

# Z.P.G.A.

Official Newsletter of the Zimbabwe Professional  
Guides Association



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**ETHICS ARE EVERYTHING!**

# DOUBLE STANDARDS?

BY JOHN LAING

It will not come as a surprise to many reading this newsletter that Zimbabwe is losing millions of dollars to illegal fishing every year. Right away, in our minds, we have images of a wooden dugout or makoro with two men throwing filament nets out into the water. These are sights that we, in the conservation world, see only too often.

As far as I can make out there are three motivations for poaching; food, cultural and economic. When food is scarce, fish poaching by traditional hunters has been known to increase in order to eat. Now, I am against fish poaching for sure and I have personally pulled out around 600km of “illegal nets” during 2021, BUT within all these nets I did not find one fish. That to me was and is a surprise - not one fish!

There is a more sinister issue that we do not often recognise, or discuss. Whilst considering how to tackle conventional fish poaching my thoughts went to several photographs of a “legal” hall where fishermen showcased a tarpaulin covered in fresh water fish, an afternoons hall that could have fed a traditional fisherman’s family for several months. Ignoring the rules and laws set out, a maximum of three rods per person, exceeded. Five fish per person per day, exceeded. Catch and release, ignored.

Along the Zambezi and Kariba many small-scale fishers have been left out of receiving fishing quotas, and this left them with no legal way of accessing the resources they depend on for survival and many bona fide fishers have seen themselves losing out on obtaining fishing permits, yet Kariba at night is nothing short of a city with the lights from Kapenta rigs over-fishing the lake.

So what we are saying is that both “illegal” and “legal” fisherman in many cases are basically doing the same thing, poaching. What is poaching by definition? Taking something that does not belong to you without permission to do so... That is food for thought indeed. But does this make poaching okay? Is it worth losing, or depleting our freshwater resources, breadwinners going to prison, and the money that is meant to build the economy to the black market?

With poachers having their “valid” reasons as to why they embark on this activity, it is not rocket science that this has a terrible effect on the environment and fishing communities.

Fish poaching is unquestionably bad: it has certainly lowered stocks and contributed to the rise of a range of social ills – gangsterism, turf wars, drug addiction and other undesirable by-products of the black market.

Poachers face many risks including being arrested and being fatally wounded whilst on the water, crocodile and hippo attacks are always a risk. This can result in families losing their bread winners and, in some cases, acquiring a loan, thus getting into debt, to try and get this person out of prison.

Over-fishing of any species that poaching contributes to, has a significant impact on the ecosystems in which poached animals live. Poaching does not only have terrible effects on animals, but it poses risks to the food security and livelihoods of many fisher communities.



In order to combat poaching by both the “legal” and “illegal” fisherman there needs to be a better fisheries policy implemented and checked, that will provide a framework for fishing that supports livelihoods as well as protects the environment.



WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR INTERESTING  
STORIES. IF YOU HAVE A CONSERVATION  
RELATED SPORY, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH  
US AT:

[MARKETING@ZPGA.ORG](mailto:MARKETING@ZPGA.ORG)



# Why Do Roads Corrugate?

BY LARRY GEDNEY

Washboard roads are a bane to travelers worldwide. This includes, of course, Zimbabwe, where the options for getting away from it all would be limited indeed if gravel roads are excluded from one's itinerary.



Corrugations that produce washboard roads are not limited to those with sand or gravel surfaces, but are also found in asphalt pavements and even in railroad tracks, although on a less severe scale.

It would seem that such a common phenomenon should be readily understood and explainable, but the fact is that the process which produces them was a subject of controversy among engineers for many years. One of the most popular theories was that a tire, even as it rolls, pushes material ahead of it in a heap. Once the pile reaches a certain size, the tire rolls over it and starts the process again. As it developed, this is incorrect.

The January 1963 issue of Scientific American contains an article by Dr. Keith B. Mather, now Vice Chancellor for Research and Advanced Studies at the University of Alaska, which puts the matter to rest once and for all.

Working at the University of Melbourne, Mather observed that vehicles passing over the unsurfaced roads of Australia's "outback" did not produce dust uniformly even on uncorrugated roads, but rather in little spurts arising from rapid bouncing of the wheels.

