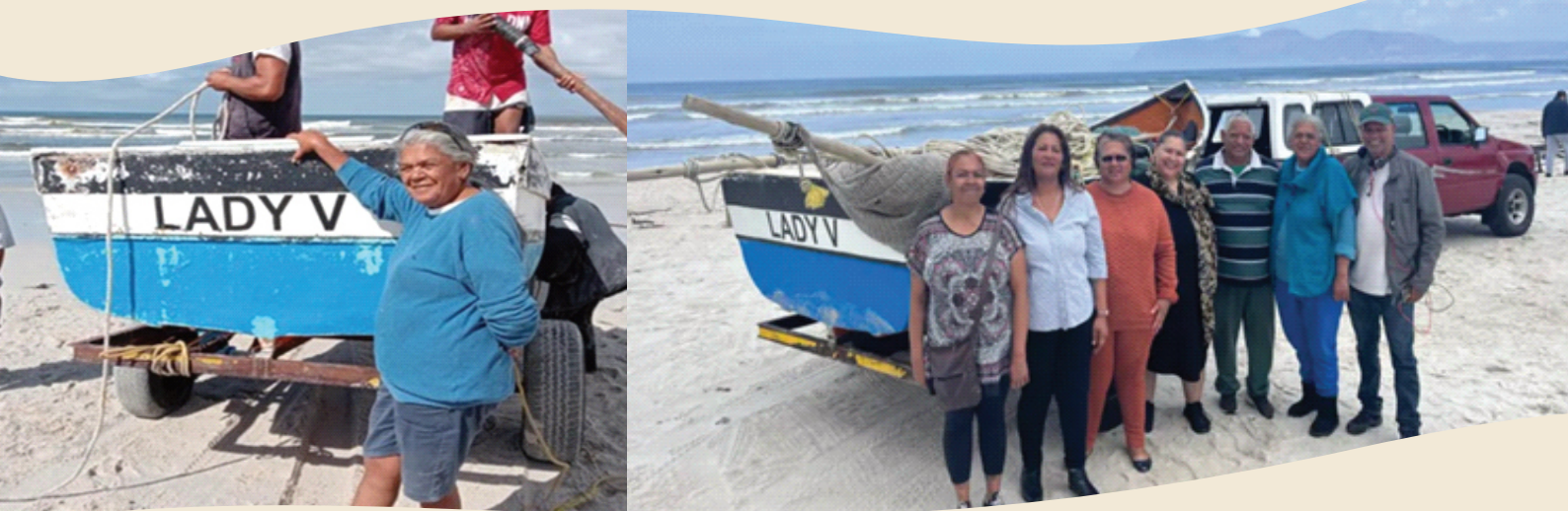


FISHING IN STRANDFONTEIN

“Mitchell's Plain fisherfolk are reclaiming their heritage of living off the sea and cultivating the tourism economy in their backyard. They hosted a heritage celebration at the boat launch site at Sonwabe, on Thursday 5 October 2023, which culminated with the opening of a fishing exhibition at the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Cape Flats, at the Rotary Club, in Camp Road Strandfontein. The celebration had initially been planned for Heritage Day, 24 September 2023, but was hampered by storms...

Mitchell's Plain Fishing Forum chairwoman Bridget Oppelt said their mandate was to ensure members' have fishing rights and permits to “live off the sea”. “Coupled with this is the need for resources close to home, where fishermen don't have to go far from home to be able to put food on the table,” she said. Ms Oppelt said they had been fighting and struggling for more than a decade for the community to enjoy the coastline on their doorstep. “Various partners were invited to showcase and plough back into the community the opportunities available in maritime on and off the coast. We want to collaborate with as many people to bring their expertise and experience to create a flourishing eco and tourism community.”

Source: Fouzia Van Der Fort, Athlone News, 2023



**VALERIE ARENDSE AND BRIDGET OPPELT
RECLAIMING THEIR FISHING HERITAGE**