

# The Livingstone Weekly



Dear All

I was supposed to be heading into Kafue National Park last week. Instead I found myself on a plane to Harare. The flight took 45 minutes – hardly had we leveled off at cruising speed when we were on the way down again. It was their 'new' 747. And the plane was full-ish with most of the seats taken.



Anyway, Kafue awaits and I received this report from a recent visitor to Nanzhila:

*I have just returned from a trip to the Nanzhila Lodge area. The viewing of different antelope species was magnificent. I saw eland- a herd of around 60 - wildebeest, hartebeest. oribi, duiker, impala, kudu, reedbuck, waterbuck, roan, sable. These were all within a few kilometres of the lodge. There were other animals - wild dog and honey badger. Lions were heard, as were hyena. The bird life was also excellent as far as diversity goes.*

*Whilst there my car packed up with a huge electronic fault. I couldn't get out because in my first few days everyone was heading north, and I needed to head to Kalomo for help. Steve and Cindy Smith arrived and sorted out mechanic, accommodation, and meals for me without any hesitation. Thanks to them, I had an even better holiday there. They made sure I was well, and happy. I am extremely grateful to them for their help. It was my first trip, and they made a disaster into a great success. I will go again, but with a second vehicle along next time, just in case!*

Gill Comment: *you see, it is not only my car which breaks down in the bush ...*

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## Facebook Stuff

As you may have noticed, I am including some pretty bush pictures from lodges in the region. The aim is to show readers what is out there and that maybe sometime you can visit some of the amazing places which are just a stone's throw from the Victoria Falls. And, next time someone tells me that I am so lucky to be able to visit the parks as I do, I shall hit them. Just get in your car, and go. It really is not that difficult. We only live once and the work in the office can wait for a few days ...

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## LIVINGSTONE

### Our Dogs

There is a new Livingstone state vet, Dr Bwalya, and he is keen to help with dog control in Livingstone. As several Weekly readers commented to me, the main way to keep dogs off the streets and cared for is through education. With this in mind, Dr Bwalya and his team will have a mass vaccination programme on 10-11 September. The dogs will be vaccinated against rabies, dewormed and dipped. Owners will be required to have a dog licence, to keep their dogs under control and should have no more than 2 dogs. The owners will be given a booklet for each dog showing its vaccination record.

Livingstone City Council will be working alongside the State Veterinary Department and has already earmarked a site for the burial of any dogs which need to be euthanized during the exercise. It is felt that it is kinder to put dogs down who have no caring owner than to allow them to roam the streets finding scraps from rubbish bins to eat.

Livingstone Animal Protection Society is assisting in the programme to help with funds and logistics.

### Events on the Way

11 August: Half Marathon. Kariba Town  
11-16 August: Cycle Zambia.  
12-22 August: Mzanzi Trophy. Etosha to Livingstone.  
20-24 August: Three Nations Golf Challenge. Victoria Falls Town.  
21 August: Zambezi Classic Fishing Competition. Katima Mulilo  
24-29 August: UNWTO  
26 August: Miss Tourism. Chrismar, Livingstone  
2-4 October: Fishing Competition. Kariba Town  
26 October: Zambezi Kayak Festival.  
26-31 October: World Adventure Travel Summit. Windhoek



## World Lion Day

In Livingstone we celebrated World Lion Day with the children. Lots of them arrived at Mukuni Park and spent some time making masks and then they paraded through town. Good fun for everyone.



Along with the lion masks a new elephant frame has been constructed by some of our artists in Livingstone. I assume that this frame will be packed with old plastic bags in a similar way to the rhino sculpture in Lusaka. I'll find out more ...

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## ZIM-ZAM

### UNWTO Preparations ... only just over a week to go ...

The tourism sector alongside Governments is gearing themselves for the UNWTO. There is much cooperation between the two countries as well as some healthy rivalry.

The hotels to be used in Livingstone will be The Royal Livingstone, David Livingstone Safari Lodge, Zambezi Sun, Protea Hotel, Courtyard Hotel, Chrismar Hotel and Fallsway Lodge. In Victoria Falls Town it will be Elephant Hills Hotel, Victoria Falls Hotel, Victoria Falls Safari Lodge, Ilala Lodge and possibly Cresta Sprayview which has just completed its renovations. All the hotels are in tip-top condition and many have undergone rehabilitation works recently. The Royal Livingstone, as an example, spent US\$7million last year to upgrade its facilities – it is really now a hotel to compare with the best in the world.

