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The Barking Gecko

Newsletter of the NamibRand Nature Reserve

Volume 3, Issue 1

Seventh World Wilderness Congress

Last year the Executive Committee resolved to send the Control Warden to the 7th World Wilderness Congress (WWC) in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, as a delegate to represent the NamibRand Nature Reserve. The congress took place from 2 – 8 November and was attended by hundreds of delegates from all over the world. A strong representation from Namibia, including the Minister of Environment and Tourism, attended the WWC. To save on costs I travelled on my motorcycle and stayed in a B&B.

The wilderness movement had its origin in the USA in the fifties. The term Wilderness has a tremendously wide range of meaning and this came to the fore in the various presentations delivered at the WWC. The international definition of wilderness is: "Large areas of unmodified or slightly modified land, retaining its natural character and influence, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural

condition."

(IUCN 1998) What is most important is that man is not excluded from wilderness, it was created for him to experience and harmonize with nature, experience the solitude it provides and utilize it for non-invasive/destructive recreation. Man should however not stay in wilderness on a permanent basis as he will invariably modify it and through his impact leave permanent scars. In wilderness nature should unimpeded take its course.

Globally there are still many wilderness areas to be found but most lack protection and are endangered. We heard of the great rain forests that are not only threatened by the world population explosion but are marred by roads cut deep into them to get at specific tree species or old giants. Wilderness needs protection and very few countries give it statutory protection, the few ones being the USA, Canada, Australia, Finland and South Africa. In Namibia, as in many other countries, we only

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Our Home Once Called- Wolwedans

Our first introduction to Wolwedans as a family came when Sandra, Jessica and Joshua spent some time with me during the construction of the Lodge. At that stage the thought that we would call Wolwedans home for three years never crossed our minds although Sandra fell in love with the place. Exactly four months from start to finish I dusted the sand off my shoes and departed with no thought of return. Our Heavenly Father took both Sandra and me by surprise when Stephan offered me the managing position at Wolwedans. It'll take more pages than the Barking Gecko has ever printed to tell you all the remarkable events of our Lord's guidance to settle us in at Wolwedans.

Just think, a pale Boertjie, bred Brit with his hands on wood and his head in the heaven to call the shots at Wolwedans., not just Wolwedans, but the flagship of classic lodges and camps in Namibia. The best I ever knew of tourism was being a tourist. Such amazing God given guidance proved to be a solid foundation for many trying moments at Wolwedans, and I look back upon it with profound humility. Such is the Lord's unmerited favour!

As an orchestra can only perform the music the artists have mastered, the soloist is supported by all other musicians, similarly, in all aspects I can only look back on three rewarding and successful years, were it not for a team

of very dedicated and talented persons who afforded me the opportunity to hear the sweet sounds of: "Well Done." The past three years at Wolwedans, and my exposure to other lodges convinced me that there is a rare collection of diamonds sheltered amongst the red dunes of Wolwedans. I don't know if I really had an impact on persons as much as what they all had an im-

(Continued on page 2)

Seventh World Wilderness Congress (contd.)

(Continued from page 1)

have administrative wilderness areas at present. The law to protect these areas is in preparation but has not been passed yet. Proclaimed parks do not safeguard a wilderness area. Powerlines, roads and mining slice up the few undeveloped tracts of land as seen continuously in our country.

One of the objectives of the WWC was to encourage wilderness areas on privately owned lands. In the working session dealing with "Systems and Approaches to Protection" I was given the opportunity to present a paper, (copies on request) introducing NRRR and announcing that we would also set aside land for wilderness. The Horseshoe was previously identified as the most suitable area on NRRR. We

were by no means the only ones to have taken the floor at this occasion. Mr Carl Hilker, who owns some farms at the Waterberg and has donated one to the Cheetah Conservation Foundation, also announced that he would set aside a piece of land as a wilderness area. South African landowners announced more pledges.

It can thus be seen that the WWC was successful in its objectives. For me the week was extremely interesting and rewarding. It has broadened my knowledge and understanding, opened my eyes to the views of local communities on protected areas or wilderness, allowed me to interact with many interesting people and has renewed contact again with old colleagues and friends not seen for decades. I am

grateful to those who gave me the opportunity to attend this international forum. It was an invaluable experience for me and certainly of value to NamibRand as it introduced NamibRand to many who had never heard of it before and showed others that we are involved and committed.

