

◆ POST-BAG

Service delivery *Library Service perspective*

We appreciate the continued interest in the Library Service and the services we offer as outlined in the open letter by Mrs Gertz in the **CL** of January/February 2007. Ultimately we have the same goal, to improve the service to the public even though the Library Service as well as the local public libraries operate under difficult circumstances.

The suggestion of pooling ideas is excellent and we have planned a series of workshops for the Outeniqua, Boland and Metropole areas on collection building. The intent of these workshops is to inform the public libraries of the challenges faced by the Library Service in terms of budgetary and human resources constraints and explain our current processes. These workshops will explain the mechanisms available to public libraries to give input with regard to their specific needs and to make optimal use of the resource sharing processes available to libraries to request material for their users.

Two successful workshops were held in Outeniqua and Boland and extremely useful and relevant feedback was received. The positive and active participation of the public librarians of the Platteland, where a 100% attendance was achieved, led to very valuable feedback that will be analysed and acted upon as far as possible. The specific problems regarding service delivery, that is, the supply of books to libraries, can only benefit by input from all role players.

Unfortunately the City of Cape Town was not able to participate in a similar workshop at the time. The Library Service feels that open dialogue would achieve a more positive result than anonymous suggestions, and hopes that constructive

discussions with the City of Cape Town will take place.

Background

To put the backlog of the processing of books in perspective, a short background on the problems and issues influencing this process must be discussed:

Preparations Section

- ❑ The Preparations Section had a vacancy rate ranging from six to nine staff members since 2004. This was the result of the human resource policies of the Department which changed constantly. It took more than a year for the job evaluation of the general workers to be approved on the correct salary level before staff could be appointed
- ❑ Contract workers were appointed to fill the vacancies, but the contracts had to be renewed every three months. However, although requested timeously, contracts were often not renewed before the contract period expired, which led to contract workers being laid off for a month before they could start working again
- ❑ Contracts were only renewed for a maximum of six months, which meant the recruitment and training of new people every six months. This obviously led to a slowing down of the processing of books
- ❑ The impact since 2003 of processing material for the City of Cape Town libraries is a major problem. Approximately 38 000 books are processed annually for these libraries without any additional staff. This resulted in the 'old' affiliated libraries receiving less books as the total number of books processed did not increase
- ❑ As a result of a work study investigation in 2002 additional staff were approved for the Preparations Section. However, this was never approved by Cabinet and therefore could not be implemented. The responsibility of getting approval of work study recommendations resides

with the head of the Department and the member of executive council of the Department. The previous incumbents of these posts did not pursue the matter; therefore, the Service is still in a position where additional staff cannot be appointed.

Service Delivery Improvement Plan

- ❑ A mini-belt was set up in October 2006 and the regional staff assisted with the processing of books. For the period November 2006 to January 2007 a 25% increase in production was achieved. Unfortunately the regional staff have very full programmes in terms of stocktaking as required by Treasury and their assistance with processing ended February 2007
- ❑ All vacant posts in the Preparations Section were filled by January 2007 and as soon as the new staff are fully trained production should improve
- ❑ As result of a savings on personnel two additional contract workers were appointed until end March 2007
- ❑ The daily list has been increased and new production totals established.

Unfortunately book cards cannot be made solely for the uncomputerised libraries because of the intricacies inherent in the system. The policy of resource sharing also leads to books being requested by libraries without a computer system and they need book cards.

The stock for the BookPlus libraries cannot be done by Province, but these books **must** be processed on PALS for stocktaking and record keeping purposes as this material is purchased with government money.

However, new computerised library systems for the migration of PALS to a new system is currently being investigated. This will eliminate any further duplication as the provincial as well as public library services will be on the same system. A decision on the new system is expected in June/July 2007.



Reviewing, Selection, Ordering

The amount of time spent on administrative duties has been significantly reduced by utilising administrative staff for printing PAFs and other administrative duties. The staff of the Tracing Section have finally been appointed and from the first of April this year the long-vacant post of chief library assistant has also been filled.

