



# CHEETAH OUTREACH EDUCATION NEWS

Bringing Environmental Education into the Classrooms of Disadvantaged Communities

*"To facilitate the increased respect and pride for South Africa's indigenous fauna in the youth of previously disadvantaged communities: using the cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) as an ambassador species." and "To plant the seed of a conservation ethic."*

DECEMBER 2011

2011 has been a busy year for our education officers. They presented just under 100 on-site schools visits as well as a variety of off-site presentations, and they partook in numerous education and community programmes .

## SYNERGY BETWEEN PROGRAMMES

During 2011 our education team started several relationships with different youth development / environmental education programmes. **Die Burgerstrandhuis** in Simonstown hosts an environmental school which holds curriculum-linked environmental camps for schools in the Western Cape. Cheetah Outreach is now one of the facilities to which these groups will travel to learn about conservation and our wildlife. Over holiday seasons they sponsor camps for disadvantaged learners. These learners are also accommodated at Cheetah Outreach free of charge.

The **Jeugtrust** (Stellenbosch), runs environmental camps around the Cape Peninsula for the Western Cape Education Department. After 30 years in the business they are the sole remaining environmental component of the Western Cape Education Department after budget cuts nationwide. During August our education staff held a meeting with the Principal of the environmental school run by the Jeugtrust with the intent to formalise a partnership where Cheetah Outreach will be an integrated component of school visits to three of the camp sites within the Stellenbosch, Paarl and Wellington areas. Schools will either visit the Cheetah Outreach facility on their way to or from the camp site or a presentation with cheetah ambassador will be incorporated into the activities held during the camp. The intention is to eventually link the Cheetah Outreach presentation to the other activities held, within the current curriculum requirements of both organisations. September saw the first 3 very successful presentations take place. We look forward to a long, mutually beneficial relationship during 2012.



We have also initiated presentations at the **Ikamvayouth** programme working with high school learners. They offer winter school programmes within various career fields, one of which is Sustainability and the Environment. Cheetah Outreach held a 2 hour presentation at the Makhaza branch during the July holidays and the 14 learners then spent the following afternoon at the facility. We have also been invited to present at the Masiphumelele branch. We are looking forward to a long relationship between the 2 programmes.



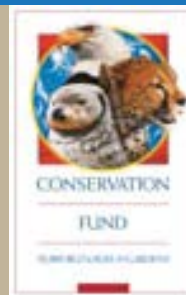
website: [www.cheetah.co.za](http://www.cheetah.co.za) - e-mail: [cheetah@intekom.co.za](mailto:cheetah@intekom.co.za) - tel: 27 21 881 3242

**Trashback** is a volunteer run programme in Houtbay undertaking cleanup competitions with learners in the disadvantaged township. As one of the prizes for learners taking part they are treated to a tour and encounters at Cheetah Outreach. Each Saturday small groups of learners visit the facility and a long-term partnership to introduce environmental education into the schools in this area is being discussed between the two organisations.



## WELCOME TO NEW EDUCATION SPONSORS

A wonderful opportunity has come our way with sponsorship of our education programme by the Seaworld Buschgardens Fund. This new relationship has the potential to expand our education programme into some very exciting areas and we look forward to exploring this opportunity with their education staff.



## THANK YOU TO CONTINUED SPONSORS

Congratulations to **Bearwood Lakes Golf Club** for another very successful fundraising Golf Day held in support of our Bus to Us programme. Thank you Roy and Pat for all your effort to make this day a fun day for all and for the long term support you and your club members have given Cheetah Outreach. Our visiting school learners really appreciate all you have enabled us to deliver.

Thank you also to **Angel Fund, Cincinnati Zoo** for their continued support of our education work.

Cheetah Outreach was also one of the guests of honour at the **National Eco-logic** awards. Although we had not submitted for any of the award categories, we were given the opportunity to present on our work and the organisers held a collection for us. The local chapter of **'The Sisterhood'** also very kindly contributed R 3 000 to our work. The **Enviropaedia**, one of the organisers of the event, has supported Cheetah Outreach since its first edition with advertorials and copies of this environmental information resource for disadvantaged schools. A very big thank you to David Parry Davis and his team for their on-going contribution to our environmental education initiative.



Joseph at the Eco-logic awards with the Sisterhood team.

