2017 Annual Report
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Dear Supporter,

2017 was the final year of a 2-year expansion programme for Chipembele, which I am very pleased to report has been a huge success. This was the first year in Chipembele’s 19-year history that we rolled out a regular programme to teach conservation to adult community groups and it was enthusiastically welcomed and embraced by them all. Our Conservation Education Programme now reaches 18 schools and more than 200 community groups in the greater Mfuwe area.

The year brought some very positive staff changes. In January we welcomed a new Conservation Education Manager, Jennifer Dillard (USA), who brought with her tremendous experience of conservation and community education in the developing world. It was through her enthusiastic and professional management that the expanding programme developed so smoothly and effectively.

Later in the year we created a new position of Conservation Programme Manager, which was taken up by Karlyn Langjahr (USA). Karlyn has a background in conservation as well as administration and is responsible for the overall management of the organisation. Under her attentive wings Chipembele is now a much more streamlined and staff focused organisation than before.

We also created the position of Principal Conservation Educator and welcomed Philip Muyoma (Zambia) to the team. Our staff now total 15 and I am hugely grateful for all their dedicated hard work, which I am proud to say has significantly contributed to Chipembele growing into one of the leading conservation education organisations in Zambia today.

In August we imported a mobile education unit from the UK which was a very colourful addition to our tired looking fleet of vehicles! It had been converted from an army ambulance and was painted all over with wildlife pictures and conservation messages. It now takes our conservation education programmes to even remoter communities, considerably expanding our geographic reach and our educational impact. It’s certainly a crowd puller and its emergency ‘nee-nah’ siren triggers children to run in from villages all around!

Other Chipembele programmes in 2017 included student sponsorship, school improvement projects, support of scientific research, natural resource protection, community support and animal rehabilitation. These programmes help to keep our work diverse and grounded. They also keep us directly connected to contemporary developments in the community and the environment, an essential component of any charitable grassroots organisation.

Finally, I must credit much of the success of our operations and activities to our supporters and donors around the world. Their generous donations, logistical support and words of encouragement helped us to overcome many of the challenges that we regularly face working in a remote rural part of Africa and allowed our programmes to thrive. I am also truly grateful for the prodigious support of the local community, the Ministry of Education, our programme partners and the unwavering support of our Board of Trustees. We really couldn’t do it without any of them!

We look forward to another exciting and progressive year for conservation education in South Luangwa in 2018.

Anna Tolan
Executive Director
There are two main centres of operation:

1. **Chipembele Conservation Centre** (also known as the Chipembele Centre), which is also the site of the permanent home of Steve and Anna Tolan (founding Directors). The Centre is located 16km South West of Mfuwe, close to the banks of the Luangwa River, in a wild and unspoilt area of the Lupande Game Management Area. It comprises a classroom, library, discovery room, office, kitchen, storerooms, toilets and a chitenge (summer hut). There is also a large perennial pond and a range of rehabilitation facilities for orphaned and injured animals.

GPS co-ordinates: S 13°0 12.123’ E 031°0 42.220’

Students participating in the Chipembele Centre programme come from 7 different schools:

1) Chiwawatala Basic School; 2) Kakumbi Primary School; 3) Kawaza Primary School; 4) Mfuwe Primary School; 5) Mfuwe Secondary School; 6) Nsefu Day Secondary School; and 7) Yosefe Basic School

2. **Chipembele Conservation Education Outreach Programme** (CEOP) at the Chipembele Offices is located on the grounds of Mfuwe Day Secondary School in the heart of Mfuwe. The offices are approximately 20 km from the Chipembele Centre. This small campus includes the Principal Conservation Educator’s house, administration offices, a classroom, a student resource room, a botanic garden and a Community Nature Conservancy (1 Ha).

GPS co-ordinates: S 13°0 7.509’ E 31°0 48.992’

Map below designed by Polly Hosp of UK
As of 2017, there are 18 schools involved in our education programme from Kakumbi Chiefdom, Nsefu Chiefdom and Mnkhanya Chiefdom of Mambwe District. Our education team works with 31 Conservation and Chongologo Clubs from these schools. The furthest school from the Chipembele Centre, Matula Primary School, lies approximately 40km away.

The expansion of our team in 2017 to include four Community Conservation Educators (CCEs) resulted in the increase of our CEOP from Mfuwe Central area to three additional zones surrounding Mfuwe: Nsefu, Kakumbi and Mnkhanya zones. With that growth, our work area enlarged from 350 km² to about 1,000 km².

