

Annual General Report 2006

KWA DUKUZA RESOURCE CENTRE

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Introduction

Since its establishment in 2000, the SKDRC has been committed to improving education – preparing learners around its vicinity to thrive in the global knowledge economy. SKDRC education has focused on improving teaching and learning through effective use of technology, advancing Outcome based Education, RNCS and now FET education both to educators and learners.

The centre also showcases technology solutions that support the creation of 21st century skill such as a digital literacy, problem solving, critical thinking and hi-tech technology education. The centre works with many rural schools where funds for technology infrastructure are scarce – much less than for basics such as water, electricity, toilets, or telephone. Through the generous sponsorship from Sappi, Murray and Robert, First Rand Foundation, SASA and Microsoft, we are able to take education into the rural schools thereby helping to bridge the existing education divide.

Originally, the centre commenced with the ideas of educational provisioning to schools in the area but today ICT has become our focal point. We are very fortunate that most of our projects are directed and funded for our rural communities projects (Maths and Science, Technology Education Aids Awareness, and Computer Technology).

The hunger and thirst for computer technology from these communities are immense and we find it difficult to cope at times. It is also a great pleasure working with these communities as their enthusiasm, interest and their willingness to learn against all odds is incredible. We have directed our efforts at our rural communities and it is true say that these are our “lost communities” as many donors have not shown much interest in taking development to these communities for upliftment.

Computer Technology

The Way Forward

The Sappi Kwa-Dukuza Resource Centre has been providing technological access to information, computer literacy training and educational resources for more than six years to schools, learners, adults, tertiary students, and local entrepreneurs. Computer Technology has become our core business although we are involved in many different educational programme and projects.

There is still a huge gap in the ICT sector and we have been trying to close that gap by providing computer literacy at a very basic level. Bridging the digital divide is a long way off but we are striving towards closing the gap.....

Efforts are underway to obtain basic laptops computers and take them into the rural areas and townships help the underprivileged schools and the communities that live around the school vicinity.

We have commenced offering Level 1 – Office based Computer Course to the community at a minimal cost. This course consist of Microsoft Work, Microsoft Excel and Internet. These classes had been undertaken on Tuesdays and Thursday afternoon from 17:30 to 19:30 on a trial basis and the result were overwhelming. The computer material is based on Microsoft tutorials and Microsoft Unlimited potential.

Computer literacy for beginners

There is a great demand for computer literacy- simply because users believe that they can obtain a job opportunity.

Our classes are held on a Tuesday, Thursday and on a Saturday. We teach basic Microsoft word, Excel, Internet and for those who want a bit more, arrangements are made with the administrators to join the paid classes.

We also utilize Microsoft “Potential unlimited“ curriculum. Recently, Microsoft had given us the newly developed Microsoft Programme with isizulu interface to trial. We had an overwhelming response especially from our rural users. We switch over from time to time to utilize the programme for those who do find English problematic.

Workshop for both educators and principals were held during the year. This provided Educators with the knowledge to effectively use technology in the classroom to promote 21st century learning. We would like to continue this programme to ensure sustainability through long term support for educators in integration of ICT across the curriculum.

