



KwaZuzulwazi: Ten Years Down the Line...

The KwaZuzulwazi Science Centre has been operating for ten years now on a very tight budget. Thanks to all our sponsors, the exhibits are updated from time to time.

With recently-acquired new exhibits and computers, KwaZuzulwazi is not the same centre that it was ten years ago. The new "Sappi/KZ Computer Centre" was opened on 21 May 2003 to commemorate International Museums Day. Apart from the computers donated by Sappi, many other sponsors generously contributed to a range of exciting new educational exhibits.

Some of the innovations in KwaZuzulwazi are:

- ⊗ Two new computers donated by Sappi. These computers have internet access, video projection facilities and a wide range of educational software products. The internet can be accessed at a low rate of R10 per 30 minutes.
- ⊗ Three interactive physics exhibits, donated by the University of Durban Westville Physics Department. These exhibits include standing waves, rotating discs, and a solar cell.
- ⊗ A shell collection, donated by volunteer, Mrs Maureen Smith.
- ⊗ A model of a steam boat, donated by Prof. Jeff Bindon of the University of Natal.
- ⊗ A colony of live Damara molerats, donated by Professor Nigel Bennett of the University of Pretoria. These molerats are a source of great interest and endless fascination to our visitors. They have recently been re-housed in a customised artificial tunnel system.

The reader is encouraged to visit KwaZuzulwazi to see our upgraded and fascinating new exhibits.

The Centre receives over 100 000 visitors a year. Most of these visitors are learners who come from disadvantaged backgrounds. KwaZuzulwazi provides a practical "hands-on" experience and elucidates in a simple manner, much of the theory taught in the classroom. This is a place where all, both young and old, can learn through touch and feel.

*Bona Nyawose
Education Officer
Durban Natural Science Museum*



Deputy City Manager for Health, Safety and Social Services, Mrs Sayo Skweyiya, was the invited speaker at the International Museums Day function to launch the Sappi/KwaZuzulwazi Computer Centre.



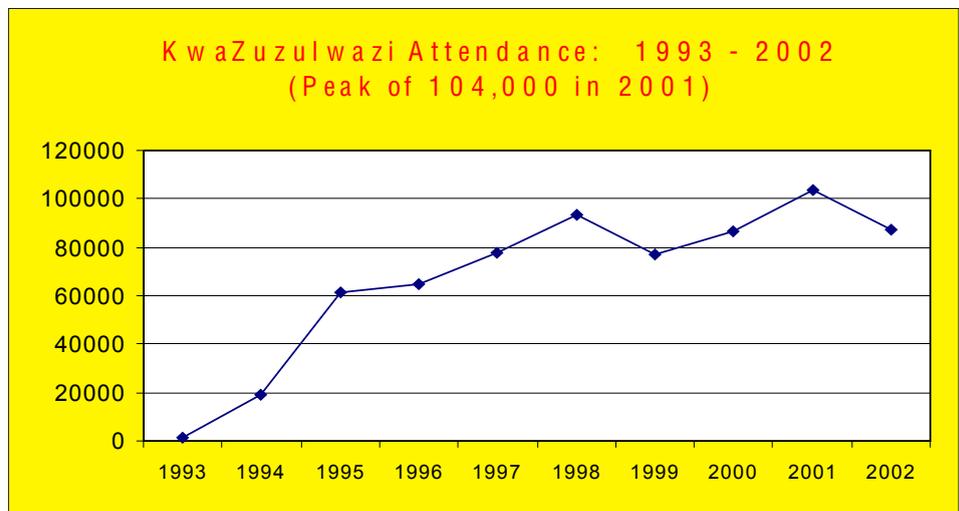
Regional Public Affairs Manager for Sappi Ltd, Mrs Zelda Schwalbach (right), admires the molerats.



Then Acting Director of DNSM, Dr Peter Taylor (left), receives the donated educational software from Mr Laurence Joubert (right), Group Public Affairs Manager for Sappi Ltd.



DNSM Volunteers, Maureen Smith (right) and Deron Dlamini (second from right) explain the new data projector facility in KwaZuzulwazi to visitors.



Graph of annual visitor attendances over the past 10 years.