MENSE

Ora verlaat die Diens na 18 jaar

Ora Wilkinson het haar loopbaan gedurende die vroeë tagtigerjare by die Provinsiale Biblioteekdiens in die afdeling wat spesiale aanvrae voorsien het, beter bekend as Kamer 402, begin. Gedurende haar loopbaan hier was sy egter in feitlik elke afdeling werksaam. So het sy in die inligtingsbiblioteek, die filmoteek en die biblioteek in die Paaie-afdeling gewerk. Sy was ook 'n biblioteekassistent in die streke. Ora was baie toegewyd en afgesien van die feit dat sy 'n gesin gehad en voltyds gewerk het, het sy buitemuurs studeer vir die B.Bibl-graad.

Na agtien jaar gaan Ora Wilkinson se weggaan 'n groot leemte in die Biblioteekdiens laat. Bo: Haar streekpersoneel gaan haar veral baie mis. (Vlnr): Phadiel Mitchell, Ora Wilkinson, Quinton Duncan, Clarrette Pypers en Maureen September

Na voltooiing van die graad is sy as streekbibliotekaris aangestel. Alhoewel sy die kleinste streek in die Metropool gehad het, was sy altyd baie entoesiasties en het sy nuwe geleenthede raakgesien. Sy was vol nuwe idees, 'n staatmaker by kursusse en het die induksietoere waargeneem. Sy was ook deel van die Geslagsgelykheidkomitee en was soms betrokke by die komitee vir Vigs.

Mense was baie belangrik vir Ora en dit was een van haar prioriteite om haar personeel te motiveer om hul bes te lewer. Hierin was sy baie suksesvol en kan sy met genoegdoening terugkyk op wat sy vermag het.

Ora betree nou 'n onbekende pad deurdat sy haar loopbaan prysgee om met minderbevoorregte jeug op 'n vrywillige basis te werk. Die ondervinding wat sy egter opgedoen het en die suksesse wat sy behaal het in die Biblioteekdiens gaan beslis 'n bate wees. Ons beste wense en alle voorspoed vir die groot taak wat voorlê - ons weet jy gaan suksesvol en gelukkig wees in dit wat jy nou aanpak. Ons sal jou bruisende energie mis, maar een van die dae span ons jou weer in vir 'n kursus.

Jeanette Vosloo
Assistentdirekteur: Boland en Metropool

LIBRARIES

Friends Indaba great success

An historic meeting took place at Bellville Library late last year when representatives from 16 (of a total of some 36) Friends organisations in the metropole got together for the first time. The meeting, referred to as the Friends Indaba, was the initiative of the Rondebosch and Bellville Friends who had met to exchange ideas, and found the encounter so fruitful that they wanted to include other groups as well.

The purpose of the meeting was to share ideas and information, and discuss issues such as:

~ enlisting greater community support for local public libraries and their activities
~ the extension of library activities to the benefit of local communities
~ ways of fundraising to promote library activities; and
~ identifying projects which could be undertaken locally to make communities more reading and library conscious.

Each group briefly introduced itself and gave an outline of its activities, fundraising events and expenditure.

The age of the organisations varied from starting brand new (Bonteheuwel) to some that are older than 30 years (Bellville). Relationships between the Friends and librarians varied from close partnerships to uncooperative library staff.

Activities

Voluntary work in the library by Friends vary from book binding and repair, tattle taping, processing of donated material, assistance with computerisation of library records to the setting up of exhibitions in the library.

Partnerships were undertaken with other community groups for mutual benefit, for example, Lions. Some Friends groups (Bothasig/Edgemead) also supported each others' fundraising projects.

Programmes included talks by authors, book launches, puppet shows for children, literacy classes and activities for youth.

Equipment donated by Friends enabled libraries to offer photocopying facilities to Goodwood and Bellville, and Internet, e-mail and wordprocessing facilities to Town Centre in Mitchell's Plain.

Fundraising

Fundraising attempts were very innovative: Fish Hoek organised a phantom cake sale where a picture of the cake was sold!

Book, magazine and record sales were held by most groups. It was emphasised that donations should be carefully scrutinised for Africana and other possible valuable items. Books in other languages sold very well in some areas.

Successful craft markets were held by Bothasig Friends, and the sale of refreshments at craft markets and other events was fairly common.

Coin-operated photocopying machines were a big money spinner, with Friends leasing or buying machines outright, paying all the expenses but also pocketing the income from the machines. This is a particularly valuable service as the provision of photocopiers by local authorities has always been problematic.

Some charged a nominal fee for placing an advertisement on an advertising board in foyer; others held wine or whiskey tasting evenings. Raffles were fairly common.