Achim Lenssen

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
★ Next Issue: ★
★ Sincere apologies for the late appearance of this issue! We have made it a bumper issue as a consolation. ★
★ For the next issue, please let us have any articles of interest by mid-July. ★
★ This issue marks the first of the landowner profiles. We would appreciate any suggestions as to possible future subject matter. Please contact the editors in this regard. ★
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Our Home Once Called- Wolwedans (contd.)



pact on me and my walk with my Lord. Oh, how often I came to my shelter and had to confess in prayer, there I've blown it again! Wolwedans taught me the true value of

walking the talk and not talking the walk. May I recount one most memorable encounter? Feeling very down and distressed I took my refuge at the private camp for "routine check". This time I took my bible and asked Sandra to keep the fort for privacy. I'll never forget encountering the Holy Spirit there and Him ministering to me from a well known psalm (psalm 139). The author David, expresses his wonder and awe at God's omniscience and omnipotence by saying:

"How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand."

That's when I looked up into the dunes and saw sand..... Where in the world do you find more sand than at Wolwedans? And that's where The Lord meets me to assure me that the dignity He's bestowed upon His creatures (me) is very real. Try counting sand.

What can I leave for my former colleagues and friends? That which is the story of my life, fly higher, soar like an eagle, God has created you and purposed you with a dignity beyond understanding, higher than your wildest dreams. Don't be a turkey, you'll be roasted.

Jimmy and Sandra Bassingthwaite

.....

happy and productive here.
Achim Lenssen

Conservation and Reserve News

Ringed Lappet-Faced Vulture Found on NamibRand

A lappet-faced vulture chick ringed on 12.10.1996 at Tsondabvlei was found dead at Sandgrouse water on NamibRand by Achim Lenssen on 12.01.2002.

It was 5 years 3 months old and 130 km from Tsondabvlei. The cause of death is unknown. Thanks to Achim for reporting the incident. Other staff please take note and report all vulture deaths immediately.

Peter Bridgeford, Aandster

Staff Changes of NRRR

I cannot even remember whether we reported the resignation of our ranger Eduard Gous in July last year.

With the size of the Reserve now at 180 000 ha and the phasing out of trophy hunting our need for a replacement ranger was not high. What we required was a person to do maintenance and repairs. A vacancy was advertised in the local papers but there was a poor response. We advertised again with more positive results. Koos Erasmus has been appointed as maintenance man from the start of this year. He is single and lives at Toekoms. We hope that he will be

Landowner Profile

Jürgen and Dorothe Klein, Swakopmund, Namibia

Zur Person der Grundeigentümer von DRAAIHOEK INVESTMENTS cc (6476 ha) und TOSKAAN INVESTMENTS cc (7965 ha):

Die Anteilseigner dieser Gesellschaften sind Jürgen und Dorothe Klein, Namibier, seit 43 Jahren verheiratet. Jürgen Klein ist gebürtiger Swakopmunder, seine Ehefrau Dorothe wurde in Krefeld geboren. Sie haben beide die 60 überschritten, sind also im Rentenalter, und haben im Laufe ihres arbeitstreuen Lebens hier in Namibia die Familienbetriebe, die zum Teil schon von den Eltern aufgebaut worden sind, weiter entwickelt.

Noch heute befassen sich diese Unternehmen mit der Salzgewinnung aus Meerwasser und der Weiterverarbeitung zum raffinierten Industrie-, Agrar- und Speisesalz in vielfältigen Körnungen und Verpackungen, wie auch mit der Produktion von naturbelassenem Seevogelguano (auf künstlichen Inseln) und dessen marktgerechter Aufbereitung. Dazu kommt die Auf- und Weiterzucht von Austern in den dafür wie geschaffenen Vorverdunstungsbecken der Salzanlage, einige Farmprojekte und das Betreiben von Finanzgesellschaften. Mittlerweile haben die beiden Söhne die Weiterführung der Familienbetriebe übernommen.

Jürgen Klein führt aus: "Anlässlich eines gemeinsamen Angelausflugs mit Herrn J.A. Brückner, dem Initiator des NamibRand Nature Reserve-

Projekts, kam unsere mögliche Teilhaberschaft an diesem Vorhaben zur Sprache. Es folgte ein Orientierungsbesuch auf dem geplanten Naturschutzgelände selbst, und danach entschlossen wir uns spontan zur Beteiligung."