Additionally, thanks to the addition of our Mobile Education Unit (MEU) in 2017, we have begun serving more distant Chiefdoms surrounding Mfuwe on a bi-weekly basis. The MEU Outreach Programme includes Malama, Mwanya, Msoro, Mnkhanya and Jumbe Chiefdoms now, expanding our reach from about 1,000 square kilometres (km²) to ~3,000 km².
Mission and Objectives

Mission
To teach Zambian children and communities the value of wildlife and their environment so it may be conserved for present and future generations.

Motto
‘Learn to conserve’

Tag Lines
‘...giving children and communities hope and wildlife a chance’
‘...teaching Zambian children and communities the value of wildlife’

Values
Integrity | Passion | Leadership | Commitment

Vision
People and Wildlife living in Harmony throughout Zambia

Objectives
1. To teach the local children and communities the value of wildlife and how to conserve their environment using both traditional and more modern, interactive methods.
2. To provide a Conservation Education Centre with a high standard of facilities and educational materials for the benefit of the local community and national/international visitors.
3. To assist in the provision of educational materials on wildlife for dissemination in local schools and other institutes.
4. To provide a free wildlife resource centre (including an Africana library and an interpretive room) for interested parties from the local community (e.g. teachers, trainee safari guides etc.).
5. To admit the wider community for the purposes of study, research and recreation in order to raise awareness of the urgent need for conservation in the area.
6. To support and administer improvement projects in the local schools through material assistance and sponsorship of teachers and pupils.
7. To provide administrative and scientific assistance and support to persons and bodies having objectives similar to those of CWET.
8. To promote and encourage the protection and preservation of local flora and fauna through regulated antipoaching and forestry patrols and liaison with both local and national statutory bodies.
9. To provide a refuge for orphaned and injured wild animals with the aim of rehabilitating them to the wild when they are ready.
10. To liaise with and support researchers from around the world on the wildlife, archaeology and palaeontology of the area.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, colour, creed, national or ethnic origin, gender, religion, disability or age in its employment policies, operations and programmes. Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust complies with all Zambian employment and equal opportunity laws.

Chipembele Centre with new roof after damage from strong winds. Read more on page 11.
Chipembele Team

Chipembele Centre:

- Anna & Steve Tolan, Co-Founders and Directors of Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust (CWET), have been based at Chipembele Centre since 1998. Both are British and have been unsalaried since CWET’s inception.
- Andrew Kamanga (new in July), Vehicle / Logistics Coordinator (Zambian) split half-time with Centre and Offices
- Yona Phiri, Driver and Mechanic (Zambian)
- 3 domestic staff (Zambian): Moses Banda, Alick Kopa and Simon Mwape

See more about Anna & Steve at: www.chipembele.org/about/tolan

Chipembele Offices:

Administration Team

- Karlyn Langjahr (new in August), Conservation Programme Manager (USA)
- Japhet Shanungu, Accounts Officer and IT/Computer Teacher (Zambian)
- Eunice Nakacinda, Programme Support Officer (Zambian)
- Naomi Sakala, Office Cleaner (Zambian)

Conservation Education Team

- Jennifer Dillard, Conservation Education Manager (USA)
- Philip Muyoma (new in August), Principal Conservation Educator (Zambian)
- Isaac Mulenga (up until August), Senior Conservation Educator (Zambian)
- 4 Community Conservation Educators in 4 different zones surrounding Mfuwe (Zambian): Dan Banda, John Sakala, Daniel Zulu and John K Banda

See more about our team at: www.chipembele.org/about/staff

Board of Trustees

CWET Board of Trustees:
1. Steve Tolan (Non-Executive Director)
2. Christina ‘Gid’ Carr (Chair)
3. Deb Tittle (Secretary)
4. Charles Zulu (Trustee)
5. Adam Goulding (Trustee)
6. Thandiwe Mweetwa (Trustee)
7. Jude Price (Trustee)
8. Kaye Brown (Trustee)
9. Emma Still (Creative Director)
10. Ruth Macallan (Trustee)

See more about our Trusts at: www.chipembele.org/about/trusts

CWET Trust UK Board of Trustees:
1. Nigel Morgan (Secretary)
2. Paul Norley (Trustee)
3. June Chapman (Trustee)
4. Brian Bayliss (co-Treasurer)
5. Karen Bayliss (co-Treasurer)

UK Registered Charity number 1107698

Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust - Organisational Structure

