

Cape Librarian

July/August 2015 | Volume 59 | No. 4

Kaapse Bibliotekaris

Grown-up relationships are complicated. We got what we need from each other. For a safety net. Some solace. It's lonely out there. But it rains, of course. It was love while it lasted. Everything is finite. Love. All this happiness too. Although it's harder to let go of than happiness.



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COVER | VOORBLAD

Lauren Beukes, winner of several awards such as the Arthur C Clarke Award, the World Fantasy Award for Best Novel, and the Nielson's Booksellers Choice Award. She also boasts an illustrious journalistic career.

Lauren Beukes, wenner verskeie toekennings soos die Arthur C Clarke Award, die World Fantasy Award for Best Novel, en die Nielson's Booksellers Choice Award. Haar joernalistieke loopbaan spreek ook boekdele.

In my wildest dreams, I never thought that I will one day write the editorial for the *Cape Librarian*. This experience is so surreal and exciting for me, it feels like waking up on Christmas morning.

I first came across the *Cape Librarian* as a student in the 1970s and I have been an avid reader of the magazine for over 30 years. Through the years, the magazine has never disappointed me and I am sure that regular readers will agree with me that there is always something that will grab your attention whilst reading it. Maybe it is a review of a new book, a news item, tips on displays or a more serious article on library and information science.

In preparation for the 60th birthday celebrations of the Library Service, many of us realised what an important role the *Cape Librarian* has played throughout the years. Over the 60-year period, through the news, articles, reviews and photographs, the magazine was slowly and meticulously plotting the history of first, the Cape Provincial Library Service and since 1994, the Western Cape Library Service. 'Check the *Cape Librarian*' became a refrain during the production of the historical displays that will be showcased during the official celebrations this year.

As we celebrate the 60th birthday of the Library Service, I hope that our readers will appreciate the efforts of the editor, the editorial team and the contributors in producing this special edition of the *Cape Librarian*.

Tessa Caroline
Deputy Director: Central Organisation, Western Cape Library Service

Wie in my wildste drome sou ek ooit kon dink dat ek eendag die redaksionele bydrae vir die *Kaapse Bibliotekaris* sal skryf nie. Dit is so 'n surrealistiese ervaring, dit is amper soos om op Kersoggend wakker te word.

My eerste kennisname met die *Kaapse Bibliotekaris* was in die sewentiger jare as student en vir die daaropvolgende 30 jaar is ek steeds 'n getroue leser van die tydskrif. Deur al die jare heen is ek nooit teleurgestel nie. Ek dink gereelde lesers sal met my saamstem dat daar altyd iets in die tydskrif is wat 'n mens se aandag trek. Dalk is dit 'n boekresensie, 'n nuusberig, uitstalwenke of 'n professionele artikel oor biblioteek- en inligtingdienste.

Tydens die voorbereidings vir die 60ste herdenking van die Biblioteekdiens, het talle van ons besef watter belangrike rol die *Kaapse Bibliotekaris* deur die jare gespeel het. Vir 'n tydperk van 60 jaar het die tydskrif stadig maar seker die geskiedenis van eerstens die Kaapse Provinsiale Biblioteekdiens, en na 1994, die Wes-Kaapse Biblioteekdiens deur middel van nuusberigte, artikels, resensies en foto's op papier vasgelê.

'Kyk in die *Kaapse Bibliotekaris*' is gereeld gehoor tydens die samestelling van die historiese fotoversameling wat tydens die verjaardagviering onthul sal word.

Terwyl ons almal die 60ste verjaardag van die Biblioteekdiens vier vertrou ek dat ons lesers erkenning sal gee aan die toegewydheid van die redakteur, die redaksionele span en bydraers om hierdie spesiale uitgawe van die tydskrif te publiseer.

Tessa Caroline
Adjunkdirekteur: Sentrale Organisasie, Wes-Kaapse Biblioteekdiens



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Editorial policy

The *Cape Librarian* is the house journal of the Western Cape Library Service and is published bi-monthly. Articles in the field of library and information science, library administration, news items, reviews and accession lists are included. The editorial staff reserve the right to edit, shorten, or rewrite any copy should it be deemed necessary. We cannot guarantee that unsolicited copy supplied will be printed. Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Library Service. Copy for a particular issue must reach the editor two months in advance. Articles, letters and news items should be submitted directly to the editor.

Redaksionele beleid

Die *Kaapse Bibliotekaris* is die huisblad van die Wes-Kaapse Biblioteekdiens en verskyn twee-maandeliks. Dit bevat artikels oor biblioteek- en inligtingwese, nuusberigte, resensies, aanwinstelyste asook praktiese artikels. Die redaksie behou hom die reg voor om, indien nodig, bydraes te redigeer, te verkort of te herskryf. Die publikasie van artikels wat nie in opdrag geskryf is nie, kan egter nie gewaarborg word nie. Die menings van medewerkers is nie noodwendig dié van die Biblioteekdiens nie. Alle kopie vir 'n bepaalde uitgawe moet die redaksie twee maande vooruit bereik. Artikels, briewe en nuusberigte kan direk aan die redakteur gestuur word.

Sy eerste dag

Dan sê ek maar niks ... deur Stefan Wehmeyer



Dis halfses in kamer 18 van Oude Rozenhof. Die bebaarde skraal man word wakker en gryp na die eerste sigaret vir die dag. Dit is begin somer op Stellenbosch en vandag is die 30ste November 1981. Hy begin vandag sy vier jaar staatsdiensbeurs afwerk by die Kaapse Provinsiale Biblioteekdiens in Kaapstad nadat hy sopas sy vierde-jaar studies in Biblioteek- en Inligtingkunde voltooi het.

Hy drink nie koffie nie, hy drink nie tee nie, sy baard beskerm hom van nog 'n daaglikse ritueel — skeer. Hy is stadig in

die oggend en dit neem hom 'n hele uur om aan die gang te kom en weg te kom. Hy sit nie 'n das aan nie, of miskien het hy? Hy lyk maar vaal; al wat *weird* is, is sy klompe, groot swaar bruin *clogs* met *studs* in. Hy gryp sy ou studentetassie en sit 'n kam in — as die wind vandag gaan waai, gaan sy hare deurmekaar waai. Die aanstellingsbrief as bibliotekaris van die Personeelinligtingsbiblioteek van die Kaapse Provinsiale Administrasie wat sê dat hy om 8-uur die oggend moet aanmeld by Mnr Smuts (die personeel-beampte van die Kaapse Provinsiale Biblioteek-diens), het hy al twee dae vantevore in die tassie gesit, maar hy maak weer seker dat dit nog wel daarin is.

Hy gaan trein ry. Die treinrooster het hy vooraf bestudeer en gememoriseer. Hy is lief vir tydtafels en *smile* nog altyd as hy onthou hoe iemand op 'n groot tydtafel geskryf het 'Who is Jesus? He is the guy who put up timetables.' Daar is 'n kwart-voor-sewe trein wat presies kwart-voor-agt in Kaapstad aankom. Op die stasie koop hy 'n maandkaartjie van R35, 'n pakkie Benson and Hedges Ultra Mild sigarette en *Die Burger*.

Die treinreis duur een uur. Hy lees die koerant vir ongeveer 30 minute; hy praat met niemand nie, letterlik nie 'n dooie word nie. Hy lees van die raaiselagtige verdrinking van die Amerikaanse aktrise, Natalie Wood. Die vier voorste waens van die trein is Slegs Blankes/Whites Only. Hy sien net witmense. Anderkant Goodwood kom die rye en rye grafte. Vanaf Mutual

is dit nie meer ver nie. Van hier af is die stasies lelik. By Soutrivier staan daar 'n groot kasarmagtige woonstelgebou met wasgoed wat al van vroegdag wapper op stukkende balkonne, want Maandag is wasdag. Volgens die tydtafel is dit nog vyf minute na Kaapstad. Woodstock-stasie is versier met groot *billboards* wat waarsku teen die gevare van alkoholmisbruik. JY DINK ALKOHOL MAAK JOU VROLIK EN HUPPEL? MAAR DIT LAAT JOU SUKKEL, geïllustreer met 'n uitgespringde *jack-in-the-box* met 'n stukkende veer. Hy voel aan daar is 'n onderliggende onheilsaamheid in die Kaap.

Die kondukteur in sy *crimplene*-broek kom vir oulaas om: 'Kaartjies, alle kaartjies, tickets, all tickets please.' Die jongman stap uit die stasie oor Adderleystraat. Hy verstaan nie hoekom die voetgangers oor die straat hardloop nie, al is die lig groen vir die karre. Hy verstaan dit vandag nog steeds nie, maar die Kaap is die Kaap — as jy 'n gaping sien neem jy dit. Hy stap in 'n reguit lyn, al op met Riebeeckstraat, tot bo in Somersweg, waar hy dan afstap in Chiappini. Presies twee minute voor agt stap hy die gebou binne. (In daai jare was daar geen sekuriteitsmense nie).

Mnr Smuts is vriendelik en joviaal. So ook die assistentdirekteur, Mnr Van der Merwe. Hy word ook voorgestel aan die direkteur, Mnr Morris. Hy is nogal skrikkerig vir die Engelse man wat so in 'n groot kantoor sit met een prent teen die muur en 'n skoon

lessenaar. Mnr Van Der Merwe sê aan hom hy moet so gou as moontlik in Waalstraat uitkom, want die persoon by wie hy gaan oorneem werk nog net die oggend en hy moet nog alles leer voor sy uit diens tree.

Die 22-jarige jongman ry op met die hysbak van die Toringblok van die Provinsiale Administrasiegebou tot heel bo en klim af op die 24ste vloer. Sy ore is toegeslaan na die vinnige hysbakrit. Hy sluk en *smile* en kom net voor 9-uur aan by die Personeelinligtingsbiblioteek. Wat 'n lang naam, dink hy. Hy ontmoet die vorige bibliotekaris, 'n Mev Van der Merwe (hy kan nie haar naam onthou nie). Dit was haar laaste dag en sy eerste. Hy moes spesiaal inkom op die 30ste en nie die 1ste nie, want Mev Van der Merwe kon nie langer as die 30ste November werk nie.

Mev Van der Merwe is nie juis vriendelik nie. Sy verduidelik sy werk net halfdag, daar is baie wat sy hom moet leer, tien uur is dit teetyd en kwart-voor-een gaan sy weg. Hy neem nie in hoe sy lyk nie, hy kan nie onthou watter klere sy aangehad het nie, of sy mooi of lelik was nie, of sy donker hare of blonde hare gehad het nie. Sy het 'n getikte handleiding opgestel met voorbeelde van hoe om 'n boek te bestel, hoe om 'n tydskrif te bestel, hoe om 'n tydskrif aan te maan, hoe om interbiblioteeklenings te doen; sy wys hom registers, sy wys hom boeke. Hy vra nie baie vrae nie. Vrae is onnodig, want alles is opgeteken in die handleiding. Tienuur gaan hy na buite vir teetyd, koop 'n pastei en rook een van sy sigarette in die straat, want hy wou nie sommer rook in Mev Van der Merwe se gesig blaas nie. Hy het tog maniere. Hy word voorgestel aan sy bure in die kantore langsaan. Hulle werk met perdewedrenne. En so praat en praat Mev Van der Merwe – hy neem lankal nie meer in wat sy sê nie. Niemand kom die oggend na die biblioteek nie, net 'n bode, Johnnie. Hy is darem vriendelik en groet met 'n stapel tydskrifte en pos.

Twaalfuur hoor hy die 12-uur kanon dreunklap en sien hoe die duiwe skielik doelloos opvlieg. Hy merk Keeromstraat 30 se groot horlosie op. Hy dink dis gaaf dat hy 'n horlosie uit die kantoor kan sien, want self dra hy nie 'n armhorlosie nie omdat dit sy syferobsessie kan vererger. Alles word getel. Van trappe wat hy klim tot motorkarre se registrasienommers wat hy bymekaar tel en dan deel deur die aantal syfers op die nommerplaat.

'Is daar nog iets wat jy wil weet?' vra Mev Van der Merwe en loop kwart-voor-een. Die kantoorbure neem hom na die kafeteria en vir R2 koop hy kos. Etenstyd is 45 minute. Half-twee is hy terug. Sy nuwe werkplek is stil. So sit hy dan en wonder; die vrou het so baie gepraat en hom uitgeput. Half-drie kom sy kantoorbure hom roep: 'Hier is vir jou 'n beker, jy kan by ons teeklub aansluit.' Die een vrou se naam is Martie, sy sê sy woon in 'n maisonette in Goodwood. Daar is ook 'n man wat lyk soos 'n outydse hoofkantoorklerk met sy verlepte pak klere met net so 'n verlepte, verbleikte, vergeetbare das. Daar is nog 'n jonger meisie. Sy praat baie en vertel van spookhonde met skrikwekkende kake wat sy langs 'n verlate pad gesien het. Spookhonde van die hel, vertel sy.

Hy dink terug aan die *billboards* by Woodstockstasie en die onheilsaamheid daarvan. Gelukkig is Goeie Martie daar, so hy hoef nie bang te wees nie. Ag wat, dit maak ook nie saak nie.

Drieuur sit hy weer in die biblioteek. Dis 'n biblioteek vir amptenare en baie belangrike kliënte soos dokters, verpleegkundiges, argitekte en ingenieurs. Maar niemand kom die middag na die biblioteek nie. Net Johnnie, met nog tydskrifte.

Hy gaan sit agter 'n tikmasjien en tik met twee vingers **Personeelinligtingsbiblioteek, Staff Information Library**, hy tik weer **Personeelinligtingsbiblioteek**. Later hoor hy sy kantoorbure rondskuifel, en presies halfvyf is hy deel van die daaglikse uitvlug. Met sy onbeholpe hoë *clogs* struikeel hy amper oor Groentemarkplein se oneweredige bakstene. 'Nou moet jy balanseer, Stefan,' dink hy hardop. Kwart-voor-vyf vertrek die Stellenbosch-trein.



So was dit dan sy eerste dag, die 30ste November in die Eenduisend Negehonderd en Een en Tagtigste jaar van Onse Here.

Stefan Wehmeyer is die adjunkdirekteur: Streke van die Wes-Kaapse Biblioteekdiens



people | mense

Reading and writing her passion



After three decades among books, the head librarian at Kraaifontein Library decided to call it a day. Despite the technological advances, the role of libraries hasn't changed much, says Nelia van Zyl. 'For the staff, all the work is now so much easier and for patrons the catalogue is more accessible.'

Nelia started at Central Library in May 1987, moved to Sea Point and in 1992 was appointed head librarian at Kraaifontein Library. Becoming a librarian gave her an opportunity to apply her skills, knowledge and creativity, she says.

'What I enjoy most about my job are the patrons. To entertain them, whether on desk duty or on the stage, to listen to them and to give them advice and send them out of the library with happiness in their hearts.'

Mayco member for community services and special projects, Belinda Walker, congratulated Nelia on her long service.

Tygerburger

All the best in your future endeavours. ED

libraries | biblioteke

Citrusdal Biblioteek reik uit



Kabouterland Na-sorg besoek die biblioteek



Jeugdag 2015



Hier word Kinderbeskermingsweek bevorder

Laingsburg Public Library holiday programme



Laingsburg Public Library presented story hours for the children every week. The children enjoyed the story sessions very much



They also presented movies to the children. During the session the children received Milo, sandwiches and sweet packets



Kids from different schools were invited to make their own snow globes during Laingsburg Public Library's Winter holiday programme

Laingsburg Public Library holiday programme



A thought provoking display on the dangers of smoking was done by Vredenburg Library



books and authors | skrywers en boeke

Geliefde skrywer oorlede

Suid-Afrika se gunsteling-liefdesverhaalskrywer, Ena Murray, is onlangs op die ouderdom van 78 oorlede.

Murray was die middelste kind van 'n geneesheer en boorling van die Noord-Kaapse Karoodorpie, Loxton. Haar verhale het dikwels in hospitale afgespeel en die skrywer het noukeurige navorsing gedoen voordat sy 'n nuwe roman aangepak het.

Sy het in die vyftigerjare op die tere ouderdom van 14 haar pen opgetel en haar eerste roman, *Lisé* is in 1960 gepubliseer. Sy het sedertdien meer as 130 boeke op haar kerfstok laat beland.

bookslive.co.za

Nota: Die Biblioteekdiens het 'n groot aantal titels in voorraad



www.netwerk24.com

Kaapse berggids sterf



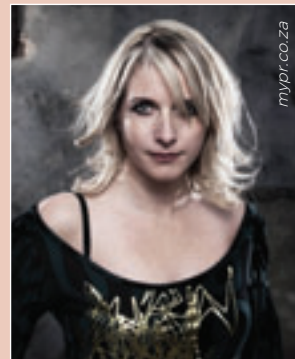
Mike Lundy (74), die Kaap se 'Mnr Stap', is ná 'n lang siekte oorlede. Lundy het byna 40 jaar lank boeke oor staproetes in die Wes-Kaap geskryf en menige stapper geïnspireer tot voetslaan.

Lundy was veral bekend vir die topverkoper *Best walks in the Cape Peninsula*, waarvan agt uitgawes reeds uitgegee is. Hy was die skrywer of medeskrywer van nege boeke.

Die Burger

Titles by our cover author, Lauren Beukes

Broken monsters.- Umuzi, 2014.
Maverick: extraordinary women from South Africa's past.- Oshun, 2004.
Moxyland.- Jacana, 2008.
The shining girls.- Umuzi, 2013.
Zoo City.- Jacana, 2010.



literary awards | literêre toekennings

Wenners van die 2015 Media24 pryse

Die wenners van die 2015 *Media24* Boeke Literêre Pryse is aangekondig. Totale prysgeld van meer as R200 000 is aan die wenners oorhandig.

WA Hofmeyr Prys vir Afrikaanse Fiksie – romans, kortverhale en drama

Buy's: 'n grensroman deur Willem Anker.
Die ander titels op die kortlys was: *Ester* deur Kerneels Breytenbach, *'n Duisend stories oor Johannesburg* deur Harry Kalmer en *Kamphoer* deur Francois Smith.



Herman Charles Bosman Prys vir Engelse Fiksie

A sportful malice deur Michiel Heyns.
Die ander titels op die kortlys was: *Face-off* deur Chris Karsten en *Rachel's blue* deur Zakes Mda.

Elisabeth Eybers Prys vir Afrikaanse en Engelse Digkuns

Mede-wete deur Antjie Krog.
Die ander titels op die kortlys was *Karnaval en Lent* deur TT Cloete en *Al die lieflike dade* deur Charl-Pierre Naudé.

Recht Malan Prys vir Afrikaanse en Engelse Nie-fiksie

Lost and found in Johannesburg deur Mark Gevisser.
Die ander titels op die kortlys was *Justice* deur Edwin Cameron en *A man of good hope* deur Jonny Steinberg.

MER Prys vir Jeugromans

Alive again deur Andre Eva Bosch.
Die ander titels op die kortlys was *Chuck Norris kan deel* deur nul deur Annelie Ferreira en *Chain Reaction* deur Adeline Radloff.

MER Prys vir Geïllustreerde Kinderboeke

Noko and the Kool Kats deur Fiona Moodie.
Die ander titels op die kortlys was *Die Dingesfabriek: Jannus en Kriek Krimp* deur Elizabeth Wasserman en Astrid Castle en *Speurhond Willem en die diamantdiewe* deur Elizabeth Wasserman en Chris Venter.

Die *Media24* Boeke Literêre Pryse word toegeken aan boeke wat tussen 1 Januarie en 31 Desember 2014 by die *Media24* Boeke-groep verskyn het. Die wenner in elke kategorie ontvang R35 000.

Bookslive.co.za

Titels in voorraad:

Heyns, Michiel. *A sportful malice.*- Jonathan Ball, 2014.
Gevisser, Mark. *Lost and found in Johannesburg.*- Jonathan Ball, 2014.
Moodie, Fiona. *Noko and The Kool Kats.*- Tafelberg, 2014.
Anker, Willem. *Buy's.*- Kwela, 2014.

Biblioteek na Eglin vernoem

Wyle Colin Eglin, destydse leier van die Progressiewe Federale Party, gaan in die Moederstad vereer word. Die Kaapse stadsraad het ingestem dat die biblioteek in Seepunt na hom vernoem word.

Ná 'n voorstel van 'n lid van die publiek dat Eglin op dié manier vereer word het die Kaapse stadsraad 'n proses van openbare deelname gehou.

Van die inwoners het gesê Eglin was 'n 'ware seun van Seepunt' en 'n 'gerespekteerde inwoner' en dat dit 'n goeie voorstel is.

Een inwoner het egter gesê solank daar boeke beskikbaar is en die plek skoongemaak word, maak die naam van die biblioteek nie saak nie.

Die Burger

Kinders juig oor hul 'boekebus'

'Maak nie saak hoe arm nie, 'n kind wat lees, is 'n bevoorregte kind.'

Hierdie woorde van Antjie Krog is aangebring op 'n vragmotorwa wat die lewe van 1,200 Wes-Kaapse laerskoolleerders onherroeplik kan verander. Dit danksy die Du Toitskloof Douglas Green-mobiele biblioteek wat in Rawsonville deur die Wes-Kaapse premier, Helen Zille, bekend gestel is.

Die Boekebus is 'n gesamentlike inisiatief en uitbreiding van die Fairtrade-handelsmerk vir twee van Suid-Afrika se voorste wynprodusente, Du Toitskloof en Douglas Green.

Die vragmotor, met 'n 15m lange wa, is toegerus met sowat 5,000 boeke, 10 rekenars, Internettoegang en sagteware wat vir baie van die kinders hier hul eerste blik anderkant die kim van die Breedekloof sal gee. Die vragmotor, met 'n heelydse bibliotekaris, sal aanvanklik nege laerskole bedien.



© Deon Raath

Sane Lottering (9) van die Lorraine NGK Primêr is die ene konsentrasie voor die rekenaar in die Boekebus, die mobiele biblioteek wat in Rawsonville bekendgestel is

Die Burger

Skrywer en uitgewer: 'n sonderlinge simbiose

Die leser van boeke dink — in teenstelling met skrywers — selde aan die proses waardeur 'n boek gaan vandat dit as manuskrip deur die uitgewer in ontvangs geneem is. Nogtans is dit 'n belangrike proses; die verwerking en verpakking van die kunswerk sodat dit 'n verkoopbare produk word.

In *In ons goeie boekies* (1991), 'n boek oor Tafelberg Uitgewers déur Tafelberg se medewerkers en skrywers, skryf woordkunstenaar Ernst van Heerden: 'Vir my is die basis van die verhouding uitgewer/skrywer een van meelewing en vertroue. Dié dubbelheid berus, onder meer, op die genoegdoening waarmee elke nuwe manuskrip — of dit nou digbundel, 'n versameling literêre opstelle of 'n outobiografie is, ontvang sal word.'

Hy gaan voort deur te sê dat hy vertrou dat sy manuskrip met sorg gehanteer en dat 'binne die perke van die moontlike my wense geëerbiedig sal word'.

Wanneer 'n mens oor die verhouding tussen skrywers en uitgewers dink, skiet die voorbeeld van Koos Human en Etienne Leroux gewoonlik soos 'n prop bo die literêre badwater op. Want hulle sessies in 'n hotelkamer in Kaapstad, waar hulle Leroux se manuskripte deurgewerk het, is welbekend. Onlangs het iemand my gevra of uitgewers nog soortgelyk optree. Uit my bietjie persoonlike ondervinding kan ek sê dat dit van uitgewer tot uitgewer wissel: ek is tans besig om met Penguin, Thompson en Tafelberg te werk om 'n nie-fiksieboek, 'n roman en 'n memoir



Koos Human

nb.boek.co.za/blog

te publiseer, en elkeen werk anders — dog, die genre of die grootte van die uitgewery het ook min hiermee te make.

Koos Human is in elke geval 'n spesiale karakter met uitsonderlike insigte, wat 'n mens nie van elke uitgewer kan verwag nie — en daar was al baie wat besondere vaardighede en intuïsie het. Die feit is, die leserspubliek het geen idee watter rol uitgewers speel en wat elkeen wat enigiets met boeke te doen het, aan sulke uitgewers verskuldig is nie.

Van Heerden noem 'n paar name in hierdie verband: Danie van Niekerk, Charles Fryer, Danie Botha en Petra Müller. Hy sê: 'Die aandeel van 'n hele span by die Pers (dus Naspers se uitgewery Tafelberg, nou deel van NB, wat, onder andere, Human & Rousseau insluit) is nie te versmaai nie, al weet 'n mens dat hulle wars is van enige aandag of krediet.'

Skrywers is geneig om juis nie krediet aan uitgewers te gee nie, want skrywers is ten volle ingestel op hulle werk, wat hulle as 100% uniek en hul eie beskou — hulle is die klavierspelers en die uitgewers is die klavierskuiwers, uit en gedaan. Maar ons weet wel dat die beste uitgewers so fyn ingestel is soos Pointer-honde, snuffel-bewend om kluitte en klatters te ondervang voordat hulle die boekwinkels bereik. Nie altyd suksesvol

nie, helaas, maar as daar geen sif is nie, kry mens wat al te dikwels gebeur wanneer skrywers self publiseer.

Daarom glo mense in uitgewers; in wat hulle kan bydra. Selfs al het sommige uitgewers verwag dat e-publikasies (op Internet as vervolghverhale waarvoor lesers per episode betaal, of as volledige verhale, byvoorbeeld, op e-lesers die hele uitgewerswese sou omkeer en bevrees was dat uitgewers sou ondergaan in hulle huidige gedaante. Dit blyk tans egter nie 'n gevaar te wees nie: e-boeke doen toe glad nie so goed nie.

Persoonlik bewonder ek veral klein uitgewers soos Suiderkruis-, Hemel en See-, Hartebees-, Cederberg- en Thompson Uitgewers: hulle swem teen 'n baie sterk stroom. Boonop, uitgewers wat niche-boeke uitgee, soos Protea dikwels doen, is eweneens dapper om duur hardebandboeke uit te gee, of boeke wat gevestigde denkpatrone aanval.

Die vraag is hoekom skrywers wat sulke boeke skryf dikwels nie na groter uitgewers gaan nie. Ek self het in 2003 probeer om 'n boek oor TO Honiball te laat uitgee. Die enigste uitgewer wat kans gesien het om dit te doen, was AFRICAN SUN MeDIA, toe nog in sy kinderskoene, maar vandag onafhanklik van Stellenbosch Universiteit. Die pad

met 'n uitgewer kan rof en stamperig wees, en myne met hulle was, maar minstens het die boek die lig gesien. En elke uitgewer met wie ek gewerk het, kleintjies soos BK Publishers, en Fantasi, het sy uitdagings gebied, dog nie meer of minder as met grotes soos Tafelberg nie.

