

Goal50.com

Cape Flats / South Africa



COMMITTED TO RAISING FUNDS AND HOPE FOR SOCIETY'S MARGINALISED IN CAPE TOWN, WORKING ALONGSIDE TOWNSHIP SOCCER ACADEMY, GCU.

Spring 2018

NEWS



players tackle
social challenges

GROUNDBREAKING ADVENTURE
AS GOAL50 UNITED JOINS
SOUTH AFRICAN FOOTBALL'S
FOURTH TIER

Food programme facts and figures

Food is uppermost in the minds of the thousands of people who queue every week for a hot meal. But there is an opportunity to tackle other key life issues as they wait patiently to be served - shoes, clothing, job opportunities and spiritual wellbeing are just a few.



shoes & clothing distributed through Goal50 Kit Xchange

SOME FAMILIES WALK AS FAR AS 6K FOR A HOT MEAL

350Kg of rice used monthly



criminal records hinder job prospects. We'll find solutions



plans are progressing well for the support of recruitment agencies in assessing skills

Spring in the Cape Flats

During my April visit to Cape Town I once again went through the whole gamut of human emotion as I vividly saw broken and hurting communities. Broken lives, broken homes and broken relationships. Is there any hope? When will life get better? Everywhere I ventured I was faced with people who were struggling. They didn't simply want help. They desperately needed help.

Each time I go to Heideveld, I hear sad and disturbing stories and this trip was

no exception. Murders. Stabbings. One day an eight year old girl was cruelly raped and the following day a six year old girl suffered a similar fate. There was also a shooting in a township police station, with someone paying the ultimate price. On another occasion I found myself comforting family friends of a 14 year old boy who had been stabbed in a school playground. Tragically, he died within 24 hours. What a waste.

In all the brokenness, hearts are heavy and tears flow. But there is hope. International author Rick Warren once wrote "In God's garden of grace, even a broken tree can bear fruit." I am believing that God's garden of grace will grow in these townships.

IN GOD'S GARDEN OF GRACE, EVEN A BROKEN TREE CAN BEAR FRUIT.

On behalf of the hundreds of people whom I met and the many thousands impacted by the work of Goal50 that I just wasn't able to meet, I want to thank you for your continued interest in the work of the charity. It is so very much appreciated.

With thanks
and best wishes
Nigel

Nigel Pascoe Goal50,
Chairman & Founder



Goal50 United

'Out of the box' thinking puts Heideveld on the sporting map

Heideveld



It's been a dream of coach Mario van Neikerk that one day a soccer team of players from the townships would be represented in the top league of South Africa. But the dream doesn't end there.

Mario has always believed that soccer is a lifeline for communities that are hijacked by violence and crime. And if change is ever to come about, soccer is as likely as any other social activity to make this happen. The team that he dreams of wouldn't just play top tier football, it would operate with a depth of humility and servanthood that you just don't see in the modern game, anywhere in the world. The team sets the standards of fair play on the pitch and are encouraged to be beacons of virtue in their township lives.

Dreams have to start somewhere. And whilst you can't just set up a team to play at the highest level, you can create a team at a lower level that has the social qualities referred to earlier. Players of Goal50 United are expected to help with charitable activities in the township as part of their commitment to the new club.

On the pitch, the team has just completed its first season in the fourth tier and has done exceptionally well to meet the required standards to maintain a place in this league next season. Several clubs in Heideveld have released players with the talent, and the right attitude, to represent the township.

"We have worked really hard to 'up' our game" says coach Cody Damons, "it certainly took us a few matches to meet the higher standards of play. But as the season has progressed, it feels like we can be competitive in this league in the future. The lads have shown a maturity of attitude on the pitch - we have work to do - but our record of very few yellow cards is something that I am very proud of. Players and coaches from other clubs have quickly recognised the unique approach of Heideveld Unite and many supporters have been won over."

Cody joined Mario's soccer academy more than a decade ago. He has seen the impact of the charity first-hand. He loves his soccer, but he loves the community work and longs for the Cape Flats to become a safer place.

Unite

THIS SEASON'S STATS
P30 W13 D2 L15
GF43 GA49 GD-6

As well as being committed to the club's training schedule the players are expected to make a selfless contribution. Some choose to coach the younger boys in the soccer academy, others are involved in tutoring and supporting many after-school classes and clubs. Others are involved with the charity's food programme - now distributing nearly 125,000 meals each year.

