



Bishops bike for burns

WHAT STARTED OUT as a fun ride by a few teachers at Bishops Preparatory School in Rondebosch, Cape Town, has blossomed into a major fund-raising success!

The teachers decided that they would ride in support of the Phoenix Burns Project and called for sponsorships from learners and parents at the school. The preparations were coordinated with Phoenix by Bishops teacher Mr Mark Erlangsen.

Each class in the school "adopted" a teacher to ride for them. Through donating pocket money, organising raffles and auctions, and raising funds from parents, classmates competed to see who could raise the most money for this cause – reaching a remarkable sum of R112 000 in a matter of just five weeks!

The four-day ride took place from 1-4 April and covered a distance of 300 km. The riders departed from the school at 09:00 on Friday, 1 April – holiday break-up day – in front of their learners.

Phoenix President, Dr Peter Martinez, and Phoenix's

Project Coordinator, May Bleeker-Phelan, were also present to witness the exciting send-off of the riders.

Their first destination was Betty's Bay. They then pushed on to Villiersdorp for their second night. The third day was the big test as they had to climb the Franschhoek Pass and Helshoogte Pass in order to get to Stellenbosch. Their final day brought them back to Cape Town and a well-earned rest.

Supporters could follow the progress of the riders on Phoenix's website and on Twitter and Facebook.

Proceeds from the bike tour will go towards Phoenix's initiatives that support

child burn survivors and burns prevention efforts in the Western Cape.

Lulu Davis, a parent with two children at the school, said: "Bishops' enthusiasm for this kind of project is one of the reasons we love the school! I think it is a great cause and am happy to help in any way I can."

Well done Bishops! We salute you.

Biking for burns is going international: see page 2.

BIKE FOR BURNS
1 - 4 APRIL 2011



BISHOPS



Bishops' champions for burns. Riders kitted up and ready to go on a 300km bicycle tour that raised more than R100 000 for Phoenix.

Phoenix at Indaba on fire and flood safety

SHACK FIRES AND FLOODS were the focus of a recent Catholic Welfare and Development-led crisis relief programme in Masiphumelele, a community near Kommetjie, where low-lying shacks are often flooded, and fires are a regular hazard amongst the close-built structures.

The Fire and Flood Prevention Safety Indaba event was held on 10 March at the Masiphumelele Community Hall and drew a crowd of around 200 community members.

Phoenix collaborated with other stakeholders such as the Cape Town Fire and Rescue Services, Paraffin Safety Association of South Africa, EzyLight, Ikhaya Lami, Eskom and PASSOP to address the most pressing safety issues experienced by residents in this particular community.

In addition to presentations on fire safety and prevention, safe use and storage of paraffin, burns prevention and first aid, stakeholders also discussed safer housing construction methods to reduce flooding and increase accessibility amongst dwellings for Fire and Rescue Services. Social topics such as safe use of alcohol and xenophobia were also touched upon.

The crowd was addressed by Alderman JP Smith, Mayoral Committee Member for Safety and Security, and David Gretton, Executive Support Officer to the Mayoral



A Masiphumelele resident receives prize from Nontsikelelo Dwangu (CWD Crisis Relief Manager) and Waleed Waja (EzyLight).

Member for Economic Development & Tourism.

After the presentations, residents competed for prizes in a quiz. One lucky resident won an EzyLight solar lighting unit, designed for installation and use in informal settlements, as a safer alternative to flame-based lighting.

Blowing out the flame

EZYLIGHT, A COMPANY specialising in solar lighting solutions, have expanded their enterprise to include a community programme dubbed 'Blow Out the Flame'.

Waleed Waja, a director at EzyLight, said: "Our solution to the safety problems associated with open flame lighting sources in poor communities was to design a solar lighting unit that is lightweight, easy to install and use, and that offers an alternative to candles or paraffin lamps. One such unit can light a small three-bedroom

dwelling, by means of LED lights, and an external solar panel."

The EzyLight 3 Plus solar unit is designed specifically for installation in informal settlements, and offers increased safety and savings on lighting by doing away with the need for candles, Paraffin lamps or any open flame device.

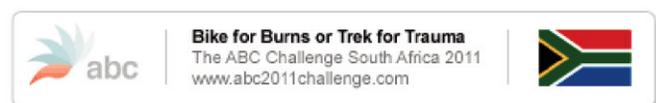
If you are interested in sponsoring such a unit for installation in an informal settlement, or supporting "Blow Out the Flame", please contact Hawa Hassan at 082 854 2366 or Waleed Waja at 0828542344 or visit www.ezylight.co.za

International bikers and hikers to come to SA to raise funds for Phoenix

A GROUP OF supporters of Phoenix in the UK is organising a Hike and Bike Challenge in October 2011. The event is being organised by Carolyn Cripps (OBE), Phoenix's representative in the UK, in conjunction with Cripps-Sears' Action for Burns and Children charitable fund in the UK.

The ABC Hike/Bike challenge offers participants a choice between a 6-day hike in the Cederberg mountains, or a 6-day bike tour through the Garden Route. The hikers and cyclists will converge in Cape Town, where the event will end with a fundraising Gala Dinner. Proceeds from the Hike and Bike event will go towards supporting child burn survivors and their families, via Phoenix Burns Project initiatives.

