

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE

ZIMBABWE PROFESSIONAL GUIDES ASSOCIATION

APRIL, 2023

/ Vol. 04



Z.P.G.A.

CONSERVATION

ORIENTATED



www.zpga.org
marketing@zpga.org
Editor - John Laing
Proofreader - Corneli Claassen

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Editors Notes: By John Laing

I have had the privilege of travelling around Europe this last month, first stop was Munich, then onto Zurich, Milan, Paris, Brussels and ended up in Amsterdam. A whistle stop tour but so much was achieved in so few days, all thanks to Africa's Eden for making these marketing events a possibility.

I know we all have our preferred shows that we go to and attend from all over the world. Some of you will attend under the ATTA umbrella, some under the ZTA umbrella, however we are now working on a Z.P.G.A. umbrella that should get people talking. After all, we already do so at the Dallas Safari Club (DSC) and Safari Club International (SCI) shows, so why not spread the initiative further afield.

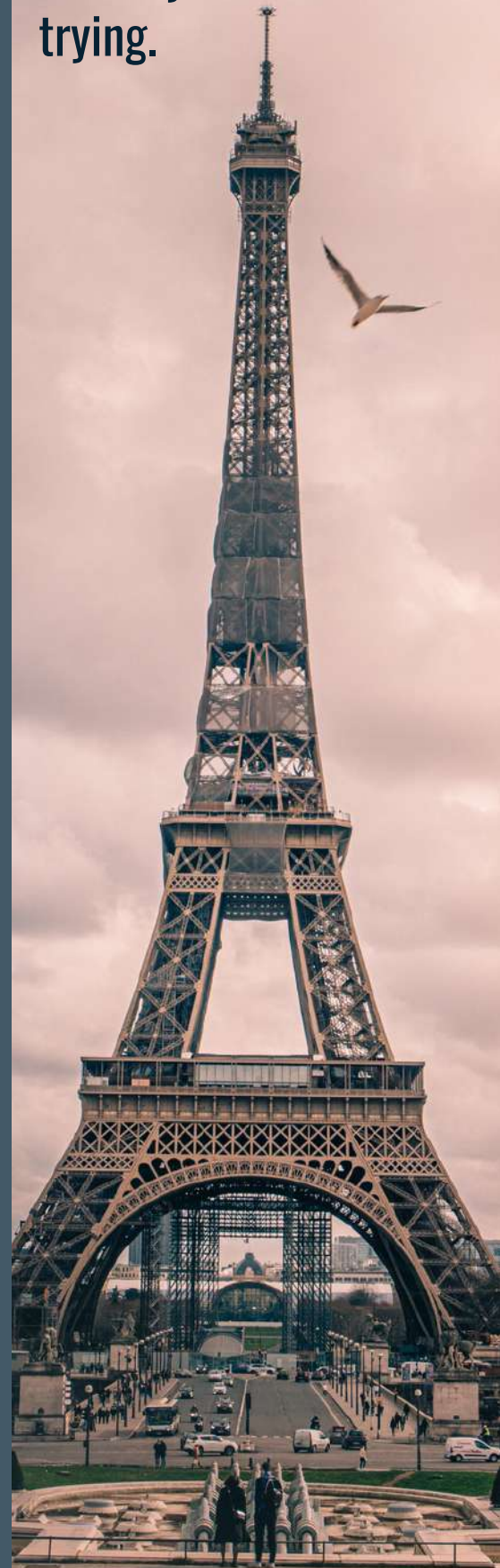
As most, if not all readers, will appreciate the Z.P.G.A. has become a Safari Industry symbol. Members have an accreditation like no other and all visitors coming to Zimbabwe are more and more looking for a "Standards Guarantee". We are making this a priority at present with Paul Hubbard working on the Bradt Guide, Le Petite and Lonely Planet, so our name is definitely getting out there.

I would like to remind and encourage ALL Members to please send us an email and get the Z.P.G.A. logo onto your social media platforms and show us proudly on your web pages. **HELP US TO HELP YOU.**

Z.P.G.A. Offices

- Harare - 64 Churchill Ave, Alex Park
- Bulawayo - The Orange Elephant, 12th Ave Extension
- Victoria Falls - 566 Nyathi Road, corner of Mopani

No matter how many mistakes we make or how slow our progress. We're still way ahead of everyone who isn't trying.



