

UBUNTU

- "Ubuntu" is an ancient African word, meaning "humanity to others". Ubuntu also means "I am who I am because of/through other people".



"Many hands make light work. That's a good thing, because we had about 40. Our mission: give Bavumeleni Educare Centre in Khayelitsha a make-over".

Mark Wijsman writes about the Dirty Wednesday in Khayelitsha for volunteer week.

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VOLUNTEER

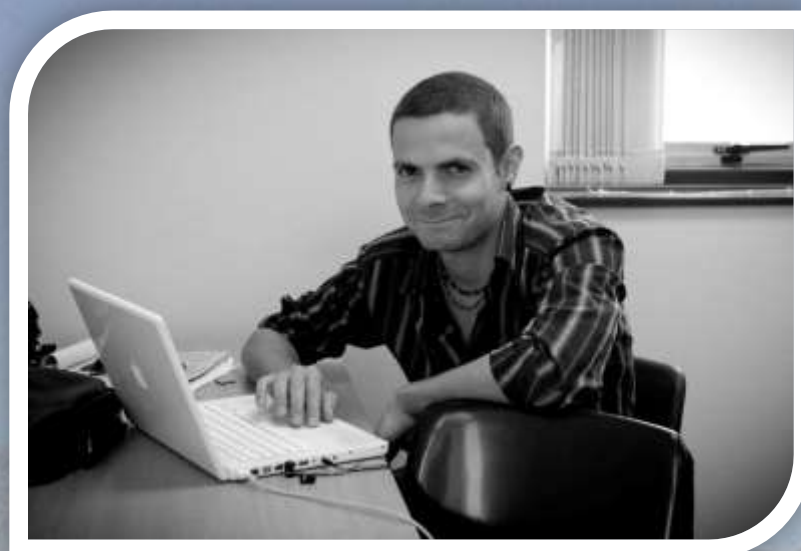
OF THE MONTH

APRIL

FLAVIO ALAGIA
FLAVIO ALAGIA

Journalism, 3 months
Journalism, 3 months

Nationality: ITALIAN
Nationality: ITALIAN



“Journalists are like dogs, whenever anything moves they begin to bark,” said German philosopher Arthur Schopenhauer. With that in mind, the journalism office would be dreadfully quiet without Flavio Alagia! Consequently, it was Flavio’s thirst to serve as a voice to the voiceless, his professionalism, his punctuality, his reliability and his mission and goals for his volunteer work that awarded him the title of “Volunteer of the Month”.

27 year old Flavio started the Journalism programme in February and was in luck’s way to attend a visit to the printers on his first day. Before we left the office, I begged the group to ask as many questions as they could and not leave me to ask my ridiculous “what does this button do?” type of question just to avoid awkward silence. And out of everyone, it was Flavio’s curiosity that came to the rescue. When we arrived back at the office he wasted no time, as not only did he choose a rather newsworthy article, but he arranged for interviews to help him in his research all in the last hour of his very first day. Since then, both Rebecca and I noticed his diligence and eagerness to learn and work.

Flavio is a recent graduate and has shown his passion for the demanding field of journalism, by not merely sitting back and doing nothing, but rather taking initiative and surprising us often enough to notice that he wants to gain all that our project has to offer. So far he has completed several articles, taken numerous fascinating images and added to our contact and contributor list. He has also shown his helpfulness, by sitting in on our non-native English speakers’ interviews and intervened constructively. He also is always ready to offer to do the work no one else is keen on doing, proving he loves to write, regardless of the significance or time it takes. Additionally, we were impressed when he copied us in on an email he sent out and we noticed that he made his own signature at the end of his mail, stating that he was a Cape Chameleon Journalist.



Arriving early in the morning to read the newspaper and cut out the most interesting stories (we still aren't sure what he does with those), the work done by Flavio has been nothing but a service to our office and our readers. Each article he is assigned to, even the most unflattering or those that require the most research, he does with great sensitivity to all his sources and our readers and still manages to maintain public interest.

On deadline day, his work is done beyond our satisfaction and his conclusion to each story leaves the reader with knowledge, something to think about, how they could help and even some entertainment. Well done Flavio for becoming the first volunteer journalist to be the volunteer of the month.

