

LIASA *-in-Touch*

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Public Librarians:

Going beyond the call of duty

Valhalla Park Library wins the ATKV Woordveertjie Award
for their successful promotion of Reading Programmes

IFLA 2014 LYON

World Library
and Information Congress
80th IFLA General Conference
and Assembly
16-22 August 2014 Lyon



Image © Jack Leane

Libraries, Citizens, Societies: Confluence for Knowledge

National Office News

Heading into a new year always tends to make us think of changes, resolutions to keep, decisions about the future etc. With the LIASA National Office (LNO) it would not be any different during 2014.

During the Representative Council meeting in October 2013 a task team was appointed to make recommendations for a staff re-structuring at the LNO that would:

- be viable for at least a period of 3-5 years
- be financially affordable for the Association
- be beneficial to the members and the Association.

The Executive Committee again closely followed the "LIASA Strategic Directions" during their meeting held in January 2014 to ensure that the job descriptions of each proposed post would align with and support the actions needed to implement the six strategic themes. All these proposals need to be approved by the Representative Council and we do trust that the new structure will be in operation by end March 2014.

We said goodbye to **Hannelie Brink-Gerber**, LNO Office Manager, at the end of December 2013 as her three year contract with LIASA came to an end. Thank you Hannelie for all you have done for our members and the Association during this time. All the best wishes for you in the future!

In the meantime **Kagiso Makgabo** was appointed on an interim three month contract basis – January to March 2014 as Membership Officer. He will assist Annamarie Goosen who will be acting as LIASA Manager during the interim period until the new structure at the office can be implemented. We want to welcome Kagiso and want to wish him and Annamarie the best for 2014!

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Dear Colleagues

2014 promises to be another busy but exciting year for LIASA! Together with the rest of the country we will also be celebrating 20 years of democracy in South Africa by embracing

the theme "Celebrating libraries in 20 years of democracy" for our activities in 2014.

This is an opportunity for every library and librarian to showcase how libraries are true symbols of democracy and how they are:

- Making the right to freedom of access to information, as enshrined in the Bill of Rights, a reality
- Enhancing nation building and community development by opening their doors of learning to all
- Desired spaces for connecting people to each other, learning resources, communities, government, the world and the environment
- Advancing literacy through the intellectual and aesthetic development of all ages
- Providing access to global knowledge and information in different formats to advance research and create new knowledge
- Fostering a spirit of enquiry and desire for lifelong learning
- Challenging one's own beliefs and inculcating a respect for diverse beliefs, opinions and views all
- Contributing towards the development of an informed nation, and South Africa becoming an information society

If one has to map the different libraries around the country which include the National Library of South Africa (Pretoria and Cape Town); the South African Library for the Blind; 5 Legal Deposit Libraries; Library of Parliament; 23 Higher Education libraries; 1993 public libraries (1612 provincial/381 metro); approx. 3000 school libraries; Corporate, law, special, Research Council, Government, Military and Prison libraries, we will see and realize that we are indeed a highly dynamic, organized, networked and connected sector that provides access to information and knowledge to people from all walks of life around the country. Therefore I invite you to embrace wholeheartedly this theme in all your activities during the course of the year so that libraries are visible to all!

The LIASA Executive Committee met on December 12-13 2013 to review its performance during 2012-2013 and to chart the way forward for 2014. While we may not have achieved everything we set ourselves to do, I'm pleased to inform you that we are on track with the major activities to achieve the strategies set for this term. The dynamic theme "LIASA in Dialogue" has enabled us to initiate discussions with the LIASA leadership and members during the LIASA Leadership Weekend, Conference 2013 and during site visits; NCLIS, government agencies and civil society; the LIS schools, ETDP-SETA & SAQA; library directors through the Director's Forum; African colleagues through the African Library Summit and IFLA Africa Section; and of course international colleagues through IFLA 2013



and now we look forward to hosting IFLA/WLIC in 2015.

We commenced the year with the IFLA site visit to Cape Town on January 07-10, 2014. The National Committee met with the IFLA representatives and I'm proud to share with you the logo and theme "Dynamic Libraries: Access, Development and Transformation" for the 2015 IFLA/WLIC. We will keep you posted of developments as they unfold.

