

MENSE

PEOPLE ABANTU

Publications staff excel

David Webber, a well-known face amongst librarians from near and far, recently was awarded a sports management diploma for a two year course that he passed with distinction. We asked him to tell us his story ...



'Ever since I can remember I wanted to play some kind of sport.

'I remember my very first encounter with sport (soccer) in primary school, introduced by the physical education teacher. During the physical exercise period he asked the boys if they could play soccer. He then put us to

the test by kicking the ball around ... I was chosen to play in the schools' soccer team at a very young age.

'I still remember the excitement of travelling from one school to the next, playing in soccer matches. Then sadly one day I hurt my ankle in a game and was advised by the doctor to stop playing soccer and concentrate on some other sport.

'I was only introduced to cricket when I went to high school. I also tried my luck at rugby, but after being tossed very hard to the ground I decided that rugby was not for me. I continued playing cricket though, but after leaving school I lost contact with the game completely.

'Many years later, while playing street cricket with some friends, we were approached to play a friendly game at Pentech ... and that started my love for the game all over again.

'We played as a team together for many years, and when I stopped playing, I felt that I wanted to remain a part of the game ... I then joined the Western Province Cricket Umpire's Association (WPCUA).

'Being a Western Province umpire allowed me to get to know the laws of cricket so much better and my knowledge of the game improved. I came through the ranks, doing duty in the lower leagues, then moving through to the top leagues.

'In 1996/1997 I won the highest-rated umpire award in the IB division and in 2009/2010 I received the best all-round umpire award.



'In 2008 I was nominated to do the Sports Management Diploma and for the next two years I was always busy doing assignments ... getting lots of support from my colleagues, friends, family and particularly members of the WPCUA.

'At first I never thought I would pass, but with a lot of hard work even I was surprised to succeed with seven out of eight distinctions and passing the course with distinction!

'I would like to thank everybody who has made a contribution to help me complete my diploma, without them I never would have made it.

'A special thanks to Michelle Ernstzen at the Western Province Cricket Association (WPCA) and Linda Roth at Boston City Campus for all the support and patience throughout the period of the course.

'Very special thanks to the Western Province Cricket Umpires Association, the Western Province Cricket Association and Cricket South Africa who made it all possible.'

David Webber

Library Assistant, Publication and Promotion Section

BIBLIOTEKE

LIBRARIES AMATHALA EENCWADI

Membership drive for matriculants

On 5 February this year **Sir Lowry's Pass Library** presented a library orientation and membership drive for matriculants from the village of Sir Lowry's Pass. The staff found the students engaging and very enthusiastic!

Astral Poole

Librarian, Sir Lowry's Pass

Successful Aids awareness campaign

An exciting Aids awareness campaign and holiday programme was held during the first two weeks of December 2010 in the Drakenstein municipal area to coincide with World Aids Day.

Staff at **Paarl Library** went on daily visits to Bowy House and Butterfly House where Aids orphans and vulnerable children are cared for. They read stories, did face painting and spent time playing and entertaining the children.

A puppet show, organised by **Paarl Library** and attended by pupils from nearby schools, was used to raise awareness on the spreading of HIV/Aids and how to prevent infection.

A short play was performed by local artists from PROCARE, an organisation based in Wellington. A group of scholars from schools as far as Windmeul attended this

very informative and entertaining production.

At **Drakenstein Library** the staff and children formed a human chain around the library and observed a minute of silence in memory of those infected and affected by HIV and Aids. More than 80 kids were each given a small plastic bag containing red and white beads and a piece of wire and with the help of staff, made badges, bangles and chains in the shape of the HIV and Aids awareness ribbon.

Staff from **Wellington Readers** visited patients at Paarl Hospital every day for two weeks. They read stories, handed out colouring books and crayons and told funny stories which put smiles on many little faces.

The story, **Brenda has a dragon in her blood** by Hijltje Vink, was read to library patrons, patients and visitors in all the libraries, clinics and hospitals in the Drakenstein municipality. Lorensia Thomas (Head: Library Services) did a wonderful job of entertaining the kids at Nederburg Clinic (Paarl East) on a sweltering hot day.

