

# Cape Librarian

November/December 2016  
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Kaapse Bibliotekaris



Western Cape  
Government  
Cultural Affairs and Sport

BETTER TOGETHER.

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## COVER | VOORBLAD

Our sixth and final cover of a series of male authors,  
Niq Mhlongo.  
Die sesde en finale voorblad in ons reeks oor mansskrywers,  
Niq Mhlongo.



At the risk of parroting previous editorials it does to me seem as if the year has once again come and gone before one has even properly caught one's breath. There definitely is some truth in the fact that as one gets older the faster time flies.

Before I lament too much on time running out let me alert you to the wonderful summer reads article on page 28, compiled for our readers by book selector Sabrina Gosling. Editing the article actually caused some agitation for me as I realised that there are so many lovely suggestions to add to my list of books to read before I die that I actually can't see myself ever achieving this goal. But I am going to try and I suggest that you immediately dig in and start reading.

Although for South Africans 2016 has, in many respects, been an annus horribilis, the one positive that remains is that people still love to read. The growing phenomenon of book festivals in South Africa is proof of this and despite doomsayers predicting that hardcopy books will become less desirable, a recent report in a Sunday paper indicated that major book publishers have, for the first time, reported a fall in the sales of

e-books. Proof of the fact that there are still thousands of dedicated booklovers is evident in the article by Francois Verster after yet another trip to some interesting book festivals recently held in the Western Cape (page 23).

Another positive is that we are in the fortunate position of finally being able to welcome Cecilia Sani (page 4) who has taken up the post as our new director — a post that has been vacant for a year. It is great to be able to look forward to starting 2017 afresh with a new director.

The editorial team wishes our readers a calm and peaceful Christmas and festive season and greet you with the hope that everyone's Christmas stocking will contain a good book...

Ek loop die risiko van 'n herhaling van vorige jare se redaksionele bydraes aangesien dit werklik weereens vir my voel asof die jaar amper verby is nog voordat 'n mens behoorlik kon asemskip. Daar steek beslis waarheid in die feit dat hoe ouer 'n mens word hoe vinniger vlieg die tyd verby.

Voordat ek te lank stilstaan by hierdie onstuitbare werklikheid vestig ek graag lesers se aandag op die heerlike lekkerlees artikel, *Summer reads*, deur boekkeurder, Sabrina Gosling op bladsy 28. Ek het eintlik 'n ernstige mate van angstigheid ervaar terwyl ek die artikel geredigeer het want dit word al hoe duideliker dat ek nooit my lysie van boeke wat ek nog moet lees voordat ek doodgaan, gaan baasraak na haar jongste voorstelle nie. Maar ek gaan probeer en ek stel voor dat lesers ook so doen.

Ten spyte van die feit dat 2016 vir talle Suid-Afrikaners 'n annus horribilis was, is daar die een groot plus en dit is dat mense steeds dol daaroor is om te

lees. Bewys hiervan is die toenemende aantal boekfeeste in Suid-Afrika. In 'n onlangse artikel in 'n Sondagkoerant is berig dat daar vir die eerste keer in jare 'n afname is in die verkope van e-boeke — dit in teenstelling met die doemprefete se voorspelling dat daar 'n grootskaalse daling in hardekopie-boekverkope gaan kom. Dat daar steeds duisende boekleefhebbers in die land is, word gestaaft in Francois Verster se artikel oor die heerlike boekfeeste in die Wes-Kaap, onlangs deur hom bygewoon (bladsy 23).

Nog 'n positiewe gebeurtenis is dat ons uiteindelik ons nuwe direkteur, Cecilia Sani, (bladsy 4) kan verwelkom. Dit is 'n lekker gevoel om te weet dat ons 2017 kan ingaan met 'n nuwe direkteur nadat die pos vir 'n jaar vakant was.

Die redaksionele span wens ons lesers 'n kalm rustige Kersfees en feesseisoen toe en ons groet met die hoop dat daar in almal se Kerskous 'n goeie boek sal wees...

Grizell



On behalf of the Western Cape Library Service, the largest (and best!) library service on the African continent, I would like to wish our readers a peaceful festive season. As this is the season of joy and thanksgiving, I also wish to express my utmost gratitude to our Cape Librarian team and the readers. May 2017 be rich in blessings for all.

Cecilia Sani  
Director, Western Cape Library Service

#### Editor | Redakteur

Grizell Azar-Luxton Tel: (021) 483-2446

#### Sub-editor | Subredakteur

Helga Fraser Tel: (021) 483-2044

#### Graphic design | Grafiese ontwerp

Cover design | Omslagontwerp

Photography | Fotografie

Wynand Coetzee Tel: (021) 483-2283

#### Contributor | Medewerker

Dr Francois Verster

#### Administration and advertising |

Administrasie en advertensies

Szerena Knapp Tel: (021) 483-2483

Fax/Faks: (021) 419-7541

#### Website | Webtuiste

[http://www.westerncape.gov.za/your\\_gov/106](http://www.westerncape.gov.za/your_gov/106)

#### Online public access catalogue

<http://wc.slims.gov.za/desktop/desktopwc>

#### Email | E-pos

capelib@westerncape.gov.za

Grizell.Azar-Luxton@westerncape.gov.za

grizell@afrika.com

#### Address | Adres

PO Box 2108, Cape Town, 8000

Posbus 2108, Kaapstad, 8000

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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 Biblioteekaris is die huisblad van die Wes-Kaapse Biblioteekdiens en verskyn twee-maandeliks. Dit bevat artikels oor biblioteek- en inligtingwese, nuusberigte, resensies, aanwinstlyste 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.

tussen die lyne

# Slimmer as 'n slimfoon

Ons leef in interessante tye deur Stefan Wehmeyer



20 jaar is 'n baie lang tyd. Baie kan gebeur ... daar was net meer as 20 jaar tussen die einde van die Eerste Wêreldoorlog en die uitbreek van die tweede ene.

Ek kan onthou dat ek al die Internet sedert 1995 gebruik, dus net meer as 20 jaar. Ekself het nie destyds toegang gehad nie. Toegang tot die Internet was eers net 'n 'nice to have' en ek het eers in 1996 my eie verbinding gekry.

In 1996 skryf ek my eerste artikel oor die Internet vir die *Kaapse Bibliotekaris* en noem dit *Snuffel, snuffel deur die wonderlike wye wêreld*. Gedog ek sinspeel lekker op die dingetjie in my hand wat 'n muis genoem is en die WWW-afkorting. Destyds het my dierbare Biblioteekkundeprofessor, Prof Ehlers, baiekeer die woord *snuffel* gebruik as 'n vertaling van die Engelse woord 'browse'. Sien, ek hét darem toe al die woorde 'klik' en 'surf' in die artikel gebruik.

Alhoewel 'n lekker en handige uitvinding wat die wêreld van inligting soveel nader gebring het, was die aflaaispoed maar stadig en skerts ek toe ook in die artikel dat dit so lank neem vir foto's om af te laai dat ek maar net sowel breipenne en wol kon gaan koop het om die tyd om te kry.

10 jaar is ook 'n lang tyd. Of is dit? 10 jaar gelede skryf ek 'n artikel oor breëbandtoegang tot die Internet. Daai jare was ADSL nog geklassifiseer as breëband en was 'n lynspoed van 4 mbps omtrent die beste wat jy kon kry. Vandag bestaan 'dial-ups' nie meer nie en is daai girts-garts-gor-eeek klank van 'n modem wat aangesit word, 'n vae geheueflits. Ek het destyds geskryf dat hoë kostes mense afskrik en dat daar nie baie keuses was nie. MTN en Vodacom se spoed was maar 1,8 mbps. Daai jare was slimfone nog nie juis in massagebruik nie (die verkope van iPhone het eers in Januarie 2007 begin). Mense





'n soort van alles-in-een en met Apps kan 'n mens letterlik enigiets onder die son doen.

'n Tipiese dag van my begin soos volg: Lank voor ses is dit my wekker wat afgaan met lekker vrolike oempa-oempamusiek vanaf 'n obskure radiostasie in Beiere, Duitsland. Op pad na die treinstasie en op die trein word dit 'n speletjiesbord en besoek ek Pokestops (*PokeStops is plekke in PokemonGo waar ek goeters soos Poke Balls kan kry om 'n Pokemon te vang!*) so met die reis tot in die Kaap. Soms lees ek my werk-eposse, kyk na Facebook en lees nuus. As ek in onbekende plekke reis word dit my GPS-navigator. Met my Google Plus-rekening kry ek allerhande 'alerts' soos byvoorbeeld, môre se temperatuur en hoe laat ek moes reis om betyds te kan wees vir 'n vlug terug na Suid Afrika. Apps is volop en mens kan letterlik enigiets doen. Ek kan selfs sien wanneer laas ek 'n sak aartappels by Pick 'n Pay gekoop het.

Maar niks is gratis nie. Data kos geld! Volgens 'n onlangse berig op [www.mybroadband.co.za](http://www.mybroadband.co.za) het 'n vergelykende studie wat lewenskostes in ag neem in Kenia, Australië en die BRICS-lande (Brasilië, Rusland, Indië en China) getoon dat data in Suid Afrika die tweede duurste is. (#datamustfall het onlangs lekker ge-trend op Twitter.)

Dit bring my nou na biblioteke. Die meeste biblioteke het deesdae gratis Internettoegang en die Wes-Kaapse regering het 'n projek om geleidelik WiFi na biblioteke te bring. 250 megabytes (MB) per maand word gratis verskaf. Alhoewel min, is dit darem iets!

En 5 jaar van nou? 10 jaar van nou? Ek kan maar net vermoed dat slimfone nog slimmer gaan word en dat mobiele tegnologie 'n ál groter rol in ons lewens gaan speel. Met die migrering na digitale televisie (later blykbaar ook radio) in Suid Afrika gaan meer golflengtes (spektrum) beskikbaar kom en

mobiele tegnologie sal hierdie golflengtes effektief kan gebruik om vinniger toegang te verskaf. Lees meer hieroor by [http://www.gov.za/sites/www.gov.za/files/gcis\\_documents/dtt-en-1.pdf](http://www.gov.za/sites/www.gov.za/files/gcis_documents/dtt-en-1.pdf) of soek op Google vir die GCIS-dokument *Godigital South Africa*.

Om mee af te sluit haal ek aan wat Robert Kennedy 50 jaar gelede (Junie 1966) in Kaapstad gesê het:

*'There is a Chinese curse which says "May he live in interesting times". Like it or not we live in interesting times. They are times of danger and uncertainty; but they are also more open to the creative energy of men than at any other time in history.'*

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*Stefan Wehmeyer is die adjunkdirekteur van streke van die Wes-Kaapse Biblioteekdiens*



het dan ook altyd gedink in terme van skootrekenaars en PC's. So skryf ek dan destyds: 'Met 'n skootrekenaar kan jy nou van enige plek toegang hê, hetsy jy in die huis op die bed lê of in die tuin onder 'n boom sit.'

Sedert die bekendstelling van die Apple iPhone het die gewildheid van slimfone dramaties toegeneem. Volgens 'n onlangse nuusberig in [www.africannews.com](http://www.africannews.com) wys 'n opname deur die Pew Research Centre dat Suid-Afrikaners voorloop in Afrika in die gebruik van selfone met 37% van volwassenes wat slimfone gebruik. 'n Verdere 52% gebruik 'gewone' selfone en slegs 10% het glad nie selfone nie.

Per amptelike definisie is 'n slimfoon 'n gevorderde mobiele bedryfstelsel wat die eienskappe van 'n persoonlike rekenaar se bedryfstelsel met 'useful' eienskappe vir mobiele fone kombineer. 'n Slimfoon met sy kenmerklike 'touch screen' is



post bag | possak

LLIS database access

I read the article in the **Cape Librarian** (Oct/Nov 2016) on the LLIS database. I also read your previous article in Jan/Feb 2015 and am interested in accessing the database.

I need the login details, please.

Yvette Du Preez  
Regional Librarian, Adriaanse Library

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*To access the database, log into: <https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx>. Contact Helga Fraser at 021 483-2044 for the username and password. Thank you for your interest. ED*

Electronic subscription to **Cape Librarian**

I recently came across the wonderful editions of the journal at the Book Lounge while I was in Cape Town visiting from the USA.

I live in Washington, DC now and have been for 37 years. I visited the Wale Street Library as a high school student at Harold Cressy from 1967-1970 and loved it. I would like to receive the **Cape Librarian/Kaapse Bibliotekaris** as it is most informative, well done and impressive. I look forward to hearing from you.

Dr Cudore L Snell  
Professor of Social Work and Assistant Provost for International Programs, Howard University, Washington, DC

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*It is heartening to see that the CL is well received. Your copy is in the post. To access the magazine online, please go to <https://www.westerncape.gov.za/dept/cas/documents/mags/1539>. ED*

people | mense

WCLS welcomes new director, Cecilia Sani

We asked our newly appointed director to tell us a little bit about herself...

'In 1993 I moved from dusty Gauteng to the beautiful mother city, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, to study Library and Information Science at Cape Technikon ... and never looked back. I fell in love with the richness of the subject matter and the infinite possibilities of the world of books, and of course with the beautiful City of Cape Town.

'My employment history spans over two decades. I started as a nervous library assistant at UCT Libraries in the Circulation Section, working my way through the Reference Section, the Hiddingh Hall Arts and Drama Library and the Knowledge Commons. An opportunity arose to help develop the electronic resources and virtual library of the Human Sciences



Research Council Information Services, which took me back to Pretoria. Here my interest in knowledge management was triggered which led me to obtaining my MPhil in Information and Knowledge Management.

'After seven years at the HSRC as systems administrator, managing the Technical Library Services division as well as the Virtual Library, I became a civil servant at the Department of Science and Technology and held the post of director in the Socio-Economic Innovation Partnership Programme for seven years. This introduced me to the world of strategic planning, annual performance plans, monitoring and evaluation, performance management, budgeting and more budgeting. But on a serious note, it opened my eyes to the impact government programmes can have in the upliftment of communities and the betterment of South Africans, and how each one of us can make a difference.

'I am super excited and blessed to be back in Cape Town and to work with the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport in offering a sustainable Library and Information Service to the Western Cape Community. I certainly agree with Andrew Carnegie when he states that a library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is like a never failing spring in the desert!

---

*A very warm welcome from the library family in the Western Cape and we wish you all the very best in this wonderful book-related environment. ED*



## New book selector hails from Natal

The Library Service is pleased to welcome Ayanda Majola to the Selection Section as of November.

Ayanda comes from Ixopo in KwaZulu-Natal and decided at a young age to become a librarian. She was passionate about reading as a young girl and when she first visited the public library in town she was so inspired that she decided there and then that she would like to work in just such a place when she grew up.

She studied library and information science at the Durban University of

Technology and her most recent job was that of librarian at the College of Cape Town, where she assisted lecturers and students with their information needs. This professional experience as well as the personal one of parenting twin four-year-old boys will extend and enrich that of the selection team.

Welcome on board, Ayanda. We hope that you will be happy here and enjoy a long career with us.

**Johanna de Beer**  
Assistant Director, Selection,  
Library Service



## libraries | biblioteke

### Kleinmond Library upgrade

Kleinmond Library received a R5 million upgrade to its facilities after the building in which the library was housed for the last 29 years became too small for the many activities in this bustling community centre. Ms Anroux Marais, minister for Cultural Affairs, and Ms Nicolette Guthrie-Botha, the mayor of the Overstrand Municipality, officiated at the opening on 15 July 2016.

The first library in this scenic coastal town was established in a makeshift venue in 1958 when it received its first consignment of books from the Cape Provincial Library Service. In 1969 the library was moved to a new venue and, being a coastal holiday resort, experienced a particularly busy December with a circulation of 8,000 books and 500 new members. In the past year Kleinmond Library's annual circulation stood at 115,900 with a membership of 2,372.

The new state-of-the-art building, funded from the Conditional Grant for Community Libraries, was built over a two-year period and now boasts a computer section, a boardroom, an activity room and a separate children's section. The floor area of the library now comprises 815m<sup>2</sup> and as stated by area manager Desmond Lakey, the new building 'creates a seamless flow from the old to the new structure'.

A special feature of the library — the exhibition of specimens of fynbos that grows in a 2km radius of the library — has been retained. To the delight of all users and visitors, the collection of bottles containing the different wild flowers with the species names, grace the top of the bookshelves as always.



*Minister Anroux Marais and Mayor Nicolette Guthrie-Botha officially opening the upgraded Kleinmond Library with representatives of DCAS and Overstrand Municipality looking on*



*A section of the upgraded Kleinmond Library. Note the fynbos display*

May the staff and users of this new community hub spend many happy hours in this lovely space reading, researching and learning!

**Helga Fraser**  
Librarian, Research and sub-editor Cape Librarian



## Leipoldt-Nortier celebrates national days



At Leipoldt-Nortier Library National Diabetes Month was highlighted with a display of posters and books. Attention was drawn to what diabetes is, the effects it has on one's body, how it can be treated and how to manage it with healthy eating habits



National Children's Day was also celebrated. The display focused on the rights and freedom of children

## Gespreksoggend met Elaine Marais

Nasionale Boekweek en Internasionale Geletterheidsdag is op 9 September by Worcester Biblioteek gevier met 'n gespreksoggend tussen die plaaslike skrywer Elaine Marais en Heino du Plessis van Protea Boekwinkel. Breedevallei biblioteekpersoneel asook groepe uit die gemeenskap het die inspirerende oggend bygewoon. Die tema was *Lees, skryf en boeke*.

Karen Jorgensen  
Bibliotekaris, Worcester Biblioteek



Karen Jorgensen, Elaine Marais en Heino du Plessis

## Toy library in action in Vredenburg

Following regional librarian Yvette Herbst's article on toy libraries in the July/August 2016 CL, it was interesting to see toy libraries in action at the National Book Week event held at the Weskus Mall in Vredenburg from 5 to 9 September 2016. Early learning facilitators from the non-governmental organisation Cotlands entertained children of various ages with educational toys and games. Cotlands manages the Toy Library Association of South Africa that promotes the establishment of toy libraries and provides training on how to set them up.

A toy library is a high-impact, cost-effective, non-centre-based programme that gives children, their families, early learning facilitators and ECD practitioners access to a collection of carefully selected educational play materials, play sessions and training on how to use toys to encourage development.

Toy libraries provide a lending service where members take out educational toys for their children, providing them with access to play and early learning opportunities at home; play sessions for children who do not have access to ECD services; training on how to use the various play materials and toys; educational toys and games for under-resourced ECD centres; and community capacity building sessions for parents/primary caregivers/ECD practitioners where general ECD, health, education and psychosocial information is disseminated.

To make their services more accessible, Cotlands also deploys mobile toy libraries in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and



Staff from Cotlands work with children at National Book Week in Vredenburg

Mpumalanga to reach children in remote and under-resourced areas. A mobile toy library is a vehicle equipped with a wide range of educational toys and resources to enhance learning for young children. The mobile toy library visits a number of places during the course of a week. Play sessions are set up under gazebos to create opportunities for children to interact with the books and equipment.

Staff from Cotlands hope to soon have a mobile serving the areas surrounding Macassar in the Western Cape.

Cotlands is a membership organisation that distributes newsletters and holds toy library seminars and play conferences. Should you be interested in becoming a member or for more information about the toy library in Macassar, please contact Valentia Hop on telephone 021-857 3794. For more information, contact Gary Janeke at [gary@cotlands.org](mailto:gary@cotlands.org).

Gary Janeke  
Regional Coordinator, Western Cape Cotlands





## Teambuilding with Group of Hope



Worcester Correctional Services arranged a beadwork display by the Group of Hope at Worcester Library. A teambuilding exercise was scheduled and staff visited the correctional services.

'The Group of Hope programme enables male offenders to assist those in need in our community. This process is a form of redemption to the offenders for the crimes that they have committed. It assists in their growth and development and inspires them to become responsible, productive and law-abiding citizens of our country.'

The Group of Hope consists of 25 members and is the only one of its kind in South Africa. Offenders go through a strict selection process before being made members of the group. No gangs, no drugs, no cellphones.

A slideshow, indicating the outreach work done by the Group of Hope, was presented and a bead-making demonstration was held.

Christine Gerber  
Library Manager, Breedevallei

## Mosaic workshop at Abbotsdale

Mosaic artist Lovell Friedman presented a workshop in October to Grade 2 learners at St Michael's Primary School in Abbotsdale.

She read a story to the children and showed them pop-up books to get their imagination going. Learners were shown how to use paint and how to draw.

This was a first for this community and the children's artwork will be used to give them ownership of the project. The artist will use their pictures to form a large mosaic on both the outside and interior wall of Abbotsdale Library.

A few more workshops are planned with flowers and birds as the theme.

Ilse Look  
Manager: Public Affairs, Libraries and Tourism  
Directorate Corporate Services, Swartland Municipality



## Elandsbaai reik uit vir kanker

Dit was pienk net waar jy kyk nadat Elandsbaai Biblioteek se personeel die dorp met pienk lappe ter bewusmaking van kanker versier het. Die biblioteek was ook opgetooi in pienk. Besoekers aan die munisipale kantore wat nie geweet het waaroor dit gaan nie, het nuuskierig gevra hoekom alles so

pienk is, en so kon personeel mense inlig oor kanker.

Plakkate gemaak deur die personeel asook pamflette oor kanker is saam met twee boeke uitgestal: *Briewe aan God* deur Patrick Doughtie en John Perry en *Hoop: 'n vrou se reis deur kanker: 'n ware verhaal* deur Lana Van Niekerk.



Ons dorp se bome met pienk lap versier



Kankeruitstalling in Elandsbaai Biblioteek

## Cycle your power

Early this year Masiphumelele Library was visited by Yasmina Moreau Sabatini, from the Institute of Political Studies in Paris and Immo Böhning, student at RWTH Aachen University, who introduced a very exciting way of being part of a greenpower project.

The Cycle your Power pilot project, funded by the Staatskanzlei Nordrhein-Westfalen, is a non-profit pilot development endeavour within the framework of the Aachen-Cape Town Agenda 21 between both towns, a partnership initiated in the year 2001.

The aim of the partnership is to develop bilateral cooperation between both city councils around environmental-friendly initiatives raising environmental awareness, promoting green projects and ensuring sustainable development.

The aim of the project is to introduce renewable technology adapting different types of urban environment by providing tailor-made micro-alternatives of green energy to diverse communities of Cape Town. The project enables the users to access a free, green and independent electric supply in situ while adopting a healthier lifestyle.

As for social impact, Cycle your Power provides a meeting place where users are invited to gather together to manage and share a common goal in order to increase civic participation and inclusiveness at community level.

Sue Alexander  
Senior Librarian, Masiphumelele Library



## Honouring women



Valhalla Park Library held their annual Woman's Day event on 30 August 2016. Valhalla Park is a community where gangsterism is a common phenomenon and drug use is seen as a normal part of daily life. Parents struggle to steer their children away from these social ills, most of the time with no success. Teenagers are being pulled into the net of crime with promises of all sorts of rewards. This is an easy way of making money as most community members here live under the bread line. The staff of Valhalla Park regard awareness on health issues, provision of information and empowering women as their moral responsibility. The group, Die Vonkel Vroue, was born out of this desire.

They serve to motivate, educate and inspire women to become active role players in their community.

The event was well attended. Women were entertained by the Keith Tabisher band. Keith Tabisher is the FET curriculum planner for the Western Cape.

The Friends of Valhalla Park Library's chairperson, Akeela Hendricks, inspired women to strive for more and believe in themselves. Melanie Alexander, a teacher at Bishop Lavis High discussed positive and negative attitudes and quoted this beautiful saying: *'It's not where you come from that matters, it is your destination that counts.'* Captain Louw kept them interested in her topic by speaking on abuse and rape and shared some valuable lessons.

Beautiful artwork made with recycled materials by women of the community was displayed all around the library and staff from the Health Department did health checks and provided advice on health issues.

Valhalla Park staff strives to create an enabling environment to empower women so that women can in return help those around them.

Theresa Denton  
Senior Librarian, Valhalla Park Library



**Titles in stock by our cover author Nicholas (Niq) Mhlongo**

Dog eat dog.- Kwela, 2004.  
After tears.- Kwela, 2007.  
Way back home.- Kwela, 2013.  
Affluenza.- Kwela, 2016.

### Sjaka-bundel wen prys

Die Nederlandse digter Alfred Schaffer het die Paul Snoekprys van €4 000 (sowat R65,200) vir sy wenbundel, **Mens dier ding** gewen. Die bundel, wat in 2014 verskyn het, is goed ontvang in die Lae Lande en Schaffer is daarvoor met die Awaterprys bekroon. Hy was ook op die kortlys van die groot VSB- en die Ida Gerhardt-poësieprys. Schaffer, 'n dosent aan die department Afrikaans en Nederlands aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch, is ook aan Afrikaanse lesers bekend deur middel van Daniel Hugo se vertaling uit 'n keur van sy werk, **Kom in dit vries daar buite**. Die prys word al om die drie jaar uitgereik. Vanjaar is 'n kortlys van ses bundels uit 300 saamgestel.

Die Burger

### Skrywer verloor stryd teen kanker

Die bekende Christelike skrywer Johan Smit (73) is onlangs oorlede.

Smit was van 1976 tot 1983 predikant by die NG kerk Bellville-Oos en van 1983 tot 2001 by die Helderberg-gemeente op Somerset-Wes. Hy het tientalle boeke oor verskeie onderwerpe gepubliseer en was vir baie jare 'n aktiewe medewerker van die *Kerkbode* en *LiG*.

Die Burger

### Serfontein se bydrae 'onderskat'



Dot Serfontein (91), ma van Antjie Krog, was onprentensieus en vlymskerp. Haar voormalige uitgewer Frederik de Jager beskryf haar as "n fyn waarnemer, met 'n soort streng deernis teenoor haar karakters. Ek is oortuig dat sy ver onderskat is in ons letterkunde".

Hettie Scholtz, ouduitgewer en sameroeper van die kykNET- Rapport-boekprys, het haar afsterwe beskryf as "n groot boom wat in Afrikaanse skrywersgeledere geval het!"

Kunste Onbeperk het Serfontein in 2013 vereer vir haar lewensbydrae tot die verruiming en verryking van die leefwêreld van Afrikaans.

Sy word onthou vir boeke soos *Liefde in die kwepertyd*, *Water op Mispah*, *Amper my mense* en *Ek is maar ene*.

Sy skryf oor haarself: 'Ek is seker die skrywer met die minste bitterheid in my. Om 'n skrywersgesin aan die gang te hou, is niemand se blêddie maat nie.'

Nota: Alle titels in voorraad

Rapport

### Sweet medicine winner

Panashe Chigumadzi's *Sweet medicine* won the 2016 South African Literary Awards K Sello Duiker Memorial Literary Award.



### abridged classics



## Western Cape Library Service supports LIASA Conference

The Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport supported the 17th Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA) Conference that took place from 10 to 14 October 2016 at the Durban International Convention Centre. The theme for this year was: *Libraries in action: transformation and development towards 2030*.

As part of the Library and Information Services (LIS) Village, the Western Cape Library Service showcased its 367 affiliated public libraries, its services, projects and promotional material to conference delegates. The LIS village showcased exhibition stands from all nine provincial library services supported by the National Library of South Africa.

