

**NEWS RELEASE**

# **WORLD LAST SAVED**

**The prophetic words of the songwriter Joni Mitchell nearly came true yesterday in Ngummaa, Teguttata.**

Back in 1975 Joni wrote 'they took all the trees, put them in a tree museum and charged the people a dollar and a half just to see them'. Well, that is exactly what has happened. After years of deforestation to supply the world's demands for books, furniture, cardboard boxes, and of course toilet paper, there is only one tree left. For a long time, animals have been scampering and pounding out of the forests searching for food on farmland. The rains have failed again for the tenth year running and people are getting desperate.



*Imagine a world without trees. This is a fake newspaper imagining what it would be like.*

# PLEASE D'S TREE D!



**A world without trees!**

Mr Shortsight plans to cut down the last remaining tree to sell to Mr Havenoneed to build the lobby of his international hotel were prevented last night in a wonderful turn-around. The world's last tree - an ogbono or bush mango tree (*Irvingia gabonensis*) - is still standing thanks to thirsty journalists! "What choice do I have?", Mr Shortsight was quoted as saying. "I want my daughters to have a good education so that they can get a decent job and not have to scratch for a living like I do. This ogbono is no good to me. I can't sell the fruit. No one round here has any money." His plans to use the money he would get for the beautiful timber to send his daughters to school proved unnecessary. When the press gathered to watch the sad felling of the world's last tree, the hot and tired journalists, thirsty after their long trek out to the back-of-beyond, asked for some refreshments.

Mr Shortsight's wife sold them each a juicy bush mango. The wealthy journalist from The Teguttata Times, was quoted as saying 'this is the best fruit I have ever tasted. All of the journalists bought more to take home. Mr and Mrs Shortsight suddenly realised they already had enough money for the first year of school fees. "Leave the tree standing," said the journalists. "We'll buy all the fruit you can produce!" The world still has a single tree. International plans are being made to use seed reserves to plant more. Still some hope for mankind!



**"If I don't chop it down, someone else will."**