

Jabulani Goes Green

This quarter saw Jabulani expand its scope to include environmental projects. The Wild Coast is renowned for its natural beauty, rugged coastline, rolling hills and thick indigenous forests. But on closer inspection you will see that the area is under considerable environmental pressure.



We are looking to preserve and improve the environment and not just for aesthetic reasons. Shrinking forests means loss of fertile topsoil, which not only affects agriculture but also leads towards worsening

roads. Less trees mean less building material, cooking fuel and wildlife.



Roger Gallo-way, who moved to Zithulele at the beginning of 2009, has recently initiated several environmental projects under the Jabulani banner. Roger says, "responsible stewardship of the environment improves living conditions and also increases job creation through tourism and government programs".

The Wild Tree Nursery has been set up to produce trees to combat deforestation in the area, planting several hundred indigenous trees from seed and growing a number of non invasive fruit trees. You can adopt a tree, providing an opportunity to contribute something positive and lasting in the rural Eastern Cape. For a R250 donation, we supply an indige-

nous tree, poles, goat proof fencing, compost and labor. The tree is then labeled and named after its donor. E-mail Jabulani if you are interested.

Eco Adventure Club is a rural schools environmental and adventure program, which we plan to roll out in the first term of 2010. Starting with 12 learners from Lubanzi Junior School and four leaders from Sea View High we will meet once a week to cover environmental issues such as erosion, tourism, edible



plants, marine life, litter and recycling. On alternate weeks we will be exploring the area, hiking, rock climbing, tubing, swimming and camping. Check out www.ecoadventureclub.weebly.com.

Recently we started **Computer Classes**, where the focus is on education rather than environmental issues. However, for a student to receive 1 hour of computer lessons they need to donate 1 hour of their time to the community, which has included; litter pick-ups, tree planting and removal of alien vegetation.

We are excited to have Roger as part of the team.

How you can get involved

Become a Friend of Zithulele

If you would like to support the work of Jabulani, you could consider becoming a "Friend of Zithulele". By committing to a regular monetary donation, you would assist us in planning projects and budgeting appropriately. For more information, visit the Jabulani website.

Tell your friends about us

Please forward this newsletter to anyone whom you think may be interested.

Pray for us and our community!

e-mail: jabulanifoundation@gmail.com

Renovation for a new Foundation generation

The end of the year is approaching us and once again that means all change at Zithulele.

Several new health professionals will join the team of long termers at Zithulele Hospital and the Jabulani Foundation's volunteer team will expand from one to five. The new team will continue to build Zithulele into a centre for excellence in rural medicine and development.

This influx brings a serious accommodation challenge (a nice problem to have!). To meet the challenge, we are excited to



work with Andy Duncan and his team to renovate the old clinic building. The main structure is over 50 years old and still standing strong and we are turning it into flats for two couples.

Read more about the project at www.igiveada.mn and see the Feb 2010 newsletter for the 'after' photos.

The little differences that add up by Dr Taryn Gaunt

It was another busy day and I was struggling a bit with the hopelessness that often overwhelms one in this place, when Nothandikile Valuvalu popped by. Over a cup of tea she told me the story of a woman who she had bumped into at a funeral (a regular past time here).



her knowledge with others. The Project is all about these two things, as she uses a demonstration garden to teach mothers how to grow vegetables in a small plot at their home. Seeds are given out and she makes visits to assess progress. It is such an important job in a place where we see too many malnourished children.

Nothandikile is our Mashikule Garden Project monitor. She has green fingers and the passion to share

The woman had met Nothandekile in the paediatrics ward where her

very sick severely malnourished child was admitted. She told Nothandekile how she had taken her advice about improving the quality of her sandy soil and had created a vegetable garden to feed her family.

She very nearly dragged Nothandikile to her home- stead, where she found a beautiful garden and a brood of bonny, well nourished children. The woman then showed Nothandekile the giant beetroots she had grown and was selling to her neighbours!



It is easy to get overwhelmed at times by the challenges facing the people here, but then, out of the blue, comes a story that makes you smile and realise why we are here. Now we are linking the Mashikule Garden Project formally with our Pre-School Project so that we can provide vegetables for the children at Zithulele Pre-school and others that we reach out to.

Axiom Education helping Sea View High to make the grade

October brought another exciting project to the Zithulele Area. Craig and Michelle Paxton, founders of Axiom Education, came with their incredibly energetic colleague Mfundo to a local high school.

Axiom's goal is to create quality educational opportunities for rural communities in South Africa and beyond.

The important first step was taken when the team

came to SeaView High School to hold its inaugural summer math's camp.

Principal teacher, Mrs Shumane and her team had really got behind the initiative and there was an impressive turn-out of 70 learners

each day in awful weather (often a crippling factor



here). The conditions and materials at the school are poor, but a dedicated team

and enthusiastic learners are making what they can of it.

Craig, Michelle and Mfundo set about teaching grades 10, 11 and 12 and assessing their level. As expected,

this was some way behind what it should be, but even in one week improvement was visible from test scores.

Axiom is looking to make more links in the area with a view to working with learners and teachers to enable sustainable improvement in maths education. Jabulani is delighted at the prospect of partnering Axiom. Read more at www.axiomeducation.org.

Old friends and new friends

We recently had a visit from one of our funding partners Stichting from the Netherlands. The group of ten included three of its founding members Tiny Boonsta and Klaas and Hinke van der Ploeg. We missed Henk Boonstra, the fourth founder, who sadly passed away last year.

Henk and Tiny along with their oldest son Klaas came over to Zithulele in 1968 to work on the Zithulele mission. Henk was Zithulele's second doctor. Klaas joined his mother on this trip and

over some archived photos of the young family on a ship en route to Africa, they recounted some of their history here. They were joined on their trip by Louise Koch and Gert and Marlene Moelich from Cape Town who also worked on the mission in the 1970's.

The team of ten were kept very busy for two whole days viewing their projects as well as some of Jabulani's other projects. We all left the time together with a much clearer way forward and we are excited about the new look

of existing projects as well as a new partnership, as Stichting looks to support us with our preschool project!

A special thanks to Marlene who busied herself with passing on some of her seamstress prowess.



Becky Chappell, previous Jabulani Manager, recently forged a link between the Foundation and Bideford Bridge Rotary Club.

Becky, daughter of Club member Andrew Laugharne continues to support Jabulani despite having left Zithulele, and we are grateful to her and the Club for their donation (via the Club's International Service Committee) of £250 towards the Pre-School Project.