Sally Witbooi, lecturer at the UWC Department of Library and Information Science, applauded the DCAS Library Service exhibition and said: 'Best stand of all provincial libraries: well stocked, information exchange brilliant and neat appearance.'



Assistant Director Neville Adonis and the director of Archive Services Nikiwe Momoti engaging at the exhibition stand



Neville Adonis and Ethney Waters with Nomaza Dingayo, Chief Director National Archives and Records Service, Department of Arts and Culture

Ethney Waters  
Librarian, Publication and Promotions



## Library Week 2017

South African Library Week 2017 will be observed nationally from 18-26 March 2017. As in previous years, the Western Cape Library Service will distribute promotional material to public libraries in the Western Cape. This will include library bags, posters and bookmarks.

To highlight the benefits of reading and the use of libraries, the Library Service will celebrate SA Library Week 2017 with the theme: *Read, learn and grow*.

The bright, vibrant artwork produced in-house showcases a book in the colours of the South African flag, facing a ray of light. This symbolises hope, self-empowerment and prosperity by building knowledgeable communities.

It also encourages people to expand their world by making use of the enormous resources that libraries offer.

Ethney Waters  
Librarian, Publication and Promotions

## our service to libraries | ons diens aan biblioteke



Featured here are publications distributed to the 367 libraries in the Western Cape.

### Produced by Western Cape Library Service

- Library Week 2017 poster
- Library Week 2017 plastic bags
- Library Week 2017 bookmarks



### Other

- Madness: Songs of Hope and Despair poster (Baxter Theatre)

## 40 years ago ... *Stefan Wehmeyer, deputy director: regions*

- Anonymous (I think I know who the author was!) wrote an article titled: *There's more to films than meets the eye*. He concluded the article with: *'What is happiness?*
  - Happiness is getting a film one has chased for months (years) for previewing
  - Happiness is seeing a film one loves being recommended for purchasing by a majority of the film reviewing panel
  - Happiness is being able to buy a masterpiece at a price one can afford
  - Happiness is watching movies.'
- For the Christmas 1976 edition Mary Kleinschmidt wrote the lead article on Christmas traditions throughout the world. It was not until the year 350 when a specific date was set aside for Christmas by Julius I. The use of candles and greenery and other lights for decorating homes originated from Pagan festivals and was incorporated into the Christian observance of Christmas. The Christmas tree became the centre of Christian observances in northern Europe whilst the crib or manger continued to be favoured in southern Europe and beyond.

- Die Biblioteekdiens reik 'n reklameboekie uit *My boek/My book*. Die boekie vertel aan kinders van vrolike en olike boeke en hoe hulle te werk moet gaan om boeke op te pas. Die veldtog was 'n treffer en jare daarna is 'n veldtog met die tema van vrolike en olike boeke herhaal.
  - Een van die illustrasies in die boekie lui soos volg: *'Olike boeke is deur die hond gekou / Vrolike boeke vertel jou van troeteldiere.'*



main feature

# Creation of the Castle in archival context

**A place where war was declared and peace proclaimed**

by Gustav Hendrich

ts outside walls and bastions are majestic, its interior imposing. At night its walls are illuminated by an array of colourful lights. This extraordinary building is a source of much fascination for both South Africans and foreign travellers. Essentially, the Castle of Good Hope officially remains the oldest historical building in South Africa that was also declared a national

monument.<sup>1</sup> Although it was not the first constructed building on South African soil (it was preceded by earlier structures such as the Fort and commander Wagenaar's reservoir preserved in the Golden Acre shopping mall), the Castle is unmistakably the oldest building in Cape Town. As this year marks the 350th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the Castle on





Front aerial view of the Castle

... it must be reiterated that the Castle was not aimed at colonisation, but rather as a means of defence against other seafaring European enemies at the time

2nd January 1666, it is appropriate to reflect on its past.

Viewed from an archival perspective it is safe to argue that the Western Cape Archives and Records Service (WCARS) is in possession of a multitude of primary sources that shed light on the construction and development of the Castle over the centuries. These records are the only authentic records providing evidence on the Castle. Consulted in conjunction with library books, these precious archival records (of the Castle) can enhance our understanding and appreciation of this important heritage site on the South African cultural-historical landscape.

The Dutch East India Company strategically decided on the Cape to establish a refreshment station halfway on its

shipping route to the East on the southern tip of Africa. Commander Jan van Riebeeck was ordered to establish it and to govern a settlement to supply the company with fresh produce. He arrived in April 1652 and built a fort from wood and sods which served as the first residence. This quickly became inadequate, particularly due to the trading rivalry and hostilities between England and the Netherlands, and the latter deemed it necessary to construct a more permanent defensive structure.<sup>2</sup> From the outset it must be reiterated that the Castle was not aimed

at colonisation, but rather as a means of defence against other seafaring European enemies at the time. Planning and preparations started in earnest for construction. According to the Council of Policy, the governing body residing in the Castle and second commander of the Cape, Zacharias Wagenaar, a site on the foreshore was selected for construction. Its pentagonal star-shaped fortification was based on the Vaubian-bastioned system commonly used during the 17th century.<sup>3</sup> To make it impassable, the Castle was to be completely surrounded by a water duct. Judging from the standards of the day, it was to be an impregnable fortress with weaponry pointing into all directions.

Archival sources reveal that the logistics for constructing the Castle was far beyond anything attempted at the Cape. It was considered a 'great undertaking' by the writer Johnson Barker that involved all available soldiers not on military duty to assist with the assembling of material.<sup>4</sup> Slaves were assigned for the rough work: Khoina were punished for their offenses as well as a few volunteers toiled for months to cut stone from a granite boulder on Signal Hill. Shells were burning on the seashore to obtain lime to make mortar with a mixture of clay, while timber was carted from Hout Bay.

It was an immense project with especially high expense to the Company's wagon transport, forcing them to make use of more expensive transport from the free burghers. The Company lighters, or cargo barges, were utilised to transport blue slate and shells from Robben Island to its jetty close to the building area. After clearing the site of shrubs and bushes, the foundations were dug through successive layers of beach sand and hard white clay ground until the appropriate stony ground was discovered. Finally, when excavations for the westernmost bastion foundation were completed at the end of 1665, a ceremony was arranged for the laying of the foundation stones.

During the height of summer the first cornerstone of the Castle was laid by Governor Wagenaar on 2 January 1666.<sup>5</sup> In a joyous atmosphere of festivity the labourers received a meal and 30 rijksdalers (Dutch for 'national dollars') in payment. The occasion was described as a 'Caapse Kermis' celebrated in true Dutch tradition. The historian Eric Rosenthal mentioned that 'it was one of the most important dates in our history, the formal beginning of South Africa's

new Administrative, Military and Governmental Headquarters'. An important source that reflected on the founding date is the *Precis of the Archives of the Cape of Good Hope*, which were later compiled by the Keeper of the Archives, HCV Leibbrandt. In the chronology of dates for 1666 it was portrayed that a certain amateur presented Wagenaar with a poem. In a sense it also emphasised the expansion of the Dutch trading empire. It contained a literal meaning that read as follows:

*Thus more and more the kingdoms are extended,  
Thus more and more are black and yellow spread,  
Thus from the ground a wall of stone raised,  
On which the thundering brass can no impression make.*<sup>6</sup>

Thereafter construction continued intermittently, mainly as a consequence of fluctuations in hostilities during the Anglo-Dutch sea wars and the subsequent needlessness of completing the construction. Nevertheless, on 26 April 1679, after five years of construction, the Council of Policy formally declared the

... the first cornerstone of the Castle was laid on 2 January 1666 ... 'it was one of the most important dates in our history, the formal beginning of South Africa's new Administrative, Military and Governmental Headquarters'



Entrance to the Castle, about 1857 – print by TW Bowler

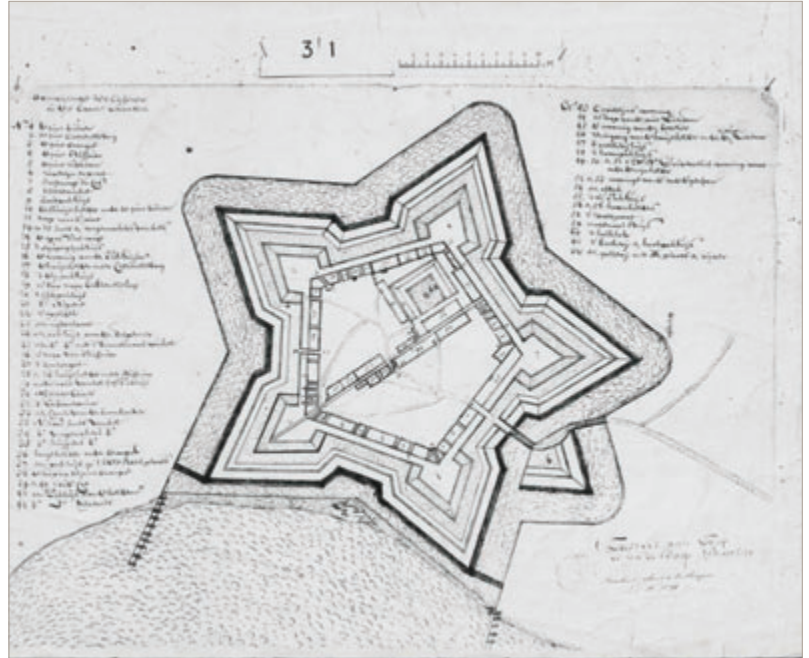


Main entrance to the Castle





A selection of books about the Castle in the Archives



Plan of the Castle, 1710

Castle 'complete'. The bastions were named after the titles of the Dutch Prince of Orange, namely Buuren, Catzenellenbogen, Leerdam, Oranje and Nassau.

The original main entrance faced onto the seashore, but because of flooding, the gates were moved to the present location of the bell tower. Today it seems almost unimaginable

At the end of the construction a new social and cultural life commenced at the Castle. The intermingling of Europeans, Asians and African slaves or immigrants from across the globe would ultimately culminate in a unique and diverse society

that sea waves once splashed against the Castle's walls before the foreshore was reclaimed for the railway and harbour area. The almost medieval Kat building with its grandiose balcony was built across the courtyard. Sculptures were crafted by the famous sculptor Anton Anreith which created added grandeur to the classical architecture.

At the end of the construction a new social and cultural life commenced at the Castle. The intermingling of Europeans, Asians and African slaves or immigrants from across the

globe would ultimately culminate in a unique and diverse society. Barker noted that it was at the Castle that 'the first seed of the rainbow nation' was sown.<sup>7</sup> Records describe the contrasting realities of daily life at the Castle: and 'so many activities were concentrated within the Castle walls that the occupations followed there ranged from the delightful to the gruesome. On one side were the slaves tending the flower garden under the supervision of the Governor's wife, with children playing about, while not many yards away were the torture chamber and prison', including the lightless dark hole or 'Donker Gat'.<sup>8</sup> Being the residence of many a governor, and famous personalities such as the writer Lady Anne Barnard, who left detailed descriptions during her stay in the luxurious government chambers in the Castle, the legacies and tales of its residents carry prominence and were retold over the centuries. \*The Cape journals of Lady Anne Barnard, 1797-1798 and \*Cape diaries of Lady Anne Barnard, 1799-1800 are compilations of her experiences and accounts of her attempts to reconcile Dutch and British rule, social customs, and her stance towards the elite and its instances of jobbery and corruption.

The records of the Council of Policy, administering the Cape for 130 years until the first British occupation in 1795, and again resuming from 1806 with the second occupation, are housed and safeguarded at the WCARS. The content of the *Resolusies van die Politieke Raad* (Resolutions of the Council of Policy) clearly describes the meetings, decisions taken and working progress concerning the Castle. On 5 January it was reported that the Council unanimously decided to 'een steenbackerij

voor de Compe. op te rechten' for the baking of stones in close proximity to the building site.<sup>9</sup> The progress of the construction was described in detail and provides a truthful first-hand account by its observers. These records have been carefully bound and preserved into volumes with the number C, an abbreviation for the Council of Policy, and it is not surprising that they are considered some of the most significant in the entire archival repository.

From the voluminous information it becomes evident that the Castle was the key institution where law was made, drafted

To all intents and purposes the legislation made there encompassed all aspects of life, ranging from the cradle to the grave. It was a place where war was declared and peace proclaimed – ultimately a symbol of political and military power combined

out and signed by the Governor before being posted on 'Plakaats' (or government notices) near the Castle gates. To all intents and purposes the legislation made there encompassed all aspects of life, ranging from the cradle to the grave. It was a place where war was declared and peace proclaimed – ultimately a symbol of political and military power combined.

Transcribed versions of the Resolutions were produced by former archivist AJ Böeseken, and in particular the Towards a New Age of Partnership Project (TANAP), which, through means of years of intense deciphering the archaic Dutch handwritten documents, were able to store the information in digital format. This enables the researcher to effortlessly access and investigate this otherwise unreadable script.

Apart from the written records and pamphlets in the Jeffreys pamphlet collection, such as the *Historic Castle of the Cape*, the WCARS also possesses a wide range of photographic and cartographic records. The latter depicts various visual aspects of the Castle, especially the layout of the bastions, rough sketches as well as inclusions of supportive cannon batteries, such as the Amsterdam battery near the Castle. Furthermore, the book titled *Treasures at the Castle of Good Hope* by William Fehr, is a helpful reference guide on old Cape furniture, cutlery, china and porcelain from Asia and was influential towards a unique culture at the Cape.

Fortunately, and rather ironically, the Castle with its heavily fortified bastions with gun emplacements and armouries, never encountered any direct armed confrontation and not a shot has ever been fired from it. Though as a result of railway developments, the Castle was nearly signed off to be demolished following a period of decay before Mrs Marie Koopmans de Wet persuaded the government to abandon that suggestion.

According to her appeal it simply had to be preserved as 'to the eyes of all true South Africans the Castle has something which is worth something more than beautiful'. Thus the Castle was saved. The documents kept in the Governor's office were later transferred to the archives repository for meaningful recordkeeping.

In 1966 Rosenthal referred to the Castle as 'the heart of the Cape Colony' mainly as a result of its administration and governmental role where the governor and its entourage had lived.<sup>10</sup> Fifty years on, the Castle remains an institution of politico-military power and the principle headquarters of the South African National Defence Force. Its purpose remains the same, though with the added important role of promoting reconciliation in a newly-founded democratic state. During the colonial and apartheid eras it was known as a symbol of oppression, but in the contemporary society there appeared an almost total change of its purpose as a social gathering point for the public, for instance with the annual Military Tattoo musical concert and various other recreational or educational functions. In this respect, the WCARS fulfils a pivotal role in the preservation of these invaluable records and making the records accessible for conducting research on South Africa's historically oldest monument for generations to come.

**Note:** \*Titles in stock.

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*Dr Gustav Hendrich is an archivist in the Western Cape Archives and Records Service*



# Graduates on the move

Studying towards a LIS qualification by Helga Fraser

## Background

The librarian's profession is regarded as a scarce skill in South Africa and filling posts that specifically require knowledge of cataloguing and classifying is becoming increasingly difficult. Currently there are only nine tertiary institutions in South Africa that offer courses in Library and Information Science (LIS), of which only five include the traditional subjects of classifying and cataloguing in their study programme for LIS. (For more information go to <http://www.liasa.org.za/study-bursaries-financial-assistance/>)

## Where to study

There are two tertiary institutions in the Western Cape which offer degree courses in Library and Information Science:

- the University of Cape Town (UCT) offers a postgraduate diploma in Library and Information Studies (PGDipLIS). This is a one-year programme for individuals with a relevant B-degree wishing to obtain a first professional qualification and is a basic qualification for anyone wishing to pursue a professional career in Library and Information Science. This course is available full-time, part-time and by block-release. Programmes for a Masters degree in Library and Information Studies (MLIS) and a PhD in LIS are also offered. (For more information on the course go to <http://www.lisc.uct.ac.za/>)
- the Department of Library and Information Science at the University of the Western Cape (UWC) offers a Bachelor of Library and Information Studies (BLIS), the Postgraduate Diploma in Library and Information Studies (PGDLIS), a Masters in Library and Information Studies (MLIS) and a PhD in LIS. (For more information go to <https://www.uwc.ac.za/Faculties/ART/LIBIS/Pages/Department-of-Library-and-Information-Science.aspx>)

For long-distance learners the University of South Africa (UNISA) offers a Bachelor of Information Science (BlInf) degree, comprising a three year Bachelor's degree with the compulsory major subjects of Information Science and Applied Information Science. This degree prepares students

for careers in libraries and other types of information services. UNISA also offers Masters and PhD programmes in Library and Information Science. (For more information go to <http://www.unisa.ac.za/Default.asp?Cmd=ViewContent&ContentID=2002>)

## Recent achievements in LIS world

Below we share the success stories of some of our recent graduates, hoping that the perseverance and hard work of these individuals will inspire more library staff members to study towards a professional library and information science qualification.

### Postgraduates

#### *Thomas Matingwina, PhD LIS (UCT 2014)*

Although not part of the staff of the Western Cape Library Service or one of its affiliated public libraries, we highlight the



*PhD graduate Thomas Matingwina with his supervisor, Associate Professor Jaya Raju*

recent awarding of the first doctorate in LIS to Dr Thomas Matingwina at the new Library and Information Studies Centre (LISC) at the University of Cape Town (UCT) and quote from the homepage of the Library and Information Studies Centre at UCT:

'The June 2015 graduation ceremony saw the first PhD emerging from LISC in its current incarnation. Although the UCT Library school has produced many doctorates over the past 76 years, this is our first since we took on our new identity as the Library and Information Studies Centre.

'Thomas Matingwina completed his PhD under the supervision of HOD Associate Professor Jaya Raju. His thesis was titled *Health information dissemination among undergraduate students in Zimbabwe with particular reference to the National University of Science and Technology: a study in developing an integrated framework for health information dissemination.*

'Gwenda Thomas, Executive Director: UCT Libraries, expressed satisfaction at this milestone in LISC's development. She feels that it is critically important to develop and nurture academic discourse about libraries and their ongoing relevance in Africa and the world.'

***Kathleen Laishley, Principal Librarian, Parow Library: Masters in LIS (UWC 2014)***

Kathleen Laishley, currently principal librarian at Parow Library, graduated from Stellenbosch University with a BA and Postgraduate Diploma in Museum Science. She worked in the library field at the Central Library, Cape Town, from September 1989 until 2011. During this time she completed a postgraduate diploma in Library Science at UCT in 1992. She was appointed principal librarian at Parow Library in September 2011, a post she still holds today.

In 2014 she completed her Masters in LIS at UWC. Her thesis was titled *Cape Town City Libraries: 1952-1972.* (A synopsis of the content of her thesis was featured in the September/October 2016 CL, pp 13-15.)



*Kathleen Laishley, Principal Librarian, Parow Library*



*Yvette Herbst, Regional Librarian, Vanrhynsdorp Region*



*Lorraine Lank, Regional Librarian, Worcester Region*

***Yvette Herbst, Regional Librarian, Vanrhynsdorp Region, WCLS: Honours in LIS (UNISA 2015)***

Yvette Herbst obtained her B(Bibl) degree in 1993 from the North West University in Potchefstroom and started working at the Sasolburg Public Library in 1994 as children's librarian. She later also occupied the post of administration librarian and reference librarian. In 2008 Yvette completed a one year course in management through the Vaal Triangle Campus of the North West University. In 2014 she decided that the time was right to do her Honours in Library and Information Science and registered with UNISA. In 2015 she was appointed regional librarian for the Vanrhynsdorp Region. Yvette completed her BA Hons (LIS) degree in 2015. (An article based on her honours submission was featured in the July/August 2016 CL, pp 16-19.)

***Western Cape Library Service  
BLIS graduates 2014***

***Lorraine Lank, Regional Librarian, Worcester Region, WCLS: PGDipLIS (UCT)***

Lorraine Lank started work as library assistant in the Ceres Region in 1994. In 1997 she was promoted to senior library assistant in Worcester Region. In June 2010 she was promoted to chief library assistant for the West Coast Control Area and in 2015 she became the regional librarian for the Worcester Region. Lorraine holds a Baccalaureus Technologiae (BTech) in Human Resource Management which she received from UNISA in 2011. In 2014 she qualified with the Postgraduate Diploma in Library and Information Studies from UCT.

***Razaan Khan, Administration Officer, Preparations Section, WCLS, PGDipLIS (UCT)***

Razaan Khan joined WCLS in 1987 at entry level as a library aid. While working, she completed her National Senior Certificate in 2005 through the Western Cape Education Department's ABET programme. In 2006 she started studying for the National Diploma in Human Resource Management at the



*Razaan Khan, Administration Officer, Preparations Section, WCLS*



*Amina Ajam, Administration Officer, Public Library Enhancement Section, WCLS*



*Yumna Levy, Library Assistant, Tygerberg Region, WCLS*

Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) and after four years of hard work and sacrifice she graduated cum laude in 2010. She then completed her BTech (HRM) in 2012 and finally, after registering for the Postgraduate Diploma in LIS at UCT achieved her qualification as a professional librarian.

*Amina Ajam, Administration Officer, Public Library Enhancement Section, WCLS, PGDipLIS (UCT)*

Amina Ajam completed her BTech in Office Management and Technology at CPUT in 2012 and started working as an administration officer in WCLS's Municipal Replacement Funding Section in the same year. In 2014 Amina enhanced her qualifications by completing the PGDipLIS at UCT, thereby qualifying as a professional librarian.

#### BLIS graduates 2015

*Yumna Levy, Library Assistant, Tygerberg Region, WCLS: PGDipLIS (UCT)*

Yumna Levy completed her Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Applied Statistics at the University of Cape Town (UCT) in 2009. During her time at UCT, Yumna worked as a student assistant at the UCT Main Library, Short Loans Section. It was here that she discovered an interest and passion for working in the library environment. She secured a position as library assistant at the Western Cape Library Service in January 2013. In 2015, she was a candidate for the Next Generation Public Librarian Scholarship sponsored by LIASA, through which she was given the opportunity to complete the Postgraduate Diploma in Library and Information Studies in 2015.



*WCLS staff members (l-r): Clarette Pypers, Yumna Levy and Vuyo Ngcofe who qualified as professional librarians at the end of 2015*



*Clarette Pypers, Administration Officer, Metropole Control Area, WCLS*



*Vuyokazi Ngcofe, Municipal Support Services, WCLS*



*Nicole-Ann Abrahams, Librarian, Wesfleur Library*



*Yvette du Preez, Library Assistant, Adriaanse Library*

*Clarette Pypers, Administration Officer, Metropole Control Area, WCLS: BLIS (UWC)*

Clarette joined WCLS in 2001 and was appointed senior library assistant within the Blaauwberg Region with a Lower Diploma in Library and Information Science, which she completed in 1999 at the University of the Western Cape. In 2008 she took the post of chief library assistant in the Cape Town Region. She then worked in an acting position as regional librarian in the Tygerberg Region between 2012 and 2013. She had already returned to UWC to pursue her BLIS degree and achieved her Library and Information Studies degree in 2015. Currently Clarette holds the position of administration officer for the Metropole Control Area.

*Vuyokazi Ngcofe, Municipal Support Services, WCLS: PGDipLIS (UCT)*

Vuyo matriculated in 1998 and achieved her National Diploma in Public Administration in 1999 from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT). In 2002 she completed her BTech Degree in Public Administration and in 2010 her Masters in Public Administration at CPUT. Finally, in 2015, she qualified as a professional librarian with the Postgraduate Diploma in Library and Information Sciences at UCT. Vuyo has worked as an administrative officer at Municipal Support Services at WCLS since 2014.

*Nicole-Ann Abrahams, Librarian, Wesfleur Library: PGDipLIS (UCT)*

Nicole worked as assistant librarian at Parow Library for five years and from there went to Huguenot Square Library. In 2003 she joined WCLS in the Acquisitions Section, where she worked until early this year. In 2005 Nicole started studying for her diploma in Human Resource Management at CPUT and eventually graduated in 2014 with a management qualification at UWC. In 2015 she went on and completed the Postgraduate Diploma in Library and Information Science at UCT. But she is

not done yet — Nicole is planning to complete her Masters in LIS within the next two years. She started in her new position as librarian at Wesfleur Library on 1 April 2016.

*Yvette du Preez, Library Assistant, Adriaanse Library: BLIS (UWC)*

Yvette du Preez started out as a relief library assistant whereafter she was on contract as a library assistant and finally appointed as a permanent library assistant. After almost 20 years of being at Adriaanse Library and four years of hard work and dedication she has now progressed to the next level as professional librarian by achieving her BLIS degree in 2015 from UWC.

**Note:** The Research Section is currently undertaking a wide-ranging survey of staffing in public libraries in an effort to establish how many qualified librarian posts are filled, how 'old' the group of currently qualified librarians is and how many students are coming through from our tertiary institutions to fill posts that will be vacated by staff members retiring in the near future. Once we have gathered all this information and have analysed the data, we will publish the results in the **Cape Librarian**.

Libraries are encouraged to send in stories and pictures of any staff members that have recently graduated as professional librarians so that we can share their achievements within our LIS community.

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



# Hoe belangrik is 'n kunsblad vir 'n koerant?

Die koerant moet ook 'n kultuurdraer wees deur Daniel Hugo

Die vak volkekunde bestaan nie meer in Suid-Afrika nie — ook nie antropologie of etnologie, soos dit soms genoem is nie. Ek kon nog in my eerste jaar op Stellenbosch — dit was in 1973 — volkekunde neem. En daar het ek geleer dat kultuur alles is wat die mens tot stand bring, dit wil sê, sy voedselproduksie, argitektuur, religie, staatsbestuur, taal, letterkunde, filosofie, wetenskap, sport, sosiale omgangswyses en die kunste.

Nuusverslaggewing deur middel van die gedrukte media is een van die laat kultuurprodukte in die geskiedenis van die Westerse beskawing. Die Nederlandse woord 'courant', wat uit Frans kom en later verkort is tot 'krant', dateer van 1554. 'Courant' beteken in Frans: dit wat in omloop is, dit wat aan die

gebeur is. Koerante en nuusblaaië was natuurlik 'n neweproduk van die boekdrukkuns wat reeds 'n honderd jaar tevore tot stand gekom het. Die eerste gedrukte boek was Johannes Gutenberg se Bybel van 1455.

Vir millenia het mense mekaar mondelings op hoogte van sake gehou, of gebruik gemaak van posduiwe, rookseine of oerwoudtromme. Posduiwe is, byvoorbeeld, in die Eerste Wêreldoorlog gebruik om boodskappe tussen militêre hoofkwartiere en die front te stuur. In die eerste helfte van die vorige eeu was posduiwe ook die nuusdraers tussen die vuurtoringwagters op Bird Island en Port Elizabeth. Marguerite Poland skryf daaroor in haar roman *The keeper* wat in Afrikaans vertaal is as *Die bewaker*.



