

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY OF SWA



# ROAN NEWS

*„Wir fördern das Umweltbewußtsein zur Erhaltung der Pflanzen-, Wild- und Vogelwelt zum Vorteil der Menschheit“*

Postfach 3508,  
Windhoek  
9100  
SWA/Namibia

Nr. 6/77 Dezember 1977

## DIE WENNER!



Veels geluk aan een van ons Suidwes-lede, mnr F W Gouws wat die gelukkige wenner is van ons Botswana Safari Wedstryd! Ons is seker dat die Gouws gesin hulle reis na Botswana sal geniet.

Ons wil ook ons dank uitspreek aan alle lede en vriende wat aan die wedstryd deelgeneem het, veral uit die Republiek waar ons groot ondersteuning ontvang het.

R8000

The draw took place in Windhoek on 16th November 1977 and we wish to thank all those members who helped to sell additional tickets on our behalf.

A special word of thanks to our friends in the Republic who so generously contributed to the campaign. So sorry that none of you won the competition, but your support was well deserved as the winner comes from across the border!

R4202

Wir gratulieren Herrn F W Gouws zum Gewinn unserer Verlosung eine Reise zu zweit nach Botswana.

Wir danken Trip Reisebüro so wie allen Mitgliedern und Freunden für ihre Unterstützung. Viele von Ihnen halfen uns indem Sie ganze Serien von Karten verkauften. Ihnen ein ganz besonderes Dankeschön!

Nach Abzug des Preises hat die Verlosung einen Reingewinn von R1660,00 für das Otjompaeuprojekt eingebracht. An unserem Thermometer ist zu ersehen wie es gestiegen ist - fast wie unsere Aussentemperatur!

Ein besonderes Wort des Dankes an unsere Freunde in der RSA die unser Kampagne so grosszügig unterstützten.

- \* Es tut uns leid, dass Sie nicht gewonnen haben.
- \* Ihre Unterstützung war verdient, denn der Gewinner stammt aus der Republik.

Sehr geehrtes Mitglied!

Haben Sie ein Kind oder Kinder, im Alter zwischen 8 und 14 Jahren, die sie gerne auf ein unserer ersten Otjompae „Nature Trails“ schicken würden?

Die ersten „Trails“ sind für April 1978 angesetzt. Obwohl es noch recht lang bis dahin ist, möchten wir den Kindern unserer Mitglieder die Gelegenheit geben bei den ersten Gruppen nach Otjompae S“ud dabei zu sein.

Vorläufig werden lediglich Wochenendausflüge geplant (von Freitagnachmittag bis Sonntagnachmittag). Die Kosten (einschliesslich Beköstigung, Transport usw.) werden mit R10,00 pro Kind vorveranschlagt.

Falls Sie Interesse haben, füllen Sie bitte das beiliegende Formular aus und schicken Sie es uns so bald wie möglich zu. Sie werden verstehen, dass vieles organisiert werden muss. Die ausgefüllten Formulare geben uns einen Anhaltspunkt, für die Anzahl Kinder, die nächstes Jahr an Kursen teilnehmen möchten.

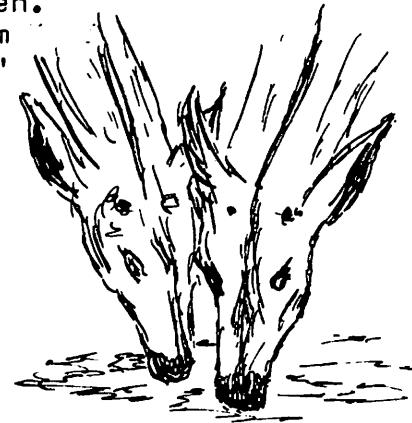
Die Kurse sind nicht ausschliesslich für Kinder der Mitglieder vorgesehen, sondern wir werden demnächst auch an Schulen und Jugendorganisationen herantreten.

Obwohl für Kinder die ausserhalb Windhoeks wohnen einer zusätzlichen Planung bedarf, möchten wir auch die Eltern jener Kinder bitten vorläufig bereits diese Formulare auszufüllen.

Es gibt viele Kinder, denen es aus finanziellen Gründen nicht möglich sein wird, an „Nature Trails“ teilzunehmen.

Falls Sie, oder Ihre (kinderlosen) Freunden es so einem Kind möglich machen wollen auch an einem „Nature Trail“ teilzunehmen, machen Sie bitte einen diesbezüglichen Vermerk auf dem Formular.

Anfang nächsten Jahres werden wir Ihnen eine Broschüre, die alle Einzelheiten enthält zukommen lassen.



Mit bestem Dank,  
Das Otjompae Komitee  
der Wildlife Society.

Attention All Members!

Do you have a child, or children, between the ages of 8 and 14 years whom you would like to send on one of our first Otjompae Nature Trails?