Die skrywer moet glo in sy/haar boek. En baie oortuig wees dat die uitgewers te onnosel is om die potensiaal daarvan te herken voordat hy/sy dit self uitgee. Jy kan natuurlik, as die boek goed verkoop het, later na 'n uitgewer gaan, soos wat met een van die grootste suksesverhale in die Suid-Afrikaanse boekbedryf gebeur het, naamlik **Kook en geniet** deur SJA de Villiers. Vandag, twee jaar ná die skrywer se dood, verkoop haar talle boeke steeds 'soos soetkoek'.

Alle stories is nie sprokies nie, en sprokies kan nare óf goeie eindes hê. Miskien is elke boek 'n sprong in die duisternis — geneem op geloof in 'n sagte landing.

Op die keper beskou is drie aspekte aangaande die publikasieproses baie moeilik om te omseil: die geloofwaardigheid in die kwaliteit van die boek, die redigering, asook die onkoste en tyd wat die bemerkings- en verspreidingsprosesse behels. Wat dit betref, bly die verhouding tussen uitgewers en skrywers steeds die moeite werd.

40 years ... *stefan wehmeyer, deputy director: regions*

- The Welverdiend Library in Bredasdorp was opened. Mr Brown, Chairman of the new library committee sketched the history of the library, from its humble beginnings in a private home, the depot in the NG Kerk hall, to its present modern setting. Welverdiend has been well worth waiting for and its name is apt.
- Ilse Swart skryf 'n artikel oor die gebruik van prente en ander hulpmiddels in die biblioteek. Die belangrikste bronne van prente/pamflette/uitknipsels is koerante en tydskrifte want hulle het altyd die nuutste inligting oor 'n onderwerp.
- Dikwels is daar geen of min inligting in boeke te vind nie. 'n Goeie voorbeeld hiervan is die onderwerp *Beeldradio*. Nog 'n woord wat destyds gebruik was, was *Kompers*.
- Sheila Eichhoff skryf oor skakeling met skole: 'Ek het al die hoofde persoonlik besoek en aan hulle verduidelik dat ons die kinders graag wil help, maar ons beter sal kan voorberei as die onderwysers ons voor die tyd kan sê watter inligting benodig word. Hulle was baie gretig om saam te werk en het my verseker dat hulle met hul personeel sou praat. En dit was al. Van die onderwysers het ons niks gesien of gehoor nie.' Sy sê ook: 'Maar ons kan ook hard optree as dit nodig is. Kinders wat 'n dag voor hulle temas ingehandig moet word, kom inligting soek, gee ons maar min simpatie. So ook aan kinders wat weier om van Engelse boeke gebruik te maak.'
- Die Tygerberg Hospitaalbiblioteke word geopen. Hantie Van Heerden en Sophia Rickett was die bibliotekaris. Vreemd genoeg het hulle ook plate en kunsafdrukke aan hulle lesers gebied. (*In my verbeelding sien ek pasiënte met grammofoonplaatspelers by hulle beddens.*)



Western Cape Library Service



From the very beginning ... 1955-2015 by Stefan Wehmeyer

The aim of this article is to provide a historical synopsis of the Western Cape Library Service and its predecessor, the Cape Provincial Library Service.

In 1945 an attempt was made to establish a free public library service in the old Cape Province. A concept ordinance which provided for a free public library service was published that year. In 1949 a new ordinance was published. The provision of a library service became the financial responsibility of the province.

It was soon clear that this model of financing was not feasible.

1955

A new ordinance, No. 4 of 1955, that made provision of a library service the joint responsibility of the provincial administration and municipal authorities, was promulgated. Theo Friis was appointed as director. Provision was also made for the purchase

of audiovisual material. The Cape Provincial Library Service was officially established with production, administrative and service divisions.

The budget for the purchase of library materials was £187,000.

Under apartheid legislation services were racially segregated and the 1956 annual report stated that 43 public libraries and 60 depots for Whites and 66 depots for Coloured communities were served, with 21,775 White members and 6,004 Coloured members. Book stock was also divided by race, 262,353 and 30,173 respectively. The head office was in Keeromstraat.

1956

The first long-playing (LP) records and art prints were bought and a film service was started. There were 610,310 books in stock.

The Western Cape regions were George, Mossel Bay, Cape Town, Robertson, Stellenbosch, Beaufort West and Vanrhynsdorp. Total book circulation was 807,273.



The first regional library – Vanrhynsdorp – in the original building, 1951

1957

Cape Town Region (currently the Metropole Control Area) provided a service to only four libraries, namely Fish Hoek, Kommetjie, Parow and Robben Island.

The book stock reached the one million notch. 85 public libraries and 132 depots were served. Membership was 71,140 and 2,142,857 books were circulated. An automated punch card system was developed to computerise accessions of library material.

The first Holiday School (a training session for public librarians) was held in Hartenbos and lasted 12 days. The first edition of the **Cape Librarian** was produced.

1958

Membership was 114,180 and 3,491,684 books were circulated.

The City of Cape Town Library Service received its first subsidy of £60,970. Six students received bursaries and loans to study Library Science at the University of Cape Town.

1959

Book stock totalled 1,834,278. Membership was 152,650 and just more than five million books were circulated. The book budget was £200,000 SA.

Parow Municipality became the first municipality to build a standard public library for their Coloured community in Tiervlei.

1960

171 public libraries and 735 depots were affiliated. Membership grew to 188,485 and 5,5 million books were circulated.

1961

Planning commenced for a new building to house the headquarters of the Library Service. Building costs were estimated at R1,700,000.

The new futuristic library building was described in detail. Innovations were a Pater Noster and a conveyor belt. These belts were supposed to run continuously carrying books to and from different sections of the building. A pneumatic tube system for transferring book request cards was also to be installed. Furthermore it would have the first Compactus book shelving system in South Africa and the floors would be designed to carry the maximum weight per square feet to allow for maximum storage. Even the roof was designed to allow for helicopter landings!

The first gramophone records were issued at public libraries.



Librarians at a vacation school held at Zonnebloem College, 1961

1962

The budget available to buy new books amounted to R619,109.

1963

A commission was appointed to investigate the administration of the Library Service.

1964

Gilbert Morris was appointed director. The service moved to its new premises on the corner of Hospital and Chiappini Streets. The punch card system was abolished.

215 public libraries and 393 depots were affiliated. Book stock totalled 3,5 million and circulation 7,5 million.

1965

The director voiced his concern about the disappointingly low growth in membership. 'The serious lack of suitable accommodation and staff and limited service hours constrain the expansion of library facilities to the Coloured community.'

1966

Most of the local authorities in the province had accepted responsibility for library services. Fiction remained popular and only 14% of books circulated were non-fiction. Book circulation totalled just more than 8,8 million.

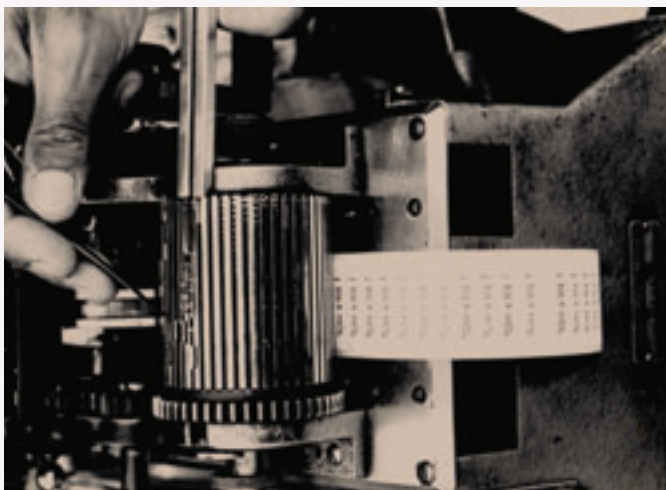
1968

233 public libraries and 388 depots were affiliated. For the first time more than 10 million books were circulated.

Thirteen years after the establishment of the Library Service,



Book selection meeting, 1963



The accession process, 1978

40% of items circulated were within a radius of 100 miles (160 kilometers) from Cape Town.

1969

The first book carnival for children was launched by the Promotion Section.

1970

Rising book prices became a concern. Circulation stagnated and remained at 10 million. 368,561 members were registered at 235 public libraries and 331 depots.

1971

The Provincial Library Board recommended that local authorities with a Coloured population of more than 3,000

receive subsidies from the Provincial Administration to build standardised public libraries.

1972

The first subsidies to build libraries in the Coloured communities of Mossel Bay, Ceres, Vredenburg and Graaff-Reinet were paid over to municipalities.

Circulation increased to 11,1 million and membership for the first time grew to more than 400,000. The film service remained popular and more than 42,000 films were circulated.

1973

A 13% increase of library use was noted as circulation increased to 11,6 million.

1974

251 libraries and 280 depots were affiliated to the Service. (Of these, 27 were in Coloured communities).

1975

A strong growth in membership was experienced with membership exceeding 500,000. Five million books were in stock and 13 million circulated.

A record number of 52,534 films were issued.

1976

Television came to South Africa and for the next two years membership remained just under 500,000 and circulation hovered around 13 million. Film circulation dropped to 44,000.

1977

322,000 books were bought.

1978

Book circulation is 13,776,574 and membership escalated to 544,757. Langa Library became the first library in an isiXhosa community to affiliate with the Library Service. Subsidies from the Library Service for the building of new or upgrading of existing facilities were extended to White communities.

1979

The last subscription library to affiliate with the Library Service was Pinelands. The number of centres affiliated was now 271 public libraries and 196 depots.

1980

Only 274,697 books were purchased, 15% fewer than the previous year.

1981

A new Library Ordinance was promulgated (Number 16 of 1981). The section that made provision for separate services was omitted. Membership reached the 600,000 mark. The number of public libraries in Coloured communities stood at 71 in comparison to 218 libraries in White communities.

1982

The number of new books bought dropped to 260,000. Membership grew to 640,000 and circulation increased to 14,2 million.

1984

Statistics were no longer kept according to race.

1985

Frans van der Merwe was appointed as director. Book circulation increased to 15,328,749 and membership now stood at 700,000.

322 libraries and 140 depots were affiliated. The hundredth library building subsidy was paid to a local authority. The first videos were bought. The first celebration of Public Library Day took place on 8 October.

The computerisation of the Service was investigated. A computerised word processor to do the layout of the *Cape Librarian* was bought. Membership increased to 733,014 and for the first time in years more than 300,000 books were bought.

1987

A concerted effort was made to buy study material for tertiary students. The book budget was increased with 25% and a record number of 435,726 new books were bought.

Video circulation stood at 42,000 and use of the Film Library started to wither. 334 libraries and 130 depots were affiliated to the Service.

1988

For the first time, a major campaign was launched to celebrate Library Week. Promotional material of the Library Service was used countrywide.

The Zaayman Report on the role of library and information services in the development of South Africa was published and the report was incisively discussed by the Library Service.

A phenomenal amount of 691,389 books were bought. Circulation reached 18 million.

1989

Book prices almost doubled in two years and the number of new books purchased reduced to 422,000.

For the first time ever subsidies were provided for the building

of libraries in African communities: funding was provided for the building of libraries in Crossroads and Khayelitsha.

1990

The Reservation of Separate Amenities Act was repealed. Regional Service Councils replaced Divisional Councils. No provision was made for a financial contribution to municipalities for library services and membership fees for rural members of public libraries were charged.

The first CD was issued.

The number of libraries affiliated stood at 353 and 115 depots. More than 20 million books were issued to 831,179 members.

1991

25 years after the previous director expressed his concern about the low circulation of non-fiction, the circulation figure was still 15%, only one percent more than in 1966. Dramatic increases in library membership and circulation of library



Datacapture assistants checking datalink error reports in the early 1990's

material were experienced in especially rural areas after libraries were opened to all races. The implementation of the Library Service's computerised library system, CPALS, commenced. The purchasing of art prints for circulation at public libraries was discontinued. Membership increased to 851,466 and 21,4 million books were circulated.

1992

CPALS was fully implemented. 581,000 new books were purchased. For the first time, membership exceeded 900,000 with 22,2 million books circulated. 361 libraries and 111 depots were affiliated. The 200th subsidy for the building of a library was paid.

1993

The principle of the free use of public libraries was reaffirmed by the Administrator of the Cape Province after a comprehensive research report found that charging membership fees would have dire consequences.

1994

After the first democratic elections in 1994, the Western Cape, Eastern Cape and Northern Cape started to function as separate library services for each province. A small part of the erstwhile Cape Province also became part of the Northwest Province. Resources and staff posts in Head Office were allocated to the new provinces, with the Western Cape retaining 56% of these.

At the end of 1994 the membership at 256 affiliated libraries was 675,551. At this time, municipalities were still under the old dispensation, with the City of Cape Town running its own independent service, but with a subsidy for library material provided by the Western Cape Province. The library material

budget was R19,3 million and subsidies were allocated for new library buildings in De Rust, Gugulethu, Lwandle (near Strand), Thembalethu in George and Mamre. The City of Cape Town built a library in Strandfontein.

1995

259 centres were affiliated to the Provincial Library Service. The library material budget was cut to R15,1 million. 279,954 items were added to the library material collection. New libraries were built in Elsie River (major upgrade), Masifunde (Knysna), Zolani (Ashton), Eerste River and Struisbaai.

1996

Membership at 263 affiliated libraries now was 761,377 and R14,775,545 was spent on library material. Due to staff shortages at Head Office (44% of posts were lost with the division of the old Cape Province), a backlog in the processing of library material was created.

With the assistance of temporary contract workers, 361,936 items of library material were processed. This was the highest number processed in any given year since 1994. In this year the Library Service became part of the Department of Environmental, Cultural Affairs and Sport and was downgraded to a subdirectoriate with a deputy director.

New libraries were subsidised at Elandsbaai, KwaNokuthula (Plettenberg Bay), Weltevrede Valley (Cape Town) and Gansbaai. The Imizamo Yethu Library at Hout Bay was put into operation.

1997

Mr Frans van der Merwe retired as director and Mr Johan Swiegelaar became head of the Western Cape Provincial



Care and repair of art prints, 1983



Negatives being examined for the Cape Librarian, 1992

Library Service. After the first restructuring of local government, six new municipalities were established in the metropolitan area of Cape Town and a few libraries that belonged to Cape Town were affiliated to the Provincial Library Service. Membership grew to 857,232 and the number of libraries to 273. R14,385 million was spent on library material. Only one new library building was subsidised at Nduli (Ceres). The City of Cape Town opened new libraries in Valhalla Park and at the Mitchell's Plain Town Centre. Both these libraries were built in 1996. The Masakhane Library in Khayelitsha was opened by the Tygerberg Municipality.

1998

During 1998 a total number of 915,321 library members borrowed 20,454,196 items of library material at 283 affiliated libraries. A substantial amount was budgeted for new libraries and funds were provided to build new libraries in Khayelitsha (Moses



Special requests being issued, 1998



Heritage Day celebrations at Masakhane Library, 2002

Mabhida Library), Delft South, Brown's Farm and Paternoster. The City of Cape Town completed a new library in Bridgetown.

1999

In 1999 the library material budget was R14,6 million and the number of library material items distributed to libraries 289,883. There were 285 affiliated libraries and the circulation of library material was 20,7 million. Only two million Rand was budgeted for new libraries for the communities of McGregor, Genadendal and Zwelihle (Hermanus).

2000

R17 million was spent on the acquisition of new library material. There were 280 service points because a few smaller depots were closed. 914,833 people were registered library members and circulation increased to 21,3 million. New libraries were subsidised at Wellington (with the new Wellington Readers Library replacing the existing facility), Pniel and Sir Lowry's Pass. The Tygerberg Municipality opened a new library in Khayelitsha and named it after Nazeema Isaacs. Blaauwberg Municipality opened a new library for the community of Brooklyn.

The first electronic edition of the **Cape Librarian**, the in-house magazine of the Library Service, was published on the Internet.

2001

The third phase of local government reform commenced with the local government election on 5 December 2000, establishing the current municipalities. The City of Cape Town Municipality was established from the amalgamation of the six that were established in 1997. The previous independent City of Cape Town Library Service ceased to exist with this amalgamation and all previous city libraries were to be affiliated to the Provincial Library Service as from 2002. 2001 saw the 11 September attacks in New York and one of the results was a weakened Rand/Pound exchange which saw the Rand drop in value to almost R19 for one pound. This blow was softened due to a substantial increase of the library material budget of R24,2 million.

The number of affiliated libraries was 279 and circulation of material increased to 21,5 million with 932,795 library members. Subsidies were provided to build new libraries at Eendekuil, Railton (Swellendam), Saron and Zoar. The City of Cape Town built and completed a new library in Rylands.

2002

With the formation of the new City of Cape Town Library and Information Services, all of its previously independent libraries were now also affiliated to the Western Cape Provincial Library Service. The number of affiliated libraries grew to 317. As from the 2002/3 financial year, all library material of previously independent libraries in Cape Town was bought from the provincial budget and the library material budget increased to R27,5 million. Membership at affiliated libraries



The Preparation Section in Head Office set all other work aside to process the latest Harry Potter title, 2005

increased to 1,185,409 and just over 25,3 million items were circulated. Subsidies for new library buildings were allocated to Ebenhaeser, Moorreesburg and Bot River (later to be named Ukhanyo Library). The Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport was established after splitting from the Department of Environmental, Cultural Affairs and Sport. The Library Service again became a directorate, together with Archive Services.

2003

In order to extend library services to small rural communities not within easy reach of public libraries, the Provincial Library Service started its Wheelie Wagon project. This entailed lockable mobile trolleys that were stocked with library material in a suitable facility within a community. The first Wheelie Wagon opened at Kliprand in the Matzikama Municipality. The number of affiliated libraries remained unchanged at 317, membership was 1,195,011 and a record number of more than 25,9 million items of library material was circulated. The budget for library material was just more than R29 million. Subsidies were provided for new libraries at Hermanus, Suurbraak and Slangrivier. The City of Cape Town established a new service at Masiphumelele near Fish Hoek.

2004

The total membership at 308 public libraries stood at 1,238,103 and 25,958,591 items of library material were circulated. R31,7 million was spent on buying new library material and 288,059 items were processed. New libraries were subsidised at Nelspoort, Kranshoek and Buffeljagsrivier. The City of Cape Town completed a new library in Philippi East.

2005

1,229,471 library members borrowed 24,529,699 items of library material at 309 affiliated public libraries. A ground-breaking announcement was made when the Minister of Finance, Mr Trevor Manuel, announced in parliament that a national subsidy programme for public libraries would be made available. R30,7 million was spent on new books. New libraries were subsidised at Khayaletu (Knysna), Klaarstroom and Leeu-Gamka.

2006

During 2006, the Minister for Arts and Culture, Mr Pallo Jordan, announced that the government will be availing one billion Rand over a three-year period to upgrade, improve and expand library services in the whole country. In 2006, the total membership at public libraries was 1,157,890. 22,352,953 items were circulated at 322 affiliated public libraries. R29,9 million was spent to procure new books. Subsidies were given to build new libraries in Vredenburg and Haarlem. (Due to delays and the need for additional funds, the library in Vredenburg was only completed in 2013.)

2007

Membership at 329 affiliated centres grew to 1,264,017 and circulation decreased to 21,487,059 items of library material. The Western Cape received Conditional Grant funds for the first time. An amount of R16,7 million was allocated to the province. The Provincial Library Service took a decision to transfer most of these funds to libraries to appoint additional staff. Funds were



The main theme for Library Week 2010 was Soccer



An edition of the Cape Librarian being scrutinized, 2011

also set aside to connect four rural public libraries to the Internet with 3G-cards and to fund five new Wheelie Wagon projects. Over the years the Wheelie Wagon projects were boosted with Conditional Grant funding that enabled the Provincial Library Service to buy mobile book trolleys, library material and also to provide funding to municipalities to appoint staff at these new sites. It should also be mentioned that Conditional Grant funding has been used over the years to buy additional library material. (Approximately 150,000 items have been bought since 2007.) R32,9 million was the expenditure on new books. The City of Cape Town opened a new library building in Claremont after selling off council land to a private developer on condition that a library be built on the site.

2008

Mr Johan Swiegelaar retired as director of the Western Cape Provincial Library and Archive Services and Mrs Nomaza Dingayo was appointed as the new director. Conditional Grant funding increased substantially to R31,434,000. Funds continued to be used to appoint additional staff at public libraries. In 2008 it was also decided to provide multiple workstations to public libraries under the Rural Information and Communication Technology (ICT) project and to expand this service with 20 sites per year. Membership to public libraries stood at 1,173,532. 333 centres were affiliated and 21,889,011 items were circulated. R27,4 million was spent to buy new books. A subsidy was given to build a new library at Gouda. The new Central Library in the heart of Cape Town opened as a result of substantial donor funding from the Carnegie Corporation.

2009

Conditional Grant funding increased to R41,073 million. The first rural ICT-project with multiple workstations connected to

the Internet went live at Cloetesville Library in Stellenbosch. Membership at 334 affiliated centres was 1,223,854. These centres circulated 22,955,074 items of library material. The amount spent on library material was R31,3 million. However, with Conditional Grant funding included, the total amount was R37 million. This was the largest amount used to procure library material in the past 20 years. The Shuttleworth Foundation provided funding for a new library in Fisantekraal near Durbanville.

2010

Conditional Grant funding increased to R49,648,000. It was decided that, due to the backlog of library facilities in the Western Cape, Conditional Grant funds will in future be used to build new libraries or to upgrade existing facilities. During 2010 and 2011 an additional subsidy was given (from Conditional Grant funding) to complete the Vredenburg Library project. During 2010 it was estimated that 313 or 24% of the total public library staff complement of 1,353 were funded from Conditional Grant transfers to municipalities. The worldwide global financial crisis of 2008 contributed indirectly to the reducing of budgets by all government departments in 2010/11. The book budget of the Library Service was cut to R19,7 million after R4,5 million was also redirected to pay for a new library and information system. 336 library service points were in operation during this year and 1,261,516 registered members borrowed 22,594,576 items of library material.

2011

After nearly 20 years on the PALS Library and Information System, the Western Cape Library Service migrated to a new system called SITA Library and Information Management System (SLIMS), powered by the Belgian company Brocade. Conditional Grant funding slightly decreased to R48,694 million.

The new library at Paarl was subsidised from Conditional Grant funding. After receiving a subsidy from the Carnegie Corporation and Deutsche Bank, the Harare Square Library in Khayelitsha was opened. The Klapmuts Public Library opened as a joint venture where Stellenbosch Municipality provided the staffing, the school governing body of Klapmuts Primary the premises, and the Western Cape Library Service the library material. This school/public library was designed as a dual-purpose library and served as a model for the whole country. In order to alleviate the unfunded mandate burden on municipalities, Provincial Treasury of the Western Cape allocated R31,7 million to replace municipal funding on libraries at smaller, so-called B3-municipalities. A Municipal Replacement Funding (MRF) Unit was established at the Library Service to manage these transfers. 2011 also saw the reclassification of library material from consumables to assets. This had a major impact on the operations of the Library Service and a 100% stocktake of all library materials at 358 locations was undertaken from August 2011 to February 2012. The expenditure on new books increased slightly to R20,1 million. Membership stood at 1,259,391. 343 centres were affiliated and the total circulation of all library material was 20,749,866.

2012

Conditional Grant funding was increased again, this year to R56,129,000. MRF funding amounted to R45 million. 1,278,953 registered library patrons borrowed 20,898,075 items at 347 public libraries and the amount spent on new books was R22,6 million. A restructuring process of the Conditional Grant



Passionate librarians from Central Library, the National Library of South Africa and the Centre for the Book took to the streets of Cape Town to proclaim their love of books and reading, 2014

and Municipal Replacement Funding units in Library Service was finalised. The Municipal Replacement Funding (MRF) project for the 15 Category B3-municipalities expanded its funding impact. This project funded all the permanent library staff members (236) of the 15 municipalities, as well as all operational and smaller capital expenditure at 12 of the 15 B3-municipalities in the Western Cape. MRF and Conditional Grant funding combined covered 96% of all expenditure on libraries in the 15 B3-municipalities. New libraries at Nkqubela (Robertson) and KwaNonqaba (Mossel Bay) were subsidised over two financial years (2012/2013 and 2013/2014). Eight million Rand from Conditional Grant funding had now been set aside for building projects. A new library was opened in New Horizons (Plettenberg Bay) with the project being financed by the Bitou Municipality.

2013

Conditional Grant funding increased to R67 million whilst MRF funding increased to R50 million. The Wheelie Wagon projects have now grown to 42. The 100th library was provided with an Internet connection through the Rural ICT-Project. Archive Services became a separate directorate, with the Library Service continuing as a single entity under the directorship of Mrs Dingayo. A new unit named Municipal Support Services was established. This new unit, consisting of two sections, namely Municipal Funding (previously known as Municipal Replacement Funding) and Public Library Enhancement (previously known as Conditional Grant section), is managed by a deputy director. The first instalment for a new library at Prince Alfred Hamlet (near Ceres) was provided.

At the end of 2013, 349 library centres were affiliated to the Library Service.

2014

The funding for Conditional Grants increased significantly to R126,347,000 in 2014/15 and for the first time in the history of the grant, funds were made available to deal with the unfunded mandate of library services (excluding the City of Cape Town). An amount of R114,333 million was transferred to 25 local municipalities. Funding was granted for the following building projects: Prince Alfred's Hamlet, Avian Park (Worcester), Slanghoek (Rawsonville), Citrusdal, Conville (George), Kleinmond, Parow, Hangberg and Crossroads. An amount of R54,777 million was provided as Municipal Replacement Funding.

The Rural Library Connectivity Project had now reached 200 libraries in rural areas.

Only 188,588 items had been procured for distribution to 361 library centres.

Stefan Wehmeyer is the deputy director, Regions, of the Western Cape Library Service



60 years of the Library Service



We remember compiled by Grizéll Azar-Luxton

According to our records the Library Service is 60 years old this year but according to a former Assistant Director, Bon Gertz, the library service had 'in fact started in 1945 with the appointment of the first Library Organiser, S.J. Kritzinger'. This according to an article written by her in March 2007, *CPLS early days*. To introduce our *60 years of the Library Service* article in which we share some former staff's recollections, we reproduce some of Bon Gertz's memories.

Bon Gertz



'The library service scheme was financed entirely by the Provincial Administration and was under central control from Cape Town where the bookstock was kept. Three regions were opened in Vanrhynsdorp, Calvinia and Malmesbury areas and by 1954 had served 43 libraries and 126 depots. However the service was suspended in 1954 when, as predicted by librarians, it had proved financially

unrealistic and it had failed to engage community support as there was no local involvement.