Die nadeel van duiwel as posbodes is dat hulle in storms kan verdwaal, dat valke hulle kan vang of stout seuntjies hulle afskiet. In 'n baie bekende gedig van Breyten Breytenbach stuur hy 'n duif vir sy geliefde om haar van sy liefde te vertel:

*Allerliefste, ek stuur vir jou 'n rooiborsduif  
want niemand sal 'n boodskap wat rooi is skiet nie.  
Ek gooi my rooiborsduif hoog in die lug  
en ek weet al die jagers sal dink dis die son.  
Kyk, my duif kom op en my duif gaan onder  
en waar hy vlieg daar skitter oseane  
en bome word groen  
en hy kleur my boodskap so bruin oor jou vel.*

Breyten hoop dus dat sy duif met die son verwar sal word. En die son is inderdaad al aangewend om boodskappe oor te dra. Ek praat van die heliografie wat seine deur middel van spieëls stuur. Dit beteken letterlik: om met die sonlig te skryf. Die nadeel is natuurlik dat dit net werk as die son helder skyn. Suid-Afrika het tydens die Anglo-Boereoorlog met dié kommunikasie-middel kennis gemaak. Die Boerekommandant Gideon Scheepers was, byvoorbeeld, 'n heliografis. DJ Opperman het Scheepers in sy grootse gedig, *Gebed om die gebeente*, verewig. Hy gebruik ten slotte die heliograafbeeld om 'n versoeningsboodskap aan alle Suid-Afrikaners te bring:

*— dat ons as een groot nasie in dié gramadoelas  
met elke stukkie sinkplaat en met elke wiel,  
en wit en bruin en swart foelie agter skoon glas  
ewig U sonlig vang en na mekaar toe spieël.*

Met daardie 'wiel' bedoel Opperman waarskynlik 'n windpompwiel. (Dit laat my dink aan die mooi storie van een van die eerste Karoo-boere wat 'n windpomp uit Amerika ingevoer het. Toe die Kakies die wieke in die son sien flits, het hulle die boer gearrester omdat hulle gedink het hy stuur boodskappe vir die Boerekommando's!)

Maar om terug te keer tot die koerant as 'n vyfhonderd-jaar-oue produk van die Westerse kultuur. Die koerant mag nie net 'n nuusdraer wees nie, dit moet ook 'n kultuurdraer in eie reg wees. Dit mag nie net berig oor kultuurverwoestende dade soos misdad, onreg, terrorisme en oorlog nie; dit moet ook 'n kultuurhandhawer wees deur die edele produkte van die menslike hand en verstand bekend te stel. En daarvoor is 'n kunsteblad myns insiens onontbeerlik vir elke koerant — ook vir dorps- en streekskoerante.

Die koerant kan natuurlik sy uiterste bes doen om te berig oor al die gebiede van ons kultuurlewe, maar as hy nie gelees word nie, is dit vergeefse moeite. Daarom is dit so belangrik dat koerante deel uitmaak van kinders se leerstof op skool. In hierdie verbysterende eeu van rekenaars en die Internet is dit noodsaaklik dat kinders die bekoring leer ken van 'n koerant in die hand. Hulle moet die ink kan ruik en die papier hoor kraak as hulle omblaai, want dit is 'n verslawende reuk en klank.

Koerante kan vir allerlei doeleindes gebruik word sonder dat die gebruiker 'n woord daarvan lees. Selfs geletterde mense, waaronder koerantskrywers gewoonlik tel, het al nuusblaaie

gebruik om die kat se sandbak uit te voer of 'n braaivleisvuur aan te steek. Op Prince Albert, waar ons die afgelope twee jaar woon, het ek 'n aanwending van die koerant ontdek wat vir my heeltemal nuut was. Ek het die volgende gedig daarvoor geskryf:

#### *Die Volkstem*

*ons lees nooit die koerant nie  
nee, ons skeur hom aan repe  
kolom vir giftige kolom  
en vul dit met nog meer twak:  
fyn tabak tussen die letters  
gestrooi en styf ingepak  
en, ja dan rook ons hom  
die ink laat ons lange brand  
en oë traan, laat ons proes  
en stik — die vervloekte koerant  
wat lesers se lewens verwoes.*  
(Uit: **Takelwerk**, Human & Rousseau, 2015)

Vergewe my die dubbelsinnigheid van daardie laaste versreël, maar ons het die afgelope paar jaar inderdaad beleef hoedat onverantwoordelike beriggewing slagoffers maak van koerantlesers. Miskien is respek vir sy publiek, sy teikengroep, die eerste kulturele vereiste waaraan die gedrukte media moet voldoen. En dit geld ook vir die kunsteblad van 'n koerant. Dit behels, onder meer, dat die koerant kundiges sal gebruik om films, boeke, toneelstukke, kunsuitstallings en musiekkonserte te resenseer. Maar ook nie alle kundiges is geskik nie. Die wêreld van die kunste is vol interne politiek, vetes en vriendskappe. Resesente gebruik al te dikwels die ruimte wat koerante hulle bied om eie byltjies te slyp of die belange van 'n kliek te bevorder. Van so 'n resesent moet gou ontslae geraak word, al is hy of sy ook een wat die spertye flink nakom.

'n Resesent moet ook bereid wees om vooraf te erken dat hy nie aanklank by 'n sekere kunstenaar of skrywer vind nie en dat iemand anders daarom liever gevra moet word. Ek sluit af met 'n staaltjie van wat my eenkeer oorgekom het. In my voortvarende jeug het ek 'n bundeltjie gedigte onder die skuilnaam Daan van der Merwe die lig laat sien. Die titel was **Saad uit die septer** en dit was bedoel as 'n parodie op DJ Opperman se laaste digbundel: **Komas uit 'n bamboesstok** van 1979. *Die Volksblad* se boekeredakteur vra my toe of ek dit wil resenseer — maar sê sy, dis so 'n vieslike boekie dat as ek nie daarvoor kans sien nie, sy dit sal verstaan. Ek het toe maar geantwoord dat ek ook nie hou van die moderne digters se vulgariteite nie. Sy moet dié beker asseblief maar by my laat verbygaan. My eerste pennevrug is toe nooit in *Die Volksblad* bespreek nie.

**Nota:** Praatjie gehou by die Caxton-groep se dagseminaar oor gemeenskapsjoernalistiek op George.

*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*





# Ideale naweek vir 'n boekwurm

Van een boekfees na die ander deur Francois Verster

My vriend sê my hy gaan Clanwilliam toe, na 'n fees daar, in Oktober. Ek kyk op Google, vind niks. Later skakel ek via Facebook nog iemand wat by die fees gaan optree, en vind uit dis van 12 tot 23 Oktober. Ons sal Saterdag 22 Oktober gaan waar hulle om twaalfuur optree. Hulle is Gert Vlok Nel, Casparus Johannes Bakkes en Dana Snyman — 'n troebadoer en twee reisverhaalskrywers, aldus Bakkes. Wel, darem meer as dit — Bakkes is 'n professor in toegepaste rekenmeesterskap en Snyman skryf ook toneelstukke en TV-programme — maar dis moeilik om die boksies waarin die publiek sulke mense sien, af te breek.

Ek druk die program uit (ons sou nie veel daarvan sien nie, want my reisgenoot wou nie lank bly nie), druk dit in my reistas en begin dink aan die naweek as 'n toneelstuk in twee dele.



Dana, Bakkes en Gert

## Deel Een

Saterdagoggend vertrek ons van Jacobsbaai en kom teen tienuur op Clanwilliam aan. Eers dorps-museum toe. Ek merk dis in feitlik dieselfde styl en uitleg as die Roelandstraat Gevangenisgebou in Kaapstad. Binne is 'n smorgasbord van temas — Tolla van der Merwe, ou vervoermiddels, ou kombuisware, tronkgeskiedenis, Louis Leipoldt, rooibostee — en so is elke vertrek 'n verrassing. Kort-kort duik die instaan-kurator vir die dag tussen die artefakte op en strooi stukkies historiese pitkossies soos krummels vir nuuskierige kwêvoëls. Daarna gaan ons by 'n winkeltjie aan wat ook tweedehandse boeke verkoop. My reisgenoot koop boeke. Die eienaar is so dankbaar, hy volg ons tot op die sypaadjie en kyk ons agterna.

Terug in die besige dorp — dis immers Saterdagoggend en daar is 'n fees — soek ons vir Bakkes en vind hom en sy familie in die hotel. Hy het die vorige dag 60 geword en ek haal presente uit. Elkeen kry 'n T-hemp met 'n Kakiebos-logo op, om agterop geteken te word: memento's vir die oudag. Bakkes kies 'n rooie en trek dit dadelik aan. Hy is in sy noppies, en ek is tevrede. 'n Man stap in en stel homself voor: 'Hallo,

ek is so-en-so, die broer van oorlede Worsie Visser.' Ons is effe geskok oor die onthulling, of is dit die feit dat iemand voel hy moet homself só voorstel. Maar hy trek weg en vertel stories, van Worsie se dood terug na hulle gedeelde kinderdae. Nie alles oninteressant nie, maar ek, wat aan akute vervelingsverlamming ly, drink vinnig 'n paar doppe op die Bakkes-familie se rekening om deur dié relase te kan kom. Kwart voor twaalf kom genadiglik aan, met Bakkes wat bekommerd is oor Gert se afwesigheid. Sy vrou stel hom gerus. Gert is nooit voortydig teenwoordig nie. Uiteindelik is dit tyd, en ons beweeg stuksgewys oor die straat na die Reinholds Restaurant, waar die show sal plaasvind. Gert met sy normale moulose swart hemp en kitaar op die rug, en sy metgesel, kompleet met spits hoed en lang rok, alles in swart soos ek Levinia Heksie sou voorstel, het intussen opgedaag. Hierdie is nie jou middelslag-Afrikaners nie, ook nie die soort wat jy hier rond op trekkers en in vragmotors sal sien nie.

Daar aangekom, vind ons die plek stampvol, elke tafel is bespreek. Mans drom voor die kroegie saam, vroue betaal

by die ontvangs, en ek staan rond, kry later 'n tafeltjie en 'n stoel waar ek notas kan maak. Eers praat 'n man oor sy wynmakery, seker die hoofborg vir die okkaas. En toe is dit tyd vir die driemanskap. Bakkes is die leier en hy stel almal voor. Toe trek Gert los en sing 'n lied en die gehoor klap hande. En die tannies langs my is in ekstase. Hulle kry waarde vir hulle R70 (die à la carte kom later). Toe lees Dana Snyman uit sy boek *Anderkant die scrap* (2006) en die gehoor warm verder op. Glimlagte oral. Die wyn op die tafels help ook. Die borg glimlag self al meer. Hy herinner my aan die ou in die A-team wat altyd iets oor 'a plan comes together' gegrom het. Ek merk dat die oordraadgedraaide eienaar van die restaurant ook aarselend glimlag. Hy is ook in swart gehul, met maskara en geplukte wenkbroue. In Clanwilliam? Lyk my tog asof die werêld verander, ook in Namakwaland.

Later staan ons buite. Ek wil een van Gert se CD's koop. Hy weier geld. Levinia krimp sekerlik ineen, want kunstenaars moet ook rekeninge betaal ... Ek dring aan om te betaal. Hy skud sy kop. Het jy 'n boek om te ruil? Ek het, en ons ruil. Traag neem almal afskeid, en kuier-uitnodigings word uitgeruil. Ons moet huiswaarts keer.

Op pad terug Weskus toe dink ek: die post-'94 Suid-Afrika het heelwat meer kreatief geraak. Ek is mal daarvoor. Veral oor al die baie boekfeeste, maar dis wonderlik as ál die kunste in tandem kan werk. Soos in Clanwilliam. Ek drink sommer 'n rooibos daarop. Altans, dis dieselfde kleur as Jack Daniels.

## ... die post-'94 Suid-Afrika het heelwat meer kreatief geraak ... Veral oor al die baie boekfeeste, maar dis wonderlik as ál die kunste in tandem kan werk

### Deel Twee

Sondagoggend ry ek uit Jacobsbaai — fase twee van my boeknaweek is op Paternoster, waar oud-*Rooi Rose*-redakteur Joan Kruger en haar man Douw woon. Met my aankoms ontmoet ek twee dames wat so sjarmant is as wat hulle ingelig is oor die boekbedryf. En gou is daar 'n lewendige gesprek by die etenstafel wat handel oor redakteurs en uitgewers, skrywers en boeke, en onvermydelik: die toekoms van boeke.

En dit verbyster my tog dat dit steeds deel van die debat: is of e-boeke veld wen of níé. Dit skyn steeds 'n grys area te wees; of daar 'n nuwe generasie lesers gaan wees, en of die kleuters en tieners van vandag verlore is vir die boekbedryf — verslaaf aan hulle virtuele wêreld sodat die kreatiewe vaardighede wat effektiewe lees verg nie by hulle ontwikkel het nie. Dit is uiteraard 'n veralgemening om te beweer dat daar oor tien jaar geen ywerige lesers gaan wees nie, maar enige bedryf het 'n kritieke massa verbruikers nodig. En ons boekemark is, hoewel besonder lewendig, eintlik baie klein en kwesbaar.

Inderdaad, terwyl Afrikaanse skrywers tans gedy weens 'n bloeitydperk van Afrikaanse boeke, mag dit 'n valse indruk skep van wat gaan gebeur oor 'n dekade of twee. Die boekemark

trek tans voordeel uit die belangstelling in misdaadromans (bekend as 'krimmies'), terwyl kook- en godsdiensoeke, asook liefdesverhale en selfhelphandleidings ook goed vaar, maar ons stem saam dat die Afrikaanse mark gestu word deur die feit dat die groot internasionale uitgewers Pearson en Penguin Random House aggressief daartoe getree het en daar dus meer boeke in Afrikaans uitgegee word. Ook kos plaaslike boeke minder as die duur ingevoerde boeke, al verkies meeste Engelssprekendes blykbaar steeds Wilbur Smith en JK Rowling bo Maggie Orford en Mike Nicol; al is die standaard van plaaslike skryfwerk goed.

Persoonlik voel ek dat dit nooit beter met Afrikaanse skrywers gegaan het nie, al het hulle die beskerming van die owerhede verloor en is die voorgeskrewe mark nou nie meer die bron van inkomste soos dit voorheen was nie. Iets wat plaaslike skrywers nie voorheen uit kon voordeel trek soos nou nie, is die talle feeste (dink aan die Woordfees op Stellenbosch, die Vrystaatfees in Bloemfontein, Boekejol in Pretoria, Boekbedonnerd op Richmond, die Breytenbachfees op Montagu en De Malle Boekbazaar op Philadelphia, om 'n paar te noem).

Daar is boonop talle skryfskole en kursusse tot aspirant-skrywers se beskikking — Potchefstroom se Skryfskool en Wellington s'n (Breytenbachsentrum) is voorbeelde. Van al die genoemde voorbeelde het ek persoonlike ervaring en kan ek aanbeveel, want ek het ongetwyfeld voordeel daaruit getrek.

Daar is baie kundige en kreatiewe mense in ons land en die vraag is net of genoeg van hulle beskikbaar gaan bly, aangesien hierdie groep verouder, emigrasie steeds happe uit ons geledere neem en daar natuurlik ook 'n dalende geboortesyfer is onder die wit, relatief kapitaalkragtige sektor van die Afrikaanse boekemark.

Láát die middag ry die twee dames terug Kaap toe en vertel Joan my van haar projekte, soos die pragtige gedenkboek van Paul Roos Gimnasium wat onlangs verskyn het. Sy gee my ook 'n eksemplaar van haar nuuste boek *On top of Table Mountain: remarkable visitors over 500 years* (Paternoster Books, 2016). Sy is ook opgewonde oor 'n skryfkursus wat sy op die Griekse eiland Lesbos by 'n bekende in uitgewerskringe, Frederik de Jager, gaan loop — dit wys jou: as iemand soos Joan voel sy kan nog leer oor skryf, dan is niemand ooit volleerd nie.

Toe ek daardie aand lank na pampoentyd die bedlampie afskakel, voel ek soos 'n regte smulpaap, 'n snoep boekwurm wat met 'n vol magie gaan slaap. Vanjaar het ek by genoemde boekfeeste — en meer — veel gesien en gehoor wat my vir eers gerusstel oor die stand van die boekbedryf in Suid-Afrika. Mag ons swart etniese tale spoedig ook 'n volwaardige staanplek in die son kry en al sterker intree tot die stryd teen die onkunde en apatie wat dreig om ons jeug intellektueel en kreatief te verlam.

Ek kyk op na die volmaan deur die dakvenster en sé 'Goodnight Johnboy. En Dana. En Johannes. En Gert.'

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*Dr Francois Verster is 'n historikus, argivaris en skrywer en 'n gereelde korrespondent van die KB*



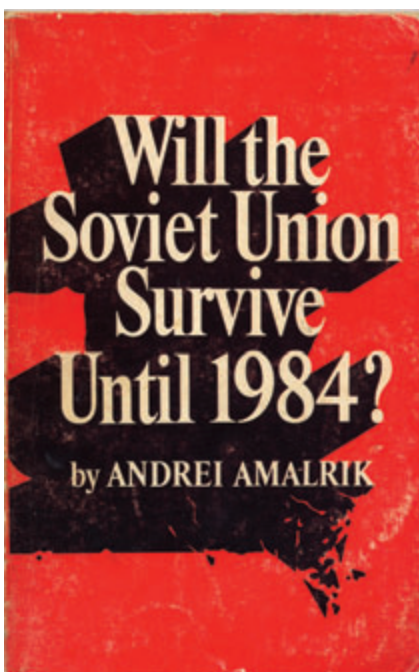
# His book predicted the Soviets' end

A prominent Russian author who devoted his life to confronting injustices by Gustav Hendrich

*'I want to be free'* was the heartfelt wish expressed by the prominent Russian writer and dissident, Andrei Amalrik. As an historian he devoted his entire life to confronting the injustices and suppression in the former Soviet Union. He became famous in the West for his outspokenness against a regime that prevented anyone from speaking out. While in exile in 1970 he self-published a daring essay in book form entitled *Will the Soviet Union survive until 1984?* in which he described the pressing hardships faced by ordinary citizens and prophesied the superpower's collapse. His essay was a brilliant piece of literature, but was disregarded by many academics who said 'virtually no one tended to take it at face value'.<sup>1</sup>

His predictions would later correspond accurately with the statement of former American president Ronald Reagan in June 1982 that 'the forward march of freedom and democracy will leave Marxism-Leninism on the ash-heap of history'. Twenty-five years after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, it is fitting to reflect on a writer who had predicted its demise in the early 1980s.

Born in Moscow in May 1938, Amalrik witnessed Stalin's purges — a period during which his father developed a serious heart condition after being imprisoned, was wounded at Stalingrad and denied the right to study history at a renowned academy. Following in his father's footsteps, Andrei engaged



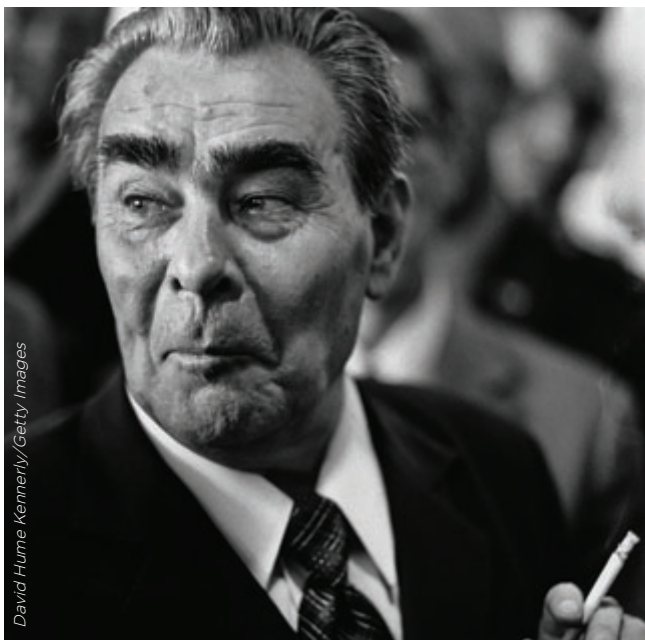
Andrei Amalrik with his wife, Gyuzel Makudinova, at a press conference in the Netherlands, 1976



Andrei Amalrik in Paris, February 1977



Flag of the Soviet Union



Leonid Brezhnev, Helsinki, 1975

in historical writing. His rebelliousness would lead to his expulsion from the Moscow State University a year before his graduation as result of a paper in which he claimed that the Normans, and not only the Russians, were responsible for the early Russian state at Kiev. Forced to work as proofreader, letter carrier or translator, the authorities quickly branded him a 'social parasite'.<sup>2</sup>

In 1965 he was banished to Siberia for illegally contacting a Danish scholar. After two-and-a-half years he was briefly released and allowed back in to Moscow where he married an attractive Tatar artist. They lived in a sunless back room in an overcrowded apartment, sharing one bath and a kitchen amongst the residents. To his contemporaries Amalrik seemed uneducated, utterly impractical and sickly. He sympathised publicly with dissidents such as Andrei Sakharov and Alexander Solzhenitsyn and often protested feverishly outside the courts.<sup>3</sup>

With the rule of Leonid Brezhnev, pressure on personal freedom and intellectuals was stepped up. Amalrik's writing was temporarily obstructed following a search of his apartment in May 1969 in which important books were taken from him, though fortunately the secret police agent permitted him to keep the manuscript of his essay.

Under these repressive circumstances Amalrik put pen to paper. His writing style was sincere and Old Testamental and his viewpoint as an outsider was from the bottom up. It is evident that the increasing socio-economic stagnation urged him to instil awareness of the declining status of communism. Amalrik was convinced that 1980 was the nearest likely year of the Soviet Union's collapse, but on the advice of an expert on Chinese philosophy, the year was set exactly fifteen years ahead from the time he started writing in 1969.

Amalrik argued that the superpower status of the Soviet Union was achieved through forced labour and Stalin's regime of terror. However, following the denunciation of Stalin's crimes in Khrushchev's speeches and the greater 'liberalisation' of Soviet society in the Brezhnev era, the lid on the communist cooking-pot was lifted. Thus the new leadership's 'revolution at the top' loosened the monolithic Soviet system that allowed for a new force or *samizdat* to press for greater personal freedom.<sup>4</sup> This 'cultural opposition' gave rise to an independent political opposition in embryo.

As for ideology, Amalrik regarded 'reformist ideology' as the only feasible ideology leaning towards liberalism. He emphasised that 'if one views the present "liberalisation" as the growing decrepitude of the regime rather than its regeneration, then the logical result will be its death, which will be followed by anarchy'.<sup>5</sup> Under Brezhnev the intention was simply to keep the existing order intact. Hence any challenge by means of 'economic reform' was sabotaged by the corrupt party machine, as it would threaten the very power of the regime. Amalrik indicated that as the top bureaucracy lost its original dynamism it would become untenable to prevent huge and violent upheavals by the masses.<sup>6</sup>

Another factor which prevented any solution was the extreme isolation that 'separated the regime from society, and all sectors of society from each other, but also put the country into extreme isolation from the rest of the world ... the longer



Alexander Nemenov/AFP/Getty Images

*A woman reaches into her bag, which rests on a fallen Soviet hammer-and-sickle on a Moscow street in 1991*

this state of affairs helps to perpetuate the *status quo*, the more rapid and decisive will be its collapse'.<sup>7</sup>

Finally he envisaged a massive conflict with their communist neighbour, China, due to growing Chinese expansionism.<sup>8</sup> Although his prediction of a nuclear Armageddon with the Chinese proved to be wrong, he still maintained his prediction of the imminent demise of the Soviet system.

Amalrik was imprisoned for a second time for publishing his book — this time for five years in a labour camp in Kolyma, Siberia. After his release in 1975 he was arrested again, but this time the KGB gave him an ultimatum: either to be re-imprisoned or to emigrate. He chose the latter, made a final odyssey of Russia and departed with his family to the Netherlands, after which he immigrated to the United States and then to France. Tragically, upon his visit to Madrid in November 1980 to attend an East-West conference, he was killed in a car accident.

Although he did not survive to witness the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, Amalrik predicted the breakup of the independent republics and the sudden demise of the Soviet Union under Mikhail Gorbachev in 1991 well in advance.

In retrospect, it was his legacy of bravery that deserves recognition; while he was writing about the stark contrast of his beloved country's space rockets that had reached Venus, 'in the village where I live, potatoes are still dug by hand', and, 'in the sixth century, goats were grazing in the Forum [in ancient Rome] — just as they are doing now, beneath my window'.<sup>9</sup>

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*Dr Gustav Hendrich is an archivist in the Western Cape Archives and Records Service*



# What to read this summer

Enjoy your leisure time with some of these suggested titles compiled by Sabrina Gosling

I have put together an extensive list of books to choose from to enjoy during the holiday season. Choosing titles that will cover a multitude of tastes is not an easy task but I am sure that there will something for everyone. Your feedback will be valuable. Please refer to the alphabetical booklist at the end.

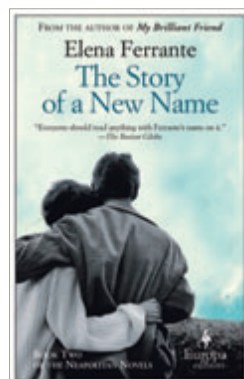
## Fiction

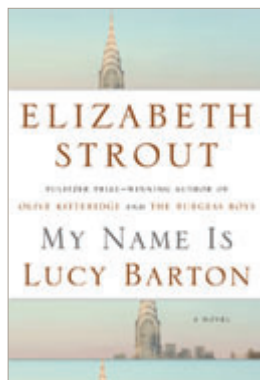
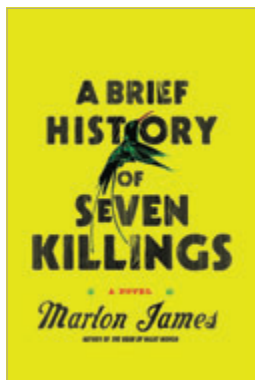
Ferrante, Elena. *The Neapolitan quartet*

Time is what you need to read this much-loved quartet of novels, making them the ideal books to read on holiday. When I started the first book, *My brilliant friend*, I realised that I would not be able to stop if I let myself read any further. It's the kind of all-consuming book that just draws you in and doesn't let go. I reluctantly put it aside for now. So my holiday reading this year will be *My brilliant friend* and the three sequels, *The story of a new name*, *Those who leave and those who stay*, and *The story of the lost child*. These novels, translated from the Italian, follow the lifelong friendship of two girls in 1950s Naples. They are loved by readers and critics alike and have become international bestsellers, primarily through word of mouth. There was no big marketing campaign. The first book, published in English in 2012, is still a bestseller. That the author's identity

was unknown just added to their appeal. Joe Klein wrote in *Time*: 'There is something lovely about her anonymity. It adds to the strange, almost inexplicable, depth of the experience.' Now some journo has ferreted out her identity and the response has been mostly one of disapproval, even outrage. Everyone raves about these books as brilliant, unputdownable, immersive. 'We are dealing with masterpieces here, old-fashioned classics, filled with passion and pathos ... She writes perfect descriptions of the writing process and of creativity, of political action and of sex. But the heart of the work is the tangled friendship of two women, both brilliant, sometimes brutally competitive and absolutely necessary to each other. They are sophisticates in a slum ... Once Elena Ferrante starts writing about these girls ... you have no choice but to keep on reading ... her work is magnificent.' (J Klein in *Time*)

Locally, Darrel Bristow-Bovey writes about them in his column in *The Times*: 'Reading the first book ... was an experience that I haven't had since I was a much younger reader: astonished infatuation suddenly and violently giving way to the contradictory vertigos of love, the urge to read faster, to lie here all day ... and live happily ... and entirely in her words and her distant Naples; the panicky realisation that this cannot last, that each page you read is one closer to the end ...'