A call for Z.P.G.A. Members & friends to plant 10 indigenous trees each in 2023

Get behind the Z.P.G.A. "Plant 3,000 trees challenge 2023"

Please post your planting on social media, accompanied with #WePlantedDidYou?



Send us your conservation stories to marketing@zpga.org



The Z.P.G.A. - a Professional Association By John Laing

We find ourselves in a dynamic time for the Z.P.G.A. The association is burgeoning, which brings a heightened public profile and places Z.P.G.A. members well and truly in the spotlight, including their behaviour and attitude.

So what makes a professional?

The Oxford English Dictionary defines a professional as:

professional (noun) 1. a person engaged or qualified in a profession

2. a person engaged in a specific activity, especially a sport, as a main paid occupation rather than as a pastime

3. a person competent or skilled in a particular activity

But a professional is more than a dictionary definition. Professionalism is about attitude and conduct – a moral compass if you like – and one that is becoming ever more prominent. In many ways it's no longer enough to have skills and knowledge – professionals must also be able to demonstrate that they can apply it ethically to the situations they face.

Normally sectors are supported by a professional body, in this case individuals holding a L.P.H., P.G., or P.H. licence are supported by the Zimbabwe Professional Guides Association. As a professional organisation, the Z.P.G.A. works alongside Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority and assists in setting standards of education, competence and ethics for our members. The Z.P.G.A. places a strong emphasis on the integrity and competence of its members, and therefore requires all members to conduct themselves in accordance with a Code of Conduct.

The Code should be considered central to the professional life of a Z.P.G.A. member, not only as a source of ethical guidance, but also as a guide to principles of good practice.

The six professional and ethical standards that all members must abide by are:

- Act with integrity
- Always provide a high standard of service
- Treat others with respect
- Take responsibility
- Act in a way that promotes trust in the profession
- Have regard for sustainability throughout your work



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A brief history of the Matopos Dam Hotel, Matobo Hills World Heritage Site

By Paul Hubbard - Hubbard's Historical Tours, Bulawayo

Origins

"An hotel has been built on rising ground overlooking the dam. It is expected that it will be very popular as a holiday resort for the youth and beauty of Bulawayo, and that it will in fact become the African replica of the famous Star and Garter of Richmond!" (The Chronicle, 14 October 1901). Such optimism may have been premature. Fuller's Hotel, or as it was to become better known, the Matopos Dam Hotel, rose to international prominence when it hosted forty guests for Cecil Rhodes' funeral, despite the fact that the entire hotel was only built to cater for four guests at that time!

The hotel was built as part of Cecil Rhodes' plans for the development of his estates in the Matobo Hills, plans that included the construction of the Matopos Dam, and other infrastructure at his farms. Architect William Douslin designed Rhodes' huts on his farm at Westacre Creek and he may have had a hand in the design of the original hotel overlooking the dam. Early adverts for the hotel proudly proclaimed that the hotel was "built by Mr Rhodes for the convenience of visitors to the Matopos". The hotel always remained the property of the Rhodes Matopos Estate.

Owing to the fact that it was nearly a full day trip from Bulawayo in the days before motor transport (16 miles), the hotel provided stabling for horses and mules and offered a picnic hamper service for guests. The daily tariff before WWI was 15s, but this did not include keeping an animal there. F.T. Daniels, proprietor and lessee of the Matopos Dam Hotel was mentioned in the First Schedule of The Rhodes Estates, Matopos and Inyanga Transfer Ordinance. His lease expired in 1918.

By 1924, when Eric Nobbs reviewed the Matopos Dam Hotel in his Guide to the Matopos, it had expanded to 12 rooms, "besides ample public rooms and a wide delightful stoep. There is a garage, a tennis court and both a motor boat and a rowing boat are provided on the dam where fishing may be enjoyed". The hotel became a fixture in the Matopos area and no visit to the hills seemed to be complete without a drink on the verandah overlooking the nearby dam.

Middle Years - By the 1960s, the hotel had seen better days. In 1963, an inspection report by the Chief Architect of the Public Works Department stated, "The Hotel is not attractive from any point of view". By this time the hotel had grown to sixteen rooms, nine in the main building and seven others haphazardly built nearby. These were for the use of guests and staff.

