

◆ **POSTBAG****Memories of typewriters and keyboards**

There is always something intriguing in your pages! This time I was delighted by Cecily van Gend's delving into memories of typewriters and keyboards. I recall deliberating whether or not to acquire a computer. (Around 1988 I guess.) At the time I was staying with Brian Alderson in Richmond (he was then correspondent to the **Daily Telegraph** on children's literature) and his son advised me not to. 'You might start looking at what the words look like, instead of what they sound like,' was his opinion. However, I did. It had a green screen. I used an electronic typewriter as my printer and so produced the pages of **Bookchat**. Since then I lay claims to be one of the fastest one-finger typists in the business!

*Jay Heale
Librarian*

◆ **MENSE****Touwsrivier groet...**

...Susan du Plessis, wat vir bykans 18 jaar lank die bibliotekaris van Touwsrivier Biblioteek was. Bekend vir haar uiters netjiese voorraad en goeie administrasie moes Susan egter 'n paar maande voor haar beplande aftrede die diens verlaat as gevolg van swak gesondheid en het amptelik op 30 April 2006 afgetree. Ons beste wense vergesel haar en beter gesondheid word haar toegewens.



Hier verskyn Susan (regs) en Cintie Bruintjies, wat vir baie jare Susan se regterhand was, eers as biblioteekhulp en later as biblioteekassistent

En heet welkom...

...Charlotte Hankey wat as nuwe bibliotekaris vanaf 1 Mei 2006 aangestel is. Charlotte het 12 jaar ervaring van biblioteekwerk by Melton Rose Biblioteek opgedoen met baie ervaring

Wynberg changes librarians

Vivian Jones retired at the end of April 2006 as librarian in charge of Wynberg Public Library. Building the book stock of the library, especially English fiction, music, art and diverse religious topics was one of her passions.

Vivian was born in England and moved to South Africa when she was six years old. London and Salzburg (Vienna), where she worked after leaving school, had excellent libraries that kept her supplied with reading material. The bookshop in Salzburg where she worked, also provided ample opportunity for extensive reading. Besides reading, Vivian also did English-German translations, gave English lessons and sang in professional choirs.

Back in Cape Town, she was employed at the City Library in the Fiction section. She went to night school to complete her Secondary Education and continued with a BA at UCT. Her studies included History of Art and European Cultural Studies. An honours in Religious Studies followed and also a Higher Diploma in Librarianship. At a later stage she attempted a Bachelor of Music as well.

Vivian was appointed as principal librarian at Meadowridge Library and two years later she was transferred to Wynberg Library, because of her love for music - Wynberg Library boasts a specialised Music Collection.

During her tenure, the Maynardville area was declared a heritage site and the Wynberg Library building was declared a national monument (example of the fifties architectural style, see **CL** Nov/Dec 2002 pp.46-48). Programmes for the public or children were restricted because of the lack of a library hall and limited space in the children's area, so extensions were planned in two phases, without changing the outer structure of the building. Unfortunately lack of funding prevented Vivian from implementing the planned changes before her retirement. Library staff have been doing regular storytelling sessions at a crèche on Robben Island as well (see **CL** Jul/Aug 2004 p.35).

Vivian's career does not end here. She plans to continue supporting Wynberg Library by joining the Friends of the library and wants to volunteer at Mowbray and Rondebosch Libraries. With the rest of her free time she plans to do a Teach English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) course part time, attend lectures of the University of the Third Age and act as group leader at Weigh Less. By joining the gym, swimming and doing yoga salsa dancing Vivian plans to stay fit and healthy.

