



- Ranolang Keorapetse showing off her basket weaving skills



Travel for impact

June 2017

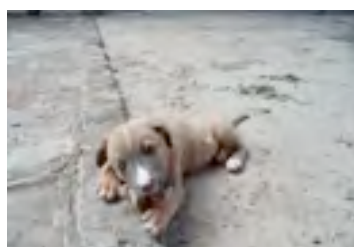
Community News Letter



Letter from the Director



Crafthood Gets into Gear



MAWS Statistics



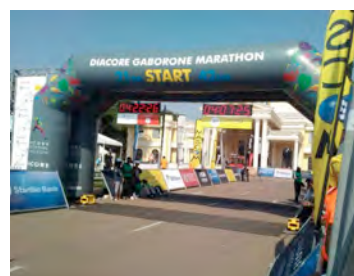
Community Bus delivery!



Moporo Tree Facts



BBL has a Treasure Hunt



WAR goes to Gabs!

Welcome to this edition of our newsletter. Travel for Impact is proud of its team, the support that they offer to our partner community organizations and more importantly, we are proud of the work that our community partners are doing to enable and grow those within our beautiful destination. Your contributions are pivotal in enabling us to provide ongoing, sustainable support and we hope that this newsletter provides you with a snap-shot of what this entails. For ongoing, 'live' information please log onto our Facebook page and follow our website blog, you will be amazed at the breadth of the work going on. We would like to give special thanks to our interns from Queen's University who've been with us for almost 2 months and will be leaving at the end of June. Their skills have been a valuable asset to the Travel for Impact Team.

Thank You,

Ruth Stewart





Vision: To see community initiatives supported through responsible tourism.

Mission: Through partnerships in the tourism industry, TFI aims to promote responsible tourism in Botswana by providing core services and funding to community initiatives.

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS:



Learn More at www.travelforimpact.com



Community in Action Snapshots



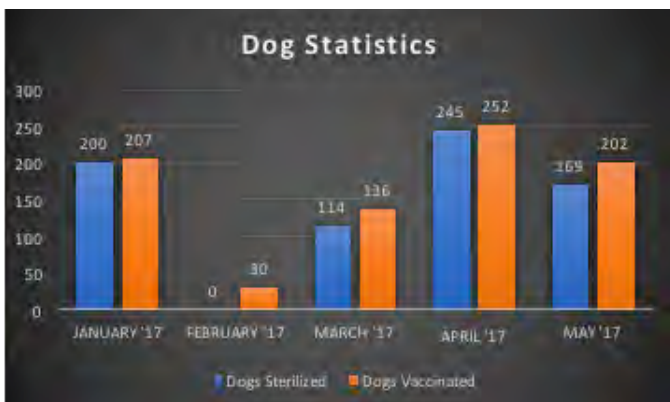
Community in Action



MAWS

MAWS welcomed a new delegation of veterinarian volunteers from Denmark in May. These volunteers were brought in by Vets Without Borders and stayed for the whole month. The TFI team visited the MAWS facility this past month to show new volunteers the facility. A new volunteer group will be in for the month of June!

Increased access to veterinarian care and vaccinations helps control the spread of domestic diseases to wildlife. Statistics of their impact can be seen below:



Crafthood

Shorobe Basket Weavers Co-operative had meetings with Government officials with regards to becoming a pilot project for livelihood based initiatives. Successful pilot organizations will receive subsidised mentorship and technical support. A social media video campaign has been undertaken to highlight the significance basket weaving has on the members of Crafthood initiatives.

Be sure to check our Facebook page for weekly uploads of our "Meet the Makers" series! - [#FollowtheHand](#).



Flora of Okavango

The commonly called 'rain tree' or 'Apple- leaf' is known in Setswana as Mopororo. When the tree is in flower, you'll see their beautiful flowers that are shaped just like bean or pea flowers. Traditionally mopororo is used to make mokoro, dug-out canoes, although the life span of these mokoro is not long as the wood is prone to rot from fungal infestations. Mopororo is widespread in distribution in the northern Botswana. – *Story Provided by Peter Smith University Botswana Herbarium.*



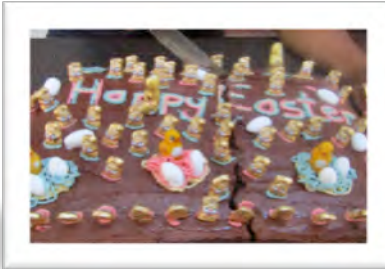
Community in Action



WAR

The TFI Team had a chance last month to interview WAR Finance Manager Moengwa, Business Development Officer Neo, and Finance Intern Bofelo about WAR's participation at the Diacore Marathon in Gaborone. Highlights of the marathon included WAR increasing their profile outside of Maun, gaining invaluable contacts in the nation's capital, and further raising the issue of gender based violence! [Visit Travel for Impact's Website for full interview]

In response to a brutal viral video depicting a woman being publicly shamed in Gaborone, WAR took part of the [#WearWhatYouWant](#) march on Saturday May 27th. The march was in support of the empowerment of women and further legal framework to support this!