Assistant Editor of Cape Chameleon - Kelly Easton



STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Mark Wijsman

MY LIFE STARTED IN THIS TINY SPOT IN EUROPE, called the Netherlands. Stuck in this cramped amount of space and wanting to leave, be independent and explore, I ended up living in England (Oxford) and Spain (Barcelona) in a gap year after high school. I briefly studied Law in Holland, but after multiple yawns I woke up and switched to Communication Science in Amsterdam. My studies led me to a wonderful internship at St. Joseph's Home in Cape Town, a children's home for chronically children. In that time I not only fell in love with South Africa, but also developed a passion for volunteer work. I started a foundation for St. Joseph's, which I have been enthusiastically running since. I finished my studies and rushed my way back to Cape Town, where I have lived a very happy life since last year. I also study a bit of film in Cape Town and have done some acting jobs here, one of my biggest passions that I've been doing all my life.



In my spare time I love to hang out with friends, watch (and sporadically play) soccer and enjoy the amazing food that Cape Town has to offer. Recently I've created a passion for writing, a good way to release my urge for creativity and innovation. I've travelled this country four times now, and am still amazed by its sheer beauty, vast landscapes and hospitable people. Recently I came upon Projects Abroad, and enjoy being their new Volunteer Co-ordinator. Cape Town is my home now, and being surrounded by young ambitious people and having such enthusiastic colleagues makes everything even better.

María Mulíndí

I AM A LUHYA FROM WESTERN KENYA. My family moved to South Africa in 2003. I studied at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University and obtained an LLB Law degree. I completed my articles of clerkship at Boqwana Loon and Connellan and was admitted as an attorney of the High Court of South Africa. I also have High Court Right of Appearance. I worked in the litigation department specialising in motor vehicle accident claims against the Road Accident Fund. I am currently undertaking a masters degree in Development Studies.



I come from a long line of lawyers. My grandfather was a Magistrate in Post Colonial Kenya. My father is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya and he had a brief stint working with the UN in Kosovo. This is what sparked my interest in humanitarian law and human rights. When I got the opportunity to work with PAHRO I jumped at it because this is what I have wanted to do for a very long time.

For me, being an attorney is about helping people and through PAHRO I am able to do just that.

I am a devout Christian and I love to read, party, swim, chill with my friends. In a nutshell I love life and living it to the full.

Favourite quote: "your expectation is your only limitation" – Anon.

BUSINESS FEATURE

Signet Licensing Internship: Feb-April 2011
George Wakeford.



SIGNET LICENSING AND MARKETING is a South African based company that was formed in 1993, following the readmission into international sport. Signet, although a small company in terms of employees, is the largest sports licensing company in the country. Its primary owner is Primedia Sport.

Signet represents several sports organisations in some of South Africa's largest sporting sectors. For example SA Rugby, Stormers/Western Province Rugby, Bulls/Blue Bulls rugby, Kaizer Chiefs FC, and Orlando Pirates FC, amongst others. Signet have 3 main sources of revenue, these are royalty fees generated from branded goods, sponsorship commission and retail income from licensed products sold on the team websites.

The licensing industry is an area of business I have not heard much about, and indeed the majority of the work carried out at Signet is 'behind the scenes'. I have been fortunate enough to work for the company for 2 months, with which I have developed a good understanding of sports licensing. The opportunity to take part in key meetings and work within all aspects of the business has ensured that I have had an enjoyable yet productive experience.



The retail side of the business has been an aspect I have become most familiar with. Signet deal with all the clothing and merchandise orders that come through on the team shop websites. It is the job of the retail department's Mario and Tasneem to ensure that all the orders are processed, packaged, and shipped, whilst updating the computer system's payment and stock database. I definitely started to appreciate the amount of work that is required to ship one shirt!