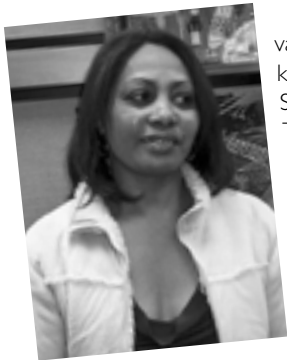
The bi-monthly book selection meetings are going to be quiet without Vivian. David Warburton will, however, continue to represent Wynberg Library at these meetings. Olivia Prins will be acting librarian in charge of the library and also occasionally attend book selection meetings. Olivia who completed her Lower Diploma in Librarianship at the University of Western Cape, started working at Meadowridge Library (part of City Libraries) as a Saturday student and during the December/January holidays at Muizenberg Library (who also fell under City Libraries). She has also worked part-time at Fish Hoek Library in 1997.

The library will thus operate with four full-time staff members (including Olivia), a senior attendant and a few contract workers.

Through her enthusiasm and zeal Vivian often challenged boundaries and restrictions and attempted to persuade regional staff to yield to what she believed was best for her library. On her retirement at the end of April, Vivienne commented that she had enjoyed her library career enormously, and felt strongly that, whatever one's interest, there is a niche in librarianship to pursue that interest.

Southern Region will never be the same again! We wish Vivian a happy and fulfilling retirement and all the best to Olivia as she steers one of the biggest libraries in the Southern region.

*Marianne Elliott, Regional Librarian, Southern Region
and Rheina Epstein, Correspondent*



van kinderwerk en kinderaktiwiteite. Sy is 'n gebore Touwsrivier en is opgewonde oor die feit dat sy van haar kennis kan terugploeg in dié gemeenskap.

Nuut in Zweletemba

Rosemary Matshikiza is vanaf 1 April 2006 aangestel as bibliotekaris van Zweletemba Biblioteek. Rosemary het biblioteekkunde

studeer aan die Kaapse Universiteit vir Tegnologie en het daarna vir 'n jaar lank vrywillige werk gedoen by Milnerton Biblioteek. Sy is in Worcester gebore en wil ook graag haar kundigheid met die gemeenskap van Zweletemba kom deel.



32 years later

Garton Bouwer left the Central Art Library in the City Hall at the end of April - the library where he has spent most of the 32 years he has worked for Cape Town City Libraries.

Fascinated from an early age by art and architecture Garton has pursued this interest in one form or another since his school days. After stints in various fields after leaving school, including enjoyable periods overseas, Garton found, on being appointed to the Central Art Library, the perfect position to marry both his professional and personal art interests. At home he has amassed a vast working library in his major specialised art areas - the history of book illustration and oriental art.

Garton is renowned amongst practitioners and students of the visual arts and architecture for the depth and width of his knowledge (even on the most arcane art subjects) and his willingness to help. He will be sorely missed.

He leaves the library to settle in the Philippines where not only has he family but where he feels he has an excellent central base from which to pursue his interests in neighbouring countries.

Rheina Epstein Correspondent

ERRATUM

The printer's gremlin struck again. Our apologies for omitting to let you into the secret of Ashiah Isaacs' and Lubabalo Dzedze's new titles (in the previous CL). Both have been promoted to the rank of assistant director.

◆ BIBLIOTEKE



Tydens die Sosiale Biblioteek se 40 jaar oue herdenking is heerlike versnaperinge geniet. (Sien ook bladsy 5)



Helderberg, se Basiese Onderwys en Opleiding vir Volwassenes groep bymekaar vir 'n sessie

◆ SKRYWERS EN BOEKE

Gerard Reve oorlede

Die Nederlandse skrywer Gerard Reve is onlangs in die ouderdom van 82 jaar oorlede. Reve het bekendheid verwerf met geskrifte soos sy debuut, **De Avonden** (1947), oor die ervaring van die jeug ná die Tweede Wêreldoorlog, en sy brieweboek **Op weg naar het einde en nader tot u**, waarin hy openlik oor sy homoseksualiteit skryf en 'n eiesoortige religieuse visie ontwikkel. Die kommunistiese milieu van sy jeug het neerslag gevind in 'n boek soos

Oud en eenzaam (1978), en in **Moeder en zoon**, skryf hy oor sy toetreding tot die Katolieke Kerk. Sy oeuvre is bekroon met die gesogte PC Hooft Prys.