This led to the construction of a laboratory apparatus which would permit the observation of wheel and road interactions under controlled conditions. The first experiments utilized a five-inch wheel mounted on the end of a shaft which pivoted about the center of a sand track 24 inches in diameter. Locomotive forces were provided by pushing the arm around the track with a finger. Unexpectedly, this soon produced little corrugations several inches apart in the sand.

Encouraged by these results, Mather then proceeded to construct a somewhat more elaborate system equipped with a variable speed electric motor, which drove the axle, a spring-mounted wheel and a revolution counter. Parameters such as weight, size of wheel and stiffness of spring were made independently adjustable.

Among the more significant findings were that:

If the wheel moves slowly, no corrugations were formed, but a deep rut instead; it did not matter whether the wheel was driving or idling, at sufficient speeds, washboarding occurred; the trough-to-trough distances between ruts increased linearly with increasing speed; and sand was not pushed ahead of the wheel and then overridden to begin another cycle, as had been commonly believed.

The most important contribution to understanding washboarding lay in the observation of how the corrugations are actually formed. When the wheel reaches a certain critical speed, it begins to move in short hops, bounding on random irregularities of the surface. Hitting an obstacle, even a small one, propels the wheel into the air for a certain distance. When it lands further down the track, it sprays sand forward and to the side, thus creating the beginning of a crater. Each time it digs itself in at a crater it has to ride out again and thus repeats the pattern. If traffic were to move at widely diversified speeds, different "hop-lengths" might tend to cancel each other out, but depending on road conditions, all traffic tends to travel in a rather closely constrained speed range, thus compounding the problem with each successive vehicle.

Corrugated roads would be all but eliminated if people followed three simple rules. First, they must lower their tire pressures (hard tires corrugate roads faster), second, they must be willing to travel at lower speeds, and third engage 4x4 this significantly assists in lessening corrugations on sand roads.



# A couple of ways travellers can cut their carbon footprint

BY JOHN LAING

For those of us whom are reliant on travellers arriving from all corners of the globe by way of aircraft, have you ever sat back and thought about how travel contributes to carbon emission? As conservationist on the ground, we all have a part to play and perhaps we should start looking at our own environment policies and assist our eco-conscious travellers, all of whom should too be concerned about their environmental footprint. Together Guides and Operators can take tangible and impactful steps to reduce carbon emissions in the lead up to, whilst and after our guests return from their holiday of a life time.

Here are a couple ways we can all get started:

**Travel with trust:** When looking for a place to stay our guest should be looking for accommodations that utilize various sustainability standards. This may include booking with and through facilities that use renewable energies and facilities that are striving to reduce waste in all aspects of their operations.

**Travel light:** Just like at home, travelling is an opportunity to think carefully about what is consumed and how. For instance, one could minimize the use of the mini toiletries at places of accommodation, most of which are being phased out now anyway. One could take steps to reduce your overall water footprint by opting for “green choice” programs to reuse towels and sheets during your stay. Better yet we should encourage guests to leave a note saying they would like to see more package-free, sustainable purchasing in all of the accommodation operations!

**Travel small:** Whether flying, on the ground, or in your room, small is generally better. Most of our guests must fly in order to get to Africa but here is a thought - have we ever considered that flying economy is a better carbon savings than business class? To and from the international airports, think about taking a train or bus, these are more environmentally friendly than a car (taxi, ride-hailing, or otherwise), or perhaps if a car is required, booking a small hybrid, or ideally an electric vehicle (EV) would be better.

**Travel regeneratively:** concepts like carbon offsetting can be complex, but the principle behind them is simple: if we cannot avoid certain negative impacts in what we do, we must always search for ways to mitigate those impacts. To be fair, there are many valid and varied critiques of carbon offsets and other mechanisms like them. However, so long as air travel and other environmentally significant travel are options that cannot be avoided, perhaps our clients could and should be suggesting to their employer the possibility of purchasing carbon offsets as a meaningful way to help repair some of the damage travel inflicts while their employees go away on holiday.

Many travellers to Africa are starting to explore ways to embed sustainable travel in both their individual and organizational practises and we invite you - the reader - to reach out to your own guests with any ideas and suggestions. Better yet, use your conscientious travel as an opportunity to spark a conversation about developing a sustainable travel policy.

In the end, the climate crisis and environmental challenges around the world require both individual and collective action. We all are privileged, connected and prominent leaders. We cannot wait for policies or procedures to be in place before we start mobilizing for change, but rather, we can and must leverage our positions in society to create the baseline of expectations for living in balance with the planet. As the old saying goes, we must be the change we wish to see in the world.







