

Women Business & Barbie...

Women celebrated

NEVILLE ADONIS

Regional Librarian, Blaauwberg Region

Special celebrations as a tribute to women were recently held in Caledon, Gansbaai, Hermanus and Cape Town, each with a different theme. The events were organised by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport and were well supported by the Provincial Library Service.

singing performances. Complimentary material was handed out from the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sports and the Provincial Library Service presented an attractive display with gender as the theme. Promotional library material was handed out to learners.



Caledon

The theme for the event held at the Caledon Museum was *Gender relations*. The objective was to support the development of the girl child through the arts. Approximately 200 female children learners from the local schools attended. The children were entertained by various cultural performances, which included the Schoonspruit Drama Group as well as the Overberg Primary School band. Solo artist Chad Philander had the crowd on their feet with his outstanding



Top: Neville Adonis and Aletta Emke from the Library Service with a display highlighting library material available on entrepreneurship during the workshop in Gansbaai
Above: An eye-catching hand-made mural was displayed at the celebrations held in Zwelihle, Hermanus

Gansbaai

A struggle within a struggle was the theme for this event. A workshop was held for about 50 unemployed young women with the emphasis on self-employment through crafts - the main objective being to improve the quality of life of those women currently unemployed. The Provincial Library Service display highlighted library material available on entrepreneurship and small business development.

Hermanus

This event, with the theme *Three generations of women*, was held on Women's Day.

Women (and men) from the local neighbourhood of Zwelihle joined in the celebrations. The Provincial Library Service assisted in decorating the hall with posters and a hand-made mural of Women's Day as well as a display, with the theme, *Women in society*. Later in the day a mini imbizo was held by the Premier of the Western Cape Province in the same hall.

Cape Town

For Capetonians an activity was organised at the Labia Theatre in Cape Town. The Gender Committee of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport organised a departmental Women's Day on 12 August 2005 for all the women of the department, with the theme, *Women building a better life belonging to all*. Guests were entertained with an excellent film show (popcorn and all) that highlighted the plight and challenges women faced daily. Gifts were handed out to all women present.

Breakfast at Central

RHEINA EPSTEIN

Correspondent

The Central Library, Cape Town in July this year celebrated its fifth year of hosting monthly business breakfasts for small business owners, entrepreneurs and so-called start-ups, commonly referred to as Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) as an outreach programme and personalised extension of its Library Business Corner.

Library Business Corners (see the CL April/May 2005) were established in a number of libraries to provide the small business community and entrepreneurs with appropriate business information.

Accordingly, a Library Business Corner (LBC) was set up in August 1999 in the Central Library, situated in the hub of Cape Town's CBD and which already had a well-used and comprehensive collection of business books.

The SMME Breakfast Club was then initiated with the objective of assisting small and micro business people, especially start-ups, by creating an awareness of the opportunities and obstacles that face SMMEs. This was done by selecting appropriate speakers to address the issues and topics at the breakfast; offering networking opportunities and making known the resources in the LBC and library business collections.

The first breakfast in July 2000 drew an enthusiastic audience of over 120 people from all over the Cape Town Unicity and still continues to draw audiences despite the early start at 07h00 when a buffet style light breakfast is available. The cost - R10 - is payable on entrance and the meeting ends at 09h00 sharp. The breakfasts are well advertised in the community newspapers, in notices in the library and, using the circulation list of the Friends of Central Library (FOCAL), by e-mail and/or fax.

These breakfasts are an excellent example of public/private partnerships as they would not be able to be sustained without the following partners: FOCAL who sponsor the breakfasts, thus keeping the cost affordable to the whole community; **Your business** magazine which donates an annual subscription to the winner of the business card draw; Jovern Parking who controls the parking on the Parade and who donate one hour free parking to anyone attending the breakfast; Library Business Corners, a Section 21 Company funded by the City of Cape Town; the Western Cape Provincial Government which provides support, input and information; and Business Beat who provide a business advice service on Saturday mornings and conduct regular courses.

And, of course, the many experts in the private and public sector who so willing and unstintingly give of their time and expertise. Among these were Marcus Brewster on marketing your business; Tom Gash of the South African Bureau of Standards on quality for international competition; Gertrude Fester of the Commission for Gender Equality on promoting entrepreneurial activities of women; a number of motivational speakers; and speakers who could provide information

on accessing finance or areas for business opportunities as well as successful business people sharing the secrets of their success.

Anyone interested in establishing a similar venture is welcome to contact Marcia Raymond, Chair of FOCAL on telephone 021-467 -1567 or fax 021-461-5732 or by e-mail rfg@iafrica.com.

Teepartytjie vir getroue lesertjies

ALIDA ZANDBERG

Streekbibliotekaris, Stellenboschstreek

Wellington Readers Biblioteek het tydens die Julie skoolvakansie 'n Barbie teeparty gereël vir dogtertjies tussen ses en tien jaar oud wat gereelde gebruikers is. Sowat 20 is uitgenooi met spesiale uitnodigingskaartjies. Vir die geleentheid is 'n kleurvolle Barbie uitstalling geskep en spesiale tafels gedek. (Sien foto op bladsy 5.) Die funksie is gehou om die gereelde gebruikers te beloon omdat

hulle sulke getroue lesertjies is. Hulle kon volgens die tema hulle mooiste kleertjies aantrek om soos ware jong dames te voel. Aktiwiteitsboekies gemaak deur bibliotekaris, Marie Blignault, is aan hulle uitgedeel en almal het dit baie geniet.

2005

Onder: 'n Groepie Barbie aanhangers besig met hulle teepartytjie

Heel onder: Trotse 'jong dames' met hulle aktiwiteitsboekies