Freda se Poppekas was a great hit at **Gouda** and **Saron** libraries. The kids got so

excited by the antics of the puppets that they became part of the story, voicing their opinions and shouting instructions to the delight of young and old. All children who attended the two-week programme received party packs, hotdogs, cooldrinks or ice lollies, balloons or colouring books and crayons.

As part of the awareness campaign collection boxes were placed in all the libraries and at the municipal offices. With the aid of posters the public was made aware of the great need that exists in managing and caring for all those infected and affected by HIV and Aids. Everybody could assist by placing items like clothing, toiletries, stationery, toys, disposable nappies and other baby items in the collection boxes. These will be handed over to the local NGOs in the valley for distribution to those in need.



Natalie Lewis
Assistant Librarian: Systems,
Drakenstein Library Service

▲ AIDS awareness in action

D'Almeida spog met uitstallings

► *Leilani Mondo en Lizette De Kock by hul vrolike Kersfeesuitstalling*

▼ *Janine Hess se 'Back to school'-uitstalling was inspirerend*



▲ *'Love is in the air.' Om Valentynsdag te herdenk het personeel in rooi en wit aangetrek. Hier is (vlnr): Leilani Mondo, Noluntu Mbandezi en Lizette De Kock*

◀ *Desember 2010 was Wêreld Vigsdag en 'n uitstalling is gehou om hierdie dag te herdenk*

Caledon Biblioteek vier fees

'n Heerlike Kersfeespartytjie vir 50 kinders is deur die personeel van **Caledon Biblioteek** gereël. Daar was speletjies, heerlike verversings, en 'n kerspakkie vir elke stralende gesiggie. Die partytjie is in hul plaaslike veldblometuin gehou.

Donasies deur die onderburgemeester, mnr S Vashu en raadslid Lincoln de Bruyn het dit alles moontlik gemaak. Mnr Vashu het ook tydens die geleentheid opgetree as gasspreker.

Yolanda Julies

Waarnemende Bibliotekaris, Caledon Biblioteek



▲ Onderburgemeester Mnr S Vashu saam met die waarnemende bibliotekaris, Yolanda Julies

Observatory Library during December was a hive of activity.



Hartenbos vier Valentynsdag

Nadine Sydon se treffende Valentynsdaguitstalling het baie glimlaggies ontlok



SKRYWERS EN BOEKE

BOOKS AND AUTHORS IINCWADI NABABHALI

Bekroonde skrywer oorlede

Harry Mulisch is onlangs in die ouderdom van 83 jaar in Amsterdam oorlede.

Sy suksesvolste roman **Die aanslag** het internasionaal meer as 'n miljoen eksemplare verkoop. Dit is in 30 tale vertaal en is deur Fons Rademaker verfilm. Die film het in 1987 'n Oscar ontvang.

Milisch se **De ontdekking van de hemel** is in 2007 as die beste Nederlandstalige boek

van alle tye verklaar. Dit is verfilm as **The discovery of heaven**.

Hy was saam met Gerard Reve en Willem Frederik Hermans as die grootste naoorlogse skrywers van Nederland beskou. Van sy romans is gereeld by Suid-Afrikaanse universiteite voorgeskryf, soos **Het stenen Bruidsbed**.

Sy werk is in tientalle tale vertaal en hy is bekroon met die belangrikste pryse van Nederland, waaronder die PC Hoofdprijs en die Prijs der Nederlandse Letteren, asook ander Europese pryse. Hy is lank beskou as kandidaat vir die Nobel Prys vir Letterkunde.

Die Burger

Fanus se stem is stil

Fanus Rautenbach, geliefde Afrikaanse radio-persoonlikheid en humoris, is oorlede.

Rautenbach het in die 1960's bekendheid verwerf as aanbieder van die oggend-radioprogram *Flink uit die vere* en later die middagprogram *Vra vir Fanus*.

Hy het meer as 20 bundels kortverhale en humoristiese sketse geskryf, asook bekroonde hoordramas, waarvan **Die hemelkinders** die bekendste was.

Rapport

Archie and Jughead creator dies

The artist whose work brought to life comic book characters from Archie and Jughead to the Incredible Hulk and GI Joe, has died. John D'Agostino Snr. was 81.