## A Dream of Yesterday: Human History in the Matobo Hills - Part 2 BY PAUL HUBBARD

### Colonisation and Re-imagination - From Danger to Delight

The Ndebele kingdom was conquered in late 1893, which brought the Matobo Hills under colonial influence for the first time. The area was of little interest to the whites until the war of 1896, known locally as the Umvukela, or Uprising. After being cruelly maltreated by the colonial administration, the Ndebele people and their allies attempted to wrest their independence from the whites by force of arms. After a series of attacks and raids in and around Bulawayo, the fighting moved to the Matobo Hills in July where it entered its bloodiest phase. Several skirmishes and battles saw hundreds of casualties, losses that convinced Cecil Rhodes and the Ndebele leadership that it was time to seek peace amidst the savage stalemate.

The first meeting between Rhodes and the Ndebele leadership took place on 21 August, 1896, on the eastern fringe. It resulted in a ceasefire being agreed and Rhodes agreeing to stay until a lasting peace was achieved. At this time, the rugged Matobo Hills were regarded by the whites as a place filled with danger and death, with the enemy potentially lurking in any of the rocky outcrops. It was Rhodes, owing to his extended stay in the Matobo Hills, travelling through there for nearly three months, meeting the Ndebele, cajoling and convincing them to accept a peace deal, that was to change the attitudes of the new rulers of the land.

Rhodes fell in love with the Matobo Hills for a variety of reasons — the natural beauty, his diplomatic achievements with the Ndebele, its agricultural and tourism potential and not least the egotistical desire to replace Mzilikazi as 'the spirit of the land' by planning his burial on a peak with a magnificent view. Rhodes bought a great deal of land in the area, partially as an investment and, additionally, to provide many Ndebele people, former 'rebels', a place to live in peace, but where they could be monitored. Rhodes's funeral on 10 April, 1902, fundamentally changed the future of the Matobo Hills. It brought the area to an international prominence that it has now lost, while it spurred the development of tourism to an unprecedented degree, originally only matched by Victoria Falls and Great Zimbabwe.

With Rhodes firmly ensconced in the Rhodesian national psyche as the founding father, a visit to his tomb was a necessity for every white citizen, especially new immigrants. The burial of the ill-fated Allan Wilson Patrol in a huge mausoleum in 1904, the burial of Leander Starr Jameson (Rhodesia's first Administrator) in 1920 and Charles Coghlan (Rhodesia's first Prime Minister) in 1930 added to the lustre of the Matobo Hills as a site of identity and pilgrimage. Early developments for the convenience of visitors included building a railway line into the area, the construction of two small hotels, access roads and camping sites and the production of tourist literature, including the magnificent guide book by Eric Nobbs in 1924, later revised by Robert Tredgold in 1956. Several dams were also built as leisure spots, unusual in parched Matabeleland. Much of this development was initially funded or overseen by the Rhodes Trust, established in Rhodes's will to act as a benevolent caretaker for his beloved properties. The Trust would later devolve all of its responsibilities in the Matobo Hills to focus only on the scholarships, and today is a non-entity in the management of the area. Initially there was a great deal of interest in preserving the character of the Matobo Hills, not least because of a misplaced affection for Rhodes' personal connection to the area. As a consequence, the seeds of unease, between people living in the area, and those wishing to preserve it in a 'natural, pristine state' were planted.

In the imagination of most visitors to the Matobo Hills after 1896, the scenery was transformed from a place of danger and deception, to one of delight and beauty. The landscape began to be tamed, from its wild past to one more parklike, suited to modern sensibilities. There was however, also a growing spiritual connection to the Matobo Hills among the different white societies too, not least because of the spectacular scenery and the feeling of peace and serenity many sought away from town. Several monuments glorifying the recent history of the Matobo area were created by the colonial authorities. The Memorable Order of Tin Hats (MOTH) shrine, a memorial to remember all Zimbabwean servicemen and women who answered the Sunset Call, in war and peacetime, was opened in 1947, after an attempt to build it at View of the World was rejected by the authorities. The Mangwe Pass Memorial, commemorating early travellers who entered Matabeleland via the western Matobo Hills, was unveiled in 1954. A slew of National Monuments were declared including old forts, painted caves, everything affiliated to the memory of Cecil John Rhodes and Mzilikazi's Grave. Such proclamations were intended to protect these historical sites, but were also used as a means to assert control over such heritage and legitimise their presence in the area.

