

## POSSAK

### POST-BAG ISINGXOBO SEPOSI

#### Delay in publishing of Cape Librarian

Thank you very much for your information about the delay in publishing of the **Cape Librarian**. Sad to say it is not quite usual to get such information.

*Werner Kueffner, Periodicals' Section  
International Youth Library*

#### Thank you

Thank you for your notification with regard to the hitches you are experiencing with your computer.

I have often wondered how you have managed to keep the **Cape Librarian** going for such a long time and not only maintaining the high standard, but always improving on it. It certainly is the only magazine of its kind and reflects very positively on the staff of the library, yourself as editor and on your very cooperative department. Congratulations!

I have been very fortunate in receiving a copy of the **Cape Librarian** regularly for many years, certainly even before many of your staff were born! Thank you for keeping me in the picture, even when our library no longer resorted under the Cape Provincial Library Service. It is with regret that I have to ask you, however, to remove my name from your mailing list as I am relocating to a retirement home in Pretoria.

My association with the Cape Provincial Library Service was the happiest time of my life. We were always kept on our toes in trying to raise our circulation statistics and improving the Kimberly Library services. I remember the wonderful support we received, the new books, special requests and all the assistance. The highlights of those years were the visits to Head Office and meeting so many erudite and knowledgeable library personalities. There are just so many good memories!

I trust that you will soon sort out your problems and grow from strength to strength. Good luck!

**Fébé van Niekerk**

*Your kind words are certainly an inspiration for us to strive for perfection. ED*

## MENSE

### PEOPLE ABANTU

#### Congratulations are due ...

... *Johanna de Beer*



Johanna de Beer assumed her duties as assistant director of acquisitions at the beginning of August 2009. Johanna started work as the children's book selector in 1989 with what was then the Cape Provincial Library Service, and despite

forays into other sections, she has spent most of the last twenty years dedicated to the provision of books to the children and young people in the province, a job that she loved and made her own. She is looking forward to the challenges presented by her new post, and in particular the migration next year to a new computerised library management system. She is glad to be staying on in a section where people love their work so much that they can't stay away, even when on holiday!

Johanna says that she was overwhelmed and heartened by the reaction to her promotion from colleagues, ex-colleagues, public librarians and members of the book trade. She thanks them all as she steps into the shoes so capably filled for five years by Tessa Caroline who was promoted to deputy director of the central organisation in February this year.

... *Neville Adonis*



Neville Adonis was appointed as assistant director for general services in the central organisation of the Provincial Library Service from 1 August 2009. Previously Neville worked in the DVD section as an audio-visual selector and

prior to this in the regional organisation as regional librarian. 'I've never had the chance to really get into a "comfort zone". Every so often there is another opportunity, a new challenge and

another inspiration. Being an audio-visual selector in the DVD section was the highlight of my 20-odd-year career in libraries so far. It was really exciting to work with DVDs. I think it is every person's dream to have a full-time job that requires one to watch films all day (and to get paid for it). I will miss it as it has become part of my life. It did not feel like working at all. As with all good things, there is always something better ...

'Last year I completed my masters degree in Library and Information Science at the University of the Western Cape. I am at present doing a PhD in Library and Information Science at UNISA. Yes, I have become a life-long student ... Research is very important in the LIS environment. Unfortunately limited research is being done and there is a dire need and room for much more research in the public library field. I have learned to enjoy doing research. Once you start, you just can't ...

'I am looking forward to the new challenge as assistant director and know that I can contribute in value, expertise and experience.'



... *Pieter Hugo*

'Op 21 Julie 2008 het ek in Kaapstad begin werk nadat ek 'n oorplasing gevra het vanaf Beaufort-Wes. Dit was om 'n stagnasievoorlopende skuif te maak na 11 jaar daar en verskeie onsuksesvolle aansoeke vir

bevorderingsposte.

'Gister, presies 'n jaar later, het ek die nuus gekry dat my laaste poging (die 5e poging in soveel jaar) suksesvol was en dat ek tot assistanddirekteur bevorder is. Al het ek alreeds die afgelope vyf maande waargeneem in die pos, voel ek so opgewonde soos 'n kind wat 'n lekker ingewikkelde nuwe speelding gekry het. Ek gaan lank en lekker daarmee kan speel!

'Klaarblyklik was dit sulke groot nuus dat selfs die *Son* dit op hulle plakkate uitbasuin het! (Pieter is ook een van die **KB** se gereelde bydraers van die rubriek, *Tussen die lyne*.)

*Congratulations to all on your promotions. We wish you an exciting and fruitful 'stay' in the new posts. We are quite excited as we know that contributions to the CL will be high on your agenda. ED*

## New book selector

A very warm welcome to Linda Ngaleka, our newest book selector. Linda was



born and bred in Gugulethu and matriculated at Bridgetown Senior Secondary School. She studied for her B.Bibl at the University of the Western Cape (UWC). She worked for nearly seven years at Weltevreden

Library until she was promoted to senior librarian of Eikendal Library where she stayed for 18 months.