Bana Ba Letsatsi

On 6 May 2017, Safari Destinations organised a treasure hunt for BBL patrons. The children loved the treasure hunt as it promoted team work skills, exercise and gave them the opportunity to interact as well as learn from their older team leaders. The day included other games such as sack race and traditional games which they played with staff!

Later on, everyone joined in on music and dance before enjoying a scrumptious traditional meal prepared by Bana Ba Letsatsi staff, their signature samp and beef stew. Dessert was a surprise! Easter cake baked by Safari Destinations for Bana ba Letsatsi children. It was a great atmosphere with both staff and children happy and looking forward to the next treasure hunt!



Clothing Donation

This month the community bus delivered food, clothing and shoes donations to our partner organisations and The Social and Community Development office in Maun. Here, social workers ensured that gifts were distributed to beneficiaries in the villages within the Ngamiland district.

"Most of the people who received had no winter clothes and were so grateful. One blind man wore the shirt immediately and it reminded him of the good old days when he could fend for himself. The foodstuffs went to 5 clients and in three cases we found that they had no idea what the elderly person was going to eat because there was absolutely nothing in the house. Thanks!" said Beauty Bagwasi the Project Director of AGLOW Polokong in Maun...

[continued next page]

Ngamiland Highlights



Sentiments were echoed by Nametsegang Mbeha, the Psychosocial Head at Bana Ba Letsati. "Clothes are a basic need. However, some families in many instances find themselves having to choose between buying food vs buying clothes for their children, given their very limited budget. On that note, thank you very much TFI for your invaluable donation of clothes. They will benefit many children." she said excitedly.

TFI would like to thank Sandra Rubins and our Bednight Bank partners for their support in making this donation possible!

More Community Snapshots!



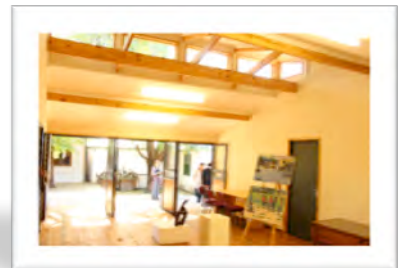
- Shorobe Basket's Producer Centre



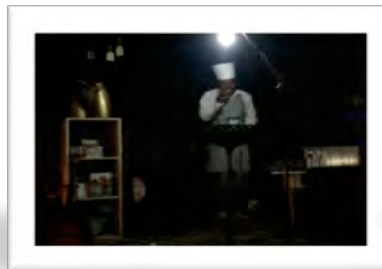
- TFI Community Bus visiting MAWS



- Belmond Safaris visit Thuso Rehab



- Nhabe Museum looking for sponsors



- Poetry night at Kana Jang?



- Meeting with #Pedal4Purpose

Travel For Impact Update:

Rose:

Tribal Roots has donated 1 massage / month to community bus driver OB!

Bud:

KAZA has expressed interest in further developing the Nhabe Museum!

Thorn:

MAWS needs vets for July, if you know anyone please get in touch!

Our Travel Partners

Our travel partners are the cornerstone of TFI and without them and their extraordinary generosity, TFI would have just remained a dream. Our partners represent every aspect of travel to Botswana and each offer an unforgettable holiday in this breathtakingly beautiful part of the world. Visit their websites at:

<http://travelforimpact.com/our-travel-partners/>



THE ELEPHANT TRAILS SAFARI CO.



'Bed Bank for Charity' Partners

The bed bank encourages suppliers to donate bed nights to Safari Destinations, who in turn sell these bed nights on, passing the proceeds to Travel for Impact to support charities with their core costs. Both Travel for Impact and Safari Destinations would like to express their gratitude to the following companies for their generous support of the bed night bank. Visit their websites at: <http://travelforimpact.com/our-travel-partners/>

