



The Southern Cape Fire Protection Association (SCFPA), recently sponsored trainings sessions in fire management, which was attended by student interns from Pinnacle Conservation Trust. Here the group is being addressed by Ben Potgieter, a well-known fire management consultant for Forestry Solutions.

Interns burning to learn

The keen student interns from the Pinnacle Conservation Trust, formerly known as Oyster Bay Reserve, attended a fire training course, presented by Ben Potgieter, a well-known fire management consultant for Forestry Solutions in Knysna.

Potgieter focused on Fire Risk Management and Fire Suppression Management and went through the procedures that can be implemented to limit the spread of a fire, as well as the necessary equipment and resources needed to successfully complete the task at hand.

The Southern Cape Fire Protection Association (SCFPA), who sponsored the training, is a non-profit organisation (NPO) operating in the Southern Cape Region. Their primary goal is to establish Fire Management Units (FMU) in priority areas as identified by an Integrated Fire Management Plan.

The main goal of the training was to empower attendees to source adequate methods to suppress fire in order to limit the spread of the fire as soon as possible. The students have been implementing burning plans for the Mossel Bay Municipality's Strategic Firebreak project as well as the PetroSA Nature Reserve's management plan. Appropriate fire attack strategies are imperative to do this in a successful but also effective manner.

Fire management and controlling is of utmost importance in this area with its abundance of Fynbos species.

The course focused on pre-fire suppression planning, what must be done en route to a fire as well as a plan of action once fire fighters have arrived at the site of the fire. The students learnt steps from developing an incident action plan to successfully extinguishing the fire.

Suzing up a fire is of key importance, using weather information, the fire situation, fire behaviour, the type of fuels, and the topography to assist or read a fire. The severity of a fire depends upon temperature, wind speed, moisture, fuel load, vegetation type and topography.

"It was truly an enlightening experience and one that will be especially useful assisting me in drafting the new fire burning plans, now knowing what can go wrong" said Ilzabé Pietersen, volunteer at the Pinnacle Conservation Trust.

"We learnt that in order to successfully suppress a fire, it is vital to know the various parts to a fire, to understand fire behaviour and how it can radically change in just minutes. Fire safety must always be considered firstly."



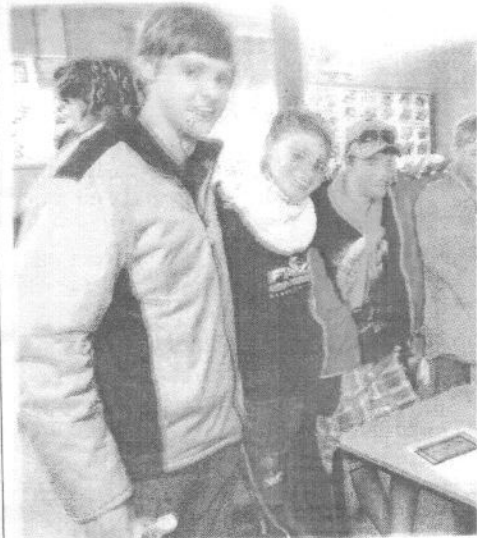
Voortrekkers b Natuurreserva

SAREL SERFONTEIN

Die Seejol-groep, ook beter bekend as die Voortrekkers, is 'n kultuurbeweging vir jong Afrikaners wat hul die nodige vaardighede leer om suksesvolle individue te wees. Elke lid word die kans gegee om sy volle potensiaal te bereik en om van geleenthede gebruik te maak wat hul leierskapseienskappe help ontwikkel.

Die Seejol-Seekamp vind elke jaar in Hartenbos plaas, waartydens die groep verskillende plekke besoek en by aktiwiteite betrokke raak. 'n Groep van 50 graad 9-leerders wat besoek afgelê het by die PetroSA/Natuurreservaat, is afkomstig vanaf verskeie areas in die noorde.

Die studente van die Oyster Bay-reservaat is gevra om verskeie voorleggings aan die groep te doen, met die fokus op die projekt



Sarel Serfontein en Nicky Wilmers, twee studente van die Voortrekkers, tydens 'n projektoesig.



Deur Smuts van Rensburg

Klein va

Ek staan in 'n tou by die bank se kliënte minute. My gedagtes dwaal na die talle waar jy die kortste ry gesoek het, net om te aanskou dat die kaartmasjien vir die By die poskantoor, waar die assistent 'n pakkie of geregistreerde stuk vir 'n kliënt. In die motor by 'n petrolpomp, waar jy 'n Quick Shop is om koeldrank en tipes vir