### James, Marlon. **A brief history of seven killings**

Something vastly different and worlds away is last year's Man Booker Prize-winner, *A brief history of seven killings*. 'This lengthy novel by the acclaimed Jamaican author ... is a densely imaginative fictional retelling of the 1976 assassination attempt on reggae superstar Bob Marley ... and its aftermath. It is far less about music than about Jamaican ... politics and its gangs, inextricably linked. The book is, as a result, nasty, complicated, violent, and profane. That it is also beautiful is testimony to author James' immense talent. Despite the lack of suspense (one knows Marley survives) ... James keeps the pages turning. He handles a complex cast of characters with disparate viewpoints and voices (literally) that, although daunting to readers unfamiliar with the country's culture and speech ... will please and delight (and shock) many, but should impress all diligent readers ... The Kingston milieu ... is made horrifyingly believable; the patois is rhythmic, slangy, and often quite funny. This is a unique, difficult (the latter portions less so), and very worthwhile reading experience.' (*Booklist*, M Levine)

### Strout, Elizabeth. **My name is Lucy Barton**

This is a novel that has really captivated readers. It's surprising really, when one considers that the story is told over a few days and set almost entirely in a hospital room. It is Strout's skill that out of this she can create a wonderful book that almost everyone loves. 'The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Olive Kitteridge* has established herself as a writer of exquisite — and often tumultuous — relationships. Her latest novel explores the bond between a mother and daughter, revealing the intricacies of their shared history. *My name is Lucy Barton* begins as the titular Lucy, bedridden in the hospital after surgery, is visited by her estranged mother. Their conversations over the next few days gradually illuminate the past, highlighting decades-long tension and stunning memories. In a mere 191 pages Strout delivers a haunting, emotional narrative without straying into sentimentality.' (*Paste Magazine*, F Jackson). This has featured on numerous 'Best reads of 2016' lists and chosen by many readers as their best novel of the year. A *Daily Telegraph* critic wrote that Strout has made 'a remarkable virtue of the novelist's trick — often missed — of telling enough but not too much', and described the book as 'a glorious novel, deft, tender and true'. Highly recommended.

### Hawkins, Paula. **The girl on the train**

This psychological thriller, written by a Zimbabwean who has lived in England for many years, received a huge amount of attention and is very popular. The movie was recently on circuit. 'Hawkins's highly engrossing debut novel introduces readers to Rachel Watson, an unreliable point-of-view character if there ever was one — she is unemployed, an alcoholic, and stalking her ex-husband and his new wife. She attempts to save face by pretending to go to work every day, seeing the same seemingly perfect couple daily from her train window. Rachel's narrative is intersected by those of two other women — Megan, the woman who lives in the house Rachel is obsessed with, and Anna, who lives down the street from Megan and is married to Rachel's ex-husband. When Megan disappears, layers of the women's personalities are slowly revealed in unexpected ways' ... *VERDICT*: A gripping novel that will appeal to fans of psychological fiction and suspense.' (*Library Journal*, P Oliver) I found this mildly enjoyable but rather disappointing, especially after all the hype. However, I am in the minority as most people I know found it a real page-turner. A reviewer in the Wordsworth newsletter wrote: 'The suspense is cleverly sustained, and the characters are brilliantly developed, with unexpected depth and nuance. A truly fabulous crime story!'

### Enright, Anne. **The green road**

'Deemed by many to be Enright's masterpiece, this Baileys Prize-shortlisted novel is fairly slim but will stay with you long after you've put it down. It follows an eccentric Irish family as they reconvene one Christmas after years apart. The first half of the book checks in with each of the four children in turn, before the second half brings them all together under the roof of their capricious mother, Rosaleen.' (Penguin reading list)

'*The green road* is a complex and beautiful portrayal of a family. Far-roving in scope, the novel follows the scattered members of the Madigan clan through Mali, New York, Canada and, of course, Ireland, where they all reunite ... because the family home is about to go up for sale ... Enright ... gets the complexity of large families better than any contemporary writer I can think of. The sense of duty to an aging parent that middle-aged children feel, the biting judgment between siblings, and the inviolate connection, fierce protectiveness, and clannish humour — jokes so old, and full of shared history,

they can buckle a gathering of siblings with laughter and make them cry ... A Christmas dinner, full of family ritual and exacting preparation, sits at the apex of Enright's novel.' (*Globe and Mail*, Lisa Moore)

**Hart, John. Redemption road**

This new stand-alone crime thriller from the award-winning Hart is an absorbing read and a real page-turner. 'It's been five long years since readers were racing through Hart's gripping **Iron House**, but, finally, it's time again for heart rates to soar ... Hart unwinds another complex plot, rich in backstory but driven by a propulsive main narrative in which troubled cop Elizabeth Black ... deals with a closetful of demons as she tries to track a serial killer ... In the background ... there is the equally compelling story of 14-year-old Gideon Strange, whose mother was one of the killer's victims and who has vowed to exact revenge on the man convicted of the crime, former cop Adrian Wall, released from prison after 13 years as the novel opens ... The identity of the killer, though not revealed until nearly the end, is evident early on, but somehow that hardly matters, either in terms of the steadily ratcheting tension or our involvement with the three central characters, whose inner lives are as much of the story here as their eventual fates in the maelstrom of violence that engulfs them. Hart plays brilliantly on the tradition of the southern gothic, but his grasp of character gives this novel and all his works the extra dimension that extends his audience well beyond adrenaline junkies.' (*Booklist*, B Ott)

**Smiley, Jane. The last hundred years trilogy**

*The last hundred years* is this Pulitzer Prize-winning author's sweeping, multi-generational trilogy of novels following an American farming family over a hundred years. It begins in 1920 when Walter and Rosanna Langdon begin their life together on a farm in rural Iowa and ends in 2019, with each chapter covering one year. 'The saga of an Iowa farm family might not seem like an exciting premise, but Smiley makes it just that, conjuring a world — time, place, people — and an engaging story that makes readers eager to know what happens next.' (*Publishers Weekly*)

The first book, and perhaps the best, is *Some luck*, which takes the story of the Langdons and their five children up to 1953. It is followed by *Early warning* and *Golden age*. It's

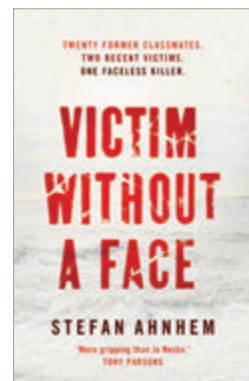
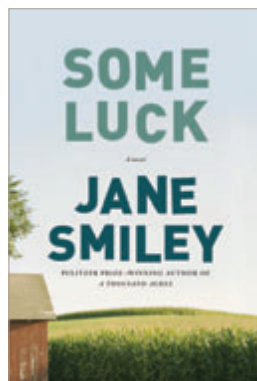
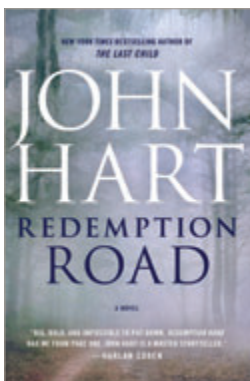
both a family saga and a social history telling of events big and small — individuals and relationships, births and deaths, and ordinary day-to-day life against a backdrop of changing times and a changing landscape. Even with such a large cast (there's a family tree at the beginning) Smiley manages to create characters which feel real to the reader and to adeptly link their individual relationships and personal experiences with the wider world and what is happening 'out there' — the Depression, World War II, the Cold War, changing views and mores, political movements, technological developments, social trends, the industrialisation of agriculture and, particularly in the third book, man's impact on the environment and climate change. Smiley is a masterful storyteller and this trilogy an absorbing read.

**Ahnhem, Stefan. Victim without a face**

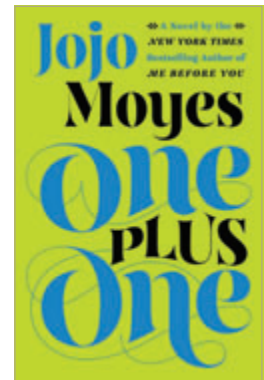
For those searching for new Scandinavian crime fiction, Swedish screenwriter Ahnhem's debut novel is worth checking out. It won Crimetime's Novel of the Year in Sweden in 2014 and I can see why: it's a gripping read. The jury said: 'A sharp and adrenaline-packed thriller which holds the reader in an almost uncanny grip ... the next great thriller king.' When I finished the book, I was sad to see the last of Fabian Risk, but since then, I've learnt that this is the first title in a planned trilogy. 'Detective Fabian Risk has moved his family from Stockholm to his hometown in an attempt to hold his marriage together and have more time to spend with his children. But he has not even finished unpacking when he is called in by his new precinct. A man who was in his ninth-grade class has been murdered in a grotesque manner. Other classmates turn up dead, and in each case their punishment seems to fit their crime against the prime suspect, who was himself a victim of extreme bullying ... This book is hard to put down. The plot twists are stunning. It is very dark and guaranteed to elevate your heart rate, but the reader is sustained by the humanity that survives despite the relentless depravity ... It's the perfect recommendation for fans who cannot get enough of those Scandinavian coppers.' (*Booklist*, J Murphy). But be warned, this is not for everyone — it's very gory and gruesome.

**Shriver, Lionel. The Mandibles: a family, 2029-2047**

Shriver is best known for *Let's talk about Kevin*, her bestselling







novel which won the 2005 Orange Prize. This new novel is something quite different – it is also topical, but *The Mandibles* is a satire, a satire written in the form of a kind of literary family saga set in a futuristic USA. The privileged Mandibles expect to inherit from the very wealthy family patriarch, but all that changes when the economy goes into freefall after a massive cyber attack. The book looks at how the different family members cope in this new dystopian America. It is thought-provoking, scary, sad and funny. ‘This is a book tackling some of the weightier problems of the world today: economic stability, immigration, white privilege, climate change ... For all its look at troubling issues, *The Mandibles* is Shriver’s funniest book to date, with a lightness of touch that makes it more a well-observed scabrous satire on people than a dark musing on economic theory.’ (*The Bookseller*, T Tivnan)

Both Sarah Waters and Sarah Churchill chose this novel for a ‘Best books’ article in the *Guardian*. ‘*The Mandibles* ... is set in the near future, a post-economic-meltdown US in which the privileged classes have to fight for stunned survival as civilisation slowly unravels around them. A gleeful nightmare, it made me snort with laughter even as I was shuddering – though I’m glad I read it pre-Brexit. I might need a stiff drink if I sat down with it now.’ (S Waters) and ‘Shriver’s brilliant satire of America ... offers a prophetic glance at the dangers into which toxic governments can lead us: in the few months since publication events are already proving her right, which is frankly terrifying.’ (*Guardian*, S Churchill)

### Cleave, Chris. **Everyone brave is forgiven**

This Second World War drama, inspired by the story of Cleave’s grandparents, focuses on four young Londoners during the London Blitz and the Siege of Malta. ‘Among all the recent fictions about the war, Cleave’s miniseries of a novel is a surprising standout, with irresistibly engaging characters who sharply illuminate issues of class, race, and wartime morality.’ (*Kirkus Reviews*)

Reviews have been mixed, but many readers have given it top marks. ‘The story is an adroit mixture of the conventional ... and the unusual: Cleave looks at what happened to the children who weren’t evacuated from the capital to the countryside, at the lives of the city’s few black inhabitants, and at an unfamiliar theatre of war ... While the novel has love at its heart, it is not a

love story. The theatres of war here also include those of class, friendship, gender and race ... Everyone in this compelling and finely crafted book is drawn with the same care, and each has a personal war to wage.’ (*Financial Times*, M Prodder). Worth reading too are Cleave’s three earlier novels about a London terrorist attack, Olympic cycling, and the story of a young Nigerian refugee, respectively.

### Doerr, Anthony. **All the light we cannot see**

Another World War II novel is Doerr’s bestselling *All the light we cannot see*. There are two narrative strands, one focusing on Marie-Laure, a blind French girl, the other on Werner, a young German soldier. While it’s mainly set during the occupation of France there are flashbacks to their earlier lives. I haven’t read it yet but am recommending it here as a ‘jolly good read’, because even those very critical of the writing have found it compelling. C Callil wrote in the *Guardian*: ‘This novel will be a piece of luck for anyone with a long plane journey or beach holiday ahead. It is such a page-turner, entirely absorbing: one of those books in which the talent of the storyteller surmounts stylistic inadequacies and ultimately defies one’s better judgment.’ The book was very popular and won a number of awards: the Pulitzer Prize and the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction in 2015, and the National Book Award the year before. W Vollman wrote in the *New York Times*: ‘I must blame Anthony Doerr for lost sleep, because once I started reading his new novel ... there was no putting it down. Told mostly in the present tense, in short and usually pointed chapters, the story moves briskly and efficiently toward its climactic encounter during the Allied bombing of St. Malo, France, a couple of months after D-Day. Although the narrative consists largely of flashbacks, it’s easy to follow because it focuses most sharply on only two characters.’

### Moyes, Jojo. **The one plus one**

Jojo Moyes is an author I’ve been recommending for a long time. Her backlist is definitely worth checking out as all her novels make pleasant reading. The subjects are varied, she’s a good storyteller and the books provide good entertainment. *Me before you* was her breakout book. A lot of its success was thanks to the Richard & Judy Book Club, but the story of the relationship between Will and Louisa, a quadriplegic man

planning suicide and his carer, just seemed to strike a chord with many readers. And now that there's been a movie Moyes has suddenly become a well-known name. Last year we bought **After you**, the sequel to **Me before you**. Set eighteen months after the heart-breaking ending of the first book, it tells the story of what happened afterwards. The author said: 'I hadn't planned to write a sequel ... But working on the movie script, and reading the sheer volume of tweets and emails every day asking what Lou did with her life, meant that the characters never left me. It has been such a pleasure revisiting Lou and her family, and the Traynors, and confronting them with a whole new set of issues. As ever, they have made me laugh, and cry. I hope readers feel the same way at meeting them again.' I'm sure they will. But the sequel is not as compelling — although enjoyable, it doesn't have the intensity and emotional heft of **Me before you**. The book I'm particularly recommending here is her 2014 novel, **The one plus one**. It's more predictable, and a bit more of a romantic comedy than her earlier novels, but if you want something light yet absorbing, then this feel-good story of an unusual road trip is just the thing. Jess is a cash-strapped single woman working two jobs, as a cleaner and a barmaid to keep her little family going. Tanzie, her 10-year-old daughter, is a maths whizz and Nicky, her teenage goth stepson, is anti-social and being bullied at school. When Tanzie is offered an amazing scholarship to a school for gifted children, her mother realises that she won't be able to afford even the small portion of the fees that has to be paid. They (plus their very smelly dog) end up travelling to Scotland with a man called Ed, so that Tanzie can compete in a maths olympiad with a large cash prize. Ed, who's just learned that he's under suspicion for insider trading, wants to lie low for a while. The characters, who take turns as narrators, are all likeable, but it was troubled teen Nicky who really stole my heart. 'Safety advisory: If you're planning to read ... **The one plus one** on your summer vacation, slather on plenty of SPF 50. Once you start the book, you probably won't look up again until you're the last one left on the beach.' (*Washington Post*, S Pekkanen)

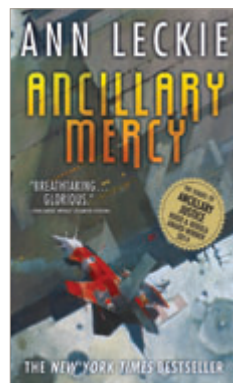
**Leckie, Ann. Imperial Radch trilogy**

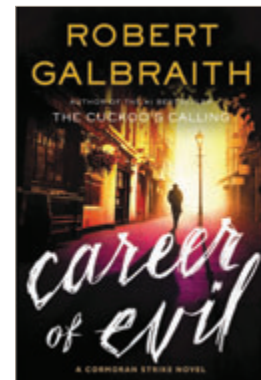
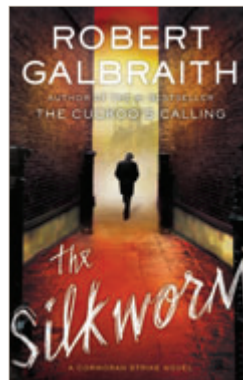
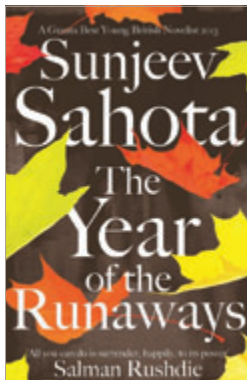
This enthralling science fiction trilogy has impressed readers and critics alike. The first book in the series, and the author's debut novel, is **Ancillary Justice**. It was received with great

enthusiasm and swept the board with literary prizes, winning both the Hugo and the Nebula, as well as the Arthur C Clarke Award, the British SF Association Best Novel Award, the Philip K Dick Award and the Locus. The two follow-ups, **Ancillary sword** and **Ancillary Mercy**, also won, or were nominated for, prizes. The narrator is a spaceship — a truly memorable voice. This trilogy is moving and thought-provoking and highly recommended. '**Ancillary Justice** is narrated by what used to be the military space ship, Justice of Toren, which now animates one possessed soldier. "The judges all loved it," said a prize director Tom Hunter. "It takes on some of the classic tropes of science fiction, and redoes them in contemporary ways." Leckie pulls her ambitious concept off "brilliantly", said Hunter. "It's a book whose major character and narrator is a space ship — you can't be more science fictional than that. And it has broad space-opera themes" ... He said the novel also contains "interesting ideas around language and gender politics". And "it's a great action read — one of those books which I'd give to people who say they don't like science fiction." The *Guardian's* reviewer Eric Brown called it a "hugely ambitious ... fast-paced, moving and intellectually satisfying story of love and vengeance". "Breq", wrote Brown, "is a hive-mind AI running a starship who finds herself downloaded into the reanimated corpse of a soldier, with only partial knowledge of how she ended up there. What follows is the meticulous piecing together of subsequent events ... It's by turns thrilling, moving and awe-inspiring." In *Strange Horizons*, reviewer Lila Garrott said the novel was "astoundingly assured and graceful ... wedding a complicated structure to three-dimensional characters and multiple interesting SFnal ideas ... There's been a lot of award buzz surrounding it, all of which is entirely deserved. The novel's core questions, such as the meaning of personhood in a world containing artificial intelligences and the meaning of individual identity in a world containing multi-bodied minds, are not new to speculative fiction, but they are combined in ways which shed new light on them, and Leckie never allows anything to resolve into a simple answer," wrote Garrott.' (*Guardian*)

**Healey, Emma. Elizabeth is missing**

This delightful debut novel has the most unreliable narrator imaginable: an 82-year-old woman suffering from senile dementia. 'Maud can't remember much but she does know that





her friend Elizabeth is missing and that it might have something to do with the long ago disappearance of her sister during the war. But how can you solve a mystery when you can't remember the clues?' It's a warm-hearted and charming novel and deservedly won a Betty Trask Prize. 'It could have been grim reading, but Emma Healey has a gift for the kind of dark comedy that can shine through any predicament. There are two timelines woven together: the Elizabeth mystery and the unsolved disappearance of Maud's sister 70 years before. They weave together, mostly successfully, and prove in the end to be connected ... A lot of the humour in this gently funny book springs from Maud's unsuitability for the role of investigator, combined with her endearing determination to keep at it. The use of the present tense allows us to inhabit developments minute by minute, alongside our reporter. Healey has a good ear for dialogue, both in the modern and 1940s sections. The postwar family, its culture and the search for Maud's sister are well imagined ... This is a commendably well-crafted story, and flowers finally into a moving one. The rapid descent of Maud, in the final pages of the book, from someone who can still go shopping on her own to someone who no longer always recognises her daughter, is skilfully done, and there are still flashes of dementia humour.' (*Guardian*)

### Sahota, Sunjeev. *The year of the runaways*

Described as 'The grapes of wrath for the 21st century', this widely-acclaimed novel follows the lives of three young Indian immigrants in England. The men are very different and how they got there very different too, but this diverse group ends up sharing a house in Sheffield. 'Novels of such scope and invention are all too rare; unusual, too, are those of real heart, whose characters you grow to love and truly care for. The year of the runaways has it all. The action spans continents, taking in a vast sweep of politics, religion and immigration; it also examines with tenderness and delicacy the ties that bind us, whether to family, friends or fellow travellers. Judges of forthcoming literary prizes need look no further ... The story begins as our three heroes arrive in Sheffield ... Interwoven with life in a northern town are the three family histories in the Punjab which have brought these young men here ... A fourth strand of the story concerns a pious Sikh girl from Croydon, Narinder ... She is a wonderful creation: kind, stubborn, modest

and clever. She never does what you want her to do. Her fate is to become entwined with another of the group in a most touching and unexpected way. The novel closes with a glimpse of Narinder in Kanyakumari, at the very southernmost tip of India ... You cry because of the terribleness of it, but also because you just don't want this book to end. Sunjeev Sahota is an absolutely wonderful writer. It is amazing that this book, so rich, so absorbing, so deftly executed, should be only his second. I doubt if I'll read a better novel this year.' (*The Spectator*, C Connolly). Encore Award winner and short-listed for 2015 Man Booker Prize.

### Galbraith, Robert. *Cormoran Strike series*

This is one of my favourite crime series at the moment. Fans will be pleased to know that the third book, *Career of evil*, should be in the libraries soon. When the first book, *The cuckoo's calling*, was published it received glowing reviews and was billed as a debut before people realised that the author was actually JK Rowling using a pseudonym. In it we meet the two central characters — a private detective and the secretary who came to temp for him. Cormoran Strike is a big, hairy, one-legged ex-soldier who is also the illegitimate son of a famous rock star. His mother, who died of a drug overdose, is labelled by the media a 'supergroupie'. He's a meticulous investigator and an interesting character. Robin Ellacott is a young woman, recently engaged, who is working for a temping agency until she can find a proper job. Her secret dream (which she's never voiced to anyone) is to be a private eye. On her first day of work a client retains Strike's services to investigate the death of his supermodel sister, Lula Landry. Her fatal fall from a balcony a few months before had been ruled a suicide, but her brother thinks the police were wrong. Author Val McDermid described the book as embracing 'the best of traditional mystery fiction, private-eye pace and the kind of writing that reminds me why I love this genre'. I loved it. I found it completely absorbing and really liked the characters, so was thrilled to hear that it was the beginning of a series. The sequel, *The silkworm*, was set in the publishing industry. I can wholeheartedly recommend all three of these entertaining novels for readers wanting well-written, enjoyable crime fiction — they make great holiday reading.

**Andrew, Sally. Recipes for love and murder: a Tannie Maria mystery**

Moving closer to home, it is Deon Meyer's crime thrillers that immediately spring to mind when recommending 'lekkerlees boeke'. His books, of course, make ideal holiday reading, but I've decided to recommend here a book that fewer readers will know about. It's a debut novel from a Muizenberg woman and the first in a series of 'culinary cozies' featuring a middle-aged widow as sleuth and a Klein Karoo setting. It is, perhaps, rather derivative, but charming nevertheless. 'Recipes for love and murder' opens with Tannie Maria transforming her recipe column in the local newspaper into an advice column to pacify the paper's sponsors. Her common sense (coupled with mouthwatering recipes) is a hit, and she soon receives mail from readers across the country. Then Tannie Maria gets a letter from a woman who wants to escape her abusive husband — a situation that mirrors her own violent past. When the woman is murdered Tannie Maria is determined to find the killer herself. After all, suspects are more willing to talk if you ply them with food.' (*Paste Magazine*, F Jackson) The second Tannie Maria mystery is *The satanic mechanic*.

**Atkinson, Kate. A god in ruins**

This is a sequel of sorts, a 'companion volume' as the author calls it, to her 2013 novel, *Life after life* 'which vividly depicted the multiple lives led by Ursula Todd during WWII. This one follows her much-loved younger brother, Teddy. He only leads one life as a husband, father, grandfather, RAF pilot, teacher, and writer, but the ever-inventive Atkinson encompasses many phases of Ted's life within one chapter ... Atkinson often revisits the same scene from a different perspective, adding key details, and always, there is her wry humor ... every one of Atkinson's characters will, at one moment or another, break readers' hearts. Atkinson mixes character, theme and plot into a rich mix, one that will hold readers in thrall.' (*Booklist*)

You 'read a novel like ... *A god in ruins*, a sprawling, unapologetically ambitious saga that tells the story of postwar Britain through the microcosm of a single family, and you remember what a big, old-school novel can do. Atkinson's book covers almost a century, tracks four generations, and is almost inexhaustibly rich in scenes and characters and incidents ... it's a masterly and frequently exhilarating performance by a novelist

who seems utterly undaunted by the imposing challenges she's set for herself.' (*New York Times*, T Perrotta)

**Haruf, Kent. Our souls at night**

Haruf, who has given us such gems as *Plainsong*, *Eventide*, and *Benediction*, sadly died in 2014. *Our souls at night* is his final novel, written while he was dying. Like his others, it is set in the fictional town of Holt, Colorado. It 'tells of elderly neighbours Addie and Louis, who live alone, until one night Addie visits Louis and asks him to come and spend the night with her. Their growing companionship and feeling for each other is one of the most satisfying, moving, joyful things I have read in years.' (*The Bookseller*, Alison Flood)

I've loved his other books and am looking forward to the Christmas holidays when I'll have time to read this one that has been so widely praised. 'It will occur to readers that even one more word added to this short and spare narrative would break Haruf's perfect harmony of place ... population ... and plot.' (*Booklist*)

Ursula Le Guin gave it a glowing review in the *Guardian*: 'I don't think there's a false word in .... *Our souls at night*. Nor, for all the colloquial ease and transparency of the prose and the apparent simplicity of the story, is there a glib word, or a predictable one ... Many novels have been about the pursuit of happiness, but this one is luminous with its actual presence.'

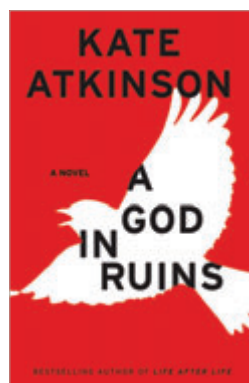
And in the *Library Journal* Donna Bettencourt wrote: 'Haruf captures small-town life to perfection in his signature spare style ... (He) gives a delicate touch to Addie and Louis, their enjoyment of simple pleasures, their disappointments and compromises. Poignant and eloquent, this novel resonates beyond the pages. Don't miss this exceptional work from a literary voice now stilled.'