And this in the Cape which in 1940 had 173 extant libraries compared with 11 in the Transvaal, 12 in Natal and 10 in the Orange Free State (OFS), yet there the provincial services to rural communities had been successfully introduced between 1946 and 1952. Our lawmakers did their citizenry a serious disservice in 1994 when they excluded local authorities from their former share of responsibility for public library services by making them a solely provincial responsibility.

Now William JB Slater, the dynamic new provincial secretary of the Cape, had come from the OFS where he had experienced the success of the model which Boland had started in Germiston and which had been adopted by all three of those provinces. Suspending the Cape Service Slater set about the revision of the Library Ordinance to comply with the formula based on

joint responsibility for libraries between the province and the local authority. This became the Revised Ordinance, no 4 of 20 May 1955. Theo Friis, fresh from a year's study under Leon Carnovsky at the prestigious Chicago Library School, was appointed just in time to have audiovisual materials added to the document. Friis had strong support from Slater which enabled him to move forward through the bureaucracy at an unprecedented rate in getting finance, staff and new administrative procedures in place. The ordinance was unique in making provision for urban library areas, namely Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and East London which would receive substantial financial assistance from the province for their independent library services.

Apartheid laws ruled so there were separate libraries and stock for white and coloured communities. Tragically no African communities could be served as by law all amenities had to be financed and provided by the national Department of Native Affairs. This neglect was a blight on the Service.

When I assumed duty in August 1955 as the first appointment under the new ordinance, the Library Service was housed in one big room on the ground floor of the provincial building in Wale Street with a handful of staff. New books dribbled in on standing order while in the basement of the building stood over 200 000 books from which the libraries had been served from 1950 to 1954, and an immediate task was to allocate this stock to the newly-planned 18 regional libraries.

Early in 1956 there was an influx of new staff, a contingent of whom went on a tour up to Port Nolloth and across to Mafikeng and Kimberley to introduce the new service. I recall the mirage of Pofadder rising up to meet us in the February heat, and then having driven through it before realising it was past! The Service now moved into an old four storey factory building at 48 Keerom Street with Cataloguing and the Preparation Sections housed on the top floor under a tin roof which some summer days got so hot that the staff had to be sent home. It was an exhilarating time.

Three new regions were opened every six months and by December 1957 all 18 were established with regional staff, premises and stock. Many of the early regional librarians went on to prominent positions in the profession. Names like André Cornelissen, Gerhardt L Nordier, Arnold Lubbe, Steve

van Niekerk and CJ Fourie come to mind. The contract which each municipality signed on affiliation pinned them down to standards of staffing, salaries, hours, and the provision of a building brought up to standard within five years.

New standard buildings were also being planned and erected, eight had opened by 1963 and a further ten were ready during 1964. Training courses lasting two weeks were held three times a year as new regions came on stream. A depot service to schools expanded as regions opened and were serviced until the end of 1963 when the Education Department started their library service and took over the stock and service.

As the existing libraries joined the Service a reorganising team went out to weed the old stock, and to catalogue and process the retained stock to accord with the card issue system which was used for the new stock coming from province. There were some amazing adventures in this process as most of the old subscription libraries had books going back to Victorian times that had not been moved in years. So, weeding in the dark, dusty Lusikisiki Library I removed a squeezed batch of books at eye level to find myself looking at a huge slowly-stirring puffadder — the library was surrounded by a five foot fence and to this day I do not recall clearing it!

The Central Organisation was also humming — in America Friis had seen the early experiments in automation and so the bold step was taken to introduce punched cards, the forerunner of computers; theoretically this would eliminate all future card sorting and filing, so it was worth a try! Adjusting standard cataloguing to the rigid limitations of the two lines of card was a nightmare, the length of the cards required bigger card holders, and the experimental adjustments had the suppliers equally phased and are best forgotten, but the noise and problems with the giant machines themselves, up there on the hot top floor remained, but dear Hazel Jones (Verwoerd) battled on! Now you know why the issue cards are so big — they had to fit the cabinets which were now standard stock! The machines did not follow us to Hospital Street.

The Book Selection Section was constituted from the start of the new organisation. An early task I had was to visit local stock holding booksellers to invite them to submit books on approval for selection. Adjustments and refinements on the approval system were made but all through this period an agreement on terms was negotiated annually with the Booksellers Association of South Africa for imported books while Afrikaans books were ordered from the publishers. The Children's Department was led by Bessie Lyndhurst who mentored Lydia Pienaar and strict standards were applied — the buying power of the Service and the dearth of Afrikaans books resulting in large orders which enabled the coproduction of wonderful children's books by new firms like Human & Rousseau. It is regrettable that it has not proved viable for the same to happen for indigenous languages. Jean Albert held the adult selection team together and Elizabeth Schoeman, (later De Roubaix), reviewed Afrikaans books. A team of book reviewers dealt with the large English volume.

The innovation of audiovisual materials — 16mm films, gramophone records and art prints — created their unique challenges in sourcing, processing, housing and issuing. Three film libraries were stocked as part of the three reference libraries in Cape Town, Kimberley and Port Elizabeth and all standard libraries were issued with film projectors; records and art prints were allocated to regional libraries for distribution to libraries, while art prints were housed in three sizes of plastic-

sleeved folders with wooden exchangeable frames made available in the libraries — this proved a nightmare all round! The AV department was staffed by Dr Helen Oppenheim, an art historian, and her sister Kiko Gaskell who had been tutor to Yehudi Menuhin and his sister when they were young!

The Service grew at a phenomenal rate as is reflected in the record of service points; by 1959 there were 785 affiliated service points comprising 152 public libraries, 242 depots serving whites, 126 depots serving coloured communities, 231 depots at white schools and 34 depots at coloured schools. The service continued to grow and by the end of 1963 there were 207 public libraries, 224 white depots and 161 depots serving coloured communities. The service to schools continued until 1964 when it was transferred to the newly-established Library Service in the Education Department. By 1963 public membership was 265 506 and 7 194 141 books were circulated.

The Service was soon bursting out of Keerom Street and after speculation of being located well out of town a large plot adjoining the newly-built Provincial Stores Department in Prestwich Street and which had been the location of a so-called hospital for abandoned old people (there were many ghost stories in the early days) was made available. Planning was underway by 1960 and the building was due for completion early in 1964.

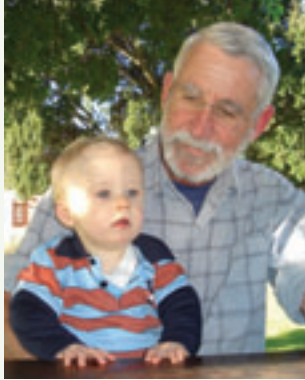
So to 1963. This was a dark, dark year for the Service. In March Dr Theo Friis, the director was suddenly suspended from the Service and a Commission of Inquiry into his management of the Service became front-page news for many weeks. Regrettably his hubris, ambition and unorthodox style had made him enemies in both the book trade and the Administration, and he had made an unwise friendship with a purveyor of American remaindered books which he insisted on buying in large quantities — he had never pretended to be a book man and the lack of judgment was deplorable. By midyear he had retired and Julie te Groen acted as director till the end of the year Friis left the profession and it was a tragic end to what had been a meteoric career during which he had made an enormous contribution to the library profession. Sadly the only remaining legacy of those vital professional standards for public libraries is reflected in the many fine library buildings to be found throughout the Cape, libraries like Bellville or my own beloved Hout Bay.

It was a tough time for the Service, having been the jewel in the crown of the Administration we were now pariahs with a flood of suspicious questions and petty controls from Wale Street (Administration headquarters). It must be said that the pace had taken its toll in some of the necessarily hasty decisions, but overall it was wonderful to have been part of the exhilarating expansion of libraries and to have experienced the delight of thousands of children and adults who, after years of starvation, could now enjoy access to all the riches on offer.

Frans van der Merwe

Die redakteur het my gevra om iets te skryf oor die tydperk wat ek in diens was — hoogte- en laagtepunte, maar ook oor snaakse gebeure — waaraan ek graag voldoen.

Ek was vir 31 jaar aan die Kaapse Provinsiale Biblioteekdiens verbonde; vir die eerste 13 jaar in die Noord-Kaap, die eerste jaar as streekbibliotekaris in Kimberley, toe vir 'n jaar in



Aliwal-Noord en weer terug na Kimberley as senior- en daarna as hoofbibliotekaris vir die Noord-Kaapse streke Aliwal-Noord, Beaufort-Wes, De Aar, Kimberley, Upington en Vryburg. Ek is bevorder na assistentdirekteur in Kaapstad en vir die laaste elf en 'n half jaar van my loopbaan was ek in Kaapstad as hoof van die Biblioteekdiens, waarvan die laaste drie jaar as direkteur van die Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Biblioteekdiens.

Hoogtepunte was baie en snaakse gebeure was daar gewis, maar gelukkig was laagtepunte maar min.

NOORD-KAAP

Ek het in Januarie 1966 as streekbibliotekaris in Kimberley begin werk. Nadat ek rondgewys is en personeellede ontmoet het, skuif ek agter my lessenaar langs die groot trap na die boonste verdieping in. Almal se 'kantore' is tussen hoë boekrakke ingepas, met geen afskortings tussen-in nie — seker die voorloper van die oop-plan kantoor. My telefoon lui en die stem aan die anderkant van die lyn stel haarself aan my bekend. 'I'm Mrs Buxton from Douglas Library. I believe you are the new man, I have a problem, listen, I'm not going to close my library for stocktaking, not even for one hour, make other plans. Goodbye.' Ek skrik my boeglam, ek is nie seker wat gebeur met 'n 'stocktaking' nie en boonop praat die vrou Engels.

Dit was inderdaad 'n goeie vuurdoop want, pas uit universiteit was ek vuur en vlam vir my nuwe 'roeping' met 'n kop vol teoretiese kennis, maar gelukkig aanpasbaar vir die werklikhede en die vele uitdagings van 'n wonderlike nuwe wêreld wat op my gewag het.

Afgesien van die ietwat kwaaiëre eerste kennismaking met Douglas se bibliotekaris op my eerste dag, het ek my tyd in die Noord-Kaap geniet. Daar was 'n handboek vir streekbiblioteke waaraan ons soos die letter van die wet moes voldoen: die aantal besoeke per jaar van die boekwa aan biblioteke, hoe dikwels voorraadopnames uitgevoer moes word, voorskrifte oor die aantal 'inspeksies' van biblioteke en vele, vele meer.

In daardie tyd moes die boekwa biblioteke elke ses weke besoek. Een aand in Jan Kempdorp se hotel sê een van die ander gaste vir my: 'Jy is mos die man van die bus wat met boeke smous, hoe was jou en jou verkoopsdame se besigheid vandag?' Wat kon ek hierop antwoord? Met 'n besoek aan die naburige klein depot op Magogong stap ek nader na die voordeur van die bibliotekie toe 'n man aangedraf kom. Hy hou sy hand skuin oor sy mond en sê benoud: 'Dokter, dokter, help my asseblief, trek my tand, hy pyn baie.' Ek was ietwat verbaas, maar besef gou dat my wit stofjas (ja, ons het destyds wit jasse gedra) asook die feit dat die depot geleë is direk langs die spreekkamer van 'n tandarts wat die dorpie een keer 'n week besoek, tot sy verwarring moes gelei het.

Van boekwaens gepraat. In Aliwal-Noordstreek was ons in 1967 in die winter op besoek aan Barkly-Oos toe dit begin sneeu en die grondpad vir twee dae onbegaanbaar maak. Om 'professioneel' besig te bly, het ons toe maar 'n vervroegde voorraadopname in die biblioteek gedoen.

Dis nog nie die einde van my vele boekwa-ervarings nie. Ek moes as streekbibliotekaris in Kimberley een keer dringend saam met die senior bibliotekaris Upington toe gaan; hul boekwa het tussen Pofadder en Onseepkans omgeval. Daar aangekom lê die boekwa op die kant van die sydeur. Ek word gevra om in versengende hitte by die deur van die bestuurderskajuit in te klim en die boeke, wat nou in hope binne die boekwa opgebondel lê, by die klein dakvenstertjie uit te stoot waarna dit in 'n groot vragmotor se bak gelaai is. Mans het in daardie dae gelukkig kortbroek-safaripakke gedra, ('n komiese gesig vandag!), anders sou ek beslis nie die sauna-bad oorleef het nie. Vandag sou so 'n voorval waarskynlik as 'n ongeoorloofde arbeidspraktyk' beskou kon word.

Ek kan nog vele staaltjies vertel oor die interessante ondervindings in die Noord-Kaap.

Nuwe streekbibliotekaris het altyd vir die eerste paar weke in Kimberley begin vir hul praktiese opleiding en is daarna na hul onderskeie streke. 'n Deel van die praktiese opleiding was oor hoe om na die streek se stasiewa om te sien. Ek staan saam met die nuwe streekbibliotekaris vir De Aar in ons kantoor se agterplaas en wys haar waar die motor se noodwiel sit, asook hoe om dit om te ruil in geval van 'n pap band. Sy sou oor 'n week hierna diens in De Aar aanvaar en vir die eerste keer biblioteke per motor besoek. Toe ek weer gewaar, hoor ek hoe mense lag. Wat ek vergeet het, is dat die agterplaas van ons gebou waar die motor geparkeer staan, direk langs 'n hoë kantoorgebou was en tientalle werkers by hul vensters uithang en die petalje tot groot vermaak dophou. Ses maande daarna is ek saam met haar in die streek se stasiewa op besoek aan biblioteke in haar streek. Op die lang grondpad tussen Prieska en Britstown kry ons 'n pap band en toe ek die noodwiel soek, is daar niks nie. Die senuagtige streekbibliotekaris sê sy het vergeet om dit te 'tjek,' maar gelukkig kom 'n verbygaande polisievoertuig tot ons redding.

Oudiovisuele materiaal was 'n integrale deel van die openbare biblioteek se diens, waarvan films ewe belangrik was. Die Noord-Kaapse filmdiens is vanuit die filmoteek in Kimberley gelewer en personeel is aangemoedig om dié diens te bevorder. Tydens elke toer is 'n paar filmvertonings in dorpie gehou. Dit was natuurlik jare voor die koms van televisie.

Een dag word ons deur die bibliotekaris van Floukraal, 'n klein depot in die berge tussen Dordrecht en Barkly-Oos, gevra om 'n filmvertoning te kom hou tydens hul jaarlikse afsluitingsfunksie. Al die omliggende plaasbewoners sou teenwoordig wees. Sy benadruk dat hulle nie oor elektriese krag beskik nie, maar weet ook dat die Biblioteekdiens kragopwekkers het. Ons bestel die films betyds vanaf Kimberley en voor ons vertrek laai ons die swaar kragopwekker wat in die sy-kant van die boekwa inskuif, in die stasiewa. Ons moes natuurlik vooraf seker maak vir genoeg brandstof in die kragopwekker. By Floukraal aangekom help 'n paar mans my om die swaar opwekker 'n entjie van die klein saaltjie op die enigste stukkie gelyk grond neer te sit. Weens die geraas wat dit maak, moet die opwekker 'n redelike afstand van die gehoor wees — gelukkig het ons lang elektriese koorde gehad. Ons maak alles reg en ek gaan uit en kry die opwekker aan die gang. Die 'vertoning' het skaars begin, of die krag is af. Toe ek buite kom, sien ek die opwekker het weens sy vibrasie al langs die bult af begin beweeg en die verbindingskoord het losgeraak. Die enigste oplossing was dat 'n persoon vir die duur van die vertoning langs die opwekker moes staan, met sy voet daarop, en sorg dat die klippe wat

rondom gepak is, in plek bly sodat die opwekker nie weer die pad met die bult af vat nie.

Op 'n keer vergesel ek as hoofbibliotekaris mnr Morris, die direkteur, op besoek aan openbare biblioteke in die Noord-Kaap. By Olifantshoek aangekom wag 'n boodskap vir my. Ek moet die polisiekantoor in Koopmansfontein dringend skakel. Kimberley streekbiblioteek se stasiewa het op die grondpad om 'n draai gegly en omgeval. Die twee personeellede wat op pad was vir 'n voorraadopname, is gelukkig nie beseer nie, maar die ene trane omdat die laaitjies met kaartjies vir die voorraadopname wat in die motor was, uitgeval het en die sterk Augustus-wind het baie kaartjies glo weggewaai. Ek het hulle probeer geruslet en die nodige reëlins getref, alles binne hoorafstand van die direkteur: sy voorspelbare heftige reaksie op 'onverantwoordelike personeel' was te wagte.

Een van die take op ons pligstaat was om 'vakkundige voorligting' aan openbare bibliotekarisse te verleen. Die meeste nuwe streekbibliotekarisse het nie juis geweet hoe dit agter die toonbank van 'n openbare biblioteek gaan nie en nog minder wat hul rol as vakkundige voorligters inhou. Dit moet ook in gedagte gehou word dat die meeste openbare bibliotekarisse destyds oor geen naskoolse opleiding beskik het nie. Dit was een van my doelstellings om aandag aan hierdie leemte te skenk en ek het 'n handleiding, *Handboek vir openbare biblioteke* saamgestel, wat wyd gebruik is. Dit was bevredigend om kennis en praktiese ervaring terug te ploeg.

My tyd in die Noord-Kaap was 'n wonderlike, maar noodsaaklik en praktiese leerskool vir die uitdagings wat in die Kaapse hoofkantoor op my sou wag. Ek moet spesiaal melding maak van die lojaliteit, toewyding en welwillendheid van openbare bibliotekarisse, personeel van plaaslike owerhede, maar in die besonder van ons eie personeel van alle range, wat ek nooit sal vergeet nie.

HOOFKANTOOR

Ek verhuis vanaf Kimberley na Kaapstad en aanvaar op 1 Februarie 1979 diens in hoofkantoor in die nuut-geskepte pos van assistentdirekteur — wat groot aanpassing geverg het. Dit was waarskynlik net so moeilik en ongemaklik vir die destydse bestuursspan wat bestaan het uit die direkteur en drie hoofbibliotekarisse: ek het nou 'n gebied betree wat vir baie jare ongesteurd was en vir vernuwing was dit nog nie tyd nie.

Een van my eerste groot opdragte was om in oorleg met die provinsiale regsadviseur bestaande bibliotekewetgewing te hersien en aan te pas, waar nodig. Die eerste was die Bibliotekeregulasies van 1955. Die volgende en belangrikste was ongetwyfeld die Ordonnansie van 1955, met ingrypende veranderinge: die skraping van die apartheidsklousule, asook ook om die provinsiale bibliotekadviesraad se samestelling meer verteenwoordigend te maak. Die nuwe wetgewing het dit, onder andere, nou moontlik gemaak om die bibliotekgebou-subsidieskema na alle gemeenskappe uit te brei.

My bestuurspos in hoofkantoor het ook behels dat direk met politici geskakel word. Antwoorde op navrae en klagtes van die publiek en plaaslike owerhede en bydraes vir toesprake was aan die orde van die dag — daar is, byvoorbeeld, 90 nuwe bibliotekgeboue in die tydperk 1976 tot 1985 geopen, die meeste daarvan deur politici waarvoor bydraes vir toesprake verweg is.

Wanneer die begrotingsdebat in die destydse Provinsiale Raad ter tafel gelê en gedebatteer is, moes ons teenwoordig

wees. 'n Paar uur voor die Bibliotekediens aan die beurt kom, moes ek en die direkteur reeds bo in die klein openbare gallery ons plekke inneem, maar net voor die Bibliotekediens aan die beurt kom is ons af na die amptenaarslosie, reg agter die banke van die Administrateur en die vier Lede van die Uitvoerende Komitee. Terug na die klein gallery: Di Bishop van die Progressiewe Party was destyds hul woordvoerder oor biblioteke en sy was 'n skerp debatteerder. Wanneer sy die Bibliotekediens se jaarverslag uithaal en daardeur begin blaai, het Mnr Morris ongemaklik op die bank begin rondskuif. Hy het soms sy hand in sy baadjie se binnesak gesteek en ongemerk sy asmapompie gebruik en gesê: 'Ek voel nie lekker nie, jy kan mos daai vrou hanteer.' Dit was gewoonlik nie moeilik om vrae in die debat oor die Bibliotekediens skriftelik te beantwoord nie. Hierdie antwoorde moes binne minute aan mnr Willem Bouwer, Lid van die Uitvoerende Komitee vir Biblioteke, aangegee word, wat dit dan hardop aan die vraesteller in die Raad voorgelees het.

Die spreekwoord lui dat daar niks nuuts onder die son is nie en dit is juis van toepassing noudat ontlastingsstrooiery deur ontevredeenes aan die orde van die dag is. Een van die senior personeellede in hoofkantoor het vermoed dat hul busbestuurder bedags, wanneer hy nie die bus bestuur nie en pligte op kantoor moes verrig, met bedrywighede buite die kantoor besig was — 'n 'alternatiewe' werk. Vroeg die oggend nadat hy gekonfronteer is, kom die betrokke senior personeellid na my kantoor en rapporteer dat menslike ontlasting voor haar kantoordeur geplaas is. Toe die Bibliotekediens se administratiewe beamppte die betrokke busbestuurder konfronteer, het hy bedank. Hierdie 'onwelriekende' insident was een van die minder aangename voorvalle.

Een van die mees komiese voorvalle in hierdie tyd was tydens 'n besoek van 'n afvaardiging van die nasionale bibliotek van Transkei. Transkei was destyds 'n 'onafhanklike land' en die twee belangrike besoekers is vanselfsprekend met die nodige gasvryheid verwelkom en rond gewys. Na 'n paar minute in die direkteur se kantoor sien ek hulle begin verveeld raak, hulle skuif rond op hulle stoele en kyk eers na die vloer en dan na die mure van die kantoor. Mnr Morris word so tussendeur sy statistiek oor die Bibliotekediens ewe skielik onderbreek met 'n onverwagte vraag: 'Sorry sir, what is your salary and what is the size of your office?' Die direkteur word bleek en al wat hy uitkry, is: 'Sorry, you will have to excuse me, I have to go, this man will answer all your questions.' Dit was werklik snaaks.

DIREKTEUR

Ek het op 1 Augustus 1985 direkteur geword toe mnr Morris aan die einde van Julie uitgetree het.

Dit is dalk nodig om die bestuurstyl van die voorafgaande twintig jaar wat as 'uiters versigtig' en 'konserwatief' beskou is, in perspektief te stel. Mnr Morris is in 1964 aangestel nadat dr Theo Friis, die vorige direkteur, bedank het tydens 'n ondersoek in 1963 na 'beweerde onreëlmatighede aangaande die Bibliotekediens'. Volgens bevindings in die ondersoek het hy die 'Provinsiale Bibliotekediens aansienlike skade berokken' en 'die oortredings wat hy begaan het, was van ernstigste aard, ofskoon, wat sy eie voordeel betref, nie van 'n aansienlike omvang nie.' 'Die dryfveer was sy grenslose ambisie soos verpersoonlik deur sy aangryping van status-simbole.'

Na die ondersoek het die Provinsiale Administrasie verskeie beheermaatreëls spesifiek van toepassing op die

Biblioteekdiens, ingestel, waaronder gereelde verslaglewering aan die Administrateur oor die aankoop van biblioteekmateriaal. Al hierdie beperkings is aan die einde van 1985 opgehef.

Dit was nou die aangewese tyd om finaal onder die skadu van die Friis-debakel uit te kom want uitdagings en geleenthede was onbeperk. Dit was natuurlik nie sonder enkele laagtepunte aan die einde van my loopbaan nie.

Biblioteekgebruik en aanvraag vir nuwe boeke het vinniger toegeneem as waarin voorsien kon word. Die provinsiale owerhede het simpatiek gereageer nadat die knelpunte onder hul aandag gebring is en binne vyf jaar is die begroting van die Biblioteekdiens met meer as 200% verhoog. Dit het gelei tot dramatiese uitbreidings: personeelgetalle is op alle vlakke versterk, die instelling van nuwe openbare biblioteekdienste is versnel en op hoofkantoor is 'n nuwe inligtingsdiens met 'n biblioteek ingestel, asook 'n navorsings- en beplanningsafdeling – uiteraars doeltreffende nuwe dienste. Waar 284,000 nuwe boeke in 1985 aangekoop is, het hierdie syfer in 1988 meer as verdubbel tot 691,000 en het dit vir die volgende aantal jare meer as 600,000 beloop.

So tussendeur die bedrywighede op hoofkantoor was daar ook ligter oomblikke. Ek vergesel mnr Deon Adams, die LUK vir biblioteke, op besoek aan Burgersdorp vir samesprekings met die plaaslike owerheid vir die instelling van 'n tweede openbare biblioteek. Weens die LUK se druk program kon hy nie die lang rit per motor onderneem nie en ek word versoek om te reël vir vliegkaartjies na Bloemfontein, asook om 'n motor op die lughawe te huur. Soos versoek deur sy sekretaresse, moes dit 'n 'BM' of 'n 'Merc' wees, hierdie keer was dit 'n 'BM.' Ek bestuur die motor vanaf Bloemfontein se lughawe en word versoek om 'voet in die hoek te sit': ons mag nie laat vir die vergadering wees nie. Net voor Reddersburg word ons deur 'n verkeersbeampte voorgekeer – ons het glo die spoedgrens oorskry. Ek klim gou uit en verduidelik aan die beampte dat ek die motorbestuurder van die Minister van Biblioteke in Kaapland is en dat ons 'n dringende afspraak moet nakom. Die arme man skrik hom boeglam, druk sy boekie vinnig terug in sy sak, buk vriendelik oor na die LUK se kant en wens hom 'n voorspoedige rit toe.

Opleiding het hoë prioriteit geniet en afgesien van die standaard-opleidingsprogramme was daar spesiale hoogtepunte. Vir die Biblioteekdiens se eie personeel is verskeie inligtingseminare aangebied waaronder een oor strategiese beplanning. Vir openbare bibliotekaris was die hoogtepunte 'n seminar *In diens van die gemeenskap* en nasionale simposiums soos *Jaar van die Leser* in Bellville se biblioteek en *Inligting vir almal* by die Waterfront, Kaapstad. By albei simposiums was internasionale sprekers betrek en albei is deur die administrateur van die provinsie geopen. 'n Reeks simposiums vir stadsklerke en verteenwoordigers van plaaslike owerhede is dwars oor die provinsie gehou waarin die verantwoordelikhede van alle rolspelers ten opsigte van openbare biblioteke breedvoerig bespreek is.