Another area of particular interest was working alongside Tracey who, alongside other areas of the business, deals with anti-counterfeit campaigns. This is a service that Signet offer all their clients, therefore no profit is made. However it is an essential service as the sale of counterfeit goods (such as team shirts) on the street and increasingly now in shops, is undermining the industry. Tracey works alongside customs and police officials to try and eliminate the influx of counterfeit goods in the market. Part of my role was to take part in a meeting with several high profile police officials in recognising which product might be genuine and which might be fake, it is scary how similar they can get! I have also had to write out affidavit forms following several raids, which gave me a good impression of the scale of the counterfeit market!

The highlight of my time with Signet was working on behalf of the sponsors at a Stormers v Queensland Reds game at the famous Newlands Stadium. I was working with Mike who's job it is to overlook match day sponsorship and hospitality. My job that day was to make sure that everything looked up to scratch for the TV cameras, and it meant I could watch the game pitch-side. Despite loosing in a try-less game I had an incredible time, and bumped into a couple of pretty good rugby players too such as Schalk Burger. All in a day's work.

I would like to thank everybody at Signet who has made my placement here such a memorable experience.

DIRTY WEDNESDAY!

By Mark Wijsman



“Many hands make light work”. That’s a good thing, because we had about 40! Our mission: give Bavumeleni Educare Centre in Khayelitsha a make-over. This meant taking down the fence and building a new one, covering the building with new insulation and painting it all in a kid-friendly ‘Barney’-purple; quite a task for one day.

Positively surprised by the amount of volunteers showing up, and the excitement with which they worked on this project, this was not a problem at all.

With a group of minibuses we travelled to Khayelitsha on a very fortunate sunny day, and the natural leadership and authority of Deen (our Building Project Manager) got the whole group

divided and working on separate tasks around the building. By lunchtime, all the tasks had gone according to plan, and we had quite the audience from the local community, some of them even helping us as well. The heat did not seem to slow any of the volunteers down, but we used the well prepared sandwiches of host mom Faye to get our energy levels back up. After lunch the painting started, and the ‘barney’ purple started to make the building stand out as a beacon between the white and grey neighbours.



At the end of the afternoon the whole project was finished, and an amazing amount of work had been done in such a short period of time. This could have not been done without the great support of all the staff and volunteers of Projects Abroad, and we managed to combine forces to help out a small part of a community. The pictures will speak for themselves, and the children will love their new school.



**DIRTY WEDNESDAY
PHOTOS**



HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE UPDATE

LEGAL SERVICES

By Jakob Rixen



THE BROAD-BASED BLACK ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT (B-BBEE) act is a legislative framework for the promotion of black economic empowerment. The B-BBEE and the policies surrounding it have been put in place in an attempt to overcome the past's injustices in the access to control the productive resources and access to skills depending on race during the Apartheid era. The objective of the legislation can be summarized as the (1) right to equality, (2) broad-based and effective participation of black people, (3) higher growth rate, (4) increased employment and (5) equitable income distribution.

There is no doubt that the Apartheid regime openly favoured a minority within society and that this favouritism has led to significant long lasting differences in wealth, education and skills. In order to overcome some of these differences the B-BBEE aims at creating what in the affirmative action literature is often referred to as "a level playing field", this however is not an unproblematic term, while it cannot mean both (i) having the same performance receive the same evaluation or reward, regardless of the group from which the individual comes, and (ii) equal outcomes or equal statistical probabilities of success for different groups. The moral dimension of this is namely based on the assumption that we can make right among the living the wrongs done to people long dead, this discussion however falls beyond the scope of this research, while it focuses on the economic consequences of these policies.





Statistics show that these policies have been successful in promoting black labour into the economy. Based on labour force surveys, the general employment has risen by 5,11% from 2001 till 2010. During this period employment of black Africans went up by 5,4%, while the employment of white Africans went down by 4,34%. The country's economic growth, looking aside from the global economic crisis, has since 2005 been between 3-6%

annually, which is fairly reasonable – especially considering the unutilized potential of unemployed workers. On many accounts one might therefore claim that the governments policies, including the B-BBEE, are successful; the economy is improving and unemployment is dropping. The problem is that we do not yet know, which negative impacts the preferential policies have had, which according to international studies of such policies indicate could be numerous.

