

Ronnie the Rhino:

A successful roving ambassador In Sweden

The club's first roving ambassador, Ronnie Rhino 1, was handed over to Kurt and Barbro Bostroöm of Landskrone, Sweden in January by his custodian Grant Adam, Rotary Club of Pretoria East. The Bostroöms are honorary members of the RCPE and regularly visit South Africa.



The rhinoceros is a soft grey toy fitted with a Rotary logo and a small backpack containing a memory stick outlining the club and its most important fund raising projects. The rhinos have their ears adorned with the Rotary "End Polio Now" badge and the "Peace" badge.



Left: Barbro Bostroöm from Sweden holds Ronnie Rhino 1 and his passport, ready for yet another fundraising campaign.

Ronnie the Rhino has been featured at five presentations in Sweden:- Skärvgöl, Isle of Ven, Landskrone Citadell RC, Landskrone Glumslöv RC and Åstorp RC. Brave President BengtArthur of Landskrone Glumslöv RC even took the challenge of eating a Mopane worm that was offered.

There will also be an article about Ronnie Rhino in the Swedish District monthly newsletter where other clubs will be invited to adopt Ronnie.

The Rotarians have listened carefully, but without any doubt, the part of "saving Rhinos" has been the most touching. There have been a lot of questions and discussions and this really engaged the people. In the last club, a veterinarian offered to come and help in SA.

All clubs have said that they will consider participating in some of the RCPE projects such as Souns and Winterveldt. The Bostroöms have donated a bottle of Amarula at each of the three clubs and they have promised to hold a lottery for the Ronnie Rhino appeal.

In Australia

The club's second roving ambassador, Ronnie Rhino 2, was handed over to Johan de Meulenare by his custodian Clive Perkins of the Rotary Club of Pretoria East. Johan is a former member of RCPE and now lives in Australia.

On the 3rd June Johan gave a presentation to the Rotary Club of Jindalee and on the 10th June, at a regular meeting, President Russ Highenbottom, handed over AU\$ 1 200 that club members had donated (about R12 089).



Johan de Meulenare and Ronnie Rhino2



President Russ Highenbottom of the Rotary Club of Jindalee hands over AU\$ 1 200 to Johan de Meulenare

There are still no solutions to the funding problems of the Winterveldt HIV/AIDS Care Centre since USAID has withdrawn its support. The site development plan has been suspended due to a lack of funds

The Club of Jindalee has specified that the money must go towards the Winterveldt - Food Parcel Scheme and provide food parcels for the orphaned children at Winterveldt whose parents died of HIV or Tuberculosis. That should help with the provision of food for at least 4 months. However, future funding is still a crisis.