Die Farmen innerhalb des NamibRand Nature Reserve eignen sich nicht für die kommerzielle Landwirtschaft, nicht einmal zur Erwirtschaftung des eigenen Existenzminimums; sie sind als Naturpark prädestiniert. Die Nutzung des Landes wird der NRNR-Association übertragen, die sie dann an Konzessionäre weiter vergibt.

Diese Regelung befreit den Landeigentümer von allen Lasten einer regulären Farmbewirtschaftung. Er darf aber ein Eigenheim (eine Heimstätte für den eigenen Bedarf) auf der Farm unterhalten und auch das gesamte Areal des NamibRand Nature Reserve ungehindert befahren. Eine idealistische Einstellung zum Naturschutz gehört natürlich dazu, und wir persönlich genießen beispielsweise den Verbleib in einem alten Farmhaus, das von uns bei jedem Aufenthalt dort eigenhändig weiter renoviert wird.

Alles in allem sehen wir unsere Verflechtung mit dem Projekt als beglückende Bereicherung für unseren Lebensabend, als Aufgabe, die mit Idealismus, Naturverbundenheit, einer wundervollen Landschaft und der absoluten Unabhängigkeit vom Trubel des modernen Alltags einhergeht. So freuen wir uns jedesmal aufs Neue, wenn wir den Naturpark aufsuchen und sind uns einig, dass dieses Erleben nicht mit Geld aufzuwiegen ist.

Übrigens, wer sich ebenfalls von die-

sem Gedanken angesprochen fühlt, kann gegenwärtig noch beim NamibRand Nature Reserve mitmachen."

J. Klein



Abridged Translation

Landowners of Draaihoek & Toskaan CC

The owners of these CC's are Juergen and Dorothe Klein who are both in their sixties and have been married for 43 years. They hail from Swakopmund where the family is involved in the salt refinery industry, and ancillary production of seabird guano and oysters.

Mr. J. Klein was invited to become involved with the NRNR project on a fishing trip with founder J.A. Brueckner, and after an orientation visit the Klein's spontaneously decided to invest in the above properties which form part of the holistically managed Nature Reserve.

The arrangement, that the landowner is relieved from the normal operational responsibilities, and subject to the rules of the reserve, requires an idealistic attitude towards nature conservation, and the Klein's are content with renovating their old homestead single-handedly and being allowed to traverse the reserve freely.

All in all they view their participation in the project as an enrichment of their lives – as a combination of commitment and pleasure in a beautiful landscape untouched by the pace of modern day living. That's why they always look forward to the freedom of escaping to the park and are agreed, that this cannot be measured in hard cash.

By the way - anybody who shares their vision is still welcome to join the project.

Translated by Andreas Brückner



Place Names in Use on NamibRand Nature Reserve (Continued)

We all give names to places, prominent points, routes, mountain peaks etc. Why is this done? Simply to communicate more readily with other people and to ensure that they know where to go or where something took place.

It is thus of great advantage if all place names are circulated and become part and parcel of our lives on NamibRand Nature Reserve. This continues the list started in the previous issue of the Barking Gecko.

Stone Henge: Granite boulders protruding from a vast plain on the edge of the dunes on Kwessiegat. These boulders do not have the resemblance to the original Stone Henge but is as much an attraction to guests. Eric's tracks end at these boulders.

Ysterwielnek: This translates to steel-wheel-neck. On the north-western side of Gorrasis there is a passage through the mountains to the endless expanse of the Namib.

The stones in this passage are sharp and many a pneumatic tyre has been deflated here.

The passage was obviously chosen in the days of the iron-shod wheels of ox wagons, it is said.

The Horseshoe: An area surrounded by mountains that have the shape of a horseshoe on Stellarine. The mountains are part of the Gorrasis mountains and this valley has an opening to the east. It has nothing in it and is utilised by Tok Tokkie for hiking trails.

The dune across the entrance of this valley has a spectacular view and is a popular view-point.

Halloween Connection: A route connecting Jagkop with the Keerweder pan. At the base of Jagkop stands a moringa ovalifolia tree that has a hollow trunk with several entrance holes. It resembles a man made Halloween caricature. The track has its beginning at this particular tree.

Weavers Hill: On the northern end of Gorrasis is a hill sandwiched between two tracks used by concessionaires. On the western side a dry river course has many camelthorn trees, some are now dead, and these trees have large sociable weavers nests in them.

Although these birds stay in the plains and are not associated with the hill it does give them protection from the wind. The hill was christened because of the birds.