The politicization of intergroup disparities and promotion of group identity policies have in several counties lead to intergroup hostility and violence. Rightful or not then workers within the same company seem to be sceptical of the qualifications of the their co-workers qualifications if they are from one of the preferred groups. This might lead to a less efficient environment within a company, which may in turn if this is a general problem, result in weaker economic growth than if the policies had not been in place.

Besides this then the affirmative procurement program, which promotes trade with BEE companies might be limiting the entrepreneurship of the white population. The problems that arise doing so, is that even though the white population might have had preferential treatment previously, which has made them generally better educated and accustom to being entrepreneurs – then this segment of the population should be utilized to create growth and employment, rather than shut out of the labour marked – since such a scenario might generate a negative-sum process leaving everybody worse off. Further research into this area will hopefully be able to clarify the empirical consequences of these policies and determine whether they are having a positive impact on South Africa's economy.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

BONNYTOUN – *By Ali Feder*

"DO ME A FAVOUR, AS A MAN AND AS A SOUTH AFRICAN, DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THESE BOYS". When Lyndon Metembo, the PAHRO Social Coordinator sat us down to plan our first workshop in Bonnytoun with 14-17 year old offenders, he opened with these words. The provincial Department of Social Development provides places of safety for children who are charged with committing a crime and who have been assessed by a probation officer and found to need restrictive placement while they await trial and finalisation of their court case. Huis Bonnytoun in Wynberg is that place. Our role in the lives of the 17 boys we have the privilege to work with is ever evolving. We serve to help them gain confidence in their passions and talents, and most importantly give them tools to build a mindset applicable to life after prison. Through a series of workshops written on a weekly basis, we ask them to examine the life choices associated with gang life and criminality.

My first thought when Lyndon told us that our purpose was to downplay the perks of gang life was 'what is one reason a young boy should listen to a western teenager from a background of privilege trying to convince him that working with the system would be in his favour'? It seemed an impossible task, but after much thought, and trial and error during the workshops, it seems we have connected with the boys and small victories are the reward for all involved.

Throughout my life hip-hop music has always been a lens through which I connect with others, and process emotional experiences. After finding out that the boys and I have very similar music taste, it dawned on me that a music workshop would be a perfect medium for communicating our message. We chose a dozen songs that had very clear positive or negative messages, and asked the boys to think about what story was being told, what the artist was trying to communicate or warn us about, and whether or not they could relate to the songs. If we are able to replace feelings of hopelessness about life after prison, with thoughts of achievement and honest living, then we have done our job. We hope to remind the boys that no matter how desperate a situation, it is a matter of the lens through which it is examined that determines the outcome.

Project Manenberg – *By Sarah Bruns*



Self-Help Manenberg

MY PROJECT WITH A FEW BOYS from the self-help Manenberg started four weeks ago. My first meeting with them was in the house from our project partner Leon. I was a little bit tense, because I didn't know what exactly happen there and what my job in this project was. But the boys were all very friendly, often smiling and I was cordially received.

In our meetings we spoke about our week, the work and how we felt. Also we spoke about the boys' futures and tried to give them advice. We tried to figure out what kind of work they like, what their interests are, how their family situation is and what hobbies they have. We tried to show them alternatives of their present situation. We wanted to make it clear that they have the chance to make the most of their lives and that there is a way to break out off a gangster's life. We also played instructive games with the boys. One of them was a game about communication, that showed the boys how communication is functioned and how not.

Our new two month plan will be to take the boys out of Manenberg. We compile activities under the topics of history, family and fun. On 14th April 2011 we took the boys to the parliament. There we had a nice guide and the boys were very interested. The guide showed them how the South



African parliament works and what it means for the inhabitants of South Africa. After this we went to the national archives. We showed them how they can make investigations about their family or the history of Manenberg. Other activities we have planned under the topic of history are to show them the Slave Lodge, Robben Island and an exhibition in the National Gallery. Other planned activities are hiking or surfing and going to the aquarium or zoo.