Registration of CWET
Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust was established as a charitable trust in Zambia in 1998 and is registered with PACRA (Patents and Companies Registration Agency), registration number 41317. It is also registered as a Zambian NGO (non-governmental organization) with the Ministry of Community Development, certificate number ENGO 101/0046/13.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Organisation &amp; Website</th>
<th>Logo</th>
<th>How Partnered with CWET</th>
<th>Partnership Continuing in 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zambian Carnivore Programme (ZCP)</td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Zambian Carnivore Programme Logo" /></td>
<td>ZCP leads conservation research in the field and classroom for 30 of Chipembele’s Conservation Club students every Friday afternoon during school year.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife and Environmental Conservation Society (WECSZ)-Chipata Branch</td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Wildlife and Environmental Conservation Society Logo" /></td>
<td>WECSZ (Chipata Branch) allows the free use of student dormitory at Wildlife Camp for Nature Nights Programme and brings students from Chipata to the Chipembele Conservation Education Centre.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Luangwa</td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Project Luangwa Logo" /></td>
<td>Chipembele and Project Luangwa have a close liaison on school improvement projects and student sponsorships. They partner on gender related activities, such as 2017 International Day of the Girl.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)</td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="World Wide Fund for Nature Logo" /></td>
<td>WWF and Chipembele collaborated in education on WWF Zambia’s Luangwa River campaign. WWF invited Chipembele to participate in WWF’s Environmental Hub for environmental civil society organisations in Zambia.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Zambian Carnivore Programme teaches our conservation students how to conduct field research as part of their Friday Club activities.
A. Conservation Education Programmes

Chipembele’s award-winning Conservation Education Programme is carried out with the collaboration and support from the Ministry of Education.

1) Chipembele Conservation Education Centre

The programme at Chipembele Conservation Education Centre ran well throughout the year. Full day programmes twice a week were organised for seven local schools in our core programme. Conservation Clubs at primary school level for Grades 5 to 7 are called Chongololo Clubs and those at secondary level for Grades 8 to 12 are known as Conservation Clubs. The schools include:

   a. Chiwawatala Basic School (Conservation and Chongololo Clubs)
   b. Kakumbi Primary School (Chongololo Club)
   c. Kawaza Primary School (Chongololo Club)
   d. Mfuwe Basic School (Conservation and Chongololo Clubs)
   e. Mfuwe Secondary School (Conservation Club)
   f. Nsefu Day Secondary School (Conservation Club)
   g. Yosefe Basic School (Conservation and Chongololo Clubs)

The curriculum was prepared and delivered on a range of wildlife and conservation issues and the lessons were facilitated by Anna Tolan. In 2017, 700 local students attended the Centre for a full day’s programme. Sixteen students also visited from schools outside of the Chipembele catchment area.

Visitors to Chipembele’s Conservation Education Centre

An additional 210 other visitors were welcomed at the Centre from Zambia and countries around the world including tourists, government departments, volunteers, other non-government organisations, and the local community.

Visitors who signed in came from the following countries: Australia, Great Britain, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Mexico, The Netherlands, Russia, South Africa, Switzerland, Turkey, United States of America, Zambia, Zimbabwe and unspecified.
In August, fierce winds ripped some roofing sheets off the main building of Conservation Centre. They were made of asbestos and no longer available in Zambia for health and safety reasons, so the whole roof had to be replaced. We set up a funding appeal and were able to replace the roof within a few weeks, thanks to many kind donors who responded. It was an enormous job and horribly messy as the tops of the concrete walls had to be smashed off to fit the ‘waves’ of the new sheets. Thankfully the damage occurred during the school holidays and nobody was injured. The roof was in place and the rooms were cleaned up just in time for the opening of the third term!

Photos below depict the replacement of roofing sheets to the damaged Chipembele Centre roof.

2) Conservation Education Outreach Programme (CEOP)

For the majority of the year the CEOP team consisted of Conservation Education Manager (CEM), Jennifer Dillard, Senior Conservation Educator (SCE), Isaac Mulenga Jr., and a team of four Community Conservation Educators (CCEs). The community outreach programme was launched in full within four zones where each of the CCEs is based, covering Mfuwe Central, Nsefu, Kakumbi and Mnkhanya Zones.

In August, the SCE resigned, and we brought in Principal Conservation Educator (PCE), Philip Muyoma. Philip’s position has allowed us to launch our Mobile Education Unit Outreach Programme (read more below), and further develop the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) programme that Jennifer established early in 2017. With MEL added to our education repertoire, we are able to more effectively measure the impacts of our education programmes and plan and adjust for the future in ways that address the needs and desires of the schools and communities we work with.

Jennifer and the Education team led a number of innovative, diverse, hands-on and fun programmes, activities and projects in 2017:
John K Banda and a student observe the results of a condensation experiment to explain the water cycle.