Zebra Dam: Immediately north of Losberg on Verweg, within view of the Wolwedans entrance road, stands an old farm reservoir. At this dam the Burchells zebra often drink, when they are on the Keerweder/Verweg plains.

(to be continued)

Achim Lenssen, NRRN

Interview with Ralf Herrgott—Wolwedans Chef

When and how did you first hear about Wolwedans?

Ralf: I heard about Wolwedans round about the middle of October 2000, when Stephan Brückner gave me a call, to engage me as the new F/B Chef. I've been to Namibia twice before but had never heard of Wolwedans. So after the phone call I had to look into the Internet to inform myself about the place.

What did you do before you came to NRRN and where did you grow up?

Ralf: I've been working for a five-star-hotel in Cologne for the last two years, in different departments. I grew up in a small city called Tübingen, 60 km south of Stuttgart.

What training did you have and where?

Ralf: Before I started cooking I did

an apprentice in chemical engineering (2 ½ years). Then I did a 3 years apprentice in cooking in a small restaurant. After this training I have been working for smaller places, before I went to Cologne and then to Wolwedans.

What made you decide to take up your current post at Wolwedans?

Ralf: I was very interested in working somewhere outside Germany to get different views of my profession. The reason choosing Namibia as my current place. Come relations to this magnificent country. I've been here before and even part of my family has been living here (Grandfather). The chance to take over a full food and beverage department sounded very challenging, especially because the place is in the middle of nowhere.

What are your duties as the Main

Chef?

Ralf: Preparing well designed lunches and dinners for Lodge, Camp and Private Camp for up to 40 guests. Supervising the preparation of breakfast at all the Camps from time to time. Provide all the necessary items, which are needed to run all the Camps including not only food, but also other things like laundry, housekeeping articles and ordering the correct amount of supplies.

Do you feel you could contribute to Wolwedans as a whole over the past year?

Ralf: I think it was a very good year for me at Wolwedans and good for Wolwedans to have me there.

Are you happy as everything runs at Wolwedans and/or would you like some changes to

(Continued from page 4)
improve the overall picture on
Wolwedans?

Ralf: Obviously there are always some changes to be seen, but all over it is running quite smoothly. I believe this place has already changed dramatically in a very positive way although it has to become more professional without losing its authentic character.

Is loneliness a factor on Wolwedans?

Ralf: I think it is! If you stay too long you might get quite lonely and very eager to see some social life again. I believe most of the people can't stay here forever because you might end up as a stranger. When I first came to Wolwedans, I thought that I could not stay longer than two weeks, but it has already been a year

by now.

What do you do in your free time?

Ralf: I must say, there is hardly any free time available. If I really get some time I rather sleep a little bit longer.

Would you like to see changes for the staff to make life easier, e.g. like TV, a lounge to be able to relax and have contact with fellow staff?

Ralf: I think it would be very good to have a place for the staff to come together and to at least share the lonely place with other fellows. A TV would certainly also help to close the gap between the outside and Wolwedans. We've already discussed these options, but it does not seem to be that easy.

What are your goals for the coming year?

Ralf: I hope I'll be able to get my team ready to stand completely on their own feet, so that I can leave this place with a good feeling to know that they will continue with the good work. I am sure that we've already gone a very long way and improved a lot, but you will never reach the top, there will be always more to come.

If someday you decide to leave Wolwedans, what would you like to do then?

Ralf: I am really quite undecided, but I think I would have to work in another place in Namibia, or South Africa or even anywhere in the world that gives me the same challenge and freedom as at Wolwedans.



Summertime and Water Problems

Winter has passed and spring has appeared
And within no time, the first signs of summer heat.
For man and animal alike there is just one great wish
To have abundance of water to quench their thirst.

The water is pumped to the reservoir and drinking trough
For man and animal to have water enough
But alas just too often it does not reach its destination
And animals wanting to drink, may have bitten the pipe in frustration

It may be a blocked pipe. It may be worse.
There may be a leak somewhere or a pipe that has burst
Whatever the cause, precious water is lost
At times at quite a considerable cost

From morning to night there is just one word on our mind
"Water" - where this time the leak do we find?
At last we are happy, the problem is solved
Just to be told that another problem has evolved

Try as we might the problems with water remain always one step
ahead

And after sunset we mostly feel ever so tired and dead
The only consolation for us on NamibRand is this -
After summer comes winter and this is no myth.

