



Dear All

I went to Lusaka during the week so got a chance to see the other side of the new airport building. I thought you might like to see it too.

I went to Lusaka by Proflight – a journey of one hour. I had tried to get one of those cheap flights which Proflight advertises at K250 but found that the ‘terms and conditions’ only allow you to fly on Fridays and Sundays at the cheap rate, so keep that in mind ...

LIVINGSTONE

Town Centre Market

Here is a photo of the market structure. I know nothing about whether it is one, two or three storeys but it looks very big!



From Safari Par Excellence

Whitewater Rafting starts from Rapid 7b from today.

UNWTO

Things are hotting up now. We have just over a month to go before the UNWTO – 24-29 August.

In an article in the Post we were informed that a company has been given a contract to tell the people of Livingstone about the advantages and benefits of the UNWTO.

For Rent

One bedroomed cottage, suitable for single person in central Livingstone, near Shoprite, Fawltly Towers and Stop Shop. Separate shower/bathroom and Basin, small lounge and separate kitchen. Partly furnished but could be fully furnished if required. Secure and safe. K2000/month negotiable.

Contact Ali Shenton on 0979 157459.

Zambia Tourism Board (ZTB) has outsourced this job to Glaxon Global Solutions, a Zambian company.

Margarate Mataa, Lusaka Tourism Promotions Manager for Zambia Tourism Board (ZTB): *The idea is to ensure that we are on the same page with the community over the UNWTO. Education is of vital importance in the run-up to the August event. People must know what UNWTO is all about and what socioeconomic benefits it will accrue to them even without them attending the meetings. We have prizes for all the events. Apart from entertainment, we shall engage the community into Q and A and give out prizes such as T-shirts and also free entry tickets to the tourism products available in Livingstone such as the Victoria Falls, the Livingstone Museum, the National Park and the Crocodile Farm. They must fully understand why the government is spending so much money on Livingstone. We want to make Livingstone residents best hosts. They should be best hosts by understanding the event itself and the products that are in their backyard.*

Livingstone Animal Protection Society (LAPS)

At its Book Fair last weekend, LAPS raised around K2,500.

Meanwhile, the solar lights will continue to be on sale. Here is an article about them:

Solar lighting project for school children for reading & studies.

We have sourced superior quality solar lights for school children to use at home or at school. These lights have been used extensively in Zambia and are perfectly suited to rural conditions where most children have no access to electric lighting and thereby limiting their study time. The danger of candles catching fire and the reliance on kerosene lamps, which can be extremely hazardous, has prompted LAPS to investigate alternative options of lighting for school children.

The solar lighting project helps support various charitable projects. Firstly, it is a social enterprise project so a large portion of the income is directly invested back into the Student Lights Campaign to supply reading lights to various school projects. Secondly, LAPS, a charity started within Livingstone to primarily help care for abused and neglected domestic



Full Moon Madness
Bungee jumping

DIVE INTO THE DARKNESS

2 nights
Dates: 21st & 22nd July

- Drinks 2 for 1*
- Tasty food
- Only 12 slots available
- Price US\$130 / ZMW 728 pp

*Not inclusive of Spirits

FOR BOOKINGS

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Air Namibia	Air Mauritius
Air Malawi	Iberian Air
British Airways	Jet Airways
Egypt Air	Virgin Atlantic
Ethiopian Airlines	Qatar Airline
Kenya Airways	Emirates
Luftansa	Delta
KLM	Precision Airlines
Air France	United Airlines
South African Airways	China Southern Airlines
Cathay Pacific	Hahn Air ...

Also booking Intercape Bus Service
Domestic & Regional

animals also benefits from the sale of these lights. The proceeds of all of LAPS profits are directly used for upgrading of the existing veterinary facilities as well as assisting and supporting outreach programmes in rural areas.

The lights come with one to two year manufacturers' warranty. Each light is certified to meet Lighting Africa standards. You will need to replace the rechargeable batteries every 1-5 years (check each product in the range for more information).

At present we can supply 2 types of lights for the student study market:

1) S2 d.light is a small desk top student reading light which has the solar panel on the reverse side of the light. It is also perfect for camping, night light or handy torch.

S2d.light.....cost K60.00 each

- 4 hours of bright light
- Built in solar panel
- Lightweight, portable and durable design
- Two year replacement warranty. 5 year lifespan



2) Sun King Pro larger light, with independent solar panel & 3 light settings to provide lighting for a small room, including a facility for cell phone charging.

SunKing Pro..... cost K210.00 per light.

- 10 times brighter than a kerosene lamp.
- Up to 30 hours of light with three settings. Visual display to indicate remaining light time on the 3 settings.
- Day or night phone charging, six common adapters provided.
- 2.5 Watt separate solar panel with 5 meters of cable attached. Sturdy stand for table use incl.
- 2 years manufacturer warranty, 5 years lifespan.