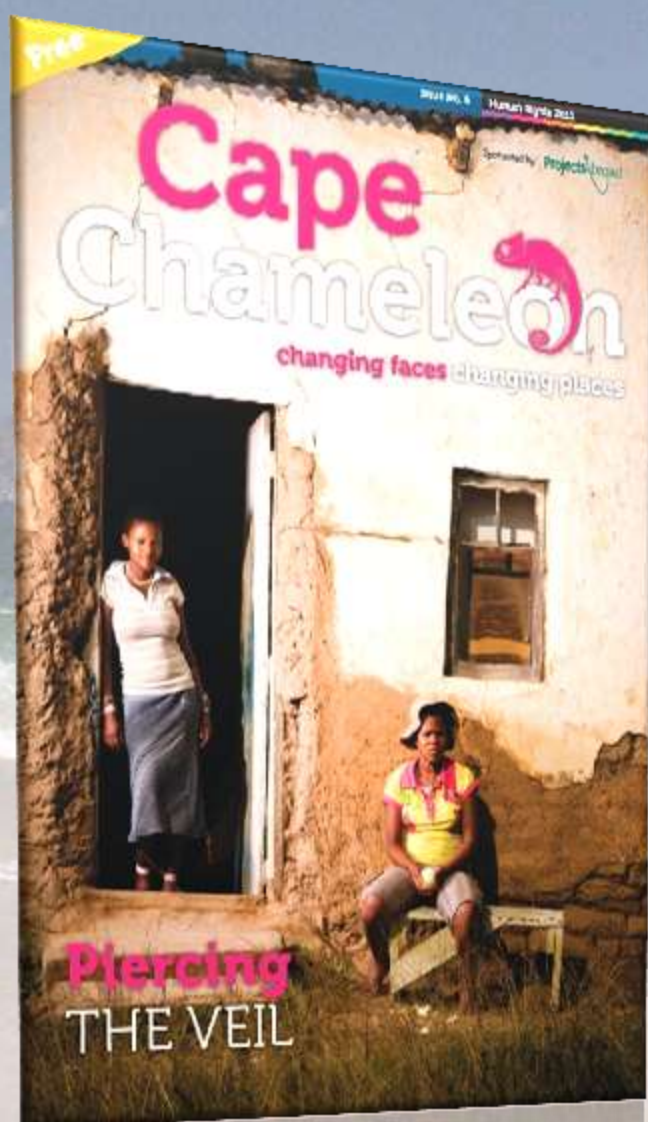
Overall, I can say that it is a great project and the work with the boys makes it a lot of fun. It's not only teaching the boys, I learned a lot from them, too. I loved to be with the boys together and I felt involved in a big family.



Journalism

UPDATE

By Cristina Weber



March ended with good news as more volunteer-journalists arrived; Clotilde came back from the Care Project and Marion changed to journalism after being at the Human Rights Project for a while. But there are always interesting things to write about and the work in our office never ends.

Marion (France) is now focusing on The Girl Effect, a humanitarian project to help women. The idea of this international programme is to increase the amount of woman power in the developing countries in order to reduce poverty. Ornella (France) is now approaching two different arguments; she is writing about breast cancer, so this article will certainly help us become more aware of such a big problem. She is also taking a look into soft addictions, the smaller addictions that don't necessarily affect your health but rather your wallet! Clotilde (France) is now busy discovering the life story of the famous swimmer Natalie Du Toit.

Maja (Danemark) is working on the next cover story, which is about teenage pregnancy. The second topic she's focusing on is the Klein Karoo National Art Festival in Outshoorn, where she also spent three days exploring the festival! Flavio (Italy) has decided to focus on Corrective Rape in collaboration with the PAHRO; Corrective Rape is the terrible belief that a woman's homosexuality could be

woman's homosexuality could be 'treated' through rape. Flavio's second story is about the fascinating College of Magic. Personally I've been doing some photography, as instead of using lots of words, I decided to let the pictures do the talking. I've also just finished my work on the Neighbourhoods Market at the Old Biscuit Mill, and another on the recent Cape Town Pride, the gay pride.