Ursi Lenssen

"GECKO"

"There is a gecko on the
wall - is it blessed?
first no one was there
then one - silence
then another one
suddenly they all were there - now I
feel
at home!!" Hermann Cloete

Near the Sand...

Near the sand, near the sun
in the highest of fields
see our lives are like the waving grass,
streams of white cloud and
whispers of wind,
in the listening sky.

The names of those who in
their lives, fought for life,
who wore at their hearts,
fires' centre.

Born of the sun
they travelled a short while
towards the sun
and left the vivid air
signed with their honour....!

Written on 12.08. 2001 by Hermann
Cloete
For Lutz' funeral.

The Internet and Travel

The Internet may account for one in every four travel purchases in the main generating markets within the next five years, according to a report issued late last year by the World Tourism Organisation Business Council (WTOBC).

Growth in online travel sales has been so rapid compared to other products, that it could also represent nearly half of all e-commerce within the next two to three years.

"Those who choose to ignore e-business or regard it as a peripheral activity do so at their peril," warns WTOBC Chief Executive Officer José

Antonio Ferreiro. "Their major competitors will certainly be exploiting the opportunities it presents to enhance their competitiveness."

From getawaytoafrika.com's web letter.

The good news is that a search for "NamibRand" on the search engine Google recently (25th April) produced about 891 results, in about 0.09 seconds on my computer! This means that the word "NamibRand" is finding its way onto many web pages, either as direct links to our own web sites or as textual references to us, again implying that potential tourists search-

ing the Web for us, do actually end up seeing our web sites.

Mandy Brückner



Tok Tokkie Attends SADC Environmental Education Course

Sometime in December last year, I received a phone call from Graeme Wilson of NEEN (Namibian Environmental Education Network).

Graeme: "You are invited on an EE course in Durban in February next year".

Elinor: "Why?"

Graeme: "Because you want to start an EE Centre."

Elinor: "But I know nothing about EE!"

Graeme: "Exactly, that's why you're going on a course!"

Elinor: "But I haven't got money to fly to Durban!"

Graeme: "But SADC REEP (Regional Environmental Education Programme) and NEEN are paying"

Elinor: "Ok thank you bye."

Lots of phone calls to Sanele Cele of SADC REEP – he wanted my whole history and wanted to know exactly what I was hoping to achieve from the course,..... "What are your strengths, what do you know?" So, what I wanted to achieve – the building up and running of an EE Centre. So far, all I knew was only what I had learnt from other people and Centres in Namibia and SA and Botswana.

Off I fly to a humid, wet, sunless, exciting Durban.

From 12 – 21 February I went on the 8 day SADC REEP (Regional Environ-

mental Education Programme) attachment course held in Durban and Howick. Graeme Wilson from NEEN made this possible so most importantly thanks to NEEN and SADC REEP for making it feasible for me to go. Wow!, is what I can say. It was like going back to Varsity after 15 years of not having to sit still or study. I drove the people in the course mad for the first four days as it was inside all the time and I wasn't getting enough oxygen in my brain – not to mention enough nicotine, so we kept on having to stop and stretch or stop for a smoke break. Marc's comment: Had Elinor stopped smoking before the course, not after; she might have learnt a lot more.

Gebhard from CCF and I were the only two Namibians on the course. Coming from a dry, rainless Namibia to a Durban where we didn't see the sun was a culture shock and I'm sure half the problem was we were suffering from a Vitamin D deficiency!

The first four days of the programme were presented at Treasure Beach EE Centre on the Bluff in Durban. We spent a lot of time learning the theory behind the application of Environmental Education. To what purpose I often wondered, but once we had done the practical application of the theory, I did understand the purpose behind

"Outcomes based education is about teaching schoolchildren a concept, like water saving, by letting them apply it in practice."

the theory. We learnt things like the history of teaching methods in South Africa (also applicable to Namibia), going from a very transmissive teaching style, to a more interactive style – the new buzzword is OBE – outcomes based education. When trying to get certain environmental concepts (water saving for example) across to schoolchildren, it important that they understand the concept and then are able to apply it in their own environment.

The last four days was spent in Howick at Umgeni Valley Education Centre – run and owned by WESSA (Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa). It houses the SADC REEP staff and the Sharenet staff. Sharenet publishes books / pamphlets / games for anybody who has anything to do with EE at cost price. They also, to generate funds, will print/publish anything for the private sector at really good rates.

SADC Environmental Education (contd.)