Hikers and cyclists from the UK will be flying to South Africa to participate in the challenge, and interest has



been shown by potential participants from Europe, the Middle East and North America!

One such bicyclist from Europe is Arno van der Sanden, a resident of Eindhoven in the Netherlands. He is currently gearing up to participate in the ABC Hike/Bike challenge.

Arno has chosen to participate in the bike tour and is currently seeking sponsorship to attend. In support of Arno, Humecca, a Dutch-based company providing surgical equipment to the burns field, have kindly donated funds. Humecca have also been supportive of the Red Cross Children's Hospital Burns Unit in the past, having previously donated a dermatome to the Red Cross Burns Unit.

For more information about the ABC Hike/Bike challenge, please visit the Phoenix website at www.pbp.org.za and follow the Charity Challenge link, or go directly to www.abcccharitychallenge.com, or call May Bleeker-Phelan on 082 932 9504.

'Why I want to volunteer for Phoenix'

MY NAME IS Ferlyn Hendricks and I am a 39 year old male. I am from the Athlone area and I've been living there since I was born.

I have been burnt since I was four years of age, and for the past few years I've been consumed with thoughts of how I could be of help to other burn survivors and ultimately make a difference in their lives by being part of a support system.

I feel that I can help because through experience I have a clear understanding of the extent of their pain, rejection and heartache. The reason I am motivated to do this is because I know that it would make it easier for the parents to understand the magnitude of the pain their children are experiencing. It is of vital importance for parents to have a connection with what their children are going through daily and they are thus able to help their children to the best of their ability.

Coming into contact with the Phoenix Burns Project has truly been a blessing. A few months ago, my nephew gave me an edition of the *Athlone News*, a free local paper. I rarely read the *Athlone News* – I normally just read through the classifieds – but on that day I decided to read it. That's when I discovered the ad of the Phoenix Burns Project.

I was filled with joy and excitement because this is what I had been searching for, for a long time. I know that being

involved with Phoenix is my purpose and calling which God has chosen me for, because I had been fervently praying for it.

I would like to thank May, the Phoenix coordinator, who is truly an "angel" and whose commitment is a great inspiration to me. My sincere desire is that more people get involved to better the lives of burned survivors.

FILL A TIN FOR CHANGE

YOUR SMALL CHANGE can make a big change in a burn survivor's life.

Through the generosity of DivFood, a division of Nampak, we have introduced collection tins as one of our fundraising activities. Please consider keeping a collection tin in your home to put all the small change cluttering up your purse or wallet. Every cent helps, and it all adds up!

Better still, why not support Phoenix by taking a carton of collection tins to distribute in your school, your office or among your friends?

If you would like to take a tin, please contact May on 082 932 9504.



After the fire

IMAGINE RETURNING HOME from work to find that all your possessions have been lost in a fire. This is a stark reality every year for hundreds of people who live in Cape Town's many informal settlements. Responding to the needs of some of those left with nothing after a fire, we are distributing Phoenix Fire Recovery Kits.

These kits come in a sturdy 100-litre plastic container filled with a large number of basic household items and basic foodstuffs.



Each Fire Recovery Kit costs approximately R3 500. Please support this by sponsoring a Fire Recovery Kit, or by inviting your school, church or work colleagues to contribute to one or more kits.

For further information, please e-mail admin@pbp.org.za or phone May Bleeker-Phelan on 082 932 9504.

PHOENIX FIRE MONITOR

Shack fires reported in Cape Town newspapers during the period of 1 October 2010 - 31 March 2011

28 Mar, Sapa	Masiphumelele fire leaves 25 homeless
23 Mar, Cape Argus	Macassar fire claims 9 lives (incl 6 children)
10 Mar, Cape Times	Crossroads fire destroys 20 dwellings, approx 100 homeless
13 Feb, Sapa	120 shacks destroyed in Imizamo Yethu, 570 people homeless
19 Jan, Cape Times	300 displaced by Doornbach fire
5 Jan, Cape Argus	Masiphumelele, 150 shacks destroyed, at least 300 homeless
5 Jan, Cape Times	Doornbach, (Potsdam Outspan) fire destroys 31 shacks, 72 homeless
20 Dec, Cape Times	Weekend shack fires in Strand, Kensington and Dunoon claim 4 lives
13 Dec, Cape Argus	Phillip fire (Jim se Bos) destroys 50 shacks, 1 fatality, 100 homeless
8 Dec, Cape Argus	7 year old girl dies in Valhalla Park wendy house fire
8 Dec, Cape Times	Site B fire destroys 80 homes, including a crèche
28 Nov, Wknd Argus	Gugulethu shack fire razes 10 homes, kills family of 5
10 Oct, Wknd Argus	Shack fire kills mother and son, 40 people destitute, Phola Park (Phillipi)

TOTAL: 22 fatalities, 1507 homeless

Please note that this list is not exhaustive

We extend our heartfelt condolences to all who lost their loved ones and their homes or possessions in these tragic events.