Chinese Tourism and Investment

In an article in the press, we were informed that a delegation of Chinese journalists and travel advisors were in Livingstone to have a look to see if Chinese holidaymakers would enjoy a stay here. In another article, we were told that a Chinese delegation was taken to Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park and were shown various development sites including the old Legacy site with a view to constructing a hotel.

ZAMBIA

From David Shepherd Foundation

Three month old Nkala has joined the orphans at the DSWF supported Lilayi Elephant Nursery in Zambia. Discovered wandering alone and distressed among cattle in Kafue National Park at 2am last Sunday, the locals in the Nkala Game Management Area contacted the Game Rangers International team having heard their community radio show.

"By 7am we'd mobilised the rescue team with ZAWA and found the little elephant very tired, thirsty and hungry but on the whole fighting fit and in relatively good health," explains project manager, Rachael Murton.

Being so young the team made plans to relocate the baby to the nursery facility in Lilayi and, with the help of Royal Air Charters and UNZA vet Dr Haachilala, Nkala was flown out of Kafue and was soon settled into the nursery and investigating his new surroundings.



"At such a young age Nkala is incredibly vulnerable and, having lost his family, is currently adjusting to a massive life change," says Rachael. "This is a critical time for him and we are giving him round the clock supervision and care."

And ...

DSWF Education Advisor, Andrew White, is leading a team through the heart of Zambia this summer to raise funds for the Elephant Orphanage Project (EOP) in Zambia . The ride will cover approximately 550km starting at the thundering beauty of Victoria Falls and travelling north for the next five days, covering up to 130km a day, in the unforgiving African heat.

Events on the Way

25-27 July: Pumping Legs for Water.

Hwange National Park

24-29 August: UNWTO

11-16 August: Cycle Zambia.

26 October: Zambezi Kayak Festival.

26-31 October: World Adventure
Travel Summit. Windhoek

Each morning they will set off at first light to take advantage of the cooler air, resting only to replenish fluids and energy stores. This journey will replicate Batoka's journey, one of the orphaned elephants that made his journey to the EOP in Kafue National Park.

The team hopes to raise £20,000 to support the educational development, rescue work and rehabilitation that EOP undertakes as well as raising awareness of the continued human - elephant conflict, that is endangering these iconic animals.

Secrets of African Rivers

In an article in EuroNews we were told that a research team is looking into the health of the Zambezi River.

... Unlike the European fluvial systems that are relatively well researched, rivers in Africa have so far been poorly studied. A greater understanding would help countries like Zambia manage its water resources, responding more efficiently to growing demand.

Imasiku Nyambe, Professor of Geology at the University of Zambia, told us what is happening there: "The population of the country has increased. There's also an increase in the economic aspect – meaning mining, agriculture, electricity and other users. And therefore it's important to study, to know how much water we have, so that all these competing users could have a share of what they want."

Scientists measure various water parameters, including its temperature, oxygen, pH, conductivity, and different carbon pools. This data will explain what portion of the carbon entering the river from the surrounding landscape with decomposed organic matter or soil minerals gets converted into gas or trapped into sediment, and how much is ultimately reaching the ocean.

"At this point, everything is more or less unknown. This is why we are here. We're trying to look at the transport of carbon into the ocean, to the sedimentation processes, fluxes to the atmosphere. We're looking at the source of carbon – we try to understand how much carbon in this river is terrestrial, how much is aquatic-produced," said Christian Teodoru. ...

Find more information on the project website: <http://ees.kuleuven.be/project/afrival/>

From Robin Pope Safaris

By Neil Andrews

I have holidayed in Africa at least once a year since 1996, tending not to follow the crowds, so how appropriate would a sojourn to Liuwa Plain be. I chose the November/December option as I hoped to experience big and angry African skies. I was not disappointed. I must admit, that however seasoned an

Africa traveller I might consider myself, I was somewhat in awe when I discovered at Lusaka airport that Robin Pope himself would be one of our guides. This said his passion is so disarming that combined with Jason Alfonsi they added to the shared wonder of Liuwa Plain.

This is difficult. How do I tell you all about Liuwa Plain without having you all immediately book trips to a place I'd like to keep secret! Okay, I must not be so selfish ... there is space for all of us at Liuwa Plain. Space. The biggest African skies you can imagine. Horizons that do not end. Have you ever seen two rainbow ends? At Liuwa Plain you can. I got my big sky experience every day, with no two days the same. But the stand out day was the day of the rainbows.