Public libraries already give e-mail inputs (last year ±19 000 e-mail requests were received) and attend selection meetings where they give their input. Selectors are present for guidance and advice.

The selectors must also take cognisance of the strategic goals and policies of the Department, a six-monthly feedback on library material purchasing and the situation with regard to Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) suppliers is required. 72 of the libraries of the City of Cape Town have PALS access. The BookPlus libraries attend a special meeting on Mondays to view the books that will be available on the Thursday of that week and indicate their requirements.

The BookPlus libraries cannot get PALS access, because their equipment is not compatible to interface with PALS. However, this should all be resolved once the migration to a new system is complete. The Library Service does not have the capacity to handle individual budgets for each library. The only solution would be for public libraries to keep records of their expenditure and give a consolidated input to the Library Service. This will probably only become feasible when a new transversal system is implemented for libraries and the province.

Cataloguing

The output of the Cataloguing Section is linked to the output of the Acquisitions and Processing Sections. Cataloguing is well ahead of Processing in terms of material catalogued and waiting to be processed. It

must also be mentioned that the Library Service's processes are based on multiple copies, and single copies slow down the process and are not cost effective. The impact of the ex City Libraries and their policy of buying single copies or small quantities has been far greater than initially anticipated.

The librarians are not involved in cataloguing on a full-time basis, due to involvement with projects such as the ISBN-13 conversion, and telephonic and e-mail assistance to public libraries. The audiovisual cataloguer has also for the past year been mainly doing the work of the retired audiovisual selector, until this post is filled.

The 'paperwork' mentioned in Mrs Gertz's letter refers to the processes initiated by the Human Resource Department. These are purely staff functions and not line function related, but does entail reams of paperwork. As a solution to this problem, some of the responsibilities of the 'unofficial' cataloguing supervisor have been taken over by the assistant director, General Services and myself. The post of assistant director, Technical Services, has also been advertised and should be filled by June 2007. This post was created in 2002 but lack of funds prevented the filling of the post. This will enable the Cataloguing Section to concentrate fully on their prime function of cataloguing library material. The Cataloguing Section downloads records for non-fiction books from WorldCat.

Distribution

The normal distribution of new material to libraries is based on input received by public libraries via e-mail and other inputs. During the collection building workshops it was clear that regional librarians are fully aware of the needs of their libraries. On the whole very positive feedback was received from the public librarians on the stock provided.

Although allocation tables are still used, they have been refined over the years.

The pattern for allocating fiction, especially Afrikaans fiction, has not changed significantly through the years.

The fine-tuning of allocation tables is an ongoing exercise and is not used in isolation as e-mail inputs, ILLs, et cetera, are also taken into consideration. There is, however, room for improvement and the regional organisation is constantly trying to improve on service delivery. Additional pressure is also placed on this section with the building of new libraries and the roll out of Wheelie Wagon depots. No special funds are available for new libraries and stock building must be done from available stock.

As they are receiving less new books than before 2003, this places additional strain on the distribution of books. The budget has simply not kept up with the demand and no provision has been made for new libraries (since 2003 eight new libraries and 11 Wheelie Wagon depots have been established).

The Library Service will welcome an open discussion in which libraries can indicate a willingness to communicate and an understanding of the processes of the Library Service and the constraints under which it operate. The Service can no longer operate independently, because it is part of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport and the Western Cape Provincial Government, whose policies have to be taken into account. But, ultimately we have the same goals - to provide an excellent service to our clients, the public libraries, and to ensure that we remain a relevant and viable service provider.

In summation the Library Service can only benefit from a sharing of ideas and input and suggestions by public libraries on how to improve on service delivery.

Liesel de Villiers

Deputy Director: Central Organisation

Hurray for Stueart

Hurray for Dr Stueart's mind-searching article and his defining of the necessary levels (in curricula) of skills and knowledge and technology.