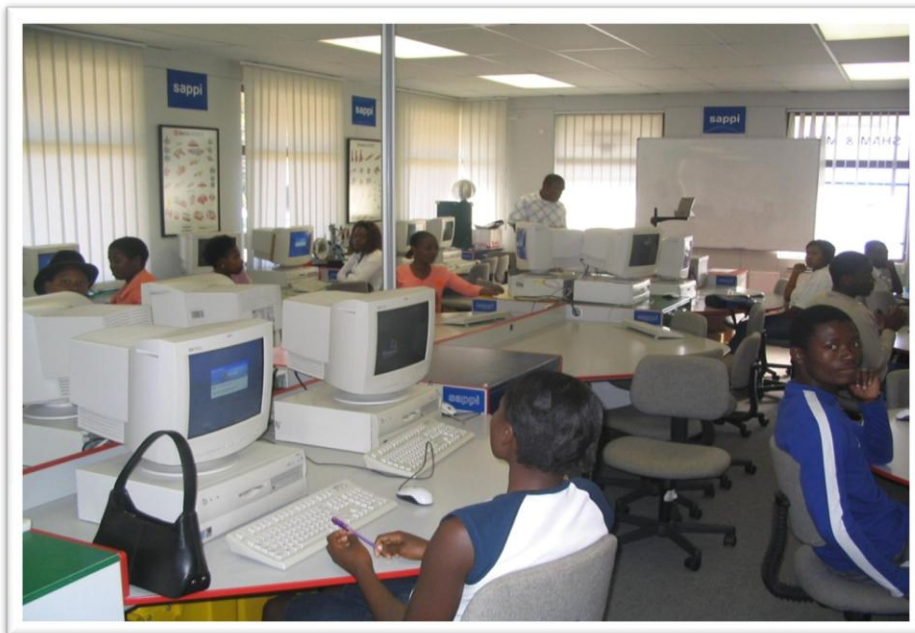


FIGURE 1: COMPUTER LITERACY LASSES

We recorded the following Computer Literacy Class statistics until August 2006.

Month	No. of classes	Hours	Total Learners / Adults
January	2	4	24
February	25	55.5	256
March	21	42	187
April	18	36	294
May	25	50	292
June	23	26	181
July	32	64	549
August	26	52	398
September	23	46	397
October	28	56	409
November	10	20	150
Total	211	402.5	3091

Digital Village

The digital village has been utilized to its maximum potential. Even with the introduction of new computers, we cannot provide usage to all our users to the maximum on certain days. During weekday afternoons we have to restrict usage to half an hour slot. It has also been noticed that the speed of the computers helps in work being done at a quicker pace, thus more users are accommodated. We have 42 computers in the digital villages with half hour slot bookings. We vary our booking accordingly, for example, if a teacher wants to do his work- prepare his lessons we would give him an hour and if he has not finished his work, he has to re-book for more time.