Born in Italy in 1929, D'Agostino emigrated to the US and got his first job as head colourist at New York City's *Timely Comics*, the forerunner of *Marvel*.

In 1965 he was hired by Archie Comics, where he began a long and enduring career, drawing numerous characters until his death.

The Argus

Oud-Stormjaer en skrywer HS van Blerk sterf

Die Afrikaanse skrywer HS van Blerk is in die ouderdom van 95 jaar oorlede.

Van Blerk, of Oom Hendrik soos hy bekend gestaan het, het honderde kortverhale en etlike boeke, soos **Los donkies**, geskryf.

Hy was baie aktief in die bewaring van die Afrikaner-kultuurgeskiedenis. Hy het onder meer ook die Majuba Boerevolktrus tot stand gebring.

Hy is op 27 November 1915 in Johannesburg gebore en het daar sy skoolopleiding begin, waarna hy elf skole bygewoon het voordat hy in standerd 6 (vandag graad 8) uit die skool is. Daarna was hy 'n diamantdelwer, houtryer, soldaat, fabriekswerker, padmaker en mynwerker aan die Rand.

In Junie 1942 is hy as Stormjaer van die Ossewa-Brandwag weens sabotasie ter dood veroordeel. Hy was 28 dae in die dodesel voordat sy straf na lewenslank versag is. Hy is ná ses jaar vrygelaat toe die Nasionale Party in 1948 aan bewind gekom het. Hierna was hy ook 'n graangradeerder, joernalis en skoolbestuurder.

Sy skryftalent het hy volgens die Stigting in die gevangenis ontwikkel. Sy eerste boek, **Dit blom tussen bantoms**, het reeds in 1948

verskyn. Sedertdien het daar talle romans, jeugverhale, kortverhale asook feitlike boeke oor die geskiedenis van die Afrikaner uit sy pen verskyn. Hy het ook onder die skuilnaam Melt Froneman geskryf.

Dick King-Smith oorlede

Dick King-Smith (88), die Britse skrywer van gewilde kinderboeke waaruit, onder meer, die lokettreffer, **Babe**, ontstaan het, is oorlede.

Hierdie produktiewe skrywer se boek, **The sheep-pig**, (1983) is in 1995 verfilm.

King-Smith het sy skeppings as 'plaaswerf-fantasieë vir kinders' beskryf en talle van sy meer as 100 boeke het dierekaraktêre in. Hy het laat in sy lewe begin skryf.

Sy eerste boek, **The fox busters**, het in 1978 verskyn, toe hy al in sy vyftigerjare was.

Die Burger

LITERÊRE TOEKENNINGS

LITERARY AWARDS AMABHASO WONCWADI

Resepte uit veldkosteun wen toekenning

Meer as 10 jaar se navorsing waarin sy letterlik met Khoimense in die veld gaan stap het om meer oor hul plante en kookkultuur te leer; het so pas vrugte afgewerp vir die skrywer Renata Coetzee.

Haar kookboek, **Koekemakranka: Khoi-**

Khoin-
kultuurgoed
en kom-kui-
er-kos is
aangewys as
die wenner
in die Suid-
Afrikaanse
been
van die



internasionale Gourmand Wêreld Kookboek Toekennings vir 2010.

Coetzee het in twee kategorieë gewen: die Beste Kulinêre Geskiedenisboek en die Beste Kookboek.

Coetzee het nie eens geweet dat haar uitgewer (Lapa) haar boek ingeskryf het nie.

'Vir die bewaringsbewustes is daar volop raad vir die aanlê van 'n eie veldkosteun, en om seker te maak dat die Khoi-Khoi se kom-kui-er-kos op almal se tafels kan voortleef, word die boek met 'n verskeidenheid resepte afgesluit.'

Coetzee het onlangs 'n eredoktorsgraad van die Universiteit van Noordwes ontvang vir haar navorsing oor die eetkulture van die inheemse mense van Suid-Afrika.

Die Burger

Meyer wen gesogte Sweedse prys

Die Afrikaanse speurspanningsverhaalskrywer Deon Meyer is einde verlede jaar met 'n Martin Beck Toekenning bekroon.

