

JANUARY
2024



ABCA

Australian Books for
Children of Africa Ltd

Welcome to a new ABCA year. May 2024 be a healthy, fulfilling, peaceful and literacy filled year.

We have already started preparing our ABCA calendar year and there is a lot happening behind the scenes.

The Melbourne Shed in Review

Thanks to Gary Adler's fantastic advice and work the Melbourne shed is being fully prepared to be better spaced, logistically more accessible and OH&S has never looked better. Gary has thought of much more efficient ways to stack, pack and move books and boxes. Thanks to his generosity we also have dollies to move boxes of books around the shed when sorting and packing. We look forward to demonstrating the new logistics to you very soon.

Our 20th Birthday Celebrations

Unfortunately last year we didn't get to celebrate ABCA's 20th year (we were founded in 2003 thanks to Ben's foresight and fortitude.) This year we will be marking this significant event. We are working behind the scenes to plan. That said if any of you have any ideas or want to participate in the planning please let me know.

Sorting and Packing Dates

Please diarise our sorting and packing dates.



Book packing and sorting dates for 2024

Book sorting: Thursdays
8.00pm-9.30pm



ABCA

Australian Books for
Children of Africa Ltd

15 February

2 May

4 July

29 August

7 November

Book Packing: Saturdays

11.00am-1.00pm

17 February

4 May

6 July

31 August

9 November



ABCA NEWS



Grill'd Local Matters

The votes have been counted, and the results are in...

Thanks to Grill'd Elsterwick and Grill'd Windsor Local Matters program - we came first in both stores and have been awarded a total of \$600 which we will put towards our first shipment of the year.



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Caryn Tocker

Hi everyone, I'm Caryn, and I absolutely love being a part of this incredible community of volunteers. It's been an amazing journey for me, as I've had the privilege of serving ABCA for almost a decade now, and was there when we sent our 250,000th book!

What drives me is my deep belief in our mission of bringing the joy of reading to children in disadvantaged communities. There's something truly magical about the faces of children lighting up when they receive and hold their new books. The power of education and the love for reading can truly transform lives, and I'm honoured to be a part of making that happen.

I also find great joy in supporting new volunteers and watching them find their place within our wonderful team. Together, I know we can continue to make a lasting impact.



THANK YOU



Newclare Primary School, Johannesburg

Written by Andrea Wainer: Newclare Primary School is a no-fee paying school situated in a poor, struggling community that deals with drugs, alcohol and street gangs. Even though the school is well maintained, luxuries are definitely not on the menu, and there are no funds for library books. So it was extra special that ABCA donated books to the school library – especially as the school has started a new initiative to encourage the students to read and improve literacy.

We were extremely fortunate to obtain sponsorships for two Hooked on Books shows for the junior and senior students. This type of activity is usually not an option for these children, and they more than paid us back in the excitement, laughter and enjoyment as they experienced a little bit of magic.

The juniors treated us to a mini concert as they sang for us while waiting for the show to start. But they were soon captivated by the show as it unfolded in front of their eyes. Some of them were called to join in the show and they performed like true pros! They clapped and shouted, danced and laughed and did not want the magic to end. True to form, the senior primary tweens and teens sauntered into the hall to see what was going on, feigning disinterest. They were soon enchanted by the energy and showmanship of the actors. Those who joined in the show blew us away with their calm confidence! By the end of the show, the actors had the audience eating out of their hands. The kids clapped and shouted at the end of the show and did not want it to end. The Hooked on Books actors said that this was one of the best shows they've had the fortune of experiencing because of the joy of the children.

When I told the students the books from the show were all in their library, they were so excited. The school principal and teachers were grateful that we were able to do this for them, as encouraging reading is a very important part of their ethos. We were treated like celebrities...they kept on referring to the "ladies who came all the way from Australia" 😊 They served us a delicious tea and we received gifts in appreciation from the school.





Click here to watch video
<https://youtu.be/LdpYbAqBIYM>

ABCA books awarded as prizes for reading challenge at Dlala Nje (Ponte building)

Dlala Nje is an oasis, a homework and aftercare centre providing a safe space for children who live in the Ponte building or in the surrounding neighbourhoods of Hillbrow and Berea.

ABCA volunteer, Andrea, helps with homework and other activities planned by the two women who run the centre. Together they initiated a reading challenge to encourage the children to develop good reading habits. They sourced donations of chocolates and stationery as prizes for the first two rounds of the challenge, but really wanted to give those who qualified in the third round books as prizes, especially as most of these children don't have any books at home.

ABCA were thrilled to donate enough books for each child to receive two books of their very own! What excitement when the recipients were told that they could write their names in the books because they didn't have to return them - they are theirs!