Community Outreach Programme

The four CCEs who were trained in 2016 launched into each of their zones to work with a wider audience within their communities this year. Beyond their work with children and youth in the schools, CCEs reached out to community members and groups to address major topics of interest that came out of surveys and questionnaires directed to community members. Together, they developed community action plans to help combat some of the important conservation topics highlighted during the surveys on deforestation, human wildlife conflict, poaching, pollution, climate change and more. CCEs then led and facilitated educational discussions on some of those prioritised topics in their communities.

- **Zerks Mwale**, an Extension Officer for Department of National Parks and Wildlife (formerly called Zambian Wildlife Authority), joined students for two classroom sessions on his role in preventing wildlife crime along with different aspects of wildlife crime prevention. He touched on hunting management, reporting, response and more.
- **George Mwanza**, father to Conservation Club student Ganizahni, is studying Conservation in South Africa and served as an excellent role model for Club members in standing up for what you believe in. George shared about his journey leading up to his career path and gave inspirational advice to the students. George was later awarded Student of the Year at the Southern African Wildlife College.
- **Masauso Zulu**, a Wildlife Scout for Conservation South Luangwa (CSL) shared his experiences tackling wildlife crime. He showed students some of the technology used to perform his work, along with samples of the educational tools CSL has to inform the community about their work.

At the end of the year, Jennifer conducted an annual meeting with head teachers, deputy head teachers and patrons/matrons from each of the school zones to provide an overview of the years’ Club activities and receive feedback from schools.
**Nature Nights**

Chipembele ran a total of four educational “Nature Nights” camping expeditions in April and August during the school holidays with 32 total students representing schools from all of the four zones around Mfuwe that we work in. For each of our four outings, we included one dedicated and active Conservation or Chongololo Club patron or matron. Each Nature Nights excursion was led by CWET’s CEM, SCE (until his departure), two CCEs and the Programme Support Officer on each. Chipembele employed armed scouts from the Nsefu Community Resources Board (CRB) to accompany the group at all times for safety reasons. During the two April sessions, a licensed Safari Guide voluntarily led students on bush walks to compliment the game drives within South Luangwa National Park. In August, students embarked on additional morning game drives due to lack of availability of Safari Guides with walking credentials. Not only do the students learn and experience a great deal about the surrounding wildlife and habitats, but they also participated in team building games, leadership and communication activities, and other learning and reflecting exercises.

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**Anti-Snaring Environmental Campaign**

The annual environmental campaign for 2017 centred around anti-snaring with students from six schools’ Chongololo and Conservation Clubs in the Mfuwe Central zone. The overarching aim of the anti-snaring campaign was to raise awareness and educate local community members of all ages about the impacts of using snares and the benefits of caring about wildlife and avoiding snares in our communities. The Mfuwe Day Saturday Conservation Club members were tasked with running the campaign, which consisted of producing public service announcements on a regional radio station, delivering classroom presentations on anti-snaring, holding a poster contest, designing and posting educational flyers throughout the community, celebrating with a parade and a final event consisting of music, traditional dance, songs, educative drama performances, speeches and poems. Students undertook the lion’s share of the tasks, including seeking permission to hold the campaign from the local Chief, inviting dignitaries, writing/recording the radio ads, and more. The main event was attended by hundreds of community members.

Right: One of the posters created for the anti-snaring campaign.
A group of 16 students embarked on a life-changing experience at the Ndubaluba Outdoor Adventure Centre in Mkushi in Central Zambia for a week with Jennifer, CCE John Sakala and Biology teacher, Thelma Chabala, from Mfuwe Day Secondary School. The “Ndubaluba Extreme” programme challenged students physically, mentally and spiritually through a series of courses in a team setting and required a one-and-a-half day drive to reach. Students engaged in a two-month challenge to earn their spots on this trip, and everyone came out with stronger leadership, communication and problem-solving skills and a sense of self-discovery, so we look forward to seeing what Zambia’s next generation will produce!

Students worked in a team to test their resourcefulness and problem-solving skills to build a raft using a given set of materials.

Participants tackle the ropes course as part of the week long Ndubaluba Extreme Challenge!

Mobile Education Unit Outreach Programme (MEUOP)

This was an exciting year to add the Mobile Education Unit (MEU) to our programmes, with the successful launch of the MEU in September, allowing us to expand our reach to more distant communities and new Chiefdoms in our district. The team consisting of our PCE, Vehicle and Logistics Coordinator and one of the 4 CCEs or the CEM completed five initial three day/two-night trips in Malama, Mwanya, Msoro, Mnkhanya, and Jumbe Chiefdoms. During these trips, CWET staff met with local Chiefs, head teachers and community leaders to conduct surveys, questionnaires and focus groups to introduce this exciting new programme. They shared our future plans with the MEUOP, conducted a mobile library drive, visited Community Resource Boards, showed evening wildlife documentaries, and more. The reception was overwhelmingly positive, and we will schedule regular trips to these Chiefdoms in 2018.