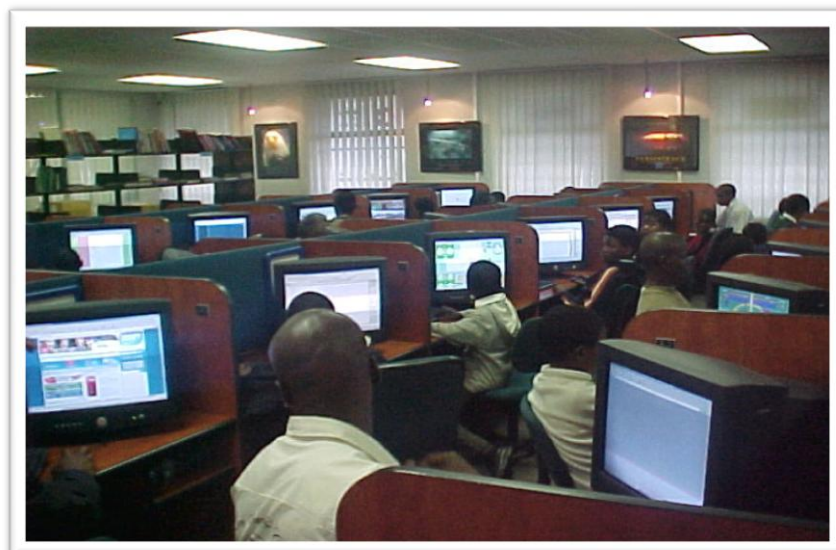


FIGURE 2: DIGITAL VILLAGE

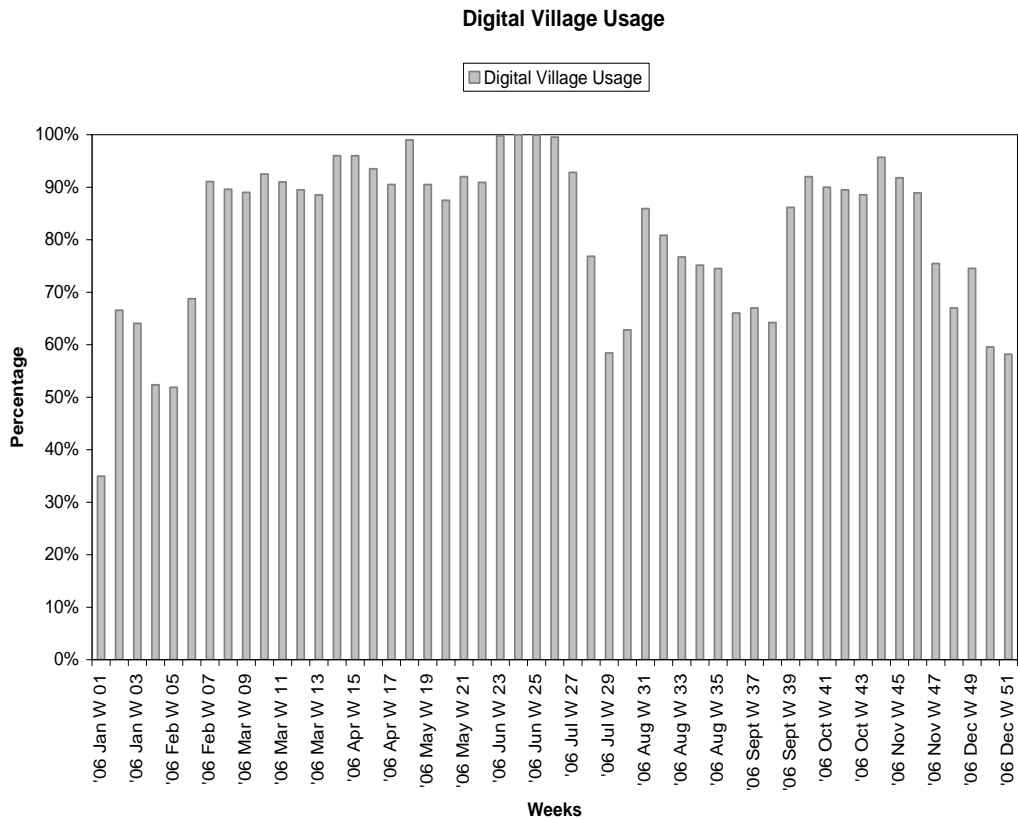


FIGURE 3: DIGITAL VILLAGE USAGE

Technology Programmes

Resource Centre Technology Programme

The first group of learners participating in the Technology programme had concluded at the end of June 2006. The second class from each of the participating schools had commenced at the end of July when schools opened for the second semester. Learners normally write an evaluation test on Module 1 and if successful they would be presented with Module 1 Technology Certificates at the end of the year.

446 learners would complete the TechnoLab Programme for 2006.



FIGURE 4: TECHNOLOGY CLASSES

Murray and Robert's Technology Programme

Technology lessons were also imparted to learners from the Murray and Robert's Technology Olympiads schools. Thus far, we had 220 learners going through the programme which also includes computer technology as a component.

Murray and Roberts District Challenge Programme:

August 2006: Venue: Stanger Town Hall

The illemebe District Murray and Robert's Olympiad Challenge Competition was held on Friday, 11 August 2006 at the Stanger Town Hall. Competition was held at school level to select representatives for district competition. 110 teams were brought to the district competitions. 28 learners were selected to represent the district at Dokkies in Durban. All winners were given Technology medals for their effort. Refreshments were provided to teachers and learners at the district competition. Schools and learners were issued with a participation certificate at Regional level.



FIGURE 4: [TYPE THE CAPTION]

Murray and Robert Technology Workshop for Secondary

Educators: 26 August 2006



FIGURE 5: [TYPE THE CAPTION]

A two day Technology workshop incorporating problem solving, design process and practical work for educators was held on the 26 August 2006. The response for the workshop has been overwhelming and educators for the first time were involved in practical session of producing a model. This work shop included both Math and Science problem solving issues and a practical workshop in electricity.

Murray and Robert Technology Workshop for Primary School Educators: 18 November 2006.

We had an excellent turnout (26 educators) for our Technology Workshop on Saturday 18 November 2006. The workshop was based on problem solving and electric circuits (simple theory and practical session – Grade 5, 6, 7 Curriculums).

Educators' enthusiasm for these technology workshops has been excellent.

Technology Presentation Function: 15 November 2006

We are indeed grateful to our Technology and the Murray and Robert's participating Schools for their initiative, willingness and enthusiasm in participating in our programmes since the inception of the centre. The principals of these schools must be commended for their effort in exposing their learners to a variety of programmes that would develop the learner's potential to the required level.

In order to appreciate their effort, the centre had organized an Awards Day Presentation Function for these schools. Certificate of Recognition were presented to the following schools:



FIGURE 6: [TYPE THE CAPTION]

FIGURE 7: [TYPE THE CAPTION]

Technology Programme	Murray and Robert Olympiad Programme
Dawnview Primary	Stanger South Secondary
Ashram Primary	Shekembula Secondary
Kwa Dukuza Primary	Imbuysielo Secondary
Stanger Primary	Banguni Secondary
Gledhow Primary	Qoqulwazi Secondary
Stanger South Secondary	PROTEC Mandeni
	PROTEC Stanger

Stanger South Secondary School (daily basis) and Gledhow Primary (weekly basis) attend our Computer and Technology classes at the centre.