Alexandra Aftercare - delivered by Union of Jewish Women Johannesburg



UNION OF JEWISH WOMEN - JOHANNESBURG BRANCH
Tel: +27 11 648 1053 Email: info@ujw.co.za Website: www.ujw.co.za PBO: 130003250 NPO No: 000780
Address: 77 Sandler Road, Percella Estate, 2192
Affiliate of the International Council of Jewish Women and SAJBD

26 October 2023

Australian Books for Children of Africa

Re: Donation of books received

Everyone at the Alexandra Aftercare Centre, run by the Union of Jewish Women Johannesburg, would like to say 'Thank You' for the donation of books we received from the Australian Books for Children of Africa.

The books are great, in excellent condition and our kids love and enjoy them and already have favourites. The SignPost Maths Mentals copies are so helpful and informative that it's not only kids that fight over them but us teachers as well. They are so easy to read and make it so easy for us to teach. The novels are a hit amongst our teenagers!

Thank you once more for this wonderful gift which is not only appreciated but also highly valued. You've made the children here very happy and through the donation their education will change for the better.

Kind Regards

Lydia and all members of staff at the Alexandra Aftercare.



Delivery of books to Rand Hills College in Bertrams, Johannesburg by the the Union of Jewish Women Johannesburg



RAND HILLS COLLEGE

Empowerment through education and training
GDE . Reg . 400368

Tel:010 213 4052 Fax: 0865143661

EMAIL: info@randhillscollge.co.za / website: www.randhillscollge.co.za

DATE: 30th OCTOBER, 2023

DEAR MADAM,

RE: UNION OF JEWISH WOMEN AND AUSTRALIAN BOOKS FOR CHILDREN OF AFRICA

I hope this letter finds you in good faith.

We acknowledge the good work that you are doing in uplifting some of our communities.

We are indeed grateful for the books that you donated to our school on the 12th of October 2023 from Australian Books for Children of Africa and our hope is that you continue doing this especially for some of our disadvantaged schools.

We would love to be a part of the many groups of people that receive your outstanding support, in your endeavor to transform various communities through your organization.

The books have been issued to our various learners and they are so happy to have this helping hand as many were fortunate to have such lovely books.

We have shared with you some pictures of the joyous moments from our learners upon receiving the books.

I pray that God blesses your hand and you continue doing this lovely work with grace.

Thank you,

Yours Faithfully


URSULA NOCAWE SEKHUJRWANE

Rainbow Early Learning Site, Johannesburg



+27 79 6699 610 

Hawam2507@gmail.com 

www.Rainbowearlylearning.com 

@Rainbowearlylearningsite 

2 October 2023

To Australian books for children of Africa,

Thank you so much for your unwavering support and kindness. Your generosity is unmatched, and it is truly humbling to receive such kindness from you. The impact and difference your kind donation of books will make a huge difference to our little people who is really enjoying them.



Your generosity inspires us to do better in uplifting our community and to spread kindness and joy to others.

Once again, thank you so much for your donation.

Do not hesitate to contact me for further donations and if you have any queries.

Hawa Moses 

Operations manager



Rainbow Early Learning Site



Holy Cross Primary School - Cape Town

Union of Jewish Women in Cape Town distributed books to Holy Cross. The pupils were delighted to receive them. The photo was taken in the street as the disadvantaged school has no playground.



Thank you note from Afrika Tikkun Cape Town



Date: 14 August 2023

Union of Jewish Women Cape Town

7 Albany Road
Seapoint, Cape Town
South Africa

Dear Union of Jewish Women Cape Town

The staff and board of Afrika Tikkun would like to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you for your generous donation in kind of Australian Books for Children of Africa that were donated to our beneficiaries at Afrika Tikkun on 31 July 2023. Your most welcome donation will go a long way in changing our children's lives.

We hereby confirm that at least **94%** of those beneficiaries are Black South African citizens as defined by the B-BBEE Codes of Good Practice. We further confirm that **100%** of your donation can be considered for Social Economic Development.

We remain grateful for our partnership with Microsoft which continues to benefit and transform the lives of children and youth in our programmes.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Agnes Sibanda", written over a dotted line.

Agnes Sibanda

Afrika Tikkun, Chief Executive Officer

T +27 (0)11 325 5914 | **E** info@afrikatikkun.org | **W** afrikatikkun.org
Ground Floor, Eastwood Building, 57 Sixth Road, Hyde Park, 2196, Johannesburg, South Africa

Executive Directors: Agnes Sibanda (Acting CEO) | Marc Lubner (Group CEO)
Non-Executive Directors: Arnold Basserabie (Chairman), Arnold Forman, Rabbi Dovid Hazdan, Wendy Lucas-Bull, Azola Mayekiso, Ntombenhle Radebe, Abed Tau
Patron in Chief in Memoriam: Late Nelson Mandela
Co-Founders: The late Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris OBE, Dr. Bertie Lubner O.M.S.S | Arnold Forman and Ann Harris



PBO No. 18/11/13/24/0 | NPO No. 021-892 | NPC No. 1998/15527/08 | VAT No. 4910185539