The Gondwana Collection is proud to have had the opportunity to support such a worthwhile cause.



Something to look forward to in the upcoming months

Thanks to the “Round Table” we are expecting to receive some blankets for some of our projects. It has been very cold this winter so far, and as soon as we get the blankets, we will distribute them to the neediest communities.



If you would like to contribute to this project, please contact the Gondwana Collection for more information. Communities are always in need of toothpaste / soap / deodorants / any warm clothes, etc.