



## Tuli News

*Issue 7 – October 2007*

**Welcome to our new-look quarterly newsletter, designed to keep you up-to-date with the latest developments at the lodge, our community & conservation programmes, our special offers and so on.**

### Latest developments

TSL is committed to a programme of continuous improvement, and we are currently updating our accommodation and enhancing our service through training programmes for both our guiding and catering departments.

Professional guides Meier & Moscow have joined Rudi & Abraham on the guiding team – they are both qualified to lead walking safaris and we're planning to encourage more and more of our guests to enjoy the bush on foot. Birdlife Botswana is visiting the lodge later this month to accredit both Moscow & Meier as bird guides, so keen birders will be able to benefit from a dedicated guide in future.

### New Tuli web site

We've recently updated our web site and other marketing material and simplified our rate structure – please visit [www.tulilodge.com](http://www.tulilodge.com) for more information.

### Early rains



We had our first downpour on the 28<sup>th</sup> September - 115ml in total. According to local sources, this is the earliest rains in the Northern Tuli Game Reserve for 20 years! The lodge was soon back to normal after the deluge.

### Safari Break Special

**From 1<sup>st</sup> October to 28<sup>th</sup> February we are running a very special rate of P870pp per night – please visit [www.tulilodge.com](http://www.tulilodge.com) or contact us for more details.**

### Come & see us at WTM

We'll be exhibiting as usual on the Botswana stand (AF1200) at the World Travel Market in London from 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> November. Jacques and KB will be manning the stand for us – a first time trip to the UK for them both (and KB's first outside Botswana!). We look forward to meeting up with our colleagues in the trade and updating everyone on the exciting developments at Tuli – if you'd like to arrange a meeting please email us at [marketing@tulilodge.com](mailto:marketing@tulilodge.com).

### Ranger training - for guides & guests

TSL has recently become the only Botswana Training Authority (BOTA) accredited facility in the Bobirwa district. In association with organisations such as Okavango Guiding School, we provide training for guides, rangers and hospitality staff. We can also provide ranger training courses for guests to enhance their holiday experience – please don't hesitate to contact us for more information.

## Orphan House Opening



As many of you will know, responsible tourism plays a key part in Tuli's operating philosophy, and our community programmes ensure that the surrounding villages benefit from the lodge's and our guests' presence in the reserve.

Our most recent project involved the building of a house in Motlhabaneng for 8 children aged between 4 and 13 orphaned through Aids. The house will provide a secure home for the children who previously had to sleep outside.

The project was financed by Tuli Safari Lodge, using funds raised at a dinner hosted by TSL to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Botswana's independence. We worked closely with social workers in the Bobirwa district to ensure that the project benefited the village's most needy family.

The two-bedroom house, together with beds, rugs, pictures and toys, was officially opened on 20<sup>th</sup> July at an emotional ceremony attended by the Kololo family, key representatives from the village and the district's political and social welfare departments along with shareholders & senior staff from TSL.

The next stage of the project will be to supply the village with a brick-making machine and provide training to enable the villagers to start work on another house for a family in need.

## Conservation update

TSL now has a resident conservationist – Tanja Kaselowski – and an on-site conservation centre from which research, monitoring and species/ecosystem projects are organised. We often now have scientists and students based at the lodge, and guests can share in these programmes by participating in fieldwork or chatting with our conservationist.

## Safari diary



Game viewing at Tuli has been very exciting recently. We are getting regular sightings of the locally rare Aardvark, Aardwolf and Brown Hyaena. Our resident pair of Verreaux's Eagles (Black Eagles), which nest on the sandstone kopje behind Nokalodi tented camp, and their new chick are seen on a daily basis.

Tuli Safari Lodge is also home to a resident leopard whose regular nocturnal visits have caused some excitement within the lodge. Most recently, a bushbuck was killed just by the bar – though all our guests were safely tucked up in bed at the time, we were all fascinated to see the drag marks across the lawn the next morning!

**That's all for now – we look forward to welcoming you to Tuli again soon**