The conference facilities are being set up at Elephant Hills on the Zim side and at the Falls Resort on the Zam side. All hotels have high-speed internet connection as the conference is trying to become a paperless one with no trees cut down for its deliberations!

I have not heard much about transport and the logistics of busing the delegates between each country. I really hope that the trucks are removed for the period as not only do they clog up proceedings but they are an eyesore. Also I have not heard anything about the yellow fever inoculation requirement for people visiting Zambia. It seems such a ridiculous rule when we do not have yellow fever here at all and that anyone visiting the Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe does not require a yellow fever certificate and yet if



they travel half a kilometre over the border to Zambia they do. Don't we just love bureaucracy ... the purpose of which often seems to be keeping people in jobs ...

On the rivalry side I know that both Zambia and Zimbabwe are keen to present the best of their talents during the event. Zambia will hold a Miss Tourism Show where the best looking young ladies of Zambia will vie to become top. This will be held at Chrismar Hotel on 26<sup>th</sup> August. On the Zimbabwe side a music festival will be held at the beginning of the Congress and a Golf Tournament too. I am sure there will be lots of fringe events with both countries showing their best sides.

In the meantime the townsfolk are wondering if they will see anything of this much-hyped event. The chances are that the delegates will be holed up in meetings every day and not get the chance to see some of the local colour. But it is not the delegates that the people have to impress; it will be the camera crews from TV stations all over the world who will come. I am sure we will find them out and about in the towns, in the markets and talking to the local people.

We must all be on our best behaviour ...

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## ZAMBIA

### **From Leopard Lodge, Kafue National Park**

Rangers Diary 11th – 17th August 2013

by Pete Morrie

For 3 days in a row we were very fortunate to see 3 cheetahs whilst on game drives. On one such drive we saw the three chasing, unsuccessfully an Impala. Cheetahs strike rate is higher than most other cats at about 50%, depending on the type of prey and the condition of the cheetah. We obviously had a 50:50 chance of witnessing a kill, but weren't that fortunate this time.

We were also fortunate enough to come across a big male leopard on a game drive. He was walking smelling and calling, either to find a mate or possibly another male was in his territory.

Game drives as normal have been good and we have been seeing a wide diversity of game, which the Kafue National Park is well known for. The magnificent Sable Antelope with its pitch black back, white belly and curved horns is a pleasure to see. The mornings are chilly and some impala lie under the trees around the edge of our airstrip until late, waiting to warm-up, something that the lions, leopards and cheetah haven't picked up on yet.

The jackals have another technique of getting warm – they lie on the warm dung of the elephants.



The birding has also been very good for this time of the year with African Finfoot and Open Billed Storks regular sightings. It would seem that the White-backed Vultures are getting ready to nest again and we will be monitoring their nesting sites.

We spotted our first Yellow-billed Kite this week. These birds migrate during the winter months and I always feel that that when they return summer is coming.

We have heard lions roaring in the camp, and seen their tracks past the chalets, but haven't been able to see them.

#### Rangers Diary 3rd – 10th August 2013

A morning game walk was made rather interesting when we came across a big male lion. It was sleeping about 30m from us; it raised its head and looked at us. Lucky enough he did not feel threatened by us and we just moved off very slowly.

Two of our staff spotted a pack of 7 Wild Dogs meters away from their accommodation, but they moved off very quickly into the bush. We later spotted them during a game drive.

The male lion that frequents the lodge grounds regularly and whom we have nicknamed "Ginger", still pops in and generally strolls through camp, past the chalets and then disappears into the bush. It is like he comes just to check on us.



#### Rangers Diary 26th July – 2nd August 2013

It was a week full of lions. Here in Kafue National Park, this is always a pleasure.

One morning we took the boat across the river to get to a vehicle parked on the other side for a game drive. As we jumped from the boat we heard a loud roar of lions very close. Its strange how quickly one can get into a game drive vehicle.

