

AMERICAN EMBASSY
LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

Kachere



Joe McGregor Brooks, owner of the Crocodile Farm in Livingstone, climbs into the crocodile pit.

THIS COULD BE THE MOST INTERESTING MAN IN ZAMBIA!

by Rachel Cleverley

At first, my interview with the 82-year old crocodile hunter began with the usual, obvious questions.

"Where are you from?" I asked.

"Scotland," he replied.

"When did you come to Zambia?"

A pause. "In 1954."

"When did you open this crocodile farm in Livingstone?"

"A little over 10 years ago."

But before we even reach the first pool of crocs, I find out that the rather large scar on his cheek is from a leopard bite. Who gets that close to a leopard?

Joe McGregor Brooks does.

For over fifty years Brooks has been hunting "problem" elephant, buffalo and crocodile across Zambia, as well as the occasional leopard.

When we reached the first sectioned-off pool, I stared somewhat in disbelief as our guide

climbed into the pit of a 13-year-old albino crocodile.

"This one is cheeky," he warned us.

The crocodile jumped out of the water and snapped at Brooks' pole. Chuckling, Brooks climbed out of the pit.

"Are you going to pull up the stairs and shut the gate?" I asked, referring to the three-step stair ladder he used to get into the pit.

"No," he replied nonchalantly.

"These creatures of habit are too lazy to try and get out."

He continued onward. I hesitated with the gate still down, but did not hesitate for long. I hurried along to the next pit, glancing behind me as we went.

Brooks told us that this next crocodile he was about to introduce to us had eaten a human just before they caught it.

"How could you tell a person was inside?" I inquired.



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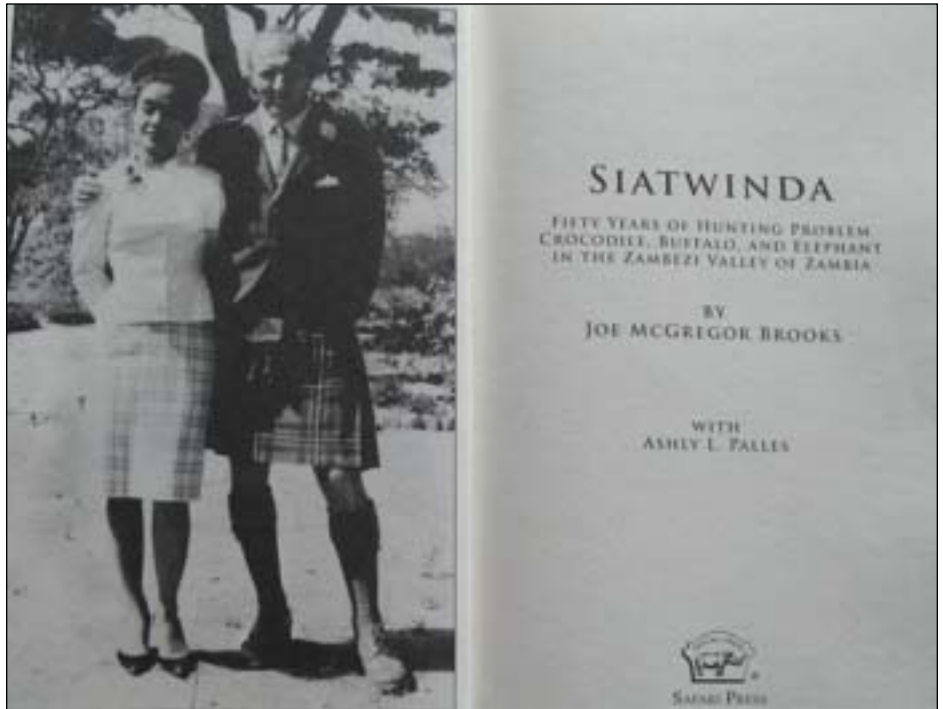
(continues on page 2)

“By the smell. Usually there is no smell. Crocs are such clean creatures, but this one, the stench was powerful.”