Die Burger

◆ LITERÊRE TOEKENNINGS

Boesak bekroon met Andrew Murray Prys

Die 26ste Andrew Murray Prys vir die beste Afrikaanse Christelike boek word vanjaar toegeken aan Allan Boesak vir sy boek **Die vlug van Gods verbeelding**, uitgegee deur African Sun Media.

Dit is 'n boek met teologiese diepgang, maar toeganklik genoeg om deur nie-teoloë as geestelike verryking gelees te word, en vir gebruik deur Bybelstudie- en gespreksgroepe. Dit is bo alles 'n boek wat daardie broodnodige

kritiese blik op die samelewing, wat so deel is van die Christelike tradisie, in die kerk help stande hou.

Die prys bestaan uit 'n kontantbedrag van R12 500, 'n goue penning en 'n oorkonde. Tien uitgewers het vanjaar 26 boeke vir beoordeling ingeskryf.

Die Burger

Brink wen UJ Prys

André P Brink se **Bidsprinkaan** is pas aangewys as die wenner van die Universiteit van Johannesburg Prys vir die beste Skeppende Skryfwerk in 2005.

Die UJ Prys vir die beste debuutwerk verlede jaar gaan aan Marlize Hobbes vir **Flarde**. Luidens 'n persverklaring is dit 'bemoedigend' dat

drie debuutwerke deur die beoordelaars as bekroonbaar beskou is. Verlede jaar is geen toekenning in dié kategorie gemaak nie. Pat Stamatélos se **Kroes** en Gilbert Gibson se **Boomplaats** was sterk kompetisie vir **Flarde**.

Laasgenoemde is uiteindelik bekroon vir sy tegniese vernuf, die besondere manier waarop taal aangewend is en die oorspronklikheid van die werk.

Resensente was dit eens dat Brink met **Bidsprinkaan** 'n besondere toevoeging tot sy omvangryke oeuvre gemaak het. Verskeie resensente het selfs onomwonde gesê dat **Bidsprinkaan** Brink se beste roman tot dusver is.

Die UJ Prys beloop R50 000 en die UJ Debuut Prys R10 000.

Die Burger



◀ **Die amptelike taalbeleid van die Wes-Kaapse Regering** (heelbo) en **Lees meer oor gebaretaal** - twee nuttige bronne uitgegee deur die Wes-Kaapse Taalkomitee wat gratis beskikbaar is. Navrae kan gerig word aan: Tel 021 483-9677, e-pos: exa@pgwc.gov.za

▶ Kan jy nou meer...hierdie pragtige foto weerspieël die lekkerte van ontspan met 'n boek. **Worcester Biblioteek** het die oulike foto aangestuur



▶ **Social Library's 40th celebration**

On 5 May 1965 **Hospital Street Library Depot** opened. 40 years later, known as the **Social Library**, it is still going strong. To celebrate the occasion stalwarts Pandy Joerning, Gerda Theron and Sandy Kingswell were presented with colourful bunches of flowers - a reflection of their colourful personalities that grace the library and whom everybody has come to love - and a small token of appreciation from the library patrons for their dedication to provide a library service to staff. Posters from different decades were displayed in the library



▲ **Personeel hou naam hoog**

17 brawe personeellede van **Drakenstein Biblioteek** het die gure weer op Werkersdag getrotseer om aan die jaarlike SAD pretwedloop deel te neem. Niemand kon die leuse **LEES / READ / FUNDA** miskyk nie. Baie geluk aan julle almal



▲ 'n Kleurvolle kinder-kuns-uitstalling wat onlangs in **Strand Biblioteek** aangebied is

NEW PUBLICATIONS

This poster aimed at the youth was created to draw attention to the importance of reading in terms of one's future



Cape Librarian

40 years ago...

