

# Food, friends and fun

**ANNA PHILLIPS**

With last Friday's harsh weather causing the cancellation of an activity day at Mossel Bays' Shark Lab, the local street kids were almost left severely disappointed. But thanks to the quick thinking and combined efforts of Fiona Ayerst, Underwater Photography, Beverley Boer and Oceans Education, the kids were still treated to an afternoon of food, friends and fun. With both of these businesses sponsoring

the event, activities ran without a hitch. Members of the Fiona Ayerst Underwater Photography team and Oceans office as well as 10 of the Oceans Research interns, travelled to the street kids' shelter overlooking the town and entertained the children for the afternoon. The event began with fun and games on the playground next to the shelter, whilst the less sporty members of the team prepared food. Muffins made by the interns, and fizzy drinks accom-

panied the hot meal and everyone eventually sat down to watch the DVD, Finding Nemo. This went down well with the kids who seemed to know every word of the film already.

As the end of the film marked the lockup of the shelter, the kids received a pack of hotdogs, muffins and lollypops to take away with them. Although they were heading back outside to the cold, windy streets or even to issues they had come to the shelter

to escape, the street kids could rest assured that there are people here who care about them.

The Mossel Bay Shark Lab is planning another educational and activity day for the street kids next month at the Shark Lab.

Also being planned is an evening's entertainment at the Barnyard theatre. This will comprise of the musical skills of many talented locals. The Oceans interns will sell tickets and all proceeds will go towards caring for

and educating the street children. Their ultimate goal is to purchase an overnight shelter and home for many of the children.

If you are a talented musician or performer who would like to perform at the event please email your details to the email address below. If you are interested in sponsoring the event, buying a ticket or would like to know any other information please contact [anna@fionaayerst.com](mailto:anna@fionaayerst.com) for more details.



serious game of football held at the Mossel Bay shelter for children.



One of the Ocean's Research interns attempting a tackle



Oceans Research interns versus Street kids soccer game, after which a warm meal was given and DVD watched.