Soon we spotted a lion walking down the bank of the river and not long after that we came across another male. This one was hunting an impala, but as soon as he saw us he stopped, stared at us and then went and lay under a tree.

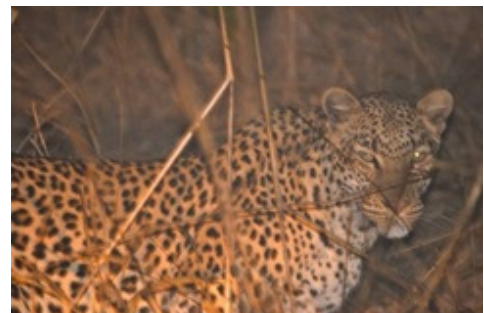
On an afternoon drive we saw 4 lionesses lying in the shade of a tree. These four came later in the week to visit us at the lodge.

On the same game drive we also saw a leopard that was hunting. We couldn't quite make out what the prey was as it was in thick bush, but she was very keen. She looked, crouched and stalked, doing this for quite some time before dashing off into the bush. Breaking of twigs, and animals crashing through the bush was the end of our amazing experience.

Some of the other smaller nocturnal animals were seen as well such as African Wild Cat, Large Spotted Genet, Porcupine, Bush Babies and African Civet.

#### Rangers Diary 18th – 25th July 2013

Two Lionesses came onto the lodge grounds one evening, after lying and grooming themselves they found our long garden hose. Like two naughty kittens they un-rolled the hose and pulled it until it wouldn't stretch anymore. They shook it, pounced on it and left us with a pipe full of holes, so we now have an irrigation system.



They spent the rest of the night at the lodge and in the early morning we heard them roaring which was replied to from across the river.

We also had a lioness with a cub that visited us late one night and further lionesses seen during a game drive feeding off a waterbuck that they had killed.

A brief sighting of a leopard on a game drive was also a highlight of the week

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### **Chichele Lodge, Luangwa**

Our team at Chichele Presidential Lodge are celebrating the arrival of 3 lion cubs, nicknamed the 'royal cubs' after sharing their birthday month with Prince George.

The cubs are part of the 'new' Chichele pride - a pride of lions that reside in the Chichele area. This litter of cubs is the first litter from our male lion called Shaka. Shaka grew up in the Chichele area and left his pride when he reached maturity. He disappeared for about 8 months and we were delighted when he returned late last year with 3 females and a young male! We have named them the 'New Chichele Pride'.

This litter of cubs is great news for the pride and we hope that they will all survive. They are at their most vulnerable at the moment, as cub fatality in lions is very high. This is because predators, such as hyenas and leopard, attack the cubs whilst the adults are out hunting as they know that one day the cubs will grow up and become direct competition for food. We will be keeping a close eye on them!



### **Sussi & Chuma, Livingstone**

Safarigram: The Zambezi River, Botswana, is host to an abundance of wildlife making it a great location for photography - check out this great shot taken by our team at Sussi & Chuma





## Wilderness Safaris in Kafue National Park

Well known (and incredibly accomplished) wildlife photographer Will Burrard-Lucas Photography recently spent a week with us on the Busanga Plains, staying at Shumba Camp. We're thrilled at the quality of the game he saw with us here ... especially the predators. Busanga is having a bumper season this year!

... and if anyone is going to find and 'capture' a serval, it's our Will...!



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## ZIMBABWE

### The Hide, Hwange National Park

Old male buffaloes are often referred to as "dagga boys", from their habit of covering themselves in dagga or mud. One of the Big 5, these majestic old Cape buffaloes are pretty regular visitors to The Hide. They often come close to camp to seek refuge from predators at night and graze around the main area without any care for us grazing at the dinner table. The group that visits us ranges from 5 to about 13 buffaloes who come to drink and use the mud wallows from late afternoon into the evening, before settling down for the night. While the old males tend to wander on their own or in small groups, the younger males and females congregate in large herds. One such herd visited our pan recently, with over 200 buffaloes it was quite a sight to see, and this is one of the few places left to see it. Thanks to Ian Godfrey for this great photo.



# BOTSWANA

## Desert & Delta, Moremi Game Reserve

A dense morning mist had covered the flood plains of Moremi, as we left for our early morning drive. We enjoyed watching the sun rising in the horizon behind the mist. This was incredible to watch.