Expenditure

Everyone agreed that Friends funds should be spent on gravy and not on the meat and potatoes, which should be provided by the local authority - the gravy being library material (books, audio books, videos, magazine subscriptions). However, much of Friends funding was used for furniture and equipment (computers, television, video

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recorders, vacuum cleaners, chairs, carpeting, shelving and paint). In some cases Friends even paid casual staff and cleaners.

Issues

Participants identified several issues that required following up:

~ the need for greater publicity for Friends activities locally and on wider scale for problems besetting libraries
~ support for staff in metropole libraries who were encountering problems with contract and acting appointments, and who were in a state of uncertainty about new staffing structures
~ identifying and lobbying influential decision makers, and involving local councillors in Friends activities
~ sharing of expertise and material between Friends groups
~ recruitment of new members and greater involvement of the community with the Friends.

A small committee was elected to investigate these issues and take this initiative forward and to report back to the larger group. The following persons were elected:

Claudette Lee (Bothasig)
Penne Lloyd (Rondebosch)
Anna Louw (Somerset West)
Janet Owens (Hout Bay)
Shanaaz Sonday (Rylands)
Frans van der Merwe (Bellville)
Ilze Swart (Bellville).

This committee met four times between September and December 2002 and has actioned the following:

~ A press release on the importance of libraries in a community and the role which Friends can play in support of libraries that was distributed to a variety of media and sent to chairmen of Friends groups for local use.
~ A general brochure on the Friends and their activities, listing libraries who have Friends associations. The brochure is available in English and Afrikaans. It can be used as a recruitment tool by local groups.
~ A letter to the Provincial Minister of Cultural Affairs, Sport and Recreation, Patrick MacKenzie, expressing concern about the lack of current legislation pertaining to libraries.
~ Monitored articles on libraries in the media and commented where applicable, for example, in an article in the **Municipal Bulletin** of October 2002 it was mentioned that the City of Cape Town had received an award for its IT achievements, among which was the placing of computers for use by the public in 105 libraries in the City. However, only six libraries are involved in the Smart City Access project at this stage!
~ Requested the editor of the **CL**, to regularly publish news about Friends and their activities. Ideas for fundraising and activities by individual groups could be highlighted and serve as an inspiration to others.

A report back from the committee was sent to all Friends chairmen, with a request that news, tips and newsletters be regularly submitted for the compilation of a Friends column in the **CL**. (See editor's note below.)

The Friends Indaba was a groundbreaking and inspiring event. The initiative will be followed up by regular contact between groups and a lively exchange of energy and ideas, which will ultimately benefit libraries and the communities they serve.

Ilze Swart
Friends of the Library, Bellville

We will gladly oblige so let the news roll in! ED

Kreatiewe somerskool

Gedurende die Desember 2002-vakansie het leerlinge tussen die ouderdomme 13 en 15 'n somerskool by Zwelihle Biblioteek in Hermanus bygewoon. Daar is gefokus op kreatiewe skryfwerk, asook toneelskrywery. Die Aids-kwessie is ook aangespreek.

Biblioteekpersoneel het hulp ontvang van, onder andere, twee Sweedse kinderboekskrywers wat tydens die vakansie in die gemeenskap werksaam was

National Library's new premises

The Minister of Arts and Culture, Dr Ben Ngubane recently announced that the Department of Arts and Culture is to erect a 27 000 m^2 building at a cost of R128-million for the Pretoria campus of the National Library of South Africa in the city centre.

The National Library will gain approximately 14 700 usable square metres of space for its book collections, currently scattered in various Pretoria premises. It will also provide approximately 1 300 seats for library users whereas the present building can accommodate only 130 users. Library users currently queue up daily in Andries Street.

The National Library came into existence through the merger in 1999 of the former State Library in Pretoria and the former South African Library in Cape Town. The Pretoria branch of the library is housed in a complex of buildings in the city centre and in disused factory premises and warehouses in the Pretoria West industrial area. The conditions under which the Pretoria branch of the National Library is housed have long been unsatisfactory and pose a risk to the collections, users and staff.

The proposed modern glass and brick building reflects the dynamic future envisaged for the National Library of South Africa. Steel and glass-covered walkways and ramps lead users from street level toward the entrance piazza, which can also be used for public exhibitions and street art forms.

The National Library building will add a new and exciting dimension to the capital of South Africa revitalising the CBD and providing a much-needed investment of capital, human resources and future activity.