'n Uiteraars belangrike mylpaal is in 1990 bereik, toe goedkeuring na jare lange onderhandelings en ondersoeke uiteindelik verleen is om die Biblioteekdiens toe te laat om te rekenariseer. Die destydse Staatsdienskommissie in Pretoria wou nie ons aanvanklike versoek goedkeur nie. Twee ander provinsiale biblioteekdienste het reeds oor 'gerekenariseerde stelsels' beskik en ons is versoek om hulle stelsels te oorweeg. Hierdie 'stelsels' was inderwaarheid niks meer as 'n

gerekenariseerde katalogus nie en was nie aanvaarbaar nie. Ons het aangedring op 'n allesomvattende stelsel wat ook openbare biblioteke insluit en ons versoek is aanvaar nadat ons talle kere Pretoria toe moes reis vir motiverings.

Die Biblioteekdiens se eerste groot deurbraak in bemarking het in 1988 gekom ter ondersteuning van die veldtog *Ontdek 'n nuwe wêreld in jou biblioteek*. Vir die eerste keer ooit is twee uitgawes van die **Kaapse Bibliotekaris** in volkleur uitgegee en die Biblioteekdiens se plakkate en ander brosjures is selfs na die ander drie provinsiale biblioteekdienste versprei. Dié opwindende veldtog se hoogtepunt was ongetwyfeld die redakteur van die **Kaapse Bibliotekaris** se deelname aan 'n televisieprogram. Die daaropvolgende jaar is opgevolg met 'n ewe suksesvolle televisie-uitsending oor die viering van openbare Biblioteekweek in ons provinsie en die Biblioteekdiens se bemarkingsmateriaal is weer landwyd gebruik. Hierna was dit bykans vanselfsprekend dat die Biblioteekdiens bemarkingsmateriaal namens die hele land beplan vir die jaarlikse viering van Biblioteekweek. Die sukses van al hierdie bemarkingsveldtogte word duidelik gestaaf deur groeiende ledetalle en sirkulasie: jaarlikse boeksirkulasie het binne agt jaar met 46% tot meer as 22 miljoen toegeneem en biblioteke se ledetal met 34%. Die Biblioteekdiens het ook wye lof en erkenning ontvang van politici, senior amptenare en selfs van talle biblioteke in die buiteland.

Dié beplanning het vereis dat diep gedelf moes word vir idees, selfs tot in die stort. Een dag kom die hoof van die publikasie-afdeling by my kantoor ingestorm, en sê ewe kordaat: 'Asseblief, 'n vriendelike versoek, gaan huis toe en stort sommer vir lank, ons soek dringend idees vir 'n plakkaat.' (Ek het onthou dat ek een keer vir haar genoem het dat ek 'n idee vir 'n plakkaat gekry het terwyl ek onder die stort gestaan het!)

Afgesien van mev Martha Olckers, die Minister van Onderwys en Kultuur, se mislukte Westag-onderzoek, was die laagtepunt van my loopbaan ongetwyfeld toe die Biblioteekdiens 'verdeel' moes word en hoe hierdie proses afdwing is. Na die algemene verkiesing in 1994 is Kaapland in vier nuwe provinsies verdeel: Wes-Kaap, Noord-Kaap en Oos-Kaap, terwyl 'n klein gedeelte by die nuwe Noord-Wes provinsie ingedeel is. Daar is besluit dat bevolkingsgetalle die basis van verdeling van die Kaapse Provinsiale Administrasie moes vorm. Hierdie formule was uiteraars diskriminerend teenoor die Wes-Kaap, wat opdrag ontvang het om 45% van sy poste op hoofkantoor aan die ander nuwe provinsies af te staan en het dramatiese en bykans rampspoedige gevolge gehad, vir personeel sowel as dienslewering. Die moraal en onderstromings wat hierdie ontwrigting tot gevolg gehad het, was traumaties.

Ten spyte van direkte skriftelike verdoë en persoonlike besoeke aan die Direkteur-Generaal, Mev Olckers en Premier Hrnus Kriel, is paai-beloftes gedoen vir bykomende personeel – dit het ongelukkig net by beloftes gebly en die biblioteekdiens is bykans aan sy eie lot oorgelaat. Om die gevoel in daardie stadium op te som, haal ek aan uit my brief van 29 Mei 1995 aan die Direkteur-generaal: 'Die formule van verdeling was uiteraars diskriminerend teenoor die Wes-Kaapse Biblioteekdiens. In ooreenstemming met standaard praktyke en veral in die gees van die huidige tydperk van deursigtigheid is aanvaar dat daar met rolspelers oorleg gepleeg sou word voordat enige besluit met verrykende gevolge vir die direkte rolspeler geneem word. Die Biblioteekdiens is egter heeltemal

oor die hoof gesien.’

Agterstande in hoofkantoor het krisafmetings begin aanneem en openbare bibliotekaris en selfs vrywilligers van buite die beroep het kom help om onder andere nuwe boeke uit te pak. Die voorbladberig van die *Argus* op 20 Januarie 1996 met ’n foto waar ek besig is om boeke uit te pak om te help om die bibliotekediens se agterstande te probeer inhaal, was teleurstellend. Die hoofopskrif het gelui ‘CAPE LIBRARY CHAOS’ en onderskrif ‘Angry staff would like to see the book thrown at management for their handling of the crisis’. Ek was nie bewus van ’n fotograaf wat foto’s geneem het terwyl ek boeke uitgepak het nie, nog minder van enige onderhoud wat ek toegestaan het nie. In die berig word ek aangehaal, asook van een van die bestuurslede van die Bibliotekediens met selfs kommentaar en aantying deur ’n voormalige personeellid. My besluit om daardie bepaalde oggend boeke uit te pak, het ek op die ingewing van die oomblik geneem en dit was nie moeilik om die bibliotekediens se ‘*Argus*-informant’ op te spoor nie. Die administratiewe beampte het destyds rekenaaruiddrukke ontvang van alle telefoonoproepes vanuit die hoofkantoor, die tyd wanneer dit gemaak is sowel as tydsduur sodat geld ingevorder kon word vir privaatoproepes. Dit is selde dat ’n bibliotekaris die voorblad van ’n koerant haal en ek glo dat ek en Theo Friis se gedeelde ‘rekord,’ lank sal staan.

Terug by politici. Mev Olckers het nie teenstand geduld nie. ’n Paar dae nadat sy ’n prestige-uitstalling van Suid-Afrikaanse grafiese werke uit die Bibliotekediens se sentrale versameling in Bellville se kunsgalery amptelik geopen het, bel een van haar sekretaresses my met die versoek dat ‘Mevrou’ 70 skilderye vir haar kamers wil hê.’ Sy het haar oog waarskynlik op die pragtige werke gehad wat sy by die uitstalling gesien het. Ek sê vir die sekretaresse dat die kunswerke vir uitstalling in biblioteke bedoel is, maar dat sy dit vir ses maande kan leen, waarna dit omgeruil sal moet word en ook dat daar ’n kennisgewing by die werke aangebring sal moet word dat dit vir bibliotekuitstallings geleen kan word. Ek kry kort hierna ’n oproep van Mev Olckers: ‘Hoe durf jy voorwaardes aan my stel, ek klim sommer in my kar en gaan sien jou reg.’ Ek wonder tot vandag toe nog wat so ’n ‘regsiening’ sou behels!

’n Mens moet nooit die humorsin van ’n ernstige besoeker onderskat nie. Ek ontvang een dag besoek van ’n belangrike gas (hy was moderator van die kerk). My sekretaresse nooi hom binne en terwyl ons met samesprekings besig is, vra die sekretaresse of ek sal omgee, ’n personeellid (die redakteur van die **Kaapse Bibliotekaris**) wil graag dringend iets met my bespreek. Toe sy uitstap, sê die eerbiedwaardige dominee droogweg, maar met ’n vonkel in die oog: ‘Man, waar kry jy al die aantreklike vrouens wat hier werk, ek het lanklaas sulke mooi en boonop vriendelike dames gesien.’ Die sekretaresse was die mooie Mathilda en die ander aantreklike personeellid, ek het haar naam vergeet, maar glo dat sy vandag steeds die redakteur van die **Kaapse Bibliotekaris** is, o ja, nou onthou ek, dit is Grizell.

Die Bibliotekediens was in 1997, aan die einde van my loopbaan, waarskynlik een van die mees positief-sigbare instellings binne die Wes-Kaapse Administrasie met die grootste bewese steun, nie alleen uit alle ouderdomsgroepe nie, maar ook deur alle lede van die bevolking. Altesaam 27% van die Wes-Kaapse bevolking was geregistreerde biblioteklede, maar met slegs 9% van die land se bevolking,

het die Wes-Kaap oor 20% van alle openbare biblioteke in die land beskik en oor 26% van alle biblioteklede in die land.

Die grootste hoogtepunt waarop ’n mens kon hoop, was vir my om vir 31 jaar lank aan die provinsiale bibliotekediens verbonde te kon wees. Dit was nie alleen ’n stimulerende loopbaan nie, maar amper ’n stokperdjie wat ek geniet het. Spesiale erkenning moet aan die personeel van die bibliotekediens gegee word, want sonder hul ondersteuning, toewyding en lojaliteit sou geneen van die hoogtepunte ooit bereik kon word nie.



Johan Swiegelaar

Oud-Direkteur: Bibliotek- en Argiefdienste

Merkwaardig, nie alleen dat die **Kaapse Bibliotekaris** en die Wes-Kaapse Bibliotekediens reeds 60 jaar oud is nie maar dat die tydskrif sekerlik die beste vaktydskrif vir openbare biblioteke in Suid-Afrika is. Ons weet dat dit ook erkenning geniet buite ons landsgrense.

Wat sou hoogtepunte vir my wees in ’n 33 jaar lange verbintenis met Provinsiale Bibliotekdienste?

Vroeg in my loopbaan by die Kaapse Provinsiale Bibliotekediens en wel aan die einde van 1975, word ek die streekbibliotekaris van Georgerestreek. Hier het ek as jong vakkundige, saam met Linda van Zyl, streekbibliotekaresse in Mosselbaai, die voorreg gehad om onder leiding van Julie te Groen (Hoofbibliotekaresse: Oos-Kaap) ’n program te begin waarin volwaardige standaard-openbarebibliotekgeriewe sterk na benadeelde gemeenskappe in die Suid-Kaap uitgebrei is. Die mentorskap van Julie te Groen, asook medewerking met Linda van Zyl was vir my ’n baie groot beroeps- en persoonlike hoogtepunt. Dit is hier waar my groot liefde vir fisiese bibliotekbeplanning ontwikkel het en vasgelê is.

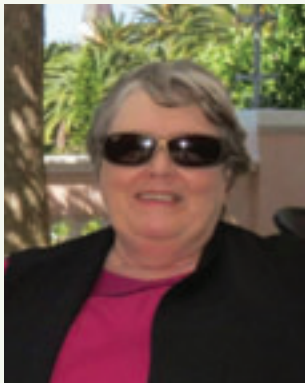
In dieselfde tyd het George Streekbibliotek ook die eerste in die diens geword wat die hou van aparte boekvoorraad gestaak het. Ongemerkt en met die goedkeuring van Julie te Groen is die boekvoorraad vir die streekbibliotek geïntegreer in een enkele funksionele voorraad.

’n Tweede hoogtepunt was met my terugkeer uit KwaZulu-Natal in 1986, toe die struktuur en dienslewering in die Kaapse Provinsiale Bibliotekediens grondig herskik en uitgebrei is onder leiding van Frans van der Merwe, destydse nuwe hoof van die Bibliotekediens. Die invloed hiervan is vandag nog waarneembaar.

’n Ander hoogtepunt is natuurlik die tydperk vanaf middel 1997 tot die begin van 2008, toe ek hoof van die Wes-Kaapse Bibliotekediens was. Hierdie periode is gekenmerk deur herbesinning en transformasie. Dit was uitdagend, druk en het ’n groot impak op die stelsel en personeel gehad. Heelwat kan gesê word oor hierdie nuwe en vars uitdagings. Streekforums is plaaslik ingestel, die keuringsfunksie is versterk deur die vestiging van die hoogs moontlike mate van deelnemende keuring. Intense betrokkenheid by en interaksie met die nasionale en plaaslike regeringssfeer oor grondwetlike

aspekte van openbare biblioteek-dienslewering, hersiene begrotingsbestuur, deelname in die bestuur van die Department Kultuursake en Sport het 'n gegewe geword, asook direkte en gereelde interaksie met bestuur op politieke vlak.

Dit was uiteraard 'n uitdagende tydperk, maar ook opwindend. Daar is egter een gemene deler in al hierdie hoogtepunte en dit is die ongelooflike gees en bydrae van die mense binne die Biblioteekdiens. Die groter geheel word altyd deur die individuele lede gedefinieer. Alle dank en waardering aan al die personeel — vanaf keurings- tot diensleweringvlak — sonder wie die bestuur van die Biblioteekdiens, asook effektiewe dienslewering nie moontlik sou wees nie. Dit op sigself het my verbintenis met die Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Biblioteekdiens een reuse groot hoogtepunt gemaak.



Liesel de Villiers

Min het ek geweet toe ek in 1983 in die Katalogiseringsafdeling van die Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Biblioteekdiens begin werk het, dat ek eers weer 26 jaar later by die deur sou uitstap.

Die katalogiseerders, met Shaen Hinchliff aan die hoof, het daardie dae as die *ice maidens* bekend gestaan.

Ons het maar daar gesit en werk en het ons nie eintlik bemoei met die res van die Biblioteekdiens se personeel nie. In 1985 het alles verander toe ek as hoofkatalogiseerder aangestel is en die *ice maidens* effens begin ontdooi het. Ek moes daardie jare die Katalogisering-, Voorbereiding- en Onttrekkingsafdelings behartig. Veral die Voorbereidingsafdeling was 'n uitdaging. Bon Gertz het die personeel daar al die jare onder haar vlerk geneem en dit was maar moeilik om in haar voetspore te volg. Boonop was ek so bang vir haar dat my Engelse woordeskat opgedroog het sodra ek met haar moes praat. Ná die vuurdoop het sy egter my mentor geword en vir my ongelooflike raad en ondersteuning gegee.

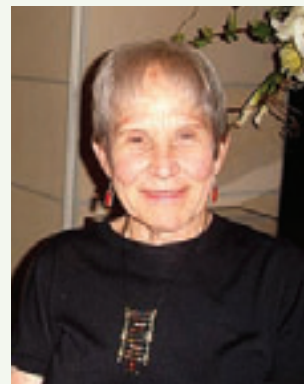
Die grootste gebeurtenis in die Biblioteekdiens se bestaan was in 1992, toe die PALS rekenaarsstelsel in gebruik geneem is. Die hele Biblioteekdiens is op sy kop gedraai en alles moes skielik herdink en nuwe werkswyses ontwikkel word. Hierdie jare was seker van die lekkerste tye van my loopbaan met al die nuwe dinge wat ons moes leer. Die beste ding was dat daar skielik groter samewerking tussen die Sentrale Organisasie en die Streekdiens moes wees, want daar was mos altyd so 'n effense gevoel van 'ons en hulle'. Dit het egter gou duidelik geword dat elke afdeling se werk 'n direkte impak op al die ander dele van die diens gehad het. Jy moes sorg dat jy jou werk reg doen of Delia O'Meara is losgelaat om jou reg te sien! Sal ek dan ooit die lekker tye van die PALS System Admin werkswinkels vergeet. Dit was 'n voorreg om die ander

provinsies se mense te ontmoet en van hulle is vandag nog Facebookvriende. Helaas is Paul Meyer en Jaco de Greeff, albei deel van die oorspronklike PALS-familie, die afgelope tyd oorlede.

My lekkerste herinnering aan die Biblioteekdiens is die personeel en van hulle is vandag nog vriende. Ek onthou veral hoe trots en lojaal almal was. Dit was vir ons belangrik om goeie diens te lewer en almal het saamgewerk. '109' soos hulle bekendgestaan het, was trots op die produk wat hulle voorberei het en het gesorg dat elke boek 'n 'meesterstuk' is.

Daar was maar moeilike tye met al die veranderings, onsekerheid oor die werk, probleme met die bestuur en begrotingstekorte, maar wat, ons het kop bo water gehou. Een van die grootste veranderings in die Biblioteekdiens was die samestelling van die bestuurkorps. In die 80's en vroeë 90's was die bestuurslede almal mans, al het vroue die grootste deel van die personeel uitgemaak. Alles het verander toe Zirkëa Ellis en Bon Gertz aangestel is en bestuursvergaderings was nooit weer dieselfde nie. Dinge het voorwaar verander met 'n vrou wat nou aan die hoof is en siedaar, die Biblioteekdiens gaan nog ongestoord voort!

Ek mis nog altyd die kameraderie en veral die lekker gelag — en hét ons nie gelag nie! Dit was somtyds die enigste manier om met die onsinnighede van die politici te 'cope'. En dan was daar die dae wat Elna Cecil by my kantoor instap en in 'n fluisterstem sê 'tussen jou en my', dan weet ek hier kom nou 'n sappige stukkie nuus! As ek terugdink, is dit duidelik dat die groot en belangrike veranderings en nuwe denkrigtings wat deur die jare plaasgevind het, nie so 'n groot deel van my herinneringe uitmaak nie. Ek onthou hoofsaaklik die snaakse dinge en aweregse mense wat deur die jare oor my pad gekom het en ek sal vir ewig dankbaar wees dat ek bevoorreg was om vir die Biblioteekdiens te werk. Ek dink nie enige ander werk sou soveel bevrediging ingehou het nie. My beste wense vir die volgende sestig jaar.



Rheina Epstein

The request from the editor of the *Cape Librarian* set me thinking how difficult it is to sum up my association with the Provincial Library Service — a relationship which encompasses not only the development over sixty years of both the Cape Provincial Library Service and Cape Town City Libraries but also the development of librarianship itself. The Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA) says it all.

Writing this is difficult because I am not one for nostalgia or looking back but yes, certain people and things do come to mind.

What is most important for me is you!

For many years I could talk about my editor — she of the **Cape Librarian** who offered me a platform to voice my opinions, thoughts, ideas, reports on anything pertaining to libraries. It is a pity one cannot measure the impact if any on one's readers. Yes, one can get immediate feedback but I mean long term.

Another important person was Julie te Groen — my mentor and mentor of many other young librarians. I wrote up my appreciation of her when mentorship was already being discussed in the magazine before it became an in-word.

I remember her comment 'it read like her obituary' to which my response was: 'How many people get to read their own obituary?'

Who is still around who remembers punched cards for record keeping? And the heavy ponderous machinery to process the information? All the stages of library automation that had to be lived through, but your magazine really made an effort to keep you readers informed, up to date and skilled.



Pendi Joerning

When Grizell asked me to write some of my memories of the Library Service I realised that I had worked there for 40 of the 60 years of its existence. These days it seems to be the norm to stay for as short a time as possible in a place of work and then move on to what one hopes are greener pastures. In those days respect and loyalty were a given — one was

a person and not just a number on a board. I worked under, and at some time or another for, Bon Gertz, Mary Kleinschmidt, Barbara Steele, Edna Fitzgerald and Julie te Groen whom I called The Big Five. They were amazing women and, I always felt, laid the foundation of what is now the Library Service. Don't get me wrong: they were not saints, and their little feuds were a source of great amusement to us all. However their loyalty and dedication to every aspect of the Service was greatly admired.

I started in March 1971, thanks to my sister who was then working in the Tracing Department. I was a dreadful civil servant and baulked at what I thought were their many stupid rules and regulations. I worked too fast and poor Miss Goosen really struggled to keep me busy, apart from which I really was a weird little *Rooinek*. We drew up endless lists, and what I thought was one of the daftest rules of all was having to write a memo to the head of a department to obtain permission to ask a member of their staff a question. The bane of all our lives were the people from Organisation and Management who sat next to you, breathing down your neck for a week in order to see how one did one's work. You were then sent a list of: 9.00-9.30: Stand on your head, 9.30-10.00: Clap your hands, et cetera, et cetera, which was promptly dropped in the nearest dustbin.

I was one of the fortunate ones who, during my time, worked

in practically every department, so life was never boring. Central Reference, East London Region, Publications, Bellville and Tygerberg Regions. I did book reviews, helped in the Film Library and ran 'my baby', the Hospital Street Depot, for more than 30 years. I was, I must admit, completely staggered after I had asked Bon Gertz and Mary Kleinschmidt if I could run the library and they agreed. I am sure I was a thorn in both their sides as I constantly broke the rules, but I must have done something right.

To name and describe all the, I suppose, thousands of people I met and worked with is an impossibility. Suffice to say most of them were extraordinary people who enriched my life and gave me love, laughter, tears and great joy. I can truthfully say that there were but a handful who crawled up my nose.

At 64 I decided enough was enough and that I had done my duty to the nation, so I left with no regrets and a lifetime of happy memories. I miss the people more than the work and still go in once a month to visit my beloved Sandy and Gerda and all the others who still welcome me with their huge hugs and warmth.

I can only wish the lovely Nomaza and all the people working for the great institution that is the Western Cape Library Service the very best for the next 60 years and may the sun continue to shine down on you all.



Freddy Ogterop

When I started work as a library assistant in the Bethlehem Region of what was then the Orange Free State back in 1960, I never imagined that I would spend the rest of my working life in libraries. It was supposed to be a temporary job, during which I could think about what I really wanted to do, but as with so many people before and after me,

once I discovered books I was lost as far as the real world was concerned. When I transferred to the George Region of the Cape Provincial Library Service (CPLS), another passion took over. I joined the newly formed film society and started watching many of the documentaries that the Library Service had bought. When I was offered another job, I thought I could use this and phoned Julie te Groen, who was then the assistant director of the CPLS in Cape Town. She knew of my interest in films and when she called back to ask if I could come and work in the Film Library, I eagerly accepted.

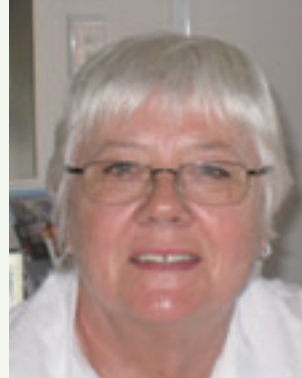
While I was in George, the head office was still based in what looked like an old warehouse in Keerom Street, but when I arrived in Cape Town in 1965, it had moved to an especially reinforced building in Chiappini Street. The problem was, no-one knew I was coming. I dutifully reported to the Film Library, where May Uys (always Mrs Uys to me) was in charge. She must have been surprised by the appearance of her new assistant,

but eventually things were sorted out. At lunchtime someone showed me where the canteen was, but afterwards I had great trouble finding the Film Library again. I hadn't realised that the building had two wings and after wandering around in corridors that all looked the same, I decided that I would leave the building and start from scratch, coming in via the main entrance. That worked.

I worked in the Film Library for a few months, learning to book titles on an elaborate card system, packing the 16mm prints up to send to our affiliated libraries and slowly getting the hang of repairing films that had been damaged. I learned to operate projectors (mostly clattering, but very reliable Siemens machines), as well as the large Harwald film checking machines which had been imported from the United States. I soon realised that there was no way you could advise borrowers on what to show if you hadn't seen the films, so I set myself the task of viewing everything I hadn't seen before. There was a proper auditorium with a projection booth, but it was easier to set up a projector between the shelves and show the film on the wall.

I think I must have shown that I was keen, because at some stage I was asked whether I would be interested in becoming the film selector — with a selection committee to guide me. And that's what I did for the next 40 years — with the format changing from 16mm via VHS to DVD. It was a mind-changing experience. I saw thousands of films on every possible subject, with the quality varying from the abysmal to the brilliant. When I retired in June 2006 we had built up a collection of some 13,500 titles, most of which I managed to see. And then there were all the others which, for various reasons — rights, politics, price, et cetera — we ended up not buying. In our heyday we issued more than 45,000 films a year (1984) and more than 564,000 videos (2003). In the process we have pleased many borrowers and probably infuriated some others — it is bad policy to always play it safe and everyone needs to be challenged. One of my most cherished moments was when I read an article in the *Mail and Guardian* by someone who had spent time in jail on Robben Island. He wrote that Mandela always enjoyed the film shows, especially the documentaries made available by the Cape Provincial Library Service. This was before he had been released, so at that stage there weren't too many people with whom I could share my sense of satisfaction.

So what do I owe the Library Service? First of all the opportunity to watch so many films which under other circumstances I would never had an opportunity to see. They introduced me to so many possibilities and made me aware of so many issues that I wanted to share with others. They also enabled me to work with many wonderful people who I valued as colleagues and some of whom I still see as friends. Since I retired I have been busy with a variety of projects, from working as an archivist and acting as a consultant to filmmakers and film festivals, to contributing to ESAT, the online Encyclopaedia of South African Theatre, Film, Media & Performance. I'm having a great time and some time ago I said to my wife that I should have been doing this all my life. And she very accurately pointed out that if it hadn't been for the Library Service, I wouldn't actually have been able to do any of these things.



Ilze Swart

I started my career at the Provincial Library Service on 1 December 1965. I was appointed as librarian-in-charge of Central Reference, which handled all special requests from the regions. After a week or so I said to my father that I was going back to university to study. Management of staff was not part of library training and at

the tender age of 20 I was ill equipped to deal with the motley crew I had to supervise. He told me to persevere, and it got better.

I have fond memories of Lorraine Witte, who taught me the basics of the job. I also met Rheina Epstein, then editor of the *Cape Librarian* and Emmarentia van der Merwe, who later went on to become deputy director of the Natal Provincial Library Service. When my immediate supervisor Lulu Leipoldt went on long leave, I reported to Bon Gertz, whom I came to regard as a mentor and whose decisive way of dealing with issues I tried to emulate.

Mr Fehrsen was in charge of periodicals. At lunch time on the day he retired, I was asked to find out what he did (read magazines most of the time, I think) so I could continue with the work until someone was appointed in his post.

From my office on the 4th floor I could see the newsflashes on the Sanlam (now Naspers) building. On 6 September 1966, my 21st birthday, a flash just after 14:00 reported that Dr Verwoerd had been assassinated in Parliament. Staff were told they could go home early. When the lift stopped, a man got out and said he was looking for a Miss Grivainis (my maiden name) as he had a car to deliver to her on her birthday.

My Central Reference team did the first ever stocktake of the books in the Central collection. We sat squeezed between compactus shelves and ticked off the accession numbers on lists. Danie Botha, later book editor and writer, was one of the team.

Bea Coetzee, head of the audiovisual department, left to become chief librarian at Bellville Public Library. She offered me a job as deputy at a higher salary than I was earning. I went to Mr Morris, the director of CPLS, told him I was very happy in my job and could he perhaps match the offered salary.

His words to me: 'Oh Mrs Swart (I had married by then) all you young married women go off and have babies. I can't justify giving you such an increase.' The rest, as they say, is history, as I spent the remainder of my career at Bellville Library and did not have any babies! I will remember Mr Morris for another quote. As librarian at Bellville I had gone to him to plead for more computer books, and he replied 'Oh, Mrs Swart, these computers are just a passing fad.'



