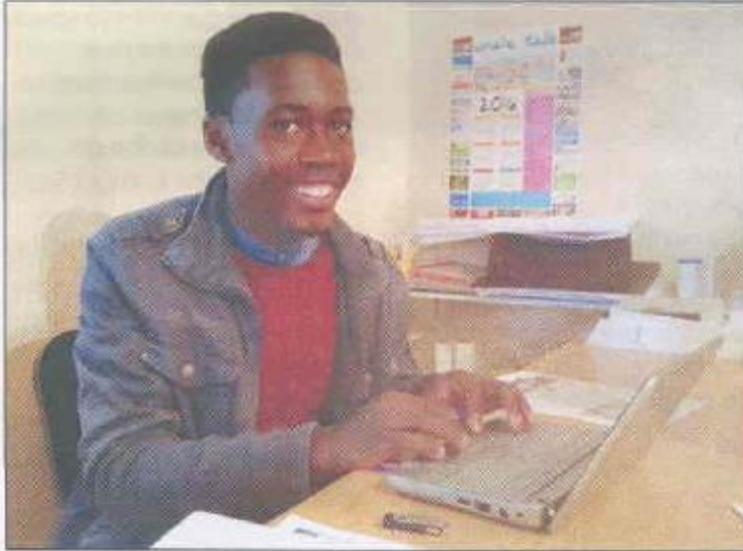


The happy kind of scary, for Malcom at The NEWS



From a small quiet village in Zambia to the towering skyscrapers of the Johannesburg skyline, I've seen it all. I'm **Malcolm Mulope** and this is my challenge: To write a story about myself. The most terrifying thing outside of a Fear Factor episode.

I was Born in Zambia, grew up in Johannesburg and now I am in an office in the beautiful coastal town of Hermanus, job shadowing at a newspaper.

How did I get here? It started with the screeching of the intercom at my previous high school, Gansbaai Academia, followed by an announcement: "All learners who are interested in being

part of our editorial team please meet up in the hall".

That one announcement sent me on a path of self-discovery. A path that led me towards who I am and where I will inevitably be. I joined the team at The Village NEWS for a day and learnt so much from them and from the experience.

One of the most valuable lessons that I've learned is to be true to who I am and never stop achieving. Ever since I wrote my first article, I knew journalism is my calling and this is what I want to do for the rest of my life.

I matriculated last year so I'm still only 19 years of age

and like to have fun. My idea of fun is playing a game of hockey with my mates and collectively wishing we hadn't the next day. I have been playing hockey for the better part of a decade and it is some of the best fun I've ever had.

Apart from working for the Grootbos Foundation as a hockey coach for the youngsters in Gansbaai, I also play for the Hermanus Hockey Club. Being part of such a diverse group of people is such a privilege. The love and support from a team is unparalleled.

Next year I will hopefully attend Rhodes University as a student in Journalism. I have been accepted and I am awaiting news of a bursary that will enable me to make my dream a reality.

But for today I am sitting in the offices of the best newspaper in the Overstrand. Being given the opportunity to observe what it takes to put together a newspaper and how much work it really is to be a journalist.

It is a bit scary - the happy kind of scary.