

MIDDFEST INTERNATIONAL

presents...

The Books of Botswana Reading Challenge

Experience the warmth and beauty of this unique southern African country through Alexander McCall Smith's best-selling novels and hit HBO series, "The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency."

Additional information on the back.

Read, Enjoy, and Win Prizes

Middfest International is a premier cultural event that celebrates a different country each year through a wide range of programs in the arts, culture and business. These programs culminate annually on the first weekend of October in Middletown, Ohio, USA. **This year's featured country is Botswana.**

Come celebrate with us on October 1-3, 2010! More information by becoming a fan on Facebook, at www.middfest.com or 513.425.7707.

Botswana

Tea 'n Talk Join us for a cup of Red Bush Tea and a conversation with Botswana expert and historian Dr. Neil Parsons on **Sunday, September 26 @ 2:30 pm.** Middletown City Building
One Donham Plaza Middletown, OH

Special recognition for Reading Challenge participants, prize drawings and tours of Middfest's Botswana Exhibits!

To Participate:

1. Send us an email at middfestreads@gmail.com to register your name. We'll keep you posted on upcoming events and your name will be entered for prize drawings in September.
2. Read and discuss one, two or all eleven of the books in the series. This is a great challenge for book clubs or a chance to start your own! *Additional information on the back.*
3. Tell us which books you have read by Sept. 26, 2010 by sending us an email at middfestreads@gmail.com.
4. Join us on Sunday, September 26, 2010 for a Botswana Tea 'N Talk at 2:30 pm at the Middletown City Building. Special guest Botswana historian Dr. Neil Parsons will speak, we'll honor all participants, and hold prize drawings (*must be present to win*)--all while enjoying a few cups of bush tea! While at the Tea, take time to preview Middfest's Botswana Exhibits.



Details!

About The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency Series

Although Alexander McCall Smith has written more than 60 books, including specialist academic titles, he is best known for his internationally acclaimed **No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency** series which has been translated into 45 languages. Middfest International's goal in promoting readership of this series is to give potential Middfest participants the opportunity to see the 2010 guest country, Botswana, through the eyes of the delightful fictional characters that inhabit his books. For many this will be a first glimpse of the people and traditional values that bind them together.

Smith was born in what is now Zimbabwe. He was educated in Scotland and became Professor of Medical Law at the University of Edinburgh. It was in this role that he returned to Africa to set up a new law school at the University of Botswana. In 1999 he achieved global recognition for his award-winning **The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency** series. Among his other writings of fiction, are his **44 Scotland Street** and **The Sunday Philosophy Club** series. He now lives in Edinburgh with his wife Elizabeth, a doctor.

List of Books in The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency Series

The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency	In the Company of Cheerful Ladies
Tears of the Giraffe	Blue Shoes and Happiness
Morality for Beautiful Girls	The Good Husband of Zebra Drive
The Kalahari Typing School for Men	Tea Time for the Traditionally Built
The Full Cupboard of Life	The Miracle at Speedy Motors
	The Double Comfort Safari Club

Reading Challenge/Reading Circles

You are invited to be an individual reader of The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency series or integrate the book series into an existing book club, another organization, or to form a group just for discussion of these enjoyable books. Following are suggestions:

- Groups that start in April may choose to select six of the 11 books in the series to discuss once a month, or schedule two discussions per month and complete the whole series by the Botswana Celebration, October 1, 2, and 3, 2010.
- Choose one discussion leader or have members take turns in the role. The discussion leader might decide on questions or select from ones available on-line at Smith's website www.alexandermccallsmith.co.uk or at Reading Group Guides www.readinggroupguides.com
- Another option might be to choose to discuss a theme or subject that runs throughout the books, such as: traditional or moral values explored via the stories, Mma Precious Ramotswe as an instrument of justice, or what it means to be human.
- In addition to interacting with members of your own group, communicate with others on Middfest's Facebook fan page. Also check our website www.middfest.com for dates of other Middfest International events related to Middfest's Botswana activities and events.
- Attend the Botswana Tea 'n Talk on Sunday, September 26, 2010. More details soon.

Remember to send an email to middfestreads@gmail.com to register your name for a prize drawing that will take place at the Tea. Must be present to win.