

# NEMATO

Change a life

*success in life – for youth, by youth*

Newsletter, 12 November 2013, issue 10

## **NELSON MANDELA TOWNSHIP YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & SPORT**

This is an exciting year for Nemato Change a Life. Never in our history have we participated in so many amazing events all over the country and even overseas. Two highlights this month? How about Ashley receiving the Gold President's Award from British Royalty and President Zuma in Cape Town, and Siphamandla on his way to Bulgaria for Gymnastics Junior World Championships?

## **NEMATO CHANGE A LIFE**

### **Gold President's Award**

Ashley Backward is the first Nemato Change a Life member to receive the Gold President's Award. In a very special event in Cape Town, the award was handed over to him by President Zuma and the Earl and Countess of Wessex from England.

After receiving bronze and silver awards in earlier years, Ashley completed all activities required for gold in this year: 72 hours of community service, skills training in the fields of engineering, photography and computers, sport (rowing), a five day hike in the Hogsback mountains and a 'residential': a five day teaching experience in Grahamstown.

Ashley has now become a member of the South African Gold Award Holders' Association (Sagaha) and will attend his first meeting in Grahamstown in November. He has also become a President's Award leader for Nemato Change a Life.

### **Change a Life**

The Mike Thomson Change a Life Trust is run by Computershare in Johannesburg. The trust commemorates Mike Thomson, a Computershare manager, who was murdered in 2007 and supports six projects that in different ways contribute towards the reduction of crime in the country. In our case we keep youth away from crime by offering them opportunities for success in life. The trust has a unique way of fundraising. Each year they invite 70 top managers of big companies to participate in the Change a Life-cycle tour, a tough three day 500km cycle challenge. Participation fees and sponsorships raise the funds to support the projects. Towards



*Ashley receiving his Gold Award*

the end of the year, a special event is organised where the supported projects report back to the cyclists. This year the event took place in the beautiful Hollard Villa Arcadia, a very impressive mansion built for Randlord Lionel Phillips, one of the very rich and powerful mining magnates in early 1900. Our report of our challenges and successes received a lot of positive response from the cyclists.

### **Brait donated computers**

Brait, an international investment company and Change a Life partner, donated two very good quality laptops and two flat

screens to us. Thanks a lot! We now have seven computers available for our members.

## Nsfas

Our students in PE qualified for the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS), that pays fees, accommodation and transport. This is crucial for the financing of their studies, The

problem is that the bursary only gets paid at the end of the year or even in the next year, if it gets paid at all. To keep our members studying, we are forced to pay the accommodation. Over the year that has become a massive amount of money that puts Nemato Change a Life under severe financial strain. We can only hope NSFAS will pay us soon. We wonder how South African youth from poor families study if the national bursary scheme pays out with so much delay.

## NEMATO ROWING CLUB

### ZRC cancelled

Our rowing season comes with many hiccups. Unfortunately three competitions didn't work out for our rowers this year. In this month the ZRC Regatta was cancelled at the last minute due to a bad weather forecast. That was an expensive loss for us as our accommodation was already paid, and most of the bad weather had already passed by the time the competition was supposed to start.

### Niki Nana goes mad

The Eastern Cape Championships did go ahead, but started with another disaster. Niki Nana Backpackers in East London created big trouble by refusing to make us an invoice: "Our internet is down and all our computers and pens are broken". Our auditor doesn't allow us to pay without invoice. The backpackers pushed it to the limit by chasing us out, even forcing us to leave our food behind, and travel all the way back to Port Alfred to sleep for a few hours before driving back to the East London for the competition. Our advice: stay away from that inhospitable place!

### Eastern Cape Championship

We arrived at the competition tired from too much travelling and too little sleep, but it didn't stop our strong team from achieving great results at the Eastern Cape Championships on the Buffalo River in East London. Within the first hour of racing we had our first two wins. Firstly Axola Mluma in the Under 14C sculls and then an easy win for Mondli Njibane in the Under 14A sculls. We had another 5 scullers make their finals: Masimbonge Nqina; Akhona Quma; Thembani James;



*Buhle and Lindokuhle Eastern Cape Champions U16 double*

Lifa Nxopho and Onele Veto. Lifa went on to win the Under 15A sculls and Onele won the Under 15C sculls. Our final win of the day was from our unstoppable Under 16A double of Buhle Ngcelwane and Lindokuhle Nikelo who continue to prove that it may well be impossible to beat them. A special congratulations to Mondli, Lifa, Buhle and Lindokuhle, who by winning the A levels are Eastern Cape Champions in their age groups. Well done!

### 2000m ergo trial

We had strong results in our 2000m ergo trials with a new club best for boys under 15 by Thembani James (7:26.4) and boys under 16 by Lindokuhle Nikelo (7:26.9).

## NEMATO GYMNASTICS CLUB

### Siphamandla on his way

The big trip for Siphamandla Baku to Gymnastics World Age Groups (Junior World Championships) has begun. In the picture on page three you see three Eastern Cape gymnasts at Port Elizabeth airport on the way to Bulgaria, together with Siphamandla's mother and teacher.

### Cacadu donation

The Cacadu District Municipality has contributed R20,000

towards the trip of Siphamandla Baku to Bulgaria for Junior World Championships. There was an official hand-over event in the Civic Centre in Port Alfred. We thank the district for their great support!

### Uti donation

Another generous donation for Siphamandla's trip was received from Uti (Freight Management, Logistics, Supply Chain Solutions). Thanks a lot!

## Funding for Bulgaria and Zimbabwe

It is fantastic that we received enough donations to make Siphamandla's trip to Bulgaria possible. Many thanks to everybody who contributed!!!

The next challenge is to get Onke Mangele to Zone 6, the championships for Southern African countries in Zimbabwe in

December. Your contribution is most welcome! FNB, Port Alfred, branch code 210917, account name Nemato Gymnastics Club, account number 6222 350 5689, reference: Onke Zimbabwe, or click the donate button on our website ([www.matinyanafund.org.za](http://www.matinyanafund.org.za)) for a safe online credit card donation.



*Siphamandla receiving donation for trip from Cacadu*



*gymnasts at airport, Siphamandla with mother and teacher*

## NEMATO HANDBALL CLUB

### Tournament in PE

Slowly our network in the handball community is growing. That makes it easier to find tournaments. We participated in a

tournament in Port Elizabeth. With two wins and one loss, we are now one of the strongest handball teams in the Eastern Cape.

## NEMATO FENCING CLUB

### PE Competition

The fencers are preparing for the last competition of the year: provincial competition in PE. It is nice that fencing in the Eastern Cape has grown, making provincial competitions fun, and saving us from having to drive 1000km to competitions every time.



*fencing in Nemato (photo: Mia)*

## CONTACT DETAILS

### Nemato Change a Life

#### Advisory Board

Dr. Saleem Badat	Vice-Chancellor of Rhodes University
Mzameli Dikeni	Community Development, Stenden South Africa
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### Internet

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### Our supporters

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