Agreed warmly, but please let us always remember that knowledge is not merely information - and that knowledge can be found inside fiction, just as much as in the non-fiction shelves or technological wizardry.

There used to be a popular poster proclaiming 'Knowledge is Power!' It is - but it is not the stuff of examinations or Dewey systems.

Jay Heale

Heidelberg Library excels

I was recently on holiday in the Heidelberg area and visited the Heidelberg Library. I would like to commend the staff at the library for:

- ☺ an impeccably neat, clean library
- ☺ books beautifully packed and displayed on the shelves
- ☺ a very attractive and creative 'Winter kos' display near the entrance
- ☺ a lovely atmosphere
- ☺ a delightful children's section
- ☺ their friendliness and helpfulness

☺ their professional but attractive dress and grooming.

This little library represents everything a good library should be.

Marianne Norton

Thank you for taking the trouble to pass on your impressions - this is a feather in your cap, Heidelberg! ED

Dankie vir idee

Baie dankie vir die lekker idee vir 'n Kersuitstalling in die KB van September/Okttober 2006.

Ons het dadelik die idee gegryp en 'n lieflike uitstalling vir Kersfees gemaak.

*Suzette Coetzee
 Heidelberg Openbare Biblioteek*

Op bladsy 9 kan lesers sien hoe suksesvol die personeel se namaakpoging was. RED

◆ **MENSE**

Tyd vir afskeid

Na ses jaar as senior biblioteekassistent in Saldanhastreek het Laurinda Newman die provinsiale opset vir die akademiese biblioteek verruil. Sy is vanaf April as biblioteekassistent by die JS Gericke Biblioteek (Universiteit van Stellenbosch) aangestel.



Gedurende haar tydjie by die Provinsiale Biblioteekdiens het sy uitstekende diens gelewer en was altyd bereid om te help en het uit haar pad gegaan om die beeld van die Biblioteekdiens te bevorder. Met haar aangename persoonlikheid en vriendelikheid het sy baie vriende gemaak en sal sy deur almal gemis word.

Ons beste wense en voorspoed vergesel haar in haar nuwe pos en onlangse huwelik.

*Steven Andries
 Streekbibliotekaris, Saldanhastreek*

LIASA Award

Elizabeth Everson from **Vrygrond Community Library** (near Retreat Cape Town) was the 2006 winner of the LIASA Western Cape Library Award.

The award is presented annually to an individual library or library team from all library sectors (public, school, academic and special) who has demonstrated excellence in marketing, promoting and advocating on behalf of a single library, or libraries or librarians or librarianship in the Western Cape. It is felt that there are many innovative and imaginative programmes, projects and events taking place across the Western Cape and the award is aimed at recognising and honouring these librarians for their creativity in promoting and marketing their libraries through these activities.

The Vrygrond Community Library which has been operating since 1997 is a project initiated by the Vrygrond Community Trust - a non-governmental organisation that employs two people from the community to administer the service. The challenge faced by the library is operating in an impoverished community with almost no infrastructure or services, severely limited resources, and a high incidence of gangsters who serve as almost the only role models for impressionable children.

Mrs E Everson who is studying to further her library qualifications has, despite the lack of resources, with perseverance and dedication developed strong partnerships with local government, libraries, individuals, students, commercial organisations, particularly in

Capricorn Park and parents. As a result of these partnerships the library has received donations of books, professional support, library and office equipment and has also been able to create holiday programmes, and organise outings and treats for these severely-deprived children.

The success in promoting the library has resulted in a high level of motivation to engage in their studies and complete assignments. Children are staying longer in the library and thus out of trouble and as result social bonds among the children are being created. Parents are making themselves available to help with holiday programmes and an empowered group of young people are helping to run projects.