It had been a generally damp day (Scottish-like drizzle) as we found and then followed Lady Liuwa and the younger lioness on their abortive wildebeest hunts; and in the afternoon Jason was doing a grand job at avoiding the more ominous storm clouds as the rainbows appeared. Rainbows - as initially some were just patches of the spectrum mid-sky, followed by a rainbow curtain, then the main event. And thank goodness the prospect of the big skies had induced me to take my fish-eye lens. It was needed to capture the endless rainbow, and how wondrous that there should be a paler double above it. You don't need game viewing when nature provides such visual entertainment as the skies of Liuwa Plain.

Mention must be made of the legend that is Lady Liuwa, and to have her do her famous roll in front of our vehicle was indeed another special moment, apart from the mere fact of seeing her contentment now that she has other lions as company. ...



Wilderness Safaris, Kafue National Park

Mid-afternoon slump? A quick 40 winks might help...

It's exhausting being a beautiful cat on the Busanga Plains!



Sausage Tree Camp, Lower Zambezi

A great sighting for keen birders.



ZIMBABWE

Storage of confiscated Elephant Tusks

ZimParks is complaining about the space available for continuing to store over 62,000 tonnes of elephant ivory. According to a report they only have space for 65,000 tonnes available and they collect over 1 tonne every month.

As I have said before in the Weekly, it should not be the responsibility of African governments to store ivory and rhino horn. This is a global battle and Africa has so many problems that it seems scandalous that African countries are told by the world that the ivory and rhino horn cannot be sold and that it must be stored.

A global decision like this should have a global answer and I feel that all the ivory and rhino horn should be 'sold' to a global institution and removed from African countries. As I have said, we have bigger problems ...

Zimbabwe Elections

So far there seems to be a peaceful run-up to the elections on 31 July. That's good news.

In order for teachers and schools to be used during that time, the schools will close on 26 July. The next term will start early on 3 September to make up for the time lost.

Victoria Falls Carnival

Victoria Falls Town is to host a carnival on 23 August to welcome the delegates to the UNWTO. Karikoga Kaseke, the Zimbabwe Tourism Authority (ZTA) Chief Executive said that US\$300,000 had been allocated for the event.

Karikoga Kaseke : *Most of the local artistes who performed during the Harare carnival such as Suluman Chimbetu and Jah Prayzah have already confirmed their participation while we are still waiting to hear from the targeted international artistes.*

Meanwhile Walter Mzembi says that Zimbabwe is short of money for the UNWTO. The Ministry of Tourism had budgeted US\$12million but nothing had come from the Treasury.

Walter Mzembi: *We have an election that requires US\$132 million. We have just come off a referendum that also gobbled quite a lot of millions.*

We had Copac (Constitution Committee) for over four years in addition to other recurrent national processes and issues on our budget — food security, water, electricity and within all those competing demands you place the demands of a General Assembly.

Fibre Optic Cable has reached Victoria Falls Town

Econet, one of the communications companies in Zimbabwe, will make available 4G services in Victoria Falls Town by the time the UNWTO starts. It will be the only 4G service in Zimbabwe.

The Hide, Hwange

*Thanks Jean-Michel Blake for this one!
This little guy spent ages climbing up this termite mound and leaping off again. Just for fun... anyone got a good caption?*



From Imbabala River Lodge Zambezi National Park

*Everyone in the animal kingdom needs their chance to feed.
After the Lions had successfully killed a buffalo and had their fill, the vultures moved in to clean up the carcass...*



Africa Albida Tourism

A fantastic welcome to Indian agents arriving at Elephants Walk Shopping Centre, Victoria Falls. 5 of these agents stayed at Victoria Falls Safari Club last night and loved it!



BOTSWANA

From Botswana Tourism Board

A Dawson Kgosi Ramsden photo



NAMIBIA

Water for Wildlife after a Bad Rainy Season

Namibia had bad rains this past season. Wildlife is always affected at times like these, so before the lack of water became an issue for the animals at Etosha, the government stepped in.

From New Era

WINDHOEK - The upgrading of water points within the Etosha National Park is complete. The refurbished water points now feature solar driven pumps, storage tanks, new pipelines and fittings, as well as elephant-proof walls and troughs. The upgrade was made possible through the German government's Deutsche

Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), in conjunction with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism.

While the boreholes already existed, the infrastructure surrounding them had deteriorated and they were not supplying sufficient water, especially during times of high water demand by wildlife. The upgrading work took place in less than four months and at a cost of approximately N\$2.3 million. The present amount of water provided by the different water points varies with demand but ranges at a maximum of 56 cubic metres per day. Every water point is equipped with storage facilities.

Boas Erckie, deputy director in the environment ministry and the German Ambassador to Namibia Onno Hückmann inaugurated the water points last Friday. The water points are in the western parts of Etosha and bordering conservancies. ...