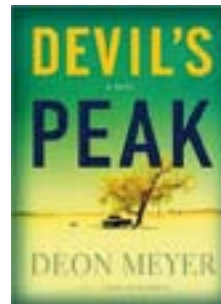
Hy ontvang 'n Goue Koevoet Toekenning vir die Sweedse vertaling van sy misdaadroman **Devil's Peak** wat in 2007 oorspronklik in Afrikaans by Lapa onder die titel **Infanta** uitgereik is.

Die toekenning gaan aan 'n misdaadverhaal wat in Sweeds vertaal is en word deur die Sweedse Akademie vir Misdaadskrywers toegeken.

Meyer se roman **Dead at daybreak** (die vertaling van **Orion**) was in 2008 op die kortlys vir hierdie prestigeryke prys.

Die toekenning is genoem na Martin Beck, 'n fiksionele Sweedse polisiepeurder wat die hoofkarakter is in 'n reeks van tien romans deur die skrywersepaar Maj Sjöwall en Per Wahloo.

Die Franse vertaling van **Devil's Peak, Le pic du diable**, het die leserstoekenning van die webwerf *CritiquesLibres.com* in die kategorie vir misdaadroman of riller vir Oktobermaand gewen.



Die Burger

ALLERLEI

MISCELLANY IINCWADI EZAHLUKENEYO

Do teachers still kill literature?

I have few regrets in life, but one of them is that my teachers at school deprived me of so many years of enjoyment.

Take reading for example. We were given setwork books to read by our English teachers. There was always at least one set book waiting to be read.

The books were usually totally boring to a teenage boy. One of them, for example, was **Pride and prejudice**. Can you imagine a

15-year-old boy being interested in the inane twitterings of a bunch of women?

We suffered **Jane Eyre** too. Can you imagine?

But not only did we have to read these girly books, we had to write a test on each one afterwards.

'Compare the attitudes of Mrs B and Mr B to the news that ... Give examples to illustrate this.'

So we didn't even see the books as stories. We had to 'swot' them instead. They were chores.

Books were boredom and panic - and sometimes even pain.

When I left school I vowed never, ever, to read another book as long as I lived. I stuck to newspapers and magazines. The very sight of a book made me shudder.

It was only about 20 years later that I discovered you could actually enjoy reading. I've been making up for the lost years ever since.

Sometimes I look back on those lost years and wonder how many books I could have enjoyed in them if I had known what fun reading could be.

Then there was history. It was taught by reading chapter after chapter aloud in class that seemed to consist of nothing more exciting than a list of dates and the names of battles.

Apparently people in history did nothing but fight. I gave up history quite early and studied art instead. Funnily enough, I loved art history. Very few artists fought battles and they didn't need dates.

I hope today's teachers manage to convince their pupils that books are the gateway to a whole world of magic and exciting information.

Mine merely managed to slam that gate shut in my face.

David Biggs is the author of a daily column, Tavern of the sea in the Argus, who kindly agreed that CL may use the above. His e-mail address: Tavern@glolink.co.za

Nothing changes

Lamenting spending cuts for public libraries in the *Los Angeles Times*:

'Public officials will tell you they love libraries and are committed to them; they just don't believe they constitute a "core" service ... Sooner or later, we'll all feel the loss as one of the most effective levellers of privilege and avenues of reinvention - one of the great engines of democracy - begins to disappear.' (Marilyn Johnson, June 2010.)

Los Angeles Times

Team building ...



Towards the end of last year the Department of Arts and Culture arranged a team building session at Ratanga Junction in Cape Town. Amongst other activities staff were treated to an in-house talent competition which drew whoops of delight from the crowd. After lunch everybody could join in the many rides available. This is where the real fun started (and ended for some) when brave and not-so-brave library staff tackled some rides such as the Monkey Falls and the Cobra. Top left is Stanley Jonck (book selector), with Erich Buchhaus (book selector) hiding behind him whilst Shamiég Tejada (senior library assistant) and Phadiel Mitchell (driver) are screaming with LAUGHTER. Above right yet another book selector Johanna de Beer and Grizéll Azar-Luxton (CL editor) are screaming with FEAR whilst below right Neville Adonis (assistant director) calmly rides the falls. Behind him Nicky Abrahams (senior library assistant) and Eleanor Slabber (general assistant) can't bear to look. Well, it certainly was team building of another sort ... scary but delightful!