It was felt that what was happening at Vrygrond Library is that young people and children are being given, through a wide range of activities, a sense of self-worth and effectiveness which is opening their minds to a world of possibilities far beyond the confines of a very limited and dangerous living environment.

*Rheina Epstein
 Correspondent*

Our sincere congratulations. ED

◆ **LIBRARIES**

Hip-hop artist at Central

'I'm a self-confessed drama addict who easily falls in love', declared Toni Blackman, an internationally-acclaimed champion of hip-hop culture to the **Central Library Poetry Circle** at the February monthly meeting. The first-ever hip-hop artist to work as an American Cultural Specialist, Toni was in Cape Town under the auspices of the United States Consulate-General to celebrate Black History Month, a month dedicated to highlighting the history and achievements of African-Americans.

Charismatic, charming and witty, Toni began by reading poems from her book **Innercourse**. Her poetry comes from real life experiences so her poem **Invisible Woman** decries the fact that women are invisible whilst **I hate Valentine's day** was fuelled by the hurt and disappointment of young women on Valentine's Day that she witnessed whilst working at the desk of a women's residence.

She stressed the advice she had received from her mentor - don't use unnecessary words, pare your poem down to the essence. She also explained that both rap and hip-hop are forms of poetry and that spoken word poetry that is created to be heard - an intangible and ephemeral experience - is just as valid as poetry written for the page.



Verandering in Meulstraat

Meulstraat Biblioteek in die Paarl beleef 'n tyd van personeelverandering. ◁ Lormarcia Zwaan het diens aanvaar as assistentbibliotekaris in **Tableview Biblioteek**; Paulette Talliard verskuif as biblioteekassistent na die **JS Gericke Universiteitsbiblioteek** in Stellenbosch en Onkgopotse Jita is die bibliotekaris van die nuwe **Nieuwe Drift Biblioteek** in die Paarl.



▷ Die twee nuwe biblioteekassistentes Kurt Kleynhans en Ronel September

*Una Engelbrecht
 Meulstraat Biblioteek, Paarl*

Sterkte aan almal met die nuwe uitdagings. RED

How did she become an acclaimed performance poet?

She started writing at the age of eight as a therapeutic exercise to answer questions that made adults uncomfortable - it seemed to me she was what we used to call in Cape Town 'old-fashioned'. An achieving teenager growing up in a highly-integrated working class town she left home for Howard University on a scholarship for being the most inspirational volleyball player and then joined the speech team to get another scholarship. Hip-hop was developing and she took part in regional and national championships. At the National Youth Poetry Slam she competed with others from all over the country. She went on to work with well-known musicians and to perform all over the world.

Besides performing, teaching, advising and developing projects to empower young women she also directs the Freestyle Union Workshop she founded to develop hip-hop culture.

Demonstrating her irresistible and contagious energy, Toni finished off by teaching a session of free-style rapping. Giving the group warming-up exercises - using words, then adding melody and repetition she found no lack of volunteers in the audience willing to perform free style. Getting open was very important for her - she felt that the energy of hip-hop enters a spiritual realm. And certainly those of us who were privileged to hear her felt that, for a short while, we had inhabited a sacred space - inspirational and relaxing.

(Thanks to Amy Bell Mulaudzi, librarian at the United States Consulate-General, Cape Town, for making Toni Blackman's appearance at the Central Library possible.)

*Rheina Epstein
Correspondant*

SCBWI Publisher's Day

On 12 March there was a big buzz going on at **Bellville Library**. The reason: the SCBWI Publisher's Day, where 13 publishers from all over the country flocked together to meet writers and illustrators to discuss their latest work.



Kaapse Bibliotekaris

40 jaar gelede...

