

◆ POSSAK

Plakkate 'n treffer

Ek het vandag by die Paarl Biblioteek ingeloer as deel van my ondersteuning van hierdie spesiale week (Biblioteekweek).

Ek was baie beïndruk met die pragtige plakkate wat hulle daar opgeplak het. Dis veral die feit dat daar nie 'n datum op is nie wat maak dat 'n mens hulle oor en oor sal kan gebruik. Soos julle seker weet, is die Wes-Kaapse Onderwysdepartement in 'n stryd gewikkel om leerders se lees en syfervaardigheidsvlakke te verbeter. Ek dink dat hierdie plakkate die boodskap soveel beter oordra as 'n gepratory!

Veels geluk aan die ontwerper van sulke pragtige plakkate!

*Ina Heiberg
Weskus Wynland Bronnesentrum*

Surprised author

I was thrilled to discover online this morning your **Cape Librarian** essay, *Women, Literature and Literary Prizes* by Professor Emeritus Shirley Kossick published last September. Professor Kossick was kind enough to mention the originality of my **A visit from Voltaire** and I alerted my publisher, Martine Halban in London to the link.

I have asked Ms Halban to post Professor Kossick a review copy of my just-released novel, **Under their skin**, at the University of South Africa (UNISA) address, hoping you will both enjoy it and introduce it to your readers.

With many thanks for building an audience for small publishers.

Dinah Lee Küng

◆ PEOPLE

People on the move*Ashiah Isaacs*

Ashiah Isaacs started as librarian with the Western Cape Provincial Library Service in July 1988. She qualified and worked as a teacher, but her love for books resulted in her obtaining a B.Bibl. in 1987.



She started out as regional librarian in the then Elsies River Region till December 1996. From January 1997 she was regional librarian of Tygerberg Region, the biggest region in the Library Service, serving diverse communities. Throughout this time she was actively involved with stockbuilding for new libraries in developing communities, especially Khayelitsha. The experience she gained doing regional work will stand her in good stead for the task ahead.

Lubabalo Dzedze

Born and raised in Cape Town, Lubabalo studied BA at the University of Cape Town before enrolling for the Post Graduate Diploma in Library and Information Science. After completing his diploma, he was employed as a research assistant at a non-governmental organisation, Focus on Four based at the University of Cape Town.

He then moved on to the City of Cape Town, where he was appointed as librarian. He then joined Guguletu Library as part of a team that opened the new Guguletu Library in NY144. After that he joined the Nyanga Library. In 2002 he again rejoined Guguletu Library until his recent appointment. He has an interest in the Arts and working with under-developed communities.

'The staff in Outeniqua has made me very welcome in the area and I feel honoured to be part of their team,' he said.



*Congratulations to you both.
We trust that you will be happy in your new environment. ED*

Cataloguing stalwart retires

Neeltje Beernaert, senior librarian in charge of Technical Services Cataloguing, Cape Town City Libraries, retired at the end of February.

Neeltje grew up in Stellenbosch and, after a BA degree and Postgraduate Diploma in Librarianship from Stellenbosch University, started working at the Cape Provincial Library Service in the Cape Town region under Mrs Reitz.

After stints in various branch libraries Neeltje came to Cataloguing: Head Office where during her time there she supervised the reorganisation of the Music Catalogue; saw through the updates of the Dewey Decimal Classification system from the 14th to



Benita Bailey the newly-appointed library assistant in Saldanha Region



Fadeela Davids, librarian at Hangberg Library-handing over a gift to Lyn Steyn during her farewell as acting Library Manager of the South Peninsula Administration

the 21st editions; tried microfiche to make the stock of all the libraries in the system known to all users and eventually oversaw the conversion of the card catalogue into an electronic bibliographic database in the Bookplus Library System.

Neeltje leaves Cape Town City Libraries, now part of the Unicity Library system, in a period of change and looks forward with interest to future developments.