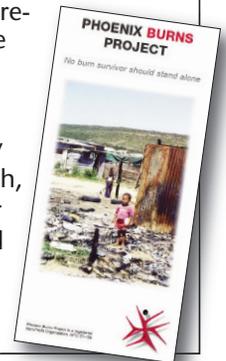
Be a Friend of Phoenix

WITH THE "Friends of Phoenix" campaign, members of the public and companies can support the organisation financially.

To accomplish our objectives and challenges, we are inviting the public to join our work not just as funders, but as a part of Phoenix. This means that we will keep our Friends informed on new developments, showing them how their support has helped.

Friends can also assist us by raising awareness about Phoenix and recruiting more friends.

To obtain copies of the "Friends of Phoenix" brochure, which explains why we exist and what we aim to accomplish, please phone May at 082 932 9504 or e-mail admin@pbp.org.za, or download it in PDF format at www.pbp.org.za/supportus.htm



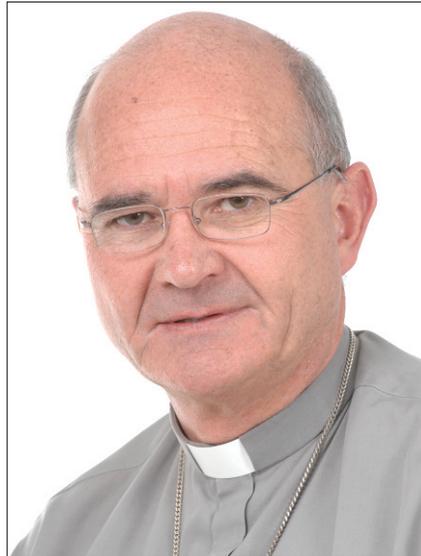
Meet Phoenix's patron, the Archbishop

OUR SUPPORTERS WHO attended the fund-raiser organized by the Phoenix Burns Project last November had the first public opportunity to meet our new Patron, the Most Reverend Stephen Brislin, installed as the Catholic Archbishop of Cape Town in February 2010.

Those who did meet him, remarked how concerned and knowledgeable he was regarding the risks of fire in the townships.

The Archbishop is well known for his support of well-run lay initiatives that address social needs and support the Church's mission in the communities it serves.

Archbishop Brislin was born in



Welkom on 24 September 1956, where he completed his schooling. He studied Philosophy at St John Vianney Seminary in Pretoria and Theology at the Missionary Institute in London. He was ordained a priest on 19 November 1983 and ordained Bishop of Kroonstad on 28 January 2007.

On the 7th of February 2010, the Solemnity of Our Lady of the Flight into Egypt, the patronal feast of the Archdiocese of Cape Town, he was installed as Archbishop of Cape Town, to succeed Archbishop Lawrence Henry, who has retired after reaching his 75th birthday.

Archbishop Brislin became the patron of Phoenix in March 2010.

Phoenix on Facebook



We have just changed Phoenix's Facebook appearance and prominence to make it easier to communicate with members and recruit more followers. As a result, the old Phoenix Facebook GROUP now is a Facebook PAGE. Unfortunately, we can't move members of our group to the Phoenix page.

Please go to the newly set up Phoenix Burns Project Facebook page (www.facebook.com/pages/Phoenix-Burns-Project) and LIKE it. By "liking" it you will be updated with all of the Phoenix news and events on your news feed.

Donate and don't get taxed

Did you know that donations to the Phoenix Burns Project are tax deductible for SA tax payers?

Donations may be made through cheque, cash deposit or Internet bank transfer to:

Phoenix Burns Project, Standard Bank, Constantia Branch (Branch code 02 53 09), Account: 07-626-238-3

If you donate online, please use your surname as the Beneficiary Reference. Please notify us of your donation by email so that we can acknowledge receipt.

Thank you, generous donors

We thank all individuals and organisations that have made financial and/or material contributions to the Phoenix Burns Project.

We thank the following individuals for supporting our recent activities: T. Callaghan, Mr and Mrs M Cripps, J. Davies and the Newlands Cub Scouts, J. Edge, R. Hall, D. Olivier, K. Parkin, E. Poulton, G. Ramplin, E Steyn, Mr and Mrs J Scott, V. Smith, T. Wessels, and D. Williams.

A special thank you to the teachers, pupils and parents of the Diocesan College (Bishops) Preparatory School.

A special thank you to our regular individual donors and to our many anonymous donors.

We gratefully acknowledge support from the following companies and organisations: Breadline Africa, Catalyst Media and Events, Catholic Women's League, Catholic Church of Constantia, *The Southern Cross* newspaper, and Swift Designs.

CONTACT US:

Postnet Suite 440, Private Bag X16, Constantia,
Cape Town, 7848, South Africa
4 Price Drive, Constantia, Cape Town, 7848, South Africa
Tel: 082 932 9504 Fax: 086 517 5620
admin@pbp.org.za www.pbp.org.za
NPO No: 57-154

PHOENIX UPDATE is circulated electronically free of charge. If you would like to be placed on the mailing list, please contact us at admin@pbp.org.za