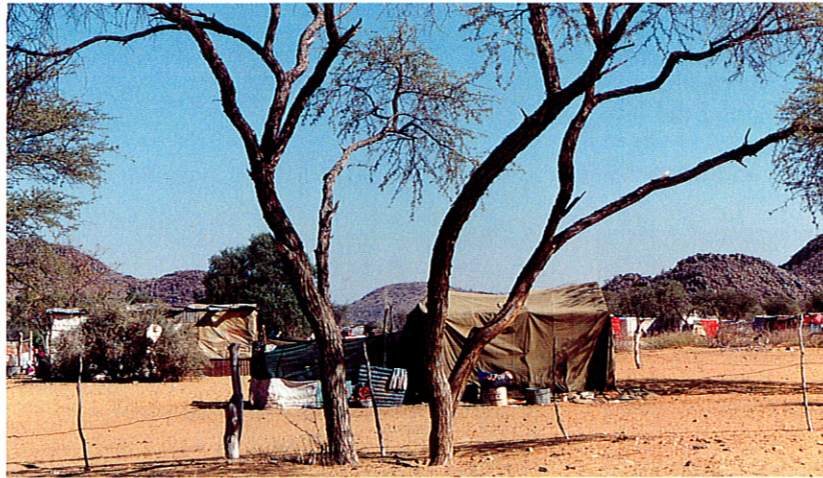


Commonwealth Friendship/Welfare Project



1996 was notable for including support in cash as well as in kind for the ROSL/Namibia project. This followed a request from Namibia's Ministry of Education for help with school fees for marginalised youngsters in remote areas and interest from members in the project's further development.

During February a fund-raising leaflet on behalf of ROSL's work relating to art, music and Namibia was therefore produced and inserted into the March-May issue of *Overseas* magazine.

In June the first instalment of school fees for nine needy youngsters to attend local schools was presented to Hon Clara Bohitile, Deputy Minister of Education and Culture at a press conference in Windhoek. The Ministry also arranged for me to visit the project sites and meet eight of the children. It was pleasing to see books donated or funded by members forming the first libraries in several schools.

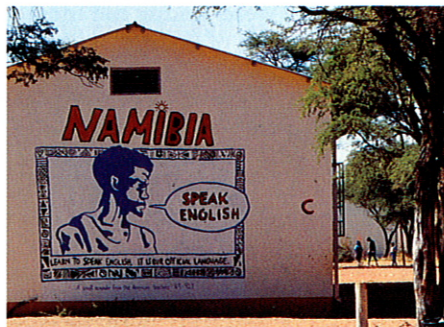
In July the four winners of the Namibia Holiday Competition donated by Springbok Atlas and Air Namibia reported "a most wonderful and memorable time in this beautiful and friendly country".

In August the President, HE Dr Sam Nujoma, thanked ROSL for books funded or donated by mem-



"I would like to thank the League on behalf of the Ministry, the country as a whole and the Namibian child in particular."

Clara Bohitile, Deputy Minister of Education and Culture



bers when he opened the new Primary School at Otjivero.

During 1996, 50 boxes of school resource materials were free freighted out by Air Namibia and distributed by the Ministry and a Melbourne member arranged free shipping of books donated by Australian publishers. Financial donors included the Bath, Bournemouth, Edinburgh and Oamaru branches, London Group, Bridge Group and individual members in 17 countries. This generosity has been much appreciated.

Margaret Adrian-Vallance
Director of PR & Development

Top: the settlement community at Otjivero where the League is supporting school bursaries. Above left: Hon Clara Bohitile, Deputy Minister of Education and Culture. Left: Mural at Gumbo Secondary School - English was designated as the official language at Independence in 1990. Below left: Enid Bates with donations collected by school children in the Bromley area. Below centre: Moses Serandi and Jan Katarri, ROSL bursary recipients from Gqana. Below: Godfrey Hall, BBC writer, one of many donors to the project.