Anna showing the Mobile Education Unit to students from Mfuwe Primary School for the first time

Community members engage with Philip Muyoma (Principal Conservation Educator) in Mwanya Chiefdom.
Chikwondwelero Celebration Event

We held our first annual “Chikondwelero” (which means “celebration” in Chinyanja) to celebrate wildlife and nature with more than 400 Conservation/Chongololo Club students and teachers from the 18 schools we work with. The all-day event was held at the local Primary School and included presentations from each Club as a skit, dance, song or poem to express their sentiments towards nature and conservation. Students also participated in competitive silly races, face painting and dance competitions. We look forward to carrying this forward each year!

Zambian Carnivore Programme Fridays

Every Friday afternoon during the school terms throughout the year, some of our Mfuwe Day Saturday Conservation Club students worked with scientific researchers and educators from the Zambian Carnivore Programme (ZCP). ZCP staff led field-based research activities with 30 students, including training on conducting wildlife surveys, using research tools such as hand-held GPS units and camera traps, using data to help answer relevant resource and management questions, and more. They analysed all of their data, produced final results, prepared a formal presentation on their year-long research project and will present their results to an audience in 2018. It is an excellent way for them to undertake the scientific process and understand what goes into being a field biologist/ecologist!

Skill-up! Living Intentionally and Holistically

Steve Blake facilitated three workshops with students covering the topics of 1) goals and careers, 2) happiness and stress management, and 3) what being a Conservation Club member means. Students helped identify the topics of interest and together, they tested creative ways to put the new Habitat Room to use, beyond quiet reading or studying.

Students shared that they found the space to be conducive to sharing ideas in an intimate, non-academic setting. They participated in self-reflection, goal setting, role-playing, guided visualisation, meditation, discussions on strategies for success in careers and life, methods for stress management, yoga and yagi (a Zambian version of Socratic seminar). Each seminar involved 10-18 students and empowered them with tools to live a more holistic and intentional life.
Skill-up! Photography Workshops, J&A Camera Club and Student Photography Exhibition

Three photography workshops were conducted in 2017 by professional photographers Julie and Adam Bates, owners of Shutter Speed Pictures in the UK. In April, they led an eight-day workshop for 30 students on basic photography techniques and taught them how to use a camera and process photos on a computer. Students went on several game drives in South Luangwa National Park with a professional photo guide, Yorum Ndhlovu from Kaingo Camp. In October, Julie and Adam ran a two-day photography workshop with 28 Camera Club students, taking them into local communities to put skills into practice by capturing village life.

In December, Julie returned for 11 days to work with the Club members. Ten students were trained in Photoshop and photo editing on new MacBook computers and a small advanced group of five students fine-tuned their skills and added macro photography to their repertoire.

Monthly J&A Camera Club meetings were held, taught remotely by Julie Bates, but facilitated by the SCE and then PCE on site. An additional seven new members joined the Camera Club, learning camera and photography basics from Julie. The J&A Camera Club grew to 27 members by the end of 2017. Workshops concluded with slide shows, awards and sometimes quizzes.

A traveling student photography exhibition resulted from last year’s best photos from Camera Club and were beautifully displayed for a few weeks at Mfuwe Lodge inside South Luangwa National Park. Several Club members participated in an afternoon “meet and greet” with international guests to share about their photos and experiences in Camera Club. The exhibition will rotate to other locations in 2018.

Below: Several of the Camera Club students proudly display their photography exhibition before meeting international guests at Mfuwe Lodge to talk about their experiences in Camera Club.
Gender Awareness Programme (GAP) - Closing the Gap!

Our Girls Club from previous years evolved and expanded into a Gender Awareness Programme (GAP) for all of our Conservation and Chongololo Club members in 2017. We believe that girls’ issues, inequalities and empowerment can be more effectively addressed and tackled when boys are included, as they must be part of the social and culture change! GAP topics incorporated into Club meetings addressed “Be Bold for Change” in celebration of International Women’s Day, “Mix it Up” to explore stereotyping, “When I Grow Up” to address gender stereotypes in careers, “Sharing the Load” to look at household gender roles, Respect and Empathy.

In April, volunteer Ruth Macallan and her sister Jude organized a Girls Aloud Club reunion event as a final meeting of Girls Club. They converted the Chipembele classroom into a beautiful sanctuary to celebrate the girls through activities like bra fittings, a nail spa, business card creating and decorating, and foot massages. Each station involved self-empowerment discussions with the girls including affirmations about the things they love about themselves, sharing dreams and ways to achieve them, and considering the challenges of being a girl. They celebrated with food, song and dance.