Presentation has also been made to Mr. T. Woodraj (S.E.M.) for the role he has played in the activities of the centre. He has been our liaison officer between schools in the Ilembe district and the Sappi Kwa Dukuza Resource Centre. This has helped in maintaining an excellent turnout at our seminars, workshops and meetings.

Diversity in Teaching Workshop for Educators

Classroom teaching has become problematic because of the diverse nature of learners in the classroom. There has been a request to the centre to help in developing a strategy that can be utilized in the classroom.

A workshop was conducted for school management members to pool their resources and come up with some formal teaching strategies that can be utilized in the classroom.

K. Gokar, whose studies revolved around this particular aspect facilitated the workshop. Twenty five educators from the area participated in the programme.

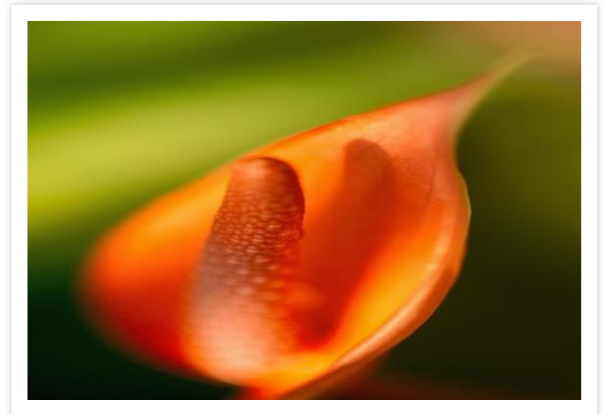
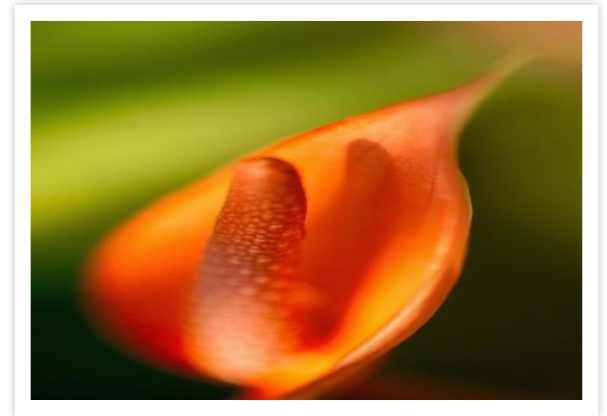


FIGURE 9: [TYPE THE CAPTION]

Aids Awareness Workshops

HIV/AIDS Workshop for Sappi Workers

An Aids workshop was conducted for Sappi worker during the second week of June 2006. This was a week long programme and the benefits had been enormous for the workers present.



HIV/AIDS Workshop for Secondary School Learners.

A peer group workshop was held for Secondary School learners. The attendance was overwhelming. 40 learners and 35 adult/educators turned up for the workshop. Learners will go back to their schools and create an awareness campaign and report to the parent committee. The Peer Group committee will use the feedback from learners to help communities within the area. We had also included First Aid as part of the Programme.

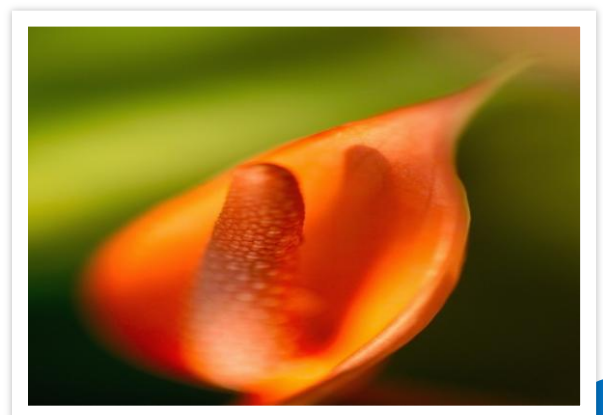


FIGURE 8: [TYPE THE CAPTION]

Aids Workshop for School Management Teams: 16 September 2006

35 members from various school management teams attended the workshop on **“Teaching in an HIV/AIDS environment”**. According to the evaluation report, workshop of this nature is welcomed and many of the educators are still unaware of the Aids pandemic within the classroom and staffroom. Educators had enjoyed the very informative and practical workshop and thanked both the facilitator and Sappi Resource Centre for organizing an important issue in education.



