



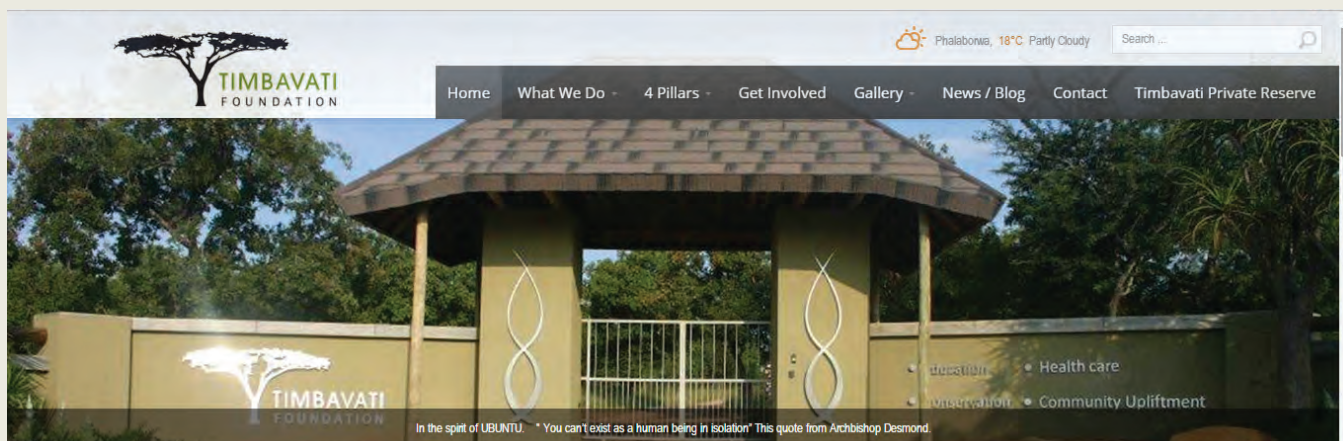
Newsletter

MAY 2015

A NEW WEBSITE FOR THE FOUNDATION

A big thank you to Charles en Ingrid de Villiers for making our new website a reality and after months of planning we are very excited to finally share it with you, please click on the link to have a look at our brand new website.

www.timbavatifoundation.co.za



A BIG THANK YOU TO: ISENBERG COMPUTER CENTRE - STUDENTS ISENBERG SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT - UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST USA

DJ du Preez - Into Africa Safari, Ria Maritz & Dap Maritz from Game Reserves United, Jacques Brits - The Timbavati Private Nature Reserve, Emelda Mabunda and her choir/dancers from Manyangana High School, Pieter Piek (Belrex Internet Solutions) for setting up the computers and lastly Celia, Lazero and all the staff, Foster and Rapert, Losta Salphina and Patricia who made this day a huge success.

On the 16th of May students from Isenberg School of Management came once again to visit the Environmental School but this time to make a donation. They donated good laptops for us to use in future educational programmes and also to assist in our day to day jobs. They are so amazed by the work we do in the community that they want to come assist us from time to time with extra classes at some of our schools. They also want to donate more computers for our schools.

Jacques Brits Manager Timbavati Private Nature Reserve added valuable information about the Rhino economy. The talk included the high cost of ownership due to the ever expanding security needs and the possible income streams that conservation areas can develop to try and fund the cost of ownership. He explained the anomaly between the constant decline in the value of a live animals and that of the increasing black market value of rhino horn. He concluded that the long term financial sustainability of conservation areas is at risk due to the ever growing environmental crime threat and that the world needs to realize, that the only way to overcome this problem is to start commercial farm activities with the high value species, even if this seems counter intuitive to most western countries.

The event was concluded with some refreshments and more sing and dancing from Manyangana High School.



LATEST NEWS ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

Our commitment towards educating students from our local communities has never been stronger.

We have now started bringing Grade 7s into the existing awareness programmes for Grade 10 and 11 students. And our programme is not just about educating, we make it our business to show them what nature looks like when it is properly protected. Visits to the Blyde dam and the nearby waterfall prove to be a real eye opener.

In line with our commitment to the spirit of Ubuntu we have formed meaningful relationships with different organisations to increase the impact of our programmes. Currently we have 5 staff members employed by the Department of Environmental Affairs with an education programme aimed at primary school students.

Our initiative with WILDLANDS Trust to earn extra funds for schools to upgrade their facilities is going great guns. Our partnership with Kruger to Canyons Biosphere to conserve the Hoedspruit area is up and running.

In conjunction with the Endangered Wildlife Trust and the RT Foundation a special debate on rhino poaching was held involving schools from the neighboring communities and this proved to be a great success.

Soon we will be starting "Bush Maths" classes in conjunction with Children Eco Schools, training young students as well as teachers in mathematics and nature conservation.

The Foundation has been working closely with the communities to engender a positive attitude towards conservation.

Last year we started a programme encouraging learner groups to come to the school over weekends and school holidays - this is an activity that we charge for.

In 2014 this activity brought in R92000 which went towards the running costs of the school.

We'd like to thank all those who referred groups to us.

If you'd like more information on these group offerings please contact Celia van der Merwe at 0716580065.

Or if you're interested in making any other kind of contribution.



Grade 7s add value to our programme.
Learners from Makwetshe Primary School.

DONATION OF SCHOOL BAGS AND STATIONERY

A huge Thank You to Mr Peter Ridge for donating 100 amazing School bags and stationery to our school. These will make fantastic prizes for our best students - we're aiming to give out at least 2 per week.



Student from Moholoholo H/School
Apoligise Mgibo



Student from Magwagwosa H/School
Patricia Rikhotso

WALKER FLIES FOR US!