Here at Umgeni Valley, we worked one on one. For example, Lemogang from the Ministry of Environment in Lesotho, had to bring out a pamphlet that would be distributed in Lesotho, making the public aware of the new Environmental Act/Laws passed in Lesotho. Princess from the Oceanarium education department in Durban wanted to put together a "Treasure Box" which would be used by school children to assist in a fun way in the awareness of marine life. We each had our own computer and had a facilitator who would crit and help with the project.

Elinor's project gave everybody a headache. (Most people's final result was a one or two page pamphlet or brochure. Mine was a 25-page proposal). I had to come up with a proposal to start and run an EE Centre on NamibRand. This is something Marc and I have wanted to do since we

started Tok Tokkie five years ago. Not having a clue about EE, we then spent the next five years educating ourselves. This course was the pinnacle/climax of our education. I sat for many hours with Mumsie Gumede, the project manager at Umgeni Valley. She writes funding proposals for the various projects that WESSA and SADC REEP organise. She really helped me write the proposal and made me aware of certain important points one must remember when writing a proposal, such as your audience.

This proposal needs a bit of refining and will be presented to the Executive Committee of NamibRand at the soonest possible occasion!! Not only did I learn about writing proposals, but also learnt more about the running of a



Centre and the pitfalls and joys of environmental education.

Our next step is to refine a relevant curriculum, programme and resources to go with such a Centre in a desert environment.

Thanks again to NEEN, Graeme and SADC REEP for making it possible to get this far in the development of the NamibRand Desert Awareness Centre. Once this centre is up and running on NamibRand, we will be able to offer similar courses to SADC REEP members.

*Elinor Dürr
For the envisaged
NamibRand Desert Awareness Centre*

People and Places on NamibRand—Ursi Lenssen

Grand Circle Corporation of America owns Aandster.

Peter and Marilyn who live and work there,

A common interest of great worth do share

Peter the Vulture man is well known by now

And Marilyn when asked any little bird can show.

Marc and Elinor reside at Die Duine homestead close to a dune
And on their TokTokkie Trails let people experience nature and during the night a waxing or waning moon.
On every walk Marc is collecting more knowledge about the fauna and flora
With Elinor at home keeping up with the data on her new computer.

Next is the Family Hide-Out on the farm Stellarine
Where Andreas and Mandy have thought up a clever scheme
In order to give townspeople a chance to experience nature as a family or on their own
They had the old farmstead converted it into a second home.

Next we find Gorrasis where the foundations to the present NamibRand

were laid

That Albi and Antje Brückner are its owners need not be said

Being far away from all it is seldom in use

But could easily become a well-known reclusive

Wolwedans by now on the Namibian Maps

There everything started off from scratch.

The man behind all this is Stephan the youngest of the Brückner family
But without his faithful staff, Wolwedans as it is today, would not be.

Keerweder - from here the Reserve is managed with experience and expertise

By Achim the Control Warden who with every problem an answer sees
Ursi his wife does everything a man does not like to do,
The office, the butchery, a shop and caring for the sick and injured too.

Mrs Berker the owner of the farm Kwessiegat has rented her place to a concessionaire
So Eric and Nancy have started desert ballooning there

They have two employees Andre and Paul who reside at Camp Mwisho as the place is now known
Where to the tourist, NamibRand from above, in a balloon is shown.

The Klein's of Swakopmund own Draaihoek and Toskaan
Have renovated one house on the farm
Here they visit to get away from it all
But when it becomes too hot, the cool air in Swakopmund does beckon and call

The owner of Vreemdelingspoort is Conservation Corporation Africa
With the Sossusvlei Mountain Lodge an upmarket accommodation by far
Here one is spoilt with cool rooms even in the worst of heat
A tiny swimming pool, a planetarium and a library where one can retreat

Only a few people are mentioned, although ever so many on NamibRand reside
Who work and who care and manage the place with pride
All those living and working here a lasting impression do make
On many a tourist who enjoy being shown around from morning to late.

Newsletter of the
NamibRand Nature Reserve

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"The wildlife of today is not ours to
dispose of as we please. We have it in
trust and must account for it to those
who come after us."

Dune-boarding Near the Hideout
by Tanya Brückner (aged 6):

*"There are meercats and I like the meercats and
there are foxes and I like the foxes"*

Website:
www.namibrand.com

*They of Meercats and I like The Meercats
and the of foxes and I like The foxes
Tanya 2002 APR 12*