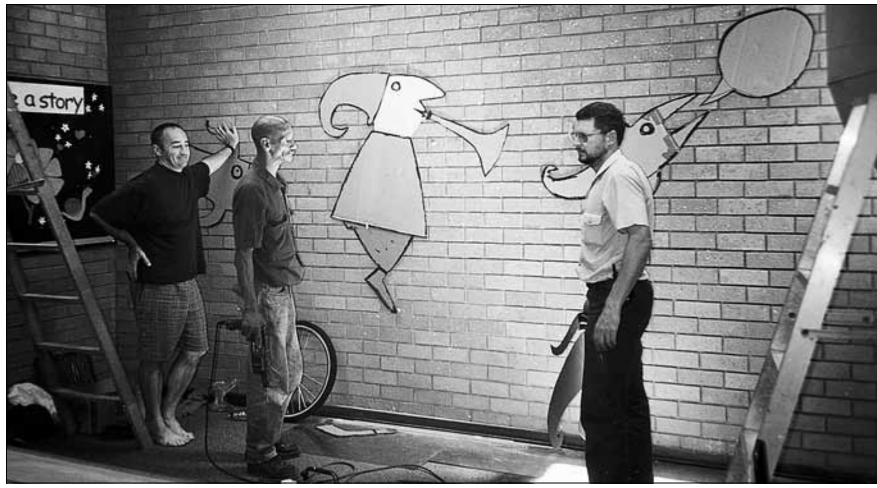
The National Library's Cape Town branch is housed in premises which constitute a landmark in the historical

nucleus of the city. These premises were extensively renovated some ten years ago and are currently undergoing further repairs.

The National Library is the custodian of South Africa's national documentary heritage as reflected in all books and other media published in South Africa. In terms of the Legal Deposit Act 1997, the National Library's branches in Cape Town and Pretoria each receive a copy of every book, magazine, newspaper, government document and any other print and non-print document published in this country.

Thanks to legal deposit, donations, exchange agreements, and carefully-targeted purchases over almost two centuries, the National Library today has a collection of close on three million items of various kinds. It is the single most important resource for researchers, writers, students and the general public who need information on any aspect of South Africa. The Pretoria book storage facility will house over 3,5 million books over the next twenty years after which a new wing will expand its capacity sufficiently for a further 20 years.

Andrew Malotle
Executive Head: Development and Marketing, National Library of South Africa



Bo: Kunstenaar Piet Grobler se pretmuur in wording

Links: Grobler en Frans van der Merwe, (vorige direkteur van die Biblioteekdiens) tydens die amptelike opening van die nuutjie in die kinder-afdeling

Vriende skenk Piet Grobler werk aan Bellville Biblioteek

Die Vriende van die Biblioteek, Bellville, het bekende kunstenaar en illustreerder, Piet Grobler, gevra om 'n werk vir 'n groot vertoonmuur in die kinderbiblioteek te skep. Drie karakters van plat metaal is teen die baksteenmuur gemonteer. (Foto op bladsy 7.) Die wiele, 'n fiets- en kinderwaentjiewiel, kan albei draai - tot groot vermaak van die kinders. Die regterkantse voël se praatwolkie is gemonteer en daarin word die versierde letters van elke dag se datum, wat van magnete gemaak is, vasgesit. Die voorkoms van die dwerg se jas verander na gelang van die seisoen. Bome en 'n verskeidenheid blare op magnete versier die jas. Lettertjies van staaldraad hang van die dak af, en beweeg, soos 'n bewertjie.

Die prent is sterk en vrolik, sonder om 'n bontspul te wees wat met die turkoois van die lugreëlingpype sou bots. Die sink en wiele sluit goed aan by die industriële gevoel van die biblioteek se argitektuur. Danksy die helder kleur, blink vernis en die eenvoudige ontwerpe, versterk die ontwerp die idee van vriendelike speelgoed.

Ons personeel was bevoorreg om die skepping van die kunswerk waar te neem, en ons kan getuig van die spontane plesier wat menige kleinding al gehad het van die vrolike, 'tasbare' kunswerk.

Tydens 'n oggendtee in Februarie is die opdragwerk aan die biblioteek oorhandig deur Frans van der Merwe, voorsitter van die Vriende, en Piet het gesels oor sy werk.

Moet die skepping nie misloop as u weer die Bellville Biblioteek besoek nie.

Ilze Swart
Hoofbibliotekaris, Bellville Biblioteek

LITERÊRE TOEKENNINGS

Tomalin wen Whitbread Prys

Die Britse skrywer Claire Tomalin het pas die Whitbread Letterkunde Prys vir die Boek van die Jaar gewen. Haar eggenoot, Michael Frayn, was een van die mededingers.

Tomalin se biografie van die 17de-eeuse dagboekskrywer Samuel Pepys is deur die keurders hoër aangeslaan as Frayn se **Spies**, 'n roman wat hom in die Tweede Wêreldoorlog afspeel.

Die 69-jarige Tomalin is nou R357 000 ryker. Haar **Samuel Pepys: the unequalled self**, die beoordelaars se 'oorweldigende' gunsteling, werp lig op die dagboekskrywer se persoonlike lewe, ook sy huwelik en voorliefde vir jong meisies.

Die ander aanspraakmakers was Norman Lebrecht se **The song of names** (eerste roman), Paul Farley se **The ice age** (poësie) en Hilary McKay se **Saffy's angel** (kinderboek).