Stefan Wehmeyer Assistant Director: Support Services



- ★ Rheina Epstein writes an article on book stock for hospital libraries and advises, 'No medical books should be taken into the hospital at all. Sick people have lots of free time on hand and tend to worry.'
- ★ Margie van Deventer comments on how useful the large prints books were. At that stage Ulverscroft had been publishing books in large print for two years. She also comments that 'other publishers have entered this field, but it will be a long time before the variety of titles in large print are sufficient to meet the wide needs of readers who cannot manage small print'.
- ★ Humble beginnings? According to a footnote in the **CL** Mrs EC Edwards was the honorary librarian of Bellville Library between 1920-1928 and appointed on an official salary from 1939-1949. In those years, the library was housed in the shop of Sacks Brothers and consisted of 250 books in a display case.
- ★ In 'n jaarlikse oorsig kritiseer Lydia Pienaar die Afrikaanse kinderboeke van 1965. Van die eerste gepubliseerde *Liewe Heksie* boeke deur Verna Vels sê sy, 'moes myns insiens liever nie die lig gesien het nie... Verna Vels met haar twee boeke oor Liewe Heksie, wat miskien as radioprogramme vermaaklik kan wees, maar in boekvorm myns insiens nie slaag nie'. (Wonder wat Liewe Heksie hiervan sou sê? 'Haai Blommie, die Tannie maak nie reg nie, is sy Koning Rosenaar se vrou?' 'Rosekrans! Liewe Heksie, Ja Heksie, miskien moet ons van Mattewis se piringtjie melk vir haar gee.')
- ★ S Hincliff on cataloguing: 'The catalogue needs to be as accurate as possible, because inconsistencies waste both time and information. A good cataloguer is meticulous in his or her work, and needs a very good memory. Neat handwriting is essential.'
- ★ On 5 May 1965 the Hospital Street Library Depot opens. This library was intended to be a model library and was furnished with African walnut shelves, cabinets and catalogues.
- ★ Nuus van die Noord-Kaap: 'Ons hartlike gelukwensing gaan aan Dux van der Walt en Nico van der Merwe, deurdat hulle 'n ongewone prestasie behaal het met die daarstelling van die Dewey Desimale Klassifikasie Opsomming in Afrikaans.'
- ★ Miss I Grivainis writes her first article for the **CL**. The subject was *Interlibrary loans*. Her eyes must then already have been set on Bellville Library, as she used Bellville Library in an example on an Inter Library Loans (ILL) request form. Also in this issue, Ilze (now Swart) was congratulated for winning the South African Library Association's Silver Jubilee prize for the student with the best results at the University of Cape Town's School of Librarianship in 1965.
- ★ Librarian in profile was Enid Kuys from Oudtshoorn and 'she remembers well a tall, quiet youth, young Gilbert Morris'. (Gilbert Morris became the second director of the Cape Provincial Library Service.)
- ★ Original names for the Central Organisation and the Regional Organisation... Mrs Gertz was promoted to Chief Librarian: Production Section and Miss Te Groen to Chief Librarian: Service Section, respectively.
- ★ Genadendal kry sy eerste biblioteek in 1965. Die biblioteek was in 'n ou graanskuur wat omskep is, gehuisves. Die seremoniemeester by die openingsgeleentheid was eerwaarde AH Habelgaarn en die hoofrede was deur Biskop PW Schaberg, hoof van die Morawiese Kerk. Mnr Morris meld in sy toespraak dat op daardie stadium slegs 5% van die bruin bevolking biblioteeklede was.

Jonker Prys aan plaaslike winner

Die Kaapse digter Rustum Kozain is vanjaar se winner van die Ingrid Jonker Prys vir Letterkunde. Dit word al om die twee jaar vir 'n Afrikaanse of Engelse debuut-digbun- del toegeken. Kozain van Observatory in Kaapstad is vir sy bundel **This carting life** bekroon.

Volgens die beoordelaars word die bundel deur 'n oorkoepelende tema van reis tot meesleurende eenheid geblind. 'Hy is openlik bewus van sy invloed, maar steeds oorspronklik,' lui die verslag.