'Moving from Weltevreden Library to Eikendal was a challenge for me', she said, 'but with the solid foundation that I had I was able to deal with those challenges. I was sad to leave Eikendal, but I believe that we all have a different destination and sometimes we stop along the way to enjoy the beauty. I'm the mother of a four year old and my hobbies include singing rhymes, movies and sport. I am currently busy with my mini thesis for an M.Bibl at UWC and hope to complete it very soon. I believe that I have made the right move in terms of my professional growth. I am looking forward to the day when I go to the selection meetings to present my books without feeling butterflies in my tummy. I am looking forward to work with and learn from the other selectors.'

Welcome, Linda. We hope you will have a long and happy stay with book selection.

I will finish up here ...

*Theresa Caroline  
Deputy Director*

*A warm welcome to our wonderful Library Service. You will soon discover that once the Service has you in their clutches, you wouldn't want to leave! ED.*

## Our own Noot vir noot star!

Two years ago, Elmarie Waltman, librarian at Tableview and a real live wire, went for an audition to take part in *Noot vir Noot*, a very popular television programme in which contestants' musical knowledge is tested.

Months went by with not a word from the SABC and she had given up hope that she would ever hear from them. Lo and behold she received a call in November 2008 and was told that she would be on the new series in May 2009. We asked her to share this wonderful experience with our readers.

'At the beginning of March I received an e-mail with instructions on what not to wear; the time and very importantly, a map to help find the SABC. My parents and two sisters live in Johannesburg, so I could spend time with my family and didn't need accommodation close to the studio. However, on the morning of the recording (Program 6), I wished I stayed near the studio as we sat in traffic for two hours! (The traffic in Johannesburg is a total nightmare, Cape Town has nothing to worry about!)

'Anyway, we finally arrived and was met by Charlotte who took me to store my belongings and to point out the location of the set. Trust me, you need someone to show you around, there is a myriad of passageways, with row upon row of doors and every one looks the same.

'The set without all the lights and action looked a bit boring, but nevertheless - here I was finally standing on the set of a programme that has been running for thirty years ... a dream come true!

'Elsa Colling, the producer of the show, explained the procedure and took us through the different aspects of the show. Two programmes are recorded in one afternoon, so there we were, eight strangers eyeing one another. We were then led to a conference room where we had to wait for Johan Stemmet, the presenter of the show. He is a very kind light-hearted and down-to-earth person. He helped us to focus on what is to come and answered a number of our questions. We enjoyed some light snacks and were then taken to the make-up room.

'What a treat! They pay a lot of attention to one's eyes, as that is the main focus - one's face and upper body. This didn't take too long, but we had an hour and a half to wait before we could go on the set.

'Finally the time arrived. By the time we got back to the set, the audience was already seated (there is a waiting list for three years just to be in the audience!)

'We sat in the monitor room while Programme 5 was recorded. Apparently it was an unusual afternoon, as everything that could

break, did! The producer also ended up on her back, and a doctor had to be called. She had a back spasm and couldn't move.

'After two and a half hours, everything was finally wrapped up and it was time for us to go on. We had these 'larny' new little microphones on our heads and everyone's "mike" needed to be tested. The make-up ladies powder your nose a little and then ... Vyf, vier, drie, twee, een!

'"Dames en Here, welkom by Noot vir Noot!" That rush of adrenaline was unlike anything I have ever experienced! You realise: this is live TV, four million people are going to watch this! "I had better perform." That is exactly what I did and I believe that is what pulled me through. I had so much fun and wasn't nervous at all (Rescue Remedy helps!)

'I was also the first one of Series 33 to win the jackpot, and to go through to one of the semi-finals. I am on the second semi-final. The overall winner of this series, Dalene van Rooyen, was one of the other three contestants in my semi-final. She is super-doooper fast. We became very good friends in a very short space of time, and I hope to see her soon. I didn't do well in the semi-final, but am grateful that I could get as far as I did.

'We spent quite a bit of time on the set with all the takes and re-takes. It gives one an idea of why it takes so long to make a movie, an advertisement or even to record the soap-operas. The set of the *Muvangho* series was right next door to ours.

'It truly was an experience I will never forget, and I can also now say I am part of the *Noot vir Noot* family.'

## LIBRARIES

### BIBLIOTEKE

### AMATHALA EENCWADI

## Fun in Rondebosch

During the **Rondebosch Library's** July holiday programme children could cuddle up with books, story-telling and exciting activities for the winter holidays.

All the activities were preceded by story time. Some of the activities included the making of delightful origami characters; simple-to-make origami butterflies; frogs on lily pads in a pond, and a dog card.

Children could also create egg carton animals and choose between a caterpillar; lady



↻ Displaying the origami butterflies, frogs on a lily pad and dog card



↻ Dinosaur mania



↻ Making egg carton animals



↻ The old-lady-who-swallowed-a-fly craft

bug, spider, and a bat. Then there was the making of a craft card and the old-woman-who-swallowed-a-fly craft activity.

Children's creative skills were challenged making the eight animals swallowed by the old lady. They recited the old lady who swallowed the fly rhyme, while putting the

animals in the old lady's skirt. This was a real winner.