Again, he climbed down into the pit and got amazingly close to the crocs (and the man eater croc). At this point, I write in my notes, “The Crocodile Hunter has nothing on 82-year-old Brooks.”

Brooks joined the British Military at 14 and trained as a mechanic. By the age of 26, he came to Zambia to fulfill his adventurous dream as a hunter.

At the time, the Zambian Government was constructing Lake Kariba and villagers had to relocate. Elephants in these new areas were eating the villagers’ crops and harming people. Zambian authorities hired Brooks to help control the situation.



The title page of Brooks’ autobiography. He and his wife (both pictured above) enjoyed 55 years of marriage together until her recent death in 2008.



This leopard took off a part of Brooks’ cheek as the hunt became face to face.

Before his first hunt, he followed the advice of some villagers and had a Mrs. Siatwinda place some good “juju” on his rifle. At one point in his career he began missing his targets, so he promptly returned the rifle to Mrs. Siatwinda to restore the good luck.

The rifle may be getting dusty these days as Brooks develops his crocodile farm. There are over 60

crocodiles at the park right now, each of which Brooks have personally captured. He dazzled our family with his colorful hunting stories and fun personality.

If I was stranded on a deserted island, Brooks is one of the top ten guys I would want there with me. Besides knowing how to survive, Brooks has an infinite number of

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Publication Deadlines

Next Issue 8 January 2009
 Submission by 6 January 12:00
 Editor Rachel Cleverley
 E-mail to kacherelusaka@yahoo.com

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Numbers:

Post 1
 250-955 ext. 2221

Care for Business Hospital
 254-398

Duty Officer
 0966-864-030

GSO/FM Duty Officer
 0966-864-027

RSO Duty Officer
 0966-864-009

Nurse’s Office
 250-955 ext. 2238 or 0966-864-039

CFB Appts & Urgent Care Needs
 252-917

Hours:

Medical Unit
 0930-1230 (Mon - Fri) Walk ins
 1300-1700 (Mon - Thurs) By appt

Commissary
 0900 - 1300 (Mon - Thurs)
 1500 - 1800 (Mon & Wed)
 0900 - 1600 (Fri)
 CLO
 0600 - 1500 (Mon & Wed)
 0700 - 1600 (Tues & Thurs)
 0700 - 1200 (Fri)

Voyagers Travel
 0900 - 1200 (Mon - Fri)
 1400 - 1530 (Mon - Thurs)

Citibank
 1100 - 1300 (Mon - Thurs)
 1030 - 1230 (Fri)

Embassy Gas Pump
 0730 - 1230; 1400 - 1730 (Mon - Thurs)
 0730 - 1300; 1400 - 17:00 (Fri)

clo's line

EMBASSY BULLETIN



CLO THANK YOU: CLO

would like to thank Ambassador and Mrs. Booth for hosting a wonderful holiday party, complete with food, live music, and Santa! Everyone had a great time, and there were more than 35 boxes prepared that were donated on Saturday to Action for Kids. Carol McBrady was truly thankful, and the children were extremely excited! Also, thanks to Kelsey, Christy, and Katie Craig who really assisted with managing the boxes and getting them wrapped.

RMO, Dr. Allen Ries from Pretoria is planning to visit Lusaka January 14 - 17th, 2009. He will be available for consultations Wednesday (14th) afternoon, Thursday all day and Friday morning. Please contact the Health Unit's Margie Wendland (ext 2259 or wendlandma@state.gov) or Rose Kajoba (ext 2238 or kajobarm@state.gov) if you wish to schedule an appointment with Dr. Ries and/or need more information.