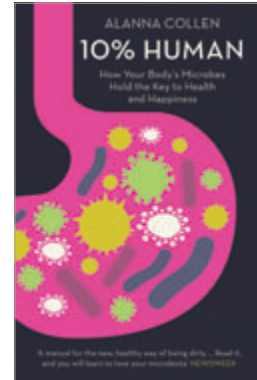
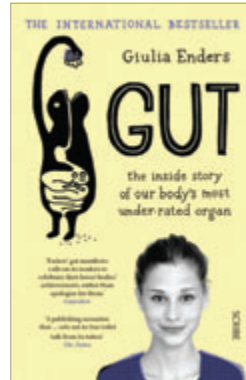
**Non-fiction**

For those who prefer non-fiction I am recommending a few books, a varied selection — some popular science, a couple of biographies — but all of them well worth reading.

**Le Carré, John. The pigeon tunnel**

Like many others I am a great fan of Le Carré's spy thrillers. He is a consummate storyteller and through the years has given us





many wonderful books (*The spy who came in from the cold*, *The little drummer girl*, *The constant gardener* are just a few of them). Of course, he is good at all the political intrigue and espionage — the cloak-and-dagger stuff, the spycraft — but it is his skill in creating memorable characters and the nuance and moral ambiguity he brings to his stories that make his novels so richly satisfying. I was charmed when I listened to an online stream of Le Carré reading an extract from his new book, *The pigeon tunnel*, and when I had a chance to read it I was not disappointed. We have recently bought copies of Sisman's well-researched and well-regarded biography of Le Carré, and that is certainly something worth reading, but *The pigeon tunnel* is Le Carré (or rather, David Cornwell) in his own words. It is not his autobiography; it's more a collection of recollections and anecdotes from his life. Really, it's about writing and travelling — researching his books, visiting places and meeting people — and includes a wonderfully personal and revealing chapter about his extraordinary father. *'He saw no paradox between being on the wanted list for fraud and sporting a gray topper in the owners' enclosure at Ascot,'* Le Carré writes. *'A reception at Claridge's to celebrate his second marriage was interrupted while he persuaded two Scotland Yard detectives to put off arresting him until the party was over — and meanwhile, come in and join the fun, which they duly did.'* Some critics would have preferred a proper, more detailed and profound Le Carré autobiography, but all have recommended *The pigeon tunnel*. *'Always insightful, frequently charming, and sometimes sobering, the memorable tales told by master storyteller Le Carré about his life will surely delight both longtime fans and newcomers. Le Carré's stories take readers around the world, covering his posting as a young intelligence officer in post-WWII Germany, his time in Gorbachev's Russia, and research trips for his novels. His witty reminiscences of situations both dangerous and absurd, and his well-delineated portraits of exceptional and quirky figures, bring to life the extraordinary adventures that fed his novels ... his self-deprecating humour and wit are never far away, and he proves a most elegant and genial host on this tour of his life and work.'* (*Publishers Weekly*)

**Enders, Giulia. Gut: the inside story of our body's most under-rated organ**

You may think a book on the gut a strange one to recommend

for holiday reading, but this really is great fun, and hugely educational too. I've even found that people I've recommended it to start quoting sections back to me later. There've been a spate of books on the link between food, digestion, the microbiome, and health lately, but this was the one that really got me interested. I think it's the author's youthful exuberance and infectious enthusiasm for her subject that just draws the reader in. She was a young doctoral student in gastroenterology when her 10-minute presentation on the gut won her first prize in the 2012 Science Slam in Berlin. The YouTube video of it went viral, and out of that this book was born. *Darm mit Charme* (*Charming bowels*) was a bestseller in her native Germany and the various translations are doing very well around the world. Her approach is conversational and anecdotal and filled with humour and references to popular culture. The prose is simple and accessible, although sometimes the language can be a bit awkward, and the illustrations by her elder sister add to the reader's enjoyment of this quirky, entertaining explanation of the workings of the human gut. Her book 'may deal with defecation, constipation and other bowel movements, but its message is far from flippant: our gastrointestinal tract is not only the body's most under-appreciated organ, but "the brain's most important adviser". In the book ... Enders argues that we are unduly proud of the complex achievements of our brain and heart, while regarding our bowels as little more than a shameful tube that produces 'small brown heaps and farting noises'. Few know that only the last of our digestive tract's eight metres deals with faeces, that it produces more than 20 kinds of hormone, contains more than a thousand species of bacteria and is controlled by a nervous system that is almost as complex as the brain's. And Enders argues that even scientists ... have only in recent years started to explore the possibility that the health of our bowels could have a more direct influence on our mental wellbeing, our motivation, memory and sense of morality than our DNA.' (*Guardian*, P Oltermann)

**Collen, Alanna. 10% human**

The author of this popular science book is a scientist with a doctorate in evolutionary biology, an expert in bat echolocation and a science writer who has written for various magazines and appeared on both radio and television. In the prologue she writes: *'You are just 10% human. For every one of the cells*

that make up the vessel that you call your body, there are nine impostor cells hitching a ride. You are not just flesh and blood, muscle and bone, brain and skin, but also bacteria and fungi. You are more “them” than you are “you”. Your gut alone hosts 100 trillion of them ... Over your lifetime, you will play host to bugs the equivalent weight of five African elephants. Your skin is crawling with them. There are more on your fingertip than there are people in Britain ... We had thought our microbes didn't matter, but science is beginning to reveal a different story. A story in which our lives are intertwined with those of our hitchhikers, where our microbes run our bodies, and becoming a healthy human is impossible without them.’ It’s a fascinating and thought-provoking read.

**Spector, Tim. The diet myth**

This is yet another popular level book about health, microbes, nutrition and diet. Spector is a professor of genetic epidemiology, director of the Twin Research Unit and lead investigator of the British Gut Project. He has written other books, but this one had a more personal motivation: a mild stroke gave him a wake-up call. ‘In the space of two weeks I had gone from a sporty, fitter-than-average middle-aged man to what felt like a pill-popping, hypertensive, depressed stroke victim.’ He decided to research ways of improving his health. ‘I thought changing my lifelong dietary habits would be my greatest challenge – but it turned out that finding out the truth about food was an even greater one ... even for me as a doctor and scientist ... Confusing and conflicting messages are everywhere.’ The result is this accessible, interesting, and entertaining book. ‘Spector describes how gut microbes interact with genes and diet. The book is structured as a takedown of diet myths, but it’s much more than a self-help advice book. It’s witty, well-written and broad-ranging, littered with fascinating factoids and case studies. Spector thoughtfully explains the strengths and weaknesses of the available evidence, drawing on research on gut microbes as well as his longrunning studies on the genetics of twins and his own often hilarious experiments with various diets. In Spector’s telling, gut microbes are neither good nor bad: The part they play in health and disease is dynamic and contextual.’ (New York Times, S Shah)

‘It’s not often a book changes my life in a mere three chapters, but a quarter of the way though ... I went out to buy some

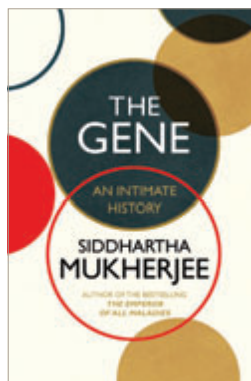
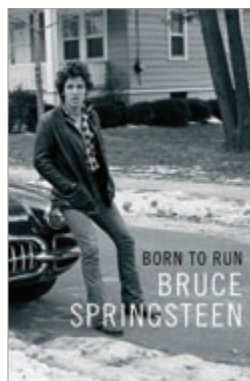
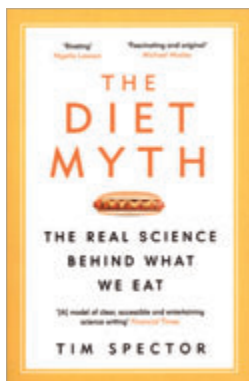
natural yoghurt for breakfast ... It’s truly eye-opening stuff, and we owe it to ourselves and the 100 trillion friends inside our bodies to read this book ...’ (Literary Review, F Cloake)

**Springsteen, Bruce. Born to run**

This is one of the best rock-and-roll memoirs I’ve read in a long time. It’s so obviously written by Springsteen himself and not ghost-written like so many others. And he can write; we know from his music that he is something of a wordsmith and a good storyteller, and that shines through here. The tone is intimate and the voice self-deprecating and honest. **Born to run** is long, perhaps slightly too long, but hugely readable and I enjoyed it immensely. Many critics have likened it to a long Springsteen concert. ‘For over 40 years, Springsteen has chronicled the lives of myriad American characters as they face life, love, economic hardship, and the search for community and home, and now he limns his own life story to create an exuberant, sprawling, double album of a memoir. Springsteen writes eloquently about his youth, family, and hometown while detailing his complicated relationship with his father and the singer’s own quest to reconcile his past and explore the roots and meaning of what he does. Springsteen describes in abundant detail his musical coming of age with various bands, playing the clubs and bars of New Jersey as he finds his own voice, struggles with early success, and eventually records the 1975 masterpiece *Born To Run* with the E Street Band and reaches superstardom in the 1980s. Springsteen’s prose ranges from honest and self-deprecating to poetic and deeply analytical as he writes about his life, his music, his place in the world, and his movingly deep ties to his family, his band, and his audience. *VERDICT*: Like a classic Springsteen and E Street Band show, the book takes readers on a rollicking ride from the glorious and the emotional to the fun and soaring; one of rock’s finest and most memorable memoirs.’ (Library Journal, J Collins)

**Mukherjee, Siddhartha. The gene**

The author is an oncologist whose book about cancer, **The emperor of all maladies**, won the 2011 Pulitzer Prize. This new popular science book has been very well received, many putting it on their ‘Best of’ lists for the year. I haven’t read it yet, but was intrigued when it was described in *The Bookseller* as a ‘special kind of book that makes you feel erudite and entertained at



the same time'. It's about genetics and geneticists and whether genes determine identity and behaviour. He combines science with stories of his own family. 'In skillful prose, Mukherjee ... relates the grand tale of how scientists have come to understand the role genes play in human development, behaviour, and physiology. He deftly relates the basic scientific facts about the way genes are believed to function, while making clear the aspects of genetics that remain unknown. Mukherjee offers insight into both the scientific process and the sociology of science ... He also examines many of the philosophical and moral quandaries ... addressing such important topics as eugenics, stem cell research, and what it means to use the composition of a person's genotype to make predictions about his or her health or behaviour. Looking to the future, Mukherjee addresses prospects for medical advances ... regularly pointing

out the pressing ethical considerations ... By relating familial information, Mukherjee grounds the abstract in the personal to add power and poignancy to his excellent narrative.' (*Publishers Weekly*)

### Brown, Andrew. **Good cop, bad cop**

My final choice is something much closer to home. **Good cop, bad cop** is another compelling read from this local advocate, police reservist and award-winning novelist. It really is hard to put down. There are some funny parts, some scary parts and some tragically sad parts. Although filled with his personal experiences, this is also his criticism of the government. He confesses that this is the first time that he hasn't voted for the ANC. He chose the EFF instead. A thought-provoking and revealing book, this is a must-read. Highly recommended.

## Booklist

### Fiction

Andrew, Sally. **Recipes for love and murder: a Tannie Maria mystery.**- Umuzi, 2015.

Ahnhem, Stefan. **Victim without a face** / translated by Rachel Willson-Broyles.- Head of Zeus, 2016.

Atkinson, Kate. **A god in ruins.**- Doubleday, 2015.

Cleave, Chris. **Everyone brave is forgiven.**- Sceptre, 2016.

Doerr, Anthony. **All the light we cannot see: a novel.**- Fourth Estate, 2015.

Enright, Anne. **The green road.**- Cape, 2015.

Ferrante, Elena / translated from the Italian by Ann Goldstein  
**My brilliant friend.**- Europa, 2015.  
**The story of a new name.**- Europa, 2015.  
**Those who leave and those who stay.**- Europa, 2015.  
**The story of the lost child.**- Europa, 2015.

Galbraith, Robert  
**The cuckoo's calling.**- Sphere, 2013.  
**The silkworm.**- Sphere, 2014.  
**Career of evil.**- Sphere, 2015.

Hart, John. **Redemption road.**- Hodder, 2016.

Haruf, Kent. **Our souls at night.**- Picador, 2015.

Hawkins, Paula. **The girl on the train.**- Doubleday, 2015.

Healey, Emma. **Elizabeth is missing.**- Penguin, 2015.

James, Marlon. **A brief history of seven killings: a novel.**- Oneworld, 2015.

Leckie, Ann  
**Ancillary Justice.**- Orbit, 2013.  
**Ancillary sword.**- Orbit, 2014.  
**Ancillary Mercy.**- Orbit, 2015.

Moyes, Jojo  
**The one plus one.**- Joseph, 2014.  
**After you.**- Joseph, 2015.

Sahota, Sunjeev. **The year of the runaways.**- Picador, 2015.

Shriver, Lionel. **The Mandibles: a family, 2029-2047.**- Borough, 2016.

Smiley, Jane  
**Some luck.**- Mantle, 2014.  
**Early warning.**- Mantle, 2015.  
**Golden age.**- Mantle, 2015.

Strout, Elizabeth. **My name is Lucy Barton: a novel.**- Viking, 2016.

### Non-fiction

Brown, Andrew. **Good cop, bad cop: confessions of a reluctant policeman.**- Zebra, 2016.

Collen, Alanna. **10% human: how your body's microbes hold the key to health and happiness.**- William Collins, 2016.

Enders, Giulia. **Gut: the inside story of our body's most under-rated organ** / translated by David Shaw.- Scribe, 2016.

Le Carré, John. **The pigeon tunnel: stories from my life.**- Viking, 2016.

Mukherjee, Siddhartha. **The gene: an intimate history.**- Bodley Head, 2016.

Sisman, Adam. **John le Carré: the biography.**- Bloomsbury, 2016.

Spector, Tim. **The diet myth: the real science behind what we eat.**- Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2016.

Springsteen, Bruce. **Born to run.**- Simon & Schuster, 2016.



# book reviews

## ADULT NON-FICTION VOLWASSE VAKLEKTUUR

BORN, Savannah

**Shampoo-free: a DIY guide to putting down the bottle and embracing healthier, happier hair.**- Skyhorse Publishing, 2015.

The author is a shampoo-free enthusiast who guides readers to affordable natural alternatives to regular everyday chemical-laden shampoos. The aim is to create hair that's healthy, shinier, fuller and softer than it's ever been, while at the same time being eco-friendly. Readers are shown how to create their own simple and affordable baking soda and vinegar solutions to keep hair clean and fresh. Guidance is provided in the use of various herbs and other natural products with regard to lightening and darkening hair colour, or just to add more body to it. Early in the book it is pointed out that daily shampooing only came in vogue during the 1970s, when commercial advertising promoted it as being good for hair. Since then trends have changed and natural shampoo-free beauty secrets have developed a cult following. It has been featured in various magazines that include *Marie Claire*, *Elle*, and others. This useful, attractive and accessible title can be regarded as the first ever book about the shampoo-free movement. EB

BRITS, Elsabé

**Emily Hobhouse: geliefde verraaiër.**- Tafelberg, 2016.

'Emily Hobhouse is 'n naam wat diep gegraveer is in ons kollektiewe geheue — die een persoon wat dit moontlik kon maak vir Suid-Afrikaners, maar veral Afrikaners en swart mense, om die genadelose vergrype van die Britte in die Anglo-Boereoorlog te vergeef. 'n Vrou wat deur die oortuiging van haar gewete kon ingryp om aan verstote en geminagte weerloses in konsentrasiekampe weer hoop te gee en ná die oorlog projekte kon aanpak wat wit en swart bevoordeel het, is iemand wat verdien om elke nuwe generasie se respek en bewondering te ontvang. Dit is wat Elsabé Brits in haar deurgronde biografie

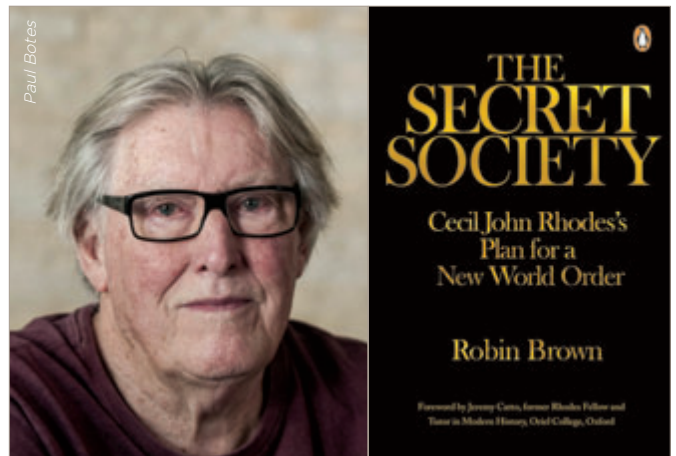
vermag. Sy ondersoek 'n veelkleurige lewe van 'n buitengewone vrou wat geslagte later steeds die reg verdien om in ere gehou te word. Die manier waarop Brits Hobhouse se lewe uitstippel, bring verskeie nuwe insigte na vore en die groot verskeidenheid nuwe visuele materiaal wat aangebied word, maak van **Geliefde verraaiër** 'n besondere leeservaring. Die boekontwerper Hanri Gerischer verdien spesiale lof. Die groot pluspunt van hierdie biografie is Brits se ontginning van Hobhouse se handgeskrewe notas, dagboeke en plakboeke wat sy in 'n trommel in Kanada gevind het. Dit bied nie net talle nuwe insigte oor Hobhouse nie, maar bied Brits die geleentheid om 'n meer genuanseerde beeld van haar voor te hou. Wat ook belangrik is, is die manier waarop die Hobhouse-verhaal gekontekstualiseer word binne die tydsgees en die breër historiese verloop. Deur die ontginning van die veelkantigheid van haar menswees, het Brits hier 'n portret geskilder wat diep menslik is en juis daarom kan Hobhouse vir haar heroïese optrede geloof word. Dit is 'n boek vir ons tyd en nodig om besinnend gelees te word.'

Ook in Engels vertaal as **Emily Hobhouse: beloved traitor**. ([www.netwerk24.com](http://www.netwerk24.com), uittreksels uit Amanda Botha se resensie)

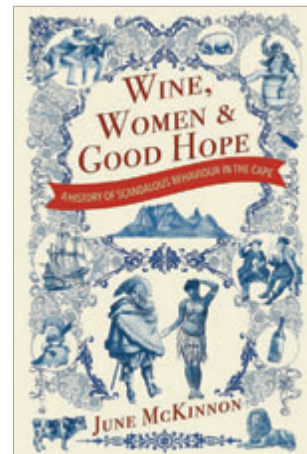
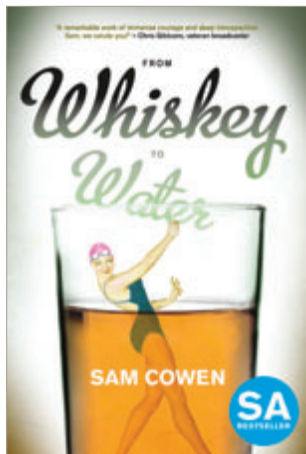
BROWN, Robin

**The Secret Society: Cecil John Rhodes's plan for a new world order.**- Penguin, 2015.

In Robin Brown's extremely well-researched and readable book we learn that Cecil John Rhodes, known for his ambitions to colonise as much of Africa as possible for the British, had supposedly formed a secret society. This society was to exist in different guises long after Rhodes' death in 1902. Thereafter the society came to operate within, or under the guise of, other bodies. It would seemingly play an influence on some of the main historic events and people in recent history. Yet the book contains major flaws, chief of which is the lack of solid, supporting evidence. This is the problem throughout the book. Apparently the society was so secret that it kept no surviving records and therefore revealed no proof of its existence. While critics may argue that it is impossible to







prove that the society existed, the author argues that it is impossible to prove that it did not exist. However, this is a speculative study which, though conclusions are drawn without supporting references, can still be regarded as an interesting and thought-provoking read. EB

#### COWEN, Sam

**From whiskey to water.**- MF Books, 2016.

'The book is following Sam's battle against addiction. This is the first time Sam publicly speaks out about her struggles. In the memoir, Sam will take us through all the forms of addiction that she has experienced. From alcohol to food to finally finding a lifestyle that's healthy and positively rewarding. But, she's clear that it wasn't always an easy road, saying, it's about how the light at the end of the tunnel is not always a bloody great train.' ([www.thewomenandhomemagazine.co.za](http://www.thewomenandhomemagazine.co.za))

#### EALES, Robert

**The compassionate Englishwoman: Emily Hobhouse in the Boer War.**- UCT Press, 2015.

This book was first published in Australia by the author who was raised in Bloemfontein and now lives in Sydney. It was begun as a post-retirement project, intending to be more of a popular account than an academic one. Eales writes of how an aristocratic Englishwoman made it her business to help the most innocent victims of the British scorched earth military reprisals taken against civilians, the women and children who were driven into the camps during the Boer War of 1899-1902. Of course we all know that the Englishwoman referred to here is Emily Hobhouse. Her story is one of courage and independence for that era, and Eales shares the respect and gratitude the Boers showed her for trying to ease their tragic sufferings. **The compassionate Englishwoman** charts the details of Hobhouse's humanitarian mission in a thoroughly researched and clearly indexed study that is beautifully written. EB

#### JONES, Grace and MORLEY, Paul

**I'll never write my memoirs.**- Simon, 2016.

Through modelling, singing, and acting, Grace Jones has cemented her remarkable career and stands as a global icon. Beyond the photographs, music, and movies, it has often been assumed who the real Grace Jones is. In this recently released autobiography written with Paul Morley, the reader gets a glimpse of the person behind the myth. Born in Jamaica, she came to America as a teenager where she could be more experimental. Grace discusses the origins of her modelling career where she faced many challenges and setbacks because of her unique looks and dark skin tone. This was to be followed by a singing career after becoming a disco personality at the famed Studio 54 in New York. This linked Grace to memorable classic disco songs like *I Need a Man* and *La Vie en Rose*. She would later land up in Hollywood to star in films such as the 1985 James Bond film *A View to a Kill*. Always trying to be true to herself, Grace offers the reader a fascinating and entertaining memoir of a one-of-a-kind artist who tells all without being gossipy, yet remains an enigma. EB

#### MCKINNON, June

**Wine, women and Good Hope: a history of scandalous behaviour in the Cape.**- Zebra, 2015.

**Wine, women and Good Hope**, written by a local author with a Masters degree in history, takes a look at a selection of personalities in early Cape history. Making good use of her knowledge as a genealogist, she delivers an extremely readable and fascinating account of early life at the Cape. The selection of characters are wide, and include lesser-known people as well as historical figures such as Lady Anne Barnard and Cecil John Rhodes. An especially interesting character covered is Abu Baker Effendi, an eminent figure in both the Ottoman Empire and the Cape Muslim community who, as Imam in South Africa, made important contributions to Islamic culture and religion in Cape Town. This readable local history title covers a little-known part of the Cape's existence, and offers a delightful read that those interested in our early history very much enjoy. EB

## SELLERS, Robert

**Peter O'Toole: the definitive biography.**- Sidgwick, 2015.

This new biography of the British actor is billed by *Booklist* (1 September 2016) as 'one of the best biographies of any actor to hit the shelves in many a year'. It is both entertaining and informative, providing details regarding the actor's personal and professional life with equal measure. After landing his breakthrough role in the much lauded David Lean film *Lawrence of Arabia* (the role was first offered to Marlon Brando and Albert Finney who both turned it down), O'Toole went on to attract offers to a wide variety of equally worthwhile roles. Judged at face value, it seems that his early career plays out as a series of happy accidents, although Sellers suggests that this was only half the story. O'Toole took his work seriously, as testified by colleagues who praised him for his innate understanding of stagecraft, a photographic memory and an exacting professionalism. The word 'hellraiser' attached itself to O'Toole almost from the moment *Lawrence of Arabia* made him famous — and given his relationships with alcohol and women, the tag was not unjustified. He was linked with other actors with a similar taste for such pleasures such as Richard Burton and Richard Harris, who were personal friends. Yet, although an unpredictable character, O'Toole was always professional. Colleagues and producers had only affectionate words for him, referring to him as equally determined, co-operative and hard-working. This is a hugely readable biography of an actor who was as eccentric as the characters he played on screen and on stage. EB

## ADULT FICTION VOLWASSE VERHALENDE LEKTUUR

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### DU PLOOY, Heilna

**Die taal van been.**- Lapa, 2016.

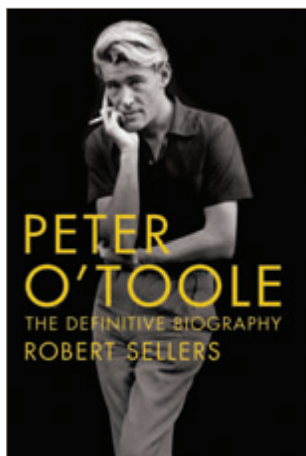
'Heilna du Plooy is veral bekend in akademiese kringe as gesoute dosent en navorser in Afrikaans en Nederlandse

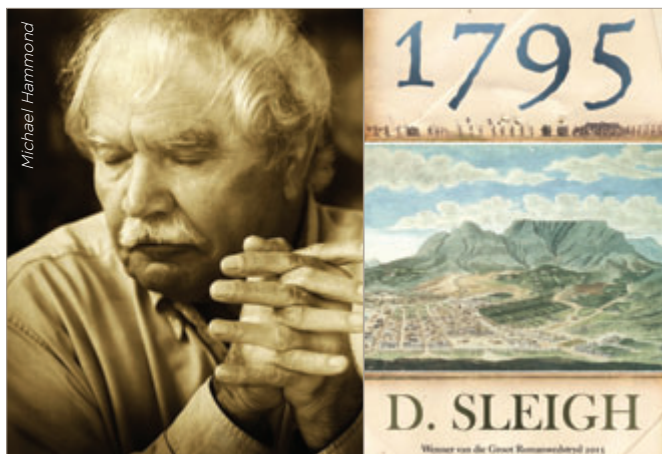
letterkunde, maar het onder meer reeds 'n aantal kortverhale en vertalings, asook drie digbundels gepubliseer. **Die taal van been** is haar eerste roman. Carolien du Plessis is 'n kunsdosent en kunstenaar wat haar tydelike pos by die universiteit weens rasionalisasie kwyt is. Haar liefde vir kuns en die akademie was die kruk waarmee sy jare lank van haar rol as onderdanige vrou en moeder kon ontvlug. Skielik bevind sy haarself by 'n kruispad en moet sy besluite oor haar toekoms neem. Carolien het egter 'n geheim wat sy jare lank met niemand gedeel het nie. En haar verlede is stadig maar seker besig om haar in te haal. Die speurverhaal begin met 'n onbekende skedel wat op 'n televisieprogram vertoon word. Die leser word blootgestel aan die wetenskaplike werkwyse rondom die rekonstruksie van skedels. So kruis Carolien se pad met dié joernalis Amanda Louw, wat dadelik 'n lekker nuusbrokkie ruik. Carolien en Amanda gaan op 'n speurtog om die identiteit van die onbekende skedel uit te vind. Mettertyd besef Carolien egter dat haar verlede moontlik ontbloot kan word. Verdere temas wat die roman interessant maak, is die verwysing na kuns, verlies, misdaad, diaspora en drome. Du Plooy se skryfstyl is poëties en besonder beskrywend van aard. Die tempo is gevolglik 'n slakkepas en die eerste helfte van die roman is met tye moeilik om te lees. Dit verg noue konsentrasie. **Die taal van been** is 'n geduldige speurverhaal waarin daar oor elke woord besin is binne die raamwerk van die intrige. Hier ontmoet aksie, spanning, poësie en taal mekaar op 'n gelyke speelveld. Die gevolg is 'n hoogs leesbare roman vir diegene wat die estetiese tesame met 'n lekker storie waardeer.' (*Die Burger*, uittreksel uit Dewald Koen se resensie)

### MASHIGO, Mohale

**The yearning.**- Picador Africa, 2016.

'An intricate tale about Marubini, who goes on a journey of self-discovery. She is torn between her present-day life as a marketing executive at a prestigious Cape wine estate and her younger days growing up in Soweto. The font differentiates past from present, making it easy for readers to identify Marubini as she is now and as she was then.