An exciting fish paper craft activity made from paperplates was also very popular, much fun and entertainment.

*Eileen Cupido  
Rondebosch Library*

## Athlone reading competition

Athlone Library recently held a reading competition for Grade sevens.

↻ Seen here is the winner - Eesa Harris from Rondebosch East Primary



↻ The three happy winners and judges



↻ Wonderful prizes were donated, some of which can be seen here

## Meulstraat se Loslitdag

Die personeel van Meulstraat Biblioteek was vol pret op Loslitdag.



↻ Agter (vlnr): Dinka Cloete, Amarie le Roux, Julia de Villiers, Rosemary Victor, Chantal van Heerden, Marcelle Meisenheimer, Lindie Gertse en Una Engelbrecht  
Voor (vlnr): Natalie Lewis, Pamela Baliso, Leandré Swarts, Ronel September en Una Engelbrecht

## Saron Biblioteek vermaak lesers

Tydens die wintervakansie het personeel van Saron Biblioteek vir heerlike vermaak en ontspanning vir jong gebruikers gesorg.

Kinders is besig gehou met die maak van kaartjies met pragtige skopies as onderwerp. Tamboeryne is van toiletrolle gemaak en pypskoonmakers is met klokkiengingeryg. Hulle het ook papierborde gebruik om gesigte soos leeus, apies en ander diere te maak. Altyd baie gewild is die vingerverfprojek. Vanjaar is diertjies gemaak, en om mee af te sluit, die gesigverfaktiwiteit, altyd die heel lekkerste.





↪ *Vrouemaand (Augustus 2009) het groot aftrek in Worcester Biblioteek gekry*

## The Arch tells kids to read!

Table View Library was recently graced with the presence of Archbishop emeritus Desmond Tutu when he visited to share some words of wisdom with young readers.

He was greeted outside the library with a performance by arts and culture students from Inkwenkwezi High School in Du Noon. The former archbishop greeted each one of the students warmly and joked with them.

He addressed learners from Inkwenkwezi Chelmsford Independent School and members of the community. He spoke about his dream of building a South Africa where race is unimportant and people are unaffected by it. He also encouraged the learners to read.

We asked Elmarie Waltman, librarian of Table View Library for her comments: 'It was a fantastic, wonderful, feel-good morning. Archbishop Tutu was a hit with both the public and the children. There were media teams all over the show. The insert on e-tv was broadcast that evening on the seven o' clock news.

'Everybody keeps asking me how I managed to get him here. Well, I phoned his personal assistant, and asked if he would be willing to visit us and from there on simply persevered until we could agree on a date.

'He truly is a memorable person. He read to the children from a book, **Children's rights**. He was supposed to read from his own beautiful book he has just written for children, **God's dream**, (to be published in eleven languages) but we completely forgot to get a copy of the book. Two hours later, his driver brought us a signed copy of the book! He even participated in the gumboot dance the children did for him, but soon got too tired.

Tutu also encouraged the learners to work hard to achieve their dreams. 'You don't come fully formed from heaven,' he said.

'This is definitely my highlight of the year in the library.'

*Elmarie Waltman  
Librarian, Tableview Library*

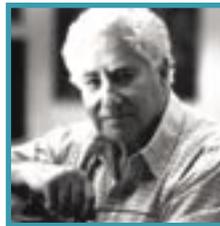
## SKRYWERS EN BOEKE

### BOOKS AND AUTHORS IINCWADI NABABHALI

## Skrywer van *On The Waterfront* sterf

Budd Schulberg, die Oscar-bekroonde draaiboekskrywer van **On the Waterfront** en romanskrywer, is in New York in die ouderdom van 95 oorlede.

Schulberg sal veral onthou word vir sy draaiboek vir **On the Waterfront** (1954), wat agt Oscars gewen het, waaronder een vir beste rolprent en aan Marlon Brando as beste akteur.



## Tienie van Schoor oorlede

Die bekende historikus en skrywer van talle boeke oor die Afrikaner se geskiedenis, prof. MCE (Tienie) van Schoor, is op 88-jarige ouderdom oorlede.

Verskeie mede-historici het gesê sy bydrae tot die Afrikaanse geskiedskrywing was enorm en sy dood laat 'n leemte.

Hy het ná sy aftrede van sy grootste werk gelewer. Daarmee het hy die Afrikaanse geskiedskrywing, en veral dié oor die ou Vrystaatse republiek, 'n enorme guns bewys.

Van Schoor is op 24 November 1920 in Bloemfontein gebore. Hy het aan die Hoërskool Jan van Riebeeck in Kaapstad gematrikuleer, sy meestersgraad in die geskiedenis met lof aan die UV behaal en sy doktorsale studie aan die Potchefstroomse Universiteit gedoen.

Hy was 10 jaar lank geskiedenisonderwyser aan die Hoërskool Sentraal in Bloemfontein voordat hy in 1959 geskiedenisdosent aan die UOVS geword het. Hy was van 1977 tot 1985 departementshoof.