FIGURE 11: [TYPE THE CAPTION]

Some comments from Educators during the formal Evaluation of the Workshop:

“Informative and though provoking activities. Would be super for a follow up Workshop resource centre”

“The workshop was conducted in such a way that it will be easier for us to give feedback to our colleagues and teach our learners more about HIV/AIDS”

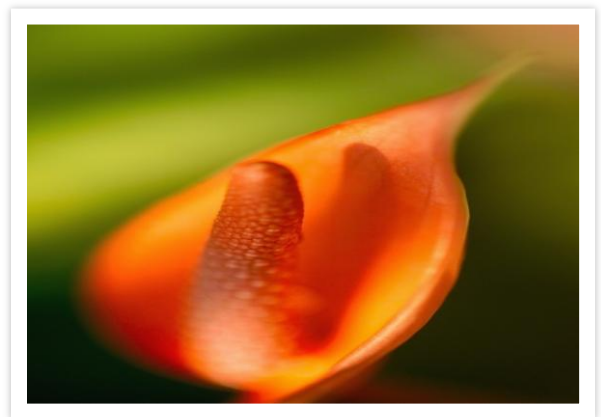
“Excellent presentation”

“I gained expert knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS- how to handle it from management level - facilitators approach outstanding”

FIGURE 12: [TYPE THE CAPTION]

HIV/AIDS Awareness Programme for Parents: 25 November 2006

This workshop was held on 25 November 2006. School communities were invited via school learners and via community organizations. The workshop went on as scheduled with speakers from various organisations. The facilitators suggested that we schedule another workshop of this nature at the beginning of 2007 as parents are an



important link in solving the many problems that exists in an HIV/AIDS environment.

Career Centre

The centre is being utilized on a daily basis. Parents seem to be showing a keen interest in bringing along their children to be tested and look at careers that may interest their children. Mr. S. Sham, principal of a school and a career counselor offers his services to the centre at no cost. To date, we have more than 56 learners that have been tested and analyzed for careers at the centre. The career information is also available on our computers for learners to browse through with ease.

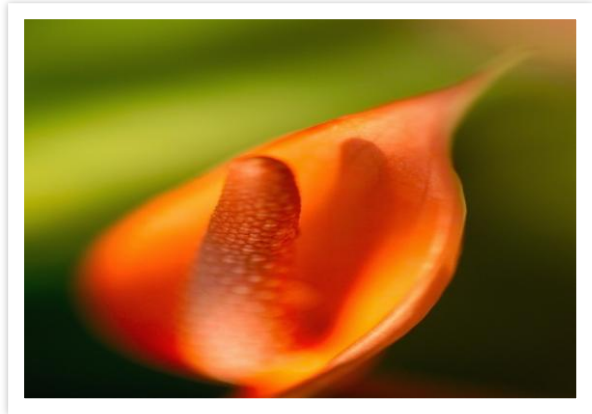


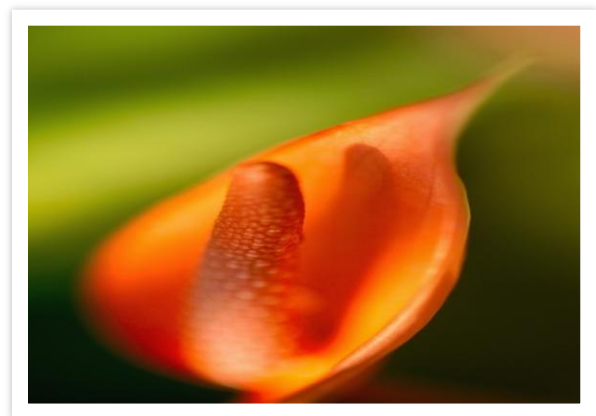
FIGURE 13: [TYPE THE CAPTION]

South African Career Guide Association

This organisation is involved in career guidance on a large scale. They felt that it would be an excellent idea of partnering with the centre as it also has a career centre. We would gain materials from the association on an ongoing basis and a few pictures of the centre may appear on their website. This is a good marketing tool for us.