The protagonist is presented as a strong-willed, independent, thirty-something black woman who experienced heartbreak at a young age when her father passed away. As the reader is drawn into her life, we learn that he had transitioned from an ordinary man to a traditional healer, having heeded his ancestral calling. The victim of a callous murder, he passed away when Marubini or Rubi, as she is called by her friends, was just eight. It is while living in her modern world of deadlines and marketing strategies that her cultural roots and traditions start to hold her in thrall unexpectedly, even affecting her health. Rubi finds herself having to undertake a journey similar to the one that her baba once took. It is a choice that she must either accept or reject. Rubi is dating restaurant manager Pierre, a character who adds cultural interest by his Euro-African roots. Pierre's calm demeanour seems to subdue Rubi, appealing to her fiery heart and gentle soul. But as she veers between love and loss, the pain of the past and her hopes for the future, she is dogged by a need to know exactly what lessons the past holds for her. This is where Mashigo's writing shines as she connects these contradictory themes intricately, while her use of colourful metaphors breathes life into the narrative. One such metaphor is a memory of Rubi's grandmother explaining the bodily changes that young girls experience: a girl is like a seed; just the beginning stage of something big, something wonderful that will affect the whole world in ways unthought-of, she told me. Simply yet evocatively rendered, this image enables the reader to feel part of Rubi's coming of age, and it is descriptions like this that make [the book] a delight to read.' ([www.citypress.co.za](http://www.citypress.co.za), Avantika Seeth)

#### SLEIGHT, D.

1795.- Tafelberg, 2016.

'Dan Sleight het, sedert die verskyning van sy eerste roman *Eilande*, bekend geword as iemand wat geskiedskrywing goed kan verbind met storievertelling. Dit gebeur ook in sy nuutste roman *1795*, wanner van die Groot Romanwedstryd van 2015. Dit handel oor die Britse oornome van die Kaap in 1795, maar oor meer as dit. Die oorspronklike titel was *Die laaste goeie*

*man* en dit dui 'n belangrike tema van die roman aan: die stryd tussen goed en kwaad. Die skrywer se verstommende kennis van die ou Kaapse geskiedenis kom sterk na vore. Deur die beskrywing van die vroeë Kaapse dorp en omgewing, deur die vertelling van die gewoontes en gebruike van die tyd, word 'n verbygegane tyd helder voor die gees geroep. Die verhaal speel af in 'n beslissende tyd in die Suid-Afrikaanse geskiedenis, en die geskiedenis word krities vertolk; daar word skerp kritiek gelewer op Britse imperialisme, asook op die VOC se verwaarlosing van die belange van die burgers. Die sterkste aanklag is teen die Kaapse regeerders se maklike oorgawe aan die Britse besetter. Daar is in die roman 'n uitstekende integrasie van geskiedenis en verhaal, van storie en historie. Elke toneel het 'n funksie in die ontwikkeling van die twee sentrale temas van oorlog en liefde. Die hoofkarakter is William van Oudtshoorn, lid van die Politieke Raad en eienaar van die sierlike woning Saasveld. Hy is die beliggaming van die goeie in die verhaal, die een wat in groot en klein dinge sy plig doen, wat standvastig stry teen die bedreiging van die Britse imperialisme, en wat in elke situasie slegs die stem van sy gewete gehoorsaam. Sy antagonis is Gordon, gedryf deur die sug na erkenning, 'n verraaier wat uiteindelik deur almal verwerp word en 'n ellendige dood sterf. Hoewel die verhaal volledig in die 18de eeu afspeel, sal die leser duidelike raakpunte met die hedendaagse situasie in die land vind: 1795 is nie so ver van 2016 nie. Die tema wat waarskynlik die sterkste met die hede verbind kan word, is die verlies van taal en identiteit deur verengelsing. Sleight se *1795* is 'n grootse roman, 'n helder baken wat toon wát in Afrikaans vermag kan word.' (*Rapport Weekliks*, uittreksels uit Dr Chris van der Merwe se resensie)

#### YOUNG ADULT FICTION

#### JONG VOLWASSE VERHALENDE LEKTUUR

##### LEVY, Marianne

*Accidental superstar*.- Macmillan, 2016.

'If I'd known that two million people were going to be watching, I'd probably have done a bit of tidying up.'

That is Katie Cox's first thought when she discovers that a video of her singing in her bedroom has been uploaded to YouTube and gone viral. She is an ordinary schoolgirl in many ways but comes from a musical family and is a talented songwriter and musician. Her rapid rise to minor celebrity status on social media and how she copes with it is well done. Marianne Levy is the author of the *Ellie May* series of children's books, but **Accidental superstar** is her first novel for teenagers. It is great fun with a cast of interesting characters and a topical subject. Teens who are looking for a thoroughly entertaining read need look no further. And when they've finished this, they still have the sequel, **Accidental superstar in concert**, to look forward to. SSG

#### VAN DER VYVER, Marita

**Al wat ek weet.**- Lapa, 2016.

'Marita van der Vyver is 'n bedrewe skrywer. **Al wat ek weet** is 'n nuwe jeugboek uit haar pen wat vir haar die derde plek in Lapa se jeugromankompetisie in 2015 losgeslaan het en weer wys hoekom sy so hoog as jeugboekskrywer geag word. Gabriel is 'n tienerseun van Kaapstad. Maar Gabriel is anders as ander tienerseuns. Eerstens is daar sy agtergrond — sy ma is bruin, sy is pa is wit. Hulle het mekaar in die *struggle* ontmoet, verlief geraak en kort ná Nelson Mandela se vrylating getrou. Dan is daar Gabriel se belangstellings. Waar ander seuns 'n rugbybal rondskop, skryf hy gedigte, of rympies, soos sy ma dit noem. Maar dis nie gewone gedigte nie, dis woorde wat gebruik word vir *performance poetry*, oftewel gedigte wat *ge-rap* en *ge-slam* word. Gabriel gaan deur 'n moeilike tyd. Sy ma is dood en sy pa beland in 'n sielkundige inrigting weens die trauma van sy vrou se dood. Gabriel blameer sy pa vir sy ma se dood en van 'n pa-seun-verhouding is daar nie sprake nie. Een keer 'n week moet hy sy hart by 'n sielkundige gaan uitpraat, maar dis vir hom makliker om kwaad te wees as om oor sy gevoelens te praat en dalk snot en trane te begin huil. Twee jong vroue is sy redding. Helena, wat ook *performance poetry* doen en hom onder haar vlerk neem, en Sasha, of Sneeuwitjie, soos Gabriel haar noem, wat hy by sy sielkundige se spreekkamer ontmoet.

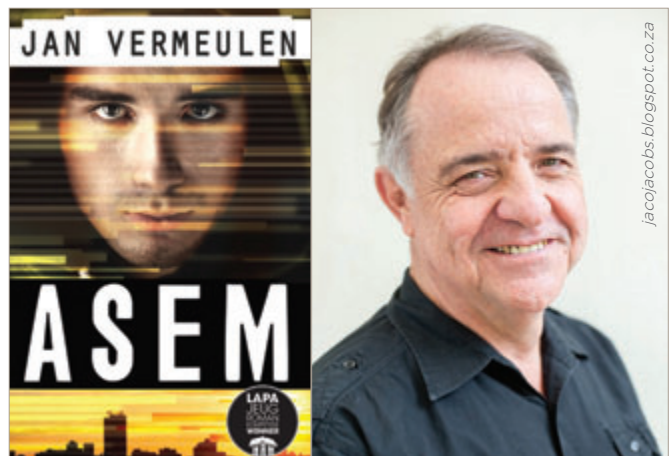


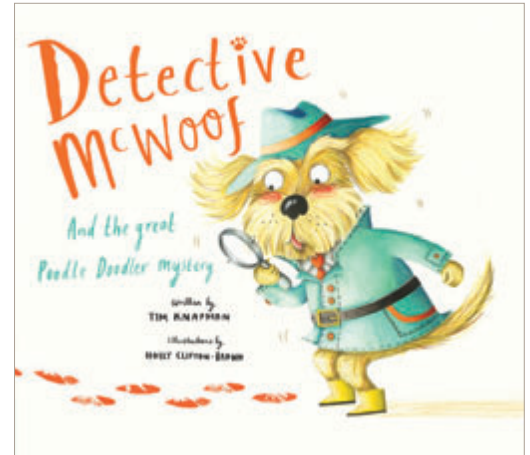
**Al wat ek weet** is 'n moderne jeugverhaal wat kwessies aanroer en in 'n taal geskryf is wat hedendaagse tieners sal verstaan. Nog 'n veer in Van der Vyver se hoed.' (*Die Burger*, uittreksels uit Ilza Roggeband se resensie)

#### VERMEULEN, Jan

**Asem.**- Lapa, 2016.

'Hierdie roman was die wenner in LAPA se jeugroman kompetisie, en gou was dit vir my duidelik dat die erkenning verdien is. Vanaf die inleidende bladsy beweeg die verhaal asemloos teen 'n vinnige pas, aangevuur deur Barries se rebelsheid en agressie. Barries dink nie dat hy iemand sal kan doodmaak nie, maar hy word oorweldig deur sy haat vir 'n pa wat hom nie wou hê nie; wat volgens hom 'n monster is. Die pa het hom gereeld geslaan; het weggeloop; hom nie met verjaarsdae gelukgewens nie. Maar nou word hy uitgenooi om by sy pa te gaan kuier. En na 'n motorongeluk waarin hy en sy vriende betrokke is, word hy geforseer om wel na sy pa toe te gaan. Barries moet in die tyd ook "skoon" bly van dagga en ander dwelms; en dus is daar min waarna hy kan uitsien met so 'n besoek, behalwe dat hy rottegif saamneem om in sy pa se drank te gooi! Hy word dus verplaas van 'n bekende omgewing en sy ma se ondersteuning, na 'n afgelêe vissersdorpie waar sy pa skilder en bly. Verhoudinge word baie pynlik en volg 'n lang proses van botsings en struweling. Hy red 'n hond uit die see en is bereid om al die kostes te dra sodat Jona gesond kan word. Hy maak vriende met die kleurlingseun Fillie Booysen; leer Olga en haar jaloerse vriend Stef ken; en uiteindelik ook Eunicé, Jona se regte eienaar. Die beskrywings van Seeplaas laat jou die see ruik en sien; die twee hoofkarakters neem jou saam op 'n golf van oorweldigende emosies; en Barries groei tot 'n volwasse seun wat uiteindelik vrede maak met die omstandighede wat gelei het tot sy oorspronklike haat en aanhoudende verset. Die waarheid omtrent die werklike identiteit van sy pa is verrassend en onverwags. Barries leer dat geweld nie 'n oplossing bring nie, dat jy eers jouself moet vergewe voordat jy ook die mense naaste aan jou kan vergewe. Sterk karakteruitbeelding en ontwikkeling; 'n tema wat tot





menige tiener sal spreek; geloofbare situasies en konfrontasies; emosies wat jou as leser aangryp, maak van hierdie boek 'n kragtoer en 'n boek wat erkenning moet geniet in skole, biblioteke en tuis. Hoogs aanbeveel.' ([lonareviews.blogspot.co.za](http://lonareviews.blogspot.co.za), Lona Gericke)

**WEITZ, Chris**

**The young world.**- Atom, 2015.

*'The age thing is not some rule. Some people knock off around eighteen, some earlier, some later. But ... when you reach maturity, the Sickness kicks in. Physical maturity, I mean. If you didn't die until you reached emotional maturity, dudes would be living forever.'*

That's a quote from **The young world**, Chris Weitz's debut novel and the first book in a post-apocalyptic YA trilogy. Weitz is well known as an Oscar-nominated movie director but this is his first foray into fiction. He directed **Twilight: New moon**, **A better life**, **About a boy**, **The golden compass**, and **American pie**. Apparently, after being involved with so many films featuring teenagers, he was inundated with teen books and scripts to consider, so he decided to try to write something himself — and this very readable story is the result. The setting is a dystopian New York after a virus has killed off all adults and children. The basic plot is a bit derivative, with only teens surviving the 'Sickness', but Weitz has produced a really gripping story. His focus is on how the teenagers, who have banded together into gangs or tribes, manage to survive in a city where the food, and more importantly, the water have run out and where lawlessness and violence is rife. It's a frightening scenario which is brought vividly to life by his two narrators, Jefferson and Donna. They are very different characters and their voices reflect this. The novel is tense and action-packed with a fast pace, and while it won't appeal to all fans of dystopian fiction, I have no doubt that it (and the rest of the trilogy) will be popular. There will be a movie too. SSG

## JUVENILE NON-FICTION JEUGVAKLEKTUUR

**DINNEEN, Susie**

**Nombulelo en die mot** / illustrasies deur Maja Sereda; vertaler, Sandra du Toit.- Puffin, 2016.

'Nombulelo het daarvan gehou om op haar Gogo se skoot te sit en na stories van die bos te luister: dat 'n luiperd haar Gogo gevolg het in die bos; en van die slang wat Gogo melk gegee het met die belofte dat sy nie gepik gaan word nie — ook nie haar kinders nie. Maar vir Nombulelo was Gogo se kosbaarste besitting die pragtige houtdosie waarin 'n "droë mot met die kleur van sagte bruinsuiker" op 'n geel kaartjie vasgesteek was. Met Gogo se dood het 'n stem uit die dosie haar gevra om haar vry te laat. Die mot se huis was by die bopunt van die waterval, aan die anderkant van die bos. Nombulelo het dapper die bos binnegegaan — "die diep donkergroen wildernis" langs hul huis — om die mot te laat tuiskom. Toe hy wegvlieg het "'n sagte goue stofwolk van sy vlerke afgegely en Nombulelo in 'n blink mis toegevo'.

Hierdie verhaal kruip diep in jou hart. Dit is die kwaliteit storie waarna 'n verteller soek om met kinders te deel. Die liefdevolle verhouding tussen 'n dogtertjie en haar Gogo. Dié se dood word simbolies in die mot se soeke na bevryding en koestering uitgebeeld. Dis 'n oorspronklike, roerende verhaal en word gekomplimenteer met Maja Sereda se ongelooflik mooi illustrasies. Sy openbaar die fynste aanvoeling vir die verhaal in haar weergawe van die teks — gevoelvol en uiters verbeeldingryk. Hierdie is 'n spesiale prentboek wat gekoester moet word.' Beskikbaar in Engels as **Nombulelo and the moth.**' ([lonareviews.blogspot.co.za](http://lonareviews.blogspot.co.za), Lona Gericke)

**KNAPMAN, Timothy.**

**Detective McWoof and the great Poodle Doodler mystery** / illustrated by Holly Clifton-Brown.- Oxford University Press, 2015.

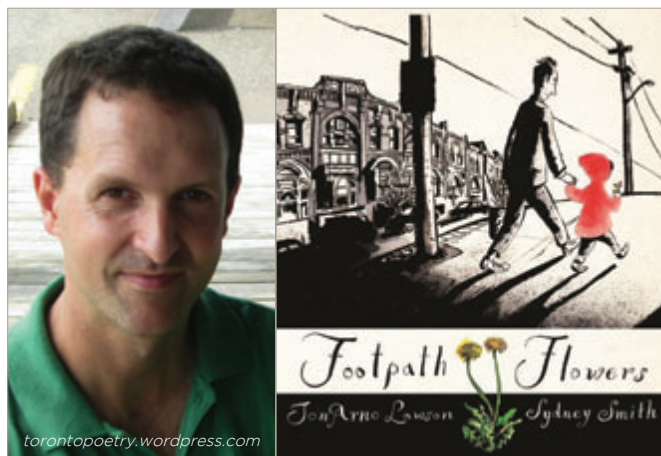
Detective McWoof (yes, he is a dog) tends to imagine that

he is a great detective, but in reality always tends to miss the most obvious clues. Roughly modelled on the Sherlock Holmes detective, McWoof too has a 'Watson' in a useful assistant called Wanda who keeps him on track. While examining the paintings of Poodle Doodler at the local art gallery, McWoof and Wanda are informed that the artist has been 'dognapped'. Immediately they set off for the artist's home where they meet the artist's wife, Marilyn Mongrelle. Having suspicions about Marilyn and three clues that need further investigation, McWoof and Wanda return incognito to the artist's home. The artwork is lively and colourful, complementing a plot that is a treat and is ideal for story-time. There is enough suspense and humour to intrigue and delight toddlers over a long period of pleasurable reading. EB

**LAWSON, JonArno**

**Footpath flowers.**- Walker Books, 2016.

'An emotionally moving, visually delightful ode to the simple powers of observation and empathy. A young girl and her father walk home from the grocery store through busy city streets in this wordless picture book. Along the way, Dad is preoccupied — talking on his cell phone, moving with purpose, eyes forward — while his daughter, a bright spot of red in a mostly black-and-white world, gazes with curiosity at the sights around her. In graphic novel-style panels, readers see what she sees: colourful weeds and wildflowers springing up from cracks in the pavement. She begins to collect these "sidewalk flowers" as they make their way past shops, across bustling avenues, and through a city park. Halfway through their journey, the little girl surreptitiously begins giving pieces of her bouquet away: a dandelion and some daffodils to a dead bird on a pathway; a sprig of lilac to an older man sleeping on a bench; daisies in the hair of her mother and siblings. With each not-so-random act of kindness, the scenes fill with more and more colour, until the pen-and-ink drawings are awash in watercolour, her world now fully alive and vibrant. With pitch-perfect visual pacing, the narrative unfolds slowly, matched by the protagonist's own leisurely



appreciation of her environment. Smith expertly varies perspective, switching from bird's-eye view to tightly focused close-ups. The panel format is used exquisitely; the individual choices are purposeful, and the spaces between panels effectively move the story. *VERDICT:* This is a book to savour slowly and then revisit again and again.' (*School Library Journal*, K Parrott)

**LITCHFIELD, David**

**The bear and the piano.**- Frances Lincoln Children's Bks., 2015.

This picture book is the winner of the picture book category for Waterstones' Children's Prize in 2016. This heart-warming story revolves around a young bear who discovers a piano in the woods and teaches himself to play, developing over time special skills at the instrument. This attracts the attention of other bears in the forest who love to come hear him play. One day a father and a daughter hiking in the woods overhear him and entice him to play in the big city. Sad to leave his friends but excited to explore another world, he ventures forth and becomes a sensation. But the excitement of success soon fades as the bear discovers that fame and fortune are not as rewarding as the love of family and friends. The book speaks to the transforming nature of music, the longing for something greater and more, and then the longing to return to one's origins and roots. The illustrations are highly detailed and a treat, complementing this classic in the making. EB

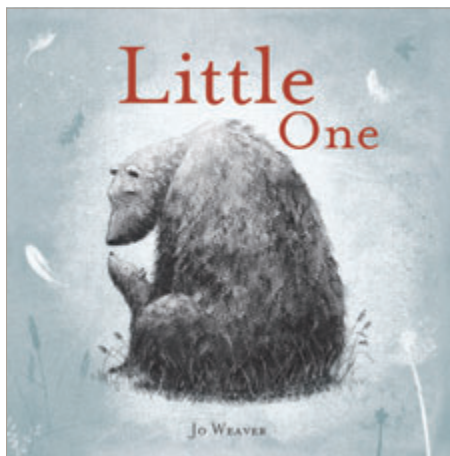
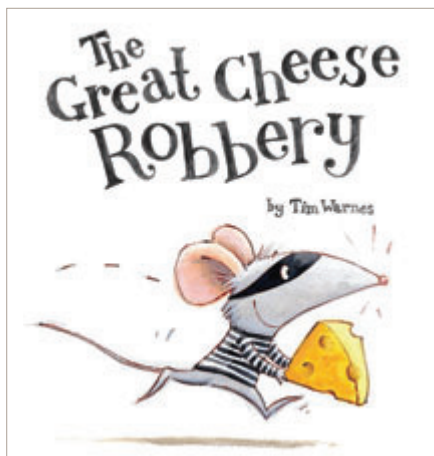
**PRATCHETT, Terry**

**The shepherd's crown: a Discworld novel.**

- Doubleday, 2015.

'Pratchett's characteristic generosity is very much at the fore of this final Tiffany Aching tale, the last *Discworld* novel from the author, who died in March. Fans will also find plenty of other well-loved elements: exuberant wordplay, vaudevillian humour, the rambunctious blue-skinned Nac Mac Feegle, and-beneath it all a susurrus of shivery archetype and myth.





The death of a powerful witch, an event most solemn and heartfelt, reverberates throughout the world and sets the crackling adventure in motion. Sensing a new weakness in the barrier that separates their realm from the Disc, the cruel elves of Fairyland prepare for an invasion. Meanwhile, Tiffany is stretched thin in her work as witch and all-around healer when her responsibilities expand to include a second community. At the same time, peaceful Geoffrey — a character new to the series — heads towards the town of Lancre with the aim of becoming a witch, though women traditionally hold that position. As Tiffany, Geoffrey and others gather to combat the elvish incursion, Pratchett allows some long-time characters to reveal surprising new qualities, including the delightfully insufferable Letice Earwig ... and Nightshade, Queen of the Elves — Tiffany's foe from her earliest adventure. Rather than tie everything up with a simple happily-ever-after, the ending leaves Tiffany poised to begin a new phase of adulthood — one with the potential for adventures that are now up to readers to imagine. Pratchett's final work is a tour de force of compassion, great wit, and gleeful storytelling. He will be missed.' (*Publishers Weekly Annex Reviews*)

Together they share in the wonders of their woodland home as they wander the lands and forests in an adventure to seek food and deal with the elements. During this time they catch fish, eat berries and make friends along the way, while appreciating the magnitude of nature. This is a simple tale of togetherness and growing independence which indirectly is meant to represent the experiences of young children. The brooding, atmospheric charcoal artwork produce a comfortable and safe feeling, making it a good choice as a bedtime story promoting peace and security. EB

EB Erich Buchhaus  
SCG Sabrina Gosling

**NOTE:** At the time of going to press some titles were still on order



#### WARNES, Tim

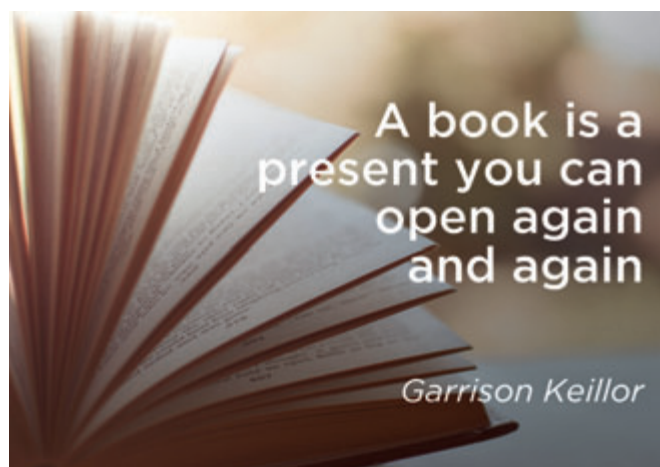
**The great cheese robbery.**- Little Tiger P., 2015.

This is a really effective picture book about a family of elephants and a botched attempt to steal everything by a group of mice. It started off with a plan to steal the cheese but escalated from there. The author explores fear and bravery in a humorous way. It's really cleverly done — funny, but filled with suspense yet everything turns out fine in the end. With its brightly coloured cartoon illustrations this picture book has loads of child appeal. SCG

#### WEAVER, Jo.

**Little One.**- Hodder, 2016.

Mother Bear leaves her shelter after winter, accompanied by her Little One, to enjoy the first rays of sunshine of spring.



# Green building

Get in sync with nature by Dalena le Roux

Home is a place of refuge and comfort — or is it? Most of us live in houses filled with plastic, treated timber, toxic paint and electrical equipment, causing indoor pollution that is up to 20 times more toxic than outdoors. This toxicity is the root of many health problems suffered today, from allergies through to sick building syndrome and worse.

One possible solution (maybe even the only one?) is for home owners and builders to turn to alternative — meaning natural — building methods and materials. Building one's own 'perfect' green dream home, created to one's own personal space needs, aesthetics and budget is something that many people dream of: thus creating an attractive and environmentally friendly and responsible, yet high quality space.

For these reasons more and more people nowadays decide to build their own green home. They might be attracted by the sense of achievement that comes with the successful completion of such a project, but also by the prospect of saving money. An additional attraction might also be to complete and live in a home that is earth-friendly and nurturing, yet

functional, energy and cost-efficient as well as attractive — helping, in such a way, to preserve the environment by reducing energy and water use. It can become an attempt to re-establish a connection with nature, for the materials used are available all around us: earth, clay, sand, mud, straw, wood, water . . .

Weighing the pros and cons of these natural building materials and methods, specifically in a country like South Africa, with its hot and arid climate, might help turn peoples' thoughts to building methods that will emphasise healthy, balanced indoor climates. Also, by building one's own house from natural materials that are plentiful, economical and so durable they can be made to withstand all kinds of bad weather conditions might result in a renaissance in the use of all these kinds of natural building materials.

For people considering building their own homes from natural materials, the collection of reference works in SN will be invaluable to meeting these changing needs and supply essential knowledge, helpful tips and fresh ideas to successfully build a green home of their own.