The first trails are scheduled for April 1978 and although this is still some time away, we are offering our member's children the opportunity of participating in one of the first groups to go out to Otjompae Süd.

Trails are provisionally planned for week-ends only, from Friday to Sunday afternoons. The estimated cost, all inclusive (food, transport etc), will be R10,00 per child.

If you are interested, please complete the enclosed form and return it to us as soon as possible. You will appreciate that there is a great deal of organizing to be done and by completing the form, we will have an idea as to how many of our member's children are likely to attend courses next year.

The courses are not exclusive to member's children and we will also be approaching schools and youth organisations in due course.

Although we will have to make special arrangements for children who live outside Windhoek, we would never-the-less request parents in these areas to complete the form for the time being.

There are children who, for financial reasons, will not be able to take part in these nature trails. Should you, or your (childless?) friends wish to assist one or more of these children to attend, please indicate this at the bottom of the form.

Early next year you will receive a brochure giving full details of the courses, actual application forms etc.

Yours sincerely,  
Otjompau Committee  
Wildlife Society.

### KOMMITEE NACHRICHTEN.....

### COMMITTEE NEWS.....

We regret to advise that the Chairman (Mr E Wiechmann) and the Secretary, (Miss I Peters) have resigned from the Committee. We are sure that all members will join us in thanking them for all their hard work in the past and the efficient manner in which they carried out their duties.

Bis zum Ende der gegenwärtigen Amtszeit im Mai 1978, ist Herr E Pfeifer zum Vorsitzenden gewählt worden.

Das Kommitee stellt sich jetzt folgendermassen zusammen:

Herr E Pfeifer	Vorsitzender
Dr J S Watt	Vize Vorsitzender
Frau P Eichbaum	Sekretärin
Frl E Schwarting	Schatzmeister
Herr H zur Strassen	
Herr I Meyer	
Herr K Baedeker	
Herr P Dunaiski	

Es ist den Mitgliedern bereits gegenwärtig, dass die Mitgliedsaufnahmen so wie Mitgliedschafterneuerungen, von Johannesburg nach Windhoek übertragen wurden. Frau Jenny Meyer hat sich freundlicherweise bereit erklärt diese zusätzliche Arbeit zu übernehmen. Sollten Sie Fragen diesbezüglich Ihrer Mitgliederschaft - Adressenveränderung - Versand des Magazins usw. haben, wenden Sie sich bitte an Frau Meyer, Tel 4-1862 (vormittags) oder schreiben Sie an die Wildlife Society Postfach 3508 Windhoek 9100.

## **we missed you!**

On Sunday, 30th October, members from Windhoek undertook a most enjoyable outing to the farm Rietfontein, a total of 21 souls attending. This farm is remotely hidden in the rugged Langbein mountains adjacent to Dordabis, a typical (and protected) area for Klipspringer, Kudu, Cheetah, Leopard and Black Eagle. Our host went out of his way to lead us into this wildlife sanctuary. A granite sand riverbed with lovely shady trees provided an ideal picnic spot - we intend going there again after the rains to scramble in the isolated valleys with their seasonal springs and waterfalls. Many thanks, Berndt Riehmer!

### Sonntagausflug 30 Oktober 1977

Herr Riehmer lud nach Rietfontein  
 Mitglieder von der WILDLIFE ein,  
 Es kamen zwanzig an der Zahl  
 Von Windhoek, Jo'burg und Natal.  
 Am Sanddamm wurde angehalten  
 weil dort am schönsten war der Schatten.  
 Doch nach 'ner Pause ging's dann los  
 auf Wildlife Pfad im stil ganz gross.  
 Wir sahen Landschaft wie noch nie,  
 wo ausser dem Südwesten Vieh  
 viel Kudus, Böcke und Geparden  
 auch Klipspringer und Affen waren.  
 Die Steilabfahrt blieb unvergesslich  
 wo hängen blieben wir auch hässlich.  
 Und am berühmten Eva's Eck  
 blieb selbst dem Weck die Spucke weg!  
 So war dies ein gelung'ner Tag  
 ein jeder sich zufrieden gab.  
 Hab allerbesten Dank Berndt Riehmer,  
 im Frühjahr kommen wir gern wieder.