## Kontreiskrywer Van Waart sterf

'Sy was 'n denker, baie intelligent, met 'n fantastiese sin vir humor. Hoe anders kan ek

my ma beskryf.' So sê Reinarda van Waart, dogter van die oorlede kontreistorieskrywer Sue van Waart, wat in die ouderdom van 78 oorlede is. 'Daarby kon sy 'n fantastiese storie vertel. Soveel so, almal het aan haar lippe gehang.'

Van Waart het buiten **Swartberg en sy Mense** ook **Die goue kameelvoël**, **Kannalandse kameë**, **Vallei van die leeus** en **Outeniqualand - Plek van melk en heuning** geskryf.

*Die Burger*

## Pioneer of gay black fiction dies

E Lynn Harris, a pioneer of gay black fiction and literary entrepreneur who rose from self-publishing to best-selling status, has died at age 54.

An improbable and inspirational success story, Harris worked for a decade as an IBM executive before taking up writing, selling the novel **Invisible life** from his car as he visited salons and beauty parlours around Atlanta.

He had unprecedented success for an openly gay black author.

He went on to mainstream success with works such as the novel **Love of my own** and the memoir **What becomes of the brokenhearted**.

His writing fell into several genres, including gay and lesbian fiction, African-American fiction and urban fiction. But he found success in showing readers a new side of African-American life: the secret world of professional, bisexual black men living as heterosexuals.

Harris published 11 novels, 10 of which were on the *New York Times* bestseller list. There are over four million copies of his books in print, according to his publisher, Doubleday.

*Cape Times*

## Author of *Angela's ashes* dies

Frank McCourt, the Irish-American author best known for the Pulitzer Prize winning memoir **Angela's ashes** has died at the age of 78.

**Angela's ashes** brought McCourt a 1997 Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics' Circle Award and other honours. Millions

of copies of the book were sold worldwide and it was adapted into a 1999 movie starring Emily Watson and Robert Carlyle.

McCourt turned to his life in the US for subsequent books, **Tis** and **Teacher man**.

Born in New York City, he was the eldest of seven children.

*The Argus*

## LITERÊRE TOEKENNINGS

### LITERARY AWARDS AMABHASO WONCWADI

#### Peter Harris wins Alan Paton Award.

South Africa's most prestigious prize for non-fiction, the Sunday Times Alan Paton Award, was won by Umuzi author Peter Harris, for his book **In a different time**.

The book tells the story of the Delmas Four - MK operatives who were put on trial for murder in the tiny East Rand town of Delmas in the late eighties.

Film rights for this title have been optioned to Two Oceans Productions and offers for volume rights have been received from the United States and the United Kingdom. The book was named as Book of the Year by Jenny & Co in 2008. It was shortlisted for the University of Johannesburg Prize in the debut category, and is currently on the shortlist for the forthcoming Nielsen BookData Booksellers' Choice Award.

#### Africa's first FSC certified book!

**Titaan**: 'n Roman oor die lewe van **Michelangelo Buonarroti**, to be published by Human & Rousseau (an imprint of NB Publishers) is the first book in Africa to receive the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) stamp of approval. It was decided that it would be ideal to use paper from a well managed forestry for **Titaan**, because of the extent of the book - 736 pages in total. Paarl Media, responsible for printing this book, is the first African printing organisation to receive the FSC Chain of Custody (CoC) certification. This means that the product printed can be traced back from their point of origin to responsible well-managed forestry. **Titaan**, written by Karel Schoeman, is available in all good bookshops.

#### Arts and Culture Trust Excellence Award for Literature

Robin Malan wrote: 'Dear all, Junkets Publisher is the winner of the 2009 Arts and Culture Trust Excellence Award for Literature. My pleasure in winning this award is shared with Jo-Anne Friedlander of User Friendly (layout and design), with Dion Martin of Digital Print Solutions (printing), and with the other nine playwrights in the Playscript Series: Karen Jeynes, Juliet Jenkin, Omphile Molusi, Rajesh Gopie, Nadia Davids, Pieter Jacobs, Malika Ndlovu, Fatima Dike and Jonathan

Khumbulani Nkala. Well done to all of us! I acknowledge the assistance of these funders and partners in producing individual Playscripts: the Cape 300 Foundation, the Arts and Culture Trust, the Baxter Theatre Centre, and the Artscape New Writing Programme - and, in the case of Omphile Molusi's **Itsoseng**, Richard Jordan Productions, London, who took **Itsoseng** to the 2008 Edinburgh Festival (where it won a Fringe First), to the Soho Theatre in London, and to the Everyman Palace Theatre in Cork, Ireland. Further good news: Oxford University Press has taken over Omphile Molusi's **Itsoseng** and Nadia Davids's **Cissie**, and educational editions of these are forthcoming; while Nasou Via Afrika has done the same with my **The boy who walked into the world**. Forthcoming: Mike van Graan's **Green Man Flashing** and Iago's **Last Dance**; Nicholas Spagnoletti's **London Road**; and Fiona Coyne's **Careful**. Also forthcoming is my **Lord Hamlet**, a solo collage adapted from Shakespeare's play. To order these or to receive an eCatalogue of the Playscript Series, e-mail <info.junkets@africa.com>.'