Stefan Wehmeyer Assistentdirekteur: Steundienste



- ❖ Die Paarl affilieer by die Provinsiale Biblioteekdiens en word die eerste dorp met twee openbare biblioteke.
- ❖ The March 1967 edition of the **CL** focused on co-operation between public libraries and industrial/scientific libraries and also included articles on the CSIR and Metal Box libraries.
- ❖ L Leipoldt suggested several ways in which public librarians can assist industry. 'Firstly librarians can let people in business and industry know that it is their function to have knowledge and information on tap. Librarians can also make a list of local industries and business and find out what books are in the library that are of potential interest to them.'
- ❖ And how true is the following quote: 'The richer the community the more it can afford to spend on its public libraries - the more it spends on its public libraries the richer it will become in terms of "know-how" and of economics, let alone all the intangible benefits of "culture".'
- ❖ Miss Döman of Central Reference wrote on her fencing hobby 'In my own experience I have found that people who generally feel timid towards life will also be timid in their fencing.' A foil blade could tell her more about an opponent than a person normally cares to impart in conversation!
- ❖ Flying librarians. The **CL** was quoting a snippet from the **Library Journal**. A Mr Frey said that he had met a few fellow pilots in the library profession and he suspected there were enough of them to form a flying-librarians' organisation.
- ❖ Bel-'n-boek: 'n Tegnologiese ontwikkeling wat in die VSA gebruik was in die sestigerjare het soos volg gewerk: Biblioteekgebruikers kon binne die biblioteek 'n telefoon optel en na resensies van boeke luister. Daar was een lyn vir volwassenes en een vir kinders.
- ❖ Joke: The children's librarian had two young male admirers. They were told that they were moving and would be going to another library. One said: 'We may have to change libraries, but we are still going to marry the same librarian.'

Bellville Library, for whom Publisher's Day was a first made their premises available free of charge.

Writers and illustrators had 15 minutes to pitch their work to the publishers of their choice. For some writers and illustrators it was their first eye-to-eye experience with the publishers, all who considered it a privilege to meet the publishers personally. It was also an opportunity to meet other writers and illustrators, and to interact with people also driven by the love of children's literature. One of the illustrators I met, came all the way from Witbank to meet the publishers on this special day.

A special thanks to Marjorie van Heerden, co-regional advisor of the South African branch of the SCBWI, for all her hard work.

*Petro Bosman
Committee member, SCBWI*

Province pledges R9.3m for Cape Town City Libraries

The provincial government has come to the rescue of the city's critical staff shortage by committing R9.3 million

from July to appoint 62 staff on three-year contracts.

But a report put before the city council's amenities and sport committee says the additional funding is unlikely to go a long way in expanding the small pool of library staff.

The provincial grant's conditions include that no permanent staff may be appointed from these funds, still leaving the city to fill critical vacancies from its own resources. It is also likely that librarians employed on contract will apply for the three-year posts, leaving staff numbers unchanged.

'Although some vacancies are in the process of being filled and other positions will be filled within the next few months, the combined losses sustained over the past six years will require a reassessment of service delivery levels in terms of sustainability and impact,' says the report.

The crisis the city faced as a result of the staff shortages meant that libraries had to be temporarily closed on occasion last year or their operating hours reduced.

The department has seen a 20% staff reduction since 2000, attributed to unfavourable working conditions.

'Maintaining service levels is, therefore, no longer feasible. Remaining resources at the libraries can simply no longer meet the increasing demand for relevant services from the public,' says the report.

In the interim, some positions are being filled through funding due to vacancies and R2.5m allocated by Mayor Helen Zille last year.

The department advertised 23 part-time and five full-time permanent positions that were filled on 1 April.

The Argus

Kersfees in Steenvliet

▽ Op 15 Desember 2006 is 'n Kerspartytjie in **Steenvliet Biblioteek** gehou, en ongeveer 20 kinders het dit bygewoon. Elkeen is met 'n lekkergoedpakkie verras.

Die kinders op die foto is almal van die plaaslike gemeenskap.