◆ SKRYWERS EN BOEKE

Le Carré steun Sentrum vir Boek

John le Carré, bekende skrywer van spioenasie-spanningsverhale, het ondertekende eksemplare van al sy boeke wat in druk is aan die Sentrum vir die Boek in Kaapstad geskenk om verkoop te word ten bate van die projek, *Isiqalo - Eerste Woorde in Druk*. Die versameling bestaan uit 17 hardeband- en 25 sagteband-eksemplare, en bevat werke soos **Smiley's people** en **The constant gardener**. Die skenking en ondertekening was deel van sy vergunning aan die sentrum om verlede jaar die

Suid-Afrikaanse première van die rolprent-weergawe van **The constant gardener** aan te bied, en so geld in te samel. Hy het die sentrum tevore ook só ondersteun met **The tailor of Panama**. Die sentrum het die boeke in Januarie teen \$1 230 (sowat R7 600) op 'n veiling van AuctionExplorer Books.com verkoop. Dié geld sal gebruik word om deur Isiqalo boeke vir kinders te koop wat andersins nie toegang tot boeke het nie.

Die Burger

Skepper van 'Jaws' sterf

Die skrywer, Peter Benchley, skepper van **Jaws**, is onlangs in die ouderdom van 65 oorlede. Benchley het in 1974 ikoonstatus verwerf met sy verhaal van **Jaws**, wat handel oor grusame haai-aanvalle by 'n New England-vakansieoord. In Junie 1975 het die fliek-weergawe van **Jaws** in die Verenigde State van Amerika (VSA) sy première gehad en 'n totaal van \$260 miljoen (sowat R1.6 miljard) in dié land alleen verdien. Die fliek het in die VSA die eerste van die groot somertreffers geword en het drie opvolg-fliks gelever:

Die Burger

New South African imprint launched

A triple celebration took place in the Mount Nelson Ballroom on Human Rights Day 22 March - the 40th birthday of Random House, the largest English-language publisher of general books in the world; the Cape Town launch of its brand new local imprint Umuzi with Annari van der Merwe (formerly of Kwela) as its publishing director and the launch of seven new books by some of the country's best authors.

The books are **The hidden star** by the late K Sello Duiker; **Playing in the light** by Zoe Wicomb; **Out to score** by Mike Nicol and Joanne Hichens; **Touch my blood** by Fred Khumalo; **More than a casual contact** by Jeremy Cronin and **Body bereft / Verweerskrif** by Antjie Krog.

Participants from all links in the book chain were present at the glitterati/literati event where they were entertained by a local Cape Malay choir; shown a DVD of interviews with the authors and heard the authors themselves read from their works. Speeches were delivered by managing director of Random House South Africa, Stephen Johnson and Gail Rebeck, Chairman and Chief Executive of the Random House Group, among others. Guests went home with a complimentary copy of **The blue**

door, a short story specially commissioned from André Brink for the occasion.

Rheina Epstein

◆ LITERARY AWARDS

New literature award

Maskew Miller Longman, the leading South African educational publisher; has a tradition of embracing cultural diversity. They are proud of their literary offerings in all 11 official languages and to this end are pleased to announce the launch of the Maskew Miller Longman Literature Award competition where entries for original and unpublished youth novels are invited.

The Award is unique in that it is the only award that gives equal weighting to all 11 official languages. The award will be an annual event with a different genre being explored each year. The focus for 2006 is novels for young South Africans today.

The total prize money exceeds R150 000 in cash with the winning entry in each language category receiving R10 000 and runners-up R5 000 each.

All winning entries will be published and the runners-up also stand the chance of having their work published. Experts on youth literature will screen all entries submitted while final judging will be performed by prominent literary figures.

Maskew Miller Longman will be conducting workshops for writers countrywide, including a special workshop at the Cape Town International Book Fair in June 2006, to assist aspirant writers.

The closing date for the competition is 30 September 2006 and entries must be accompanied by an entry form available from Sumaya at (021) 532 6000 / <sumaya@mml.co.za> or can be downloaded from their website, www.mml.co.za.

Whitbread Award surprise

Hilary Spurling created a major literary surprise when her biography of the French painter Henri Matisse won Britain's Whitbread Book of the Year Award after a battle royal among the judges. **Matisse the master** was described by the judges as 'one of the landmark biographies of the last few years which has already changed the history of art'.

Her second volume of the artist's biography had been 15 years in the writing, with Spurling given unprecedented access to the Matisse family papers.