Tomalin and Frayn (69) is die eerste egpaar wat om die Whitbread Prys meeding. Hulle woon in die noorde van Londen.

Die Burger

MISCELLANY

Friends of the Centre for the Book

The Centre for the Book has decided to start an e-group for their friends that will be called books@nlsa.ac.za. It will be an e-group in which information of interest to readers, writers, librarians, publishers, booksellers and book-lovers will be circulated. The e-group will be able to advertise conferences, seminars, workshops, book launches, ask and answer queries, give advice, and act as general info-sharing to all those interested in the book world.

Anyone interested can e-mail them at <books@nlsa.ac.za>.

Colleen Higgs
e-group administrator, Centre for the Book

OPLEIDING

Personeel se indrukke

Aletta Emke ...

Watter waarde heg ons aan onsself en aan ons werk? Dit was die fokuspunt wat 'n uiters geslaagde werkswinkel, deur Jeanette Vosloo gereël, onder die aandag van die kursusgangers wou bring.

Dit was met 'n gevoel van afwagting en tog ook verskuilde pessimisme waarmee kursusgangers die werkswinkel benader het. Tog, hoe aangenaam verras was almal nie, om op 'n professionele, ontspanne wyse in voeling met jouself en realiteite rondom jou gebring te word nie. Kursusgangers is deur die digkuns as medium, gelei tot bewuswording van hul eie ervaringe en om waardering te hê vir wat rondom hulle gebeur. Ineengeskakel met die sessie oor werksdruk, het mens onder die indruk gekom hoe kuns as 'n magtige bron van selfontlading gebruik kan word. Dr Esterhuyzen, motiveringspreker, het jou laat besef dat 'n gesonde gees en positiewe uitkyk op die lewe die werksplek soveel meer uitdagend kan maak.

Deur die loop van die kursus is 'n waardevolle aspek van die werksopset aangeraak: *Werksetiek*. Die besef is gelaat dat die indruk wat die buitewêreld van jou onderneming gaan hê, hetsy negatief óf positief, by elke individu begin. Die verantwoordelikheid berus dus by elke werknemer om ten alle tye: reëls te gehoorsaam, respek vir mekaar te hê, professioneel op te tree, lojaliteit en integriteit te openbaar en vertroulik te handel.

Dit was 'n uiters moeë maar geïnspireerde groep wat Worcester en sy asemrowende natuurskoon agtergelaat het om te gaan probeer toepas wat hul geleer het. Soos een van die kursusgangers opgemerk het: 'Ek het al begin dink aan aftree, maar dit lyk my die Biblioteekdiens begin nou eers lekker word.'

Aletta Emke
Biblioteekassistent, Saldanhastreek

Laurinda Newman...

Op 24 en 25 Februarie 2003, het die Wes-Kaapse Biblioteekdiens te Worcester Streekkantoor 'n algemene werkswinkel gereël vir bibliotekarisse en assistente.

By die geleentheid is ons toegespreek deur verskeie sprekers wat verskillende onderwerpe bespreek het. Mnr J Duvenhage se sessie het gehandel oor digkuns; dr M Jooste het die hantering van werksdruk behandel; dr A Esterhuysen het 'n motiveringspraatjie gelewer en mev A Le Roux se sessie het gehandel oor werksetiek.

Nie net was die werkswinkel baie leersaam en effektief nie, dit was ook 'n goeie spanbousessie en die interaksie het die werksverhoudinge en spangees tussen die kursusgangers opmerklik verbeter. Die gedagte om die kursusgangers 'n aand te laat oornag het ook 'n goeie geleentheid gebied vir spanbou.

Ek wil Jeanette Vosloo, assistentdirekteur, bedank vir die inisiatief om die werkswinkel te reël en het volle vertroue dat hierdie sessie in die toekoms nog baie sukses sal oplewer.

Laurinda Newman
Biblioteekassistent, Saldanhastreek

Ontbyt in die wynland

Op Saterdag 9 November 2002, op 'n sonskynoggend, ná die vorige aand se sifreën, het ek 'n sjampanje-ontbyt op die wynlandgoed Eikendal in die Helderberg bygewoon. Hierdie funksie is gehou deur die Stigting vir Bemagtiging deur Afrikaans (SBA), in samewerking met die glanstydskrif **Sarie** met die doel om die bemagtigingsprojekte van die organisasie in die Helderberg bekend te stel. Hierdie projekte het ten doel bemagtiging deur geletterdheid en entrepreneursopleiding. Die SBA gebruik taal as medium om Suid-Afrikaners effektief te bemagtig. Die organisasie spits hom ook toe op jeugontwikkeling en bevorder Afrikaans as inklusiewe taal.

