

Rotangana Foundation reaches out to needy learners at Mabila Primary

By Silas Nduvheni

The Mabila Primary School in Ha-Mabila in Mutale was recently visited by the Rotangana Foundation to hand over uniforms to needy learners.

The newly established non-profit organization, situated in the Vhembe District, had come to the realisation that poverty was one of the reasons why many learners dropped out of school.

Ntsieni Sirwali, the brain behind the Rotangana Foundation, said that the initiative behind donating school uniforms was to help keep less

fortunate learners in school. The foundation also strives to improve the living conditions of underprivileged children. "We have seen many learners from disadvantaged backgrounds going to school without shoes and with torn uniforms, which left many of them hopeless," said Sirwali.

The foundation also has a back-to-school drive where people are encouraged to donate new or second-hand uniforms, which are then given to struggling learners.

According to Sirwali, the foundation has already received some donations, but still depends on its members' own

contributions. "We have started with Mabila Primary and asked the principal of the school to identify the neediest learners," Sirwali said.

The principal of Mabila Primary School, Mr Naledzani Khuguvhila, expressed his gratitude for the donations.

"We appreciate what you have done for our learners, as Mabila is a rural school where most of the parents cannot meet the educational needs of their children. We would like to continue our relationship with the foundation and their future assistance in this regard," Khuguvhila said.



Members of Rotangana Foundation pose for a photo with learners and staff from Mabila Primary School in Mutale. Photo: Silas Nduvheni.

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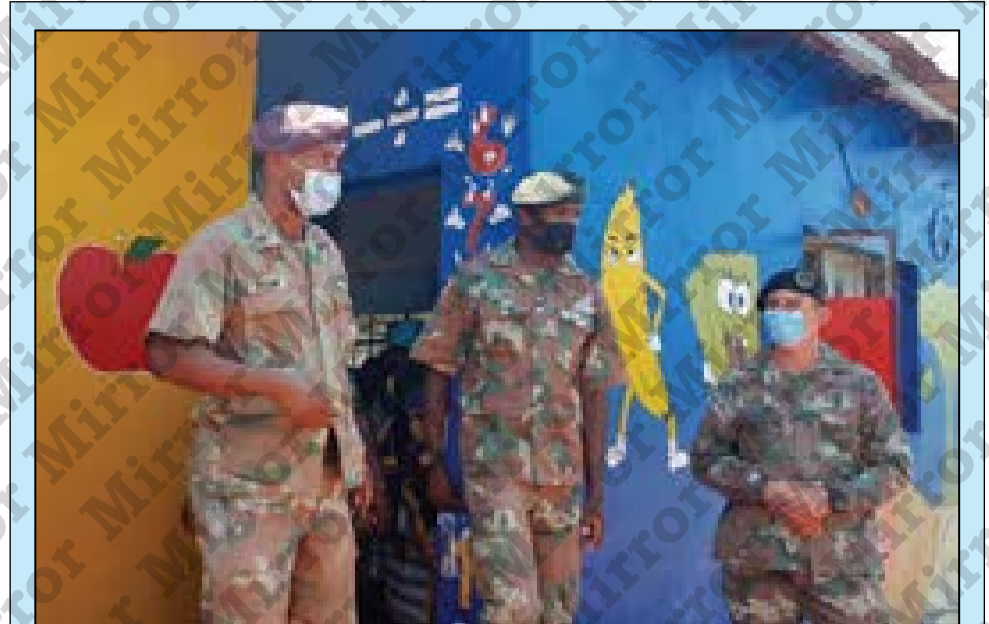
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Members of the SANDF photographed at the refurbished Sigonde Community Crèche.

Members of 9 SAI give a new coat of paint to Sigonde crèche

Community News

"Today is the only time we have, and we cannot bank on tomorrow. Let us do our best today because time is something that we do not have direct control over. The South African National Defence Force will continue to empower local communities in order to contribute to the positive social well-being of our society."

These were the words of Colonel Dibuwe Hendrick Tigele, the officer commanding 9 South African Infantry (SAI) battalion. Tigele was handing over a community crèche after the facility was refurbished by members of 9 SAI at Sigonde village, outside Musina, last Wednesday. The battalion is located in Cape Town, but the members have been deployed in various border areas across the country to secure the country's borders.

These members, who have been deployed along the South African and Zimbabwe border, have contributed money from their pockets to buy groceries and paint, and they physically cleaned and painted the community crèche.

Colonel Tigele said the Sigonde project was just one of many that his members were doing to improve the lives of the communities they served. "As members of the SANDF, we have the obligation of contributing to the positive wellbeing of the public we serve. The property we are handing over here today is a symbol that we are serious about the development of education in our society. We urge the community to handle the crèche with care because it does not belong to the military, but it belongs to them. Even when we are deployed somewhere else, the people of Sigonde will never forget that we were once here because

of the work that we did for them."

Cllr Bigboy Ndou of Musina Municipality commended the members of the SANDF for coming to the rescue of local villagers. "Many of our community members are indigent and they cannot do things on their own. It is encouraging to see partners like the SANDF coming on board to help the government to fight against poverty and underdevelopment."

The principal of Sigonde Community Crèche, Solomon Nemaokonde, did not have enough words to thank the members of the SANDF for their kind gesture. "Most of the parents in this village are not working, and it was difficult for us to renovate this crèche. The 50 kids enrolled here will now be able to attend crèche in a conducive environment. We are very thankful for what these Good Samaritans have done for us."

Nemaranzhe family desperate for news about their missing daughter

By Maanda Bele

For the Nemaranzhe family from Duthuni village outside Thohoyandou, life has become very difficult since the disappearance of their daughter, Rolivhuwa Nemaranzhe (30), three months ago.

They have done everything one can think of to try and find her, but to no avail. Rolivhuwa went missing on 23 December 2020. At the time of her disappearance, Rolivhuwa lived in Gauteng where she was employed at a liquor outlet in Midrand.

What makes it worse for the Nemaranzhe family is that painful and misleading information about Rolivhuwa's disappearance is being posted on a fake Facebook account, under the name of a certain Elma Mutavhatsindi. "Elma" apparently posted "RIP Rolivhuwa" and told the family that their daughter had been killed and that her body thrown into a dam in the Kempton Park area. The family went to the dam, but Rolivhuwa's body was not found.

According to Rolivhuwa's sister Thina, the family is deeply upset by the posts on Facebook. She added that watching her sister's two-year-old daughter miss her mother was painful. "The family has not had peaceful sleep since Rolivhuwa's disappearance," she said. "This is a most traumatic and trying time for the family."

She thanked Pastor Violet Liremi and Awelani Makongoza, who visited them with prayers, goods, and money for Rolivhuwa's daughter. "We have lost a lot and we have gone through the worst. But we have not lost hope as we have put our hope in God, and the prayers and support from the community have

become our pillar of strength," she said.

"We don't know what happened to Rolivhuwa. These people on Facebook seem to know where she is. We beg them to assist us with her whereabouts."

Thina also asked people to stop posting fake information on Facebook, "Please come forward if you have any information to share with the family, because it is painful to read about this on social media."



Rolivhuwa Nemaranzhe, daughter of local residents, has been missing since 23 December 2020.