The management of the hotel changed hands many times over the years - by one report there were perhaps as many as ten lessees between 1950 and 1965. In 1965, the lessee was Donald H. Riddle who was evicted by National Parks that same year because of his failure to pay the rent he owed to the Ministry of Mines and Lands. After this, the lessee was Armine le Strange Furlong who, as I relate below, was at the centre of a racial discrimination storm in 1971. Furlong was also known as Bokkie to his customers at the Belgravia Hotel in Bulawayo, which he also managed for a brief time.

Leasing and managing the Dam Hotel cannot have been an easy task. The Department of National Parks were always reluctant to spend money on fixing the existing hotel buildings, more-so when plans for a completely new hotel complex were well advanced by the early 1970s. The dismal consequence of this attitude is shown most clearly by the repeated award of a “Nil Grade” by the Register of Hotels until the late 1970s. Furlong’s lease expired on 30 June 1972 and the hotel remained closed for a brief time until the plans for a new hotel fell through and the hotel was once again put out to tender.

In 1973 the hotel had a new lessee, T.S. Rigato, who oversaw many renovations for the hotel, including changing its name - for a brief time - to Rhodes Matopos Hotel. It reverted to its original name — Matopos Dam Hotel — by the end of the year. National Parks continued to balk at their financial responsibilities regarding maintenance which may help explain the regular turnover of management. A new landlord, M.L. Griffen was in residence by November 1977 and he worked there until the hotel closed in 1982.

Throughout the period between 1965 to 1980, the Rhodes Matopos Committee was presented with numerous applications from the hotel lessees to open and operate a casino on the premises. Such requests were usually refused as it was not in keeping with National Parks regulations or intentions.

Each lessee kept a wall intact on which there were inscribed many hundreds of Royal Air Force personnel names and the badges of two squadrons. These included the names of men who came to Rhodesia as part of the Empire Air Training Scheme in addition to other famous Rhodesian personalities. The RAF used the hotel as one of their leisure places, together with the Exchange Bar in Bulawayo; RAF members also revived the Sailing Club in the 1940s. The RLI painted their badge on the wall in the 1960s. In 1972, the Historical Monuments Commission stated that the wall was too recent to be of much historical interest although the Bulawayo Publicity Association strongly disagreed; an interesting but inconclusive spat played out in the press. The wall and its signatures and insignia disappeared when the hotel was slowly demolished during the 1980s despite the efforts of some private citizens to save it.

Racial Policy and Precedent - The hotel seems to have had a long-standing and harsh racial policy in place. In 1963 an unpleasant incident made the Sunday News when a bridal party of Ethel Mortar and Charles Smith and friends were refused service because they were coloured. Only after the white guests in attendance complained vociferously, did the hotel manager relent and allow them to have some drinks on the lawn.

Matopos Dam Hotel



The Bulawayo Publicity Association wrote to Armine Furlong in February 1970 reporting another complaint from an Indian member of the community who claimed he had been refused service simply on the basis of the colour of his skin. Furlong replied in a revealing manner, stating: "When a certain person of the Indian Community called on me a few months ago regarding the same matter, I interviewed the majority of my European customers, and the result was that just on 100% were against the suggestion that Indians should mix in the bar or verandah. Should I approve of this, I have been warned and threatened that I would lose all my present customers". The Rhodes Matopos National Park Committee discussed this problem at their meeting in March 1970 and agreed, "that as Mr Furlong's lease clearly allowed him to reserve the right of admission, there was no action which the committee could take." Such a wishy-washy approach was not helpful and outdated prejudices were not sustainable.

The hotel's liquor license was renewed unconditionally in mid-1970, clauses of which included upholding the right of "coloureds and Asians" to drink at the hotel. This became the basis for a major court case that threatened the foundations of segregation in Rhodesia. The case began when Tony Lee, owner of Bulawayo's Peking Restaurant, was refused service at the hotel because he was Chinese. The minutes of an emergency meeting of the Rhodes Matopos Board mention that Chinese were classified as Europeans by the Rhodesian government at that time so service should not have been refused!