Die Provinsiale Wes-Kaapse Biblioteekdiens is uit hoofde van die dienslewering aan biblioteke en hulp met monitering en finansiering van geletterdheidsprojekte 'n potensiële vennoot van die SBA.

Hierdie funksie is lank deur die SBA be-droom en het weens die welwillendheid van talle borge op Eikendal gestalte gekry. Op die landgoed langs die blou dam onder dennebome waar tortelduiwe hul teenwoordigheid met koer-koer verklap het, is die geëerde gaste verwelkom. Die gassprekers was Christine Sweli, een van die aanbieders in Nomzamo en Lwandle (waar een van Valsbaaistreek se biblioteke geleë is) en Ronald Swart, die nuwe onderwyshoof van die Wes-Kaapse Onderwysdepartement. Swart het in sy toespraak genoem dat 'kennis vasgevang word in 'n taal' en dat 'taal-kapasiteit vir deelname in 'n beter toekoms bepaal'.

Die program was propvol verrassings, insluitende uitmuntende jong kunstenaars sowel as persoonlikhede van *Maak-'n-Las-faam*. 'n Mens kon as't ware Afrikaans as 'n vars jong briesie inadem. Die orkes van die Heathfield Sekondêre Skool het gesorg vir 'n unieke luisterervaring. Skrywers soos Marzanne le Roux en Elias Nel het die aandag van die gehoor met hul Afrikaanse woordkuns vasgevang. Ander skrywers het die gehoor vermaak met 'n Storie-stew waar die gehoor 'n enkele woord aan die skrywers gegee het waarom hulle dan 'n storie moes bou. Voor kuiertyd het modelle van voorste mode-ontwerpers die gehoor in modieuse dagdrag en asemrowende aanddrag en bruidsuitrustings bekoor.

Ná afhandeling van die program het die gaste ontspanne sosiaal verkeer. Almal het vergeet om die horlosie dop te hou sodat die kuiertyd maar aangeloop het.

Hierdie funksie was 'n unieke glansgeleentheid en 'n reuse sukses. Alhoewel die glans van hierdie funksie mettertyd sal verdof, sal die glans in die oë van die nuutgeletterde leerder steeds blinker sal word!

Sophia Rickett
Streekbibliotekaris, Valsbaaistreek

◁ Die pretmuur in die kinderafdeling van Bellville Biblioteek geskep deur die bekende en talentvolle Piet Grobler

▽ Milnerton Library's Adult Learners on an outing to Kirstenbosch in November last year. Planned by City Libraries Literacy Interest Group this was a thoroughly enjoyable experience for all

▽ Langebaan Leeskring se 2002-afsluiting waar almal moes aantrek soos 'n boek van hulle keuse. Agter van links na regs: Anita Brand (Poppie Nongena), Elbeth le Roux (Poppie Nongena), Isabel Basson (Angela's ashes), Lizé Sadie (Treasure Island), Kathy Samuels (Hemelbodes), Hyla van Niekerk (Liewe Heksie) en Winnie Scholtz (Dit reën rose). Voor van links na regs: Joana Mouton ('n Oulap se rooi), Salomien Lambrechts (Vonkelwyn en wurgpatats), Marina Lofty-Eaton (Vuur op die horison), Joha Bester (Donker spore) en Sophia Makka (Rooikappie)

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The Cape Librarian cover designs created by artist Piet Grobler during 2002 were so popular that we decided to print them as posters. Featured here is one of six different new posters in an A3 format which will reach all libraries soon.

Turn to page 35 for ideas on how to display the series

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Leeskringnuus

Bredasdorp…

Die Bredasdorpse Leeskring se afsluiting van die jaar se bedrywighede het in November in Stanford plaasgevind.

'n Groot verskeidenheid Afrikaanse en Engelse boeke, verteenwoordigend van 'n verskeidenheid genres, wat selfs romans in film medium ingesluit het, is bespreek. Digters en skrywers word ook van tyd tot tyd genooi om die leeskring te kom toespreek.

Alhoewel die lees en bymekaarkom tydens die maandelikse besprekings vir elke leeskringlid 'n genotvolle geleentheid is, is dit ook harde werk, veral wanneer dit jou beurt is om 'n boek te bespreek. Om hierdie rede is die jaarlikse uitstappie essensieel en 'n geleentheid om te ontspan.

'n Besoek is gebring aan 'n kaasfabriek waar die kaasmaker die geheimenisse rondom die maak van die volmaakte kaas met die dames kon deel. Dit is gevolg met 'n toer deur die dorp en omgewing, paslik afgesluit met 'n ete in 'n rustige plattelandse omgewing.

'n Hoogtepunt van die jaarprogram vir 2003 sluit in die besoek aan die skrywer van die biografie van Uys Krige, **Goue seun**, in Stellenbosch. Boeke wat bespreek gaan word, sluit in werke van Maretha Maartens, Petra Müller, Hennie Aucamp, Barbara Folscher, Rachelle Greeff en die onlangse bekroonde werk van Dan Sleigh, getiteld **Eilande**. Belangstellendes kan (028) 424-2727 skakel.

