



Mei 2025

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central northern areas

Magrita Witbooi, die koshuismoeder saam met van die plaaskinders.
Foto Tanja Bause



Plaaskinders hier huis

Tanja Bause

Die plaaslike boeregemeenskap van Otavi het in 1987 onder leiding van Helmut von Leipzig 'n koshuis vir die plaas-

kinders op die dorp gebou.

In dieselfde jaar is die gebou geopen en die eerste kinders het in die koshuis ingetrek.

Die Johanniter Heim Khoaeb

bied vandag 'n veilige hawe vir sowat 100 plaaskinders uit Otavi se omgewing sodat hulle die drie staatskole op die dorp kan bywoon.

Khoaeb het altesaam vier koshuse – een vir seuns en meisies van graad 6 tot 12.

Na bladsy 2

Exterior view of the Grootfontein Museum building.

GROOTFONTEIN MUSEUM

The selection of exhibitions is huge and guarantees an exciting visit for the whole family.

Eriksson str, Grootfontein

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Box 1118, Grootfontein, Namibia

Onderwyseres Elmien Gases met van die leergestremde kinders.
Foto Tanja Bause

Van bl. 1

Elke gebou het 'n eie koshuismoeder wat 24 uur per dag aan diens is.

Die regering subsidieer die koshuise per dag en per kind, 'n subsidie wat 40% van die koshuis se uitgawes dek. Owers dra 'n verdere 10% by terwyl die Johanniter-organisasie in Duitsland die ander 40% dek. "Elke ouer betaal N\$700.00 per termyn. In die negentien jaar wat ek nou al by Khoaeb betrokke is, was daar nog nooit 'n ouer wat nie betaal het nie. Elke ouer kom staan aan die begin van die termyn hier by die koshuis en betaalsy kind se geld. Dit is ongelooflik hoe hulle probeer om die beste moontlike grondslag vir hul kinders te gee," het Marianne Sack, 'n boervrou en die verteenwoordiger van die Johanniter Hilfswerk, gesê. Elke kind kry drie gesonde en gebalanceerde etes per dag, 24 uur se toesig, hulp met huiswerk en hulle kan aan verskeie

sportkodes deelneem. Daar is ook 'n rekenaarsentrum met gratis internettoegang en twee mobile biblioteke.

Volgens Sack sien hulle duidelik dat bystand met skoolwerk vrugte afwerp. Vier agetrede onderwysers en die vier voorskool onderwyseresse kom elke dag vir twee ure om die kinders met hulle huiswerk en studies te help. Khoaeb het vier koshuismoeders, twee kombuismatrones, drie voorskoolse onderwysers, 'n tuinier en 'n wasvrou in diens. Die personeel is vir alles verantwoordelik en Sack kom net dan en wan om in te loer.

"Die vroue doen alles self – hulle hou boek, hanteer kos-bestellings, stel die spyskaart op, en hou elke dag boek oor watergebruik. Hulle is in beheer. Hulle weet as die kinders ongelukkig of om-gekrap is en gee dadelik aandag. Ons sou die koshuis nie sonder hulle kon bestuur nie," het sy gesê. Volgens haar is die bestendigheid van die personeel 'n

reusevoordeel en is daar vroue wat al so lank as 27 jaar daar werk.

In die jare wat Sack by die koshuis betrokke is, is daar nog nooit 'n kind met dwelms of drank gevang nie.

"Ons het ook in negentien jaar nog nie 'n meisie gehad wat swanger geraak het nie. Ek skryf dit toe aan die toegewyde personeel wat elke uur van elke dag vir die kinders beskikbaar is."

Die personeel kies self die kinders wat in die koshuis opgeneem word en hulle moet

aan sekere vereistes voldoen, onder meer dat hulle plaaswerkers se kinders moet wees en hulle nie mag druiп nie. In 2012 het 'n voorskool vir 40 kinders met drie onderwysers op dieselfde perseel geopen. Hier word die kostes deur Johanniter Hilfswerk Namibia gedra. Tien van die kinders in die groep se ouers is plaaswerkers terwyl die ander uit Otavi se informele nedersettings kom. Owers moet elkeen N\$150.00 per maand per kind betaal.

"Baie ouers uit die informele nedersettings kan nie vir hul kinders betaal nie en dan word hulle deur 'n stigting in Duitsland gefinansier," het Sack gesê.

Die Johanniter Hilfswerkorganisasie ondersteun 17 leergestremde kinders wat by die Primère Skool Shalom skoogaan.

By die Sekondêre Skool Khorab ondersteun Johanniter Hilfswerk in samewerking met die Liselotte Stiftung van Duitsland die naskoolopleidingssentrum, waar kinders handwerk doen en anderwege sweis en gasvryheid leer.

**Voorskoolse onderwyser
Desere Shinyuni.
Foto Tanja Bause**


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Barenbrug raad:

Kenner leer boere oor lusern-plantery



Abel Nel, tegniese bestuurder van Barenbrug Suid-Afrika vir die Afrika-streek, het tydens 'n reeks inligtingsdae - een daarvan op Grootfontein op 9 April - sy kennis gedeel oor die aanplanting van lusernverbouing, hawer en dekgewasse. Die inligtingsdae, wat ook op Stampriet, Hochfeld en Summerdown aangebied is, het gefokus op suksesvolle lusernverbouing. Jou sukses hang af van die regte kultivarkeuse, goeie grondvoorbereiding, en volhoubare bestuur.