A huge thanks to Howard Walker, a landowner in the Timbavati, for taking a spectacular aerial photo of the Timbavati Foundation Environmental School.



Lazero & Mr Howard Walker



Aerial photo of the Environmental School

GREENHOUSES FOR OUR TREE PLANTING PROJECT.

Thanks to the WILDLANDS Trust for donating these beautiful greenhouses to our schools - they'll be used mainly for the tree planting project.

The first lot of trees have already reached 1 metre and were taken to the nursery in Thulamahashe. We received a credit of R620 for the 62 trees. The Seroba Day Care Centre will benefit from this. The trees will be planted in schools during the year.



Mgidi Primary School - Adolf Mathebula (Tree Preneur)

NEW NETTED GARDENS AT NP MATHEBELA

Teachers and children of NP Mathebele Secondary School were thrilled when we delivered, and then helped erect, a 26m netted garden. Vegetables have been planted which will be used to support the school's feeding scheme.



STUDENTS FROM GERMANY VISIT THE TIMBAVATI ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL

Five young whizzkids from Germany as well as their teacher from Deutsche International School Cape Town and the tour operator from ASDIA Tours paid us a visit during the April holidays.

They attended our Environmental Awareness programme for 3 days. This was the first time our facilitators have worked with students from abroad. It was a great success and everyone learnt something new.

The students went to the Kruger National Park, visited the Khamai reptile park, met Jessica the world famous hippo, went to the nearby Cheetah Project and other local places of interest.

We had an African Cultural Farewell Dinner which was loads of fun, and even though it was sad to say goodbye, they had had a great bush experience.

Here is the special Thank You poster they designed specially for us!



POEM ON THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR SOIL

SOIL, A POEM BY FOSTER UBISI

*My name is soil, my surname is important
I am very much important to each and every
living organism*

I'm soil important, soil important

*You grow crops on top of me, you build your
luxury houses on top of me, you drive your
luxury cars on top of me, but I don't worry
and you turn to forget me*

*I'm soil important, soil important
Are you aware that I have hidden your dead
relatives? Are you aware that I'm holding the
most important resources you need? gold,
coal and diamond. Most of you are rich
because of me.*

I'm soil important, soil important

*I urge each and every living organism to
take care of me. Take care of me and I will
take care of you.*

*I'm soil important, soil important
I'm soil important, soil important*

DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS EMPLOYS MORE OF OUR STUDENTS

Graduates from our School have been employed by Dept of Environmental Affairs in the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve doing alien plant control, soil erosion control as well as border control and maintenance.

We wish them well and we are so proud of them.



2014 SA COLLEGE FOR TOURISM STUDENT

Salphina Sihlangu, who attended the Environmental School, has been at the SA College for Tourism for the past year and recently started her career with us in the housekeeping dept. Her aim is to save money to further her studies.

A big welcome to her, we hope she will enjoy her time with us.



Salphina Sihlangu

ANOTHER TIMBAVATI ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL SUCCESS STORY

Gladys Ubisi, who was also at the Environmental School, has been employed by the Southern African Wildlife College.

Well done Gladys.



Gladys Ubisi

THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

The Timbavati Foundation depends on the support of individuals, foundations, trusts and companies to ensure the ongoing success of its various programmes.

The Timbavati Foundation is also proudly supported by the lodges by way of a conservation levy. Whilst the levies are primarily used for the management of the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve covering a massive 54 300ha, a portion thereof also helps finance community outreach projects which are managed by the Foundation.

A big thank you to everyone who made donations and contributed to our wish list last year!

We are still in need of the following items for the Timbavati Foundation Environmental School.

- Chairs
- GPS
- Soccer Balls
- Netball Balls
- Bar Fridge

Any assistance towards these items will be greatly appreciated!

Click on the link to go to our get involved page.

<http://www.timbavatifoundation.co.za/index.php/get-involved>

MAJOR DONORS TO DATE

BAOBAB - R 1 Million and above

Mrs Inky de Villiers
Timbavati Private Nature Reserve

SYCAMORE - R 500 000 and above

ARC-USA & ARC - Canada

MAROELA - R 250 000 and above

Baffalo Land Safaris
Deutsche Bank
Timothy Hancock Charitable Trust

LEADWOOD - R 100 000 and above

Land Rover Sandton
Mahlori Private Camp
Mr CH de Villiers
Mr Ollivier
Mrs Benaim
Fulcrum Collections
David Gold
Land Rover Waterford

JACKALBERRY – R 50 000 and above

Tom Hancock
Brian Smither
Kings Camp
The River Club
Monyan Rockwood Leisure

HUILBOERBOON – R 25 000 and above

CJ & RL Watkins
Motswari Lodge
Tobie Lochner
WL Hancocks Gifts Trust

FEVER TREE – R 10 000 and above

Dennis & Jean Rutter
H, D & S Borkum
Anthony Hare
Logan Family
Joan Hancock
NL Hancock
Paul Geiger
Pierre de Villiers
Pim den Hartog
Toolquip & Allied
Rebus Management
Umlani Safaris
Graeme Naylor

We say thank you!

Help us to preserve our environment and leave a legacy for the future by making a direct donation to:

Timbavati Foundation

Account nr: 27 298 304 7

Branch nr: 052752

Swift nr: SBZAZAJJ

Bank: Standard Bank Hoedspruit

Contact details:

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We would like to hear from you, comments and suggestions welcome.

*Please send us the details of any friends or family that may be interested in receiving our newsletter to:
foundation@timbavati.co.za*

Please forward this email to a friend.

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