## Leroo La Tau (Makgadikgadi National Park)

The Wild dog is an amazing animal. They are nomadic and travel vast distances in short periods of time. The reason for me sharing this fact with all of you, is because not too long ago I had the privilege of seeing these spotted dogs only 10km away from Leroo La Tau, busy feeding off a baby Zebra.

The next day on a full day trip to the Nxai Pan National Park I saw the same pack of Wild Dogs again just there on the side of the road, 40km further than where we saw them the day before. They are very unique. The pack lives and hunts together. Should one of the pack members be injured and cannot join in on hunting, the rest of the pack will then bring food back to this Wild Dog, through regurgitation. They are very social and take great care of each other.





### New Parks Facilities in Bwabwata and Mudumu National Parks

From the report in the press:

*The Minister of Environment and Tourism Uahekua Herunga last week Thursday inaugurated new and eco-sensitive park stations in the Bwabwata National Park in Caprivi.*

*The newly unveiled park stations will enable the ministry's staff to perform their duties better and they offer an improved experience for visitors to Bwabwata. Staff had lived and worked in deplorable and old accommodation facilities used previously by members of the South African Defence Force before independence. The new park infrastructure was erected in the Susuwe Park within the Bwabwata National Park and at Ngenda station in the Mudumu National Park. Herunga said the energy-saving new staff houses are an investment and a benchmark for other parks to follow. He also handed 70 bicycles to game rangers to use while patrolling the park that has experienced an upsurge in elephant poaching in recent months. The minister also launched the integrated development plan for the Namibian component of the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area commonly known as KAZA TFCA.*

While at the same event there was discussion on the poaching which has been seen in the Caprivi Region. Uahekua Herunga commented that the government authorities, the communities and NGOs working in the region were working hard to bring it under control.

As we know, Bwabwata National Park has villages within it and the other parks have campsites run by the communities so it is in the interests of the people to look after their animals. The Namibian Defence Force is also being used to combat poaching and they are working with NamParks.

Caprivi is bordered by Zambia, Angola and Botswana – it is such an odd corner of the world – so the authorities are also working across the borders with their counterparts in neighbouring countries.

According to the report only 6 elephants have been poached this year compared to 78 last year. They have made many arrests, some of whom are said to be the Zambians – why is it always Zambians??? They say that poachers make the best wildlife scouts so maybe we should have an employment drive of Zambian poachers to make the wildlife scouts!

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## KAZA

### New offices in Angola

When Ted Davison was given the job of setting up Hwange National Park in 1930, or thereabouts, he arrived by train with his dog and his donkey ... and a tent ... He set up camp under a tree and walked day after day finding pans and marking roads.

Today we do things differently and many of our parks and conservation areas have to be formally acknowledged by governments with offices and logos. In today's world these things are very necessary to gain acceptance by the people because our wildlife, in the face of human population growth, has become a contentious issue.

Peace Parks Foundation, the organisation behind the Kavango-Zambezi Conservation Area (KAZA) is well aware of this and puts in place the needed formality so that the Conservation Area can, hopefully, become a reality.

In the news this week:  
From Angolan Press

*The foundation stone for the construction of the Angola's headquarters of the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA) Project was laid Tuesday in the municipality of Kuito Kuanavale, south-eastern Kuando Kubango province. This was during a ceremony presided over by the minister of Hotels and Tourism, Pedro Mutindi, in the presence of his Zambian counterpart, Silvia Masebo, and the provincial governor, Higino Carneiro. The two-storey infrastructure will be built over an area of 2,600 square metres comprising all necessary compartments.*

*Speaking at the ceremony, Kuando Kubango governor, Higino Carneiro, highlighted the importance of the national KAZA headquarters for the province. He said the project will serve as a gateway to national and international tourism, given its dimension.*

*In her turn, the Zambian minister of Hotels and Environment, Silvia Masebo, said her country is satisfied with the project as it will also serve Zambia, Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe.*

*She said that as a member country, Zambia is making a contribution to the project particularly with its experience. ...*

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## SOUTH AFRICA

### Rhino Stats

Rhino poaching continues on a big scale in South Africa. I have not added too many articles recently about it because it is 'more of the same' with obvious inside connections to allow it to continue. Also, because the sale of rhino horn is part of organised crime syndicates, there is far too much money involved. While these syndicates continue to espouse the 'benefits' of using rhino horn and governments in Asia doing little to contradict these claims, it will go on. Meanwhile the good men and women on the ground who fight the seemingly endless battle against the poaching should be congratulated and encouraged.