Cape Librarian ... 60 years on



A touch of nostalgia by Grizéll Azar-Luxton

Tracing the history of the magazine has been a rather exciting experience. However, here and there the information is not all that clear and I enlisted the help of a former assistant director, Bon Gertz, who is currently on a long visit to America. In the earlier years she was very closely involved with the magazine and could shed some light. She tells a fascinating story of how it all started ...



Recalling the printing process: 'When we started the first issue [of the *Cape Librarian*], still in Keerom Street in Cape Town, we bought the printing machine, which was operated by a great old chap who came to join us after retiring as bar man to the Provincial Council. He was our storeman supervising book deliveries, named Oom Smuts.

'We produced and printed all the early issues of the magazine and then gradually were asked to print publications for other Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) departments who were using pricey commercial printers to do their work. Their volumes grew and in about 1960 the printer was moved over to the Wale Street building which was the start of the official CPA printing department.

'We [the Library Service] then had to wait our turn to get the magazine printed. It went well at first but, as their load grew we started being held up in the queue. We also didn't have the quality control and so finally, we decided to go for an outside printing contract.'

Recalling the editors: 'My early memory is of our small senior

Head Office group, led strongly by Dr Theo Friis, who used to put the magazine together. He was followed by Anthonie (Tonie) Roux, an author who had been the regional librarian in Vanrhynsdorp and who later came to Cape Town. He became editor for a time until he left the Service and Abraham de Vries took over.

'This was followed by a long spell of a colourful young single parenting woman, as I recall, Erica van Rensburg.

'After she left we pitched with some book selectors.'

In the interim we have, with Bon Gertz's help, established that Julie te Groen, who acted as director for a while between the appointments of Dr Theo Friis and Mr GR Morris, also helped with the magazine, followed by Rheina Epstein from 1965 until 1966. (Another name came out of the woodwork, namely Ms Margot Holt.)

She goes on to say: 'Stability was finally achieved with the appointment of Mary Kleinschmidt (1982-1986) who came from Goodwood Public Library and with her, a golden time for the journal.' She also makes mention of the then director, Frans van der Merwe, who always took a special interest in the magazine.

Mrs Kleinschmidt was followed by Zirkëa Ellis (1987-1992), an Afrikaans book selector who became editor, followed by Ieteke Oggel (April 1992-September 1992), Johanna de Beer (October 1992-December 1992) and finally Grizéll Azar-Luxton who is now so entrenched in the magazine she will soon be barcoded.

'The Publications Department always fell under the Central Organization in my time so I was closely involved and had great times all those years discussing copy, proof reading final copy and delighting in the outcome,' she says.

Great developments took place in the production of the magazine and the path it followed until today.

Currently: Sixty years later and the *Cape Librarian* remains a favourite amongst readers in the library and information world. Staff reductions have necessitated the production from a monthly magazine to a bi-monthly one as have budgetary restraints led to the reduction of the number of pages.

We share a selection of some firsts ...

November 1957

- Editor AP Roux
- Cover featured the bookvan – all in sepia colours
- First editorial written by the director, Dr Theo Friis
- Book reviews by reviewers H.L.O. and A.P.R.
- News of the regions
- Accessions – a total of 14 pages
- The way is paved to provide an audiovisual service
- The magazine appears monthly



December 1957

- Mention of first regional library: Vanrhynsdorp as well as of the first book van
- Staff news
- Photos are used



January 1958

- First front page photo of library: Kuilsrivier Library
- Mention made of non-white depots
- First mention of punch card system



June 1958

- First news item of a literary prize

July 1958

- First ever report on the effect of strikes

August 1958

- First printed apology for distributing magazine late (it happened then already ...)

September 1958

- First display article with the theme: *Dolls*. In those years there were 225 Austrian, German and Swiss dolls available to libraries for use in the displays

February 1959

- First publication of Public Library Standards
- Salaries of all staff levels are featured

March 1959

- First publication of *Painting of the month*: Vincent van Gogh's 'The L'Aulois Bridge at Arles'

April 1959

- First motto published on the cover: *We build a nation*, together with the national/Western Cape emblem



Owing to unforeseen circumstances it is regretted that The Cape Librarian has not reached you for the past two months as early as it should have.

January 1960

- New cover design

February 1960

- First introduction to the Service's art print collection in which the selection process, framing and transport, cataloguing and accessioning thereof are discussed

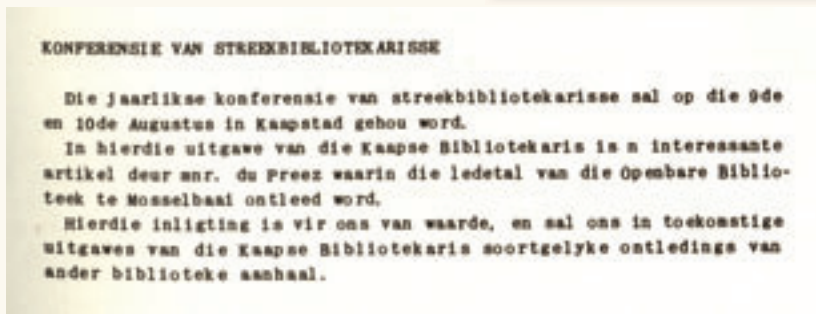
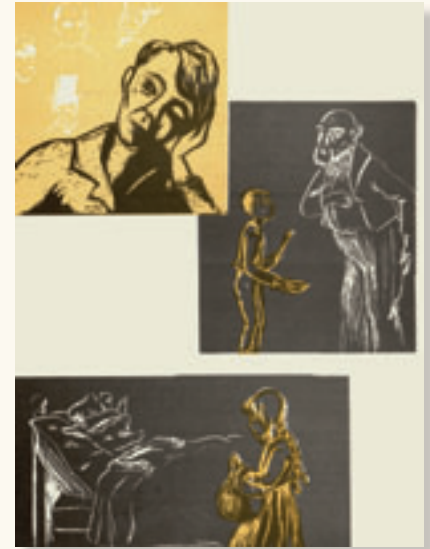
March 1960

- First editorial in which reference is made to specific articles in the magazine



December 1961

- First second colour illustrations



November 1962

- First survey done on readers' reasons for reading, what they read and why

December 1962

- First *Spotlight on SN* article appears: *Die feestafel onder die soeklig*



January 1963

- *People in the news*: news column featuring head office, regional and library staff activities
- A new series introducing the regions is started



February 1964

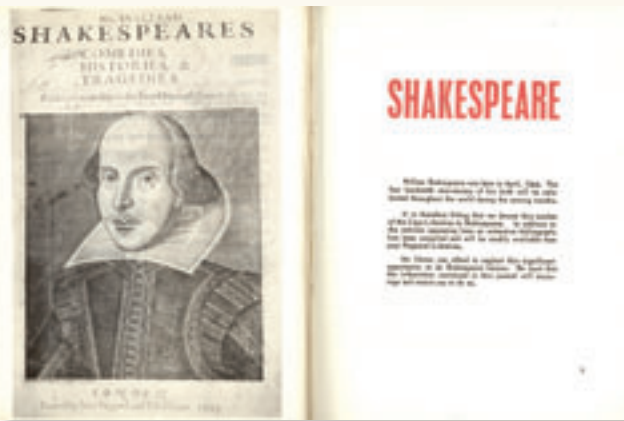
- Editorial by Mr GR Morris — as new director

March 1964

- For the first time one entire issue is devoted to a particular topic, in this instance, Shakespeare

March 1964

- Part of issue is devoted to the big move from Keerom Street to the new premises of the Library Service in Chiappini Street



January 1965

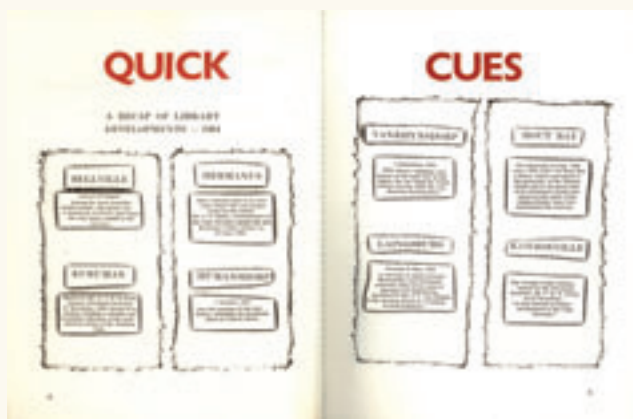
- Quick cues: Library developments in 1964

February 1965

- Layout of the *Contents* page changes

January 1966

- Big excitement! The layout style of the magazine changes slightly to include a few pages of gloss paper, and the *Far and wide News* column is printed on yellow paper
- Contributors are invited and any enquiries to the editor are mentioned on the contents page



February 1967

- First use of colour in the heading of an article: *The films of Halas & Batchelor* by Freddy Ogterop



November 1967

- Read the full story of how the Cape Librarian was started by the first editor AP Roux, on page 4 of the November/December issue, *Die begin van 'n nuwe tydskrif*

January 1968

- The magazine is produced monthly except in July and December when the June/July and November/December issues are combined

March 1968

- New series on people who had left the service: *Wat doen hulle nou?*



January 1969

- Magazine appears in new size format: 29 inches in depth. The design of the covers for the year remains the same but the font is printed in different colours

July 1969

- The first editorial since 1967 appears, this time in Afrikaans and English



January 1970

- The paper used for the cover is changed to gloss for the first time
- Very different layout style is used on the *Contents* page
- Interesting font change

April 1970

- First article on library service points provided to the army
- *Accessions* get a new look — from the title page to the layout



February 1971

- A different heavier grain paper with an expensive feel is used for the contents page
- Cape Provincial Library Service (CPLS) publications produced in January and February 1971 are advertised:
 - *Booklists and posters*: Bible stories, Mountain world and Humour.
 - *Bibliographies*: Onderwerppindeling van skrywers van Afrikaanse verhalende lektuur; Easy on the eyes: list of large print titles

September 1971

- Female staff of Uppington are featured in their official office uniforms



January 1974

- SA ISSN 0008-5790 is allocated and appears on the *Contents* page

January 1975

- The cover design undergoes quite a dramatic change from rather subdued designs to being very busy and striking



August 1977

- The *Book Review* article is printed in a second colour for the first time



November/December 1978

- The first *Annual Index* appears



January 1983

- The paper grammage of the cover increases substantially
- Editorial staff is mentioned on the *Contents* page

June/July 1983

- The use of borders on the layout style of articles is introduced
- The look of *Book Reviews* changes dramatically



January 1984

- The *Contents* page layout undergoes a complete facelift
- Paper changes to gloss throughout the magazine



January 1986

- The cover goes full colour but the design remains the same throughout the year
- The first editorial by the new director, Frans van der Merwe



January 1987

- A drawing is included in the new design for the *Contents* page
- The first word processor with computer functions is bought for the Promotions Section. The January 1987 edition of the *Cape Librarian* is the first edition compiled on this word processor

May 1988

- First special full colour issue
- The cover design of the magazine is put to good use and replicated on the posters designed for Library Week scheduled in May

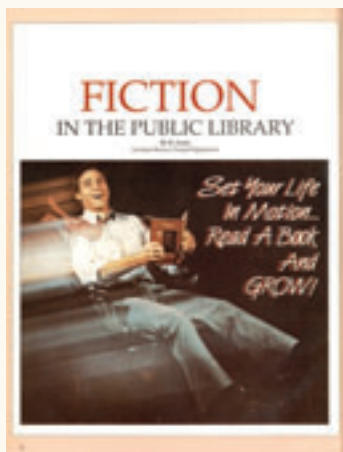
August 1988

- An unusual layout for the report-back on Library Week

September 1988

- A special full colour issue on new libraries



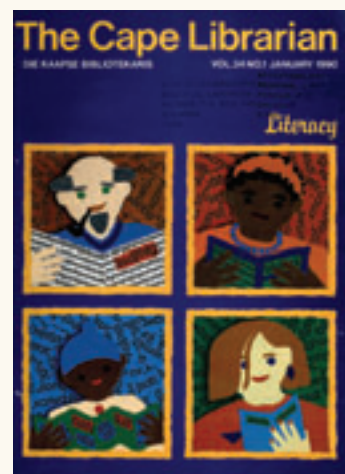


January 1989

- It is mentioned in the editorial that the magazine is being distributed to 132 international libraries
- A breakthrough — the use of six pages of full-colour!
- Another new development is the acquisition of a brand new desktop publishing system, Ventura, which will be used for the designing and layout of the Cape Librarian
- The *Accessions* column also gets a new look

January 1990

- The first handcrafted cover design — front and back — by graphic designer Meta Zöllner
- First acknowledgement on the *Contents* page that the magazine is indexed in LISA (Library and Information Science abstracts)
- Footlines on every page are introduced



January 1991

- First acknowledgement of the artist responsible for the cover design
- New column introduced: *In the market place / Nuut op die rak*

January 1992

- Clever use of typographical design for the cover by graphic designer Monica Wagner
- *Contents* page gets new look and is laid out over two pages



May 1990

- Publication of first three-dimensional posters with books as characters designed for Library Week



January 1992 (continued)

- Editorial column is now regularly written by the editor
- Two new editors in this year, leteke Oggel and Johanna de Beer
- The font is enlarged
- There is a variation in the use of three and four column articles
- Main articles are summarised in a second language
- New columns, *Passing my desk* and *Agenda* are introduced
- One page in the *News* is printed in colour
- The plastic library bags get a special mention
- *Book Review* layout changes



January 1993

- The new editor is Grizéll Azar-Luxton
- An innovative three-dimensional cover is handcrafted by Meta Zöllner, a section of which is repeated on the back cover



January 1994

- A new look for the magazine is created with the *Contents* page simplified.
- The new democratised South Africa suggests the main theme for the magazine for the year, *Information for all*
- The cover design is sculpted from clay by Monica Wagner with a prominent "I" depicting *Information*
- The "I" is also incorporated on every page in the masthead for the whole year
- The *Contents* page sports a new look and articles to be featured in the following issue are highlighted on the contents page



- The *News* column is moved to the beginning of the magazine
- New regular columns are introduced: *Training*, *Spotlight on SN*, *Library profile* and *Calendar*
- A Christmas message appears on the back page for the first time



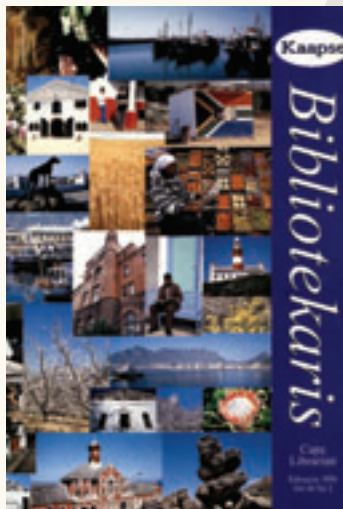


January 1995

- Great fun was had by staff who participated in the creation of the new cover by donating miniature items to fill a printers tray — the result was a delightfully rich and interesting cover.
- New columns appear: *Libraries – near and far; How to ...; Across the world; Special services and New Publications*

January 1996

- Armed with cameras the editor and the two graphic designers set off in different directions of the Cape Province to capture special images and moments typical of the Cape to produce the cover design. The result is a cover with plenty images for reminiscing



August 1996

- The restructuring of the provincial library services is in the spotlight — a topic that caused tremendous upheaval in the Service



- In an unusual interview former director Frans van der Merwe talks to the very famous artist, Willie Bester, as the Service also stocks some of his artworks

November/December 1996

- Editorial staff is dwindling as can be seen by the mournful Christmas message on the back page

January/February 1997

- A new era is entered and the magazine is now published bi-monthly.
- This time the cover design features the relief panels in stone by Lippy Lipshitz along the façade of the Head Office building facing onto Hospital Street in Cape Town. Each panel has two figures in profile turning inwards depicting various aspects of the arts, viz music, literature, dance, drama, painting and photography
- The design of the *Contents* page changes significantly to make way for a clean and fresh look
- At the time of writing the editorial the noon gun fired off a 21 gun salute — to celebrate the fact that Cape Town was on the short list to host the Olympic Games
- The *Book Review* layout changes
- It is also the time when the loss of very many of the Library Service's professional staff is reported
- The first introduction of a column, *National Days*, that is still featured today



November/December 1997

- A special feature on the Centre for the Book is published

January/February 1998

- The cover features the large, exquisitely detailed mosaic panel designed for the entrance foyer by the artist, Eleanor Esmonde-White in the Head Office building in Chiappini Street. The mural depicts typical Cape features — vines, grapes and Dutch gables. The rest of the year's covers each feature a detail of the mosaic panel
- A new *Internet* column is started.



- The South African Woman of the Year, Ester Sibanyoni, a librarian, is introduced to readers

May/June 1998

- A sigh of relief escapes the lips of the editorial staff when Janine de Villiers re-joins the much depleted editorial staff
- The achievement of being awarded the Fellowship of the South African Institute of Librarians by an icon in the library world, Ilze Swart, is featured



January/February 1999

- As the Head Office building was built in the 1960s — the heyday of the apartheid era, a second entrance had to be included in the design. Featured on the cover is the mosaic panel designed for this entrance by the artist Eleanore-Esmonde White
- Two new columns are introduced: *Trends* and *Computalk*
- The layout of *Book Accessions* changes substantially, as does *Book Reviews*
- A very important first — a Millennium issue is produced and is so indicated on the cover

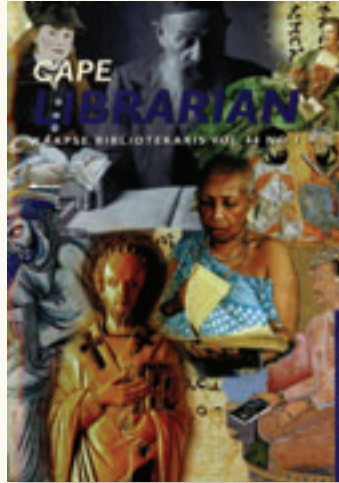


September/October 1999

- Speculation is rife and former deputy director Liesel de Villiers asks the question: *Y2K Will we stop the bug ... and live happily ever after?* One of the predictions is that past midnight 2000 there will be no electricity — well, that one has come true in an odd kind of way ...

January/February 2000

- The year 2000 is an Eureka moment on the path of progress for the Cape Librarian. For the first time ever adequate funding has been secured for the production of a different full colour cover for every issue — a moment that the editor had strived for for many years. To celebrate the new millennium (which came and went without a bang), collages reflecting readers of many nations, cultures and creeds throughout the last millennium are used in the cover design
- The layout of the *Contents* page also changes and the look and feel of the magazine undergoes some changes to celebrate a new era, namely the use of more white space, a lighter typeface and new layout styles for the columns
- An exciting new column is introduced, *Bookworld*, still going today, in which authors and book discussions by reading circles are featured with a focus on genres and accompanying booklists
- Focus also changes in the content of the *Computalk* column to that of news about the Internet and web sites — yes, we have finally succumbed to the world of the Internet
- This is also the year that the Cape Librarian goes online for the first time!



July/August 2000

- A month of firsts ... the first time we feature a restaurant, but one with a difference, Topsis's in Franschoek, where good food, books and quality art works live happily together
- A new addition to the *News* is *40 years ago ...* by Stefan Wehmeyer (still ongoing)
- A discussion is featured on the then much younger Francois Bloemhof with an interesting bit of detail: His book, *Hostis*, published in 1999 by Quellerie, was the first book in the world with an original soundtrack on CD. Fifteen years later Bloemhof is one of the regular contributors to the magazine in the column, *The last word*



November/December 2000

- We succumb to the pressures of modern technology and feature an in-depth article on electronic bookshops



January/February 2001

- The cover this year features well-known South African authors and poets
- A description of the cover is included on the *Contents* page
- After a restructuring process, Library and Archive Services became a new directorate. Johan Swiegelaar is appointed in the post of director
- A new column, *Between the lines*, is introduced and written by a former book selector, Cecily van Gend, for the next seven years

September/October 2001

- In the *Editorial* reference is made to 9/11, that most shocking event that may have changed the face of the world forever

November/December 2001

- Three authors are approached to share their best reads of the previous millennium, one of which is Daniel Hugo. Fifteen years later Hugo is again one of the regular contributors to the magazine in the column *The last word*



January/February 2002

- We strike it lucky and manage to secure an international award-winning illustrator, Piet Grobler, to design the cover, illustrating the themes *Theatre and Opera, Children's literature, Crafts, Adult literature, The Arts and Music*
- For the first time authors of the main articles are featured on the *Editorial* page

November/December 2002

- The editor's photo changes monthly
- Reference is made of the pages on which articles appear that are referred to in the editorial
- Announcement of the change in the national dates for Library Week from the first two weeks in May of every year to the week of the 20th of March for future celebrations



January/February 2003

- Talented and multi-skilled artist Craig Cockcroft's ingenious interpretation of the themes *Theatre and Opera, Adult literature, Children's literature, The Arts, Music and Technology* sculpted in clay is the style of this year's cover



July/August 2003

- Harry Potter fever has gripped SA and the processing story appears in the *News* of how the 353 copies that arrived early on Monday 23 June, at lunchtime were unpacked, catalogued and allocated and by Wednesday despatched to the Head Office regions whilst the rest went by rail to the outside regions – an amazing achievement!



January/February 2004

- A most unusual cover design created by Monica Wagner, graphic designer, with nature and the 26 letters of the alphabet that form the basis of communication, as inspiration
- An unusually frank discussion by sub-editor Janine de Villiers on the magazine, *Our hidden agenda*, is a first in reminding readers why we exist



September/October 2004

- The Congress of the International Board on Books for Young Children (IBBY) is hosted for the first time ever in Cape Town and we are in the fortunate position to publish the keynote address by Elwyn Jenkins

January/February 2005

- The cover design this year involves testing readers' powers of observation to determine how many different letters and punctuation marks are used per cover. A competition is launched to 'see how sharp you are' and the winner can win a year's free subscription to the magazine.



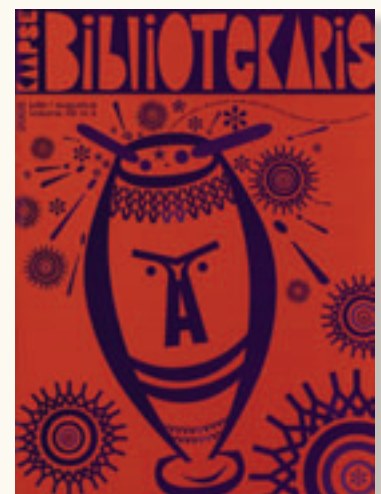
- The *Contents*, *Editorial* pages as well as *Book Reviews* have a facelift
- Great excitement – we are now in a position to use two second colours in the layout. The dream towards the use of full colour throughout the magazine never abates ...

May/June 2005

- The lid is lifted on how South African librarians conspired in the years 1955-1971 by burning books
- A representative of the AES South African Friends of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Sue Fox gives readers insight into this fantastic library in Alexandria, Egypt

November/December 2005

- Article by the then director, Johan Swiegelaar and then assistant director Stefan Wehmeyer on The Western Cape Library Service – looking back after 50 years



January/February 2006

- The cover is a gastronomic book delight: Books and reading nourish the mind. *Books are brain food, knowledge is nourishment and puns are pudding.* The images used for the year convey this visual pun. Putting the covers together was a wonderful experience between the creators of the cover and the editorial team that involved some very creative thought processes. The first edition for the year portrays *A midsummer meal in a meadow.* This is followed by *'Potjiekos' on a word flame,* a delicious *Letter ribbon pasta meal,* a *Newspaper 'boereworsbraai',* *Sweet temptations* and a *Romantic candlelight dinner* with the main course — a book!