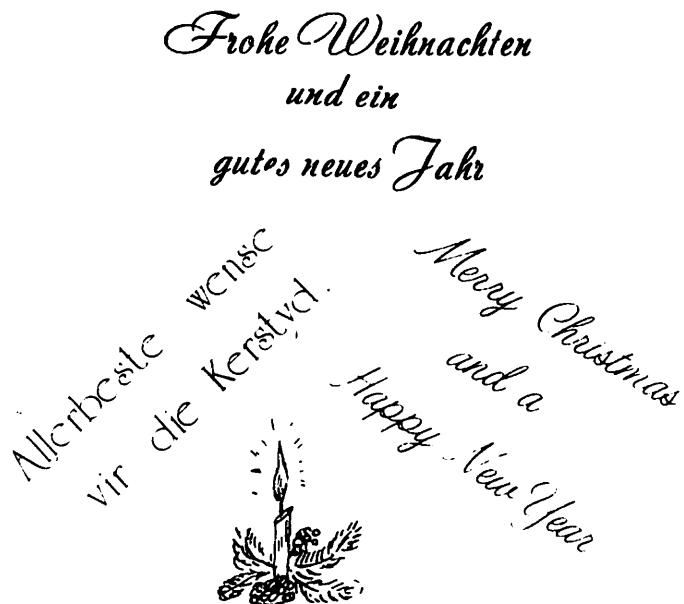
EW

### OTJOMPAUE DONASIES

Reeds erken	R2067,26
W Frey - Oranjestad	114,61
F Brandt - Cape Town	10,00
H H Enke	10,00
A Faulhammer	15,00
J M Hofmeyer	10,00
Taeuber & Corssen	250,00
SWA Safari & Anvo	15,00
W E Jamieson	4,00
Graf zu Castell Rudenhausen	10,00
P Kay	10,00
Thomas Barlow:	
A P Matzki	21,00
H Göttert	
B H Schwertfeger	
P Crous	
C Tew	
Anonymous	5,47
Proceeds from Botswana	
Safari Competition	1660,00
TOTAAL TOT OP DATUM	<u>R4202,34</u>

Baie dankie aan almal - ons is nou half-pad na ons doelwit van R8000. Het enige lid 'n voorstel hoe ons die balans kan insamel? U gedagtes sal baie waardeer word!

REMEMBER! 1<sup>st</sup> April 1978 is  
 «D-Day» for our Otjompaue  
 Nature Trails – ensure that  
 your child(ren) are enrolled,  
 see Page 2 and enclosed  
 application form.



NOTES ON SOME OF THE COMMON NAMES OF SWA TREES  
 (by S M Seftel)

Continued

Genus Names:

It is a pity that some genus names are such tongue-twisters, as they would be useful to remember. In this class one has Steganotaenia and Lonchocarpus which in SWA include, respectively, the Carrot Tree and the Appelblaar. They are both very decorative trees - Appelblaar has beautiful sprays of purple flowers in Spring, a stately tree often seen in the Otjiwarongo and Omaruru districts. Fortunately there are other well-known genus names that are easier to remember, like Aloe, Acacia, Ficus, Olea, Euclea, and Rhus.

Afrikaans Names:

Here we have the most useful common names - but also the most abused. Most abused name is "Doringboom". This should, firstly, only be used for an Acacia. Secondly, it is not an adequate name for every species in that genus. There is Kameeldoring, Acacia giraffe; Soetdoring, Acacia karroo; Bergdoring, Acacia hereroensis; - each with its own individual name, the SWA "Royal Family" of thorn trees: king, queen and crown prince. Perhaps the Anaboom, Acacia albida is the grandfather. I wonder what the Swart-haak, Acacia mellifera would be with its vicious, paired and hooked thorns, yet so attractive and fragrant in Spring when a mass of small white "puff-ball" flowers. We also have the Witaak, Acacia erubescens, and the Roodhaak, Acacia reficiens. It is odd that the Paper-bark thorn, Acacia sieberana should have no Afrikaans common name. It is a characteristic SWA tree, flat-topped, and sometimes the flowers are an attractive pink-grey colour.

Haak-en-steek, Acacia tortilis, is the name for this particular species only, viz. the Umbrella Thorn. "Wag-'n-bietjie" alone is not an adequate name. There is the Kaffir-wag-'n-bietjie (not found in SWA) and the Blinkbaar-wag-'n-bietjie, Ziziphus mucronata which is not an Acacia at all. It would be better to simply call it a "Blinkblaar". It has very small thorns, shiny leaves, and is often found on the banks of SWA rivers or dry washes. It is quite meaningless to call a Swarthaaak a "Wag-'n-bietjie". For one thing, a Swarthaaak is a lot more ambitious.

The German name for Acacia karroo is Weissdorn. This is a very descriptive name for the young tree which is a mass of large whitethorns, but it confuses with Witaak, the common name for Acacia erubescens.

There are many other excellent Afrikaans names. Kanniedood is used for the various hardy, fragrant, arid-area trees of the Commiphora genus. These are related to the biblical Myrrh. Koedoebos, Combretum apiculatum; and Vaalbos, Tarchonanthus camphoratus; are good names for the two useful fodder trees found widely on mountain slopes. Kokerboom, Aloe dichotoma; is widely known as it is the descriptive Witgat Boscia albitrunca, which is also a good fodder tree. There are often small holes in the whitish trunk. Stinkbos, Boscia foetida is easy to remember once you have encountered this low-spreading, shrubby tree in flower. The smell is nauseating.