Here, though, are some statistics about rhinos, which against all odds seem to be holding their own ... for now ...

***Status and Trends - Despite high and increasing levels of poaching, both rhino species have continued to increase in the wild, with white rhino (*Ceratotherium simum*) up from 20,165 in 2010 to 20,405 and black rhino (*Diceros bicornis*) up from 4,880 in 2010 to 5,055 ( see Table below).*** - Emslie RH, Milliken T, and Talukdar B (2012) African and Asian Rhinoceroses – Status, Conservation and Trade. CoP16 March 2013, Doc. 54-2-Annexe 2 CITES Secretariat, Geneva, Switzerland.

Species	White Rhino			Black Rhino				Total
Subspecies	<i>C.s.cottoni</i>	<i>C.s.simum</i>		<i>D.b.bicornis</i>	<i>D.b.michaeli</i>	<i>D.b.minor</i>		
	Northern	Southern	Trend	South Western	Eastern	Southern Central	Trend	
Angola				1			Min	1
Botswana		185	Up			9	Up	194
Kenya	4	394	Up		631		Up	1029
Malawi						26	Up	26
Mozambique		1	Down			?	?	1
Namibia		524	Up	1750			Stable	2274
South Africa		18910	Up	206	68	1770	Up	20954
Swaziland		84	Stable			18	Up	102
Tanzania					100	27	Up	127
Uganda		14	Up					14
Zambia		10	Up			27	Stable	37
Zimbabwe		283	Down			422	Down	705
Total	4	20,405		1,957	799	2,299		25,464

Although these statistics should make us smile, we all need to know that the poaching continues and that it is not just rhino horn anymore:

*Customs seize HK\$41m in ivory, rhino horns, leopard skins (China/Nigeria) from Associated Press*

*A shipment of illegal ivory, rhino horns and leopard skins worth HK\$41 million was seized in Hong Kong's second big bust of endangered species products in a month. The haul is also the latest in a string of big ivory seizures over the past year in the city.*

*Some 1,120 ivory tusks, 13 rhino horns and five pieces of leopard skin weighing a total of 2,266 kilograms were confiscated at Kwai Chung Container Terminal, the government announced on Wednesday. They were found on Tuesday hidden in a shipping container declared as wood from Nigeria.*

As the people from Africa we need to put the blame squarely on Asian countries who allow this practice to continue. It is an international crime. Yes, the Asian syndicates use local Africans to do the actual poaching, but we are being used ... Remember that Asian wildlife has virtually disappeared because of their ancient beliefs. Do we want ours to go the same way???

## The South African Bird Ringing Unit

SAFRING's mission: SAFRING is based at the University of Cape Town and provides bird ringing services in South Africa and other African countries. This entails providing ringing equipment to qualified ringers, and curating all ringing data. SAFRING communicates with ringers and interested parties through annually publishing one or two issues of a newsletter, Afring News, and by maintaining a list server. SAFRING holds national training courses, annually if there is sufficient demand. SAFRING liaises with the provinces who have the responsibility of issuing permits. SAFRING has a strict code of ethics to ensure



the safety of birds handled. SAFRING acknowledges the importance of bird ringing in that it has been described as the most important tool in ornithology in the 20th century.

The South African Bird Ringing Unit (SAFRING) administers bird ringing in southern Africa, supplying rings, ringing equipment and services to volunteer and professional ringers in South Africa and neighbouring countries. All ringing records are curated by SAFRING, which is an essential arm of the Animal Demography Unit. Contact is maintained by the SAFRING Project Coordinator with all ringers (banders in North American or Australian terminology).

### **White-backed vulture (*Gyps africanus*), G21385**

Carvern Jacobs (2013-08-07)

Hello to all birders and nature enthusiasts!!!

We have yet another exciting vulture re-sighting to report. A White-backed vulture (*Gyps africanus*), G21385, which was ringed in Kimberley in 2011 by Anthony Angus, was re-sighted 1.7 years later in Angola on the 24th of July 2013.