- Another breakthrough: full colour on the contents page
- A special feature on the City of Cape Town's Library Services
- Amadeus Mozart's 250 year anniversary is widely covered

July/August 2006

- The Cape Town Book Fair, a first for South Africa, is covered by erstwhile editor, Rheina Epstein

November/December 2006

- A first: festive season messages from management



January/February 2007

- The cover is a surrealistic design that hints at the rich rewards that the Dewey Classification system reveals.
- The magazine is 50 years old and in every issue of 2007 a discussion and pictorial 'reflection' of every ten years of the Service and the magazine are featured.
- 100 years of the Centre for the Book building is celebrated

September/October 2007

- An explanation in the editorial why the magazine was distributed late — it had been hit by a virus — not a common virus — one that even gobbled up the antivirus program

November/December 2007

- Despite the 50 year celebration staff morale at the magazine is at an all time low having had to say goodbye to two of its key role players — the sub-editor, Janine de Villiers, and the graphic designer, Monica Wagner. Added to that it also featured the last contributions of two of its regular contributors, Cecily van Gendt and Charl September



January/February 2008

- Computer images relating to the world of books are part of the cover design
- We say a final goodbye to our director, Johan Swiegelaar, who leaves the Service after 33 years in provincial library services, as well as to Marianne Elliott who entertained us regularly in the *Arts* column
- An extensive booklist is published to celebrate former President Nelson Mandela's 90th birthday



May/June 2008

- Our new director, Nomaza Dingayo is featured
- A selected list of 100 children's picture books written/illustrated by South Africans or non-South Africans living in South Africa is published

July/August 2008

- At long last — a new graphic designer, Olivia Peach, joins the editorial team

September/October 2008

- The revamped Central Library is featured — truly a centre for excellence for all Capetonians

January/February 2009

- The year that everybody on the editorial team has been waiting for — finally we can print in full colour — all the pages! It is indeed a celebration
- The cover depicts the theme, *Libraries open windows to knowledge*, and the January issue focusses on *Fashion through the decades*. Topics for the rest of the year were *Education, Nature, Sport and Technology*
- The layout style for the magazine is completely revamped, starting with the *Contents* page

March/April 2009

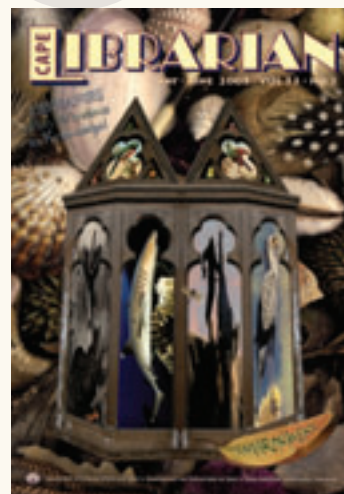
- Not only does a virus attack the computers, this time it devours an entire laid-out magazine, as well as the backup files on the network

May/June 2009

- The Bologna Bookfair is featured — a first ever report back and done by Brenda Kyle from City Libraries, who in the following issue writes on the London Bookfair — also a first

September/December 2009

- Due to the immense pressure on the editorial team having no access to computers for approximately seven months, two issues of the magazine have to be combined
- Although it is the task of the editorial team to provide the regular *Display* article, instead, a number of very creative displays from Swellendam Library are featured



January/February 2010

- The cover design for the year is simple yet elegant and features birds, starting with the first design, *Peace @your library*, followed by *Discover @your library*, *Music @your library*, *Friends @your library*, *Creative @your library* and *Festive @your library*
- In the early 2010s established actors became known for making big-budget 'masala' entertainers that were major commercial successes. An article on the Service's DVD stock of Bollywood movies is featured for the first time.
- The start of a new series, *Insider's View*, which ultimately would be compiled as a marketing brochure

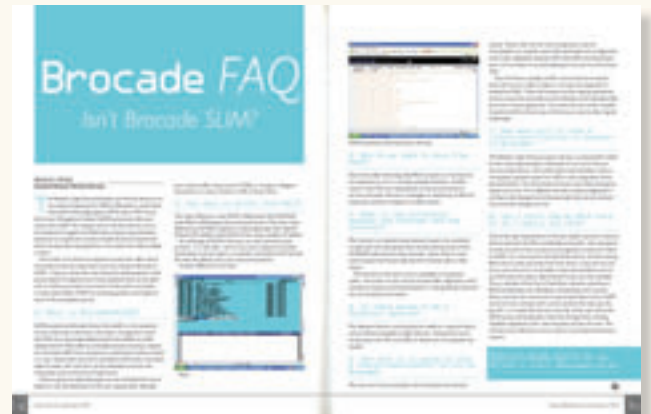


May/June 2010

- After nearly twenty years on the PALS system the Library Service is about to migrate to SLIMS, the new Library and Information Management System (SITA) powered by Brocade. To allay some fears and uncertainties Bradley Meyer, assistant director, answers some questions
- Soccer fever has gripped the world but more so Cape Town. The topic is extensively covered, from the editorial to the Library Week displays

November/December 2010

- The Head of Department (HOD), Mr Brent Walters writes the editorial in the final issue for the year.
- Best reads 2010 features well-known people's choices such as the premier, Ms Helen Zille, Former chairman of Naspers, Ton Vosloo, author Dr Riana Scheepers, and others



January/February 2011

- The theme this year is *All things literate* and features relevant embossed slogans on the covers
- The start of a new series, *File 13*

March/April 2011

- *2,000 Wes-Kaapse gebruikers stem ...* for the best 100 books of the decade with the winner, against all odds, not an international bestseller but an Afrikaans title, *Dis ek, Anna* by Anchien Troskie

September/October 2011

- The first Open Book Festival held in Cape Town is reported on



January/February 2012

- Ever since the first edition of the magazine, the design of the masthead has continuously changed. This year a decision is made to design a masthead that will become the standard
- The cover design is based on the principle that one can *always read, anywhere*
- Table Mountain had just been declared one of the seven wonders of the world and a special feature is done on Tafelberg Publishers that had just celebrated their 60th birthday!
- New on the agenda for the year is *The workroom* series for practical training, a *Best reads* series in the *News* featuring the top five non-fiction and fiction books according to book sellers, and *Sunday Sundowners* by Lyn Steyn from Fishhoek Library



March/April 2012

- Vinyl is back! A delightful article on old vinyl records

May/June 2012

- It's the centenary year of the maiden voyage and sinking of The Titanic and a feature is done on the background with reference to relevant book stock in the Service
- The famous Mimi Coertse celebrates her 80th birthday. An article featuring our CD stock appears
- A two-part series on *African writers: Celebrating 40 years of African literature* is published

September/December 2012

- The article *Mandela and the relevance of archives* recognises former President Nelson Mandela's birthday on 18 July

November/December 2012

- Municipal Replacement Funding (MRF) is finally in place and a comprehensive article on the topic is published



January/February 2013

- The theme for the cover focusses on Dewey numbers, starting with *The Arts*
- A new series on secondhand bookshops starts
- Pieter Hugo, deputy director, joins the rank of columnists for the magazine for the series, *Between the lines / Tussen die lyne*



July/August 2013

- A series in two parts on international book awards — a first again



September/October 2013

- The cover design features Mr Nelson Mandela as we focus on biographies. Mr Mandela would pass away two months later



November/December 2013

- A feature article on The 1913 Land Act – Mr Mandela died exactly 100 years after the promulgation of this notorious act
- A first ever – a private company steps in to produce the Cape Librarian as the graphic designer has resigned

January/February 2015

- A new masthead and a new cover design features iconic women authors, starting with Nadine Gordimer, to whom tribute was also paid in a main feature
- Two new series, *The last word*, written by two very well-known authors, Daniel Hugo and Francois Bloemhof, as well as *Research* are introduced
- For practical reasons the *Annual Index* and *Book Review Index* will in future be published in the January/February issue of the Cape Librarian

March/April 2015

- A new column, *Critical issues / Ezidl' ubhede: iilwimi* by Xolisa Tsongolo sees the light
- André P Brink – an iconic author passes away and is remembered. A selected booklist is also published



January/February 2014

- Our cover theme is famous fictional book characters
- Cape Town has been chosen as the Design Capital of the world. To celebrate this a competition is launched in the magazine
- 20 years of democracy is celebrated and an overview on the Service by Stefan Wehmeyer, deputy director, is published
- Voters are encouraged to exercise their vote in an article, *Your vote will count*
- An article on the well-known popular magazine, *FAIRLADY*, that turns 50

May/June 2014

- As part of the festivities celebrating 20 years of democracy, a new look is created for the magazine – a new font, more white space, a changed *Contents* page, and newly designed column heads

July/August 2014

- Yet another anniversary – this time the ever popular magazine, *Sarie*, that turns 65 is commemorated in an article by Dr Francois Verster, a regular columnist for the magazine

November/December 2014

- The newly-appointed minister Nomafrench Mbombo writes the editorial



The shelves are alive at **Verbatim Books**

A beautiful bookshop in the heart of Stellenbosch by Dante Scriba

On the corner of Andringa and Dorp Street I found a bookshop, new to me, tucked away out there on the fringe of Stellenbosch. Always a source of joy, bookshops, but more so when one is not expecting it — I walked in like a child approaching a Christmas tree. And lo and behold, behind the counter was an old friend, Sarie Berkhout, former professor, now bookshop attendant, beaming at me. We talked, with lots of interruptions by customers, which seemed like a revolving door-scene in a movie — bodies and voices appearing and disappearing ... until, eventually, I realised I had better go. A bookshop may be a wonderland to some, but it is still a business for most.

So I told Sarie I would come by again. Which I did, and it was 'take two' of the same scene. Again the owner, Julie Kidd, was not present, and again I resolved to return to speak to her. A couple of weeks went by, while my thoughts returned before I did, to this snug corner shop in the back pocket of town, not far from the theological seminary. (Not the cemetery, take note, and remember this for later erudition. It's pertinent. Believe it or not — like in the Boris Karloff stories. Oh, if you don't know who that is, Google it).

While on the subject of learnedness — Dorp Street, onto which the main entrance faces, is basically the southern end of Stellenbosch, as the Eerste River meanders by, just out of sight, near the spot where Simon van der Stel, the first 'non-white' head of state, made camp in 1679. Soon afterwards the new town of Stellenbosch was established, the second European settlement after Cape Town. So I did what any serious researcher would do — I Googled 'Verbatim Books'.

This is what the website says: *'Verbatim is a tiny gem of a bookshop nestling in the heart of Stellenbosch. The intimacy and inviting aesthetics of its location and interior are mirrored by the warmth, knowledge and commitment of its owner, for whom the bookshop is a dream come true. Verbatim is what could be described as a "boutique bookshop" but its ambience is special and its eclectic stock befitting the diversity of cultures and peoples that live in and pass through Stellenbosch. It is a place where time stands still and the instinctive urge to slowly browse through the amazingly varied collection of books is*



The entrance on Dorp Street



The inside of the shop

actively encouraged. A rare and delightful experience in today's commercial bookselling environment.'

Right. And here among the oaks is the entrance to Verbatim Bookstore. Again. I was back to speak to Julie. And to see how much of the website pitch is true!

Well, we chatted, about the shop, about some of the books I saw on the shelves, about the history of the building, and clients came in, browsed, required Julie's attention, we took up our conversation again, suddenly some book stumbled off a shelf, Julie put it back, more clients pitched up, and so it went — the way things normally go at Verbatim. Until I suggested I would email a questionnaire and then ... come back again. Of course this was just to make sure everything is done correctly, not at all to find excuses to visit this really unusual bookshop again. So, several weeks went by, again. Then I needed to be in town and I let Julie know I am around, with some books to show her as well. Also, to see if books would dive from a shelf again, too. But more about that later.

This time David, Julie's brother, was visiting with his very demure Schnauzer and we discussed books, art, culture — the usual subjects people discuss in bookshops, I suppose. The dog, however, didn't offer any opinions, I might add. She did enjoy having her back scratched, of that I am sure. And so I left seven of my books in Julie's care, to hopefully sell, also to provide me with a reason to return to Stellenbosch and Verbatim, and to hear if any of my books were pushed off their perches. Yes, I will reveal what this is about. Later.

First, we take a look at Julie's answers to my questions. It goes something like this:

What are your favourite genres, and do you focus on those when you acquire new stock?

Beautifully illustrated children's books, local current affairs, local fiction and poetry.

How do you go about buying stock?

I rely on the Internet for research regarding new overseas titles. Locally, however, mostly via publisher's representatives, as well as word of mouth.

Which genres sell best?

Cookery, fiction and depending on the time of the year, local publications.

Your customers — are they mostly local?

This depends on the time of the year — events such as the Woordfees influence this.

Do you have a fair number of regulars?

Yes, quite a few.

Do many students visit Verbatim?

Yes. And just the other day something rather quaint happened. A young man came by and asked, very earnestly and formally, whether he could use the shop for something. He wanted to ask a certain young lady if she would go out with him, as this is the venue where they had met a year ago. So he placed some

candles in the store and blindfolded her and then he popped the question — the situation was kind of tense: what if she said no? But she didn't.

Where would you like to have a bookshop if you could choose?

Exactly here where I am.

Why a bookshop — why not a coffee shop, for instance?

I have always loved bookshops and now I love having my own.

What did you do before working in a bookshop?

I was working in the medical technology field.

Do writers visit the shop? Can you name any?

Yes, Isobelle Dixon, Michiel Heyns, Dana Snyman, Marlene van Niekerk ...

What do you like best about Stellenbosch?

That I am fortunate to live here.

Indeed, that you are, Julie. I mean what is not to love about living in ye olde Oak Town, jewel of the Boland, owning a beautiful little bookshop, getting to chat with interesting people who love what you love, to meet invisible book critics, and buy books and keep some that you like too much to sell for yourself, and ... okay, I will get to the dropping of books in a minute. First questions get answered first — how does the website's statements stack up to reality?

Well, Verbatim is 'a gem of a bookshop,' although not quite 'tiny', nestling in the heart of Stellenbosch — 'nestling' sounds good, but I image 'the heart of Stellenbosch' to be more like in the middle of town, but I cannot find fault with 'the intimacy and inviting aesthetics of its location and interior are mirrored by the warmth, knowledge and commitment of its owner': it is decidedly intimate and the owner is indeed friendly, erudite and dedicated to her calling. And the rest, ditto. Especially 'A rare and delightful experience in today's commercial bookselling environment'.

And now, finally, about those falling books and invisible critics: Verbatim is situated in a very old building. Which is not unusual in a very old town. But what is unusual is that this building is now what was previously the city morgue. Does Julie believe in ghosts? She did not before she bought the shop. Now she is more open-minded about this. And so am I. What I do not like to declare (openly) is that ghosts are not book lovers. Not to their faces anyway. If I could see them. Or, maybe they are just very picky. Which brings me to another dilemma: what if the ghosts in this shop actually have good taste, and they reject my books (too)? What do I do then? Stand facing the book shelf squarely and resolutely say: 'Um, hey guys, by the by, "verbatim" means copied, "word for word", or "using exactly the same words; corresponding word for word: a *verbatim* report of the conversation. And goodbye.' Then, and only then, will I make a dignified exit. Until the next time I am in Stellenbosch and craving a browse through an 'amazingly varied collection of books'.



A war to remember

1914-1918: a centennial memorial by Erich Buchhaus

The First World War followed a period of sustained peace in Europe during which people spoke with confidence of prosperity, progress and hope. But in 1914, Europe entered into a catastrophic conflict which killed millions of men, bled economies dry, shook empires and societies to the core, and fatally undermined Europe's dominance of the world. It was a war which could have been avoided up to the last moment. World War I, also known as the First World War or the Great War, was a global war centred in Europe that began on 28 July 1914 and lasted until 11 November 1918. It was one of the deadliest conflicts in history, paving the way for major political changes, including revolutions in many of the nations. The 28 June 1914 assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary, by Yugoslav nationalist Gavrilo Princip in Sarajevo, triggered the war. This set off a diplomatic crisis and within weeks, the major powers were at war.

Although warfare was not regarded as a suitable subject for literature, there can be no dispute that the 1914-18 conflict was far more of a literary event than any previous war. Works from First World War authors like Robert Graves, Siegfried Sassoon and Erich Maria Remarque which embodied an anti-war message were at first discredited and would only benefit from a renewed wave of war-weariness after 1945. In Remarque's classic novel *All quiet on the Western Front* the main character Paul Bäumer enthusiastically enlists with his classmates in the German army of World War I, but is soon disillusioned once he experiences the trenches.

Our perception of this war is to a large extent something which has been transmitted to us by those who experienced the war first hand. In 1918 Ernest Hemingway went to war, volunteered for ambulance service in Italy, was wounded, and twice decorated. From his experiences came his classic novel *A farewell to arms*. Hemingway's description of war is unforgettable. He recreates the fear, the camaraderie and the courage of his young American volunteer. Robert Graves, on the other hand, reveals in his poignant 1929 autobiography *Good-bye to all that*, how his time serving as a young officer in the First World War would haunt him throughout his life.

In recent years many books have been written in view of the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War and cover



The front page of *The Daily Mirror* on 5 August 1914



Female road sweepers cleaning the streets of Liverpool as the men are away fighting — 21 March 1916

various aspects from personal narratives to campaigns. Margaret MacMillan, a professor of international history at Oxford, delivers a richly textured narrative on historical events leading up to the outbreak of WWI in 1914 in *The war that ended peace: how Europe abandoned peace for the First World War*. In this first-rate study she breaks down complex historical events and paints vivid portraits of key personalities, bringing an entire era to life.

In *A broken world: letters, diaries and memories of the Great War*, editors Sebastien Faulks and Hope Wolf offer a far-reaching collection of memories, diaries, letters and postcards written during and after the First World War. This is a varied selection, and includes not just British documents but also German, Russian, and Indian voices, women and mostly ordinary people with the occasional familiar name thrown in. In *The reluctant Tommy*, edited by Duncan Barrett, Ronald Skirth, a nineteen-year-old non-commissioned officer in the Royal Artillery, sent to fight on the Western Front, writes to his sweetheart back in England. This riveting memoir was written fifty years after the end of the war, drawing on Skirth's diary entries and letters home. It gives a vivid, moving and surprising insight into that most dreadful of conflicts. *Your loving son, Yum: the letters of Grahame Alexander Munro 1915-1916* by Grahame Alexander Munro and Kathleen Satchwell, features the letters of an eighteen-year-old South African soldier to his parents. This is a poignant example of the millions who fought (and died) during this war who were still very much 'boys'.

Adam Hochschild in *To end all wars: a story of protest and patriotism in the First World War* tells the story of World War I through the eyes of its most prominent supporters and detractors. He humanises responses to the conflict through biographical accounts of British soldiers, politicians, and radicals. Socialists, suffragettes, pacifists, and conscientious objectors who preferred prison to compromising their principles populate the book.

Many social, political and economic shifts occurred during the war. Women now became key economic supporters in the absence of men and men suffered the physical and psychological stress of war. Most women got jobs working in factories in order to provide for their children. This is vividly covered in titles such as *Singled out: how two million women survived without men after the First World War* by Virginia Nicholson.

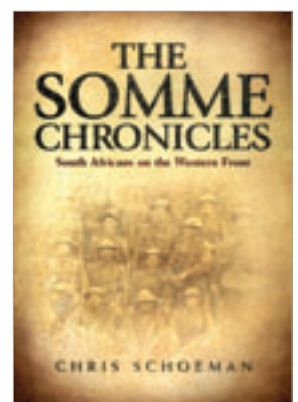
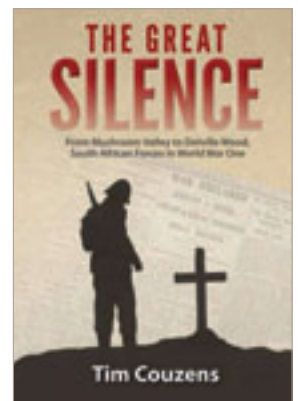
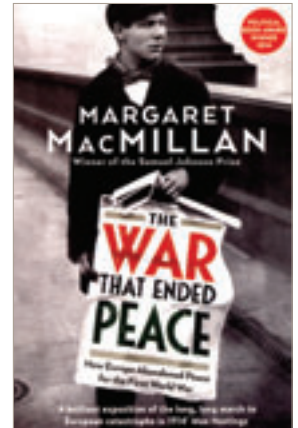
This war was different to anything the world

had ever experienced before and brought about a new type of warfare, known as trench warfare. This is thoroughly covered in a recent title *Trench: a history of trench warfare on the Western Front* by Stephen Bull, and also in an older title, *The laughter goes from life: in the trenches of the First World War* by Thomas Penrose Marks.

For the first time aircraft were used in warfare and Neil Hanson's masterly account *First blitz: the secret German plan to raze London to the ground in 1918* relates the almost forgotten German air offensive against London in 1917-18. This fascinating book tells the story of the raids, first by Zeppelins and then huge aircraft. There was also a plan in 1918 (called off at the last minute) to destroy London and Paris with incendiary bombs. In terms of lives lost and damage caused, the First World War raids were negligible compared to 1940-45, but the negative effect on civilian morale was great.

It would be the torpedoing of the British liner *Lusitania* by the German U-20 in 1915 that would bring the United States of America into the war, even though the Germans had by 1915 warned the Allies that they would target passenger vessels if they entered designated 'areas of war', which included the waters around Britain. This is vividly reconstructed in Diana Preston's *Wilful murder: the sinking of the Lusitania* that eloquently portrays the disaster and its consequences. Its aftermath would change the outcome of the war for reasons that Preston does a characteristically fine job of explaining. Another interesting title on this incident is Erik Larson's *Dead wake: the last crossing of the Lusitania*.

South Africa too played its part during this conflict and *The Sunday Times* published *The great silence* to mark the 100th anniversary of World War I, written by award-winning author Tim Couzens. It provides a detailed account of the South African Forces in five major theatres of action and dedicates a special chapter to the black South African troops' 'contribution to the Allies' towards ultimate victory. In *WWI and the people of South Africa*, Bill Nasson explores how the complex dynamics of the crisis of war shaped the character of South African politics and the life of its fragmented and frequently turbulent society. Chris Schoeman in his *The Somme chronicles: South Africans on the Western Front* relates the stories of the men of the First South African Infantry Brigade via their letters and diaries, providing an invaluable human account of one of history's most devastating conflicts.



In terms of actual quantity, more has now been written about World War II than about World War I, except, it seems, in verse. That there is less poetry from the World War II than WWI must be attributed to a shift in the status of poetry during the intervening years. A recognised classic title is *The Penguin book of First World War poetry* which offers an excellent compilation of poetry about the war. It reflects the diverse experiences of those who lived through the war by bringing together the words of poets, soldiers, and civilians affected by the conflict. *Never such innocence: poems of the First World War* edited by Martin Stephen includes voices of poets not generally heard, and voicing sentiment different from those generally accepted as the WWI poets. In *Scars upon my heart: Women's poetry and verse of the First World War* author Catherine Reilly meticulously documents with biographical notes (where possible), 79 women poets she had discovered. Many of the poems are classic but the collection also includes verses of no literary value to help modern readers understand the mindset of the generation that endured the Great War. The late Hilda Spear, an academic from the English department at Dundee University, provides a valuable and useful study of

WWI poetry in her opus *Remembering, we forget: a background study to the poetry of the First World War*.

As publishers certainly enjoy an anniversary, plenty of books have been published and bought. See a selected booklist of titles bought and in stock.

To end off the first half of this article before venturing into fiction, I wish to draw readers' attention to two earlier articles in the July/August 2014 edition of *The Cape Librarian: Spotlight on SN: World War I anniversary* (p.48-49) and *We will remember* (p.12-16).

In the next instalment of *The Cape Librarian* we will continue with fiction titles associated with World War I.

SELECTED BOOKLIST

History and origins

- Butcher, Tim. *The trigger: hunting the assassin who brought the world to war.*- Chatto, 2014.
- Keegan, John. *The First World War: an illustrated history.*- Pimlico, 2002.
- Macmillan, Margaret. *The war that ended peace: how Europe abandoned peace for the First World War.*- Profile Bks., 2014.

Reynolds, David. *The long shadow: the Great War and the twentieth century.*- Simon, 2013.

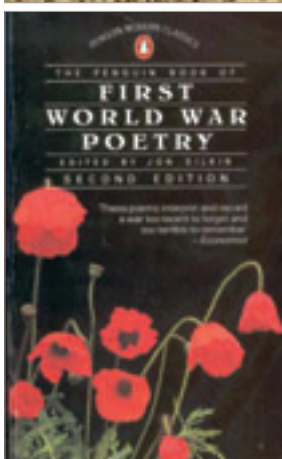
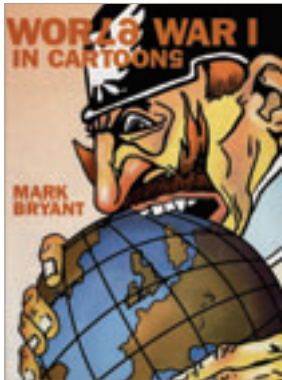
Smith, David James. *One morning in Sarajevo: 28 June 1914.*- Phoenix, 2009.

Miscellaneous/general

- Barr, James. *Setting the desert on fire: T.E. Lawrence and Britain's secret war in Arabia, 1916-18.*- Bloomsbury, 2006.
- Bryant, Mark. *World War I in cartoons.*- Grub Street, 2006.
- Bull, Stephen. *Trench: a history of warfare on the Western Front.*- Osprey, 2014.
- Foden, Giles. *Mimi and Toutou go forth: the bizarre battle of Lake Tanganyika.*- Joseph, 2004.
- Garth, John. *Tolkien and the Great War: the threshold of Middle-earth.*- HarperCollins, 2003.
- Guilliat, Richard. *The Wolf: how one German raider terrorised Australia and the southern oceans in the First World War.*- Corgi, 2010.
- Hanson, Neil. *First Blitz: the secret German plan to raze London to the ground in 1918.*- Doubleday, 2008.
- Hanson, Neil. *The unknown soldier: the story of the missing of the Great War.*- Corgi, 2007.



Soldiers listening to the news being read out as they wait in their trench



Hochschild, Adam. To end all wars: a story of protest and patriotism in the First World War.- Pan, 2012.

Marks, Thomas Penrose. The laughter goes from life: in the trenches of the First World War.- Kimber, 1977.

Munson, Kenneth George. Bombers: patrol and reconnaissance aircraft, 1914-1919.- Bounty Bks., 2004.

Munson, Kenneth George. Fighters: attack and training aircraft, 1914-1919.- Bounty Bks., 2004

Nicholson, Virginia. Singled out: how two million women survived without men after the First World War.- Penguin, 2008.

Paice, Edward. Tip and run: the untold tragedy of the Great War in Africa.- Weidenfeld, 2007.

Preston, Diana. Wilful murder: the sinking of the Lusitania.- Doubleday, 2002.

Rankin, Nicholas. Churchill's wizards: the British genius for deception, 1914- 1945.- Faber, 2009.

Shipman, Pat. Femme fatale: love, lies and the unknown life of Mata Hari.- Weidenfeld, 2007.

Personal narratives

Arthur, Max. Forgotten voices of the Great War: [a new history of WWI in the words of the men and women who were there].- Ebury, 2003.

A broken word: letters, diaries and memories of the Great War / edited by Sebastien Faulks.- Hutchinson, 2014.

Graves, Robert. Good-bye to all that.- Penguin, [1998].

Holmes, Richard. Tommy: the British soldier on the Western Front, 1919-1918.- HarperCollins, 2004.

Lessing, Doris. Alfred and Emily.- Fourth Estate, 2008.

Levine, Joshua. On a wing and a prayer: [the untold story of the pioneering aviation heroes of WWI, in their own words].- Collins, 2008.

Livesey, Anthony. Great battles of World War I. - Joseph, 1989.

MacDonell, Bror. Mzee Ali: the biography of an African slave-raider turned askari & scout.- 30 Degrees South Pub., 2006.

MacIntyre, Ben. A foreign field: a true story of love and betrayal in the Great War.- HarperCollins, 2002.

Your loving son, Yum: the letters of Grahame Alexander Munroe 1915-1916.- K. Satchwell, 2014.

Sassoon, Siegfried. Memoirs of an infantry officer.- Faber, 1949.

Skirth, Ronald. The reluctant Tommy.- Pan, 2011.

Stewart, Cameron. A very unimportant officer: my grandfather's great war.- Hodder, 2009.

South African participation

Brown, James Ambrose. They fought for king and Kaiser: South Africans in German East Africa 1916.- Ashanti, 1991.

Couzens, Tim. The great silence: from Mushroom Valley to Delville Wood, South African forces in World War One.- Art Publ., 2014.

McGregor, Gordon. Die Suid-Afrikaanse Vrykorps van Duits-Suidwes Afrika.- Protea Boekhuis, 2013.

Nasson, Bill. WWI and the people of South Africa.- Tafelberg, 2014.

Nothling, C.J. Kroniek van die Suid-Afrikaanse Weermag (1912-1994).- SAMHIC, 2012.

Pretorius, Philip Jacobus. Jungle man, Mtanda Batho: hunter and adventurer: the autobiography of Major PJ Pretorius.- Dream African Productions, 2013.

Reitz, Deneys. Trekking on: in the company of brave men.- House of Emslie, 2012.

Schoeman, Chris. The Somme chronicles: South Africans on the Western Front.- Zebra, 2014.

Van der Merwe, Floris Johannes Gerhardus. Sporting soldiers: South African troops at play during the World War I.- FJG Publ., 2012.

Poetry

Reilly, Catherine W. Scars upon my heart: women's poetry and verse of the First World War.- Virago, 1981.

Silkin, Jon. The Penguin book of First World War poetry.- Penguin, 1979.

Spear, Hilda. Remembering, we forget: a background to the poetry of the First World War.- Davis-Poynter, 1979.

