

Sea Cadet clout in the face of fire

By Lt Cdr Von Zeil, National Marketing Manager, South African Sea Cadets

On Saturday, 11 January 2020, after finishing their lunch at Hout Bay harbour, the officer commanding TS Woltemade, Lieutenant Commander Paul Jacobs, and his Midshipman, Mikayla Pillay, noted a landward boat burning next to a building.

Sea cadet and fire-fighting training kicked in as a crowd gathered to observe the pair's leadership skills in the face of impending disaster. Paul and Mikayla took charge, sprang



“Sea cadet training kicked in as a crowd gathered.”



into action, enlisted volunteers, maneuvered the burning boat away from the nearest building – thereby reducing the possible risk to people and surrounding infrastructure caused by the fire – and got the flames under control before the fire engines arrived.

Occurrences like this showcase the calibre of South Africa's Sea Cadet officers and the value inherent in the training which youth Sea Cadets, aged 13 to 17, receive at

Lieutenant Commander Paul Jacobs, and his Midshipman, Mikayla Pillay sprang into action, enlisted volunteers, maneuvered the burning boat away from the nearest building.

the initiative's 14 units across South Africa.

Bravo Zulu (Well Done!) to Lt Cdr Paul Jacobs and Midshipman Mikayla Pillay from TS Woltemade – and all the other Sea Cadet volunteers out there.

Ex TS Woltemade Sea Cadet assists the youth of Cape Town

By Lt Cdr Von Zeil, National Marketing Manager, South African Sea Cadets

AN ex-Sea Cadet from TS Woltemade now resident in Namibia recently reached into his heart to give South African youth the same opportunities and experience as he had had as a teenage boy – that of learning seamanship, sailing and things maritime.

In 1976 father Arie and son Bart Reinman constructed a much needed slipway and quay opposite TS Woltemade in Lakeside in order that the Sea Cadets could launch and recover their pulling and sailing boats. At the time Bart was also a Sea Cadet at TS Woltemade. As a result he has a close association with unit and as a citizen with a conscience has had a desire to give something back to the youth, especially where discipline and maritime skills are taught and implemented.

Over the years the soil under the slipway has become eroded and the wheels of the dollies carrying the Saldanha dingies, built at

the unit and used for pulling and sail training, dropped off the lip. This resulted in the Sea Cadets struggling to retrieve their boats.

Due to the long history with the unit Adm (JG) (Ret) Koos Louw, Chairman of the Sea Cadet Board, approached Bart to assist financially with repairing the slipway. He assessed his finances and kindly made a sum on R40 000 available for the repairs.

The reconstruction included building a coffer dam to place new concrete slabs for a reconstructed slipway and repairs to the jetty. GMC Diving & Marine Civil were one company approach to quote and quoted R85 000 to do the reconstruction. During the negotiations they kindly reduced the amount to match the donation received.

While conducting the reconstruction they we exposed to the Sea Cadets in training and were impressed with their passion, commitment, discipline, seamanship training and skills. As a result the company donated the full cost of the work to the Sea Cadets.

The donation from Bart Reiman can now be utilised for another project to assist the Sea Cadets at TS Woltemade.



Ex TS Woltemade Sea Cadet Bart Reinman addresses the guests and ship's company at TS Woltemade at the opening of the refurbished slipway. Thereby giving Cape Town youth the same positive opportunities he had as a teenager.

Thank you to Robert Bower of GMC Diving & Marine Civil, Bart Reiman, ex TS Woltemade Sea Cadet now resident Walvis Bay, Namibia, and Adm (JG) (Ret) Koos Louw for assisting TS Woltemade.

Cadets Excel in Seamanship Training

Lt Cdr CL Hand, Officer Commanding, TS Springs, Springs

SPRINGS: 7 October 2019 - Six Sea Cadets and one officer from Training Ship Springs of the South African Sea Cadets were recently selected to attend a specialised training course in Durban hosted by their fellow sea cadets of Training Ship Tiburon.

During the September school holidays, the cadets and officer were trained at the Grindrod Shipping Training Academy in the Basic Elements of Sea Survival, First Aid, Fire Fighting and Rope-work. The contents of this and all their courses are based on the syllabus prescribed by the SA Maritime Qualifications Code, and are a requirement before any person is allowed to work on-board any ship, and to have such a certificate at this age is a tremendous boost to any person contemplating a career at sea.