In May, six male members of the Chipembele team (SCE, 4 CCEs, and Accounts Officer/Computer Teacher), and ten boys from the Mfuwe Day Saturday Conservation Club participated in a three-day workshop by national gender leader and expert, Nelson Banda of Zambia National Men’s Network. The workshop’s focus was on respect and support of girls.

In October we partnered with Clubs from Project Luangwa and Yosefe Primary School to celebrate International Day of the Girl. In November we organised a special educative outing for the Saturday Conservation Club girls to two female-owned businesses in Mfuwe (Tribal Textiles and Dorica’s Café). The Saturday Conservation Club boys and CWET staff celebrated International Men’s Day with activities, facilitated discussions and food at our office location.

Botanic Garden and Nature Conservancy

Chipembele’s Botanic Garden continues to thrive, as trees grow taller and create more habitat in town on the grounds of our offices. The garden offers a space for learning, training, relaxing, holding meetings, practising presentations and more. The CCEs conduct weekly patrols in the both the Botanic Garden and Nature Conservancy. Throughout the year, students volunteer by picking up litter, sweeping paths and clearing invasive or overgrown vegetation in both of these sites. The Mfuwe Day Secondary School’s Saturday Conservation Club members are also responsible for carrying out weekly general maintenance and upkeep in both of these sites, dedicating 30 minutes each Saturday for this work.

Thanks to a grant from the U.S. Embassy, we added black soil in our Nature Conservancy where there had previously been deep holes from clay extracted to produce bricks for housing. Chipembele employed members from two outlying villages (Maili and Chitambo) to spread black soil into the Nature Conservancy and to clear the fire break around the Botanic Garden and Nature Conservancy. At the end of year during rainy season, students and volunteers planted 45 young trees in the Nature Conservancy.
Chipembele Rangers Programme

The Chipembele Rangers Programme allowed interested students from grades 8 to 12 to complete various assignments, hands-on activities and participate in the anti-snaring environmental campaign to earn 21 total Senior Ranger awards. For the first time in our history, CWET awarded Gold Certificates! In 2017, 13 Silver certificates and 8 Gold certificates were awarded to these well-deserving students.

Right: Student Ganizahni Mwanza reciting the Chipembele Ranger Pledge as he receives his Silver and Gold certificates.

Computer Training

Our IT/Computer Teacher, Japhet Shanungu, provided computer education every afternoon during the school year and during term breaks in April/May and August. Participating students were from one of our Conservation or Chongololo Clubs across six different schools. Our four CCEs also received computer training from Japhet during term breaks. In 2017, a total of 150 students completed the basic computer course consisting of 10 lessons (including Microsoft Word and Excel). Japhet awarded 120 students a certificate this year and watched as approximately 15 of the older and more experienced students advanced their computer skills and went on to learn more challenging programmes, such as PowerPoint, Publisher, and internet use.

Walking Tall Educational Theatre Project

In June, Chipembele had the great pleasure of hosting a very inspirational group of educators and artists from The Palaeontological Scientific Trust (PAST), a Johannesburg-based organization aimed at protecting, preserving and promoting the scientific evidence for our shared origins. It was PAST’s first tour of Mfuwe, Zambia, so Chipembele staff helped organise and facilitate their itinerary. They performed each day for local community groups in the morning and school groups in the afternoon.

PAST presents to Mfuwe school and community groups with Chipembele’s organisation and coordination.
A study conducted by Time and Tide Foundation in 2017 (Chipembele Conservation Clubs and Field Based Centre Final Analysis, July 2017) compared non-Conservation Club students and Chipembele Conservation Club students. This evaluation tool was followed up with the facilitation of two focus groups with members of the Saturday Conservation Club.

As CWET’s PCE, Philip's first set of tasks was to code and analyse all of the evaluation tools we used this year. Once this was completed, we presented our statistics, results and recommendations in a final annual evaluation report. Additionally, Time and Tide Foundation conducted a questionnaire that compared the depth of conservation knowledge between Conservation Club members and non-Conservation Club members, involving students from Yosefe Primary School and Mfuwe Day Secondary School.

**Figure 1.** The graph below depicts students’ perceptions on who holds responsibility for protecting South Luangwa National Park. Conservation Club members identified more parties and saw themselves, community and private sector as stewards.