Primary School Mathematics Workshop for Learners: September Vacation 2006

Mathematics workshop for Grade 7 learners was held during the September Vacation. The learners from the TechnoLab classes were invited to attend the workshop. We registered 35 learners for the programme and the emphasis has been placed on developing basic skills in mathematics and problem solving. These learners will attend further mathematics workshop in 2007 which will provide an excellent yardstick to measure their competency levels.



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Seminar Room

The Seminar Room is often in use for seminars, workshops and computer literacy programme. Education as well as other organizations (Vantage Holdings etc utilize the room.)

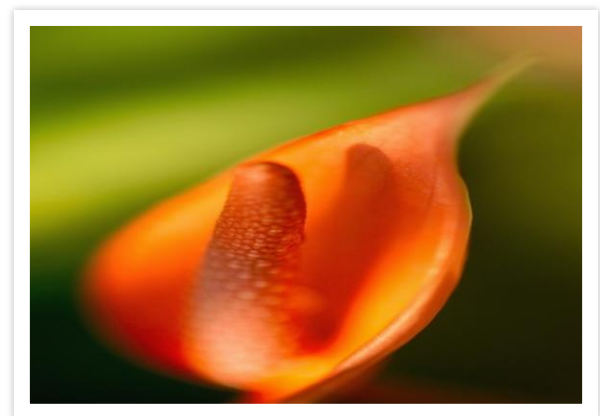
	Educational Workshops	No. of people attending	Other Workshops	No. of people attending
January	6	80	5	125
February	1	10	12	300
March	5	66	6	125
April	6	120	11	300
May	4	30	13	300
June	2	40	11	270
July	3	56	15	286
August	3	80	10	200
September	3	38	17	495
October	7	125	4	80
November	0	0	4	75
Total	40	645	108	2556

FIGURE 14: [TYPE THE CAPTION]

School Visits and Excursions

The Resource Centre has become a place of interest to visit in Stanger. We normally entertain school visits on a Friday of each week. We normally open the digital village at 11:00 for public usage to cater for visiting schools. Our set programme consists of Technology lesson, Computer Lesson in the digital village, movie session etc. The following schools:

- ZMS



- Ndongakusuka Primary
- Letithemba Secondary
- Madendetu Primary
- ZMS - Grade 12
- Tongaat Primary

Membership and Registrations

We have 12 500 members on our data base since inception. Some have left, some have not registered once their work had been done and some are still utilizing the centre. Our registration have been increasing since the installation of the ADS line which makes our access to internet must faster than what we have had in the past. Users find it a pleasure to work at the centre and conclude their work with ease. There are also times when our network becomes slow which is due to network maintenance.

Statistically, the underprivileged communities still dominate membership and usage of the centre

Underprivileged	80%	Youth (Primary/Secondary Learners-65%) Adult/School leavers -20%
Rest (Indians, Whites, Coloured)	20%	With Indians dominating up to 10% and the rest 10%

Registration has been ongoing but we anticipate a drop in registration as we enter the festive season. After the final examinations, learners do not go to school and the centre also reduces its intake. This is the normal trend experienced each year since inception of the centre. The total registration is as follows:

	Jan '06	Feb '06	Mar '06	Apr '06	May '06	Jun '06	Jul '06	Aug '06	Sept '06	Oct '06	Nov '06	Dec '06
New Registration	75	179	214	121	163	117	134	149	80	54	51	27
Re-Registration	94	91	88	51	46	40	100	98	60	67	95	50
Day Pass	184	118	166	95	125	95	146	139	100	114	111	131
TOTAL	353	388	468	267	334	252	380	386	240	235	257	208

The total registration as per member group

	Jan '06	Feb '06	Mar '06	Apr '06	May '06	Jun '06	Jul '06	Aug '06	Sept '06	Oct '06	Nov '06	Dec '06
Scholar	69	179	213	123	138	79	131	151	69	69	62	38
Student	17	11	19	27	16	9	30	28	14	7	22	15
Adult	73	65	46	18	48	60	64	57	54	41	57	20
Educator	9	6	20	4	6	5	6	10	3	4	4	4
Schools	1	8	4	0	1	4	3	1	0	0	1	0
Organisation	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day Pass	184	118	166	95	125	95	146	139	100	114	111	131
Total	353	388	468	267	334	252	380	386	240	235	257	208

Membership and registration has improved. With the completion of the installation of the turnstile, we would eradicate non members moving in and out of the centre.