Ben Graham

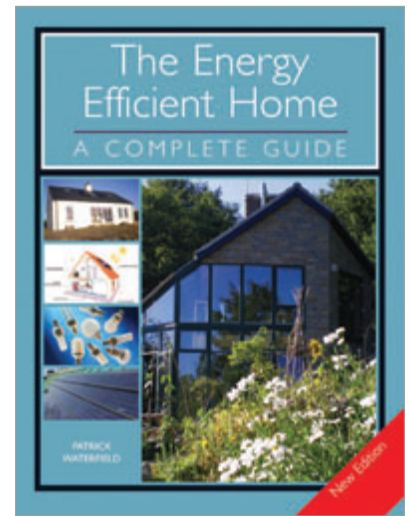
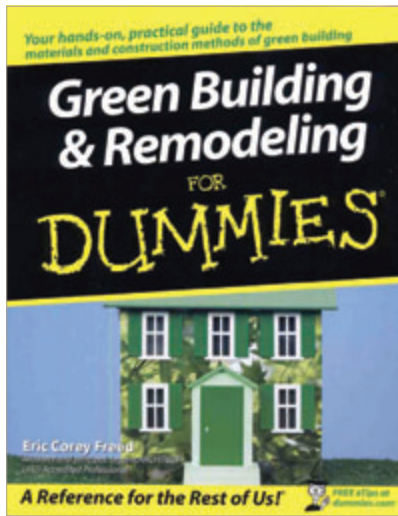
Construction of a strawbale home



cobcottage.com

Building a cob cottage from earth mixed with sand and straw





## A SELECTIVE LIST OF TITLES

### The principles and philosophy of green building

- 690.0266 BEV Bevis, LJ and Misselbrook, DH. Home builder's handbook on the national building regulations.- Juta, 1997.
- 690.523 GOU Guoin, Michelle D and Cross, Thomas B. Intelligent buildings: strategies for technology and architecture.- Dow Jones-Irwin, 1986.
- 690.8047 BRO Broome, Jon. The green self-build book: how to design and build your own eco-home.- Green Bks., 2007.
- 690.8047 FRE Freed, Eric Corey. Green building & remodeling for dummies.- Wiley, c2008.
- 690.8047 SNE Snell, Clarke and Callahan, Tim. Building green: a complete how-to guide to alternative building methods. - Lark Bks., c2005.
- 690.8047 WAT Waterfield, Patrick. The energy efficient home: a complete guide.- Crowood P., 2006.
- 690.8047 BRO Broome, Jon and Richardson, Brian. The self-build book.- Green Bks., 1991.
- Q 690.8047 ROS Roskind, Robert. Building your own house: everything you need to know about home construction from start to finish.- Ten Speed P., 2000.
- Q 690.8047 SWI Swift, Penny. The complete book of owner building in South Africa. 5th ed.- Struik, 2009.
- Q 693.832 ENE Energy saving building solutions.- Buildaid, 2011.
- Q 728 PIE Pierce, Deborah. The accessible home: designing for all ages and abilities.- Taunton P., 2012.
- Q 728.047 BAG Baggs, Sydney. The healthy house.- Thames, 1996.
- 747.019 HOL Holmes, Ann Marie. Earth Spirit Living: bringing heaven and nature into your home.- Atria Bks., 2007.

### Building with different materials

#### • Stone

- Q 693.1 MCR McRaven, Charles. Building with stone.

-Storey Communications, 1989.

- Q 693.1 STA Stanley, Tomm. Stone house: a guide to self-building with slipforms.- Stonefield, 2003.

#### • Earth

- Q 693.2 MIN Minke, Gernot. Building with earth: design and technology of a sustainable architecture.- Birkhauser, c2006.
- 693.2 NOR Norton, John. Building with earth: a handbook. 2nd ed.- IT Publ., 1997.

#### • Cob

- Q 693.22 BEE Bee, Becky. The cob builders handbook: you can hand-sculpt your own home.- Groundworks. 1997.
- 693.22 EVA Evans, Ianto. The hand-sculpted house: a philosophical and practical guide to building a cob cottage.- Chelsea Green, c2002.
- 693.22 WEI Weismann, Adam. Building with cob: a step-by-step guide.- Green Bks., 2006.

#### • Strawbale

- 693.997 BIN Bingham, Wayne J. Strawbale home plans. - Gibbs Smith, c2007.
- 693.997 MAG Magwood, Chris. More straw bale building: a complete guide to designing and building with straw. - New Society Pub., 2005.
- Q 693.997 MIN Minke, Gernot and Mahlke, Friedemann. Building with straw: design and technology of a sustainable architecture. - Birkhauser, c2005.
- 693.997 STE Steen, Bill. Small strawbale: natural homes, projects & designs.- Gibbs Smith, c2005.

#### • Woodframe

- 694 WAH Wahfeldt, Bette Galman. Wood frame housebuilding: an illustrated guide.- Tab Bks., c1988.
- 694 WOO Woodframe houses: construction and maintenance.- Sterling, 1981.



# Observatory Library 110 years later

Share in the celebrations by Nadia Ismail



*The people who make things happen (ltr): Cleolaine Delmore (librarian), Nadia Ismail (senior librarian), Carmen Holtzman (district librarian), Lauren Lengeveldt (assistant librarian), Merle Lubinsky (assistant librarian) and Mary-Jane (Bassie) Magano (assistant librarian)*

**O**bservatory Library, which is situated in the Cape Town suburb of Observatory close to the Astronomical Observatory, celebrated its 110th birthday in the current building earlier this year. The library was first established in 1898 opposite to the current building. The stone for the building was laid on 12 April 1906 and we therefore chose the same date to celebrate the library's 110th birthday. Originally a subscription library, Observatory Library became part of Cape Town City Libraries in the 1950s.

The formal celebration was an afternoon tea for about 60 guests which included retired as well as former staff members, councillor Paddy Chapple, Friends of the Library and long-

standing patrons of the library. Nicola Anderson, who is the great-great niece of the very first Observatory librarian James Davidson, was a special guest.

Councillor Chapple regaled the attendees with an entertaining anecdote about the history of Hawkes and Findley Hardware Store, another longstanding institution of Observatory.

Kathleen Laishley (principal librarian at Parow Library) gave a very interesting talk on the history of the Observatory Library, describing the events that led to the changeover from a subscription library to the amalgamation with the City of Cape Town Libraries. She entertained guests with interesting and funny stories gleaned from annual reports. For example,

# Observatory library celebrates 110 years

TAURIQ HASEEN

Book worms have been passing through the doors of the Observatory library for the past 110 years.

Apart from this extraordinary long service to the community, the library also has a war memorial and heritage status.

Observatory resident, Saleena Jaffer, has been using the library for 12 years but did not know the amount of historical significance attached to it.

"I introduced my two children to the library and I have been coming here for years, but never did I ask questions about its history and it's quite simply amazing," she said.

Ms Jaffer, who is a fan of sci-fi and fiction, especially loved how the library has evolved over the years, becoming a hub for information and giving the community a spot to network and learn more.

"The vibe has certainly picked up over the years, especially with technology becoming so advanced, but it added to the environment at the library. It's an amazing achievement for the library and although I will not be around, I certainly hope that it can be around for another 110 years," Ms Jaffer laughed.

Quinton Davies is another member of the library who was amazed to hear about its 110-year history.

"For a building that could easily be missed, it certainly packs a punch and has loads of history."

The Observatory resident joined



■ Senior Librarian, Nadia Ismail and Nicola Anderson, great, great niece of James Davidson, the first librarian of Observatory library.

the library about seven years ago, while studying at the University of Cape Town.

"There is something about running around the corner to the library that got me hooked. I actually never knew it was a library, I thought it was some town hall or something. I have always been regarded as a bookworm in my family and I have never felt ashamed of it, because I simply love reading," Mr Davies said.

Observatory library opened on November 1 1898 in temporary premises in Station Road and James Davidson was appointed librarian. The library moved to its current premises in 1906, thanks to the gift



■ Observatory Library is now 110 years old

of land by Stephen Trills, as well as government and municipal subsidies and donations. In 1952, a free municipal library service was started and Observatory library joined the service in March 1954.

The current building enjoys heritage status and contains a memorial plaque dedicated to the men of Observatory who served in World War II. The library is used by a social worker for support group meetings and another patron runs a jewellery workshop every Tuesday. Basic computer lessons are offered on Tuesday mornings during alternate months, for members who want to enhance their skills.

In addition, library orientation is offered to interested groups, while a permanent book sale in aid of the

Friends of the Library organisation is situated in the foyer.

Other programmes taking place at the library include a "Beanies for babies" project, where residents get together to knit beanies for needy babies. These go to Mowbray Maternity Hospital and all the way to Victoria West.

The City's mayoral committee member for community services and special projects, Belinda Walker, said she was proud to note that the Observatory library was still a beacon for residents seeking relaxation, knowledge, information, social interaction and a safe space.

"Our libraries culturally enrich the communities in which they are located and the Observatory library

celebrates 110 years of being a focal point in the area. It has become a safe and free space for young and old," she said.

Ms Walker said that just before it opened in its current premises 110 years ago, the library had 3 359 books, a circulation of 8 541, and 197 subscribers.

Now five members of staff, excluding the security guard and a contract cleaner, keep more than 1 800 patrons happy and there are 25 328 items in circulation. This includes an extensive crime fiction stock of books as well as a near 500-strong DVD collection.

"Observatory library levels the playing field, offering vital resources as well as specialised programmes to empower the surrounding community. Public libraries are an essential cornerstone of building strong communities. Not only do they provide an essential service in supporting education and literacy, today's libraries also offer innovative technology and online services that can unlock a host of opportunities," Ms Walker added.

She said the public should never underestimate the "social, cultural and educational importance of our libraries". "We celebrate the 110 years during which Observatory library has provided these important services. This library is more popular than ever before and 163 new members joined between July 2015 and February 2016," Ms Walker proudly said.



the library was built without a toilet and staff had to use the toilet at the railway station.

During the birthday celebration month a number of photographic collages were displayed throughout the library portraying staff (old and new), various holiday activities and outreach programmes and the Friends of the Library. A video recording was run on a loop showing various interviews with longstanding members of the library sharing and reminiscing about their experiences with the library. Many of the members have enjoyed using the library for over 50 years, together with their children. Now their grandchildren have also become library members.

The celebratory month was an incredibly positive experience for the staff as the community acknowledged and thanked them for the positive impact that the library has on everyone's lives.

*Congratulations on this amazing milestone — 110 years of dedicated service to the community is indeed laudable! ED*

*Nadia Ismail is the senior librarian at Observatory Library*



# Avian Park Biblioteek

Die amptelike inwyding deur Lorraine Lank

Die behoefte aan 'n biblioteek in Avian Park is in 2011 deur die gemeenskap geïdentifiseer en 'n aansoek is derhalwe na die Wes-Kaapse Biblioteekdiens gestuur. Die feit dat daar reeds 15,965 persone in Avian Park woonagtig was, het die Biblioteekdiens laat besluit dat die grootte van hierdie gemeenskap 'n volwaardige biblioteek regverdig.

'n Bedrag van R5,000,000 is beskikbaar gestel vir die bou van 'n splinternuwe biblioteek gedurende die 2014/2015 en 2015/2016 finansiële jare. Die projek is op 9 April 2015 geloods en die sooispitseremonie is op 5 Mei 2015 gehou, waargeneem deur die Minister vir Kultuursake en Sport, Me Anroux Marais.

Die bouprojek, onder leiding van die biblioteekbestuurder Me Christine Gerber, is op 9 Desember 2015 voltooi. Ander rolspelers wat by die projek betrokke was sluit in die argitekte,

mnrre Verwey en Maans, die projekbestuurder, Mnr Mia, en die kontrakteur Mnr Xigombe.

Die biblioteekvoorraad is gedurende die eerste week van April 2016 uitgepak en staan tans op 8,245 biblioteekmateriaalitems. Die vloeroppervlak van die biblioteek is 460m<sup>2</sup> en sluit 'n saal vir aktiwiteite en 'n volwasse-, jeug-, en kinderarea in. Die gebou maak voorsiening vir kantoorspasie, 'n werkkamer en 'n baie goed toegeruste kombuis. Die biblioteek is ook gebruikersvriendelik vir persone met gestremdhede en beskik oor vyf rekenaars met Internetfasiliteite vir die gemeenskap.

Die personeel sluit in een bibliotekaris, twee biblioteekassistentente en een algemene assistent.

Avian Park se deure is op 22 Julie 2016 vir die publiek geopen – 'n dag dag ná die amptelike opening.



Gebruikers kan hier ontspan



Minister Anroux Marais saam met leerders van Avian Park Primêre Skool



Minister Anroux Marais geniet dit om deur die boekevoorraad van die nuwe biblioteek te snuffel



(Lnr): Adjunkdirekteur Stefan Wehmeyer, Nombasa Makas en Megan Rose (bibliotekaris), Minister Anroux Marais, Parlements lid Kobus Marais, Felicia Haas en Beatrice Human (bibliotekaris)



Harmoniese sang deur die leerders van Avian Park Primêre Skool



(Lnr): Christine Gerber, burgemeester Antoinette Steyn en Minister Anroux Marais tydens die amptelike opening van Avian Park Biblioteek



Die kleurvolle kinderafdeling

Onder die bekwame leiding van Christine Gerber, biblioteekbestuurder van die Breederiviervallei Munisipaliteit, is openbare biblioteekdienste in die munisipaliteit oor die afgelope paar jare aansienlik uitgebrei. Voltooide biblioteekprojekte in die Breederiviervallei Munisipaliteit sluit in Fairhills Mini-biblioteek, Sandhills Mini-biblioteek, Hexvallei Mini-biblioteek, Overhex Mini-biblioteek, Slanghoek Modulêre Biblioteek, asook die opgradering van Touwsrivier Biblioteek.

Die Breederiviervallei Munisipaliteit het R10,632,000 vir die 2016/2017 boekjaar vanuit Voorwaardelike Toelaagbefondsing ontvang. Die meeste van hierdie fondse sal aangewend word vir personeel. Daar is ook voorsiening gemaak vir die opgradering van Worcester Biblioteek. Die projek sal binnekort geloods word.

Lorraine Lank is die streekbibliotekaris in Worcester Streek.  
(Foto's deur Meryl Davidson, Kommunikasiediens, Departement van Kultuursake en Sport)



# Jans Rautenbach... die befoeterde baanbreker is weg

**Meer oor die man wat die Afrikaanse verteltoneel ingrypend verander het** deur Marlene Malan

**T**oe Die kandidaat die Afrikaanse rolprentbedryf in 1968 getref het, ná dekades van 'veilige, geïkonneerde' flikformules, 'was dit soos 'n skokstok wat in kykers se lieste gedruk is'. Die flik, die tweede deur Jans Rautenbach, was die eerste grote op die Suid-Afrikaanse silwerdoek.

'n Formidabele, befoeterde regisseur en draaiboekskrywer storm na vore, gryp die geïndoktrineerde kyker soos 'n bulhond aan die strot en skud hom dat die bloed spat. Hy vertrap elke liewe heilige koei wat voorkom. Hy skok hom uit sy gerieflike rolprentsluimerslaap. Jans Rautenbach betree die toneel met mening.'

Só skryf die rolprentkenner Leon van Nierop in sy omvattende

geskiedenisboek van die Afrikaanse rolprentbedryf, *\*Daar doer in die flik*.

In November, by die Prince Albert Leesfees, het Leon en nog drie rolprentgrote, die filmmaker en regisseur Koos Roets en die akteurs Johan en Lida Botha, 'n aansienlike deel van hul gesprek oor ons filmwese aan Rautenbach afgestaan.

Gepas en tersaaklik, want twee dae voordat dié fees van skrywers en boeke begin het in die teater wat na hom vernoem is, het Jans gegroet toe hy op 2 November op die ouderdom van 80 oorlede is. Presies 'n jaar gelede, onthou ek, het ek opgekyk toe hy skielik in die Jans Rautenbach Schouwburg se voorportaal staan. Hy het sy laaste flik, *\*Abraham* (2015), in



*Jans Rautenbach by die Prince Albert Leesfees 2015 in die voorportaal van die teater wat sy naam dra*



*Jans Rautenbach en van die akteurs in sy laaste flik, *Abraham*, tydens die Prince Albert Leesfees 2015*

*Alle foto's: Marlene Malan*



Die naambordjie van Oulap, Jans Rautenbach se plaas naby De Rust



Johan Botha, Lida Botha, Leon van Nierop en Koos Roets

'sy' teater kom bekend stel. Ek het die voorreg gehad om hom uiteindelik te ontmoet, te laat sit vir 'n foto. Ek onthou hom as belangstellend en insiklik. Ek het die indruk gekry van 'n plat-op-die-aarde-mens.

Hy was 'n man wat die omgewing vir filmwerk ingespan het en wat 'n groot bydrae gelewer het tot projekte in die gebied. Hy was onlosmaaklik met De Rust, Klarastroom en Prince Albert verbind.

Leon, Koos, Johan en Lida het vertel van 'n man wat die Afrikaanse rolprentwese op sy kop gekeer het. In die filmklimaat van die 1960's waar veilige uitweë gekies is, waar clichés die norm was, waarin simpel grappies soms die gehoor se intellek

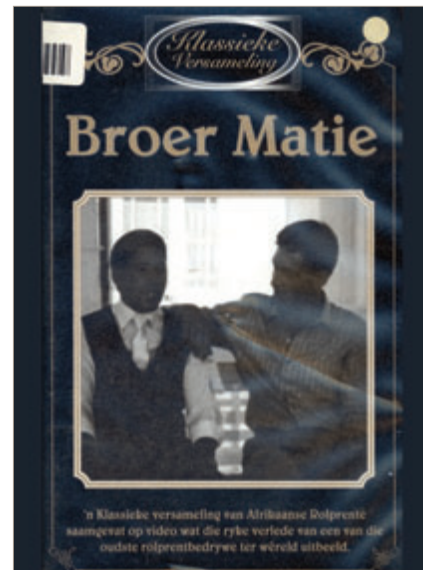
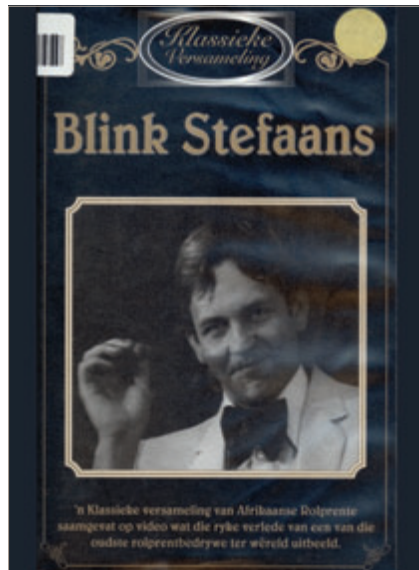
onderskat het, waar sentimentele liedjies atmosfeer moes skep, het Jans vernuwend gedink. Hy het 'n grondverskuiwende koers met fliekvervaardiging en regisseurswerk ingeslaan. Sy eerste fliek, **Kimberley Jim** (1963), was nog deel van die wollerige veiligheid van die vorige era. **Die kandidaat** (1968) sou 'n maatstaf word wat vandag nog onthou word. 'Weg was die vriendelike en oulike eendag-was-daar-'n-lomp-speurder-stories. Weg was die gehoorvriendelike spel deur akteurs wat eintlik maar konsert gehou het voor die kamera. Verby was die stywe, formele roman-dialoog wat na paragrawe uit 'n pedantiese roman geklink het. So ook die eina regie waar die kamera eintlik maar net op die pratende akteurs gefokus het,'



Laetitia van Dyk, eienaar van die Jans Rautenbach Schouburg in Prince Albert, Dana Snyman, Jans en Almeri Rautenbach



Vlakteplaas Primêr, die skooltjie naby Oulap, waar 'n gedenkdiens vir Jans Rautenbach gehou is



skryf Leon in Daar doer in die fliëk.

Die befoeterde man het na vore getree en heilige koeie uit die kraal gejaag. 'Die kandidaat het die Suid-Afrikaanse rolprenttoneel vir altyd verander, horisonne verbreed en die Afrikaner na homself laat kyk.'

Vir die man wat eers 'n sielkundige-kriminoloog en tronkbewaarder was, was **Die kandidaat** ons filmbedryf se eerste groot regie-onderneming. Hermien Dommissie, doyenne van die verhoog, het destyds só oor hom gesê: 'In dertig jaar se teaterbelevens is dit die eerste keer dat ek voel dat 'n man werklike diep spore in die teater gaan trap.'

En hy het. Hy het die Afrikaanse vertel-toneel ingrypend verander. Befaaemde filmmakers soos Emil Nofal, Elmo de Wit, Gordon Vorster en Jamie Uys het bygehou en ewe grootse films begin maak.

Rautenbach het in 1969 nog 'n maatstaf vir regisseurswerk, filmtema en toneelspel geskep met **Katrina**, met Katinka Heyns in die hoofrol. 'Nog 'n skok vir die Afrikanerpsige,' beskryf Van Nierop dit. Volgens hom het Rautenbach 'rolprentgangsters se vingers in kragproppe gedruk toe verstrooiingsvermaak besig was om oor te neem. Hy het die kleurkwessie pertinent, onberispelik en waaghalsig aangespreek en die temas van rassisme en identiteit behoorlik uitgebeeld'.

Rautenbach maak weer so met **Jannie totsiens**, **\*Pappa Lap**, **Angewenste vreemdeling**, **\*Eendag op 'n reëndag**, **Blink Stefaans** en **Broer Matie**. En sy laaste, **Abraham** — 'n fliëk wat soms, volgens Van Nierop, met die 'tipiese Rautenbach-vertelstyl jou vierkantig tussen die oë tref. Die Karoo-toneel lyk soos Pierneef-skilderye, dis 'n fliëk wat getuig van filmiese vakmanskap. Jans gee vir akteurs 'n sleutel waarmee hul karakters se koppe oopgesluit kan word'.

In dié fliëk mymer hy oor die tydloosheid van die Karoo, die brutale pyn van kunstenaarskap en die mistroostigheid van ongeduld. Dis 'n fliëk oor homself, die filmvakman.

In die boek **Jans Rautenbach, dromer, baanbreker en auteur**

skryf Martin Brand dat Rautenbach al die spelers in sy fliëks se dialoog uit sy kop geken het.

Jans het, nadat hy en sy vrou, Almeri, 'n stuk grond in die Vlakteplaas-omgewing naby De Rust aangeskaf het, tussen daar en Johannesburg, waar sy ateljee was, gependel. 'Hy het jare lank beweeg tussen regie en gesinslewe. Sy vrou was die boumeester, terwyl die groot regisseur so nou en dan opgedaag het en sy stem dik gemaak het.' Jans het haar as die anker in sy lewe beskryf.

Vlakteplaas Primêr, 'n skooltjie naby sy plaas, Oulap, was ook die plek waar 'n gedenkdiens vir hom gehou is. Jans Rautenbach het met sy ondersteuning die skool help uitbou om onderrig van gehalte te bied.

Volgens Van Nierop was **Abraham** 'n interessante afsluiting van 'n gewaardeerde loopbaan, met dié belofte: 'lewers in die ou man vol flenterdrome is daar nog een storie wat wag om vertel te word. Ordentlik vertel te word,' skryf hy in **Daar doer in die fliëk**.

Maar Jans is weg vóór daardie vertelling. Tog, sy nalatenskap is genoeg vir 'n ander grote in die filmwêreld om é'nige storie ordentlik te vertel.

#### Bykomende bronne

Van Nierop, Leon, **Daar doer in die fliëk**, Protea Boekhuis.

Botha, Martin en Steinmair, Deborah, 2006, **Jans Rautenbach: dromer, baanbreker en auteur**, Genugtig!

**Nota:** \*Nie in voorraad

*Marlene Malan is 'n vryskutjoernalis, -vertaler en -taalversorger van Prince Albert*





# Biblioteek of apteek?

'n Nostalgieuse terugblik deur Daniel Hugo



**B**oekversamelaars gru meestal vir bekrapte boeke. Op my boekrak staan daar so 'n boek, maar dit is een waarvan ek nooit ontslae sal raak nie.

In JC (Jaap) Steyn se herinneringsboek, *Sonkyker* (Tafelberg, 2008), skryf hy onder meer oor die tydjie wat ek by hom in Bloemfontein geloseer het. My huwelik, my lektorsloopbaan en my proefskrif was toe (1988) in hulle onderskeie doodsnikke. Die proefskrif het oor die vernufpoësie in Afrikaans gehandel, met die gedigte van Merwe Scholtz en JC Steyn as my eintlike ondersoekterrein.

Jaap se meenthuis was inderwaarheid 'n bewoonde biblioteek. Daar was oral boeke, selfs in sy kombuiske. Jaap vertel self verder: 'Daniel se vierjarige seun, George, het ná 'n besoek vertel van die groot "apteek" in my huis, waarmee hy die biblioteek bedoel het. Maar sy pa het net letterkunde, boeke oor die letterkunde en biografieë van skrywers daaruit gelees en vir al die ander interessante goed in my "apteek" sy neus opgetrek.'

Dit was natuurlik 'n groot voorreg én voordeel om 'n inwonende gas by een van my navorsingsonderwerpe te wees.

Uit nostalgie gaan haal ek weer Jaap se digbundel, *Die grammatika van liefhê* (1975), uit my rak. Die gedigte is intensief geannoteer deur die ywerige doktorsgraadkandidaat. Voorin staan my naam met plek en datum van aanskaffing: 'Majuba, Stellenbosch, 1976.' Die honneursstudent en inwoner van die Majuba-koshuis sou in 1976 natuurlik nooit kon raai dat hy 'n dekade later dieselfde bundel lettergreep vir lettergreep sou bestudeer onder dieselfde dak as die digter nie.

Ek blaai deur die boek en verwonder my oor die vreemde woorde wat langs die verse in potlood geskryf staan: apokoinou, paronimie, homonimie, homofonie, polisemie, ikonisiteit ...Soveel geleerdheid wat met die jare verdof het!

Ek kom op 'n gedig af wat met 'n dik streep deurgehaal is. En skielik onthou ek. Toe ek Jaap oor een of ander duisterheid in die gedig vra, gryp hy die potlood uit my hand en trek die streep daardeur met die opmerking: 'Dis louter stront!' Dit is die strengste voorbeeld van selfkritiek wat ek al by 'n digter teëgekom het. Ek het so groot geskrik dat ek die gedig toe nie in my proefskrif bespreek het nie.

Jaap Steyn was nog altyd redelik pessimisties oor die voortbestaan van Afrikaans. Die titel van die afgekeurde gedig is *Einde*, en die volgende uitspraak kom daarin voor: 'Érens het 'n taal 'n geslote boekery geraak, 'n afgesluite hoofstuk.'

Sou Jaap se daad van vandalisme dalk ook kritiek kon wees op sy donker siening oor die toekoms van Afrikaans? Sy jongste publikasie is die magistrale geskiedenis van Afrikaans as kultuurtaal: *Ons gaan 'n taal maak — Afrikaans sedert die Patriot-jare* (Kraal Uitgewers, 2014). Sy hoopvolle slotwoorde en raad aan Afrikaanssprekendes is: 'Skep 'n eie toekoms.'

Hoe dit ook al sy: die paar weke in JC Steyn se 'geslote boekery' was van die leersaamste in my lewe. In daardie 'apteek' kon ek ook rus en genesing vind gedurende 'n onstuimige tydperk in my lewe. Daarvoor sal ek Jaap ewig dankbaar bly.

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*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.*



# Season's Greetings!

The **Cape Librarian** editorial team wishes you a festive holiday season and a very happy New Year



Szerena



Grizéll



Helga



Wynand

## NON-FICTION VAKLEKTUUR

### General Algemeen

- 001.9 SHI Shircore, Ian. Conspiracy!: 49 reasons to doubt, 50 reasons to believe.  
001.94 MYS Mysteries of the unknown: inside the world of the strange and unexplained.  
004.67 BLU Blum, Andrew. Tubes: behind the scenes at the Internet.  
R 031 WOR The World Book encyclopedia.  
Q 070.449355 HOO Hood, Jean. War correspondent: reporting under fire since 1850.  
R 070.5025 PUB Publisher's Association of South Africa. Guide to publishing in South Africa, 2015.  
081 AMI Amis, Martin. The second plane: September 11, 2001-2007.

