

Donaldson Delivers 20,000 Books to Schools in South Africa

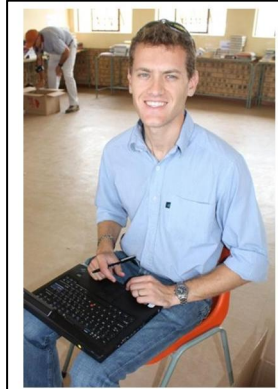
An old Chinese Proverb says, “A book is like a garden carried in the pocket.” In the fall of 2009, the Donaldson Foundation helped plant thousands of gardens throughout South Africa by funding \$13,000 to ship 20,000 donated books to schools and libraries through Books for Africa (BFA), a non-profit organization whose mission is to end the book famine in Africa.

The shipment of over two tons of books was distributed by The Rotary Club of Kirstenbosch (Cape Town, South Africa) in January to 13 preschools affiliated with *Itheba Labanfwana*, an early childhood education forum that supports over 350 township preschools with training, mentoring and resources, including communities around Cape Town where the regional office of Donaldson Filtration Systems (Pty) Ltd. is located.

“BFA would not be a success without the generous contributions from organization such as the Donaldson Foundation,” said Patrick Plonski, PhD, Executive Director at Books for Africa. “In addition to funding the shipment, Donaldson employees, along with individuals from the Peace Corp and the American Embassy, volunteered to help unload, sort, catalog and distribute the books. We greatly appreciate their commitment to BFA.”



Donaldson employees, Anna Kruger, Neo Motaung and Mmapula Manamela, index the books before distribution.



Brad de Vaux enters book titles into a database.

Volunteers from Donaldson Filtration Systems (Pty) Ltd., included:

Claudia de Abreu	Neo Motuang
Brian Barber	Shadrack Poto
Salvie Consales	Prelicia Rampal
Lucia Govender	Philip Steenkamp
Anna Kruger	Taryn Ternent
Mmapula Manamela	Brad de Vaux
Diana Marias	Mariette Venter

Commenting on her experience volunteering with the BFA initiative, Taryn Ternent, Communications Officer with Donaldson Filtration Systems (Pty) Ltd., said, “When we started unpacking and sorting the many boxes of books, it became immediately apparent the positive impact this would have on our community. Not only will these books help improve literacy, but they will also introduce the joy of reading to so many children as they open the pages and fall in love with the stories inside. This was a great experience.”



Taryn Ternent, Steve Gerner (Peace Corp), Frankie Filter, Bree (Peace Corp), Claudia de Abreu, Neo Motaung and Lucia Govender pause for a volunteer photo.



Claudia de Abreu and Lucia Govender sort books.

“On behalf of the Donaldson Foundation, I thank the employees at Donaldson Filtration Systems (Pty) Ltd. for giving of your time to support the BFA project,” said Kristin Graham, president of the Donaldson Foundation. “The mission of the Foundation is to positively impact the communities we live by supporting education. Providing the financial support to get the shipment to South Africa was only one part of this important project. Giving of your time to bring this project to completion

was so important! You made it a success and we thank you for representing Donaldson.”

For more on this initiative, please click on the following link:

<http://www.engineeringnews.co.za/article/filtration-company-donates-to-book-charity-2010-03-12>