So many visitors to the Matobo Hills acted as a pleasant goad to research into all aspects of the natural world, as well as the archaeology and history. Many researchers, often from the Bulawayo Museum, would ride out to the Hills for a long weekend of investigation, returning to the city to present their findings to their peers at the Rhodesia Scientific Association. Such brief research visits led to bigger projects and the Matobo Hills became one of the best studied regions in the country, most especially in the archaeological sphere. The first scientific excavation in Zimbabwe took place at Bambata Cave, which when it was published in 1919, became one of the first studies of a stratified shelter in southern Africa. The rock art of the Matobo Hills is the best studied in the country while the Stone Age sequence discovered here formed the basis for region for many years. Several new species of plants and invertebrates were discovered here and many other vertebrate species were the focus of long-term studies which revealed much about their ecology and behaviour, including white rhino, sable, hyrax (dassies), the Verreaux's (Black) Eagle, duiker and other small antelopes. Consequently, the Matobo Hills were revealed as a place of ecological and historical wonder, worthy of protection and conservation.

#### Remaking Reality for Recreation, Revenue and Religion

After four years of widespread pegging of land for farms, in 1903, the Administrator, William Milton issued a standing instruction that no further farms were to be allocated in the Matobo Hills. This was followed by over twenty years of disagreement between the government who wanted to maintain the character of the area and settlers who simply wanted land. In 1926, following a visit by the Duke of Abercorn to the area in 1919, and the tireless work of the Director of Agriculture, Dr Eric Nobbs, the whole of the unalienated portion of the Matobo Hills was declared a reserved area, later a National Park in 1930. A future for the hills now seemed assured.

The human population resident in the Matobo area was always a concern for conservationists, who found their champion in the form of the Irrigation Department who took over management of the Park in 1944 and immediately began a programme to remove 'surplus' people and livestock from the area under the guise of preserving the natural environment. Understandably, this created a great deal of tension, mistrust and hostility, which has lasted until the present day. With the proclamation of the National Park in 1963, 38% of the area was alienated for the purposes of wildlife protection, restoration of the natural environment for the enjoyment of visitors, and to a lesser extent to protect part of the northern watershed of the Limpopo River. This created a bitter legacy that fuelled the early nationalist movement in Matabeleland.





Faced with widespread eviction from the area, as well as a potential culling of their cattle, many communities in the Matobo Hills began to actively resist the demands of the colonial authorities. Many people chose to quietly support the guerrilla forces in the area, offering food and shelter when necessary, and many people left the area to actively join the revolution. Once the liberation struggle began in earnest in the 1970s, The Hills became a stronghold from which the freedom fighters would hide from the authorities, or gain breathing space to plan and launch several attacks. No major battles took place in the area in the war of the 1970s, partially because of the lack of strategic targets and the fact that the area was heavily protected as a tourist resource. Nonetheless, Rhodes's Grave was petrol-bombed at least once, while fencing was destroyed or stolen and general vandalism in the area of the park was increased.

With independence in 1980, many assumed that the government would heed their calls for the area of the Park to be returned to the status of Communal Lands, available for resettlement, especially once the Land Tenure Act was repealed. The authorities declined to take this action, and instead reaffirmed the protected status of the National Park as an essential tourism and conservation resource. Such concerns faded, however, because the entire area became a battleground as the national army was deployed in Operation Gukurahundi to deal with the so-called 'dissident problem' which resulted in unprecedented violence and loss amongst the communities in the Matobo Hills.

Today, many people recall the torture camps and mourn at sites of atrocities as the political establishment used the violence to settle political scores and eventually establish a one-party state. In recent years, with the partial freeing of the political space in Zimbabwe, private organisations and individuals have begun marking mass graves, not without controversy and fear of reprisals.

