

## Busy month in Balfour – 3 Communities, 3 CAMP's

At the end of last year, the GRCF was contracted by Great Basin Gold and the Burnstone Development Trust, to undertake 3 CAMP's (Community Asset Mapping Programs) in the Balfour area where their operations are. We set off the second weekend in January, and have just completed the third and final CAMP, with again, such heartwarming experiences, and made new acquaintances in new communities. In all three communities, Grootvlei, Greylingstad and Siyathemba, we had unique experiences, and we are happy to report that community forums were established in all three communities. We would also like to thank Great Basin Gold, and the Burnstone Development Trust, for their trust in our process, and recognise them for taking their corporate social responsibility to a new level. Below are some highlights of the three weeks we spent there.



**LEFT:** This is probably the biggest map we've ever seen! Greylingstad's community went all out on this one. We were very impressed with the enthusiasm the community exhibited in their participation.

**RIGHT:** Giving us the "thumbs-up", ready to take the bull by the horns, and start investigating opportunities around them, creating better lives for themselves.



**LEFT:** Brainstorming a new future in Grootvlei.

**RIGHT:** Doing an early morning Jiggy-dance, before the start of a busy day.



**RIGHT:** The new Community Forum of Siyathemba, with Wayne van Nikkelen-Kuyper of the Burnstone Development Trust, and Bonolo Mmokele and Regina Loate (Boardmember) of the GRCF.



### Art Competition Time

Keep an eye on our website for details regarding the Barbara Petchenik Art Competition. RSVP's for this competition close on 12 April 2012, and entries are to be submitted later this year in August!

## SPREADING THE SEEDS OF PROSPERITY IN THABA NCHU

A lot has been documented about our CAMPs over the past couple of years, and the word has definitely spread to far corners of the world. We are overwhelmed by the interest that has been shown in this process that has become the cornerstone of our development approach, and we often spend days educating, informing and guiding peers in our field. The real reward though, happened when a request reached us from a most unsuspected source. A couple of months ago, Petrus Mabote, a security guard at the Muckleneuk Campus of UNISA, approached the Department of Geography after reading about our CAMPs in a newsletter that he had under eyes. With enthusiasm, and persistence, he finally managed to convince Melanie Nicolau and her department, to undertake a CAMP in his hometown, Feloane Village Trust near Thaba Nchu. With us in tow, the Department of Geography set off during February to the land of the Black Mountain, to make Petrus' dream come true. After completing the initial four-day workshop with them, they elected a community forum, and we will be in close touch with them, to assist them in their progress. Here are some images of the week we spent with them, and we hope this will be an inspiration to all people who want to make a difference in their own communities. Thank you Petrus, for showing us your home!



*Left to Right: Petrus, discussing his community's human assets; Melanie and Headman Matthews, inspecting a map of the area he drew up himself; Members of the elected community forum.*

Photo's 1 & 2 courtesy of UNISA

## PROGRESS IN SKUINDRIF

We are absolutely thrilled to report on the progress that has been made in Skuinsdrif. With the generous support of British American Tobacco, plans are underway to implement SED projects that have been identified during the CAMP's we undertook at the end of last year. They have also introduced us to SCORE, an organisation that focuses on peer leadership development through sport and recreation. SCORE will be launched on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March at Koffiekraal Secondary and Skuinsdrif Primary schools in the Skuindrif community, and we have been asked to assist in programs specifically aimed at teacher and parent training and development. We are truly grateful for this opportunity, and are looking forward to many other developments that will sprout from this. Once again, we thank BATSA for their true commitment and dedication in this community.



*Left: Boesman and Abea, stalwarts in the community of Skuinsdrif, showing off their crops during a recent visit with BATSA, SCORE and the GRCF.*