

NEWSLETTER

September 2006

"Is it a donkey? No it's a Zebra"



The guests who have been staying at The Islands of Siankaba in the last couple of months have had an interesting sighting whilst on a walk in the nearby villages. The Zebra has decided to make its new home with the local village donkeys. We nicknamed 'Gerald' (for no apparent reason) who has presumably walked to the villages from the nearby National Park or possibly all the way from the Kafue National Park.

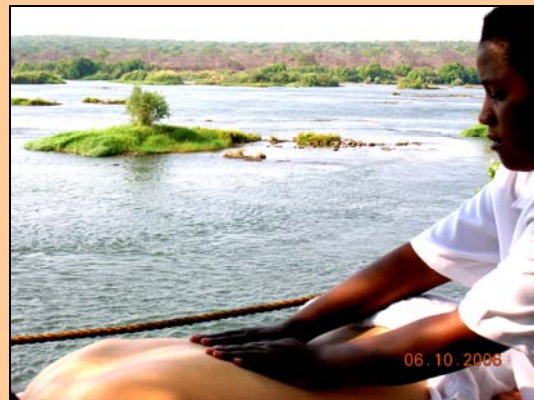
He seems MORE than happy with life in the company of the female donkeys!!!!

"In with the new"



September has seen the delivery of our new Mini Buses. We have purchased two new Toyota Hiace Minibuses that seat 15 people each, so we can transfer the larger groups we have been receiving recently. They are all equipped with air-conditioning and seat belts and will be far more comfortable for our tours and transfers. In addition to our two new buses we have also purchased a new pontoon boat, we can now offer two boats for sundowner cruises, not forgetting our Ali boat that is available for transfers and private boat trips.

Massage Treatments



In addition to our new purchases we are now also offering a variety of massage treatments at the lodge. We have a resident trained therapist on hand. You can now relax on the balcony of your room or by the pool as you enjoy a massage with a great view. Simply described as heaven on earth!

Mandia School



As promised, the new classroom is now complete!!!

The new Grade 8 class is now complete and ready for the 2007 enrolment classes. In the meantime the building has started on the grade 8's teachers house and funds have been donated by the Loughborough Rotary club in Leicestershire, Uk for the teachers washroom and toilet. The school is certainly looking up and we hope now to look into the future to upgrade the current education standards by having more teachers at the school to help lighten the load and make the classes smaller.

Once again our thanks go out to all who have helped and donated funds and items to the school and villages at Siankaba. Your support and kindness goes such a long way. Special thanks this month go to Michael & Jenny Nilsson for their generous donation to Mandia school.

Siankaba Nursery school



The Siankaba nursery school is now up and running, all possible with the help and dedication from the U foundation charity, Malindi & Siankaba lodge guests. Malindi was once a barman at Siankaba and through the help of Jay Taylor was able to raise enough funds to put him through his teachers training course. He has now returned to Siankaba and has started up our nursery school together with some of the parents who are also staff at the lodge. It is a community project and is run solely by Malindi and the parents. The children are loving their new school and are so keen to learn.

The Siankaba trust hopes to raise enough funds to build a small classroom block for these enthusiastic children in 2007. In June 2007 there will be a bike ride from London to Paris. We invite all our ex and future guests to take part or help in anyway you can. More about this in our next newsletter!!!

Should anyone like to help or find out more information about the two schools or clinic,
please email Tanya Stephens at the lodge on islands@zamnet.zm

Best Wishes to all,
Mark & Tanya Stephens & The Siankaba Team