Advertising pays!

Advertisers are invited to make use of our professional journal as a medium for advertising to a select professional community of librarian/educational specialists.

The **Cape Librarian** (a bi-monthly journal) is regarded in the Republic of South Africa as a leader in professional journals in the public library field. It has been in existence since 1957 and is distributed to libraries in the Western Cape and subscribers both nationally and internationally. It has approximately 1000 subscribers including 336 public libraries with 1.2 million registered members in the Western Cape.

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Loose supplements: R750 per single full page (black and white) per issue.
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SLIMS is launched

The Western Cape Provincial Library Service embarked on a new era in their history on 1 February 2011. The Service, together with the Archives Library and public libraries in the Stellenbosch Municipality migrated to a new computerised library management system called the SITA Library Information Management System (SLIMS, powered by Brocade). The cost of the migration to SLIMS for the Western Cape Provincial Library Service as well as Stellenbosch public libraries was R5 449 493.00.

The old library management system, PALS, has served the Western Cape Provincial Library Service well for nearly 20 years. The system however became outdated with no new updates and no links to the Internet. The search for a new system was driven by the State Information Technology Agency (Pty) Ltd (SITA). Service providers who bid to deliver the service were invited to present their products to representatives from the education and provincial library services and other role players. After a lengthy process, the successful bidder was the Belgian group Cibal. The new system allows us direct links to WorldCat, the Internet, Google and external links to the catalogues of the other provinces and institutions on SLIMS.

The implementation of SLIMS started in September 2009 when the Northern Cape was the first of the 9 provinces to migrate to the new system. In the Western Cape, the City of Cape Town started with the migration of their public libraries in 2010. The Western Cape Provincial Library Service is the last province to migrate to the new system. During the 2011/12 financial year, 72 rural public libraries will migrate to SLIMS.

At the launch of SLIMS in the Library Service, the director of the Western Cape Library and Archive Service made a brief speech during which she said that although PALS has served us well it has become necessary to get a new system. She quipped: 'SLIMS means "ons by Biblioteekdienste is baie SLIM"!'. She mentioned that the migration to the new system has been a dashboard project for the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport for the 2010/11 financial year and that the project was completed by going live on 1 February 2011.

Tessa Caroline

Deputy Director: Central Organisation,
Western Cape Provincial Library Service



◀ The great moment... Nomaza Dingayo (director) doing the honours of the first 'switch-on' to SLIMS

▼ WOW... it worked!



◀ SLIMS training in action

▼ Staff were treated to refreshments after the 'switch-on'



▲ Deputy Director Tessa Caroline addressing the staff during the launch

▶ Among the guests were former deputy director, Liesel de Villiers (the PALS queen) with Lynette Prent, also a former stalwart in the IT section



Cape Town Book Fair news

The Cape Town Book Fair organisers announced that the fair will not be staged in 2011, but in a new and remodelled format in 2012, along with the IPA Publishers Congress which is going to be held in Cape Town during 12-14 June 2012. The reason for this new move is that publishers in South Africa have voiced their support for a bi-annual fair, starting in 2012.

A planning committee will start planning a revamped book fair for 2012 very soon and will be announcing new details for the fair as soon as they become available.

(Read the full article on booknews.co.za).

IBBY SA invites entries

Exclusive Books, in association with IBBY SA, is once again delighted to announce its sponsorship of the Exclusive Books IBBY SA Award, for the best original children's picture book or illustrated children's story book published in South Africa. For the Exclusive Books IBBY SA Award 2011, submissions of books published between 1 January 2009 and 31 December 2010 are invited. Please send submissions (two copies of each title) to the Exclusive Books Head Office before 30 April 2011.

For information on rules and conditions, please contact Colleen Whitfield, Corporate Social Investment and Children's Books Manager, Exclusive Books, 1st Floor, Rivonia Village, 3 Mutual Road, Rivonia. Tel: 011 798-0000, Fax: 086 682 8794, <colleenw@exclusivebooks.co.za>

Digitised children's book

Drawing on materials from the New York Public Library, the National Yiddish Book Center and the University of California Libraries, the Internet Archive has created a trove of



digitised children's books. Currently there are over 2 700 books available and they include works like **Infant's cabinet of birds & beasts** from 1820 and **What the moon saw: and other tales** from 1866.

