

**DECEMBER
2023**



ABCA

Australian Books for
Children of Africa Ltd

**Welcome to the ABCA our final newsletter
of the year.**

**ABCA is thrilled to announce that the Harry
Cohney Charitable Foundation is once
again sponsoring our ABCA Kenya
Operations in 2024.**

**Our latest shipment to Kenya is on its way
and the latest delivery to Port Elizabeth
arrived this week . We are looking forward
to distribution feedback from the Rotary
Club of Westville in Durban and Katuba
Literacy to the Copperbelt region in
Zambia.**

**This month we shine a light on Andrea
Wainer, ABCA South Africa volunteer as we
continue our "Spotlight on our Volunteers"
segment.**

**Thanks to everyone who contributed to
ABCA this year - we have had a busy and
fulfilling year.**

**Wishing you all happy holidays and a
happy 2024!**





HAPPY
HOLIDAYS

And a happy

New Year



ABCA

AUSTRALIAN BOOKS FOR
CHILDREN OF AFRICA LTD

15 Seaview St • Caulfield South
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Australian Books for
Children of Africa Ltd

WE NEED YOUR

TOKEN VOTE!

**We would love your support!
Simply head to Grill'd Windsor
during December for a burger
and pop your Local Matters
token into our jar**

Grill'd

ABCA NEWS



Our next shipment heading to Kenya

We sorted and packed books for our next shipment heading to Kenya. Thank you to everyone who attended!

We would also like to thank the students of Shelford Girls' Grammar who once again collected, sorted and packed books for ABCA.

A special mention to Monica Brabet and her colleagues at Victoria University for their special delivery of books.







Andrea Wainer, South Africa ABCA volunteer

I work for WIZO in Johannesburg and Lauren Klevansky called me one day to ask if we work with any schools or centres that would possibly need books. Once she told me about ABCA and what she does, she had me - hook, line and sinker! I am passionate about helping and encouraging children to read, so I joined her in distributing the books she receives from you. Although she does the bulk of the work and the admin to make sure everything runs smoothly here in J'oburg, I help out with the fun parts - helping her decide who gets the books and going with her to hand over the books. I never tire of seeing children's excited faces when they see all the new books they can read!

There is an organisation called Hooked on Books that does shows for primary school children to encourage them to read. We thought this would be a great addition to our visits to schools to give them books. We have been very fortunate to obtain sponsorships for a few shows now and the response to the shows at the schools we have been to has been phenomenal. We managed to get copies of the books in the shows for the school libraries so that the children can read them to see how the stories end.

The most satisfying thing about doing this is the excitement on the faces of the children when they take a peek at the new books they have to read and a close second is the gratitude from the staff who recognise the importance of reading and work so hard to encourage their students to read.

It is quite phenomenal what you guys Down Under have achieved - I'm sure it's no small task to collect, sort and pack the books... and then obtain the funding to ship the books over the seas to Africa, not to mention the logistics and admin of it all! You are all amazing and I feel so privileged to be a small part of all of this. A huge hug of gratitude goes to Lauren as well, who tirelessly makes sure the books arrive safely at their various destinations. She's an amazing "boss"!

As an aside, one of the first places we gave books was an organisation called Dlala Nje who run a community centre in Ponte in Berea for children who come there every day after school and during school holidays. They help the kids with homework and do various activities every day to stimulate and educate the kids. When we delivered books there, I fell in love with the centre and have been going there twice a week ever since to have fun, help out and work with those children who are struggling with their reading. We are now running a reading challenge with prizes at the end of each cycle of the challenge to encourage the children to read!

May we all be blessed with the strength and tenacity to continue uplifting the children of Africa, one book at a time.



THANK YOU



Goza Primary School, Soweto

ABCA visited Goza Primary School in Soweto to deliver books. Goza Primary is a very deprived school with lots of challenges. There are over 1600 students at the school, with big classes of up to 55 students. The students come from a nearby squatter camp and live in very poor, cramped conditions. They don't have books at home, and don't have a culture of reading or good role models for reading.