*Rheina Epstein  
Correspondent*

#### Brandewynboek stap weg met Gourmand-toekenning

**Fire water: South African brandy** wat deur Quivertree en die Suid-Afrikaanse

Brandewynstigting uitgegee word, is pas aangewys as die Beste boek in die wêreld in die wyn- en spirituskategorie by die jaarlikse toonaangewende Gourmand Wêreldkookboek-toekenningsgeleentheid wat op 1 Julie vanjaar in Parys gehou is.

Die Gourmand Wêreldkookboek Toekening is in 1995 begin om diegene wat 'met woorde kook' te beloon en om lesers te help om die beste boeke uit die menigte wat elke jaar gepubliseer word te vind, asook om kennis en respek vir die kos- en wynkultuur uit te brei.

**Fire water: South African brandy** is 'n wêreldklas-naslaanboek vir wêreldklas-produkte met opspraakwekkende fotografie en fassinerende teks.

Suid-Afrika het ook die derde plek vir die beste wynfotografie in die wêreld ontvang en die beoordelaars was dit eens dat fotografie vir hierdie soort boeke nie maklik is nie.

*Die Burger*

## ALLERLEI

### MISCELLANY IINCWADI EZAHLUKENEYO

#### Dubai set to rival Bologna with new fair

A rival to the Bologna Children's Book Fair is being set up by the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation, which had a stand at the London Book Fair (LBF). The Dubai International Children's Book Fair will promote children's reading and literature in the Arab world and internationally. Due to take place from 3 to 10 February 2010, it comes only one month before the Italian fair's traditional March slot. The new fair's CEO Jamal Al Shehhi said: 'Our objective is to network with like-minded people and showcase our offerings in children's literature in the context of Dubai International Children's Book Fair. We welcome publishers and other professionals in children's literature to participate.'

The fair is part of the foundation's literacy strategy to promote a love of reading among Arab children and is open to all international publishers. The foundation says it has had interest from more than 200 publishers around the world and plans further publicity. Children's publishers exhibiting at LBF interviewed by *The Bookseller* had mixed opinions on the Dubai fair. Several had heard nothing

about it, whereas others said that they had heard of it, but would not be attending as they meet all their contacts in Bologna.

*The Bookseller*

## First archivist to be awarded honours degree in Archival Science

Nomathamsanqa Constance Mthetho was born and grew up at Sterkspruit, Herschell



in the Eastern Cape Province. She matriculated at Ikamvalethu Finishing School, Langa, Cape Town in 1994, enrolled for a B.Bibl at the University of the Western Cape in 1995 and graduated in March 1999. She

started her career in 2002 at the Western Cape Archives and Records Service as an archivist in the reading room.

During 2006 she applied for a bursary and enrolled for the Postgraduate Diploma in Archival Studies at the University of South Africa (UNISA), which she completed at the end of 2006.

Constance revealed her enthusiasm to broaden her understanding of the archival profession. During 2008 she was fortunate to receive a bursary again to enroll for an honours degree in Archival Science at UNISA and successfully graduated in March 2009. She is the first archivist to obtain this degree. In 2008 she was also appointed as principal archivist in the Records Management Section.

According to Constance there were challenges in completing this course because of the lack of the relevant sources in all Western Cape libraries. Most of the relevant sources are at the UNISA Library in Pretoria. In her own words: 'There is nothing difficult in life, but everything requires effort, hard work, determination and perseverance.' Being fully employed it was difficult for her to complete all four modules and submit all assignments before the due dates.

In an interview she stated that 'this course is not only for the people who are employed in the Archives Service, but also for people employed in the private sector to enable them to manage their records more effectively'. This degree is relevant for numerous careers, such as archivist, information officer, records manager and information manager.

She wants to encourage people with a matric certificate to enroll for the Senior

Certificate in Archival Studies. People with degrees or national diplomas can enroll for the postgraduate diploma in Archival Studies at UNISA or Kwa-Zulu-Natal University. She concluded that 'the lack of archival skills is a serious problem faced by archival institutions as well as provincial and national governmental departments'. She said that the archival career should be exposed to youth 'to build together effective, transparent and responsible governance' in all South African societies.

*Siyabonga Ntames*

*Western Cape Archives and Record Service*

## Ultraviolet zombie mayhem set to put classic novel on best-seller list

It is a truth universally acknowledged that a Jane Austen novel in possession of added gore will be a surefire bestseller.

That's the conclusion reached by publishers since the success of **Pride and prejudice and zombies**, an unlikely literary sensation created by adding dollops of 'ultraviolet zombie mayhem' to Austen's classic love story.

**Zombies** - billed as 85 percent Austen's original text and 15 percent brand new blood and guts - has become a bestseller since it was published earlier this year, with 750 000 copies in print. There's a movie in the pipeline.

Even an Austen purist admits a grudging admiration for the **Zombies** concept.

'In publishing terms, it's brilliant,' said Claire Harman, a Columbia University professor and author of **Jane's fame: how Jane Austen conquered the world**. 'Why did I spend three years writing a critical book on Austen? Why didn't I just think of that?'