Library Week launch

Library Week 2006 was officially launched at Bridgetown Public Library a week before the actual event to enable librarians to attend. It was a collaborative effort by The City of Cape Town, Western Cape Provincial Library Service and the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA). The MEC of Cultural Affairs, Sport and Recreation, Mr Philip Mziwonke Whitey Jacobs was the guest speaker. Other contributions included an information session on various library awards.



Above left: Naomi Haasbroek, Western Cape Branch Chair, LIASA inspiring librarians to market their services

Above right: Gert Bam, Director of Social Development, City of Cape Town (left) in earnest conversation with Johan Swiegelaar, Director: Library and Archive Service



▲ Rheina Epstein, former deputy city librarian of Cape Town City Libraries relating her career in the library field of which she is still very much a part

▼ (ltr): Naomi Haasbroek, Nazeem Hardy, Marketing and Research Library and Information Services, City of Cape Town and MEC Jacobs



▲ Johan Swiegelaar stressed the importance of promoting reading

Below left: Norah Moerat, deputy chair, LIASA, Western Cape branch, putting up posters with the help of the sound technician

Below right: Enthusiastic pupils of a local school in Athlone gave a dance display in the centre section of the library



▲ Johan Swiegelaar presented MEC Jacobs with a kit of promotional material to be used by libraries for the 2006 campaign

▼ Nomaza Dingayo, deputy director of Library Service (left) in discussion with one of the guests



Cape Librarian

40 years ago...

Stefan Wehmeyer Assistant Director: Support Services



- ★ Recently, at the nicotine refilling station, I was chatting to book selector Margaret Iskandar. She with a pack 30 Rothmans Special and me with my cheap Pacific Mist. She mentioned that she also started to work at the Library Service 40 years ago and there it was in the March 1966 edition of the **CL**. 'We welcome to the Cataloguing Department, Miss MJ Greenwood!' (So terloops ek het nou opgehou rook by die werk, danksy Nicorette en Snus!)
- ★ Was Prestik discovered in 1966? 'Librarians will be pleased to learn that a special substance exists which can be used to stick posters to any surface and which is guaranteed not to harm either the poster or the surface. Details of this product can be obtained from the regional librarians.'
- ★ Een van ons oudste depots is die een by die Jan Kriel Skool vir epileptici te Kuilsrivier. In 1966 word 'n spesiale artikel gewy aan dié depot biblioteek.
- ★ Miss Walker, children's librarian at Kokstad believed that if children would make an effort to stretch their minds beyond the *Famous five* and the *Secret seven*, then... perhaps...when they were adults they would be able to appreciate something better than light romances and cowboy stories. (Oeps, en dit was al Engelse boeke wat ek as kind geniet het!)
- ★ Aanlegtoets vir geskikte kinderbibliotekaresse:
A. Kinders
I. Hoeveel van die kinders wat u ken, hou u regtig van?
(a) Baie min
(b) Nie meer as die helfte nie
(c) Meer as die helfte
(d) Almal of byna almal
Puntetelling: Trek 5 af vir I (a) en moenie toelaat dat iemand u ooit oorreed om 'n voet in 'n kinderbiblioteek te sit nie.
- ★ Is u biblioteek vaal en aldag eenders?' Grabouw Munisipaliteit gebruik die dienste van 'n handelskunsenaars teen R10! per maand wat elke maand ses verskillende uitstallings by die biblioteek doen. (Sover ek kan onthou was 'n wit brood daai jare 11 sent, so sy kon 90 wit brode met die R10 gekoop het. Met 'n wit brood wat vandag vyf rand per brood kos, sou so 'n kunstenaars vandag R450 per maand vir haar werk gekry het...)
- ★ The new Somerset West Library was opened 40 years ago. Described by a Mr W Kidd '...a pleasant effect is obtained by the verdant approach bordered with small flowers leading to the wide, stepped entrance flanked by two lily ponds...'
- ★ S Powell wrote a very interesting article on the history of the second oldest library, Swellendam Public Library. This library was established between 1834 and 1838. Minutes of library meetings dating back to 1852 record the history of this library.

'He was the last of the great figures of the 20th century that has not had a biography,' she said.

Spurling narrowly defeated Kate Thompson, who was the winner in the children's category with **The new policeman**. Third was veteran poet Christopher Logue for his reworking of Homer's *Iliad*.