The discipline and enthusiasm that these cadets displayed so impressed the Grindrod



Front Row: Midshipman Charné Hand, Cadet Seaman Keabetswe Maphakela. Cadet, Seaman Kgaueo Maisela, Cadet Leading Seaman Akeel Brown. Back Row: Cadet Able Seaman Tiaan Muller, Cadet Able Seaman Julian Hoole, Cadet Able Seaman David Doller

Shipping Training Academy staff, they offered two of the cadets free entry to the Short Range Marine Communication course they offer, valued at over R7 500 each. Cadet Leading Seaman Akeel Brown and Cadet Able Seaman Julian Hoole are currently still busy with this course and will compete it in January of next year at the next contact session.

The cadets and officer also underwent a Harbour Craft Course at the Sail Africa Youth Development Foundation during this period. Considering that some of these cadets had never even seen the sea in their lives before, is testament to the training they receive that they could successfully complete these difficult courses.

Sea Cadets give teens a chance

By Lt Cdr Von Zeil, National Marketing Manager, South African Sea Cadets

THE Sea Cadets from TS Saldanha Learners recently signed the Code of Conduct that will be remembered annually and by generations to come.

The Naval Sea Cadets programme is a national youth leadership programme dedicated to providing training in practical life skills, leadership, community involvement and seamanship as well as the nautical and maritime skills, while following the traditions and customs of the South African Navy.

Saturday 14 September marked the signing of the Code of Conduct for the Sea Cadets from Training Ship (TS) Saldanha Learners.

The day was also the commissioning of TS Saldanha, with the new Officer Commanding, Commander Luigi le Roux, an ex-TS Lanherne Sea Cadet and an accomplished Combat Naval Officer, who has stepped up and volunteered to command and establish the Sea Cadets of TS Saldanha.

"What I see before me is a nation building initiative programme that creates pride, values and discipline," said Inspecting Officer, Lieutenant Commander A.G. von Zeil (PB, JCD).

"Thus the Sea Cadets provide an



The inspecting Officer, Lieutenant Commander A.G. Zeil (PB, JCD), inspecting the parade. Photos: R Rathipa

opportunity for young people, aged 13 to 17 years, to develop into resilient, confident young people, who can launch well in today's complex and often overwhelming world.

"It further instills strong moral character and life skills through leadership and technical programmes modelled after the Navy's professional development system."

Lt Cdr Von Zeil further expressed his delight at seeing TS Saldanha grow and develop into one of the most active units in the country.

"May TS Saldanha have fair winds and following seas. "Bless all who will sail with her," he said. – Lt S.P. Khuzwayo, SAS Saldanha

Life as a Sea Cadet

By Sea Ntando Barnabas, TS Tiburon, Durban



Left to Right: SEA Owethu Sumayili, Lt Denise Gouws, Officer Commanding, and SEA Ntando Barnabas at the 2019 TS TIBURON Prizegiving Parade.

MY life as a cadet started in January of 2018. My mom and I saw an advert on a home schoolers group about a Maritime Club, and we decided together that I'd join.

As a kid who has an incurable allergy to water, no self-confidence and would rather stay indoors and sleep. I really didn't like it, the waking up very early on the Sunday (our training starts at 07:30), the dreadful sweating, the thought of swimming, the long day in the sun, the socialising with other kids, all sounded and seemed like torture to me. It seemed very serious, boring and a lot like school. But I was wrong, it became fun, enjoyable and nothing like a school.

Once I passed my rank and became a Seaman, I started growing in a way I never knew I could, even my mom saw the change. I was starting to become comfortable with other children, I became more confident, I grew a tougher skin, I started standing up for myself and gained a new positivity to life. I started realising that I'm more than just a girl that's allergic to water, I started learning that there was more to my life than just being isolated and staying cooped up in my room, I realised that I too deserved to have a laugh, have fun and enjoy being like other children. I realised that there's so much more to life.

I continue to fight daily struggles but with my new outlook on life, the new confidence, the new energy I have, I believe I can do anything. Sea Cadets has taught me that my disability does not need to define me, or keep me back from anything. It has taught me resilience to make a plan and to overcome my personal obstacle.



The South Africa Sea Cadets is a non-profit organisation dedicated to training and preparing school-going boys and girls for a career in the maritime industry.

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