MOZAMBIQUE

TRAVEL FROM MUTARE TO VILANCILAS

The information below is from someone who travelled from Vilanculos to Harare yesterday (Tuesday 9th July 2013) :

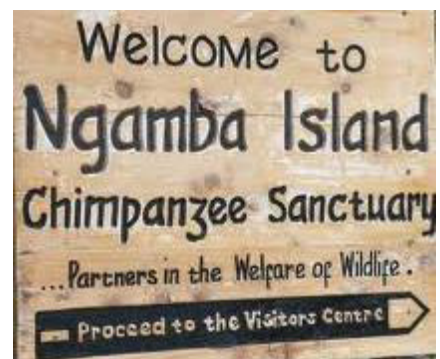
- ***The convoys leave from Muxungwe to Save Bridge at 8.00 am and 1.00 pm
- ***The convoys leave from Save Bridge to Muxungwe at 9.30 am and 3.00 pm
- ***It is compulsory to join the convoy
- ***The distance of the convoy trip is 100kms
- ***The journey takes one and a half hours.
- ***The convoy trip adds an extra half hour onto the journey.
- ***The convoy journey is recommended.

WOLFGANG'S COLUMN

JANE GOODALL SETS SEIZED PARROTS FREE ON NGAMBA ISLAND

The latest visit by Dr. Jane Goodall to Ngamba Island, Uganda's chimpanzee refuge in Lake Victoria, was full of action as she released 17 surviving African Grey parrots into the wild, after an additional four months quarantine period of monitoring their health was over. The birds were part of a consignment, illegally shipped to Europe and confiscated some time back in Bulgaria, from where in a mercy mission of sorts they were repatriated to Uganda. The 17 parrots are the sole survivors of what was initially dozens more, many of which expired due to the stress over the way they were packed tight in unbefitting boxes and left without food and water during their transit to Budapest.

Jane Goodall pulled the proverbial string a few days ago and set the birds free on the chimp island, releasing them from the aviary where they have been kept. The birds, returned to their natural habitat, can now either stay in the forest of the island where undoubtedly they would enrich the visitor experience or else fly to neighbouring islands or the mainland for a life in renewed freedom. Congratulations to the Uganda Wildlife Education Centre in Entebbe, the first point where the birds stayed upon arrival at the nearby Entebbe International Airport and were inspected and treated by UWEC and UWA vets, before the decision was taken to bring them to Ngamba Island and prepare them for release back into the wild. Visit www.ngambaisland.org for more information about the conservation work with chimpanzees, all of whom were rescued from captivity when found with illegal traders or at the airport in concealed boxes ready to be shipped overseas



THE SPIRIT OF THE GREAT HEART CHALLENGE

An EPIC Challenge that starts in Cape Town and spans over 6 incredible Southern African countries, ending at a Finish Line only revealed on completion of the challenge.

Mzanzi Challenge

Starting on August 26 in Cape Town.

From their website:

It is not a race, this is a points-based challenge!

How does it work? Working together as a team, you will journey across 10,000km in 20 days through South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique: looking for clues and solving crazy riddles, tackling obstacles, completing tasks, digging up buried treasures, collecting puzzle pieces... (and some other secret little missions)



Gill Comment: From the map it looks as if the rally will go via Victoria Falls Town, Zimbabwe, but Zimbabwe is not on their list. I can only assume that they will be coming over the ferry at Kazungula. If this is the case, I hope the Customs and Immigration officials are well-prepared for them. When the Put Foot Rally came through Katima Mulilo they experienced long delays – I think the border officials were overwhelmed with the number of cars. I hope the LTA will warn the border and make sure that they all come through with no hassles. Why? Well, we need to promote tourism and this sort of rally is becoming more and more popular – we need to be able to deal with it. Also, one bad comment from an overland tourist and we will lose 100 prospective other overlanders ...

THE SMILE

Theft at Golden Coin Bureau

Some weeks ago there was a theft at Golden Coin Bureau de Change opposite Mosi-oa-Tunya Square. From an article in the Post:

A police officer in-charge of the anti-robbery squad on Tuesday recounted how robbery of over K200,000 was staged at Golden Coin Bureau De Change in Livingstone. ...

Inspector Kelvin Likonge 45 said he strongly suspected that the alleged stealing from Golden Coin Bureau De Change was an inside job as there were no signs of any robbery on the premises.

... Likonge told the court that he expected the bureau to have had residues of scattered currency notes or flying papers to indicate that a robbery took place.

"I interviewed two of the accused persons, they told me that the robbery was initiated by Golden Coin Bureau De Change cashier Isaac Sibwani who said he had a shortfall at the bureau and he wanted people who could stage a fake robbery," Likonge said. ...

Have a good week

Gill