Cape Times

Two SA novels share award

Sunday Times journalist Fred Khumalo has received the European Union Literary Award for a first novel. He shares the award - and R25 000 cash prize - with Gerald Kraak, a director of the non-government organisation, Atlantic-philanthropies.

Khumalo won for his novel **Bitches' brew** and Kraak for his novel **Ice in the lungs**.

◆ MISCELLANY

Bib-dates new trend

Librarians across Belgium are putting aside their reading glasses for arrows as they play Cupid, using candles and romance to lure single readers to the library in what they hope will become the next trend in dating.

Dubbing it 'bib-dating' in Dutch - literally, library dating - they hope to draw more people to books by appealing to their hearts, while giving singles a new place to find love.

'Basically it is speed-dating, but in a new setting - with books,' says librarian Eric van der Straeten. He and fellow librarian Danny Theuwis are hoping their idea will blow the dust off stereotypes of libraries as stuffy and suffocating.

Theuwis experimented with the dating idea three years ago, combining 14 single bookworms - most between 18 and 35 years old - with novels. 'I got some flowers and candles for the tables, and gave those who came, a glass of red wine,' Theuwis said.

He and Van der Straeten have held sessions at Antwerp's Permeke Library to prime and train librarians from 306 libraries across Flanders and in Brussels on hosting bib-dating sessions.

Like speed dating, participants are given 10 minutes to introduce themselves to others in the group, which Van der Straeten said should not exceed 20 people to ensure intimacy.

On arriving, participants pick a piece of paper with a question on it. For example, what was your favourite book as a child and

why? They then go around the room with the question.

For the second round, readers use the three favourite books or passages they were asked to bring, and like speed dating, take seats around the room. They share their thoughts on the books for a few minutes before moving on to a new partner with new books.

At the end of the session they complete in a note to be placed in the book of the person they would like to meet again. Van der Straeten said he hoped that as many libraries as possible set up dating groups in the next few months.

A recent survey conducted by the library network found that libraries are the No 3 spot for recreational activity, after the cinema and sports, in Flanders, including Brussels.

Cape Times

Now this is a great 'community-involvement' idea for our libraries. ED

Boek ná 61 jaar terug

'n Boek, getiteld **The Punch Library of humour**, is 61 jaar nadat dit deur 'n leser uitgeneem is, terugbesorg by die Rotorua Openbare Biblioteek, het Nieu-Seeland se TV3 berig.

'Ek het nie juis enigiets snaaks daarin gekry nie', het me Marie Sushames gesê. Sy het die boek in 'n boks met familie-aandenkings ontdek.

Die bibliotekaris, me Jane Gilbert, het gesê sy was in die wolke om die boek terug te kry en het die boete van sowat R38 000 laat vaar. Sy het die boek uitgestal met 'n kennisgewing: 'Dis nooit te laat om 'n boek terug te bring nie.'

Die Burger

City provides free Internet access

The city council has unveiled a truck fitted with computers to serve poor communities. It is equipped with technology that scholars and township entrepreneurs can use without charge.

The truck is part of Smart Cape, a council programme aimed at providing free Internet, e-mail and IT facilities to disadvantaged communities across the Metropole. The programme, in its second year, was extended to Delft. To date 54 000 users across the Metropole have joined the programme for school projects, drafting CVs or sending e-mails.

Public libraries, supported by a R6 million grant from the Bill and Belinda Gates Foundation, are fitted with up to five computers.

Premier Ebrahim Rasool said there were 500 computer access points at 100 different locations providing free IT service. 'We are the most connected city on the continent,' he said.

According to erstwhile executive deputy mayor Gawa Samuels, Cape Town was the first city in South Africa to offer free Internet access to every public library.

Cape Times

Cape Town fair finds sponsor

The inaugural Cape Town Book Fair (CTBF) has been boosted with the announcement that Johnnic Communications and its flagship title the **Sunday Times** have committed to a substantial sponsorship deal. The **Sunday Times** is the newspaper with the biggest circulation in South Africa.

Johncom is the holding company for Exclusive Books, the largest bookselling chain in South Africa, and Struik New Holland Publishing. Vanessa Badroodien, director of the CTBF, said she was 'over the moon' with the R1.5m (£138 000) deal, which was a 'powerful vote of confidence' in the fair. The

Heads of library services meet

The Forum of Heads of Provincial Library Services, on which the Department of Arts and Culture is also represented, met on 2-3 March 2006 at Kromme Rhee, outside Stellenbosch. This forum regularly meets three times per year on matters of mutual interest and this time it was hosted by the Provincial Library Service of the Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport.