Suidernuus

Kuilsrivier…

Sedert die ontstaan van die leeskring in 1976 word verskillende genres jaarliks behandel. Lede het al by herhaling hul waardering vir die boekkeuse uitgespreek en gesê dat hulle met boeke kennis gemaak het wat hul andersins nooit sou lees nie.

So 'n boek was, byvoorbeeld, **The poisonwood bible** van Barbara Kingsolver wat by 2002 se laaste vergadering behandel is. Een van die lede, dr Anneke Hartney, is 'n gebore Nederlander en sy het al Nederlandse boeke in haar moedertaal bespreek. Vanjaar kom daar weer een aan die beurt, naamlik, **Tweelingen** deur Tessa de Loo.

Geleentheidsprekers tree soms op, maar verreweg die meeste boeke word deur die lede bespreek. Dr Rensia Robinson het tot in haar doktorale proefskrif melding gemaak van hoeveel baat sy by die lede se besprekings gevind het. Sy het onlangs na 26 jaar as lid bedank omdat hulle verhuis het, maar gaan wel nog vanjaar **Fugitive pieces** van Anne Michaels kom bespreek.

In 2002 het Cas van Rensburg oor sy boek, **Drome - jou onbewuste het al die antwoorde** kom praat en vanjaar gaan Petra Müller haar nuutste digbundel, **Die aandag van jou oë**, behandel.

Die ledetal word tot 24 beperk. Interessant is dat die huidige voorsitter, Isadora Verwey, reeds by die stigtingsvergadering in Februarie 1976 teenwoordig was.

Marianne Brink
Sekretaris

Strand…

Soos gewoonlik, het die Strand 'n jaar van interessante boekbesprekings beleef. Nege boeke is deur lede bespreek, ses daarvan was romans, een digbundel, een kunspraatjie en een 'n biografie. Laasgenoemde was **That Miss Hobhouse** van John Fisher - ons kon nog die Anglo Boere-oorlog wat in 2001 deeglik aandag gekry het, nie heeltemal uit ons gedagtes kry nie. Terwyl die 100 beste boeke van die vorige eeu uit Afrika in die nuus was, het ons met **Nervous conditions** van Tsitsi Dangarembga kennis gemaak. Hier vroeg in die nuwe millennium is 'tyd' nog bespreking werd en so het een van ons lede dan *Tyd in die kuns* onder ons aandag gebring. Ons laaste bespreking van die jaar was die digbundel, **'n Onbekende jaartal**, deur Ina Rousseau. Daar was darem nog tyd om aan **Raaiselkind** (A Botes), **Vatmaar** (AHM Scholtz), **Pieternella van die Kaap** (Dalene Matthee), **Palmwyn** (Adriaan van Dis in sy vertaalde weergawe) en **'n Stringetjie blou krale** (EKM Dido) aandag te gee. 'n Hoogtepunt was die middag toe ons, soos gebruiklik, 'n gasspreker, dié jaar Philip de Vos, kon ontvang. Niks kan die reaksie van die lede en besoekers beter weergee nie as Agnes Crafford se bedanking in digvorm.

Daar was eendag 'n man
Met die naam Philip de Vos;
Van versies weet hy baie en sy tong is los;
Kom hier aan saam met die wind;
Met versies en sang en die dinge van 'n kind;
Van katte met luise en muise met vuiste;
Konsternasie, purgasie, stimulasie en sensasie;
Pensioene en beleggings dit traak nie
Saambou maak nie eers saak nie!

Maar ons vergewe vir hom;
Want digters is maar dom;
En ons is so lief vir die klong
Die man met die losse tong!

Jou lekker gesels was soos 'n stywe dop
Wat die bloed in ons are laat loop…
Om nooit weer Procydin te koop!
En nou nooi ons jou vir 'n lekker koppie tee
En vir padkos stuur ons saam…

Ons eie strand se son en Maandag Druppeltjie
getap uit ons grote oseaan.
Korreltjie sand korreltjie fyn;
Uit ons eie sandwoestyn -
Gooi dit in jou knapsak
Hou dit as 'n pand
Vir die pad wat aanhou
Na die Môrester se kant.
Want met so 'n mooi talent
Bereik jy gou die reënboog se verste ent!

Heloïse Rocher
Voorsitter

Is your library a Soul Buddyz library?

'The battle against HIV and AIDS and other health and social ills which threaten the well-being of South African children cannot be undertaken by the education sector alone. It needs the involvement of all partners. Transforming social norms and practices so that they provide an environment that is in harmony with what schools try to communicate, requires a coalition of many partners - communities, and parents themselves, those in the education sector, those in the private sector, and the many NGOs and community and faith-based organisations that work so hard and so generously for the educational needs of our people.' (Minister of Education, professor Kader Asmal: Conference on HIV and AIDS and the Education sector.)