AMCA NEWS: Friday, January 2nd: 9:00am - 4:00pm (Last day before year-end General Inventory) Any payments made to AMCA on this day, PLEASE date these checks December 31st, 2008. Please note the Commissary will be closed all of the following week, (from January 5th to January 9th) due to our Annual General Inventory. We won't be able to sell anything during these days. Fuel coupons will be available at the Embassy Snack Shop.

EVENTS

Ababa House Closed until Jan 5th

This is a short announcement to let you know that we will be closed for our annual shutdown from the 23rd of December 2008 reopening on Monday, 5th January 2009. Zebra Crossings café will be shut from the 20th December 2008 - 5th January 2009.

RECURRING ACTIVITIES:

Monday

18:00 - Volleyball at Marine House. Bring I.D.
17:30-19:00 - Yoga with Terry Henning
0977273324

Tuesday

Cub Scouts - contact Tim McVey for details (262-236)
18:00-19:00 - Yoga at French School (behind Alliance Française)

Wednesday

18:00 - Basketball at Marine House

Thursday

08:00-9:30 - Yoga with Terry Henning
0977273324
17:30-19:00 - Yoga with Terry Henning
0977273324

18:00-19:00 Yoga at French School (behind Alliance Française)

19:00 - Biodanza classes - 0979 594 330 / email: biodanzazambia@gmail.com / www.biodanza.co.za/zambia

Saturday

10:30 - 13:00 Ultimate Frisbee at AIS upper field
10:00-11:00 - Yoga at French School (behind Alliance Française)

13:00-18:00 - Social Tennis at the Lusaka Sport Club. K15,000. Mixed doubles
16:00-17:30 - Yoga with Terry Henning
0977273324

Biodanza - 0979 594 330 / email: biodanzazambia@gmail.com / www.biodanza.co.za/zambia

Sunday

6:30 - Running group. Contact Debi Philpot at debipotty@hotmail.com

Alcoholics Anonymous - Meets every Tuesday and Friday. Tuesday from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm at Kara Counseling Resource Center, Bukavu Road, Thorn Park. Friday from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm at Kalemba Hall, St. Ignatius Church. Info: 0977-400-633 or 095-400-926

Biodanza, will reconnect you with joy through fabulous music, non-choreographed movement and emotion. Biodanza is about feeling the fullness of every moment and awakening our passion for life. It works by opening your sense of joy, self-esteem and self-confidence, which matures with regular classes. Adult classes every Thursday evening at 7pm in Long Acres. Youth classes (6 to 12 yrs) Moms/Dads & classes (babies to 5 yrs) every second Saturday at 10am and 3pm respectively. Call Michelle at 0979 594 330 / email: biodanzazambia@gmail.com / www.biodanza.co.za/zambia for more info.

Chilanga Hackers Golf Society - Peter Manibach 290-818 or Kevin Birch 09777-790-900

Diplomatic Spouses Association (DSA) meets the last Tuesday of every month. Jill Penny 0977-770-094

Family cruises on the Kafue Queen Only 50 km from Lusaka. Transport available. Bar and BBQ on board. Info: Ian 0977-232-949, 0955-913-984, 01-216-016 (evenings), finot@zamnet.zm

Happy Mums and Toddlers International Group All moms with 3, 4, and 5 year olds are welcome to join the group. Conny 293-363, 0977-766-955, dizaco@uudial.zm

Jane Austen Book Club - Kini 0966-637-764

Karate and Self Defense Classes for Children, Men, and Women Shotoham karate. 0977-789-389, 095-704-540, 286-388

Ladies' Beginner Golf Lessons- Chainama Hills Golf Club (264-694)

Ladies Squash - Mulungushi Village Squash Club - Sue 0977-326-381, Jeff 0966-680-696

Lusaka Bridge Club - 250-409, 264-432, money@coppernet.zm

Lusaka Hash House Harriers - Lothario 0977-790-808, Boy Blue 0966-766-249, Jerry Mouse 0977-471-764, pgwhite@coppernet.zm or lusaka.hash@zambia.co.zm

Lusaka Kennel Club - 260-081

Lusaka Road Bikers - Ginty Melvill 0966-766-896, GintyM@seedco.co.zm or Len Ware 095-580-1954, murryfieldfarm@zamtel.zm or Andy Legg 0966-858-733, mcrop@zamnet.zm. The Road Bikers group is a recognized section of the Lusaka Motor Cycle Club.