The Liquor Licensing Board was due to renew the hotel's liquor license and were sued in court by Marshall Baron on behalf of The Bulawayo Asian and Coloured Association. He argued that because the hotel refused to serve non-whites, it failed to comply with the terms of their license and thus did not deserve to keep it. Baron also argued that this policy was against the terms of the will of Cecil Rhodes, a plea which surprisingly did little to carry the day. The Licensing Board granted the license categorically stating that coloured and Asians should be allowed to drink at the hotel bar.

This was challenged in court by the Hotels Association who were worried about the precedent set for other facilities which were largely segregated at that time. A ruling by Sir Hugh Beadle in October 1971 upheld the precedent although he did say that his ruling applied only to the Matopos Dam Hotel because it was the only facility in the area. As he was quoted in the Chronicle of 22 October 1971, he said that as far as he was concerned the hotel was a country hotel habitually visited by Asians and Coloureds touring the vicinity. Beadle further stated they were entitled to be given service because the licensee did not have 'the right arbitrarily to discriminate between different sections of the public on the grounds of race or colour.' The ruling was much touted in the Bulawayo press at the time as the start to the end of indignities many people had suffered.

Closure and Demolition - The hotel was closed for the last time on 5 January 1982. The contents were auctioned off on 7 March 1982 to settle arrears and expenses. The remainder of funds after expenses were given to the last tenant, M.L. Griffen. Amusingly, some of the hotel contents sold actually belonged to National Parks and not the tenant! The report mentions the idea that the hotel would then form the nucleus of a new wildlife training establishment for National Parks, championed by Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism, Victoria Chitepo.

The college opened its doors on 6 September 1982. According to newspaper adverts, students could study for a Diploma in Wildlife Management from the Natural Resources College, Matopos. Owing to purely political considerations, this college was moved to Mushandike in 1983, where it remains today. In June 1984, a Mr Thomas asked for permission to use the hotel facilities for recreational purposes for handicapped children. He moved in for a brief time but from what records I have, he seems to have been unable to get a permanent lease from National Parks - probably because they were once again considering a Z\$4 million proposal to build a new hotel and casino on the spot - which never happened. A decision was taken in early 1985 to demolish the hotel.

In February 1986, National Parks had finally received permission from their parent Ministry to demolish the Matopos Dam Hotel. By December 1986, hampered by a lack of funding and transport, Parks had only demolished the interior, leaving the roof and outside walls. By February 1987, the Warden of Matopos National Park, W.D. Cathro reported that 40,000 bricks had been recovered from the demolition process, although there was a shortage of funds to transport materials. Some of these bricks were used to build the signage in the Park and others were used in the construction of the site museum at Pomongwe Cave. This slow demolition and recovery of bricks and plumbing materials remains the pattern until December 1988, when the hotel is reported as completely demolished.

Conclusion - The histories of the Matobo Hills area have, until fairly recently, mainly concentrated on the politics of Rhodes' Grave, the resistance by local people to the creation of the National Park, the shrines in the area and the archaeological sites of the area, especially rock art. Very little attention has been paid to the creation of tourist facilities, social activities and the more mundane aspects of the development of the area into its present form. This short note is an attempt to investigate one of the more famous former landmarks in the area. As research progresses, the relationship of this hotel to the other notable establishment, the Terminus Hotel will be explored. A fully referenced, academic article is in preparation, but more work in the National Archives is necessary. I would be grateful to hear from anyone who may have more details on any aspects of this story. There remains a great deal of work to do to fill in the gaps in the very brief history presented here.

A note on sources - The information here is sourced from a variety of newspaper reports in the Chronicle, Sunday News, Herald and Illustrated Life Rhodesia. A great deal of information was taken from the minutes of meetings of the Rhodes Matopos Committee between 1963 to 1990 as well as various files in the National Archives in Bulawayo and Harare.

Insignia and signatures on bar wall. Matopos dam hotel



2023
START

Z.P.G.A. Diary

May 2023

- Thur 11th - Mon 14th - SVC Mountain Bike Challenge
- Thur 18th - Z.P.G.A. Talks Victoria Falls
- Fri 19th - Z.P.G.A. Talks Bulawayo & Harare
- Sun 28th - Shooting Proficiency Harare

September 2023

- Sun 17th - Shooting Proficiency (Hre)
- Mon 18th - Oral Interviews (Hre)
- Tue 19th - LPH written exam (Hre)
- Wed 20th - LPH written exams (Hre)

October 2023

- Thur 5th - Sun 8th - Upper Zam Canoeing proficiency

November 2023

- Wed 1st - Tue 7th - Proficiency Examination

December 2023

- Fri 1st - AGM (Victoria Falls)
- Sat 2nd - Z.P.G.A. Competition Shoot (Vic Falls)
- Sat 2nd - Safari Dinner (Victoria Falls)

"Only put off until tomorrow what you are willing
to die having left undone."