The effects of this orgy of violence, went largely unrealised or appreciated in the eyes of tourists and conservationists. The Matobo Hills needed to be reinvented to assure their protection in the future. The first nomination to the World Heritage List took place in 1982 but the attempt failed, owing to a lack of compliance with the criteria. The Matobo Hills were once again considered for World Heritage Status in 1995 with the recognition of the concept of intangible heritage and also the fact that cultural and natural factors could be combined. The hills were deemed to be both a natural and cultural site, "significant not only to Zimbabwe but also to the people of northern Botswana and Transvaal region of South Africa". The nomination was approved in early 2003 and the Matobo Hills was inscribed on the World Heritage list later that year. It matched criteria (iii), (v) and (vi) of the World Heritage Convention. Today the landscape is protected by a multitude of international conventions, local laws, and watchdog NGOs, few of which make the effort to include the knowledge and efforts of the local people in securing the future of the hills. This seems set to change as education about their rights and abilities has unlocked the desire of many to take a more active role, with the goal of balancing conservation with income generation, for a better life.

Arguably, the Matobo Hills began to be treated as a commodity by the authorities and residents from the 1990s as struggles for control of, and, benefits from, the area became more open and concrete. By 1995, seven safari lodges & numerous campsites were competing for tourist attentions. Visitors, according to the glossy brochures, were attracted to the area by the rock formations, the good chance of locating endangered rhino, a plethora of rock art and the history and culture, most notably the grave of Cecil John Rhodes at Malindidzimu. There were over 140,000 visitors in 1998, of which 70,500 were internationals. Entry fees for all visitors to the National Park were introduced in the early 1990s and for View of the World in 1997 and the money rolled in. Commercial grass cutting by members of the local community was begun around 1990, following the re-introduction of commercial hay baling in the late 1980s. A variety of other fees and fines were introduced by the authorities in charge of the National Park, most of which placed access to, and use of the park beyond the reach of the local peoples.







Zimbabwe's disastrous economic and political turmoil began in 2000, with the illegal seizure of white-owned land and assets, followed by another wave of violence targeting opposition supporters. The economy collapsed, donors fled and all commodities were in short supply. The tourism industry in the Matobo Hills collapsed to a low of 18,000 visitors in 2007, most of whom were day-tripping locals. Many lodges closed and most affiliated businesses, notably the curio industry, declined to almost invisible levels.



Poaching — of timber, wildlife, medicinal plants and thatching grass — skyrocketed as people scrambled to make use of the wild oasis in the midst of their suffering. Between 2000 and 2010, news reports highlight the decline of the park, noting the poaching of the large ungulate population in the National Park by the surrounding communities, as well as hunting by National Parks employees for rations, and to get meat to sell to supplement their meagre wages. Theft of fence wire for making snares or for sale as scrap metal aided the poacher's cause. Recurrent droughts exacerbated a decline in the biodiversity of the area, notably in the rural farmlands. The Park became deserted and the local community began to move in, informally reclaiming ancestral lands, notably in the east.



The Matobo Hills are undergoing somewhat of a revival in recent years, starting with projects aimed at stabilising the rhino and avian populations, while actively involving the local people in such conservation efforts. New research projects have been started by individuals and organisations, bringing new technology to old questions in both the cultural and ecological worlds. Tourism has picked up again, and although a far cry from its heyday, is recording respectable numbers, bringing valuable investment into the area. Progress is being made on controlling the worst of the ecological worries, including removing invasive lantana plants, and rehabilitating lands lost to erosion and mismanagement. A project to document and promote the beautiful architecture and hut painting in the Matobo Hills named My Beautiful Home was created in 2014 and has brought the area to international prominence. There is always more to do but there has been positive progress.



The Kalanga call the Matobo Hills mabwe adziva, “the stone of the pool,” praising the area as “the stone from which the rain comes”. This metaphor does apply to the weather, but in addition, it can mean much more. In parched Matabeleland, rain is life, and the Matobo Hills, with its long history has been home to life in all its myriad forms for uncounted time. There is a sense of life lived well here that, if one takes the time to listen to the wind, feel the warmth of the rocks and to be content to simply be, often brings peace and acceptance into one's own life, a spiritual serenity that is truly precious. The rocks may talk, but they listen too.