Martial Arts for Children and Adults - 0977-783-537

NHL Club - street hockey - Mike 0977-376-450

Power Yoga - 097-779-0825, 0977-789-680

Tennis - Lusaka Club - 0977-964-121, lusakatennis@yahoo.com

Wildlife and Environmental Conservation Society of Zambia (WECSZ) - Meets once a month for ecological talks and lectures led by experienced conservationists - 251-630, wecsz@zamnet.zm

Zambia Basketball Association - mini basketball skills for children between 5 and 13 - Mwembe Kaona 0966-752-797

Zambia Ornithological Society - meets once a month for a bird walk in the countryside. Guida Bell-Cross 235-949, www.wattledcrane.com

Zambia Tae-Kwon-Do Association - 254-090

Zambia Universal Skydiving Club - learn to skydive. Dave 0966-860-306, Julius 0977-791-256, Gary 0977-337-153



Weekly Update

FLO Weekly Update is a compilation of news and information from the Family Liaison Office of the Department of State for U.S. government employees, their family members, and Members of Household (MOH) who are serving, have served, or will be serving under Chief of Mission Authority. Visit FLO on the Internet at: <http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo> or on the Intranet at: <http://hrweb.hr.state.gov/prd/hrweb/flo/index.cfm>. For questions or more information, email: FLO@state.gov; or call FLO at (800) 440-0397 or (202)647-1076. **FLO: Advocacy, Programs, Services. We're here for you.**

December 22, 2008

2009 Summer Clerical Program Announcement: Deadline January 5, 2008

Applications are now being accepted from students 16 years or older. Positions are located in the Washington, DC metro area. All applications must be submitted via the on-line application system, Gateway to State. The on-line system is available on the Department's careers web-site: <http://www.careers.state.gov/students/programs.html#SCP>. Former participants in the program must submit an on-line application in order to be considered for the 2009 program.

2009 KIDVID Season Overseas Briefing Center 2009

The 2009 KIDVID season has officially begun. The Foreign Service Institute and the Foreign Service Youth Foundation (FSYF) are co-sponsoring the fourteenth annual worldwide KIDVID Contest. Produce a KIDVID DVD and show others what life is like at your post. Winners will be awarded cash prizes and are invited to attend the annual Youth Award Ceremony held in the summer of 2009. The KIDVID contest is open to children ages 10-18 and is administered by the Transition Center's Overseas Briefing Center (OBC) at FSI. Rules for KIDVID are available in the CLO.

KIDVID is a valuable source to our overseas community, and Overseas Briefing Center offers community service credit for all participants in the KIDVID contest. Contact Maureen Johnston at JohnstonM5@state.gov, if you have questions.

AFSA Scholarships: Deadline February 6, 2009

High school seniors and college undergraduates of Foreign Service employees (active - duty, retired and deceased) are eligible to apply for one-time only AFSA Academic and Art Merit Awards along with renewable, need based AFSA Financial Aid Scholarships. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$4,000. Visit <http://www.afsa.org/scholar/www.afsa.org/scholar/> for complete details.

For more information, contact Lori Dec at dec@afsa.org (202) 944 5504, or 1 (800) 704 2372, ext. 504 (toll free).

Parents and students are also encouraged to visit free, online, scholarship search engines such as www.fastweb.com, www.wiredscholar.com, www.srnexpress.com, and www.brokescholar.com to find other scholarship resources.

