



VICTORIA FALLS | LIVINGSTONE | ZAMBIA

Maramba River Lodge

Newsletter 9

October 2010

Staff News



32 year old **Namasiku Mambo** is the new Housekeeping and Guest Relations Manager at the Lodge. She trained at the Monze School of Catering, did a Diploma at the International School of Management and is currently studying Business Administration under the University of Zambia. Prior to coming to The Lodge she was Deputy Manager at the Islands of Siankaba. Namasiku is keen to see the successful running of the Activity Booking Centre in the lounge and has opened Massage facilities for clients using local products.

View the Web site www.maramba-zambia.com to see the Manager Russell Young talking about the Lodge or view on u - tube. Lovely shots of elephants in Maramba River.

CELEBRITIES AT THE LODGE

We had some unexpected visitors in August. **Charley Boorman** (of 'Long way down & round' fame) & **Ross Noble** (the Geordie stand up comic) drove in on their bikes with the rest of their crew. This was the first of what is hoped to be an annual event driving from Cape Town to the mighty Victoria Falls through South Africa & Namibia. The trip is for biking fanatics as you can imagine – travelling on varying road conditions. The crew stayed for 5 nights during their rest period before doing the return trip with another group of clients. During this dry period, prior to the rains, we are lucky to be visited by elephants in & around the lodge. This is what Charley wrote on Twitter during his stay:



Ross and Charley with the staff from L to R Theresa, Bridget, Nami and Miriam (Bundu) with Russell and Pippa Young behind

“Staying at Maramba camp just near Victoria Falls. It's simple but fantastic. Elephants over ran the place & we helped chase them off”

It will be good to see them all next year!

***ALSO** at the Lodge was **Quentin Allen** who has dedicated his life to bringing the natural beauty of Zambia onto canvas. Quentin Allen is well known for his paintings of waterfalls, landscapes, and wild animals; building up a body of work which forms a visual record of the wild places of Zambia for future generations to marvel at.*

Shown here is one of his paintings of elephants

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International Regatta on the Zambezi by Belinda Hodge

Oxford and Cambridge boat crews - along with rowing eights from CapeTown and Johannesburg universities - battled it out on the mighty Zambezi River on Saturday, 25 September. With elephants crossing the river in droves at this time of year and wallowing hippos along the course keeping an eye on proceedings and offering up a whole new meaning to the oft-used phrase "catching a crab", it was an exciting event drawing a large crowd of onlookers from the banks of the river just outside Livingstone, Zambia.

The event took place 5 kms upstream from the Victoria Falls at the Zambezi Boat Club and it was celebrating the centenary of the very first World Sculling Championships which, surprisingly, took place here in Zambia back in 1910. Two descendants of competitors who took part in that event one hundred years ago competed here on Saturday and much fun was had by all.

A helicopter buzzed over the races, filming at close quarters, while safety boats and others looked on. The African Queen, Lady Livingstone and African Princess river cruisers, packed with spectators, hovered



beyond the finish line, while a crazy, off-beat new sailing craft - designed by a local Dutchman - weaved its way back and forth around the finish area. This boat was the dreamchild of Arthur, supplier of Zambezi Nkuku chickens to the denizens of Livingstone. He had transformed a long, round-bottomed banana boat into a wonderfully whacky sailing vessel by adding an outrigger on the starboard side, painting a crocodile's head and teeth around the bow, adding a couple of beady eyes to the foredeck and raising a mast of bamboo with two gloriously painted sails. This was the coolest boat on the water and the envy of many. Next year, I wouldn't be at all surprised if a new category of race was added to the Zambezi Regatta programme - sailing! Kayak races, mokoro races and white-water rafts, all manned by locals, also competed in the Regatta that same day. It was great to see the

river being used for such a spectacular event at the beginning of the month-long Zambezi Festival - roll on next year!

The Festival carries on until the end of November. For events look at <http://www.livingstonetourism.com/events.php>

Watch out for details in the Newsletter next year for the 2011 programme.



WEATHER FOR THIS PERIOD

	October	November	December
High temperature	34C	33C	30C
Low temperature	18C	19C	19C
Rainfall	2.5cm	7.0cm	16.9cm
Humidity	42%	55%	71%

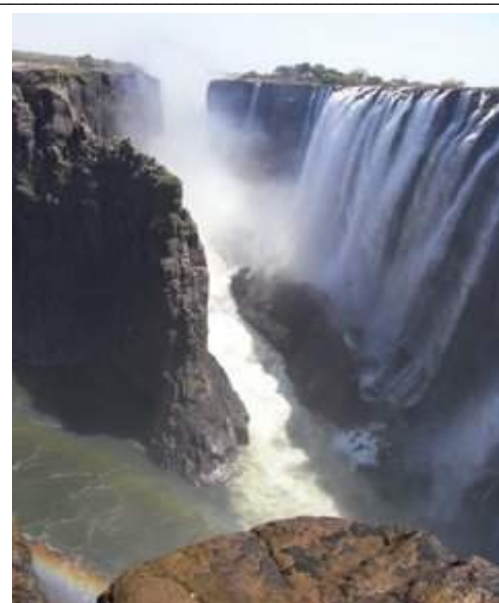
Anniversary of David Livingstone's sighting of Victoria Falls in 1855

Date: 17 November 2010

Dr David Livingstone famously viewed the Falls on this day and named it after his Queen.

He had been told about the Falls before he reached them from upriver and was paddled across to a small island that now bears the name Livingstone Island - a visit that tourists can emulate during low water seasons.

Book this adventure at the Lodge



Exchange rates :-

1\$ =K4,848

1£=K7617 , 1Euro =K6586

1ZAR =K693

Bundu



ADVENTURE SPECIALISTS

Good news!
The road to Lusaka
is now finished



After a long high water season the Zambezi has finally dropped enough for our rafting trips to start from the Boiling pot, right at the base of the Victoria Falls. You can raft the best rapids on the planet!!! If you had tried to build a river specifically for rafting, you would have not come anywhere close to the Zambezi. It is the ultimate rafting river and a trip you must do once in your lifetime... Trips of varying length are available from 3hours to a full day. Also riverboarding and or surfing The Bundu office is now located at The Lodge so it is easy to find out the whole range of activities