



Sakhumzi - a dream in Cape Town

Göran Håkanson

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with its remarkable attractions...



...and its marvellous climate

A TOURIST PARADISE



Almost wherever you look the landscape is attractive!



Mountains to climb....



... and thrilling events like World Championships of soccer to attend

CAPE TOWN

A DREAM

Few places in the world offer such a mix of tempting ingredients for visitors.

THE CLIMATE

for one thing is very pleasant most of the year.

THE SCENERY

The city itself and its surroundings have a spectacular natural beauty.

ATTRACTIONS

Most of them are easily accessible.
Worthwhile excursions are plentiful.

TABLE MOUNTAIN and
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE are a few examples,

not to mention visits to
FANTASTIC WINEYARDS or

SAFARIS in nearby NATIONAL PARKS
with "the big five" and an abundance of other
animals

WITH MANY CHOICES

Living in
PRIVATE HOUSES,
GUEST HOUSES or
HOTELS
gives you a lot for your money.



EATING OUT IS REWARDING.
The food is good and varied, the prices are
very reasonable, to say nothing about all
magnificent
SOUTH AFRICAN WINES
that can accompany your dinner, also at
modest prices.





THE WATER FRONT is a must for all visitors



...with its genuine marina atmosphere, all its nice restaurants



....and interesting shopping malls



VINEYARDS close to Cape Town are plentiful



...with very nice lodges



... beautiful gardens



and not the least fine food and tasty wines



NATIONAL PARKS for safaris



where among other things you can see rhinos



THE BEAUTIFUL SURROUNDINGS

is one side of the coin. for those who were born on the sunny side of the street, for instance the WATERBOSCH COMPLEX at Somerset West,

Most of us would probably like to have such a setting for our lives.

This is not an option for everybody in South Africa.



Unfortunately there is another side of Cape Town with very poor townships like Khaelitsha



where primitive housing, lack of education for the children and unemployment for their parents is prevailing

SAKHUMZI ORPHANAGE



In the township of Mfuleni ...



...AMELIA POSWA reigns at orphanage Sakhumzi



... over a huge number of children, needing love and care

AMELIA POSWA

The indefatigable Amelia Poswa could in the eyes of many be considered a female Nelson Mandela. Cheated and betrayed by many, often with almost no support at all from outside but with never ending love and energy, she has helped innumerable children to survive during more than 40 years.

If she had been thinking like we do, she should probably have said STOP! there is no room for any more children. But she did not. When a child in need of shelter, food and a little comfort came in her way, it was welcome. There were times when she was afraid of telling anyone how many children actually stayed at Sakhumzi, as she feared that if known to the authorities they might come and take some of the children away or even shut the orphanage, because it was too crowded.

SAKHUMZI ORPHANAGE

was created by Amelia Poswa in the late 60-ies. Abandoned children, abused children, children who lost their parents from Aids, it was equally important for Amelia to help as many as she could.

SAKHUMZI is a full time home to more than 90 children, and another 60-100 who come there every day to get food and help with healthcare, hygiene etc.

Every cm² of the building is utilized in one way or the other. Besides the living room, kitchen and ever-busy laundry, all other space is crowded with beds, double and triple bunk-beds, some of which were made by the older children. The children don't have space to store their own clothes and belongings, but are happy to 'pool' their resources.



Children who like to play



Children who need mothers and fathers



Children who want to study



Children who want to have a party



Children who want goodies

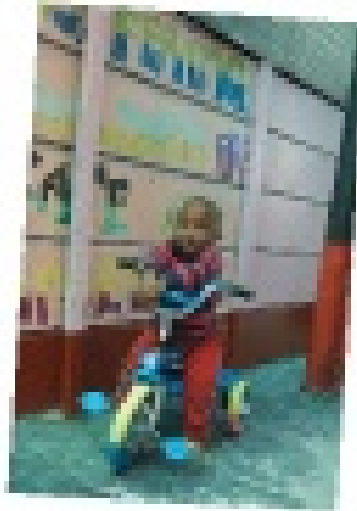
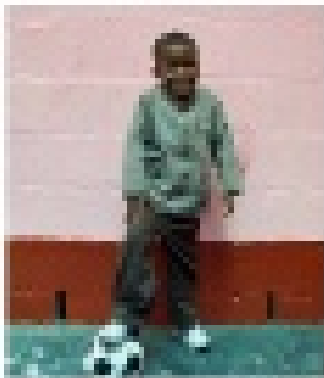


...and the older ones who want to develop some skill

Who wouldn't like to help ...