Internet: www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo

Intranet: <http://hrweb.hr.state.gov/prd.hrweb.floindex.cfm>

classifieds

Ads will run for three issues and can be renewed. If the ad is obsolete before the three issues are up, please notify the editor as soon as possible. Information is accepted only by email. Thanks!

AUTOMOBILES

THIRD NOTICE 1995 Toyota RAV4, Ex-UK, imported in May 2008, ABM registration, 5-doors, Manual transmission, 1.8 Litre-Petrol engine, 4 wheel drive, Sun-roof, Excellent condition. Price negotiable. Call 0977-748264.

MISC

THIRD NOTICE Sale, Sale Sale. This Christmas African Joy offers you a massive discount on all stock. On offer are Kuba place mats, Table Runner, leather /Kuba handbags, Calico place mats, table runners Bed Linen curios and many more. Intercontinental Hotel, Lusaka Shop number 14, Phone # 254673 or 0977 782690

FOR SALE

FIRST NOTICE EXPATS RETURNING TO THE STATES - Any inquiries, contact +260 977 790 257.

-Men's 2006 Cyclo-cross Bike Redline Conquest, fits heights 5'11"-6'3" Selling with hard quality travel case. Asking \$650

-Women's 2006 Cyclo-cross Bike Motobecane Phantom Cross

Shimano components, fits heights 5'4"-5'8". Asking \$550

-Traveltrack Century 5 Fluid Bicycle Trainer. Asking \$120

-Large sofa couch and 2 overstuffed chair set. Creme fabric, good condition, 2 yrs old. Asking \$550

-LQ 3step Washing Machine Steel Drum, 7.2kg, 1 year old. Asking \$250

SALE

Bobili Gems wishes you a Happy New Year! From now until Valentine's Day, February 14th, all Embassy personnel receive a 15% discount on any purchase. Bobili Gems is located at the Taj Pamodzi Hotel and Arcades.

Bobili Gems has moved locations within the Taj Pamodzi Hotel. After the elevators in the main lobby take a left and it is the last shop on the left.

Bobili Gems has also opened a new shop at Arcades near Rhapsody! Both stores are offering this discount only to US Embassy personnel.

CROCODILE HUNTER continues...

stories, all of which are immensely entertaining.

He recently authored an autobiography, *Siatwinda*, of his hunting adventures. It is available from Amazon.com. Brooks' stories are compelling because he includes his "mistakes," many of which are humorous. In his words, "I shot a lot of elephants, but I ran away from a lot of elephants."

Brooks' crocodile park is on the Mosi-oa-Tunya Road, the first left after the Vuma Filing Station when heading to the Falls. I recommend that you put this on your must-see list when you are next in Livingstone. Be sure to ask for a

tour from the man himself. The park is open seven days a week, from 0800-1700.

As for being in great condition, Brooks has always looked after his diet and health, but if you get a chance to go, be sure to ask him about the miracles of crocodile fat. You may find yourself buying a bottle.

employment

CIVIL/STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

OPENING DATE: December 9, 2008

CLOSING DATE: January 12, 2009

WORK HOURS: Based on the Embassy's Local Compensation Plan – FSN 12 with a starting salary of ZK 215,032,902. (FP equivalent final grade to be determined by Washington)

DURATION: This is full-time fixed term employment not to exceed January, 2011.

The U.S. Embassy in Zambia is seeking to hire a qualified individual to fill the position of Civil/Structural Engineer in the Missions Overseas Building Office (OBO).

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Incumbent shall inspect construction; review plans; recommend approval of shop drawings and submittals; maintain a daily log of construction activities; develop change orders including preparing cost estimates; and perform other construction engineering duties related to the construction of the Lusaka New Embassy Compound (NEC) as directed by the OBO Project Director. Incumbent will also prepare reports of the progress of construction as required. S/he shall be capable of working independently and shall provide professional engineering services.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Note: All applicants are instructed to address in their Curriculum Vitae, each item detailed below with specific and comprehensive information supporting each requirement:

- A four-year Bachelor of Science degree in civil, structural and/or construction engineering from an accredited institution is required.
- Seven years experience in the field of civil engineering related to building construction and renovations is required.
- Level IV (Fluent) English and level II (rudimentary knowledge) of one local language are required.
- Must have knowledge in design and construction practices with U.S. civil codes and specifications; thorough professional knowledge in civil design calculations and criteria; preparation of engineering drawings and specification.
- Must be highly capable of using MS Office tools and Engineering Management Software.