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Minimum purchase of 6 bottles

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Borrowdale Racecourse, Harare

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Mobile: 0780 054 383



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Email: [norbert@threechoirs.co.zw](mailto:norbert@threechoirs.co.zw)







## Z.P.G.A. Diary

[www.zpga.org/zpga-events](http://www.zpga.org/zpga-events)

### SEPTEMBER 2021

- Wed 1st - Fri 3rd - Harare Advanced First Aid Training
- Fri 3rd - National Clean-up day
- Wed 8th - Fri 10th - Victoria Falls Advanced First Aid Training
- Fri 10th - Last date for Learners Registration
- Wed 15th - Fri 17th - Bulawayo Advanced First Aid Training
- Sun 19th - Shooting Proficiency (#3 Harare)
- Mon 20th - Bulawayo Oral Interviews
- Tues 21st - Bulawayo Learners Exams
- Wed 22nd - Bulawayo Learners Exams
- Thurs 23rd - Marking of Papers

### NOVEMBER 2021

- Mon 1st - Sun 7th - Proficiency Exam
- Thurs 11th - Fun for Rhino (Multiple sports event)
- Mon 15th - Fri 19th - Pan African Ornithological Congress Victoria Falls
- Sat 27th - BLZ Big Birding Day

### DECEMBER 2021

- Sat 4th - National Tree Planting Day
- Sat 11th - AGM & Safari Dinner (Bulawayo) **Provisional**



Members will receive discounted rates on production of a valid Z.P.G.A. member's card

Participating companies include:

- Autoworld 4x4
- A.P. & L. Workwear
- Barons Motor Spares
- Courteney Boot Company
- Four Wheels Auto
- Pro 4x4
- Safari Canvas
- SAF Bar
- Shearwater Victoria Falls
- Shongwe Lookout
- The Orange Elephant
- Tiger Wheel & Tyre
- Toyota Zimbabwe Pvt Ltd
- Trophy Consultants International (TCI)
- Widency Upholstery

If you would like to see your company name listed here please contact [secretary@zpga.org](mailto:secretary@zpga.org)

**Ethics Are Everything!**





## CUSTODIANS - A CHOICE

By Paul Stones Exco member 2021

In all industries it is always good to have choice. It matters not what your choice is, as long as the fundamentals that embody the industry in question are at the core of that choice.

Professional Hunting is an industry that in a sense is dissimilar to most run of the mill industries. For in most industries there are fundamentals that drive that particular industry and they are by and large based on economics, business ethics, public service and their frame works are far easier to manage and to control, nor are they scrutinised to uphold the high standard that Professional hunting is required to uphold. This is primarily driven due to the nature of what professional hunting comprises of and that is the taking of life of a wild animal, an act that does not sit well with many of those that are oblivious to the positives it drives as a building block in the world of conservation.

Professional hunting has to meet very different challenges, although similarities will obviously be there, it is a far more complex industry to manage and to acquire the same "brand" familiarity, social acceptance, trust and the largest and single most difficult task that lays before us, convincing the general public that what we do, is a conservation driven industry and that the future of most of Africa's wildlife biodiversity hinges on our actions and our actions alone.

Custodians of Professional Hunting and Conservation - South Africa, was born out of the knowledge of what we needed to do to help place our industry at the forefront of conservation hunting and why we needed a choice within an already established industry here in South Africa.

Custodians was not created overnight, over many years a number of like-minded individuals ran with a mantra that they needed to be different. It was not a case of being "better than" it was a case of being open minded to the changes that we were seeing globally. It was a known fact that hunting was getting attacked by many, often those whom were ignorant and not necessarily anti-hunting minded. The attacks became far more concentrated and in all this, social media was born. This changed the way people acted, it suddenly exposed that which was wrong and often that which was right and yet portrayed as something evil, to millions of people in one single click of a button. We were losing the fight for what we knew was the only way African wildlife could survive and that was through controlled, regulated, conservation hunting.

"Thank you to Corneli Claassen for the hours spent proof reading our articles and her continued help in ensuring a quality newsletter"

– John Laing on behalf of the Z.P.G.A. –



Change was imminent and to do this we needed choice and the choice was to create a second professional hunting association, one that recognised two critical ingredients - the first being that something legal, does not necessarily equate to something right and the second was to enable dialogue with those that were regarded as our arch enemies. We knew that these two fundamental drivers would enable the overall professional hunting industry to benefit and to grow. Without them, we would remain an island surrounded by hate, mistrust and an anti-hunting sentiment that would only grow.

On the 6th December 2017 a collection of like-minded men and women met in Fourways, Johannesburg. It was the inaugural meeting of what would become Custodians. On that day a new professional hunting association was born.

