

Esther Mathias, a pupil at Okangororosa School, Omuthiya in Northern Namibia with one of the trees which have become "part of our family".

## Planting in Schools in Northern Namibia.

Flying Forest recently visited two schools in Northern Namibia where trees had been planted earlier in the year. The visit was arranged by SandyAcre Safaris, ([www.sandyacresafaris.com](http://www.sandyacresafaris.com)) one of our main supporters in Namibia, who helped to deliver the trees from the nursery in Okahandja to the schools, and with the assistance of Safari Drive ([www.safaridrive.com](http://www.safaridrive.com)) who provided the vehicle for the trip.

The two schools are Okangororosa Combined School, and Omboto Primary School, both near the northern boundary of the Etosha National Park and close to the recently proclaimed town of Omuthiya.

There are 308 pupils at Okangororosa school and 280 at Omboto., We were told by the headmaster that he had recently identified that 49% of the pupils at Okangororosa have lost one or both parents.

In their grounds, the schools have planted a mix of trees including marula and acacia as well as wild plum, lemon and guava.

The saplings are each surrounded by a 'wigwam' of branches to protect them from the sun and animals, especially the goats who like to eat young trees. The branches of the

wigwam will be used to protect new saplings when these trees have become established.

The headmaster of Okangororosa school, Walter Hangula, said that the trees were now "part of our family". He told us that when he was growing up, there were many more trees in the area, but over the years they have been cut down for fuel for cooking and for building houses.

He was delighted with the mix, as he pointed out that the fruit trees in years to come will provide a harvest which will improve the pupils' diet. He also said that the teachers are using the trees in their lessons on biology and the environment - they are very conscious of how fragile the environment is, especially in this area, and how global warming is an issue



which affects us all.

Both headmasters are keen to see this programme expanded, they have identified more land which can be used for planting and would like to see it broadened to include other nearby schools. Flying Forest is discussing with them ways in which we can help, especially by setting up a tree nursery.

Both schools would welcome visitors, (they are quite close to the northern entrance to Etosha) and would be proud to show off their trees. We would encourage all supporters of Flying Forest, although it means going slightly off the beaten track, to do this. Anyone interested should email Walter Hangula ([wwhangula@yahoo.ca](mailto:wwhangula@yahoo.ca)). His mobile number is: + 264 81 295 0345.





## Tree Nursery.

Flying Forest has been approached by a number of schools in Southern Africa who want to plant trees and we are keen to help them.








It is not possible to plant trees all year round in Southern Africa (it's best done at the beginning of the rainy season) so Flying Forest is looking at ways of establishing small nurseries. Our aim is to encourage schools to get the pupils to collect seeds from the local trees and to then plant them and take care of them until they are of sufficient size to be planted out. Flying Forest will pay the school an agreed amount for every sapling, and the school can then use this money for additional equipment, school outings etc.



## Calculating your Carbon Footprint.

It's not easy to calculate how much CO<sub>2</sub> you are personally responsible for on every flight you take. There are lots of different factors which come into play and which will affect the final output of CO<sub>2</sub> on any given flight and your share of it.

These factors will include:

-  The age of the plane and its engines – older engines tend to be less fuel efficient
-  The load factor – how many passengers are on your particular flight.
-  The class you travel in – based on cabin area, business class takes up three times the space for an economy class passenger, and first class takes up six times more space.
-  The altitude of the departure airport – thinner air means more fuel to take off.
-  The time of day and time of year, both of which affect the air temperature, and the warmer it is, the more fuel is required.
-  The restrictions applicable to particular airports – for example some airports require a steeper ascent/descent so as to cut down the noise nuisance
-  Air Traffic congestion – planes sometimes have to circle for considerable periods of time before they can land.

Because it's so complicated for all these reasons (and others), Flying Forest has chosen what, on first view, may seem to be a rather simplistic way of calculating the contribution which we recommend that you make to fly with a clear carbon conscience. We hope that by keeping it simple, more people will be encouraged to contribute which allows us to plant more trees and to help more communities.

If you'd like to know more contact [info@flyingforest.org](mailto:info@flyingforest.org)



## Bushbabies

Flying Forest is thinking about adopting the bushbaby as its mascot. Fairly common throughout sub Saharan Africa, but not easy to see as they only come out at night, they need trees to survive. They seem to have been taken over in the public's affection by the koala bear, but maybe it's time for a rethink. If you have any thoughts or ideas about this, contact us at: [info@flyingforest.org](mailto:info@flyingforest.org)

## Expert Africa

Earlier this year, Flying Forest agreed with Expert Africa, part of the Sunvil Group, that we would be one of two implementing

partners in their Carbon Offset Scheme. We are delighted to be working with them, and look forward to close cooperation with them and their clients over the coming years to ensure that not only do we offset the carbon, but also benefit communities and conservation in the places which they come to visit. For more information on Expert Africa, contact: [www.expertafrica.com](http://www.expertafrica.com)

## Summer Holidays

Flying Forest, along with our supporters and many others, looks forward to the summer holidays which are coming soon. Let's make sure that this year, everybody that we know who is flying abroad for their holidays, flies

with a clear carbon conscience. A lot of the information in this newsletter can be found on our website [www.flyingforest.org](http://www.flyingforest.org) so if your friends haven't heard about us, please point them in this direction and encourage them to support our work.

## Robin Pope Safaris, Zambia

Flying Forest is collaborating with an exciting new tree planting programme initiated by Robin Pope Safaris in Zambia. Wanting to move their safari business towards being carbon neutral, and to alleviate some of the problems caused by deforestation, they are now working with two local schools. They have set up tree nurseries, and despite some problems with flooding, are growing a mix of indigenous, fruit and agro forestry species. They will be donating a portion of their nightly rate to the project and will be encouraging their guests to offset their flights to Zambia with Flying Forest. We hope to bring you more news soon, in the meantime have a look at their website: [www.robinpopesafaris.net](http://www.robinpopesafaris.net)



## STOP PRESS

### Shopping for Trees

Flying Forest has just signed up with an innovative new internet shopping company, called HotOnEarth which wants to help you shop with a clear carbon conscience. If you buy through them over the internet, from a range of well known suppliers, you pay no more than you would in the shops, but a percentage of what you pay goes to schemes such as Flying Forest. Check them out on [www.hotonearth.co.uk](http://www.hotonearth.co.uk), see if you can do some shopping with them, and put us in as your preferred partner.