On the left side of the page, visitors can take a look at the 'Spotlight Item' and there is a tag cloud available as well. Persons looking for the most popular items can view the 'Most downloaded items last week'. Not surprisingly, some of these items include **Pinocchio** and **The wonderful Wizard of Oz**. Visitors are welcome to receive updates from their forum, and they can also chime in with their own questions.

(<http://www.archive.org/details/iacl>)

Errata

Please note that the following titles as mentioned in *Best Books of the decade: an appetiser*

(p. 23) in the Nov/Dec 2010 issue of the **CL** are indeed in stock.

Persipolos by M Satrapi

Tipping point by Malcolm Gladwell

The world without us by Alan Weisman.

SKRYFGEDAGTES

ON WRITING EZABABHALI

Jeugromans: 'n paar gedagtes

In *Some thoughts in writing youth novels* (*Litnet blogs*, 9/12/2010) raak Maya Fowler aan 'n paar interessante aspekte. Die meeste 'moets' en 'moenies' oor skryfwerk is universeel - en nie minder só in die lig van die 'ontwikkeling wat nog in Suid Afrika moet plaasvind', soos 'n ander blogger dit wil hê nie.

Fowler noem eers die algemene kwessie van: hoe kan ek as outeur



my met die milieu en behoeftes van vandag se jeug bekendmaak en my daar 'inskryf?' Met ander woorde, hoe weet ek wat gewild is en wat hulle wil hê en hoe kan ek my werk gewild maak onder die meeste van hulle? En met 'meeste' bedoel 'n mens nie noodwendig 'baie' nie - een blogger reken net 2% van die bevolking lees romans. Hoeveel dit koop en hoeveel leen, is nog 'n faktor, maar ons laat dit maar daar . . .

Fowler maak die stelling dat 'n mens ook nie net vir die volgende vyf jaar gewild wil wees nie, maar dat jy beide jou lesermark en rakkertyd wil uitbrei. Alle skrywers wil dalk nie klassieke werke skryf nie, maar wie sal kla as jou werk wel oor 100 jaar steeds gelees word? Daarom het 'n mens die probleem dat indien jy nou fokus op onmiddellike 'in wees' deur, byvoorbeeld, oor resente nuusgebeure te skryf - jy werk dalk die 2011-krieket-toets teen Indië in, of dat Malema die 2010-Jeugkonferensie as 'n sukses bestempel of dat die nuutste iPod-model darem erg koel is - en dan is dit oor 'n rukkie irrelevant en verouderd ('dated') - soos spotprente wat op die dag se gebeure sinspeel, maar oor 'n jaar weet niemand waarvoor dié ding gehandel het nie.

Dan noem Fowler voorbeelde van skrywers wat juis nie oor die 'celebs' en modes van die dag skryf nie, maar tog baie gewild is onder jeugdige lesers. Sy noem ook dat sulke skrywers nie prekerig skryf nie, hoewel hulle tog temas soos VIGS kan aanspreek en gesonde morele waardes voorhou. 'n Mens moet ook nie te veel inkleë nie - die leser wil nie weet hoeveel vere in 'n sportmotor se sitplek ingebou is en teen watter spoed 'n koeël uit 'n spesifieke rewolwer se loop trek nie. Veral nie wanneer dit die spanningslyn beduiwel nie. Ek onthou dat ek as kind nie van JT Edson se boeke gehou het nie, want die cowboy ruk sy rewolwer uit, Edson verduidelik in detail hoe die kruut ontbrand, teen so-en-soveel slaankrag die boef se linker-oorbel tref en sewentien myl verder deur twee poskoetse, 'n massiewe *redwood* en 'n nóg massiewer

grizzly trek - wel, ek oordryf nou effens, maar dalk sou 'n mens dan minstens vir die spul kon lag.