▷ Regs is die bibliotekaris, Alida Marries



◆ SKRYWERS EN BOEKE

Germ van SA vir EU Boekprys

Hans Pienaar se ongepubliseerde roman **Germ** is een van 18 manuskripte op die sogenaamde 'langlys' vir die Europese Unie Letterkunde Prys, luidens 'n nuusverklaring deur die uitgewery Jacana Media.

Die EU Prys, wat deur die ambassades en hoë kommissariate van EU-Lidlande in Suid-Afrika geborg word, word vanjaar die derde keer toegeken vir 'n ongepubliseerde roman deur 'n Suid-Afrikaner. 'n Kortlys sal later uit dié aanvanklike lys opgestel word.

Die ander skrywers wie se manuskripte die langlys gehaal het, is BE Ensor-Smith,

Aman Maharaj, Kopano Matlwa, Hazel Frankel, Elizabeth Pienaar, Carey-Ann Jackson, Ian Campbell-Gillies, Nkosinathi Sithole, Vreniker Pather, Lionel Lerm, Sharon One, Tyrone Heydenrych, Joy Bassetti Kruger, Heather Capon, Ruben Mowszowski, Oliver Findlay Price en Douglas Kruger.

Behalwe dat die wenboek deur Jacana uitgegee word, ontvang die wenner prysgeld van R25 000 en 'n reis na 'n literêre fees in Europa. Verlede jaar se prys is gedeel deur Fred Khumalo met **Bitchies' brew** en Gerald Kraak met **Ice in the lungs**.

Die Burger

Literature classics still tops for UK readers

Jane Austen's **Pride and prejudice** topped a poll of Britons' 100 favourite books released recently, indicating that classic novels are still most people's idea of a good read ahead of modern offerings.

Children's books adapted into big-budget films also do well

- **The lord of the rings** by JRR

Tolkien is at number two and JK Rowling's **Harry Potter** series is at number four.

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte is number three, her sister Emily's **Wuthering Heights** number seven and **Nineteen eighty-four** by George Orwell number eight.

The **Bible** is at number six in the list of works 'our nation can't live without', compiled from an online poll of 2000 readers for World Book Day.

The complete works of William Shakespeare also chart at number 14.

Recent bestsellers fare less well - Audrey Niffenegger's **The time traveller's wife** makes 19th place, **The kite runner** by Khaled Hosseini is at 37 and Dan Brown's **The Da Vinci code** number 42.

Cape Times

Skrywers oorlede

Twee bekende Suid-Afrikaanse skrywers, Doc Bikitsha en Sydney Siph Sepamla, is vroeg vanjaar oorlede.

Bikitsha is op 19 November 1930 in Mayfair, Johannesburg, gebore. Hoewel hy as 'n onderwyser opgelei is, het hy veral as 'n joernalis bekendheid verwerf.

Hy het by publikasies soos die *Golden City Post*, *Bantu World*, die *Rand Daily Mail*

en die *Sunday Times* saam met legendariese skrywers soos Henry Nxumalo, Lewis Nkosi, Anthony Sampson, Casey Motsisi, Todd Matshikiza en Ezekiel Mphahlele gewerk.

Sepamla is op sy beurt veral om sy poësie en romans bekend. Hy is in 1932 naby Krugersdorp gebore, en is ook eers as 'n onderwyser opgelei.

Hy het altesame ses digbundels, waaronder **Selected works** (1984) en **From Gorée to Soweto** (1988) uitgegee, asook romans soos **The root is one** (1979), **A ride on the whirlwind** (1981) en **Rainbow journey** (1996). Sy digbundel **The Soweto I love** (1977) is kort ná sy verskyning verbied.

Sepamla word ook onthou vir sy gebruik van Flaaitaal (ook bekend as Tsotsi-taal) in sy poësie.

Hy is in 1976 met die Thomas Pringle Toekenning en in 1985 met die Franse Orde van Kuns en Kultuur bekroon.

Met sy dood was hy besig om te werk aan 'n biografie van Victor Ndlazilwane, 'n jazz-musikus van Daveyton en die leier van die Jazz Ministers.

