

Knysna High School Interact Club

1. Membership:

Our club consists of 74 members (26 boys and 48 girls)

- Grade 8 learners – 21 members
- Grade 9 learners – 20 members
- Grade 10 learners – 16 members
- Grade 11 learners – 6 members
- Grade 12 learners – 11 members

2. Projects and activities from July 2008 to December 2008:

- 2.1 **Rotary Cycle Race:** Our members once again assisted with registration at the annual cycle race.
- 2.2 **Retina SA:** Street Collection Eight of our members assisted Retina SA with their annual street collection. The learners collected at the Waterfront, Pick n Pay and Clicks on a Saturday morning.
- 2.3 **Camp:** About half of our club members attended a weekend camp in Buffalo Bay. We had very little sleep again but it was a wonderful bonding experience.
- 2.4 **Committee training:** Our entire committee attended the annual training for committee members at Belvidere Manor. This was very educational and all the members of the committee learnt exactly what was expected from them. Thank you to Rotary for organizing it every year.
- 2.5 **Loeriehof Mural:** All our members assisted with this project at one time or another. It took us several weeks to complete murals at the Loeriehof Old Age Home. The paint and other materials were provided by Loeriehof and the Interactors worked for approximately four weeks, every Tuesday during Culture lesson and every Wednesday after school, to complete this project.
- 2.6 **World Interact Day:** In celebration of World Interact Day the club presented each learner of Knysna High School a card with a sweet attached to wish them luck for the exams. All the members assisted with this project. Some learners assisted with the actual making of cards while others handed them out. As part of these celebrations we also presented each member of the Knysna Rotary Club with a card and chocolate to thank them for the help and support during the year.
- 2.7 **Step-Exchange:** Mariechen Basson was selected for the STEP exchange programme and went to Austria.
- 2.8 **Lagoon Clean-up:** We had two clean-up days. One was on a Tuesday afternoon (The area next to the N2) and the other on a Wednesday afternoon (The area behind the Waste-by-Rail depot). We made arrangements with Mr Langlands from the Knysna Municipality for the extra refuse to be collected. Mr Langlands also came to address the club on possible projects we could consider.

3. Projects and activities from January 2009 to date:

- 3.1 **Valentine's Ball:** We hosted our biggest fund raising effort for the year, our Valentine's Ball, in the school hall in February. The committee responsible started planning this event in November last year. Our theme was The Beach this year and it was once again a huge success made possible by wonderful teamwork. This year we managed to raise R 4505,00! Every single member of the club was involved in one way or the other. The club was assisted by several parents, sponsors and teachers.
- 3.2 **Visit from the District Governor:** In February we were very honoured to be visited by Mr Thompson, our District Governor. We had a small social gathering after his visit to thank everybody for their hard work.
- 3.3 **Outward Bound:** Rotary made it possible for six of our members to attend the life-changing Outward Bound training camp during the Easter holidays. As always the learners enjoyed every minute of this camp.
- 3.4 **Donation towards Polio:** Our club made a donation of R 1000 towards the Rotary International project to raise funds for Polio.
- 3.5 **Bath Interactors:** Four members from our club spent a wonderful day in the company of the Rotarians and the visiting Interactors from Bath, England, at Garden of Eden and Harkerville. These members have made contact with some of the Bath Interactors on Facebook.
- 3.6 **Visit to the Fire Department:** One of our annual projects is to visit the local Fire Department. We once again took a huge cake that was enough to feed all three shifts of firemen! About 30 members attended this project and the cake was much appreciated.
- 3.7 **Toiletry Bags:** Our big project for this year is the making up of 100 toiletry bags to supply to the Provincial Hospital These are to be handed out to patients who are admitted without the basic necessities. These bags consist of the following items: a bar of soap, a tube of toothpaste, a facecloth and a toothbrush. These items are placed in a Zip Lock plastic bag with a card from Interact attached. All the items have been purchased. The bags will be assembled and presented to the hospital next week. All our members have been involved in this project.

The Knysna High Interactors have once again proven that they honour the motto: 'Service Above Self'.

Mrs H.J. Small