We also were introduced to a new member of staff, Gerhard, who is working hard on the Voices of the World and starting up Journalism

Clubs. So, the work in the office never stops, and we are learning more and more about journalism thanks to the many interesting workshop we have. The last one was on broadcast journalism with the very energetic Lance Witten from ETV News, who not only taught us a lot about his job, but he really passed all his passion onto us. I can't wait to see where this passion will bring us, surely into lots of new and interesting stories to share with our readers!



Lance Witten from eTV giving a workshop

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE



Phase One –Completed

Phase Two – Toilet and wash area.

'At the building project we are now busy working on this phase (approximate size 2m x 3m). We, the present volunteers, realised quite quickly that there is more that goes into construction than meets the eye. The exciting thing now is that we are going even greener, we are presently constructing our very own 'Eco friendly beams' and we will have to fill about 1000 sandbags too. We cannot wait to see how our very own work will turn into a complete construction; a solid, lasting imprint that will be there for many years. We love the building project not only for the actual building but also for the great, warm, atmosphere and the friendly people we are surrounded by. Every day we look forward to going to the site. Even though the work is sometimes hard, we always have a great time. We do work hard and play hard too. We do get a lot of respect and empowerment, which we do not usually experience back home. Our way of saying thank you is to give that respect back by listening, obeying instruction and to carry it out.'

Warm regards

Teresa (Belgium), Louis (France) and Dreus (Holland) – The building volunteers.

Phase Three:

Multi purpose: Food kitchen/ Dining area (awaiting for the 40 Korean volunteers to kick start this phase)

Phase Four:

Multi purpose hall: Skills training, cultural activities: drama, arts, etc

NB. This is a long term project.

Awaiting for future volunteers to take up this exciting and rewarding challenge.

PLACE OF INTEREST

KALKY'S *Fish & Chips*

Jake Waldron

CAPE TOWN HAS MANY THINGS TO OFFER: from a boat ride to, and tour of, Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned, to spending the day climbing up Table Mountain to enjoy the second-to-none view of the city and many golden beaches along the coast. Glancing westward we can see the beaches of Camps Bay and Clifton, surrounded by various restaurants, bars, and houses that redefine the word 'luxury'. Looking to the north we see Robben Island, trapped in the



jaws of Table Bay, whose coastline sports the industrial suburb of Milnerton, and the infamously windy Blouberg. Further to the east lie the Cape Flats, where the majority of Cape Town's population live. If we keep turning eastward we see False Bay, curving towards the peninsula introducing us to Muizenberg, the surfing capital of Cape Town. Muizenberg then disappears round the mountain and it is left to our imagination what lies between there and Cape Point.



The road beyond Muizenberg is one filled with a culture and people vastly different from those who frequent the luxuries of Camps Bay. There is a particular place along the road behind the mountain that brings an entirely fresh flavour to the culture of Cape Town, in more ways than one. Kalk Bay, a small suburb located on the coast of False Bay, and at the foot of the Kalk Bay Mountains. Kalk Bay is an area that relies heavily on its fishing industry, and when driving along the main road we are confronted with a tiny harbour that provides parking for small fishing vessels that look like the ocean is the last place they should be.

As you explore the harbour, and maybe take a walk to the tiny little light-house, fishmongers hurl various prices at you, earnestly trying to make some money, perhaps to fix their boats. The harbour is also decked with various, you guessed it, fish and chip restaurants. Among these restaurants is what I consider to be the Gem of Kalk Bay, and perhaps one of the few restaurants in and around Cape Town that provides the eater with

an experience that makes you feel like you are that much closer to the beating heart of Cape Town. Kalky's is its name, and they serve the best fish and chips in Cape Town.



knives and forks are your tools and various sauces are available to drown your fish and chips in. The portions are always far bigger than you anticipated, much to the delight of the seagulls, and you always get your money's worth.

If you ever find yourself yearning for a genuine Cape Town experience, head down to Kalky's. You won't be disappointed!

Upon entering you walk to the till and order your food, which ranges from fish heads to fresh crayfish (the fish and chips are always a good bet though). You then sit down at one of the many benches in the restaurant, with the option of sitting outside, and soak up the cool sea breeze and rich culture of the area. You will more than likely hear someone shout out your order, and once you've ordered up, they bring you your food. Plastic



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