**Figure 2.** The graph below depicts students’ views on how to approach conservation. Conservation Club members had a more diverse and more proactive mind-set to tackling conservation.
Volunteers

Chipembele was extremely fortunate to benefit from the talent, passion, and dedication to our mission by several volunteers in 2017, each of whom made a huge impact on our work and the people whose lives they touched in the process:

- **Chloe Grey** of Australia put to use her university background in filming and videography to produce a video about Chipembele in June. She volunteered with fellow Australian, Anne McCallum, and they worked together to obtain all of the Chipembele footage. The short film can be found online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=J7-AZRC9jnA and on the Chipembele home page. A former student on the Australia to Zambia exchange programme in 2013, we were excited to see the impact that her experience had on her and how that brought her back to Chipembele this year to help us produce this fantastic production!

- **Natalie Allen** from the USA volunteered for 10 days in June under Photographers Without Borders to produce a professional portfolio of photographs for Chipembele for use in marketing, social media or other ways to promote our programmes.

- **Julie and Adam Bates** of the UK continued to support our Camera Club by overseeing monthly meetings remotely and providing three Skill-Up! workshops throughout the year in April, October and December. They also donated camera equipment, computers and other materials used by the Camera Club, and put together the Student Photography Exhibition.

- **Kabwe Chanda**, former CWET Chongololo and Conservation Club member, is currently one of our sponsored students who is pursuing a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Education at the University of Zambia in Lusaka. During his school break, he spent two months helping the education team with teaching in the classroom, developing a presentation for Mfuwe Central zone Conservation Clubs, mentoring students during game drives and in the Habitat Room. Kabwe also shadowed each of the CCEs during one of their community outreach programmes and in their classrooms, accompanied the Mobile Education Unit team during a field visit to Jumbe Chiefdom, and participated in the International Men’s Day event.

- **Ruth Macallan** of the UK spent several months early in 2017 supporting the development of the gender lesson plans, mentoring the CCEs in their classrooms, facilitating CWET’s Girls Club and organizing the final Girls Aloud event. Ruth also became one of our Trustees, and we are thrilled for our continual knowledge sharing with her and presence on the CWET team.

- **Philip Muyoma** of Lusaka, Zambia, came for three weeks in March as a volunteer evaluator of our education programmes. He was such an asset that CWET created a position for him in August to incorporate his monitoring and evaluation skills and utilise his teaching and conservation background as CWET’s Principal Conservation Educator.

- **Steve Blake**, a retired Biology teacher from USA, assisted Chipembele in April by inventorying all of the science equipment and supplies that we acquired through a grant from U.S. Embassy. Steve also designed lesson plans for all of the science equipment and supplies and helped with some of the driving for April’s Nature Nights. In addition, he ran several life skills sessions for some of the senior students in our conservation education programme.

- **Emma Still** of Australia spent a month in March transforming the student resource room into a beautiful Habitat Room, with painted African wildlife and village murals and a “tree house” reading bunk. She was also instrumental in conducting monitoring visits with each of the educators in their classrooms and created the Habitat Room “membership card programme”. In 2017, Emma joined the Board of Trustees as Creative Director.

- **Simone Thompson** of Australia spent five weeks training Senior Conservation Educator on developing lesson plans, designing evaluation tools, teaching lessons in the classroom, conducting monitoring visits with each of the CCEs in their classrooms, and participating in a community outreach programme with one of our CCEs. Her background as a Zoo Educator benefitted the team greatly, and she presented on her own career path and life back in Australia. *Pictured below participating in a community team building exercise with CCE Dan Banda.*
B. Student Sponsorships

Chipembele sponsored a total of 67 students in 2017, at the primary (8), secondary (49) and tertiary (10) levels. The tertiary students were studying the following subjects:

- Degree in Biology (1)
- Diploma in Forestry (3)
- Higher certificate in Digital Film Production (1)
- Degree in Medicine (2)
- Degree in Natural Resource Management (1)
- Diploma in Animal Science (1)
- Degree in Environmental Education (1)

Education Levels of 2017 Sponsored Students

- Primary: 15%
- Secondary: 73%
- Tertiary: 12%

C. Schools Support

Kind donations from Schulprojekte Sambia of Switzerland enabled Chipembele to support the following schools in 2017:

- The monthly allowances for 3 untrained teachers at Kakumbi Primary School,
- 50 double school desks with integral bench seats for Malimba Community School, made by a local welder in metal to avoid the cutting of trees
- 5 boxes of school text books for Malimba and Kakumbi Primary Schools

D. Community

Throughout 2017, Anna distributed food to two needy families in the local community. Anna and the CCEs also distributed a large quantity of donated clothes, toys, toiletries, books and other personal items to various deserving families. Most of these goods were provided by National Police Aid Convoys of the UK, for which we are very grateful. Anna facilitated the repairs to the small house of a local family, including replacement of the iron sheets of a badly leaking roof. Chipembele supported the medical treatment of several local people including a chronically asthmatic child, a young school girl who frequently collapsed, and an injured Forest Guard. Chipembele also provided the costs for dental treatment for a woman with severe and chronic teeth infections. She needed all of her teeth removed and replaced with dentures. She is now able to eat properly and is much happier with her new appearance.