**Zombies** and its successors are the latest mutant offshoots of the unstoppable Austen industry. The author wrote just six novels before she died aged 41 in 1817, but they have inspired endless spinoffs, from 'chick-lit' novels like **The Jane Austen Book Club** to time-traveling TV series **Lost in Austen** and Bollywood-tinged movie **Bride and prejudice**. There are books on everything from etiquette (**Jane Austen's guide to good manners**) to gardening (**In the garden with Jane Austen**), and a huge internet-based community of passionate Jane-philes.

It's a remarkable turnaround for a writer who achieved limited success in her lifetime and was largely forgotten after she died.

*Cape Times*

## Erratum

Published in the May/June 2009 CL on pg. 18: Hannetjie du Preez, Chief Director: Environmental and Cultural Affairs. It should read: Chief Director: Cultural Affairs.

The cover design for the May/June 2009 Cape Librarian was designed by Zu©i Mopani, and not by Creda Design Studio as stated.

## SKRYFGEDAGTES

### Kortverhale in kort, en wat mag kortkom

Die meeste aspirant-skrywers wil so gou moontlik die titel 'skrywer' verdien. Baie van diesulkes plaas klem op die 'so gou moontlik' eerder as die 'verdien'. Daarom, dink ek, kies hulle die kortverhaal as eerste stap na wat hulle dalk as die pad na roem en selfs rykdom mag beskou. Roem is vir baie min skrywers beskore en so ook rykdom. En dié twee loop dikwels nie hand aan hand nie. Nogtans is dit nie heeltemal 'n dom idee om kortverhale as beginpunt vir 'n skrywersloopbaan te kies, eerder as om sommer dadelik weg te spring met die volgende Groot Roman, die *bestseller* of die Nobelpryswenner nie. Jou kans is net soveel beter om darem iets te bereik - al is dit net 'n paar stories in 'n tydskrif of kortverhaalbundel. Die eerste prys is natuurlik dat jy geleidelik uit vakleerlingskap vorder en sodanig verbeter dat jy wel jou drome bewaarheid sien.

Essays en artikels; dus joernalistiek as oefenterrein, is ook nie 'n slegte beginnerskeuse nie, maar min mense kry die geleentheid of dink eens daaraan om, byvoorbeeld, hulle hand aan vryskutjoernalistiek te waag: kortverhale in tydskrifte lyk na die meer vertroude roete om te volg. En as jy dit dan nie maak tot by die (o, soveel langer) roman nie, dan mag jy darem 'n paar rand verdien en boonop jou naam in druk sien. Alle skrywers wil immers kan sê: 'Ek is gepubliseer.' Baie wend hulle selfs tot 'vanity publishing' en baie publiseer deesdae self.

Dis nogal interessant dat heelparty gevierde skrywers eers joernaliste was - mens dink dadelik aan Hemingway en Wilbur Smith. Ek is oortuig dat die verskeidenheid onderwerpe wat jy moet ondersoek en karakters wat jy sodoende ontmoet, asook die aansienlike hoeveelheid skryfwerk wat jy moet doen, geweldig

voordelig kan wees vir enige skrywer. Bowenal is die gestrooptheid waarmee jy skryf net goed vir jou - jy leer om meer op die punt af en dus selektief te skryf. Gisteraand het 'n vriendin juis vertel dat haar pa sy memoires skryf en die duidelikste swakpunte daarvan is dat hy te veel detail probeer indruk en te veel wil beïndruk met sy uitgebreide woordeskat. Sy praat ook van 'mooiskrywery' - almal wat skryf sal weet dat dit 'n ewige versoeking is om te wys hoe oulik, slim of snaaks jy kan wees. Of hoe suiwer jy Die Taal kan aanwend.

Maar wat is 'n kortverhaal presies? Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849) het dit in 1842 beskryf as 'n prosavertelling waaraan mens nie langer as 'n halfuur tot twee uur lees nie. Dit is nie juis 'n bevredigende omskrywing nie, maar mens kan byvoeg dat 'n kortverhaal redelik beknopt moet wees - dus is daar groter gekonsentreerdheid as by 'n roman; 'n hegte eenheidsstruktuur. My idee van dié genre was altyd iets soos wat Roald Dahl geskep het, met 'n onverwagse einde: *a twist in the tail of the tale*, kan mens sê. Klaarblyklik gaan dit eintlik meer oor die klimaks en innerlike kentering van die hoofkarakter se gemoed. Daar is gewoonlik groter begrip in die een of ander belangrike saak. Dis nie net 'n skerpsinnige beskrywing of epiese gebeurtenis nie. Meer as in die geval van die roman is die kortverhaal gesentreerd in die hoofkarakter, want hy/sy

moet gou tot die beoogde kentering kom; dus is daar ook nie ruimte vir talle ander karakters en afdraaipaadjies nie. Die skrywer bied 'n interpretasie van die gegewe verhaal, of eerder die persoonlike ervaring soos deur die verhaal weerspieël. Dit gaan meer oor wat die gebeure beteken as wat bloot gebeur. Ek is persoonlik geneig om 'n impressionistiese relaas, soos 'n kort skets, te verkies bo 'n diep sielswroegende tema, en skryf eerder 'n essay oor laasgenoemde as 'n kortverhaal. Kortverhale kan egter baie leersaam wees, met vermaak steeds as prioriteit, terwyl essays dalk andersom behoort te wees.