### Philosophy and Psychology Filosofie en Sielkunde

- 133.903 ILL Illes, Judika. The encyclopedia of spirits: the ultimate guide to the magic of fairies, genies, demons, ghosts, gods & goddesses.  
133.9325 CHA Chauran, Alexandra. Spirit boards for beginners: the history & mystery of talking to the other side.  
153.83 SAL Salecl, Renata. The tyranny of choice.  
153.9 HUR Hurley, Dan. Smarter: the new science of building brain power.  
158.1 BEN Bennett-Goleman, Tara. Mind whispering: a new map to freedom from self-defeating emotional habits.  
158.1 BYR Byrne, Rhonda. Hero.  
158.1 PUT Putter, Jannie. Game plan for life: how to overcome life's challenges.  
158.2 CHA Chapman, Gary. The 5 love languages: singles edition.  
171.2 HAR Harris, Sam. The moral landscape: how science can determine human values.  
174.2 ETH Pera, Silvia. Ethics in healthcare.  
199.6 STE Stevens, Fayiso Liyang. The African philosophy of self-destruction.  
199.68 VER Versfeld, Marthinus. Oor gode en afgode.

### Religion Godsdiens

- 222.1306 MAL Malan, Johan. Die sewe feeeste: God se profetiese raadsplan vir redding en groei.  
230.0968 VER Verster, Pieter. Kaleidoskoop van kerke: wat kerke glo en doen.  
238.4268 BEL Theron, Piet. Belhar geweeg.  
X 248.24 NTW Ntweni, MA. UNTsikana umthunywa ka-Thixo.  
248.4 GRE Greenwood, Rebecca. Defeating strongholds of the mind: a believer's guide to breaking free.

- 248.4 NAI Naidoo, Errol. No compromise.  
248.845 SMI Smith, Tom. 7 ritmes vir kinders.  
248.86 GOU Gous, Henk. Stres in die werkplek.  
269 MOS Mostert, Bennie. When God renews people: how the Holy Spirit has moved in people through the ages.  
272.9 SHO Shortt, Rupert. Christianophobia.  
294.561 HAR Hartsuiker, Dolf. Sadhus: holy men of India.  
297.1977 ABD Abdelkader, Dina. Social justice in Islam.

### Social Science Sosiale Wetenskap

- 305.83936 DEV De Vries, Fred. Rigtigbedonnerd: op die spoor van die Afrikaner post-'94.  
305.8968 EXO Landau, Loren B. Exorcising the demons within: xenophobia, violence and statecraft in contemporary South Africa.  
306.44 COE Coetzee, Carli. Accented futures: language activism and the ending of apartheid.  
307.76 MON Montgomery, Charles. Happy city: transforming our lives through urban design.  
307.760968 MUR Murray, Martin J. City of extremes: the spatial politics of Johannesburg.  
320.968 HAM Hamilton, Lawrence. Are South Africans free?  
326.96 STI Stilwell, Sean. Slavery and slaving in African history.  
326.968 SLE Sleigh, Dan. The taking of the slaver Meermin, 1766.  
327.12 LUC Lucas, Edward. Deception: spies, lies and how Russia dupes the West.  
332.024 BOA Boakye, Eric. Proven methods of making money & building wealth in South Africa!  
332.024 HOW Howard, Jillian. The best pocket guide ever for family finances.  
332.02401 MAK Makwakwa, Vangile. Heart, mind & money: using emotional intelligence for financial success.  
336.68 PUB Black, Philip A. Public economics.  
337 PER Perkins, John. Hoodwinked: an economic hit man reveals why the global economy imploded — and how to fix it.  
342.68082 S.A. Immigration Act 13 of 2002 & Regulations.  
344.680125 NEL Nel, Jan Kemp. The dismissal: a practical and informative toolkit to ensure a fair and effective dismissal.  
345.6808 CHI Karels, MG. Child offenders in South African criminal justice: concepts and process.  
346.68086 MIL Millard, Daleen. Modern insurance law in South Africa.  
346.730482 WIL Wilsey, Darren. The musician's guide to licensing music:

- how to get your music into film, TV, advertising, digital media, and beyond.  
352.068 SID Siddle, Andrew. The failure of decentralisation in South African local government: complexity and unanticipated consequences.  
355.02 MOR Morris, Ian. War: what is it good for?: the role of conflict in civilisation, from primates to robots.  
356.11 BRE Breytenbach, Jan. Forged in battle: the birth and growth of 32 Battalion from former enemies and terrorists into decorated soldiers.  
356.11 NOR Nortje, Piet. The Battle of Savate: 32 Battalion's greatest operation.  
Q 359.0968714 SIM Rice, Bill. Simon's Town dockyard: the first 100 years.  
362.29286 CAR Carr, Allen. Stop drinking now.  
362.296 BRO Broccardo, Marco. Rocks: one man's climb from drugs to dreams.  
362.41 LIF Colvin, Christopher. Lifelines: six South African stories of people with congenital blindness.  
363.20968 HOW Howarth, Nick. War in peace: [the truth about the South African Police's East Rand Riot Unit, 1986-1994].  
364.125 KLA Klatzow, David. Justice denied: the role of forensic science in the miscarriage of justice.  
364.150968 HOL Holland-Muter, Susan. Outside the safety zone: an agenda for research on violence against lesbian and gender-nonconforming women in South Africa.  
364.1523 JAM James, Bill. Perfect victims: slaughter, sensation and serial killers: an American criminal odyssey.  
364.1523 OCO O'Connor, Sean. Handsome brute: the true story of a ladykiller.  
364.168 OLS Olson, Parmy. We are Anonymous: inside the hacker world of LulzSec, Anonymous and the global cyber insurgency.  
366.10968 GRO Grosskopff, Rodney. Carved in stone.  
370.91734 WOO Wood, John. Leaving Microsoft to change the world: an entrepreneur's odyssey to educate the world's children.  
Q 371.271 BUR Burger, Maralyn. Consumer studies, Grade 12 CAPS: 3 in 1.  
Q 371.271 BUR Burger, Maralyn. Verbruikerstudies, Graad 12 KABV: 3 in 1.  
R 371.425 SAE Maxwell, Ricky. SA educational resource guide yearbook, 2015/2016.  
371.426817 WOJ Wojak, Angie. Starting your career as an artist: a guide for painters, sculptors, photographers, and other visual artists.  
371.46 VIT Vitali, Keith. Bullyproof your child: an expert's advice on teaching children to defend themselves.  
378.68 SHA Perold, Helene. Shaping the future of South Africa's youth: rethinking post-school education and skills training.



- 381.096867 THO Thompson, Michael Charles. Traders and trading stations of the central and southern Transkei.  
 381.33 KUH Kuhlmann, Ute. Happiness in a handbasket: buy local — the practical guide.  
 391.65 THO Thomas, Nicholas. Body art.  
 398.209683 SCH Scheepers, Myra. Round the Nguni fires.  
 X 398.209686 GON Gongo, Phakamile. Izilumko zakudala.

### Language Taalwetenskap

- 422 DEN Dent, Susie. Words of the year.  
 Q 428.24 MUR Murphy, Raymond. English grammar in use: a self-study reference and practice book for intermediate students of English, with answers.  
 439.360711 KAP Kapp, Pieter. Maties en Afrikaans: 'n besondere verhouding, 1911-2011.  
 R 439.363 VER Labuschagne, FJ. Verklarende Afrikaanse woordeboek.  
 491.478242 DWY Dwyer, Rachel. Get started in Gujarati: absolute beginner course.  
 496.0285 OSB Osborn, Don. African languages in a digital age: challenges and opportunities for indigenous language computing.  
 X 496.824 KIR Kirsch, Beverley. Complete Xhosa.

### Science Wetenskap

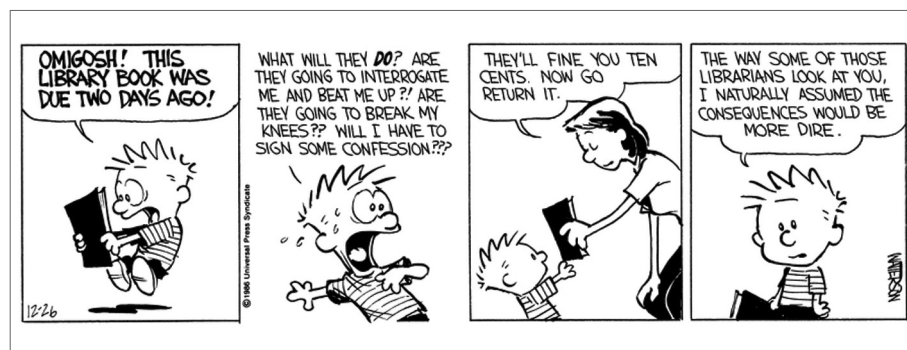
- 511.33 STE Stewart, Ian. Seventeen equations that changed the world.  
 519.542 SIL Silver, Nate. The signal and the noise: the art and science of prediction.  
 539.736 ACZ Aczel, Amir D. Present at the creation: the story of CERN and the Large Hadron Collider.  
 Q 551.457 SOU Ribbink, Anthea. South African coasts: a celebration of our seas and shores.  
 Q 572.96819 ELO Eloff, Fritz. Kinders van die duine: die lewe en omgewing van die Kalahari Boesman van weleer.

- 572.96821 NDL Ndlovu-Gatsheni, Sabelo J. The Ndebele nation: reflections on hegemony, memory and historiography.  
 Z 572.968491 NYE Nyembezi, Sibusiso. Inqolobane yesizwe.  
 574.92968 GRI Griffiths, Charles. Freshwater life: a field guide to the plants and animals of southern Africa.  
 574.999 BIL Billings, Lee. Five billion years of solitude: the search for life among the stars.  
 582.130968 FYN Esler, Karen J. Fynbos: ekologie en bestuur.  
 XL 582.130968 HAN Hansen, Sandra. Wild flowers of South Africa & Namaqualand: floral world heritage site.  
 584.150968 JOH Johnson, Steven. Orchids of South Africa: a field guide.  
 RQ 584.150968 LIL Liltved, William Rune. The Cape orchids: a regional monograph of the orchids of the Cape Floristic Region. Volume 1.  
 584.320968 VAN Van Wyk, Ben-Erik. Gids tot die aalwyne van Suid-Afrika.  
 591.5 ALD Alderton, David. Animal grief: how animals mourn.  
 598.2968 REY Reynolds, Chevonne. 300 easy-to-see birds in Southern Africa.  
 598.2968 REY Reynolds, Chevonne. 300 maklik sigbare voëls in Suider-Afrika.  
 599.7358 FRO Frost, Willem. The antelope of Africa.  
 599.7444 JAN Jans, Nick. A wolf called Romeo.

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- 613.25 LIE Liebenberg, W Adriaan. Die breinchirurg se dieet: span jou brein in om vet af te skud.  
 613.25 MAR Markham, Brett L. Modern caveman: the complete paleo lifestyle handbook.  
 613.943 FAM Family planning: a global handbook for providers: evidence-based guidance developed through worldwide collaboration.  
 614.88 BUY Buys, Linda. The illustrated South African first-aid manual for the home, office and outdoors.  
 Q 614.88 ESS Essential first aid manual for Southern Africa.

- 616 SOU Mash, Bob. South African family practice manual.  
 616.365 MOR Moritz, Andreas. The liver and gallbladder miracle cleanse: an all-natural, at-home flush to purify & rejuvenate your body.  
 616.8 ROP Ropper, Allan H. Reaching down the rabbit hole: extraordinary journeys into the human brain.  
 616.83 AND Andrews, June. Dementia: the one-stop guide: practical advice for families, professionals, and people living with dementia and Alzheimer's disease.  
 616.8522 ADA Adam, David. The man who couldn't stop: the truth about OCD.  
 616.8522 ROT Roth, Geneen. Women, food and God: an unexpected path to almost everything.  
 617.1027 MET Metzl, Jordan D. The athlete's book of home remedies: 1001 doctor-approved health fixes & injury-prevention secrets for a leaner, fitter, more athletic body!  
 617.735 HOD Hodgson, Janet. Living with low vision.  
 Q 620.11 TIN Tindell, Henry. Engineering materials.  
 629.13332 LIU Liu, Bin. Chinese kites: an illustrated step-by-step guide.  
 629.246 LAW Lawes, Jon. Car brakes: a guide to upgrading, repair and maintenance.  
 635.0484 ANT Anthony, Diana. Anyone can grow vegetables: simple steps to creating an organic edible garden.  
 635.0484 ANT Anthony, Diana. Enigeen kan groente kweek: maklike stappe om 'n organiese kostuim te skep.  
 635.0484 SHE Shein, Christopher. The vegetable gardener's guide to permaculture: creating an edible ecosystem.  
 Q 635.933372 STE Steyn, Nan. Rose: die Suid-Afrikaanse groeigids vir al vier seisoene.  
 635.93415 VEN Venter, Hendrik. Orchids in South Africa: a gardener's guide.  
 635.93432 MIK Mikolajski, Andrew. Hostas: an illustrated guide to varieties, cultivation and care, with step-by-step instructions and over 130 beautiful photographs.  
 636.089609 BEI Beinart, William. African local knowledge & livestock health: diseases & treatments in South Africa.  
 636.7 HAR Hare, Brian. The genius of dogs: discovering the unique intelligence of man's best friend.  
 636.70833 BEN Bendersky, Jorge. DIY dog grooming, from puppy cuts to best in show: everything you need to know, step by step.  
 636.78 HOL Holden, Wendy. Uggie, the artist: my story.  
 636.88 OCO O'Connor, Denis. Toby jug: a year in the life of a rescued cat.  
 Q 638.1 PIS Pisano, Tony. Build your own beekeeping equipment.  
 638.578 NOY Noyons, Lieveke. How to make butterflies feel at home in your garden.



- Q 639.2 GOV Govender, Neelan. Legend of the tide: roots of the Durban fishing industry.
- Q 641.5 NIE Niehaus, Carmen. Carmen's best recipes.
- Q 641.5 NIE Niehaus, Carmen. Carmen se beste resepte.
- 641.5 PAR Parker, Shanaaz. Indulgent week day meals.
- 641.5 PAR Parker, Shanaaz. Quick & easy main meals.
- 641.5 PAR Parker, Shanaaz. Step by step cook and bake with Shanaaz Parker.
- 641.5784 NEL Nel, Jean. Cooking with gas.
- Q 641.5968 DUT Du Toit, Peet. Skottel en spens: stories, verse en resepte uit die Afrikaanse koskultuur.
- Q 641.59684 RAT Rattray, Nicky. Out of the fire into the frying pan: a collection of favourite recipes & family stories from Fugitive's Drift.
- Q 641.596871 ABR Abrahams, Cass. 'n Lewe met kos.
- Q 641.596871 ABR Abrahams, Cass. A life with food.
- 641.596871 PAR Parker, Shanaaz. Cape Malay classic cooking.
- Q 641.692 JOO Jooste, Susina. The South African fish and seafood cookbook.
- Q 641.631 DUT Du Toit, Errieda. Koekedoor.
- 641.812 PAR Parker, Shanaaz. Easy finger foods & savouries.
- 641.83 LAS Lascaris, Chantal. All sorts of salads.
- 641.85 VAN Van Zyl, Katrien. Bruidspare in suikerkuns.
- 641.85 VAN Van Zyl, Katrien. Sugar brides & grooms.
- Q 641.853 PTA Ptak, Claire. The old-fashioned hand-made sweet shop recipe book: make your own confectionery with over 90 classic recipes for irresistible sweets, candies and chocolates, shown in 450 stunning photographs.
- 645 OVE Overturf, Misi. Real easy decor & DIY (do it yourself): for the love of beautiful things.
- 646.437 SMI Smith, Nicole. Skirt-a-day sewing: create 28 skirts for a unique look every day.
- 649.1 PUT Putter, Jannie. Wenplan vir jou kind se lewe: vir koelkop ouers.
- 649.125 FED Fedler, Joanne. Love in the time of contempt: consolations for parents of teenagers.
- 657 CLO Cloete, Melanie. Basic accounting for non-accountants.
- 658.05467 GAN Gansky, Lisa. The Mesh: why the future of business is sharing.
- 658.15 MAR Marx, Johan. Finance for non-financial managers.
- 658.40722 MAS Massie, Kaylan. Executive salaries in South Africa: who should have a say on pay?
- 658.7 FUN Mbanje, Samson. Fundamental principles of supply chain management.
- 658.8 MAR Koekemoer, Ludi. Marketing communication: an integrated approach.

- 684.1044 COO Cook, William. Repairing & restoring chests & cabinets: professional techniques to bring your furniture back to life.
- 684.1044 COO Cook, William. Reviving & repairing surfaces: professional techniques to bring your furniture back to life.
- Q 684.2 RAE Rae, Andy. Building doors & drawers: a complete guide to design and construction: dovetailed drawers, utility drawers, cabinet doors, special doors, hardware.

### Arts and Recreation Kunste en Ontspanning

- Q 709 WAT Freschi, Federico. Water, the [delicate] thread of life.
- RQ 709.05 GRO Grovier, Kelly. 100 works of art that will define our age.
- Q 720.228 DRI Driscoll, Matthew. Model making for architects.
- Q 720.96 AFR Lepik, Andres. Afritecture: building social change.
- 739.533 GRI Griffiths, Sandy. Pewter jewellery.
- 739.533 GRI Griffiths, Sandy. Piouterjuwele.
- 745.5941 VEN Venter, Jaclyn. Plak dit ook: idees vir geskenke en dekoritens met fotoplaktegnieke.
- Q 746.4 SIN Singer Ruth. Fabric manipulation: 150 creative sewing techniques.
- 746.44 VAN Van Niekerk, Di. Blomme in sy- en organzjalint.
- 746.44 VAN Van Niekerk, Di. Little flowers in silk and organza ribbon.
- 746.92 SCH Schwaab, Catherine. Talk about fashion.
- Q 747 HEN Henson, Emily. Bohemian modern.
- Q 779.9968 SCH Schadeberg, Jurgen. South Africa: six decades.
- 780.92 BRI Kildea, Paul. Benjamin Britten: a life in the twentieth century.
- 796.52 DEL De la Harpe, Vaughan. Poles apart: with some pointy bits in between.
- 796.52095 HOY Hoyland, Graham. Last hours on Everest: the gripping story of Mallory & Irvine's fatal ascent.

### Literature Letterkunde

- 820.99282 JEN Jenkins, Elwyn. Seedlings: English children's reading and writers in South Africa.
- 821.008 INT Hirson, Denis. In the heat of shadows: South African poetry, 1996-2013.
- 821.92 WYL Wylie, Dan. Slow fires.
- 822.914 FUG Fugard, Athol. The train driver.
- 826.92 AUS Auster, Paul. Here and now: letters 2008-2011.
- 827.92 CRA Crace, John. The digested 21st century.
- 839.3615 MUL Muller, Petra. Om die gedagte van geel.
- 839.3616 BAS Basson, Eunice. Leiboom.
- 839.3675 BRI Brink, Andries. 501 lekkerlag-grappe.
- X 896.1 MAP Maputi, Sibongile. Ivamna bafazi bolusu.

### Travel Reisbeskrywing

- 914.2 GRE Wilson, Neil. Great Britain.
- 914.4 FRA Williams, Nicola. France.
- 915.4 DAL Dalrympie, William. Nine lives: in search of the sacred in modern India.
- 915.4 GRI Grier, David. India lost & found: madcap adventures.
- 916.8 DEL Delmar, Peter. The Platinum Road: the road to Botswana.
- 916.8 FRO Froud, Mike. My wineroute South Africa: a guide to the top quality wines, great value wines and the best wine cellars — as rated by the world's top judges.
- Q 916.8712 HOB Hoberman, Marc. V&A Waterfront: 25 years.
- Q 916.8712 YEL Yeld, John. Mountains in the sea: a celebration of The Table Mountain National Park.

### Biography Lewensbeskrywing

- 920 BUS Bush, George W. 41: a portrait of my father.
- 920 CAR Carim, Mohamed F. Coolie,



- come out and fight!: a South African memoir of love, courage and journeys to a better place.
- 920 CHA Mayer, Catherine. Charles: the heart of a king.
- 920 DLA Dlanga, Khaya. To quote myself: a memoir.
- 920 DUM Dunn, Jane. Daphne du Maurier and her sisters.
- 920 JIJ Jijana, Thabo. Nobody's business: a taxi owner, a murder, and a secret — a memoir.
- 920 KIR Kirsten, Deborah. Chai tea & ginger beer: my unexpected journey — cricket, family and beyond.
- 920 MAB Mabalane, Kabelo. I ran for my life: my story.
- 920 MAH Mahama, John Dramani. My first coup d'état: memories from the lost decades of Africa.
- 920 MAI Lennon, J Michael. Norman Mailer: a double life.
- 920 PAR Parow, Jack. Jack Parow: die ou met die snor by die bar.
- 920 PAT Patterson, Gareth. My lion's heart: a life for the lions of Africa.
- 920 SHT Shteyngart, Gary. Little failure: a memoir.
- 920 SLO Wieder, Alan. Ruth First and Joe Slovo in the war against apartheid.
- 920 TUR Hodges, Andrew. Alan Turing: the enigma

## History Geskiedenis

- 930 HAN Hancock, Graham. Magicians of the gods: the forgotten wisdom of earth's lost civilisation.
- 930.1 HAU Haughton, Brian. Ancient treasures: the discovery of lost hoards, sunken ships, buried vaults, and other long-forgotten artifacts.
- 933.05 GOO Goodman, Martin. Rome and Jerusalem: the clash of ancient civilizations.
- 940.5315296 LOW Lower, Wendy. Hitler's furies: German women in the Nazi killing fields.
- 940.54126 KIL Killingray, David. Fighting for Britain: African soldiers in the Second World War.
- 950.2 MAN Man, John. The Mongol Empire: Genghis Khan, his heirs and the founding of modern China.
- 951.05 YAN Yang, Jisheng. Tombstone: the untold story of Mao's great famine.
- 951.5 STA Starks, Richard. Lost in Tibet: the untold story of five American airmen, a doomed plane, and the will to survive.
- Q 968.047 OOR Nasson, Bill. The war at home: women and families in the Anglo-Boer War.
- Q 968.048 MOR Leach, Charles. The legend of Breaker Morant is dead and buried: a South African version of the Bushveldt Carbineers in the Zoutpansberg, May 1901-April 1902.

- Q 968.712 HIS Hislop, Jim. Wheatfields and windmills: the old homesteads and farms of Observatory and surrounds, Cape Town.
- 968.712 MEM Adams, Keith. Memory keepers: District Six — conversations with national living treasures.
- Q 968.712 ROB Robinson, Helen. Constantia and its neighbours.

## ENGLISH FICTION

- Clements, Toby. Winter pilgrims.
- Cloke, Nicci. Lay me down.
- Cogman, Genevieve. The invisible library.
- Cohen, Tamar. The broken.
- Cole, Martina. The good life.
- Coleman, Rowan. Runaway wife.
- Delinsky, Barbara. Blueprints.
- Delpont, Melissa. Rainfall.
- Denfeld, Rene. The enchanted.
- Devereux, Kim. Rembrandt's mirror.
- Douglas, Claire. The sisters.
- Drvenkar, Zoran. You.
- Fforde, Katie. The perfect match.
- Flagg, Ethan. Shotgun charade.
- Follett, Ken. Edge of eternity.
- Galland, Nicole. Stepdog: a novel.
- Gappah, Petina. The book of memory.
- Gardner, Lisa. Crash & burn.
- Garland, Rosie. Vixen.
- Graham, Joanne. Lacey's house.
- Green, Jane. Saving Grace.
- Green, Jane. Summer secrets.
- Grey, SL. Under ground.
- Harris, Robert. Dictator.
- Hayder, Mo. Wolf.
- Heaberlin, Julia. Black eyed Susans.
- Hewson, David. The wrong girl.
- Hoffman, Alice. The marriage of opposites.
- Holmes, Valerie. A stolen heart.
- Holt, Tom. The good, the bad and the smug.
- James, Beth. Looking for Laurie.
- James, Peter. The house on Cold Hill.
- Jaquiere, Anna. The lying-down room.
- Jardine, Quintin. Hour of darkness.
- Jardine, Quintin. Mathew's tale.
- Kava, Alex. Silent creed.
- Kavanagh, Tasha. Things we have in common.
- Kelly, Cathy. It started with Paris.
- Kepler, Lars. The Sandman.
- L'Ange, Jacqui. The seed thief.
- Law, JS. Tenacity.
- Levin, Cecile. A piece of cake.
- Liu, Cixin. The three-body problem.
- Lynds, Gayle. The assassins.
- McNab, Andy. Fortress.
- McNab, Andy. Red notice.
- McNab, Andy. Silencer.
- May, Peter. Blow back: an Enzo Macleod investigation.
- May, Peter. Freeze frame.
- Mendelson, Paul. The serpentine road.
- Meyer, Deon. Icarus: [a Benny Griessel novel].
- Michael, Livi. Succession.
- Michels, Elizabeth. Must love dukes.
- Montefiore, Santa. The beekeeper's daughter.
- Moran, Michelle. The last queen of India.
- Morrison, Gael. Meet me at midnight.
- Morrison, Toni. God help the child.
- Morrissey, Di. The road back.
- Murakami, Haruki. Hear the wind sing, and Pinball, 1973: two novels.
- Murray, JJ. A good man.
- Murray, Paul. The mark and the void.
- Nadel, Barbara. Land of the blind.
- Nesbo, Jo. Midnight sun.
- Neville, Stuart. Those we left behind.
- Osondu, EC. This house is not for sale.
- Palahniuk, Chuck. Beautiful you.
- Patterson, James. Cross justice.
- Patterson, James. Murder house.
- Patterson, James. NYPD Red 3.
- Parnham, IJ. The devil's marshal.
- Payton, Brian. All this will be lost.
- Peek, Ben. The godless.
- Pulley, Natasha. The watchmaker of Filigree Street.
- Punke, Michael. The revenant.
- Rademacher, Cay. The murderer in ruins.
- Rand, Ayn. Ideal: the novel and the play.
- Rendell, Ruth. The girl next door.
- Reyneke, Duncan John. Nails in the sky.
- Rhodes, Kate. A killing of angels.
- Rickman, Phil. Night after night.
- Riddle, AG. The Atlantis gene.
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- Roberts, Gregory David. The mountain shadow.
- Sanchez, Mamen. The altogether unexpected disappearance of Atticus Craftsman.
- Sanderson, Mark. The whispering gallery.
- Scalzi, John. Lock in.
- Simson, Graeme. The Rosie effect.
- Smith, Tom Rob. The farm.
- Stanley, Michael. A death in the family: a Detective Kubu crime novel.
- Steel, Danielle. Pegasus.
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- Tillman, Vance. Late for Gettysburg.
- Toptas, Hasan Ali. Reckless.
- Tregillis, Ian. The mechanical.
- Van Alkemade, Kim. Orphan #8.
- Van den Berg, Laura. Find me.
- VanderMeer, Jeff. Annihilation.
- Van Lustbader, Eric. Robert Ludlum's The Bourne ascendancy: a new Jason Bourne novel.
- Wait, Rebecca. The followers.
- Walker, Peter. Some here among us.
- Woodhouse, Jake. Into the night.
- Wroe, Simon. Chop chop.
- Yallop, Jacqueline. Marlford.
- Young, William P. Eve.
- Xenopoulos, Rahla. Tribe: a novel.
- Zupan, Kim. The ploughmen: a novel.





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