Faktore soos dormansiegraad, grondtipe, pH-vlakke, saad-diepte en wisselbou speel 'n kritieke rol in vestiging en die opbrengs van lusern. Abel het ook gewarsku teen die nadelige effek van herhaalde aanplantings op dieselfde land.

Verskeie kultivars is voorgestel, elk met unieke eienskappe: Bar 7 is gehard en betroubaar, RS Steel hanteer strawwe toestande goed, en Bar Alpha 10 groei vinnig maar verg goeie bestuur. Die sukses van 'n oes word grootliks beïnvloed deur saaidigtheid en korrekte oespraktyke, met navorsing wat toon dat tussen 80 en 115 plante per vierkante meter die hoogste opbrengs lewer. Die regte bestuur, van grondvoorbereiding tot baahantering, bepaal uit-eindelik die winsgewendheid van lusernproduksie. Verder het Abel klem gelê op voldoende waterbestuur en die belangrikheid van hoë proteïeninhoud in die blare van lusern. Hy het boere aangemoedig om diep en eenvormig nat te maak en op die regte tyd jou lusern te sny.



Inligtingsdag:
Grootfontein

UK company invest in Carbo Namibia



Hans Steyn, Namibian founder and Managing Director of Carbo Namibia (left) with contractors on-site.



Major upgrades at Carbo Namibia are underway to meet European production standards.

Major investment for local charcoal industry UK company's investment in Carbo Namibia to boost local production and industry growth Grootfontein

Namibia's charcoal industry is set for a significant boost following a major investment aimed at increasing production capacity and economic benefits for local producers.

After nearly a decade of collaboration, UK-based company Big K Products has acquired a majority stake in the Namibian charcoal company, Carbo Namibia, with approval from the Namibian Competition Commission.

This investment will enable an upgrade of the Grootfontein-based plant to meet European production standards and double its annual export capacity to approximately 20,000 tonnes of charcoal.

The expansion is expected to enhance long-term market stability and strengthen Carbo Namibia's position in the international market.

"Charcoal production is highly influenced by weather conditions and market demand, making financial stability and proper infrastructure essential for maintaining a stable cash flow, whilst adhering to stringent European standards," said Hans Steyn, Namibian founder and Managing Director of Carbo Namibia.

Big K, one of the UK's top three charcoal distributors, has been a trusted business partner for nearly ten years, ensuring timely payments and stable business relations. Negotiations for the share

acquisition began in December 2023, marking a new chapter for Carbo Namibia's growth.

Hans assured producers that Carbo's production will fully resume on May 4, following a temporary closure for factory upgrades. However, FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certification will now be a non-negotiable requirement for all charcoal producers. To support this transition, Carbo has experts available to assist pro-

ducers in obtaining certification. Additionally, strict adherence to the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) will be enforced. The EUDR is designed to combat deforestation linked to products consumed within the EU market.

Hans also highlighted the strong demand for restaurant-grade charcoal, which commands a premium price compared to regular charcoal. "Our goal is to encourage farmers to produce higherqua-

lity charcoal, which has a growing international market," he stated. Big K's team, which frequently visits Namibia, will return in May 2025 to assess engineering improvements on-site. Carbo Namibia remains committed to supporting local producers and maintaining high product standards.

The investment will fund several upgrades at the plant, including a NAD 10 million enhancement of dust extraction, improvements to the briquette and packaging plant,



A key upgrade at the Grootfontein plant is this advanced dust extraction system, valued at NAD 10 million.

Van bl3

and an expansion of the sieving capability.

The company expects to increase their payroll by 100 employees over the next three years.

The briquette plant will also have its own dedicated team. Extensive training will be provided to ensure workers understand the new European standards and requirements.

The north-eastern region is central to Namibia's charcoal industry, and this investment is expected to inject approximately NAD 100 million into the local economy within a 150 km radius of Grootfontein.

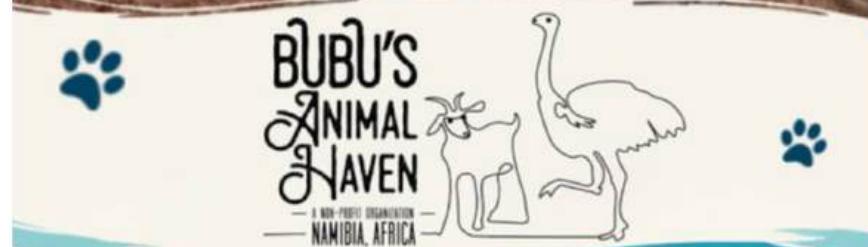
The development will benefit

the community and create new opportunities for local producers, Hans added.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
KINDLY CONTACT FRANK
DETERING (081 640 6141),
OR EMIL JUNG (081 147
5788) OR PJ STEENKAMP
(081 750 0824).**



Construction work underway at Carbo Namibia. The company expects to increase their payroll by 100 employees over the next three years.



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