Kortverhale en romans gaan vir my eerstens oor vertelkuns en tweedens oor lewenslesse, maar dit beteken nie dat dit so vir almal is nie. Dit wát die skrywer sê is egter altyd ondergeskik aan hoé die skrywer dit sê. Hoewel die klem by verskillende kortverhale op verskillende plekke val: dialoog, die bou, karakters, agtergrondskewing, beeldgebruik en simboliek, is al daardie elemente basies onontbeerlik. Die gevoel van gerondheid, veelvlakigheid en betekenisvolheid is die gevolg van die implementering van al die nodige bestanddele, anders flop die ou broodjie so plat soos 'n pannekoek.

Ek noem weer bronne wat toepaslik is: **Guide to creative writing** deur Frances Bond en Eileen Molver; **Kort voor lank** deur Hennie Aucamp (of enigiets deur hom in of oor hierdie genre), asook Abraham

de Vries, Jan Spies en Chris Barnard, **MER** en les bes Audrey Blygnault, veral laasgenoemde se **Eindelose avontuur** (1993).

Langenhoven se essays bly 'n ervaring wat nie versmaai moet word nie. In 1938 het hy en EC Pienaar selfs 'n boekie getiteld **Hoe om te skrywe** geskryf. Blykbaar het die twee skrywers baie vasgesit - die ewige spanning tussen akademikus en kreatiewe siel! - maar dis nogal interessant om die meestal argaïese taal en idees te lees. Ironies genoeg verduidelik die skrywers in die voorwoord hoe hulle juis sekere verouderde terme verander het! Nietemin, talle voorskrifte in die boekie is steeds van toepassing en sal altyd wees. Stephen King se **On writing**, soos voorheen vermeld, bied ook nuttige en besielende wenke wat daarop dui dat die genre, die tydperk en die milieu van minder belang is as die algemene reëls wat goeie skryfwerk bepaal. Op die Internet is natuurlik ook talle wenke en kursusse om uit te kus en te keur en skryfskole raak ook al hoe meer. Vir die voornemende skrywer is daar dus al hoe minder verskonings om aan die gang te kom. Behalwe as jy net oor skryfkuns bly lees en nooit by die skrywery uitkom nie.

Dr Francois Verster  
Korrespondent

## Kaapse Bibliotekaris 40 JAAR GELEDE...

Stefan Wehmeyer Adjunkdirekteur: Streke

- ① Prof JB Du Toit skryf in 'n artikel oor die biblioteek, massamedia en die gemeenskap dat almal aan die massamedia blootgestel word. Volgens hom is biblioteekboeke ook massamedia en speel boeke 'n belangrike opvoedkundige rol. Hy skryf ook dat beeldradio 'n belangrike rol kan speel. (Ek kan nog goed onthou dat daar in 1974/75 'n hele polemiekk rondom die gebruik van die woord *televisie* of *beeldradio* was.)
- ① 'Through the doorway knobthorn or torchwood trees trace green and grey-brown patterns against the pale blue of the sky. Superimposed on the quiet of the bush, the cackle of a red-billed hoopoe can be heard, or far away the sad descending call of a fish eagle somewhere on the stretch of river just below.' This romantic library setting was described by Helen Prinsloo in an article on the Stevenson-Hamilton Memorial Library in the Kruger National Park.
- ① Die **KB** bring hulde aan Rembrandt Van Rijn (1606-1669). Dit was die 300ste herdenking van sy dood. Sy bekendste skildery was die **Nachtwacht**, 'n grootse en indrukwekkende werk'. Interessantheidshalwe word genoem dat Rembrandt op 'n stadium van sy lewe bankrot verklaar is. Rembrandt is 'in die Westerkerk begrawe - diep betreur deur sy 'gildebroers'.
- ① The English Academy of South Africa assembled for a conference held in Grahamstown during July 1969. (At this stage, the National Arts Festival - although I don't think it was called as such yet - celebrated its 5th anniversary.) South African writers who presented new works were Guy Butler; Nadine Gordimer; Alan Paton and Athol Fugard's **Boesman and Lena** premiered at the university theatre.
- ① Bought by the Music Library: 'We came in peace for all mankind.' This was the title of a recording of the lunar landing that was part of the space programme under President Kennedy.
- ① Ms Veronica McCagie (some of us only knew her as Adams) started her first stint as regional librarian at the Library Service. Later in her career she was in charge of book selection, then she was appointed head of the libraries division at Exclusive Books from where she has since retired.
- ① Die nuwe Kleinmond Biblioteek open in 1969. Vier dekades later en reeds in 'n tweede gebou, noem die huidige bibliotekaris, Wilna Hooneberg, dat hulle dringend 'n nuwe biblioteek nodig het ...