The Soul Buddyz Club initiative is the latest addition of the Soul Buddyz multimedia edutainment vehicle. It can be defined as the platform for children to express their needs and interests. The club is aimed at fostering a culture of teamwork for problem-solving and encouraging proactive leadership for children, by children.

It will create forums where children are

exposed to social, health and development, cultural and recreational activities in order to realise their full potential. Through the educational and recreational activities within clubs, children will be encouraged to raise and debate issues critical to their own and community development. The mixture of knowledge and skills between classroom, library and club will also enable children to enhance their potential to actively make a difference in their own lives.

If you have young library patrons that would like to become members right away, please send their name, address, telephone number and birth date to Soul Buddyz Club, PO Box 462, Douglasdale, 2165.

New initiative

Housed at the Centre for the Book, the Writers Network (WN) is an initiative which coordinates and disseminates information about support and resources available to writers in South Africa.

The aim of the Network is not to organise writers into any one specific organisation but to provide advice and guidance for all South African writers at all stages during the writing process. They will also work to identify spaces in towns and cities across the country that can be used by writers who don't have suitable working environments at home.

From 2003 to 2006 the Network will be compiling a database of all South African writers working in all genres. If you would like to be added to their mailing list please e-mail them at ‹writers@nlsa.ac.za› and indicate which of the following you would like to receive:

- Database form
- Newsletter
- Brochure
- General mailings
- All of the above.

Karen Press and Ashraf Johaardien
The Writers' Network, Centre for the Book

Unusual web sites

An article by Anthony Brewerton called *Wear lipstick, have a tattoo, belly-dance, then get naked: The making of a virtual librarian.* Lots of links to other unconventional library sites. See it at: *www.careerdevelopment-group.org.uk/impact/archives/abrewerton*

Bellydancing librarians home page. Again lots of links to other sites, and an amazing photo gallery. *www.sonic.net/~erisw/bdlib* Enjoy.

Steve Anderson
Barefoot Librarianship and Information Systems and Services (BLISS)

Reading is a girl thing

Not all girls like horses and not all boys ride mountain bikes. Leisure pursuits do not follow girl-boy lines as clearly as they once did. But one thing has remained the same: reading is female. Christoph Schaefer, spokesman for the Reading Foundation in Mainz says statistics show this to be true.

In a questionnaire, 42% of 15-year-olds admitted not liking reading. A breakdown of that figure revealed that 52% of boys but only 26% of girls conceded this dislike. Schaefer said the foundation's own surveys indicated that girls were more interested in reading and were better at it.

A literature specialist at Oldenburg University, Joerg Steitz-Kallenbach, said that in advanced German courses at academically-oriented high schools a typical class consisted of 15 girls and five boys. 'Boys read less, they read in a different manner and they also read different material than girls', he said. He added that because there was a close relationship between reading ability and success at school, the reading difference had consequences: boys were potentially losers in education. 'Boys who read quickly develop an image as a softy.'

The parents' reading habits also played a role. If the most the father read was the newspaper, the message was that men do not read books.

The Reading Foundation has started several projects to encourage reading, especially among boys.

In class, boys were better able to analyse sports magazines while girls were better with youth magazines. But Schaefer said that this was only part of the solution.

CAPE LIBRARIAN

40 years ago

- ★ The editor makes a plea for more participation by public librarians in the book selection process and we quote: 'Only in this way can we achieve our aim and supply the right book to the right reader at the right time.'
- ★ Theo Friis, a previous director gives an account of early public library history. Interesting is the fact that by 1928, 227 public libraries had been established in the country and of these 172 were in the old Cape Province.
- ★ Also printed in the magazine, a copy of the **Cape Town Gazette**, and **African Advertiser** of Saturday 21 March 1818. The famous Proclamation of Charles Somerset of 20 March which laid the foundation of the South African Library read '...shall be open to the public...shall place the means of knowledge within the reach of the Youth of this remote corner of the Globe, and being within their reach what ancient Writers has considered to be one of the first blessings of Life, Home Education'.
- ★ Under the heading *A Babe not more!* The Cape Provincial Library Service (CPLS) announced it's three millionth book accessioned. In those years, the CPLS used to buy more than 600 000 books per year! (Truly a golden age...)
- ★ Tydens 'n besoek van die Biblioteekbus in 1962 aan Robertsonstreek, skarrel streekpersoneel in hulle wit jassies rond. Uit die mond van 'n suigeling 'Juffrou, juffrou ons het al klaar ons inspuitings gehad'.
- ★ Skaapwagter aan boekwabestuurder op 'n verlate pad: 'Meneer, jy kan nie jou skape hier kom aflaai nie, ons veld is reeds so kort.'
- ★ Variety of bookmarks found in books and clues to the psyche of the reader:
  Visions of good housekeeping - shoe-strings and swatches of material
  Bad housekeeping - dirty socks
  Love - corsage pins
  Lust - French post cards
  Wealth - dollar bills
  Poverty - unpaid bills
  Contemplated suicide - razor blades
  The inner man - strips of bacon.

