

Mitchells Plain Festival

Article and photos AB Sello Matloga, journalist at Navy News

Mitchells Plain Festival is an annual spectacular fun-filled family event where the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) gets an opportunity to display its hardware and inform the public about its mandate.

This annual event was packed with a wide variety of activities for the whole family, including food stalls



ABOVE: The Lynx helicopter of the SA Navy on display was a show stopper - a definite favourite for many curious families.



LEFT: Curious little minds visiting the information stall of the SANDF.

and information centres. The first day took off with military displays by 9 SA Infantry Battalion (SA Army) demonstrating counter-attack tactics with smoke grenades and rifle shooting to the amazement of the learners from the surrounding primary schools.

Members of the SA Navy Dog Unit displayed the agility and tactics of their well trained dogs while the SA Navy Precision Drill Squad captivated the public with their quick moves. The Lynx helicopter of the SA Navy on display was a show stopper

- a definite favourite for many curious families. The public was amazed by the fire power of the SA Army, which had weapons and tanks on display.

Most young people and parents were interested in the SIYANDIZA Programme of the SA Air Force. SIYANDIZA aims to develop learners through the orientation programmes of the SA Air Force and draws special attention to possible careers in aviation.

The Human Resources Section offered information on careers in the SANDF which included specialised avionics, combat, engineering, maritime, technical,

military health occupations and electronics. Informative materials were on display as part of the recruitment drive that aimed to rejuvenate the organisation with educated and fit young patriots.

One of the parents at the Mitchells Plain Festival, Ms Melisa Sergrys, said: "I had so much fun today, my boys loved all the military vehicles and the air show was my favourite. Thank you so much for an awesome vibe. It was my first time and I will definitely not miss it ever again". 