Our Volunteer Programme

The Centre has always been on the forefront for job placement. This programme works very closely with PROTEC another NGO supported by Sappi. PROTEC gears our learners from Grade 10 to 12 towards an engineering opportunity and if learners perform well they are accorded a bursary to study paper and pulp at an FET college. Once they complete their N3, they are given an opportunity at Sappi Stanger to start at the very beginning as trainees. We have 23 learners, some are working at Sappi Stanger and others are at college studying Paper and Pulp. The volunteers completing their N3 are absorbed at the mill as new trainees at the end of the year. WE can be proud of the fact that Sappi's contribution to the PROTEC Programme has yielded success in term of providing the Stanger mill with trainees in various fields. We commend Sappi in this respect for providing opportunities for the student community to better themselves and create a better life for themselves. All these volunteers have worked at the centre at some stage and are still committed to the centre for its involvement in their lives. These learners have developed excellent computer skills and some of them facilitate beginner computer literacy classes at the centre as their contribution to the centre. During the holidays, PROTEC Stanger learners volunteer their services as part of the work experience programme. Further to this, we also have tertiary students doing their in-service at the centre.

Fundraising

Fundraising is an ongoing process. We want to place on record our appreciation and indebtedness to our principal donor Sappi for their ongoing support as well as for the various onsite support from Sappi Stanger mill staff from time to time.

We also express our gratitude and indebtedness to Murray and Roberts, SASA, Microsoft, First Rand Foundation and Rotary Stanger for their invaluable contribution to the centres programme structure. Without the support of these donors, the centre would not be able to provide services and support programme to the people who need it most.

We Salute You !

SKDRC STATISTIC

There is always a request from organizations regarding usage statistic of the centre. We try to maintain records of various activities of the centre on a month to month basis to verify the impact of the centre. This is a difficult task as the centre is utilized for so many purposes but we are able to obtain the following as per schedule which is estimated conservatively. **(Refer to next page)**

STATISTICS: This information provides an idea of the various usages at the Sappi Resource Centre. This is not an accurate statistics on a day to day basis but record kept indicates the following as a form of reference.

	Dep. Workshops	School Workshops	Other Workshops	Computer Classes	TechnoLab Classes	TOTAL No. of						
	Work-Shops	People	Work-Shops	People	Work-Shops	People	Classes	People	Classes	People	Hours	W/shops /Classes
JAN	4	60	2	20	5	125	2	24	0	0	0	13
FEB	1	10	0	0	12	300	25	256	33	311	60	71
MAR	5	66	0	0	6	125	21	187	27	311	52	59
APR	6	120	0	0	11	300	18	294	13	202	26	48
MAY	4	30	0	0	13	300	25	292	19	232	38	61
JUN	2	40	0	0	11	270	13	181	4	81	8	30
JUL	3	56	0	0	15	286	23	549	0	0	0	41
AUG	2	40	1	40	10	200	23	352	27	227	56	63
SEPT	2	32	1	6	17	495	23	397	16	196	32	59
OCT	5	90	2	35	4	80	28	409	8	200	16	44
NOV	-	-	-	-	4	75	10	150	1	23	2	15
DEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	34	544	6	101	108	2556	211	3091	148	1783	290	503

	Murray & Roberts Programmes	General Enquiries From people on a daily basis	TV / Chart Loans	Video Loans	Fax for the month	Photo copies made for the month	Book Binding for the month	Lamination for the month	Digital Village Users	Tours / Excursion- Individuals	TOTAL NO OF USERS FOR THE MONTH
JAN	0	300	0	0	95	360	5	7	4800	0	5796
FEB	0	350	16	14	44	325	12	18	6600	300	8556
MAR	0	380	18	15	51	450	12	15	6800	64	8494
APR	0	350	17	18	64	400	12	30	5700	30	7537
MAY	0	375	26	19	50	395	8	16	6900	12	8655
JUN	0	330	17	14	58	390	10	10	6600	14	8015
JUL	16	390	16	17	66	400	5	21	6800	14	8636
AUG	30	380	19	19	46	450	6	12	6700	30	8551
SEPT	-	400	18	16	40	400	4	13	6700	150	8867
OCT	-	420	18	18	47	370	6	12	6500	40	8245
NOV	-	330	14	15	41	320	8	10	6300	10	7296
DEC	-	200	0	0	51	130	4	4	4000	5	4393
TOTAL	46	4205	179	165	653	4390	92	168	50900	669	93042