As we look back over the fledgling years, Custodians is making its mark in the world of professional hunting, our membership is approaching the 200 mark. It was never the desire to become the largest association in an industry that is so multi-faceted but to become a voice of reason, responsibility, to have an active membership which will always supersede numerical lethargy and to create partnerships with those that in a different time would have gladly seen the back of us. So too to create and build, not to divide. Certain changes were required and yet we firmly and unwaveringly needed to stand by all that drove the fundamentals that are the core of professional hunting. Custodians will always reach out and work with all professional hunting, amateur hunting associations and conservation bodies that share our vision in the quest for the security of biodiversity within South Africa and abroad.

Over the short years that Custodians has been in existence, we are a financially sound and respected association around the world. We have engaged with those that we once could not, our recent acceptance into the membership of SATSA (Southern African Tourism Services Association) bears testimony to shift in attitude towards professional hunting. Custodians will build on this and ensure that we honour our mission statement and ensure that our code of conduct is adhered to in every way possible. The responsibility that comes with membership is understood and proudly defended.

Noteworthy events that have helped shape Custodians in our short yet eventful history is:

The contribution certain members made on the High-Level Panel report reviewing policies and regulations on hunting trade, captive keeping, management and handling of elephant, lion, leopard and rhino.

An invitation from The Conservation Lab for a first ever debate with the photographic tourism industry held at Spier in the Western Cape, was a highlight in our initial dealings with those whom decried our past, followed up by an invite to attend the following year was met with huge support, these engagements lead to new relationships that we build on today.

A campfire chat between an Exco member and certain board members of SATSA at their annual general meeting led to the acceptance of membership with SATSA sometime later.

The acceptance of membership to the TBCSA (Tourism Business Council of South Africa)

A recent meeting arranged by Custodians to improve ties and future commitments between OPHAA and SCI was a huge success.

The first Professional Hunting Association to offer apprenticeship programmes to its members.

The attendance by members and the financial support to Custodians over 3 AGM events needs to be mentioned. In times like we have never seen before, our membership came to the plate in numbers and contributions. We thank all.

As 2021 comes to a close, we look back on a year, or more the has had and still holds, massive repercussions for our industry across Africa. If ever there was a time to move forward with relationships, it is now. The divisions of the past need to be buried and common ground needs to be tilled into fertile pastures for the sake of our wildlife heritage and the combined African biodiversity that is under threat through lack of travel and tourism. The various building blocks of conservation need cement between them and now is the time for like-minded bodies to unite like never before. As Custodians of Professional Hunting and Conservation - South Africa, we reach out to all in good faith and with a vision for #ONEVOICEFORCONSERVATION



# MEMBERSHIP

## Membership Status

It's a collaborative effort

### Z.P.G.A. Members Breakdown by Qualification



Number of Members	Qualification
36	ASSOCIATE
2	CONSERVATION PARTNER
29	CUBS
48	FULL PG
138	FULL PH
5	LIFE MEMBER
69	LPH LICENSE
6	RESTRICTION
3	SERVICE PROVIDER

Tuesday, 24 August 2021

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The Z.P.G.A. webpage was launched on 20th April 2021 and forms part of our Membership Marketing Strategy. We aim to list all of our members and also their specialties.

[www.zpga.org](http://www.zpga.org)

Our members will also have an additional option of being showcased for a nominal administration fee per membership year.

In order to achieve both, we have come up with some fun, easy to follow logos that we will use for each guiding activity.

"CAN YOU REALLY AFFORD NOT TO BE A MEMBER?"





## Banana banoffee

BY ANNA MALAN

An absolutely decadent banana-toffee pie, recreated after a trip to Camp Hwange. This is a fairly common dessert throughout Safari camps, with layers of banana, gooey caramel, and whipped cream on a crumb crust. It's very sweet, so a small piece goes a long way! The cooking time may seem long, but that is simply the condensed milk caramelizing on the stove. Top with chocolate curls if desired.

Here is what you need and how to prepare the perfect banoffee:

- 1 pkt digestive biscuits, crush them and add about 4 tbs melted butter.
- Press it down into a Pyrex or flan tin. Put in fridge.
- Boil a Tin of condensed milk in a pot of water for 3 hours to make the cooked caramel
- Slice bananas thickly and place them on the biscuit base. Cover the bananas with the cooked caramel and then add another layer of sliced banana, cool in fridge

There are two ways that you could serve your perfect banoffee pie, you can add a thick layer of whipped cream on top, slice and cut it into wedges and serve....or and this is the best way, eat the whole lot and tell everyone that you dropped the pie on the floor...make sure there is no incriminating cream around your mouth before you have that chat!