A copy of the complete position description listing all duties and responsibilities is available in the Human Resources Office. Please call 250-955, extensions 2284, 2286 and 2360 for more information.

TO APPLY

Interested applicants for this position must submit the following by close of business on the closing date of the announcement, or the application will not be considered:

Application for U.S. Federal Employment (OF-612), OR a current resume or curriculum vitae and letter of application for the position; Any other documentation (e.g., essays, certificates, awards, copies of degrees earned, driving license) that addresses the qualification requirements of the position as listed above.

Candidates who claim U.S. Veterans preference must provide a copy of their Form DD-214 with their application.

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO

American Embassy
Human Resources Office
Corner of Independence and United Nations Avenue
P.O. Box 31617,
Lusaka.

HOW THE CHEETAH



GOT HIS SPEED

Once upon a time...

The Creator decided to find out which of His animals could run the fastest – so He entered the cheetah in a race with the tsessebe, which is the swiftest of all the antelopes.

The cheetah had soft paws then, and he realized that they were not suited for real speed. So he borrowed a set of paws from an obliging wild dog.

The race started from a high baobab tree. The Creator Himself was in charge, and the two contestants were told to run right across the plains to a hill on the far side.

The animals lined up, and then – go! They leapt away.

The tsessebe soon took the lead, and by half-way, he was so far ahead he seemed sure to win. But suddenly, disaster! Tsessebe stumbled on a stone and crashed to the ground; he had broken his leg.

The good-natured cheetah, instead of running past and winning the race, stopped to help his opponent.

The Creator, seeing this, was so pleased by the cheetah's unselfish act that He bestowed upon the cheetah a gift; He made him the fastest animal in the land; and what's more, allowed him to keep the paws of the wild dog.

This story comes from the **Bushman** (also known as Basarwa in Tswana, or San in Nama). They are an indigenous population of the Kalahari Desert, which spans South Africa and neighboring Botswana and Namibia.

Found in: [When Hippo Was Hairy and Other Tales from Africa](#) by Nick Greaves

facts about cheetahs

(*Acinonyx jubatus*)

ENDANGERED SPECIES

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Height	30 in	30 in
Weight	132 lb	121 lb
Age of Maturity	2 yrs	2 yrs
Gestations Period –		3 months
Number of Young –		2-4
Lifespan	10 years	10 years

Habitat: Cheetahs usually live in open country and are very rarely, if ever, found in thick forest.

Habits: Having grabbed their prey by the throat, knocked it down and killed it, cheetahs bolt down large quantities of meat very quickly, probably to avoid having it stolen by other predators. Cheetahs will not defend their food and this timid characteristic means they often lose their kill to lions, hyenas and sometimes even vultures. This competition for food often results in the high mortality of cubs and young cheetahs. They are generally solitary and families separate quickly once the cubs have matured.

Diet: Medium-sized buck, such as impala, are cheetah's usual food., though wart hog, guinea-fowl, hares and even ostriches are also taken.

catch me if you can

Widely believed to be the fastest animal on earth, the cheetah has a top speed of around 62 miles per hour (100 km per hour). It's dog-like claws, which do not fully retract like those of a true cat, assist it to reach these speeds by improving grip - like spiked running shoes. These high speeds can only be maintained for relatively short distances, no more than 360 feet. It uses its speed to catch quarry after a short spring, having first crept up silently. But once winded, the cheetah must give up the chase and look for some other animal.