Professor Seth Manaka, Chairperson of National Council for Library Information Services (NCLIS) as well as the national archivist for the Department Arts and Culture, Dr Graham Dominy, attended the meeting and one of the items on the agenda was a discussion on the funding provided by National Treasury to assist with the expansion and development of public/community libraries. The National Department

of Arts and Culture will call for tenders during the 2006/2007 financial year for service providers to develop a funding model for funds made available by National Treasury. The amount being R1 billion to be allocated over a period of three years, starting the following financial year.

The forum also discussed the necessity to investigate the status of the sectors automated library management system needs in terms of the latest available technology and systems. This will be taken further by State Information Technology Agency (SITA) as service provider in close consultation with all main clients. Emphasis was placed on the fact that library services have a choice in this matter and the provincial library services and public libraries will hereafter be the main role-players in the consultation process.



(Left to right)
Francois Hendrikz, Deputy Director: Library and Archive Services, Mpumalanga;
Sanje Sing, Programme Manager, Mpumalanga;
Mary Nathoo from SITA



(Left to right)
Ansie Mahlke, Director: Library and Archive Services, Limpopo;
Jacomien Schimper, Director: Library and Archive Services, Free State;
Sanje Singh; Programme Manager, Mpumalanga



(Left to right)
Carol Slater, Director: Library and Archive Services, KwaZulu-Natal;
Betsy Eister, Director: Library and Archive Services, Gauteng;
Colleen Williams, Library Assistant, Western Cape Provincial Library Service;
Kepi Madumo, Director: Library and Archive Services: North West;
Nomzamo Mabandla, Director: Library and Archive Services: Eastern Cape



Sunday Times sponsors two major annual literary awards: the Alan Paton Award for Non-fiction and the **Sunday Times** Fiction Award.

The fiction award dinner - the leading event in the South African literary calendar - will now take place on the Saturday night of the fair. The prestigious Noma Award for Publishing in Africa will also take place at the fair, whose theme is *Celebrate Africa*. The CTBF, the first major international book fair to be held in South Africa, is a joint venture between the Publishers' Association of South Africa and the Frankfurt Book Fair. It will be held from 17 to 20 June in the Cape Town Convention Centre. In its main exhibition areas, the centre provides 10 000 square metres of exhibition space, plus auditoriums, meeting suites and catering facilities. Over 75% of the exhibition space has already been sold.

Publishers taking part in the CTBF, including the local branches of the multinational trade publishers, are in the process of finalising arrangements for local and international authors who will participate in signings and a programme of events.

The Bookseller

See you at The Zone

Initiated and chaired by the head of the Centre for the Book, Elisabeth Anderson, *Ukufunda kuNgca!* (*Reading is Cool, Lees is Lekker, et cetera*) is a very loose and very inclusive collaboration between the South African Children's Book Forum, Biblionef SA, and the Centre for the Book.

Part of its purpose is to spearhead the inclusion of books and issues concerning books for children and young people at the Cape Town Book Fair, to take place from 17 to 20 June 2006.

There is to be a space in the Cape Town International Conference Centre, currently called The Zone, where all the activities and displays about and around South African children's and young people's books will happen.

Exclusive Books is sponsoring The Zone (the name may change). This will involve branding rights and their equal involvement in the programming. All publishers will be asked to put their South African books for children and young people into The Zone and not (or as well as) on their own stands elsewhere in the Fair.

There will be an on-the-hour-every-hour programme of events taking place in The Zone over the four days: Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 geared to younger readers visiting more informally, with the rest of the

family; Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 geared to older readers, probably visiting in school parties. Of course, adults, parents, librarians, the media, overseas publishers will also be visiting.

There will be a retail outlet at the Fair - hopefully, right there inside The Zone, or at least within pointing distance. Publishers will be asked to provide stock of the books on display and for sale.

The CTBF is to appoint a coordinator for The Zone who will liaise with publishers and organisers. There will be regular book giveaways and competitions.