Afrikaans is very suitable for the main Ficus species. Hartvy, Ficus cordata; is the rock-splitting mountain tree with heart-shaped leaves. Klimvy, Ficus guerichiana; is smaller but with oval leaves and more of a climber. Wildevy, Ficus sycamorus; is a magnificent white-stemmed tree with edible fruit, usually found in the middle of mountain river beds.

Native Names:

Some are in local general use - usually Herero, Nama or Hottentot names. Some Afrikaans names are adaptations of Native names: Gwarrie, Euclea undulata; is a shrubby mountain tree, wonderfully fragrant in Spring. Kobas, Cyphostemma currorii; Kwarda, Maerua schinzii, is a common arid-area tree that also has the amusing name "Lammerdrol". Aruboom, Albizia anthelmintica; is common in the Windhoek area, often mistaken for an Acacia although it has no proper thorns. Kree, Rhus lancea; is related to "Karoo" which is a Hottentot word meaning "dry". It is a willow-like tree with drooping, pointed, trilobate leaves. Gariep is another Hottentot word often used in botany. It is the old name for the Orange River.

The most famous Herero name for a SWA tree is Omumborombonga, Combretum imberbe; the so-called "ancestor tree". This name is referred here by farmers as Hardekool. It is an outstanding tree found on the banks of the Omaruru River, large and grey-green.

English Names:

There is not much left over for English, but there are several trees of striking and individual appearance where English is preferred. Baobab, Adansonia digitata; is found only in the north. Wild Olive, Olea africana; Cape Ebony, Euclea pseudoebenus; (which means "false ivory") and Wild Pear, Dombeya rotundifolia; are fairly common in the central area of SWA.

**STOP PRESS****"REFLECTIONS ON WILDERNESS"**

We have just received a copy of the latest publication by the Wildlife Heritage Trust Fund, "REFLECTIONS ON WILDERNESS", a book which has been written by Don Richards and Ken Shuter, two well-known wildlife personalities in Natal. To whet your appetite, we quote two small excerpts from this excellent book:

"In the wilderness, Man is but a traveller, who, in passing, leaves no trace of his wandering.

It is therefore deemed unlawful, by we creatures of the wilderness, who were here first, for humans to bring into this area the problems of Mankind. We do not want them, so you will discard them before entering.

Take nothing but pictures, and leave nothing but footprints, and we shall welcome you as our guest."

"If you are patient, and you sit long and numb, you may see him haul his ponderous person out of the water for a sun-bath. Then watch carefully as the mud dries in patches on his back, and feel with him the soaking warmth of the sun. Do not allow your attention to wander, however, for he shall melt into the river bank as quickly as the morning mist does at the command of the sun.

It would be wonderful to have time enough to be like a terrapin."

The book is richly illustrated with wonderful black-and-white photographs and is available from the Society at R2,00 per copy (plus 20 cent postage). Proceeds are to raise funds to purchase the Umgeni Valley Ranch but our Society will receive a commission of 10% for our own Otjompaus Project. Order your copy now and help support our friends in Natal.

An/Aan/To: Otjompau Nature Trails  
The Wildlife Society of SWA  
Postfach/Posbus/Box 3508,  
WINDHOEK  
9100

Ich möchte gerne mein/e Kind/Kinder zu einen „Nature Trail“ schicken. Ich bin mir darüber im Klaren, dass dies eine vorläufige Buchung ist und dass die Wildlife Society mir demnächst weitere Einzelheiten in Anbetracht der Kosten, Dated, Reisepläne und notwendigen Vorlagen zusenden wird.

Ek wil graag my kind/kinders op 'n „Nature Trails“ stuur. Ek aanvaar dat hierdie slegs 'n voorlopige bespreking is, en dat die Natuurlewevereniging my mettertyd oor kostes, datums, reisplanne ens. sal mœdeel, en dat ek ook meer besonderhede by wyse van 'n brochure sal ontvang.

I would like to send my child/children on a Nature Trail. I understand that this is a provisional booking only and that the Society will, in due course, supply me with full details regarding costs, dates, itinerary etc. together with the necessary consent form.

NAME NAAM NAME	ALTER OUDERDOM AGE	MÄDCHEN/JUNGE MEISIE/SEUN GIRL/BOY	UNTERRICHTSPRACHE ONDERRIGSTAAL LANGUAGE FOR TUITION
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			

Name der Eltern/Vormund

Naam van Ouer/Voog

Name of Parent/Guardian.....

Anschrift

.....

Posadres

.....

Postal Address

.....

..... Tel.....

.....  
Unterschrift/Handtekening/Signature

.....  
Datum/Date



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