Die Burger

◆ LITERÊRE TOEKENNINGS

Twee deel boekprys

Jane Taylor en Russell Brownlee is die gesamentlike weners van die Olive Schreiner Prosa Prys vir hul onderskeie debuutromans, **Of wild dogs** (Double Storey) en **Garden of the plagues** (Human & Rousseau).

Consuelo Roland se **The good cemetery guide** (Double Storey) is ook eervol vermeld.

Brownlee, 'n oudstudent in die joernalistiek aan die Universiteit Stellenbosch, werk in Kaapstad as 'n skrywer en redakteur.

Taylor, 'n professor in drama aan die Universiteit van die Witwatersrand, is bekend vir, onder meer, haar drama **Ubu and the Truth Commission**.

Die Burger

Stef Penney beats the favourite

Stef Penney has won one of Britain's most coveted literary awards, the £25 000 Costa, for her first novel, **The tenderness of wolves**. The novel is set in Canada, which Penney, 37, has not visited as she is a recovering agoraphobic who was too afraid to travel. She beat Brian Thompson, the favourite for his wartime memoir, **Keeping mum**, with her book about a teen accused of a murder in 19th-century Canada and his mother's efforts to clear him.

Cape Times

Sleeping beauties at Grassy Park Public Library

Need to catch up on your beauty sleep? Visit your local public library. Some users caught in the act..!

*Anita Shaw, Librarian
Grassy Park Public Library*

Also see page 9 for a real chuckle.
ED



Local artists honoured in Parliament

In the true spirit of participatory democracy Parliament called on all South Africans to submit a design for a new emblem for Parliament, an emblem that embodies the vision, mission and values of Parliament.

20 Entrants were chosen to represent all South Africans at a design workshop during which the new emblem was designed. During the intensive four-day workshop experts from the branding and design industry directed them in their designs. The designs were further refined by the Department of Heraldry to ensure that heraldic and design specifications were adhered to. A political steering committee and a panel of experts guided the process internally. The current Parliament emblem dates back to 1910 and still represents the old four provinces of South Africa.



The launch of the new emblem is the first step in communicating the positioning of Parliament to the public. Amongst the VIP guests will be the 20 designers, learner representatives of schools that participated and South Africans that have inspired our new democracy.

The final emblem was launched at a gala dinner in March 2007.

Candice Jansen

Soetkoekboeke

Afrikaanse boeke, veral romanses en kookboeke, verkoop soos soetkoek, en dís amptelik.

Luidens die jongste statistiek van Nielsen BookScan, wat in die *Sunday Times* gepubliseer is, is **Ena Murray-omnibus 12** die topverkooper-fiksieboek in die land, en Christelle Erasmus se **Gesinskos** die naasbeste nie-fiksie-verkoper. Vierde en negende op die fiksielys is ook liefdesverhale deur Susanna M Lingua en Schalkie van Wyk. Dana Snyman se **Anderkant die scrap** is agtste. Benewens Erasmus se boek op die nie-fiksie-lys, waarop Richard Branson se **Screw it, let's do it** die topverkoper is, is Carmen Niehaus se **Top 500 Wenresepte** (vierde), Isabel Uys se **Feitegids** (agtste) en Penny Swift se **Metaalwerkprojekte sonder moeite** (tiende).

Volgens die skrywer en omroeper Daniel Hugo is die rede vir die baie Afrikaanse ontspanningsliteratuur op die jongste lys die feit dat Leserskring se syfers die eerste keer in die statistiek weerspieël word.

Die Burger

Pluimpie vir Tom Lanoye

Die Vlaamse skrywer Tom Lanoye, wat in sy eie woorde, 'in Antwerpen en Kaapstad werk', is luidens 'n nuusverklaring in Nederland as die ontvanger van vanjaar se Gouden Ganzenveer aangewys vir sy 'uitsonderlike skrywerskap, briljante taalvondste en skerp satiriese pen, waarmee hy aan sy menings en ideërykdom vorm gee'.