Erich Buchhaus is a book selector with the Western Cape Library Service



ADULT NON-FICTION *VOLWASSE VAKLEKTUUR*

GRENIER, Samantha

Hello! macrame: totally cute designs for home décor and more.- Design Originals, 2014.

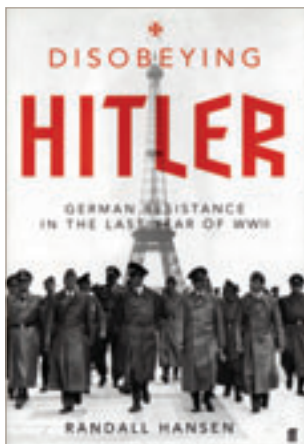
Hello! macrame is a slight title of 46 pages, but it is filled with useful and appealing contemporary macramé projects. It covers a wide variety of designs that range from rugs and lampshades to necklaces and bangles. This art of tying knots in cord or any other similar material has a long history and possibly originated with Arabic weavers. During the 1960s and 1970s it was especially popular in Europe and the United States. Now it is given a new life with this edition which reveals how to make fabulous knotted creations using colourful macramé craft chords. The craft itself is easy to learn and requires no elaborate equipment or expensive materials. Step-by-step illustrations and instructions guide you through every stitch of the thirteen projects provided. This book is inspirational and will encourage readers to master this fulfilling craft that can appeal to all members of the family. EB



HANSEN, Randall

Disobeying Hitler: German resistance in the last year of WWII.- Faber, 2014.

Hansen, a Canadian historian and Professor of Politics at the University of Toronto, has previously written about World War II. The topic of German resistance is not one that is discussed much as all Germans, in general, get lumped together. There were actually Germans (both everyday citizens and highly appointed members of the government and military) who did not agree with Hitler and the Nazi policies. Operation Valkyrie on 20 July, 1944 may have failed in its purpose to assassinate Hitler. It did, however, proclaim that not only were some Germans against Hitler, some were actively resisting or in open disobedience to the Führer. Whilst the war was being lost, armies came closer towards Germany and there was a

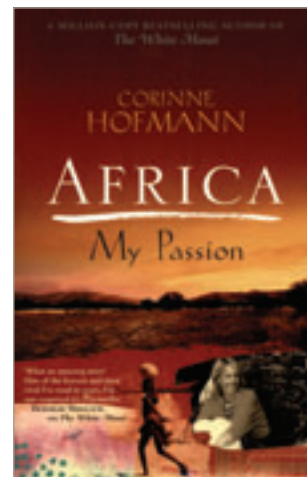


complete devastation of food supplies, local infrastructure and industrial capacity. This led to Hitler initiating a 'scorched earth' policy. This book examines the roles of both the passive and non-passive resistance movements that played upon the minds of the German military commands to preserve their towns and not implement this policy. It looks at the successes and failures to prevent 'scorched earth' from becoming a reality. In general most German commanders did not follow through on devastating the towns they occupied, both outside Germany and within. Not only does Hansen succeed in illustrating the active role various Germans played, he also gives us an accurate portrayal of the messiness of war. The story is an eye opener that broadens the readers' perspectives on the nature of German attitudes and actions in the final throes of the Third Reich. The book is academically written, reads well and makes for some compelling reading. EB

HOFMANN, Corinne

Africa, my passion.- Arcadia Bks., 2014.

This is the author's fourth book since leaving Kenya in 1990, and has been translated from the original German text. She is the bestselling author of *The white Masai* which relates her personal story of surrendering a comfortable life in Switzerland to marry a Masai warrior in Kenya during the 1980s, where she would live in a community with very basic living conditions and no technology. This book again reveals her deep love for the African continent and is made up of three separate parts. The first part covers the author's 500 mile trek with a travel companion through the Namibian desert to locate and observe the lifestyles of the nomadic Himba people. The second part covers her visit to the slums of Nairobi with representatives from various charities to see how they help the people living there. There she would talk to slum dwellers and the stories she tells bring these characters to life. The final part looks at her return to the Masai village of Barsaloi to introduce her daughter Napirai to her father for the first time since she was a baby. It is heart-warming to see how both are instantly welcomed into the Masai family after all these years. This section is told in alternating parts by Hofmann and her daughter, Napirai, which allows the reader to observe their encounters from both points of view. Although not as satisfying as the author's original title, it would still be of interest to followers of Hofmann's other books on Africa. EB



LEWIS, Damien

Judy: a dog in a million.- Quercus, 2014.

During both World Wars dogs were used for various wartime activities that included mine detection, carrying dispatches, sentry and patrol duty. In addition they also provided soldiers with



the necessary companionship to relieve boredom during peaceful periods and to raise morale. Well-known author and historian Damien Lewis recounts the story of one such dog, a liver-and-white English pointer, known as Judy of Sussex. She was born in a Shanghai kennel in 1936 and became a mascot of the China-stationed gunboats HMS Gnat and HMS Grasshopper. During the war her ability to sense approaching danger by land, sea or air proved

invaluable to those in the Royal Navy and saved many lives. When a Japanese aircraft sank HMS Grasshopper, Judy led its crew and passengers to a concealed spring on the island where they were marooned. Later, when the survivors were imprisoned by the Japanese in Indonesia, Judy's real value became more evident during her stint as a prisoner of war (POW). She inspired her crewmates to stay alive during harsh conditions experienced in the construction of Sumatra's 'hell railway', scavenging for whatever food she could find to share with other prisoners – usually freshly-caught rats. This inspirational story provides a thrilling real-life account of the practical service dogs provided in World War II and will be enjoyed by dog lovers, military history enthusiasts, and readers who enjoy gripping survival stories. Judy was the only official animal POW of WWII and she had the papers to prove it. Her amazing and incredible story has been brought together by the author from diaries and testimonies of the very few surviving veterans who knew and remembered her. EB

MAN, John

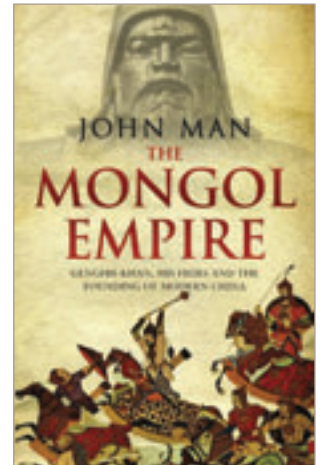
The Mongol empire: Genghis Khan, his heirs, and the founding of modern China.- Bantam, 2014.

The author has produced a thrilling account of Genghis Khan's life, death and his continuing influence. By his death in 1227 Genghis Khan had ruled over an empire that stretched from the Caspian Sea to the Pacific Ocean. In this book Man presents an overview of the history and the mystery surrounding Genghis Khan. This is accompanied by a personal travelogue of the author's journey to Mongolia to find and visit Genghis-related sites. Searching for physical signs of Genghis Khan in Mongolia proved challenging, but provides an interesting view into life in

this remote country. To many Muslims, Russians and Europeans Genghis Khan is remembered as a murderer of millions. He is honoured in China as the founder of the Yuan dynasty, and in Mongolia he is revered as the father of the nation.

Man believes he had redeeming features other than the Guinness record in bloodshed.

He allowed toleration of all religions, allowed women to play a more leading role than other dictators, and he employed anyone of talent, irrespective of where they came from. Yet he left no palaces, no writings, no philosophy standing, but territories that owed allegiance to him. His grandson, Kublai, covered in the rest of the book, has himself been recognised not only as the great Khan but as first emperor of a new Chinese dynasty, the Yuan. Yet within two years of his death this empire would split according to nationality, resulting in the termination of the Mongol Empire. This absorbing and beautifully written book is part historic investigation, part personal journey, and reads well. EB



ADULT FICTION

VOLWASSE VERHALENDE LEKTUUR

BARKER, Susan

The incarnations.- Doubleday, 2014.

'Suspend your disbelief, flow along with this wonderful book, like the crazy traffic flowing around Beijing's six ring roads. It is 2008, the Olympics are at hand. Taxi driver Wang is



receiving letters from a mysterious watcher, claiming to be the soulmate who has accompanied him through the past 1,000 years and five previous lives. As each new character appears, the reader searches for the identity of the letter writer. It isn't necessary to believe in reincarnation to appreciate this book. It may all be neurotic fantasy, but as a device for forcing the reader to look closely and ponder deeply, it works beautifully.

The relationships are multilayered and troublesome in so many ways, and strong as the many bonds are, no one seems capable of making anyone else happy. What is this drama being played out so intensely over so many ages? Where did it begin and where will it end? And where does the present fit into it all? Susan Barker delivers a masterful ending. This would have been a good book if it had simply recounted a series of bizarre tales and stopped, but a bittersweet final revelation poses more questions, reveals deeper dimensions and sends the reader back to the beginning searching for clues missed the first time round.' (*The Guardian*)

MEYER, Deon

Ikarus.- Human & Rousseau, 2015.

'Dis die liggaam wat in die duineveld anderkant Bloubergstrand tydens die groot storm oopspoel wat die eerste sleutel is tot Deon Meyer se **Ikarus**. Die storie skop af wanneer die lyk uitgeken word van Ernst Richter, die skatryk jong eienaar van *alibi.co.za*, 'n webwerf wat die statige gemeenskap van Stellenbosch se stertvere behoorlik deurmekaar kom krap het met die aanspraak dat mense wat die kat in die donker knyp hier 'n alibi kan koop. Dit sluit in enigiets van 'n vervalste hotelrekening, uitnodiging na 'n denkbeeldige konferensie, vliegkaartjie, ensovoorts. Gou kom dit aan die lig Richter had geldprobleme. Parallel hiermee loop 'n tweede storie in die vorm van 'n biegsessie voor 'n advokaat: 'n jong wynboer wat ook te hoog wou vlieg, maar nou wil bely oor hoe hy by die Richter-saak betrokke is. Of is hy? Want dis die kruis van dié boek. Anders as in sy vorige boeke, vername die driemanskap **13 uur, 7 dae** en **Kobra**, wat met nekbreekpas hardloop, is hierdie meer 'n raaiselroman. Soos vantevore is Meyer se noukeurige navorsing 'n plesier. [Hy] delf in 'n ou skandaal in die Stellenbosse wynbedryf [en pluig uit] hóékom Bennie weer begin drink; hy integreer sy feite naatloos. Sodoende verkry sy storie 'n geloofwaardigheid, genuanseerdheid en 'n gevoel van plek wat min hom kan nadoen. Waarmee Meyer veral wys hy's meester van sy ambag is sy karakteruitbeelding. In **Ikarus** is dit veral die randkarakters se beurt. Daar is 'n warmte en diepte, maar ook 'n sprankeling wanneer hy die nou al bekende lede van die Valke méns maak. Bowenal is hierdie egter die storie van Vaughn Cupido. Wat nes Bennie sy ontstaan as 'n randkarakter gehad het. Maar nou word die *cool cat* groot. Met Bennie uit die prentjie is hy immers ondersoekleier. Cupido en Griessel. Wat 'n paar. Wat 'n span.



Want op die ou end is dit mense wat 'n storie maak. En hierdie twee hou kers vas by die bestes in wêreldmisdaadfiksie.' (www.netwerk24.com/vermaak/2015-03-22)

STAMATÉLOS, Pat

My groot vet Griekse egskeiding.- Umuzi, 2015.

'Pat Stamatélos is nie bang om gewigtige temas te takel nie, maar **My groot vet Griekse egskeiding** is 'n perd van 'n ligter kleur. [Dit] handel nie werklik oor 'n egskeiding nie, eerder oor die gesukkel om te skei en die poging om 'n verdwene man op te spoor. Polly Ballas se huwelik met haar Griekse man, Achilles, kry reeds op hul wittebrood 'n knou wanneer hy beskuldigend verklaar: "There is no blood." Wie vir die brutale ontneming van haar maagdelikheid verantwoordelik is, is 'n belangrike deel van die intrige. Polly, wat graag haar van na Callas wil verander, is nie rasend gelukkig getroud nie. Sy voel dat sy nie werklik kan kommunikeer met 'n man wie se gunsteling-sêding "You crazy woman!" is nie. Daarby het Achilles, oftewel Archie, nie 'n sin vir humor nie, maar eerder 'n groot obsessie met sy haarverlies. Van sy goddelike Griekse lyf is daar ook niks meer oor nie. Ten spyte daarvan is Polly platgeslaan wanneer haar huishulp, Catherine Dhlomo, aankondig dat Archie by hul huis weg is met 'n vrou wat groot hare en pers naels het. Aan haar hande kon Catherine glo sien dat "Miss Big Wig" jonger is as Polly, wat haarself op 48 as middeljarig beskou. Ná 'n jaar is



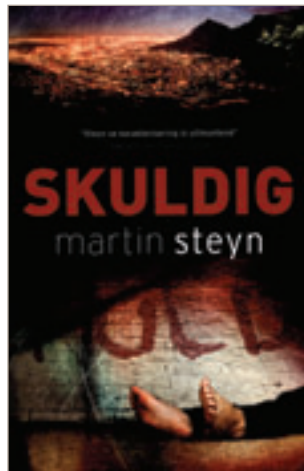
Archie steeds weg. Só kan dit nie aangaan nie, besluit Polly en wend haar tot die egskeidingshof. Die jonger bestuurder van haar boekwinkel raak juis by die dag vriendeliker en aantrekliker. Maar dan daag Archie nie by die hof op nie en bly Polly vir eers getroud. Tog ontmoet sy dié dag 'n vreemdeling, Gugu Jam-Jam, 'n huweliksberader en dalk net wat Polly nodig het. Die karakterisering is oor die algemeen goed. Jy glo veral in die opregte Catherine wat so nagmerries kry. Polly self kruip ongelukkig nie werklik in jou hart in nie en dit skeel jou maar min of sy haar man vind of nie. **My groot vet Griekse egskeiding** is ligte leesstof en baie snaaks. Talle lesers, veral vroue, sal kan identifiseer met die verval van Polly se huwelik wanneer romanse plek maak vir ontugtering, frustrasie en verzet. Stamatélos lewer deurentyd kommentaar op dié instelling, maar nooit op 'n neerdrukkende wyse nie. Die roman bied goeie insig in die Griekse kultuur, wat as't ware 'n bykomende karakter in die roman word. Hoewel die roman nie soveel vleis aan die been het soos die meeste van Stamatélos se vorige werk nie, is daar

genoeg pittighede en insig in verhoudinge om die lees daarvan die moeite werd te maak. Soms wil jy tog net 'n slag behoorlik ontspan en is **My groot vet Griekse egskeiding** die ideale boek om dit te mee doen.' (www.litnet.co.za)

STEYN, Martin

Skuldig.- Lapa, 2015.

'Martin Steyn se **Skuldig** is die soort boek wat maak dat mens alles opsy skuif om te lees. Dis belangrik dat Afrikaanse lesers behoorlik kennis neem van Steyn. Mens kan nie wag om te sien wat op die volgende bladsy van dié speurroman gebeur nie, maar hoop tegelykertyd dat die einde sommer nog ver in die verskiet lê — presies wat mens soek in 'n goeie boek, maar 'n rare talent in 'n skrywer. Veral as dit 'n relatief nuwe skrywer is. Steyn het verlede jaar op die Afrikaanse skryftoneel gebars met sy uitstekende debuut, **Donker spoor**, waarin ons die speurders Jan Magson en Colin Menck, warm op die spoor van 'n reeksmoordenaar wat



skoolmeisies ontvoer, ontmoet het. In **Skuldig** is Colin Menck hierdie keer die held wat 'n reeks eienaardige moorde moet oplos. Magson maak wel 'n kamee-verskyning, maar Menck en sy nuwe "partner" moet al die raaisels self uitpluis. Die slagoffers — almal suksesvolle mans in hul middeljare — word met 'n enkele skoot in die kop tereggestel. Maar voor dit moet hulle eers die woord "skuldig" in hul eie bloed op 'n muur skryf. Wat is die grieselrige skakel wat hulle aan mekaar verbind? En hoekom laat die moordenaar Menck self twee keer leef? Hy het immers albei kere die ideale kans gehad om die bloedhond-speurder permanent van die saak — en die aardbol — te verwyder. Die moordenaar in hierdie verhaal is beslis nie enige Jan Rap nie. Hy uitoorlê uitstekende sekuriteitstelsels, skiet soos 'n sluipskutter en laat nie 'n enkele leidraad nie. Steyn slaag uitmuntend daarin om vanaf die eerste bladsy te boei. Sy navorsing in al die aspekte van die genre is indrukwekkend — van wat alles presies op 'n misdadaatoneel gebeur, tot wat presies op 'n patoloog se ondersoektafel plaasvind. Die spanning word deurentyd gehandhaaf, en sy baie menslike speurders met hul alledaagse bekommernisse boei ook as karakters. Dis verfrissend om 'n slag met 'n speurder te doen te kry wat nie een of ander eie stryd teen 'n duiwel in homself voer nie, maar 'n doodgewone gesinsman is wat sy werk na die beste van sy vermoë probeer doen. Ek sou graag wou sien dat Steyn se boeke in Engels vertaal word sodat dit in die buiteland ook gelees kan word

— dit vergelyk uitstekend met oorsese skrywers in dieselfde genre.' (maroelamedia.co.za)

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

**JONG VOLWASSE VERHALENDE
LEKTUUR**

VAN DER WALT, Derick

Bambaduze.- Tafelberg, 2015.

Die skrywer van drie vorige jeugromans — **Lien se lankstaanskoene**, **Willem Poprok** en **Hoopvol** — met bekronings soos goue en silwer-Sanlam-pryse, die MER Prys vir Jeuglektuur, die Scheepers Prys vir Jeuglektuur en insluiting op IBBY se ererol, het weereens bewys dat hy 'n storie kán vertel, dat hy 'n fyn aanvoeling en begrip het vir menseverhoudings en veral die emosionele aspekte van 'n tiener se lewe oortuigend kan ontleed en verwoord ... Jurie steel karre, nie om regtig te steel nie, maar vir die gevoel van bevryding wat hy geniet wanneer hy die motor vir 'n rukkie bestuur en dan weer terugbesorg na 'n nabye staanplek ... Sy ma het vir ses maande padgegee Engeland toe ná sy ouer broer selfmoord gepleeg het. Hy neem haar kwalik dat sy hulle twee so alleen agtergelaat het. Hy en sy pa sukkel om te kommunikeer, hy verwaarloos



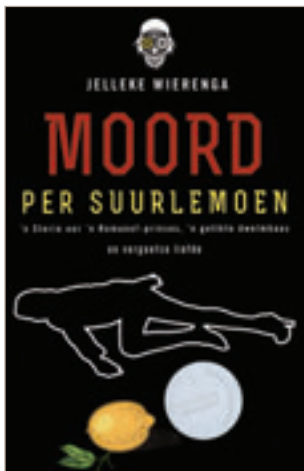
sy skoolwerk, begin swem vir die skool, maar hou gou weer op. Sy vriende voel verwaarloos en sy isolasie en afsondering neem net toe. Sels e-posse aan sy ma delete hy en word nooit gestuur nie. Hierin word van sy emosies so mooi uitgebeeld ... Maar dan misluk sy poging om die meisie Nadi se Opel te steel toe hy ontdek dat sy nog in die motor is. Sy verloor haar beursie in haar haas om weg te kom en hy probeer haar opspoor. So begin 'n vriendskap waaruit albei baat vind — sy kan gesels oor haar ma se siekte en die ryk mense in wie se agterplaas hulle bly. Hy is getroos deur haar aanvaarding van hom en sy probleem. Maar die risiko wat hy loop met die motors moet die een of ander tyd verkeerd loop. Hy word gevang en uit die skool geskors. Hy kry in dié tyd die geleentheid om met 'n sielkundige te gesels en op sy studies te konsentreer. Dit word 'n suiweringsproses waardeur die verhoudings tussen die verskillende karakters verbeter en baie sake opgeklaar word. Vanaf die treffende inleidende kort paragraaf besef jy hierdie gaan 'n juweel van 'n jeugboek wees! Jurie is 'n werklike karakter

en jy word toegelaat om hom behoorlik te leer ken. Dit gebeur in 'n teks deurtrek met fyn waarneming, treffende dialoog, verrassende voorvalle, goed gebalanseerde karakterisering en interaksie tussen die karakters wat deurgaans oortuig en met groot gemak en 'n juiste aanslag verhaal word ... Sy pa en sy vriende is geloofbare karakters ... Sy skryfstyl is deurspek met treffende beskrywings en raak kommentaar wat getuig van 'n bedrewe talent. **Bambaduze** is Derick van der Walt op sy beste. Mooigedaan. Dit behoort 'n suksesvolle teksboek vir hoërskole te word en moet in biblioteek- en tuisversamelings 'n tuiste vind. LG

WIERENGA, Jelleke

Moord per suurlemoen.- Tafelberg, 2014.

Vanaf die eerste inleidende paragrawe besef die leser dat hierdie 'n opwindende leeservaring gaan wees! Bruno en sy suster Brunhilde is so gefrustreerd met die twee bluffers van formaat — die buurvrou se honde — dat hulle besluit dit is nodig om met die



hulp van 'n vrag suurlemoene die twee stil te kry. Maar die idee was nou regtig nie om die buurvrou in die proses dood te gooi met 'n suurlemoen nie! Impulsief besluit die twee dadelik dat hulle sal moet vlug. En hul getroue vriend Ben word ook betrek. Sy broer se geliefde Gold Wing-motorfiets moet die drie na die naaste veilige dorpie bring. Hier vind 'n wonderbaarlike transformasie van die drie tieners plaas — hulle doen hulle voor as Russiese akteurs en gaan tuis in die gastehuis die

Groen Lantern. Sersant Japie Kleynhans van die plaaslike polisie is dadelik verlief op die bekoorlike Russiese prinses. Maar die eenaar van die Groen Lantern het gou ander planne met die drie — Brunhilde is volgens hom die dogter van die legendariese dwelmkoning Pappie, vergesel van haar twee luitenant. En hierdie is 'n geleentheid vir die klomp dwelmandelaars om hul netwerk uit te brei! **Moord per suurlemoen** is 'n waardige wenner van die Sanlam Silwermedalje vir Jeuglektuur. Die skrywer praat die taal wat tieners sal geniet. Die teks is deurspek met humor en kwinkslae en die drie jongmense se vermommings en lawwe idees om die moeilike situasies te fnuik, sorg vir lekker en opwindende leesstof. Tieners sal wens hulle kon ook in so 'n situasie beland! Bruno as verteller beïndruk met sy skerp waarneming van situasies en karakters ... Die teks is gevul met oorspronklike beskrywings van die omgewing, die inwoners van die dorpie, die Groen Lantern se personeellede, die Negosiegat waar hulle hul verskeie kostuums aanskaf, en die ete in die

restaurant, die Goue Pampoer. Hier is geen geleentheid vir die leser om verveeld te wees nie. Juis die gedagte dat twee tieners kan aanvaar dat hulle die buurvrou doodgegooi het met 'n suurlemoen en dus van moord aangekla gaan word, maak die hele leeservaring een van groot absurde aweregse lekkerte. Aanbeveel vir biblioteek-, skool- en tuisversamelings. LG

JUVENILE NON-FICTION JEUGVAKLEKTUUR

WASSERMAN, Elizabeth

Professor Sabatina se wetenskapboek / illustrasies deur Astrid Castle en Rob Foote.- Tafelberg, 2015.

Kinders bekend met die *Anna Atoom*-reeks sal weet dat Anna en Pip se ma die wetenskaplike Professor Sabatina Atoom is. In haar wetenskapboek

met volkleur illustrasies deur Astrid Castle en Rob Foote, verduidelik die professor prakties hoe wetenskaplike begrippe oorgedra kan word deur dertig eksperimente, wat met bestanddele uit die kombuis gedoen kan word. Kinders kan sodoende op 'n ontspanne manier meer leer oor swaartekrag, temperatuur, water, magnete en elektrisiteit, lig en energie, en chemiese reaksies. Voorbeelde van die eksperimente is: hoe swaartekrag werk, hoe 'n vliegtuig in die lug bly, hoe magnete werk, en waarom sommige voorwerpe op water dryf, terwyl ander sink. Elke onderwerp word vergesel deur probleemstellings, eksperimente, wetenskaplike verklarings, hoe dit in die alledaagse lewe toegepas kan word, asook vrae wat lesers aanmoedig om bietjie verder oor die onderwerp te dink. Hierdie is voorwaar 'n groot aanwinst vir Afrikaanssprekende jongmense. Dit moedig kinders aan om te dink, hul verbeelding te gebruik, en om praktiese probleme op te los en te leer op 'n prettige manier. SSJ



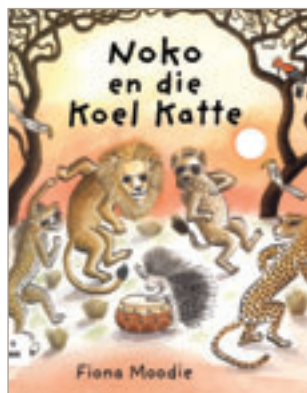
JUVENILE FICTION JEUGLEKTUUR

MOODIE, Fiona

Noko en die Koel Katte / Afrikaanse vertaling deur Louise Steyn en Philip de Vos.- Tafelberg, 2014.

Die Engelse titel *Noko and the Kool Kats* deur Fiona Moodie het

onlangs die M.E.R. Prys vir geïllustreerde kinderboeke gewen. Die boek is in Afrikaans vertaal deur Louise Steyn en Philip de Vos. Sommer met die eerste oogopslag het ek opgewonde geraak toe ek die boek sien. 'n Groot duursame hardeband prenteboek met die *coolste* omslag van dansende koel katte met sonbrille teen 'n oranje Afrika agtergrond wat dadellik die aandag trek. En die storie en verdere illustrasies het ook nie teleurgestel nie. Die agt dierevriende het die heeldag mielies geplant en koel nou af langs die rivier. Mara Boe die adjudantvoël haal 'n stuk koerantpapier tussen die riete uit. Hulle lees dat die Koel Katte 'n rock-konsert in die stad hou en hulle almal wens hulle kon die konsert bywoon. Dit sal soveel interessanter wees en meer pret as hier op hul klein dorpie. Maar op pad huis toe wag daar 'n groot verrassing. Die Koel Katte se groot bus het in die sand vasgeval en hulle is knorrig. Noko-hulle help die spul om hul bus uit die sand te grawe, maar dit neem 'n hele dag van harde werk. Die Koel Katte is verplig om nog 'n nag



daar oor te bly. Maar watter wonderlike ervaring word dit nie vir al die diere nie! Die boek laat my regtig sprakeloos. Hoe om in 'n resensie reg te laat geskied aan Fiona Moodie se illustrasies wat elke bladsy vul met kleur en besige, betrokke diere teen 'n agtergrond van bome en bosse, wat die leser betower met die lekker gevoel van iets eg uit Afrika — ryk kleure van geel en oranje in die illustrasie van die Koel Katte

se bus; donker bome die aand van die konsert teen die oranje horison afgeteken. Elke bladsy is 'n lees- en kykgenot. Die boek word sterk aanbeveel — veral vir voorlees en selflees vir 3- tot 6-jariges en ouer. Hierdie is 'n juweel en die skryfster het haarself regtig oortref. Baie geluk met 'n baie spesiale boek. LG

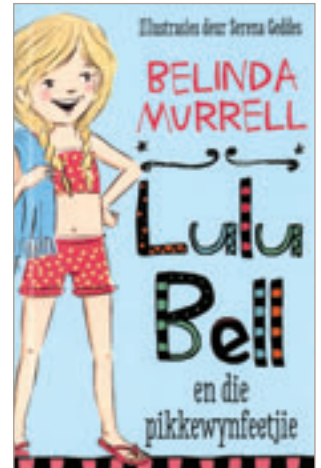
MURRELL, Belinda

Lulu Bell en die pikkewynfeetjie / geïllustreer deur Serena Geddes; vertaal deur Maritha Snyman.- Struik Kinderboeke, 2014.