The school is trying very hard to instill a culture of reading in their students, which isn't easy. They also run a reading program to help those students who can't read. The school recently set up a library which doubles up as a storeroom. They were very happy to receive ABCA books to boost their library and to encourage students to read. Those students who were always interested in reading can now also have books to read. The students who came to the library when we were there were very happy to see the books, but were very hesitant to read to us. Hopefully, as their reading ability gets stronger, this will change.

During the break, we saw the students lining up to receive a hot meal provided by the school. This is usually their only meal of the day as they often don't get food at home. The school has two vegetable gardens where they grow a variety of vegetables to supplement the meals provided for the students.

Although this is a very poor school, it is neat and well kept. Fortunately, they have managed to secure some sponsors, who have provided solar panels for electricity, Jojo tanks for water, and computers for the students to use in the library. The staff were friendly and welcoming, and we got a real sense of the love they have for the children they teach on a daily basis. We are very happy to have helped the school by providing them with ABCA books.

Watch video here: <https://youtu.be/MmZ6q9mYHCM>





Nokane Primary School, Limpopo

Nokane Primary School in Limpopo Province, South Africa, received ABCA books last year through Limpopo Transformation Drivers. The school asked for more books this year, as they saw a huge need for the books which are helping learners improve their reading and speech. Once their reading improves, the learners are able to perform better in their other subjects.

Watch video here: <https://youtu.be/SnMqmqYo5DcM>





Leadworks Community Knowledge Centre, Cosmo City, Johannesburg

Siyafunda Community Technology Centre have again distributed ABCA books to Leadworks Community Knowledge Centre in Cosmo City, Johannesburg.

Leadworks Foundation is an organisation that is passionate about helping kids develop good homework habits and improving their social skills and self-confidence. They support kids in building their skills in reading, language and maths.

Leadworks Foundation received ABCA books last year, but they wanted more books for the work they do in different areas. They run literacy campaigns in Cosmo City (at two centres), Orange Farm and Muldersdrift. They encourage kids to read, which helps create a stronger sense of community and belonging, and helps overcome the literacy challenges facing their communities. They also offer computer training facilities and other courses for disadvantaged people, to empower them for work opportunities as well as literacy help and aftercare for children in the area.



Makotopong Primary School in Polokwane

Makotopong Primary School in Polokwane in Limpopo province were happy to receive ABCA books. The school says that it's very exciting for the learners! The books are now on their library shelves where learners are using them to read. After reading the books, the learners write summaries of the books.

Thank you to Siyafunda CTC for distributing ABCA books.





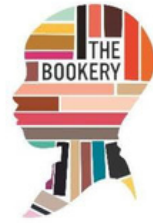
Delta Park Primary School - Cape Town

Delta Primary School posted their thanks on Facebook to the Union of Jewish Women in Cape Town for the ABCA book delivery:

Thank you Australian Books for Children of Africa. The library is so loved by the children and they were delighted to receive the books.



Thank you from The Bookery, Cape Town



Australian Books for Children of Africa

Attention: Vanessa Arelisky

20 November 2023

Dear Vanessa

Thank you Vanessa and Australian Books for Children of Africa for your donation of books. Books is the most important part of our work. Your donation of books is vital to sustaining and expanding our work of setting up and supporting libraries in under-resourced schools in South Africa.

Yours sincerely,

Zulfa Buziek

Fundraiser



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Hayani in Orange Grove, Johannesburg.

ABCA books were delivered to Hayani in Orange Grove, Johannesburg. Hayani is a non-profit organisation which offers full time care to children who have experienced social ills and have been identified as needy by the South African Children's Courts and other law enforcement agents. Through its foster care program, Hayani focus on children who are abused, neglected, abandoned, orphaned and awaiting adoption. Hayani also provides a free day-care program for toddlers aged one to four years, whose mothers are unemployed and are from disadvantaged communities. The daycare children come mainly for meals and educational play therapy provided by community volunteers.

Thank you to the Union of Jewish Women in Johannesburg for distributing ABCA books to Hayani.



Thank you!



TO AUSTRALIAN BOOKS FOR CHILDREN OF AFRICA
AND UNION OF JEWISH WOMEN



FOR THE WONDERFUL BOOKS

from Mary and the children at Hayani
Johannesburg, South Africa