Lanoye is, onder meer; bekend vir prosawerke soos **Een Slagerzoon met een Brilletje**, **Kartonnen Dozen**, **Alles moet weg** (wat ook verfilm is), die sogenaamde **Monstertrilogie** (**Het goddelijke monster**, **Zwarte tranen** en **Boze tongen**) en **Het derde huwelik**, tans 'n topverkoper in Vlaandere, asook dramas soos **Ten oorlog** ('n verwerking van agt Shakespeare-werke), **Fort Europa**, **Mefisto for ever** en **Mamma Medea**.

Laasgenoemde is 'n paar jaar gelede deur Antjie Krog in Afrikaans vertaal en onder die spelleiding van Marthinus Basson op die Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees (KKNK) opgevoer.

Die Gouden Ganzenveer sal in April in Amsterdam aan Lanoye oorhandig word.

Die Burger

Statebond-debuut Prys

Maxine Case, skrywer van **All we have left unsaid**, is aangewys as die wenner van vanjaar se Statebond Skrywersprys vir die beste debuutwerk in die Afrika-streek. Die prysgeld is £1000 (sowat R14 000).

Shaun Johnson, ook 'n Kapenaar; het die prys vir die beste boek in dieselfde streek gewen vir **The native commissioner**. Ook hy ontvang £1000.

In 'n onderhoud met *Die Burger* verlede jaar het Case gesê dat sy 'nog altyd spesifiek nie wou skryf nie'.

Daar is verwag dat sy in haar ma, die skrywer Diane Case, se voetspore sou volg, en sy het haar daarteen verset. Luidens 'n nuusverklaring van haar uitgewery, Kwela Boeke, werk Case as bemarking en

-promosiekoördineerder by NB Uitgewers, waarvan Kwela 'n afdeling is.

Case en Hohnson sal nou met die wenner van die ander drie Statebond-streke om die algehele prys in hul onderskeie kategorieë meeding.

Die algehele wenner word op 27 Mei in Jamaika bekend gemaak. Die prysgeld vir die algehele debuutprys is £5000 en vir die beste boek £10 000.

Die Burger

MISCELLANY /

SA Librarians' Book Choice Award

In celebration of its tenth anniversary, LIASA has introduced a new annual award - the SA Librarians' Book Choice Award.

Librarians across South Africa have been invited to nominate their favourite South African titles published in 2006.

The titles nominated will reflect what librarians from public and community, school, academic and special libraries, consider to be their favourite South African books published in 2006.

Criteria

- There are two categories - adult and children; titles can be either fiction or non-fiction
- Books must be written in any of the official languages
- Must be written by a South Africa author
- Must have been published for the first time during 2006.

Librarians have been asked to nominate up to five titles in each category. The winning titles in each category will be those that receive the most nominations. The winners will be announced on 17 August 2007 at LIASA's Annual General Meeting in Durban. Nominations close Friday 13 July 2007.

Ingrid Thomson

National Public Relations Officer, LIASA



◁ A romantic Valentine's Day display at **Wellington Readers Library**
 ▽ They cleverly utilised the lovely display to cover more than just one subject, by changing the heading
 ▷ A romantic detail of the display



▷ Reading sometimes leads to snoozing... This reader was caught on film at **Grassy Park Library**



△ ▷ Twee treffende uitstallings in **Heidelberg Biblioteek** wat geïnspireer is deur die Kersuitstalling artikel in die September/Oktober 2006 uitgawe van die **KB**, bladsy 42-43.



▷ A colourful Valentine's Day display in **Worcester Library** enclosed in a glass case, well out of harm's way!



△ The **Worcester Library** staff decided to celebrate Valentine's day by wearing white and red
 ▷ A cute bear illustration was displayed to promote books on bears at **Worcester Library**