# Members Photo Galary:

HERE IS TO MAKING TRAVEL EASIER

The national flag of Zimbabwe is made up of five different colours: green, gold, red, black and white. Officially, the colours of the flag of Zimbabwe carry political, regional, and cultural meanings. Green represents the agriculture and rural areas of Zimbabwe. Yellow stands for the wealth of minerals in the country, predominantly gold. The red symbolises the blood shed during the first and second Chimurenga (wars in the "struggle for independence". The black indicates the heritage, race and ethnicity of the black majority.

The white triangle is a symbol for peace. The golden bird, known as the "Great Zimbabwe Bird" (Hungwe) is the national symbol of Zimbabwe and is most likely a representation of the African fish eagle. It "exemplifies the strong bond that ancestral humans had with animals, nature and spiritual guides" and it is treated with a high level of importance and respect. The red star represents the nation's aspirations, taken to be socialism as promoted by the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union – Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF), and whose party flag was used as the basis for the flag of the nation.



## Travel to Zimbabwe

The regulations with regard to Tourists arriving in Zimbabwe by air remain unchanged and are as follows:

- A PCR negative certificate issued within 48 hours of departure for Zimbabwe should be presented on arrival
- Tourists arriving will be required to fill out a travel history document to hand in at immigration
- Tourists will be temperature checked on arrival and any arrivals presenting symptoms of COVID-19 will be required to take a PCR test at their own cost. Only if they test positive will they be taken to a quarantine centre and required to quarantine at their own cost.





## Contact Us

### SHOULD YOU REQUIRE ANY INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE

The Z.P.G.A. committee is here to assist you. To enable us to answer your questions in a timely manner, please would you firstly contact Jenny VAN DEN BERGH on [secretary@zpga.org](mailto:secretary@zpga.org) and request to be put in touch with one of the following sub-committees and the relevant committee member will gladly assist you.

Below you will find the various sub-committees, a short description of what their role and function is and a contact email address should you want to get in touch.

- Z.P.G.A. – Chairman Rob LURIE - [chairman@zpga.org](mailto:chairman@zpga.org)
- Z.P.G.A. – Vice Chairman John LAING
- Z.P.G.A. – Legal & Ethics - Pete FICK - [legal@zpga.org](mailto:legal@zpga.org)
  - Guiding Code of Conduct
- Z.P.G.A. – Finance - Rob LURIE - [finance@zpga.org](mailto:finance@zpga.org)
  - All payment issues
- Z.P.G.A. – Marketing & Advertising - John LAING - [marketing@zpga.org](mailto:marketing@zpga.org)
  - All branding Membership Cards
  - Membership Discounted Rates Initiative
  - Fundraising
- Z.P.G.A. – Education Training - David CARSON - [education@zpga.com](mailto:education@zpga.com)
  - Study Packs
  - RIFA & SAVE Valley Conservancy initiatives
  - Devil's Gorge Conservancy training program
- Z.P.G.A. – Research - Wayne Van Den BERGH - [research@zpga.org](mailto:research@zpga.org)
  - Ensure compliance with trophy off-take in terms of ethics as well as sustainability
  - Cat ageing & Research
  - Attendance to & at quota setting workshops
  - Assistance with any NDF requirements that may come up from time to time
- Z.P.G.A. – Awards - Duncan WATSON - [awards@zpga.org](mailto:awards@zpga.org)
  - To discuss and agree what awards shall be current or pertinent to the industry
  - To look at and agree end of year award nominees
- Z.P.G.A. – A.G.M. & Dinner - Tan BLAKE (2021)

" We would also like to advise our members that we understand mistakes do happen from time to time. If you find yourself in an impossible situation please do call your Executive Committee and ask for advice.

Several stories have recently emerged regarding members where "had they raised the issue" a completely different result may have been the order of the day."



Visit our Web Page - [www.zpga.org](http://www.zpga.org)

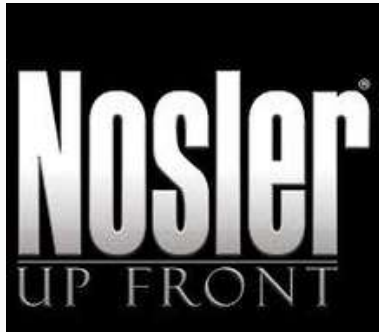
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## Z.P.G.A. Sponsors and Supporters Page

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