*The Vulture Restaurant at NARREC*



Amazingly this was the first re-trap submission for this bird, which is hard to believe since these scavenging vultures are frequent visitors at the NARREC vulture restaurants in Namibia. Another exciting bit is that this particular vulture travelled a distance of 2 529.73km, crossing the borders of four countries, South Africa, Botswana, Namibia into Angola.

“WOW” as Liz from NARREC said when I emailed her the link on this bird. I would like to thank Derek Gomez Adams from Angola who reported this amazing re-trap on the SAFRING facebook profile, perks of technology!! For more information regarding the White-backed vultures or the NARREC vulture restaurants you can go to <http://www.orusovo.com/narrec/Vultures.htm> and check it out!! (NARREC: Namibia Animal Rescue Rehabilitation and Research Centre.)

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## **OTHER STUFF**

### **How Rhino Horns end up in Asian Jewellery shops**

Karl Amman, The Star. August 2, 2013

*I am printing most of this story, although it is long ... we need to know ...*

So your latest model Ferrari is parked in a prominent spot outside the top five-star hotel in the capital. You are meeting friends for a drink and since it is pleasantly warm you wear a short sleeve shirt so there is no way they can miss the golden Rolex on your left wrist – they will know it is the real thing. But what

about your right arm? Maybe a rhino horn bangle worth the same as the wrist watch (about U\$ 15 000) would make for a good conversation piece, not yet on the must have list of most of your friends.

The feeling when travelling through the key urban centers of Vietnam and China is that wealth is only really accepted when it can be presented in a conspicuous way. Status symbols and lifestyle products are what it is all about when competing for social status, and rhino horn jewelry and ivory have become part of this demand characteristic.

We have now visited a household which also serves as a store and workshop on three different occasions. It is about an hours drive from the Hanoi City Center. On all three occasions we saw and documented with hidden camera large amounts of raw and semi worked ivory including end product souvenir and jewelry items as well as rhino horn products. Even on our first visit, in 2011, we were offered a rhino horn prayer bead bracelet. We watched the demonstration by the owner shining a torch light through one of the beads and explaining how we could ensure it was the genuine article. Pushing open a door in the basement of the house we entered a bedroom with a wide range of cut up ivory pieces in cardboard boxes. Some of the ivory was already worked into finished bracelets. Since we had arrived during a local holiday the workshop upstairs was closed, however we managed to film a group of Chinese tourists being brought in by their tour guide buying a number of chop stick sets as well as bracelets. All items were carefully measured with calipers which together with a digital scale were part of the paraphernalia used in each such sales transaction. When we asked to see some raw rhino horn an Iphone containing images of various horns was pushed into our hands.

On our second visit to the shop earlier this year the story was pretty much the same. This time there were Chinese clients buying the bottom half of a very large rhino horn. They gave their instructions on how to cut it, marking it first with pencil lines which were then followed with a band saw. They explained that these cuts would result in the highest yield of bangles. The cut out inner core would be worked into the beads which would then be shaped into prayer bracelets.

We asked where the horn came from and were told Mozambique (the chance being high that it was a Kruger rhino) via Kenya. This was not very surprising with Mozambique having lost its last rhino earlier in the year and this trade route being well established. We were also told which towns in China the shop owners could deliver to, so Chinese buyers did not have the risk of taking the illegal items across an international border. The carvers also pointed out the best land border where it would be easy to cross back into China with their prohibited merchandise. Since as a westerner there would be less of a risk for me at the border, I actually went as far as testing the water and offered to take some bracelets on to our next destination in China. They declined, pointing out that they had it all under control.

On this visit we also managed to go upstairs to a workshop where they were filing away at raw ivory pieces turning them into bracelets. We were told that the same machinery would be used to work the rhino horn pieces.

Back downstairs we ended up in the main sales and display room again, looking at various pieces of worked ivory, chop sticks and bangles. There were a few cardboard boxes half open and when I reached in I pulled out some cylindrical objects painted dark brown with a new year's wish written on the side in Vietnamese.

