

Joint ROSL / Namibia Project

Due to the generosity of members and branches, it was possible to fund ten more school bursaries for young people from Bushman (San), settlement and farm communities in the Omaheke region and around Grootfontein and Tsumeb.

In order to further secure the project's financial future, an arrangement was made with Swan Hellenic so ROSL members could enjoy a 10% discount on the November cruise to Greece and Turkey and the discount was donated by the company to the Namibia project.

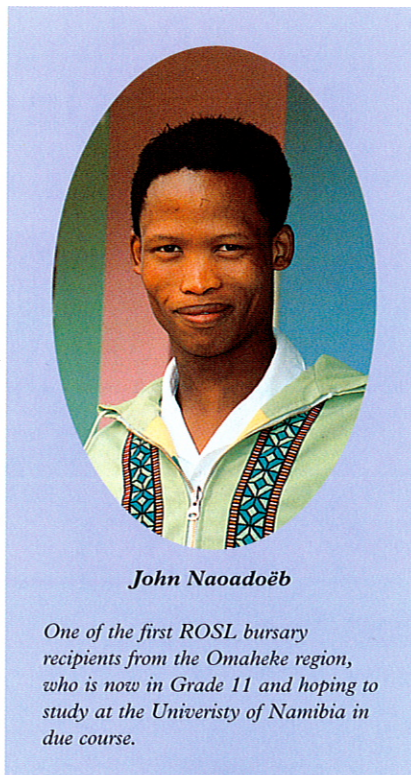
At the invitation of the Ministry of Basic Education and Culture, I visited Namibia in September and stayed with Linda and Dick Chamberlain. Dick is the League's HCS and a key project supporter. The Hon Clara Bohitile, Deputy Minister, arranged for me to visit the schools in the project with Mr Walter Nel, the Chief Inspector of Education (Primary),

and renew acquaintances with Principals, teachers and ROSL bursary recipients.

Since the project is long-term, developments during meetings in Windhoek included support from the University of Namibia for recipients who reach university level; a decision to sponsor donkey carts for younger learners to get to school; an offer by the Indian High Commissioner to fund short training courses in India; and a commitment from the Ministry to help recipients obtain jobs and training through affirmative action schemes.

During a meeting, Ms Bohitile said, "Articles about the project in *Overseas* show that people are taking an interest in the recipients, and this gives them confidence.

We need role models so that other San and farm children can see what can be achieved. Please tell all ROSL supporters how much their help is valued".



John Naadoëb

One of the first ROSL bursary recipients from the Omaheke region, who is now in Grade 11 and hoping to study at the University of Namibia in due course.



Hon Clara Bohitile, Deputy Minister of Basic Education and Culture, who has taken a personal interest in the project since 1995.



Therafina Eiases, right, pictured in her grade 3 class at the Otjivero Primary School.



Petrus Bekkie (Grade 8) and Anna Velskojn (Grade 6) are doing well at Mokaleng Junior School.



New bursary recipient, Elizabeth Ameses, pictured with her mother at Drimiopsis Junior School in September.

The project is greatly indebted to all those who make it work - the Deputy Minister, Inspectors of Education, Principals, ROSL HCS, members, branches and groups, commercial organisations - and of course the hard working bursary recipients who have stayed the course.

Margaret Adrian-Vallance
Director of PR and Development