

JUNE 2009 NEWSLETTER

A HUGE THANK YOU



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John D Rockefeller Jr., who is not only remembered for his business acumen but also, and more importantly, for his philanthropic actions, once said: "Think of giving not as a duty but as a privilege."

Reflecting on the past couple of weeks, I again realised how fortunate we have been not only to change lives, but also to share Rally to Read with such a wonderful group of people.

On behalf of the McCarthy team, I would like to say a huge thank you to all our wonderful sponsors, hosts, partners, team leaders, rally co-ordinators, and guests – it has indeed been a privilege to have had dealings with you all and without your support, the Rally would not be possible.

We can also rest assured that the 2009 Rally to Read has again made a lasting difference in the lives of the children, the teachers and the parents of the schools we visited.

In this issue we bring you some feedback from Rally participants. For more photos of the Rally, do visit our website on www.rallytoread.co.za and click on "View" and "Gallery". Please send us your photos and comments, so that we can share those on the site as well.

Until next time, best wishes and thank you again!

Iris Francis

Group CSI and Internal Communications Manager
McCarthy Limited



'WE WILL CERTAINLY BE BACK AGAIN AND AGAIN'

Elayne Tranter of Doculam writes: "I would just like to thank you and all your team and all the other sponsors for a wonderful weekend. It does not matter how many rallies you attend, each visit to a school is special and very emotional. I think the sponsors get as much out of the visits to the schools as the learners, educators and parents do, if not more, and each school visited brings back specific memories – with our visit to Stafford school being the two small learners in their blue beanies, scarves and gloves."

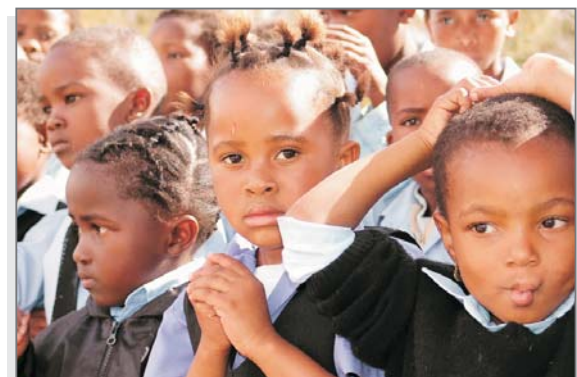
'RALLY TO READ WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST WEEKENDS I HAVE EXPERIENCED...'

Debbie Abramson of Emira writes: "On behalf of James and Adriaan, our two dedicated drivers of the Johannesburg team, we would like to thank you for a smooth, slick and successful Rally. We were all moved by this amazing event and have included sentiments and comments from our fellow teammates:

'It was one of the greatest weekends I have experienced...' – Dylan Jones

'Thank you for giving me the opportunity to make a difference in someone's life...' – Helen Mutshekwa

'It was a great experience to give back to the community...'
– Corné Gronum





HOPE IS THE WORD THAT COMES TO MIND

Janine White was moved by her Rally experience and penned a poem.

A few months ago I developed a need
And found the answer in Rally to Read

I invited my sisters to come with me
And Glen is the leader of team 3

After some u turns we were on our way
The start of a really wonderful day

At Oppermanskraal we were met with a show and a band
A generous farmer had donated the land

Their passion and joy made us shed a tear
As we gave them their books, equipment & gear

The headmistress was dressed up and put on a show,
Which made us very reluctant to go

Our second stop was at a school whose name I can't say (Insukangihlale)
The learners had been waiting for half a day

Each item was received with a "viva" call
The loudest of all for the soccer ball

We felt humbled to share an experience like this
And will recommend it as one not to be missed

One word to summarise we tried to find
Hope is the word that comes to mind.

MORE COMMENTS FROM RALLY PARTICIPANTS

"I can't tell you...what a great CSI programme I think the Rally is."
– Jack Hochfeld

"...it was uplifting to see the manner in which we were received and the
genuine appreciation." – Trevor Good

"I was humbled by the experience..." – Stefan de Beer

"Peter and I felt hugely privileged to be a part of Rally again in 2009 and
found it interesting to visit our third province and note the differences
in the schools, the children and their needs and expectations."
– Janie Caesar

"Superbly organised, beautiful landscape and inspiring schools."
– Lindsay Braithwaite



MORE PRECIOUS THAN A VALUABLE STONE

A woman who was travelling in the mountains found a precious stone in a stream. The next day she met another traveller who was hungry and the woman opened her bag to share her food. The hungry traveller saw the precious stone and asked the woman to give it to him. She did so without hesitation. The traveller left, rejoicing in his good fortune. He knew the stone was worth enough to give him security for a lifetime. But a few days later he came back to return the stone to the woman.

"I've been thinking" he said, "I know how valuable the stone is, but I will give it back in the hope that you can give me something even more precious. Give me what you have within you that enabled you to give me the stone."

By Mark Webb