Kozain 1966 is in die Paarl gebore en het daar opgegroei. Hy was daarna, onder meer, dosent in Engels aan die Universiteit van Kaapstad.

Die Burger

Opperman wen Hertzog Prys

Die dramaturg Deon Opperman het die vernaamste prestige-prys in die Afrikaanse letterkundige wêreld, die Hertzog Prys, gewen.

Opperman word vereer vir sy gepubliseer- de drama-oeuvre, wat die volgende insluit: **Boesman, my seun; Magspel; Donkerland; Stille nag; Mōre is 'n lang dag** en **Die teken**.

Die Eugène Marais Prys is aan Marlize Hobbs toegeken vir **Flarde** en die Gustav Preller Prys aan dr Hennie Aucamp.

Die jeugskrywer Martie Preller en die illustreerders Erica en Andries Maritz is met die Tienie Holloway Medalje vir Kleuter- literatuur vereer vir **Diep, diep in 'n donker bos**.

In die poësie-afdeling van die Poort-kom- petisie vir leerders in graad 10, 11 en 12 het Verishna Bormman van die Hoërskool Reitz gewen met haar gedig *My hart het 'n website*. Die winner in die prosa-afdeling is Adam Heyns van die Hoërskool Menlopark met sy inskrywing *Chenook*.

Van die ander prysweners is professor Rudie Botha, wat die CJ Langenhoven Prys vir Taalwetenskap kry, en professor FP Retief en Louise Cilliers, wat met die Stals Prys vir Multi- en Interdisiplinere Spanwerk bekroon is. Die Stals Prys vir Kunstgeskiedenis is aan dr Frieda Harmsen toegeken.

Appèlregter Joos Hefer, president van die appèlhof tot en met sy aftrede in 2002, kry die Toon van den Heever Prys vir Regs- wetenskap.

Mnr Ton Vosloo, voorsitter van Naspers, word met die Frans du Toit Medalje vir Bedryfsleiding vereer. Die Elisabeth Eybers Beurs word vanjaar toegeken aan professor Rufus H Gouws.

Erepenning in musiek en ligte Afrikaanse musiek is aan Acáma Fick en die sangeres Mynie Grové toegeken.

Die regisseur Gerrit Schoonhoven kry 'n erepenning vir televisiedramas vir **Plek van die vleisvreters**. 'n Erepenning vir radiohoorspele in Afrikaans is aan George Weideman toegeken en een vir visuele kunste aan Alexander Podlashuc, met erkenning aan Marianne Podlashuc.

Erelidmaatskap van die Akademie is 'n toekening wat min mense beskore is en gaan vanjaar aan professor AH van Wyk, oudrektor en visekanselier van die Universiteit Stellenbosch, en professor AJ Brink, voormalige president van die Mediese Navorsingsraad.

Die Burger

◆ MISCELLANY

The book that changed my life

Black Beauty, Kennis van die aand, Biko -

these titles are familiar to librarians as among those books banned under the apartheid government. But, apart from the implications for libraries, banned books took on a different meaning for political prisoners on Robben Island. Exactly what they meant was graphically described by three ex-political prisoners at 'The book that changed my life' seminar arranged by the Education Department of the Robben Island Museum on 21 April, on the Island, to coincide with the launch of the Banned Books Exhibition.

After the welcome by Paul Langa, Robben Island Museum CEO, Paul Darch of the African Studies Library at University of Cape Town took the chair. Changing roles, Langa spoke about a Russian book written about a family in the Ukraine during the Second World War. As many of the books circulating in the prison deliberately had had their title pages torn out he could not give the name or author but this book gave them all courage - in fact it was almost a textbook.