CWET also financially and logistically supported many conservation efforts of the Kakumbi Community Resources Board, particularly in habitat protection and deforestation.
E. Animal Rehabilitation

The aim is for all of Chipembele’s rescued animals to be reared and nurtured until they can safely be released back to the wild. Sometimes it is a quick release, as in the case of a rescued nestling or fledgling birds, and sometimes it is a very soft release, as with our primates. In 2012 a one-year old male vervet monkey called Pablo, who had been kept tied up as a pet by a Government worker, was brought to Chipembele. He was slowly introduced back to the wild and he fully joined the local troop later that year. We continued to raise other rescued vervet monkeys, and by 2017 there were eight of them forming a loose troop in the trees around the main house. Pablo then began to frequent the area and gradually established himself as the dominant male. He’s now a very large, robust, bright blue-testicled male with an attitude to match! The troop became cohesive under his watch and began to roam further than ever before.

In December 2017 we also reared a young orphaned yellow baboon, a young vervet, two warthogs, three bushbucks, a pangolin and several small birds. In addition, we fed Douglas the four-year old hippo game pellets and pumpkins during the two hottest and driest months of the year though he was free to roam and return to the wild at any time. We also took in a baby elephant for just a week. She was only about two months old and was found totally alone—weak, disorientated and dehydrated—by a member of the local community. As there was no sign of any elephants in the vicinity, she was rescued by Conservation South Luangwa and the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) and brought to the elephant boma at Chipembele. She was named Matizye after the river where she was found. The Elephant Orphanage Project (under Game Rangers International) sent their very experienced elephant consultant, Liz O’Brien, on the plane from Lusaka the same day. We also employed three men from the local community to be Matizye’s keepers around the clock. Liz oversaw all of Matizye’s intensive care for this time, after which she was assessed by a DNPW vet as stable and healthy enough to be flown courtesy of Proflight Zambia to the Elephant Orphanage at Lilayi Lodge, Lusaka.
F. Scientific Research

Chipembele continued to support scientific research in South Luangwa and further afield in 2017.

In June 2017 the Evolutionary Studies Institute (ESI), South Africa, sent a small team to Zambia, consisting of the ESI Director, Professor Marion Bamford and two ESI students. Marion is recognised as the top expert in the world of fossil trees and plants and had already been to Zambia on an expedition to Southern Province in 2015. This time CWET Co-Founder and Co-Director Steve Tolan led the team to various sites that he had discovered in the Luangwa Valley, including North and South Luangwa National Parks and the Upper Luangwa Valley. Since 2004, the largest fossil tree he had ever found in the Luangwa Valley was 1.46m diameter, but on this trip, in just one morning, they discovered fossil trees of 1.63, 2.06 and 2.26 metre diameters. The largest is thought to be the biggest fossil tree in Africa. Hundreds of samples were taken from many fossil trees for identification under the authorisation of the Zambian Department of National Heritage.

In July and August, Steve went on an expedition to Zimbabwe with an American PhD student, Chris Griffin. On their first day in the field, they found the almost-complete skeleton of what is thought to be Africa’s earliest dinosaur, as well as hundreds of other fossils of dinosaurs and other creatures.

In October, Steve joined a short reconnaissance trip to a very remote area in South Luangwa National Park and found many thousands of fossil trees in a completely new area. He also discovered the first dinosaur footprints ever found in Zambia! During the three-day trip, Steve—who is a Senior Honorary Ranger—and the Wildlife Police Officer who accompanied him, discovered and destroyed several meat drying racks used by poachers, chased three poachers who unfortunately escaped, and managed to seize their rifle, three sacks of illegal bushmeat and all their equipment.

Exciting find: dinosaur footprint!

Professor Marion Bamford and team with 1.46m fossil tree in South Luangwa National Park.

Amazing landscape in a part of South Luangwa National Park off the tourist circuit.

Well-preserved fossil wood with growth rings.
The Chipembele Student Resource Room (known as ‘The Habitat’) is open for use by any of the students in our conservation education programme. *Refurbishment and artwork by Emma Still.*
Donors and Supporters

Our sincere thanks and gratitude go to the following major financial supporters for our programmes in 2017 (in alphabetical order), many of who also played a vital role in other forms of organisational support:

Africa Hope Fund (USA)
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