So Mario continues to dream. He seldom looks back to his crazy days on the street. His modest attempts at providing a soccer school to keep boys on the 'straight and narrow' in the year 2000 were just the start. Nearly twenty years on, who would question that one day his charges will take Goal50 United to the dizzy heights of South Africa's Premier Soccer League. And in the process would we see Heideveld 'unite'.



**LEAGUE
POSITION**
9/16

A word in your ear...

football coach

Hennie Barnes



“Goal50 is making a huge difference in Heideveld. The feeding scheme, finding jobs, education and now the football club. It’s keeping lads off the streets and we hope one day it will bring an end to gangsterism. That’s got to be good for our community. Change is coming.”

goal50
midfielder

Clyde Katzen



“I’m really proud of all the guys in our team, Heideveld Unite. I’m also glad I’m part of the Goal50 brand. We have achieved so much in our first season. We’ve not won trophies but we have won respect from many of our opponents.”

rival team player

Chrischandro Williams



“Goal50 is doing so much good in the community. It’s giving children opportunities to do well in life. I play for a rival team - Two Oceans - but I like what Goal50 is doing.”

goal50
goalkeeper

Emile Le Roux



“No club can replace Goal50. It is a family and the coaches are always available to talk about personal issues and not just soccer.”

“As God is my witness, you will never know what Goal50 has done in so many lives. God bless the team in Guernsey, your families and friends. Thank you for everything. Thank you for making a difference.”

Goal50 co-ordinator
Mario van Nierkerk



World Cup 2010 Legacy

If you're not a fan of football, the World Cup comes around far too frequently. But if you're a devotee of the beautiful game it's like holidaying somewhere exotic one year then having a staycation for the next three years until another exotic 'escape' comes around again.

Russia plays host to the biggest tournament on the planet in 2018 and as the event produces a bucketload of incident to fill our minds, we can easily drift into a haze of past World Cup memories. For Nigel Pascoe, the founder of Goal50, the 2010 'edition' in South Africa cannot be topped. He began a journey that had no U-turn option.

Plymouth Argyle's World Cup influence

As well as supporting England Nigel went to watch his good friend, Plymouth Argyle and New Zealand striker, Rory Fallon play in the group stages. Despite not losing a game New Zealand didn't get through to the knock-out stages (note, they didn't win a game either). Rory was a great ally in those days as they were both involved in the charity, Faith in Football, based in Plymouth. They seized the World Cup opportunity to check out first-hand the work of several charities.

The World Cup adventure took on a whole new significance when Nigel met Mario van Niekerk - a former township gang leader who spent his formative years in the notorious Cape Flats, north of Cape Town. After his life-transforming acceptance of faith, he committed himself to extracting kids from the streets through the universal language of football. Mario shared every detail of his growing soccer academy with Nigel. Then he spilled out his dreams of a safe-house, feeding programmes, job schemes, dealing with drug addiction. His only barrier was financial resource.

Mario van Niekerk

Nigel Pascoe

**SOUTH
AFRICA
2010**



The case for supporting the work of Mario was compelling. Goal50 was established later that year.

The soccer school in Cape Town now has a mix of voluntary, and part/full-time staff, with a breadth of skills that benefit the community. It's astonishing to think from very humble beginnings, Goal50 impacts on nearly 5,000 individuals each week. It's a miracle in action... and it started as Spain swept to World Cup glory.

Eight years on, wouldn't it be great if New Zealand tasted some success. Well yes, but sadly they didn't qualify for Russia.

CAPE SHOTS



The next generation at the academy. Some boys still without footwear.



Fun in the sun. One man's table-tennis is another man's ping pong



If I'm not mistaken, that looks very much like a handball Nigel.



These young boys enjoy being taught life skills as well as football skills.



Now fully operational, the search goes on for 'permanent' safe-house parents.



Le Mont Saint Garage celebrate 30yrs with a gift to Goal50. Thank you Dave.



The food programme gets to the heart of the township community.



Well and truly settled in to the Safe House, little Chandre with Michelle.



Patched-up homes made from scavenged bits, all under blue skies.



Nigel challenges for the title of coolest dude - fittingly in the shade.



Goal50 United supporters. A good game whichever way you look at it.



Winter's coming soon! Hats made by Guernsey lady, Thelma Pemberton.



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and ongoing support

tackling poverty



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Goal50 Guernsey

Member of the Association of Guernsey Charities