The objects were too heavy to be wood and when I asked, it was explained to me that it was ivory disguised as wood to transport it without any problems. Not surprisingly a few months later two

Vietnamese travelers were arrested at Jomo Kenyatta airport with exactly these kinds of 'wooden' souvenir items. The story of the minimal sentences they received was well documented in the Kenyan press. I was now convinced the owners of this home and shop were indeed key players in the rhino horn and ivory trade business, not just middlemen and women, but had their own couriers importing for them.

I sent back a local contact with a hidden camera and he encountered yet another group of Chinese tourists having been taken to the shop by their guide, negotiating and buying various items. There was a large chunk of rhino horn with tell tale pieces cut out of it. My local investigator asked if this was the same horn as last time: "No, No. We go through several horns a week and we can no longer keep up with the demand for bangles selling hundreds of them at about U\$ 10-15 000 a pop - depending on weight". All these discussions were recorded and transcribed and the price remained constant whichever rhino horn items were being discussed. U\$ 45 000 per kg was the basis for all calculations. Ivory was U\$ 1200 per kg. Our man was told that some Chinese buyers purchase up to ten of these bracelets in one go and then resell them back home. He also learnt that the shop owner has a sister who operates a very similar establishment 100 meters further down the same road. ...

<http://www.the-star.co.ke/news/article-130563/how-rhino-horns-end-asian-jewellery-shops>

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### **Life Imprisonment for Poaching in Kenya**

In a report this week the Kenya Wildlife Service is putting forward a bill to parliament to provide life imprisonment for anyone caught killing elephants or rhinos:

*William Kiprono was addressing the press in Kitale on Saturday after meeting the County security team to discuss ways of saving the animals from poachers.*

*"It is regretting that crime on animals has increased, we want to combine efforts in protecting our wildlife "he said.*

*He said the country earns between sh100billion to 120 billion in tourism adding 80 percent of the income is generated by wildlife sector.*

*The wildlife sector, he said, has employed more than 300,000 Kenyans and if wildlife is not protected, Kenyans are likely to lack the jobs and the country may lose the income.*

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### **LARGEST SOLAR POWER STATION IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE**

Australia will start to construct a massive solar power station in New South Wales starting in January next year. The plant will provide electricity for 50,000 homes. It will be constructed on two sites and cover an area four times the size of Sydney's central business district.

*An artist's impression*





## THE SMILE

### **Learning about beer from seven year olds ! !**

A handful of seven year old children were asked, 'What they thought of beer.

Tim - 'I think beer must be good. My dad says the more beer he drinks the prettier my mom gets.'

Melanie - 'Beer makes my dad sleepy and we get to watch what we want on television when he is asleep, so beer is nice.'

Lilly - 'My Dad loves beer. The more he drinks, the better he dances. One time he danced right into the pool.'

Ethan - 'I don't like beer very much. Every time Dad drinks it, he burns the sausages on the barbecue and they taste disgusting.'

Shirley - 'I give Dad's beer to the dog and he goes to sleep.'

Brad - 'Beer tastes disgusting. My brother told me it makes you think the girls are pretty. With his girlfriend, I would need an awful lot of beer to make her look pretty ! ! ! '

### **Birth Control the Irish Way**

Mrs. Donovan was walking down O'Connell Street in Dublin when she met up with Father Flaherty.

The Father said, 'Top o' the mornin' to ye! Aren't ye Mrs. Donovan And didn't I marry ye and yer Hoosband two years ago?'

She replied, 'Aye, that ye did, Father.'

The Father asked, 'And be there any wee little ones yet?'

She replied, 'No, not yet, Father.'

The Father said, 'Well now, I'm going to Rome next week and I'll light a fertility candle for ye and yer hoosband.'

She replied, 'Oh, thank ye, Father...'

They then parted ways ..

Some years later they met again. The Father asked, 'Well now, Mrs. Donovan, how are ye these days?'

She replied, 'Oh, very well, Father!'

The Father asked, 'And tell me, have ye any wee ones yet?'

She replied, 'Oh yes, Father! Two sets of twins and six singles. Ten in all!'

The Father said, 'That's wonderful! And how is yer loving hoosband doing?'

She replied, 'E's gone to Rome to blow out yer f\*\*kin' candle.'

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Have a good week and don't forget the ads ...

Gill