'Lulu Bell is agt jaar oud. Sy geniet elke oomblik van haar lewe, maar is soms bietjie baasspelerig. Haar sussie, Vera, is ses en dra graag engelvlerke en skoene wat skitter. Haar driejarige boetie weier om enigiets anders as sy superhero-pak aan te trek — selfs in die bad! Lulu se ma is 'n kunstenaar en haar pa 'n baie besige veearts. Hulle huis is reg langs die dierehospitaal. Lulu help haar pa graag met die diere wat seergekry het en wees agtergelaat is. Dis geen wonder dat die Bells hope troeteldiere het nie. Op 'n warm dag gaan die Bell-gesin na die strand om af te koel. Lulu sien hoe 'n wegloperhond 'n waggelende klein pikkewyntjie jaag en vang. Lulu se pa moet kom help. Maar daar

is nog iets wat Lulu bekommer. Piekels, die kat, wat enige tyd moet kleintjies kry, is nêrens te vind nie ...' (www.graffitibooks.co.za)

Maritha Snyman het Suid-Afrikaanse kinders 'n groot guns bewys deur die eerste twee boekies in die *Lulu Bell*-reeks in Afrikaans te vertaal. Dit is opbouende stories wat liefdevolle familieverhoudings uitbeeld, met diere as tema sentraal tot elke verhaal. Murrell skryf met 'n warmte wat die leser dadelik intrek.



Lulu se familie word as besonder sorgsaam uitgebeeld. Die stories is toeganklik vir jonger lesers van 6- tot 9-jaar oud. Die eerste boek in die reeks is *Lulu Bell en die verjaarsdagponie*, gevolg deur *Lulu Bell en die pikkewynfeetjie*. SSJ

Siembamba: immergroen rympies vir kinders / saamgestel deur Wendy Maartens; illustrasies deur Alzette Prins.- Lapa, 2015.

As kinderbibliotekaris het ek met groot gesukkel Engelse rympies en vingerspeletjies in Afrikaans vertaal, en altyd gehoop iemand stel 'n boek saam wat ouers, bibliotekarisse en onderwysers sal help om kleuters lief vir ons wonderlike taal te maak. Want niks onthou 'n mens mos beter as daardie rympies, raaisels, tongknopers, gebedjies en slaapliedjies van jou kinderjare nie. En hier word *Siembamba* gepubliseer met die volledigste versameling van kinderrympies en versies ooit. 'n Lys van erkennings en bronne word gegee, en skrywers soos CJ Langenhoven, PW Grobbelaar, DJ Opperman, Van Bruggen en nog vele meer se werk vind hier 'n tuiste. Dit is die heerlikste boek vir elke gesin;



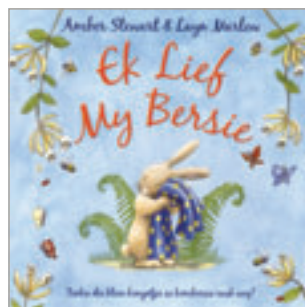
noodsaaklik vir skool- en biblioteekversamelings; en oumas en oupas moet maar die sak skud om dit vir die kleinkinders te koop as geskenke. Dertien hoofstukke met opskrifte soos *Duimpie Dikkedoor*, *Vrot tamatie*, *Lekker konfyf*, *Jorsie Worsie en sy maats*, *Allawiek*, *allawak*, *Husse met lang ore*, *Sarel Marais het 'n eier gelê*, *Sing is 'n lekker ding* en *Doedoe, ogies toe*, maak jou nog meer lus om verder te lees. Dan is daar as bonus die illustreerder Alzette Prins se vrolike, lewenslustige en kleurvolle illustrasies wat die boek as geheel 'n pragboek maak. Haar

aanvoeling vir die kind se verbeeldingswêreld is 100% in die kol. 'n Groot dankie vir 'n boek wat 'n mens met groot vreugde kan koester en geniet. LG

STEWART, Amber

Dapper klein mol / illustrasies deur Layn Marlow; in Afrikaans vertaal deur Elze le Roux.- Struik Lifestyle, 2014. 'Minka is 'n klein mol. Sy's mal oor avontuur en lief om nuwe dinge te ontdek ... behalwe as dit by kos kom. Minka wil niks anders as bessies eet nie! In hierdie prettige storie vind Minka se Mamma en Pappa 'n manier om haar nuwe kossies te laat eet en nuwe smake te ontdek. Want sy is mos die dapperste mol in die molsgat!'

Struik Lifestyle, 'n drukkersmerk van Random House Struik, het onlangs agt boekies met oulike dierekaraktertjies wat jong lesers belangrike lessies leer, uit Engels in Afrikaans laat vertaal deur Elze le Roux. Die illustreerder is Layn Marlow. Uitgewer se opsomming: 'Elke dierekaraktertjie in die boekies het 'n grootwoord-uitdaging wat deurgemaak moet word. Die karaktertjies oorkom grootwoord-vrese, leer om dapper te wees en leer ook allerlei lewenslessies oor verskeie temas soos vriendskap en familiewaardes tydens hul uitdagings. Die temas in elke boekie is universeel van aard en ouers, sowel as kinders, sal maklik daarmee kan identifiseer. Hierdie boekies sal 'n lekker, leersame ervaring vir jong lesertjies verseker en is definitief 'n aanwinst vir die kinders se boekrak.' Die titels, geskryf deur Amber Stewart is: **Bietjie vir bietjie**; **Dapper klein mol**; **Ek lief my bersie**; **Flippers se groot tree**; **Hoeveel slabies**; en **Net soos vanaand**. **Bytjie en Beer** is geskryf deur Ann Bonwill; en **Maak gou en stadig nou** is geskryf deur Layn Marlow. Die boekies is geskik vir kinders van 3 tot 6 jaar oud. (Random House, Struik)



VAN DER VYVER, Marita

Olinosters op die dak / illustrasies deur Dale Blankenaar.- Tafelberg, 2015.

Lank en skraal en donker vertoon hierdie heruitgawe van die boek wat in 1996 gepubliseer is met illustrasies deur Piet Grobler en toé 'n MER pryswenner. Hierdie uitgawe is geïllustreer deur Dale Blankenaar, 'n voormalige student van Piet Grobler. En sal Piet nie trots wees op hierdie keurig versorgde pragboek

nie! Dit herinner aan baie van die Europese publikasies, en is 'n duidelike bewys dat ons uitgewers in Suid Afrika internasionaal kan kompeteer met die beste boeke. Daniel kuier by sy ouma en oupa en oornag daar in 'n vreemde bed. Hy hoor baie vreemde geluide, en telkens moet sy ouma of oupa hom gerusstel dat dit maar net 'n olinoster of 'n krokokoei, of 'n blouwildekameel of 'n bobberilla is — almal goeters waarvoor hy glad nie bang hoef te wees nie. Die regte leeu is toe maar net oupa se bont kat. Kinders leer hier om hul vrese in die nag te oorwin. Die humoristiese aanslag help ook. Marita van der Vyver se teks lees lekker en gerusstellend. Dale Blankenaar se donker, verbeeldingryke illustrasies versterk die gevoel van 'n donker nag met onheilspellende gedoentes wat die seuntjie bang laat voel. Sy dubbel volblad illustrasies van elke spesifieke monster is regtig baie indrukwekkend. Daar is fyn detail in elke vertrek — Daniel in 'n klein badjie oordonder deur die groot monster



met die skubberige vel; 'n beertjie wat teen die gordyn uitklim; die bobberilla met 'n snaakse sneeu-kleurige vel en blink holtes vir oë; 'n reuse leeu wat sy hele bed oordonder en net die klein seunskoppie met handjies wat sy oë toehou is sigbaar; en dan Daniel wat op die dier se rug deur die lug sweef met beertjie wat hom vanuit die huis se skoorsteen toekyk. Hy is nou baie duidelik in beheer van die situasie. Die donker kleure in die vertrek word telkens ligter as ouma of oupa hom verseker dat hy nie vir die gediertes bang hoef te

wees nie. Die boek is werklikwaar 'n kunswerk van begin tot einde. Kunsliefhebbers sal dit geniet, en kunststudente kan leer by Blankenaar, wat definitief hier werk van hoogstaande gehalte lewer. Dit is 'n boek vir fynproewers. Ook in Engels beskikbaar as **Rhinocephants on the roof**. LG

EB	Erich Buchhaus
LG	Lona Gericke — afgetrede kinderbibliotekaris en bestuurslid van IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People)
SSJ	Stanley Jonck

Note: At the time of going to press some of these titles were still on order.



Lighthouses

Beacons of hope and life by Dalena Le Roux

Ever since man has set out to sea he has created beacons to help wary mariners steer their vessels clear of danger. Many sailors and sea travellers, on seeing the friendly glow of a lighthouse from their ship, have warmed a little at this symbol of mankind's instinct to save lives. Lighthouses have a special place in the hearts of mankind, for these majestic structures have saved many lives as well as valuable cargoes from watery graves on inhospitable coastlines all over the world.

Beacons of safety shining in the night, alerting sailors to danger on sea as well as on nearby land, lighthouses have been part of the coastal landscape for thousands of years. From the earliest towers, which burned coal and wood to produce fiery signals, to today's computer-animated structures, the worldwide network of lighthouses continues to provide a vital link to safety for those who travel at sea. Seen as icons of rugged reliability and refuge, they remain symbolic of the world's maritime heritage.

Fires on land have always been visible from the sea at night. It is impossible to say when the first fire was deliberately lit at a specific place for the sole purpose of serving as a warning beacon and thus becoming the first lighthouse. Homer is quoted as saying in his *The Iliad*, (around 850 BC):

As to the eye of the mariner, whom the winds, in spite of all efforts hold far from the friendly shore, appears the light of a fire burning at a solitary spot on the summit of a mountain, so shone to heaven the flash of Achilles' buckler.

Perhaps the most famous true lighthouse in recorded history was built of marble on the island of Pharos, near the harbour entrance of Alexandria in Egypt, in 300 BC. With a height of 120m it still ranks as the tallest lighthouse ever built. Although it was completely destroyed by an earthquake in about 1350 AD, the legacy of Pharos still lives on in the root of the word for

lighthouse in many languages: *faro* in Spanish and Italian, *phare* in French and *farol* in Portuguese.

Most of the world's dangerous coastlines, including South Africa's aptly named Skeleton Coast, the Cape of Storms and the treacherous Indian Ocean shore are now adequately equipped with lighthouses. Modern lighthouses usually fulfil more than the basic function of emitting light at night and allowing its distinctive shape to serve as a marker by day. It can sound fog warnings, reflect radar signals and greatly extend its effective range by acting as a radio beacon that can be used by aircraft as well as ships.

And just as the mariners in Homer's *ILIAD* or the seamen being guided by the Pharos of Alexandria could not have imagined radio beacons or satellite navigation, there may be navigation aids in the future which we today cannot yet contemplate.





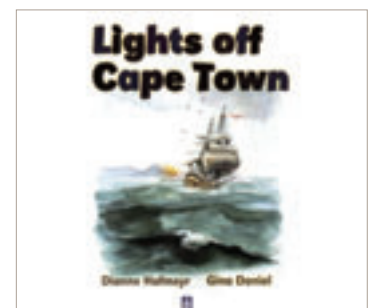
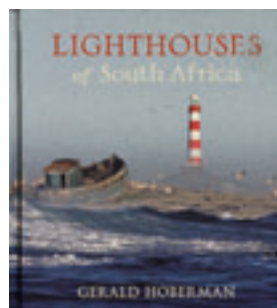
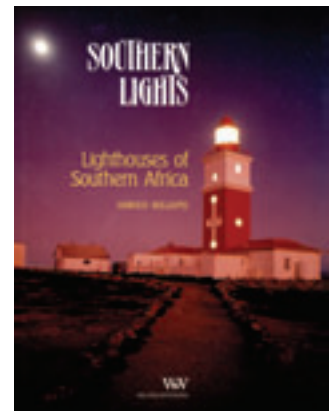
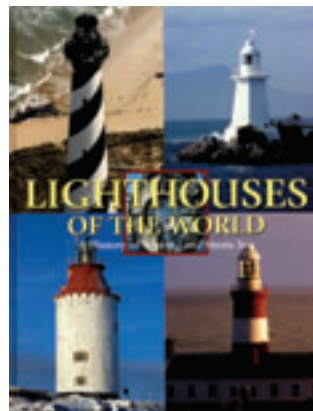
© LenDog64/flickr.com

The beautiful lighthouse and Bavarian lion at the Lindau Harbour entrance in Germany

But, whatever their form, their essential function will remain to warn travellers of danger and save lives by giving them a chance to steer their way to safety — in essence what the lighthouses we know so well have done for sailors over the centuries during the wild nights at sea.

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Begin 'n leeskring

'n Bespreking oor George Leeskring deur Rachel Williams

Leeskringe is van belang vir die vitaliteit van biblioteke. Boeke wat só bespreek word, is 'n aanduiding vir biblioteekpersoneel wat lesers se aandag aangryp. Dit is ook 'n aanduiding van verskillende genres wat tans aandag geniet en wat as onderwerpe vir bespreking dien. Leeskringe bestaan uit persone wat ingelig is aangaande leestendense en -neigings en toon vir biblioteekpersoneel aan hoe hulle hul daarop moet toespits om boeke te kies wat aangrypend en van literêre belang is. Biblioteke kan dus nie bekostig om leeskringe te ignoreer of as van minder belang af te maak nie, aangesien die persone wat aan hierdie kringe behoort, aktiewe biblioteekgebruikers is.

Hieronder volg 'n kort bespreking oor George Leeskring en sy ontstaan. Biblioteke wat nog nie by leeskringe betrokke is nie, mag moontlik 'n riglyn of twee hieruit neem.

George Leeskring het ontstaan aan die begin van 1994 toe Marietjie Kotze die leemte aan 'n leeskring geïdentifiseer het. Vanaf die eerste vergadering was daar noue samewerking met George Openbare Biblioteek. Aanvanklik was die ledetal tussen tien en vyftien lede maar tans is daar 36! Die eerste vergaderings was in lede se huise gehou en soos die ledetal gegroei het, is ander lokale gebruik totdat dit die afgelope jare 'n vaste bymeakaar-kompleks by Die Ventertjie van die ACVV wat in Victoriastraat 38 geleë is.

Die leeskring se voertaal is Afrikaans, maar is oop vir almal. Daar is huishoudelike reëls en ledesgeld word jaarliks betaal, en 'n klein bedrag gaan vir tee en toebroodjies wat tydens elke vergadering deur die ACVV voorsien word.

Lede word jaarliks versoek om teen Oktober boeke vir bespreking in die komende jaar voor te stel. Die nuwe bestuur wat in Oktober verkies word, vergader saam met ander lede om 'n program vir die volgende jaar, wat uit nege byeenkomste bestaan, saam te stel. By die keuse van boeke word verskeie genres oorweeg en romans, kortverhale, poësie en ook dramas word ingesluit. Verder word letterkundige werke van Afrikaanse, Engelse, Afrika- en buitelandse skrywers op die lys ingesluit waarvan ten minste een of twee werke pryse vir letterkunde verwerf het. Soms word die hele oeuvre van 'n skrywer behandel. Sodra die program gefinaliseer is, word 'n afskrif van die program aan die George Biblioteek gegee wat dan poog om die boeke betyds op die leeskring se rak in die biblioteek te kry. Die leeskring skaf ook self van die nuutste boeke aan wat onder die lede gesirkuleer word en aan die einde van die jaar aan lede verkoop of aan die biblioteek geskenk word. Verteenwoordigers van die George Biblioteek is ook welkom om enige tyd van die vergaderings by te woon. Van die titels wat vanjaar bespreek sal word is: **Kamphoer** deur Francois Smith; **Arctic summer** deur Damon Galgut; **Laaste dans**, Drienie deur Steve Hofmeyr; en **Transatlantic** deur Colum McCann.



Die personeel van George Biblioteek is deur lede van George Leeskring met verversings bederf toe Dr Elise Calitz die personeel van die Biblioteek toegesprek het



Dr Marié Heese, die outeur van *Vuurklip*, 'n Afrikaanse roman waarvoor sy by Woordfees 2014 bekroon is

'n Hoogtepunt in 2014 was toe Dr Marié Heese, bekroonde outeur van *Vuurklip*, as gasspreker opgetree het. Die gehoor het bestaan uit meer as 50 vroue, wat van so ver as Groot-Brakrivier af gekom het om hierdie praatjie by te woon.

Rachel Williams is die bestuurder van George Biblioteekdienste



RSS feeds – they are really simple and useful

Setting up an RSS feed from our new e-resource Library and Information Science database by EBSCOhost by Helga Fraser

Have you logged in yet to the wealth of interesting information that is available for librarians on the Library, Literature and Information Science (LLIS) database hosted by EBSCO and subscribed to by the Western Cape Library Service (WCLS)?

In the January/February issue of the *Cape Librarian* we provided a step-by-step guide on how to conduct a search on a topic that might interest you in the 170 national and international Library and Information Science (LIS) journals made available on the database.

If you have not done so yet, please ask your librarian, regional librarian or the staff at the Research Section of WCLS for the login details and discover the wealth of professional advice and information available to you on this new e-resource for LIS workers in the Western Cape. The Research Section of WCLS is currently also giving practical demonstrations on how to use the database at all Library Forums being held in the province.

In this article, as promised, we will show you how to make use of the very convenient feature of a Rich Site Summary (RSS) feed from the LLIS database.

So what is an RSS feed?

RSS stands for Rich Site Summary and – confusingly – also for Real Simple Syndication! Maybe the latter is a better description for the acronym, because what an RSS feed in essence does is to make life really simple for you by alerting you through a – for a layperson – complicated technical syndication process via your e-mail when articles on topics you are interested in are published in one of the 170 LIS journals which make up the LLIS database.

This makes it unnecessary for you, the user, to continuously manually check the database for new content. You will be notified via e-mail and given a link which leads you right into the relevant article – pretty neat, isn't it?



How do I set up an RSS feed?

When you want to set-up an RSS feed in general, the database or website you want to subscribe to has to have an RSS feed set up. All EBSCO databases and interfaces support RSS feeds. So, after you have logged into the LLIS database, type in the topic that you would like to have updates on, for example, 'Teenagers and libraries'. Once you have clicked 'enter', the drop-down list of articles from all LIS journals pertaining to this topic will appear. You can then refine your selection again on the left hand side for full text articles, images, et cetera.



Then click on the 'Share' tab in the top right-hand corner and, in the 'Create alert' field, choose the RSS tab (see our illustration for the symbol for RSS). The popup window will ask you to set up an e-mail alert and you will have to do this with a username and password, choosing the frequency, time period and format in which you want to receive updates.

Once you have submitted this, you will receive an e-mail from EBSCOhost Alert providing a link — and there you are! Click on it and you will find all the latest published articles on 'Teenagers and libraries'. Of course you can set up as many RSS feeds of topics that you are interested in.

Should you have any other queries regarding the use of the LLIS database, the 'Help' menu found in the top right hand corner is also very useful and gives guidance on any aspect of using this e-resource.

So use our new database and have fun with it — and keep up to date on developments in librarianship around the world.

Another useful feature of the LLIS database is that it provides an electronic index of articles from the **Cape Librarian** from 2004 onwards. So if you are looking for a previously published article in the **Cape Librarian**, log into LLIS, enter the keyword, and the database will give you the volume, year and issue of the **Cape Librarian** the article appeared in. Please remember that we have a complete set of all **Cape Librarians** in the Research Section and can copy or scan information for you on request.

Helga Fraser is a research librarian with the Western Cape Library Service



Hier is die **jong Afrikaanse digters!**

Die toekoms van Afrikaanse digters lyk goed deur Daniel Hugo



In die verlede kon Afrikaans hom (haar?) beroem op uitsonderlik talentvolle digters van wie op 'n jong ouderdom bundels gepubliseer is. Ek dink aan WEG Louw en Elisabeth Eybers in die dertigerjare van die twintigste eeu. Louw het reeds op 21-jarige ouderdom die Hertzog Prys vir sy eerstelingbundel gewen! En Elisabeth Eybers het haar beroemde gedig *Maria* geskryf toe sy 17 was.

Nader aan ons tyd is daar Antjie Krog, Annesu de Vos, Piet van Rooyen en Theunis Engelbrecht, maar hulle het ook

reeds in die vorige eeu gedebuteer. Met die uitsondering van Jasper van Zyl — wie se eerste bundel in 2011 verskyn het terwyl hy nog op universiteit was — lyk dit of die Afrikaanse digkuns vinnig aan die vergrys is. En ek het begin wanhoop, veral toe ek begin besef dat my generasie skrywers, die sogenaamde Tagtigers, reeds sestig is of dreig om binnekort sestig te word.

Toe, vroeër vanjaar, vra Ina van Schalkwyk my om saam met die literator en digter, prof. Bernard Odendaal, die poësie-afdeling van die Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns se

skoleskryfkompetisie te beoordeel. Daar is ook 'n prosa-afdeling wat deur prof. Thys Human en die digter Tom Gouws behartig is. Die wenners en gekeurdes word al sedert 1970 in 'n spesiale boekie met die titel *Poort* deur die Akademie uitgegee. En in daardie eerste uitgawe van 1970 het daar ook gedigte van die einste Antjie Krog verskyn. Dit was dieselfde jaar waarin haar eerste bundel, *Dogter van Jefa*, die lig gesien het toe sy maar net 18 jaar oud was.

Wat was my verbasing en vreugde groot toe ek die inskrywings ontvang wat

van skole dwarsoor die land ingestuur is! 'n Mens hoor deesdae gereeld hoe treurig skoliere en studente se taalbeheersing is, dat daar selfs kinders is wat die skool as analfabete verlaat. Maar voor my het daar 'n stapel skryfwerk beland wat van die teenoorgestelde getuig. Wat my hoop gee vir die toekoms van die Afrikaanse letterkunde.

Die kinders (meisies én seuns) skryf hoofsaaklik oor hulle eie ervaringswêreld: skoolgaan en tienerliefde, maar ook oor godsdiens, sosiale onreg en die landspolitiiek. Alene Holder van die die Hoër Meisieskool Bloemhof op Stellenbosch haat byvoorbeeld Wiskunde met 'n passie. Haar gedig *Sin, Cos en Mozart* begin só:

*Elke dag sterf ek vyf-en-veertig minute.
In 'n dik poel van Sin, Cos en Tan
Verdrink ek in die regte en die rigiede.*

Vir Elanah Engelbrecht van die Hoërskool Jan van Riebeeck in Kaapstad is die hële skoolweek gans te lank:

*Liewe Maandag,
sal jy so gaaf wees om
vir Dinsdag te SMS om
vir Woensdag te e-pos om
vir Donderdag te sê om
vir Vrydag te BBM om
groot asseblief sy gat te roer!*

Ek het ook groot waardering vir Jemima Fouché (Hoërskool Jim Fouché, Bloemfontein) se vaardige woordspel en aanwending van 'n Bybelse verwysing in *Wys*:

*my eie wysvinger is ontsteek
deur 'n splinter
(vanaf 'n balk)
dit wys dat ek my vingerwys
moet wysig
as ek
wys wil wees*

Shaun-Connery Jansen van die Hoërskool Montagu se *First crush* bewys dat die loslit spreektaal nog springlewendig is as digterlike uitdrukingsmiddel, en dat Nathan Trantaal nie die laaste sê in hierdie verband gaan hê nie:



Sisca Julius

Foto verskaf

*Sy was my first crush ma' ons het
nooit gevry nie.
Sy was my girlfriend in the night, jy
wiet mos ... my liefdespillow.
Sy was my inspiration en my geloof,
ek't in niks anders behalwe in ha'
geglo —
Sy was net 'n crush dalk was ek te
insane, but my liefde vir ha' sal altyd
remain.*

Ek was besonder beïndruk deur Rashmika Singh van die Hoër Meisieskool Westville se minimalistiese, maar treffende verse, byvoorbeeld, *Slaaploosheid*:

*As jy
die lig sien
in die donker nag
kan jy nie
mooi drome
droom nie*

Die versoeking is groot om nog 'n handvol gedigte aan te haal, maar dit is tyd om die wenner van die *Poort*-kompetisie aan te kondig: Sisca Julius van die Hoërskool Noord-Kaap in Kimberley. In der waarheid is sy 'n dubbele wenner, want sy het ook die prosa-afdeling gewen — die eerste keer in 45 jaar dat so iets gebeur! Hier is *Hamartia*, haar wengedig:

*om te dig
was om vlees aan siel geweef te hou
en om jou lief te hê
my daaglikse brood
nou lek my bladsy leeg
aan inkkolle, die datum,
die niks
my pen wil nie lewe skep nie
afsydige alliterasie
en enjambement vereenselwig
hulle nie meer met my nie
en rympatroon troos nie
nou hys ek die wit banier
van my papier,
ek gee op
breek my pen in twee want
om te dig
was altyd om jou lief te hê
ek kort 'n reël
wat nou?*

Waar is die jong digters? In ons skole dwarsoor die land. Ek juig oor ons jeug wat Afrikaans skryf en dit goed skryf.

Dr Daniel Hugo is 'n voormalige dosent asook redakteur van literêre programme. Hy is die ontvanger van talle toekennings in die uitsaaiwese asook vir prysgehalte vertalings van literêre werke.



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If you don't read the newspaper you are uninformed, if you do read the newspaper you are misinformed. Mark Twain

I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle. Winston Churchill

A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul. George Bernard Shaw



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