It is already established that the University of KwaZulu-Natal Press is to sponsor the presence of well-known story-teller Gcina Mhlophe for the four days of the Book Fair, and it is expected that many authors, illustrators, translators of books for children and young people will be involved in the programme.

*Robin Malan
Ukufunda kuNgca!*

Are you a writer?

For more information on this competition, go to www.sabceducation.co.za, find the competition rules and entry forms in selected editions of **You, Huisgenoot** and **Drum**, or telephone 083 913 3000, or contact Carina Hugo <chugo@nb.co.za> or Lana Bakkes <lbakkes@media24.com>, telephone 021-406-3033, fax 021-406-3812 for details.

Send your entries to: The organiser, I'm a Writer! Competition, Human & Rousseau, PO Box 5050, Cape Town 8000.

Writers - meet the publishers

During the International Book Fair in Cape Town (date 17 to 20 June 2006) the SCBWI (SA) will be facilitating an event where writers will be able to meet with the publishers, talk about planned projects and illustrators and show their portfolios to the representatives from the international publishers.

Plans include the staging of an exhibition of children's book illustrations and to bring out a book/CD on South African writers and illustrators that could be sold at the book fair.

For information e-mail Marjorie van Heerden (Co-Regional Advisor of the South Africa Branch) <marjorie@grafikon.co.za>.

Start saving!

The South African Branch of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators is planning to produce a book. This publication will be presented to editors, be

on display at the upcoming Book Fair and will be on sale in bookshops. There will be space for at least 60 writers and illustrators to advertise themselves with samples of their books/writing/illustrations. More details and a price structure will be available soon. In the meanwhile - start saving to get yourself a place in this book. Contact Sam at <samsart@mweb.co.za> and book space for yourself.

We will be looking for sponsorship and selling advertising space to bring costs down and make it more affordable for illustrators and writers to purchase space. If you know of a likely sponsor or firm who would place an advert, please contact Gavin at <bluebeetle@xsinet.co.za>.

Last chance to go to the dogs

A recent exhibition, *Social history that can bark* held at the National Library of South Africa raised more than a ripple of interest in town. Although it was of general interest it was a 'must-see' for dog-obsessed humans.

Some fascinating studies have pieced together the origins and evolution of the domestic dog in Africa. The exhibition presented a broad overview of this work which is ongoing and looks at the results describing the typical dog which has been named Africanis - a combination of Africa, that is, from Africa and canis meaning 'dog' - the African Dog.



iMashincinci uBendix from Tamboerkloof in Cape Town visited the exhibition to learn more about her ancestors but is not convinced by John Dwyer from the Preservation Services Section

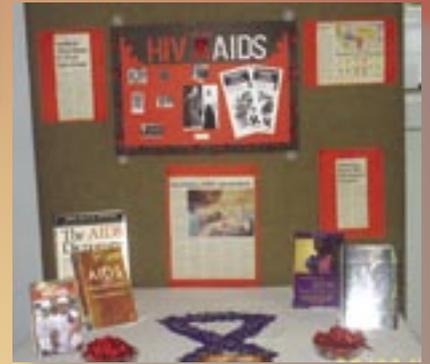
Despite the library's policy to admit service dogs only, exceptions were made for this particular exhibition.

For more information, contact Lianda or Mandla (021) 424-6320 or visit the website: www.nlsa.ac.za



▲ The ZipZap Circus School arrived in their multi-coloured fun vehicle to entertain the crowds during the celebration of **Brooklyn Library's** 5th birthday

▶ An effective and dramatic display on AIDS - a topic high on every library's agenda



◀ **Goodwood Library** produced a colourful and eye-catching display based on the display article in the Nov/Dec 2005 issue of the **CL**. The work is that of student Conette Koorts. We are pleased to see some fruits of our labours

▼ Staff of **Hout Bay Library**, Anthea and Agnes in front of their cheerful display in the children's section



▲ This delightful little duo is part of story time at **Hout Bay Library**

◀ Inviting all children - come and be hugged... a comforting display for children at **Hout Bay Library**

▶ **Franschoek Biblioteek** se lieflike Kersfeesuitstalling gemaak in Desember 2005

◀ **Somerset West Library's** dramatic display to commemorate the death of Elvis Presley (16/8/1977). The use of large bold pictures is simple yet effective