Fowler glo 'as long as you have the core intact you can't go wrong'. Dis natuurlik 'n ooreenvoudiging, want 'a lot can go wrong': as jou taalgebruik argaïes is, of jy skryf eenvoudig vrot en vervelig, sal lesers nie hulle tyd en geld op jou misoeste mors nie. As jy nie 'n eie stem het nie, as jy cliché's morsdood ry, as jy die basiese riglyne van goeie skryfwerk ignoreer, sal jy op die lanseerderrein bly staan terwyl jou mede-dingers al om die son wentel.

Fowler is egter heeltemal reg wanneer sy sê dat die oeroue kernelemente van tienerprioriteite essensieel is. Sy noem hulle ook: 'Obsession with love and sex, looking good to the group, being misunderstood by everyone around you, struggling even to understand yourself, struggling to find your place

in this enormous world, the search for acceptance ...' en 'n mens kan nog 'n paar ander byvoeg; miskien plaaslike variasies op die algemene kwessies, maar nie te veel as jy mik na 'n globale mark nie. Balans is dus die wagwoord: bou jou storie op 'n breë, universele fondament, soos alle ordentlike huise benodig, en kies dan jou eie boustyl om dinge interessant te maak. En onthou dat hop-huisies nie onaantreklik is omdat hulle eenders mag lyk nie, maar ook omdat hulle waarskynlik swak gebou is. *The devil is in the detail ...*

En bowenal: sorg dat jy iets het om te sê - 'n tema. Anders karring jy aan, verveel die jongelinge en dryf hulle na alles wat hulle al kan doen al weet hulle nie hoe nie. Genoeg om enige ouer nagswete te besorg. Goddank ek het net vyf katte - waarvan my vrou die stoutste is.

Dr Francois Verster
Korrespondent



Kaapse Bibliotekaris 40 JAAR GELEDE ...

Stefan Wehmeyer Adjunkdirekteur: Streke

- ✓ The world in brief in 1971: Margaret Thatcher ends milk subsidies to schoolchildren and becomes known as the milk snatcher; women are granted the right to vote in Switzerland; a tsunami 85m high rises over Ryukyu Islands in Japan; Tony Orlando and Dawn (the pop group) sing **Knock three times; Love Story** and **Ryan's Daughter** opens at cinemas; the first soft contact lens becomes available commercially; and Ray Tomlinson sends the first e-mail.
- ✓ RB Zaaiman wrote an article on the history of the South African Library Association, SALA. 'The idea of free libraries was viewed with complete lack of interest by nearly all the authorities, and these included the central government, provincial administrations, municipalities and library committees. Into this chaos of ignorance and prejudice, into this void of few librarians, few jobs, appalling salaries, no training and a complete lack of professional status, the South African Library Association was launched on 15 July 1930.'
- ✓ Why I am a member of SALA? Ilze Swart (Deputy Librarian, Bellville Public Library): 'Speaking as a librarian in a public library I feel that the friendly contact with other librarians is most important. I have especially benefited from the meetings at which some of the practical problems of public libraries were discussed, and would suggest more of these.' Annalie Faure (Bibliotekaris, Oudtshoorn Openbare Biblioteek): 'Dit is lekker om te weet dat 'n

mens nie 'n stem roepend in die woestyn is nie en dat daar ander is, behalwe 'n mens self, wat werk vir die bereiking van al die hoë ideale van biblioteekkunde.'

- ✓ 'Now on the way to some affiliated libraries is a crop of gay, attractive friezes to add a bright note to children's libraries. To teach children to spell and count there are the Spink (not pink!) alphabet and counting friezes.'
- ✓ Exciting times in East London! City Librarian Ms MH Van Deventer, wrote an article on their newly computerised issue system. Reading this article is fascinating! This system could do almost anything. 'At the counter of the main lending library we have an Addo paper-tape punch. At the start of the day the assistant punches in the day, the month and the branch. When issuing a book the assistant enters on an adding machine keyboard first the borrower's number, then the book numbers. At branch libraries they use Addressograph Terminal Recorders. These are manually operated (no electrical breakdowns). To issue a book the borrower's plastic card and the book cards are placed on the recorder and an impression is taken. These impressions are all sent to the Central Library, where the information is put onto paper-tape to feed to the computer ...'