Kwedi Mkalipi lived on Robben Island for 20 years under great psychological oppression. Prisoners were deprived of any knowledge of what was happening in the outside world and books they got from the State Library were heavily censored. Samuel Beckett's **Waiting for Godot** taught him that one has to do for oneself. But his significant inspiration was the letter of Paul to the Ephesians. He explained that Father Hughes of the Anglican Church gave the prisoners communion but there was an altercation over the communion wine as the warden re-

fused to let the prisoners have alcohol. With tears streaming down his face Father Hughes read from Paul's *Letter to the Ephesians*: 'All stand firm in time of evil.' Kwedi Mkalipi, at that time full of hate for white people, said, seeing Father Hughes crying over a white man's behaviour changed his feelings.

Sedick Isaacs was a librarian on the island and spent a year in solitary confinement. He described his experiences of being naked, bleeding and chained. A book by Bernard Sachs inspired him as did a phrase in the Koran which he paraphrased as 'Whatever burden you have, you have the strength to bear it', while to look for a common thread that binds people was what he learnt from the book **The bend in the Ganges**.

Many prisoners went into depression - they called it cracking - and Dr Isaacs got books from the State Library to investigate the effects of imprisonment. He found it created a vacuity, listlessness and fear of time so all through his moving and inspirational talk he emphasised how important reading and studying was on the Island.

The importance of reading was echoed in the comments and questions from the floor. In response to what made the prisoners read Paul Langa replied that they were motivated by the circumstances, commenting also on the sense of discipline amongst them enforced by the disciplinary committees.

Colin Darch commented that freedom struggles elsewhere were an inspiration - what could we do to make South Africa inspirational for others. Kwedi Mkalipi's response was that we need to write books - we must show that not only one man brought about liberation. We also need to visualise life in prison and the history of the struggle in the form of plays and song. Sedick Isaacs closed the session with the warning that countries that become free often become oppressors themselves. How can we carry over a lack of bitterness to the rest of South Africa?

In the second session Colleen Higgs of the Centre for the Book explained the work they are doing in their Community Publishing Project. Her three speakers, Elizabeth Manthepeng Magakoa, Mandlakayise C Matyumza and Angifi Dladla, brought to Cape Town for the occasion, spoke about their particular projects and read extracts from their self-published writings.

After a splendid lunch we returned to the mainland moved and inspired and more than ever convinced that we need the past to understand the present.

Rheina Epstein
Correspondent

Successful World Book Day

World Book day was celebrated on the 24th of April at the Centre for the Book with a lively variety of literary events. The day started with senior learners from high schools in the City Bowl discussing their own choices from the prescribed reading lists of the school curriculum.

At lunchtime, editor and English lecturer Lynda Gilfillan engaged author and translator Michiel Heyns in a conversation about the process of translating Marlene van Niekerk's novel **Agaat** into English.

The discussion ranged over the wide variety of issues raised in this process - from the length of the translated work in relation to the original to the problem of translating certain Afrikaans vernacular terms that had, for example, no equivalent in English because of their vulgarity or specifically racist implications. Out of necessity Michiel kept his glossary to only about 30 words that were simply impossible for him to translate and, for the rest, tried to create a translation that was closest not only to the meaning of the original but also to the feeling. Following no theories of translation, he tried to remain as true as possible to the writer and her style.

Michiel's own broad grounding in English literature also helped him add an extra dimension by subtle references to Ezra Pound, T S Eliot and William Wordsworth which would resonate with English readers. For Michiel this work was no easy task but he was lucky that he had the generous support of the author herself.

The day closed with a poetry reading with editor, compiler and author Robin Malan introducing a diverse collection of poets reading from their own published work. They were Petra Müller (reading in both English and Afrikaans) Gabeba Baderoon, Arthur Attwell (a former student of Gabeba) and Finuala Dowling.

A most successful day ended with all present having an opportunity to eat, drink and, of course, talk.

Rheina Epstein
Correspondent

*I always turn to the sports pages first,
which record people's accomplishments.*

*The front pages have nothing
but man's failures*

Chief Justice Earl Warren (1891-1974)