Pablo Picasso

"Each new day is
a blank page in
the diary of your
life. The secret
of success is in
turning that
diary into the
best story you
possibly can."

Douglas Pagels



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MEMBERSHIP

Membership Statistics - 2023

It's a collaborative effort

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Number of Members	Qualification	
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13	CUBS	
61	FULL PG	
146	FULL PH	
6	HONORARY LIFE MEMBER	
4	INDUSTRY SERVICE PROVIDER	
83	LPH LICENSE	
7	RESTRICTION	
Saturday, 01 April 2023		Page 1 of 1



It seems as though we always have something positive to say about membership figures, here is why:

2020 ended with an active membership of 281
2021 ended with an active membership of 350
2022 and we are ending with an active membership of 412

"Z.P.G.A. Membership is a Privilege NOT a right"

The largest membership the Association has had to date!

Stuffed Chicken Valentino

BY EMILY TRENBEATH

Ingredients

- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- 1 teaspoon dried Italian seasoning
- 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 (170g) jar roasted red bell peppers, drained
- ¼ cup chopped fresh chives
- 4 tablespoons shredded Mozzarella cheese
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons olive oil

Method:

- Preheat the oven to 175 degrees C.
- Grease a baking dish.
- Slice the chicken breast in half lengthwise, leaving halves attached on one side. Open breast and lay flat; it should resemble a butterfly. Place between two sheets of plastic wrap and pound flat.
- Combine Italian seasoning, Parmesan cheese, and chives in a bowl; sprinkle over chicken breasts.
- At one end of each breast, place 3 strips of roasted pepper and top with 1 tablespoon shredded Mozzarella cheese. Roll each breast up, starting on the side with peppers and cheese. Insert a toothpick in each roll to prevent unrolling. Place in the prepared baking dish. Season rolls with salt and pepper; drizzle with olive oil.
- Bake in the preheated oven for 15 minutes. Set oven to broil; continue cooking for 5 to 10 minutes.
- Remove from the oven, slice to display colorful filling, and serve



"No one who cooks, cooks alone. Even at her most solitary, a cook in the kitchen is surrounded by generations of cooks past, the advice and menus of cooks present, the wisdom of cookbook writers"

— Laurie Colwin



Members Photo Gallery - Warthog



The Z.P.G.A.'s commitment to Wildlife





Z.P.G.A. Talks 2023

During 2022 the Z.P.G.A. launched "Z.P.G.A. Talks", 18 talks across 3 cities. It was ambitious but looking back over the past year it has been a success. The talks were designed to bring our community together under the umbrella of growth through shared knowledge. Presentations throughout were both fun and informative and certainly provided for a springboard of discussion, engagement and shared ideas.

Don't miss out on the talks we have planned for 2023!

- Harare - Armadale Lodge
- Bulawayo - Hillside Dams Conservancy
- Victoria Falls - Shearwater Village

The 2023 dates are as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
◦ Wednesday 17th May (Victoria Falls)	Lizanne Nel (SA Hunters)	Lead Poisoning
◦ Thursday 18th May (Bulawayo)	Lizanne Nel (SA Hunters)	Lead Poisoning
◦ Friday 19th May (Harare)	Lizanne Nel (SA Hunters)	Lead Poisoning
◦ Friday 19th May (Harare & Bulawayo)		
◦ Thursday 20th July (Victoria Falls)		
◦ Friday 21st July (Harare & Bulawayo)		
◦ Thursday 14th September (Victoria Falls)		
◦ Friday 15th September (Harare & Bulawayo)		
◦ Thursday 24th November (Victoria Falls)		
◦ Friday 25th November (Harare & Bulawayo)		