...these children to a better life?





When visiting SAKHUMZI you are often entertained by the small children, this time in attractive schools dresses



...and older ones



dancing



SUPPORTERS

Here are a few of us, who gathered in Cape Town end March 2010 to find out what we could do for AMELIA POSWA and her orphanage SAKHUMZI

From left:

Mikael Svensson,
Simon Phipps,
Mathew Kloos,
Amon Nyoni,
Göran Håkanson,
Ursula Jamb,
Barbro Phipps,
Ed Suter (with daughter),
Imtiaaz Hashim



A PARTY was arranged for the children by the visiting Swedes



A lucky dip with a small gift for every child



We thought that some 150 children would attend the party, but it turned out to be 200 ...



... or even more



AN ADVENTURE FOR KIDS

RATANGA JUNCTION

Amusement parks have an irresistible attraction for children all over the world.

For children from orphanages, who seldom have access to these luxuries they are even more exotic.

With the assistance from Ursula and a few of her colleagues from Sakhumzi we took 30 of the Sakhumzi kids to Ratanga Junction, Cape Town's most popular theme park.



The roller coaster



The train, taking us around the whole area



URSULA, "her crew" and som 30 eager children at the RATANGA entrance



waiting for the train



... and now they are on board



RATANGA lunch break. Yes - but we want two hot dogs each!



Eating between pleasures is important



...even if an unexpected bear scares you



Crocodiles dangerous. No - they are fun



The sky is the limit



A thoughtful Englishman



ASSISTANCE FROM SWEDEN SO FAR

A number of things bought by means from Sweden have improved life both for staff and children.

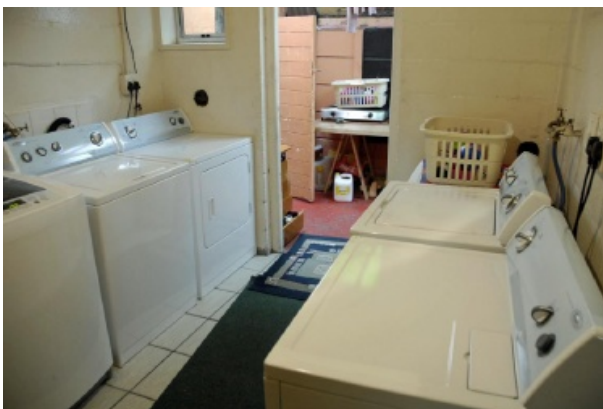
A Volkswagen bus has facilitated transports.

Washing machines, driers, stoves, shelves for storing of clothes have facilitated daily routines.

Entrance gates, roof repairs and illuminations have improved amenities at the orphanage.



Local carpenters have been employed to manufacture shelves for the childrens' clothes



New washing machines...



...and gas stoves have been acquired

AMELIAS VÄNNER

(Amelia's friends)



Barbro Phipps, Amelia Poswa and Simon Phipps

A little more than 6 years ago BARBRO and SIMON PHIPPS visited some relatives and friends in Cape Town, through whom they were introduced to the orphanage SAKHUMZI.

As everybody else they were duly impressed by the founder Amelia Poswa's never ending efforts to help a big number of children in precarious situations.

They returned to Sweden and formed AMELIAS VÄNNER (Amelia's friends), with the aim of giving continuous support to Amelia and her children.

With energy and dedication they have acquired an ever increased number of members to Amelia's Vänner, making it possible to send down regular amounts of money to Amelia, during the last three years not less than 10.000 rand per month.

Along the road they got acquainted with two dedicated teachers, the couple LISETTE (see picture left) and MIKAEL SVENSSON, who have lately been instrumental in extending the activities of Amelia's Vänner to generate more sponsors and donors.

Other people of importance for the development of the activities in Sweden are ROBERT SÄLL, above all an extremely generous sponsor of delicious food for the association's fund raising parties and HELENA EKBERG, with many creative ideas to raise funds.



