



1-3 October 2007
Fish River Sun

“Conference with a Conscience”

1. Some gifts for our delegates were purchased from local upcoming artists in our area.
2. Delegates are challenged to donate towards the 2 charities below. These charities were nominated by our students.
3. Donation will be made at the Gala Dinner, and donors will then qualify to win other artwork that was also purchased from local artists.

Redhouse Benevolent Society

A group of women devote their Thursdays to helping the poor, destitute, HIV/AIDS as well as Asthma sufferers, and old age pensioners to get grants or hospital/clinic treatment. They also help feed these people as well as giving them clothing and blankets. Working out of old, windowless containers on a piece of industrial land, these ladies selflessly offer up so much of their time to help those in need. They have been doing this since 1938, most of the volunteers being Redhouse residents.

Completely reliant on donations and often having to fork out from their own pockets to fulfill the needs of these unemployable people, they diligently persevere, doing all the paperwork necessary, from application forms, letters to doctors, hospitals and clinics, advising them, and following up to ensure that they receive the necessary aid they so desperately need.



Animal Anti-Cruelty League

The Animal Anti-Cruelty League provides a regular veterinary service in our metropole, especially where the conditions for keeping pets are not ideal. The pets are usually without regular meals, shelter and water and some are permanently chained. This league has a number of Fieldworkers (volunteers) who assist with dipping, treatments and advice for the owners / residents. In addition to mostly dogs, the fieldworkers come across horses, donkeys, monkeys, pigs, cows, sheep, goats and the occasional mountain tortoise. Animal owners are educated on the basics of pet care and schools teachers and children are educated on the benefits of owning a healthy and happy pet.

These fieldworkers have to cope with difficult pet owners, dangerous terrain, unhygienic conditions, cruelty, personal threats and emotional trauma. They also look for good homes for abandoned animals. Recent developments include a care centre where owners who do not have the financial means, can take their animals for a minimal fee. They are hoping to employ a vet at this care centre in the near future.