# Cape Librarian cover design

## The inside story ...

July/August 2009

### Background

Mbombela, Africa's wildest stadium is located 5km south-west of Nelspruit, close to the N4, the vein connecting Gauteng and Mozambique. It is at the doorstep of the Kruger Park Game Reserve - perfectly posed to combine a visit of Africa's wildest animals and games and the 2010 FIFA World Cup. This aspect was not lost on the stadium designers and the signature feature of the stadium is the 18 structural giraffes that never tire in their task of supporting the roof and stadium bowl, making this South Africa's wildest football stadium.

This brand new state-of-the-art structure will seat 45,000 spectators. Of the five new stadiums being built for 2010 this is the only one designed by South African architects, although international consultants were also involved, particularly with the roof structure.

Open non-walled concourses will allow users to enjoy the views from all four sides so they can look out to Africa and also keep their sense of direction. Through the 6m opening the sky and surrounding hills with rounded granite outcrops are visible from the seats. The roof seems to float and create an effect of lightness rather like an acacia tree canopy. Even the black and white seats are patterned with zebra stripes to round off the African and wildlife theme to leave a lasting image in the mind of the visitor.

Last year a group of architect students got together with the architect and designer of the stadium Mike Bell, and turned these giraffes into colourful works of art. For the purposes of the cover design a mirror image of the pillars are reflected.

*Note: R&L Architects CC, a firm founded in Cape Town in 1964 by Douglas Roberts designed the stadium. Detailed information kindly provided by R&L is available but limited space precludes publishing it all.*

### Main window

The Colosseum (Colosseo) or Flavian Amphitheatre is the largest structure left to us by the Romans, and has provided the model for sports areas right down to modern times; the football stadia of the present day have basically the same form as this monument created by the architects of the Flavian Emperors, Vespasian and Titus. The object of the emperors in raising the Colosseum was to satisfy the appetite of the Roman populace for circenses (games), and there is no doubt that they achieved their aim. The architect of the Colosseum is unknown.

1. The *Papilio antheus* butterfly is found in South Africa and Zimbabwe and belongs to the species of Mocker Swallowtail.
2. Moths of South Africa, this one known as *Ophideres salamina*.

### Windows encasements

3. The Lippizaner stallion Fabory Presciano practicing his Courbette movement with rider Margaret McKay in the Grand Arena at the Grand West Casino. The stallion is one of 11 South African Lipizzaners, who performed in

five shows in the Grand Arena. (*Cape Times*.)

4. Nasief Morris won't be doing any magic tricks for Bafana Bafana at the Confederations Cup after he was controversially left out of the squad. (*Cape Times*.)
5. A former world no 1 tennis player Rafael Nadal powering his way to a straight-sets victory over Belgium's Christophe Rochus. (*Cape Times*.)
6. Three times gold medal winner Johnny Weissmuller (USA), the first Olympic swimmer to record a sub-one-minute (59.0 seconds) time in the 100-meter freestyle event. He won fifty-two US National Championships and set 67 world records. After his swimming career, he became the sixth actor to portray Tarzan in films. (*Wikipedia*.)
7. Tokai rock climber Justin Hawkins - whose fingers have more grip than your friendly neighborhood Spiderman. (*Bulletin*.)
8. Caster Semenya crosses the finish line to win the gruelling women's 800m at the World Athletics Championship 2009 at the Olympic Stadium in Berlin. The 18-year-old hails from a village in Polokwane. (*Cape Times*.)
9. Frederic William Lillywhite, an English cricketer born near Goodwood, Sussex, in June 1792. Though exhibiting a talent for cricket as a boy he did not become a professional player until middle age, playing his first match at Lords in June, 1827.
10. Majestic is the word to describe Springbok lock Victor Matfield as he rises high to claim yet another lineout ball against the British and Irish Lions. Here captain John Smit (no 3) and Ryan Kankowski (no 19) lift the lock high. (*Cape Times*.)
11. The sprint phenomenon of the XI Olympic Games, Jesse Owens. He won the long jump with a jump of 8,06 meters despite having any kind of refined technique. (*Weltbild*, 1936.)
12. Barefoot sensation Zola Budd at the age of 17 broke the 5 000m world record, in a time of 15 min:01.83 sec at Stellenbosch in 1984. She is one of the greatest runners ever to come from South Africa, shattering world records in her wake. But instead of unifying the world in much the same way as Usain Bolt, she polarised opinions and even nations. She has not let that keep her from her passion, she still runs like the wind, only



now she is competing in America - mostly in Masters events - which is ironic since it was that country that really stuck the knife in after her infamous collision with Mary Decker in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games. (*Sunday Times*.)

13. A tiny children's 'tekkie' picked up in Main Road near Lakeside by the graphic designer during his huffing and puffing efforts to complete the Big Walk in 2008! The fact that he completed the walk deserves a medal, I say ...

### Back cover

One of at least half a dozen tent or pyramide style glass-in-steel structures (approximately 5-6 metres high) which can be seen on the upper level on the promenade below the roof construction of this unusual sport stadium in Porto in, Portugal. The stadium was designed by architect Manuel Delgado from Lisbon and built in 2002-3.

*Design, scantography and production by Zu©i Mopani.*