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NEWS NEWS

Parents must take a much greater interest in whether their children read.

Sigrid Strecker, who heads reading-promotion projects for the Reading Foundation, underlined this. She believes that, as soon as a child is old enough to sit, it is old enough to look at picture books.

A child's experience with books in the early years of life can influence its entire life. Strecker says that every evening, the child should be taken on the arm and read a picture book. She believes that the best way to get boys to read is by example: if the son sees the father read books.

Eugen Emmerling, a spokesman for the German book-trade organisation, Boersenverein des deutschen Buchhandels said it was wrong to maintain that boys did not get around to reading because they preferred to surf on the Internet. Strecker said it made no sense to ban boys from the computer in the hope that they would turn to books. Putting boys under pressure to read was also futile, she said.

Vatican sees no evil in a bit of Harry Potter magic

Harry Potter fans, relax. The Vatican says the kid is all right.

The question of whether JK Rowling's books and the films are good for kids came up at a Vatican news conference on New Age spirituality, which contain elements of the occult.

Father Peter Fleetwood, a Vatican official, said: 'They are not bad or a banner for anti-Christian ideology. They help children understand the difference between good and evil.'

Cape Times

National Days by date

January
1 Cameroon, Sudan
7 Ghana
12 Tanzania
13 Togo
16 Benin
20 Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mali

February
3 Mozambique
18 Gambia

March
2 Ethiopia, Libya
3 Morocco
6 Ghana
11 Lesotho
12 Mauritius
20 Tunisia
21 Namibia, Tunisia
25 South Africa
29 Central African Republic, Madagascar

April
4 Lesotho, Senegal
17 South Africa
18 Zimbabwe
19 Swaziland
23 Togo
25 Swaziland
27 Sierra Leone, South Africa
29 Sierra Leone

May
4 Namibia
20 Cameroon
21 Saint Helena
24 Eritrea
28 Ethiopia
30 Canary Islands

June
1 Cape Verde, Kenya
4 Ghana
11 Libya
16 South Africa
18 Seychelles
19 Algeria
20 Eritrea, Senegal
25 Mozambique
26 Madagascar, Somalia
27 Djibouti
30 Democratic Republic of Congo

July
First Monday and Tuesday in July Zambia
1 Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Ghana, Rwanda, Somalia
5 Algeria, Cape Verde
6 Comoros, Malawi
12 São Tomé, Príncipe
14 Mayotte, Réunion
17 Lesotho
23 Egypt
25 Tunisia
26 Liberia

August
1 Benin
3 Niger
5 Burkina Faso
9 South Africa
11 Chad
11-12 Zimbabwe
13 Central African Republic
13-15 Republic of Congo
17 Gabon
27 Guinea

September
1 Eritrea, Libya
3 Guinea-Bissau
6 Swaziland
22 Mali
24 Guinea-Bissau, South Africa
30 Botswana

October
1 Guinea, Nigeria
4 Lesotho
9 Uganda
12 Canary Islands, Ceuta, Melilla, Equatorial Guinea
20 Kenya
24 Zambia
26 Benin, Libya

November
1 Algeria, Guinea
6 Morocco
7 Tunisia
18 Morocco
19 Mali
28 Mauritania
30 Benin

December
2 Ghana
7 Ivory Coast
9 Tanzania
11 Burkina Faso
12 Kenya
16 South Africa
18 Niger
24 Libya
26 South Africa
31 Benin, Ghana

Peoples of Africa

Note: Also see National Days by country in September/October 2002 ***Cape Librarian.***

The Reader's Bill of Rights

The right to not read
The right to skip pages
The right to not finish
The right to reread
The right to read anything
The right to escapism
The right to read anywhere
The right to browse
The right to read out loud
The right not to defend your tastes.

Die Leser se Handves van Regte

Die reg om nié te lees nie
Die reg om bladsye oor te slaan
Die reg om nie 'n boek klaar te lees nie
Die reg om wéér te lees
Die reg om enigiets te lees
Die reg om te lees vir ontvlugting
Die reg om enige plek te lees
Die reg om net deur te blaai
Die reg om hardop te lees
Die reg op jou eie smaak in boeke.

Opgestel deur Daniel Pennac in sy boek **Better than life** *(met wenke om die trae tienerleser weer tot boeke te 'bekeer'). Vertaling: Adinda Vermaak.*