Barbro Phipps and Lisette Svensson



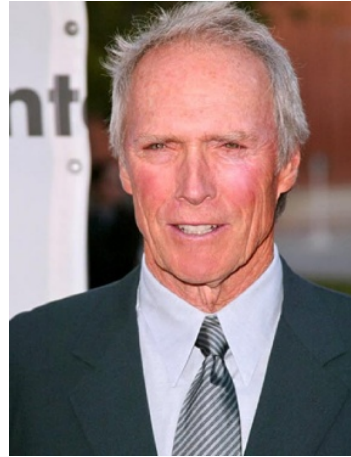
ROBERT SÄLL, a vital and generous member of "Amelias friends" together with Amelia Poswa.



URSULA JAMB is Amelia's right hand and HELENA EKSTRAND plays a very important role in Amelia's Vänner in Sweden

FAMOUS FRIENDS OF SAKHUMZI

The legendary moviestar and director, CLINT EASTWOOD has also contributed to Sakhumzi's well-being. When staying in Cape Town his wife and daughter went out to Sakhumzi 5 days a week to play with the children. Apart from the bed (see underneath) his wife also purchased a few other things for the orphanage.



CLINT EASTWOOD

In connection with the production of the movie "Invictus" (about Nelson Mandela's life) he donated a big and very elegant bed to Amelia! Very appropriate, considering many children's desire to cuddle up with her. The previous bed often broke because of overload!



The bed Clint Eastwood donated to Sakhumzi

The great tennis player STEFANIE GRAF spent a whole month at Sakhumzi a few years ago, and was very generous.



STEFANIE GRAF

IMPORTANT FOR SAKHUMZI



ED SUTER

A SAKHUMZI BOARD

Recently a board for SAKHUMZI was formed. The president of this board is Ed Suter, a long-time dedicated supporter of Sakhumzi.

A great challenge will be the development of "Amelia's village" on the new premises.



SHIRLEY PALMER

Shirley Palmer and "her" company Foschini, have supported Sakhumzi for a long time. Shirley's dedication to help Amelia out whenever she is in a squeeze and her general interest in seeing SAKHUMZI developing into a model orphanage is impressive .



AMELIA's VILLAGE

On this and the next page you will see some pictures from the new land (4.880 m² in all), acquired for a new and extended SAKHUMZI that we at this stage call AMELIA's VILLAGE.

Already today many of Sakhumzi's children stay here during part of the day. as a small piece of the land has become a playground with some play equipment for children like a slide, a climbing frame and a few swings.

A regular water supply both for drinking and washing is available and in a short while a decent electricity installation will be in place.

A few small, but rather primitive houses have been erected on the area, as protection against occasional rains and as a place for the children, who go to school to do their homework.





STUART HENDRY (third left) and associates in SASDI, a vital part of the Sakhumzi project

SASDI (Southern Africa Sustainable Development Initiative) is a trust fund, trying to support underdeveloped areas with PROJECT MANAGEMENT and FUND RAISING.

SASDI are now in full swing with the building project on the new SAKHUMZI ground.

If everything goes according to plan construction could be started in the spring 2011.

SASDI also believes that they will find local funding for the constructions.



ABALIMI "Harvest of hope"

Through an article in a Swedish newspaper we found out about this extremely interesting government supported project, which is active in many areas of Cape Town.

The ABALIMI organization helps people in poor areas to start up small to middle-sized cultivations by educating people who are to be responsible for the project on the spot. Abalimi also gives advice as to cultivation methods, entailing a very low initial capital investment.

We visited one ABALIMI plantation in the township of Guguleto (see picture above) and were really impressed by their achievements.

The cultivators of Guguleto are 6 older women, who work 4-5 hours a day 5-6 days/week on this 5.000m² lot, which gives enough vegetables for their extended families (generally 12 each!) and some surplus that is sold on the market through the assistance of ABALIMI.

We saw lush rows of carrots, chard, aubergines as well as seedlings for lettuce and beetroots. Once a few basic conditions are fulfilled, Amelia's friends(in Sweden) are prepared to finance the start up of an ABALIMI project at Sakhumzi.



THE "NEW" SAKHUMZI On a lot of almost 5,000 m² only 400 m away from the present orphanage "Amelia's village" will be constructed



A small part is already serving as a play-ground



Running water is available, although in a rather primitive form so far



CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

could symbolize our expectations on the development of SAKHUMZI.

MANY GOOD HANDS WORKING TOGETHER CAN CREATE THE MIRACLE!