

rosl-namibia project



The ROSL/Namibia project was established in 1995 with the Ministry of Basic Education and Culture to provide ROSL school bursaries for Bushman and other children living in isolated communities or difficult situations who wanted to gain an education.

A big highlight of 2006 was the success of the recipients – in Gobabis there has been a ROSL head boy or girl at one of the town's secondary schools since 2004, when Ellie Velskoen was elected head girl of Johannes Dohren. Ellie is now an outstanding student at Windhoek College of Education (WCE). In 2005 Petrus Liippula was elected head boy of Mokganedi Tlhabanello and is now studying agriculture. In 2006 Elrico Slinger was elected head boy of Wennie du Plessis Senior Secondary School. Both boys started at Hippo Primary, as did Piet Skoen, now grade 11 at Wennie du Plessis; Christen Abuse, now grade nine at Epako; and Elias Araeb, now year three at WCE.

It was a pleasure to catch up with the ROSL bursary recipients, principals and teachers during a monitoring visit in March. Ellie wanted to thank sponsors not only for financial support but also 'for taking such an interest in how I was doing over the years' and Elrico asked me to pass on the following message: 'Words are not enough to say thank you for everything. It has been an honour to be a ROSL sponsored student. I have worked hard to achieve my goals – ROSL did wonders for me'.

Congratulations are also due to ROSL bursary recipient Cwisa Cwi, the first Bushman to qualify as a teacher, on his promotion to deputy head of Tsumkwe School in the Kalahari. During monitoring visits Cwisa was an invaluable adviser on how best to achieve a balance

between traditional ways and modern life and in 2002 was the first winner of the WCE/ROSL Cup for a student of excellence from a remote area. In 2006 this was won by Himba graduate, Suama Tjankanda from Ruacana.

ROSL also gave funding to the Karacul Weavers School in Swakopmund and three primary schools in isolated areas – Huigub in the north, Katora in the Namib and Okaukuejo near Outjo. Kobus Kaiseb who started at Huigub was in grade eight at Otjikoto Secondary and Mariá Gawises was doing well at Tsintsabis Secondary.

The project is most grateful for the generosity of so many donors during the year.

**Margaret Adrian-Vallance –
Director of PR and Development**

Above: A learner and family on their way to the isolated Katora Primary School at the foot of the Spitzkoppe mountain. Below: Ellie Velskoen pictured at Windhoek College of Education and Elrico Slinger, head boy of Wennie du Plessis Senior Secondary School in Gobabis