**An event put on by the
Z.P.G.A., open to the
community,
embraced by all**

**Time: 17:00 for 17:30 Start
Cash bar and restaurant
Free Admission**

2022 Stats
20 Z.P.G.A. Talks
1, 080 participants



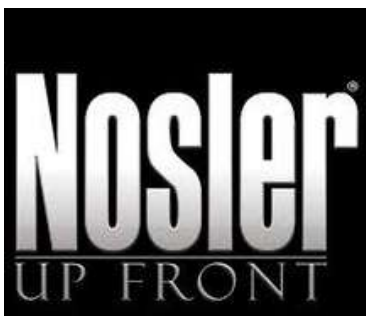
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5. Exclusive benefits & discounts from suppliers/providers
6. Access to cutting edge tourism news & policy developments as it affects hunting & guiding countrywide
7. Opportunities to give back to the community
8. Networking opportunities
9. Monthly newsletters & articles

Z.P.G.A. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

1. Access to our associate member WhatsApp group (admin only posts)
2. Z.P.G.A. branded merchandise
3. Monthly newsletters & articles
4. Access to educational and training material
5. Access to cutting edge tourism news & policy developments as it affects the hunting & guiding countrywide
6. Opportunities to give back to the community

Z.P.G.A. CONSERVATION PARTNER

1. 4 x Membership cards which entitles the holder to membership discounts
2. Access to the Z.P.G.A. associate member WhatsApp group
3. Representation at government, industry and Zimbabwe parks levels
4. Representation of Zimbabwe at all levels for tourism, locally and abroad
5. Engagement with Zimbabwe parks and ministry
6. Involvement in conservation initiatives such as the leopard, lion, elephant and rhino workshops for strategic planning for these key species
7. Representation at shows and events when we can for members and Zimbabwe
8. Marketing of Zimbabwe for tourism
9. Uplifting local tourist facilities and standards
10. Engagement with foreign NGOs for assistance and betterment of our industry

Z.P.G.A. CUBS MEMBERSHIP

Teaching your children how conservation and sustainability efforts will impact their lives is crucially important to the long-term survival of humanity & wildlife.

More and more people are starting to appreciate the value of conservation and causing as little harm as possible to the planet. It's especially important to teach these lessons to the next generation. Children, when given the right information, are usually eager to embrace a conservation approach to living.

It's up to parents and other adults however, to instil this knowledge in kids at an early age.

Z.P.G.A. SERVICE PROVIDER

1. Access to our full members chat group
2. Z.P.G.A. branded merchandise
3. Monthly newsletters & articles
4. Insight into industry trends as they are spoken about
5. Ability to attract industry specific business
6. Opportunities to give back to the community

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secretary@zpga.org
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SHOULD YOU REQUIRE ANY INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE

Contact Us

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 Nadine du Plessis on 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
- Z.P.G.A. – Vice Chairman John LAING - jlaing@zpga.org
- Z.P.G.A. – Secretary - Nadine du PLESSIS - secretary@zpga.org
- Z.P.G.A. – Legal & Ethics - Pete FICK - legal@zpga.org
 - Guiding Code of Conduct
- Z.P.G.A. – Finance - John LAING - finance@zpga.org
 - All payment issues
- Z.P.G.A. – Marketing & Advertising - John LAING - marketing@zpga.org
 - All branding Membership Cards
 - Membership Discounted Rates Initiative
 - Fundraising
- Z.P.G.A. – Education and training - David CARSON - education@zpga.com
 - Study Packs
 - RIFA & SAVE Valley Conservancy initiatives
 - Devil's Gorge Conservancy training program
- Z.P.G.A. – Research - Rob LURIE - 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
 - To discuss and agree what awards shall be current or pertinent to the industry
 - To look at and agree end of year award nominees

“There are moments of frustration in life. You must build good relations to support you in these moments. You must also learn to encourage yourself and decide to stay determined in life.”

—

Lailah Gifty Akita

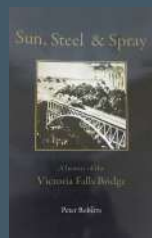


There will be one giveaway hidden somewhere in each of the next 12 newsletters

Here is the deal - the first Zimbabwean reader to email through his or her name to marketing@zpga.org with a description of the gift will be sent that month's gift

To qualify make sure you include "Sun, Steel & Spray" in the subject line

Donated by Shearwater Adventures.



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