At the first EXCO meeting held on 17-19 January 2014, we were able to put together a comprehensive year plan, which will also assist the branches with their planning. We can look forward to:

- Site visits to the various branches, with the first to the Northern Cape and Free State branches in February 2014
- South African Library Week, 15-22 March 2014, will be launched at the National Library of South Africa, Cape Town on 15 March 2014 in partnership with the DAC, NLSA, Western Cape Provincial Library and Information Services and the City of Cape Town Library Services. The 2014 theme is "Celebrating libraries in 20 years of democracy: Check in @ your library"
- Mr Tebogo Ditshego, Chairperson of the @ReadabookSA campaign, the largest reading Twitter campaign on the African continent, is the 2014 SALW Ambassador and he will be actively promoting our theme on social and mainstream media.
- The SA Librarians Choice of the Top 20 titles published during these 20 years of democracy is definitely something to anticipate! Over 250 titles were nominated by local librarians and the Top 20 will be launched during SALW 2014. We should ensure that all these titles are available in every library.
- Finalisation of the SAQA Professional Body Registration

Mr Tebogo Ditshego, Chairperson of the @ReadabookSA campaign, the largest reading Twitter campaign on the African continent, is the 2014 SALW Ambassador and he will be actively promoting our theme on social and mainstream media.

- LIASA Branch seminars in May 2014 that will address the topic "Librarians as agents for social change, community development and democracy". It is hoped that during this month librarians around the country will be discussing this topic with civil society, local and provincial governments, communities and each other. The issues raised during these discussions will inform a session to be held at the annual conference.

- Branch and national elections for the 2014-2016 term
- Nominations for the 2014 Librarian of the Year
- LIASA Annual Conference, 22-26 September 2014, Gauteng. The theme is "Celebrating libraries in 20 years of democracy: the dialogue continues..."
- IFLA/WLIC 2015 planning

However, for the above to be dynamic and successful, I urge our LIS colleagues to join LIASA and our members to renew their annual membership at the fee of R475,00. To participate in the 2014 LIASA elections or be nominated for Librarian of the Year, you must have registered or renewed by 31 May 2014.

In addition to the above, Segametsi Molawa, President-Elect and I will be attending the IFLA Building Strong Library Associations (BSLA) programme in Kumasi, Ghana from 10 to 14 February 2014. I will also be attending the IFLA Africa Section meeting to be held from 07 to 09 February 2014 in Kumasi, Ghana.

I would further like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr John Tsebe, National Librarian, on his retirement from a long and interesting career in librarianship. Mr Tsebe has been a vocal and open champion for LIASA since its inception and has worked tirelessly to ensure that LIASA and its leaders have made an impact nationally and internationally. Thank you John for your unstinting support and the doors of LIASA will always be open to you!

Colleagues, whilst celebrating this year, let us also introspect on what does this democracy mean to each one of us and what are we doing to entrench and strengthen democracy on a daily basis. Let us be connected, informed and socially aware professionals who know how we impact this beautiful but fragile democracy. I wish you well for 2014!



SLYSIG Pre-conference 2013

SLYSIG held a pre-conference workshop at the Centre for the Book on 5 October 2013 around the theme "School Libraries and Youth Services Transforming Literacy".

The pre-conference was well attended by over 200 teachers and librarians interested in school libraries. Mr Mandlakayise Matyumza, Executive Head of the Centre for the Book, welcomed the delegates warmly and set the scene for what turned out to be an excellent day. Dr Sandy Zinn, a member of the SLYSIG Western Cape Executive Committee set the scene for the pre-conference by introducing the theme and its implications.

First on the programme was the official launch of International School Library Month, in collaboration with the Western Cape Education Department (WCED). During October 2013 school libraries across the world and in South Africa celebrate and promote library and information services at schools, using the theme "School Libraries: Doorways to Life". The month of October was declared International School Library Month (ISLM) by the International Association of School Librarianship (IASL).

Various speakers gave ideas on how librarians can use their school library or FET college open learning centre to transform literacy amongst the learner community.

First up was Nal'ibali, a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign that promotes reading through reading clubs, storytelling and its exciting media campaign to encourage children to read and improve literacy.

Juta shared the use of big books in the library to grab the attention of children in order to spark the love for reading within



Mr Mandla Matyumza welcoming delegates to the SLYSIG pre-conference

them. They demonstrated how to read from the big book and engage with the listeners.

The NGO Fundza Literacy Trust explained their programme of encouraging young people to read and to love reading. Fundza makes use of mobile technology to do this, getting thousands of young people hooked onto reading from their mobile devices.

Motivational speaker, writer and photographer Gary Hiron shared his personal experiences as a writer and the influence he has over improving literacy.

Next up was Johan Delannoie from Mtombhoti Studios who gave an excellent overview of the power of the comic book in encouraging young people to read.

The Department of Basic Education (DBE), represented by Mr Allan Subban gave the delegates a briefing on its plans to increase access to school libraries and ultimately to improving literacy amongst learners. This included plans such as the roll out of libraries to over 10 000 schools over the next 3 years. Needless to say, the delegates had many questions for the DBE and these questions were dealt with professionally.

The rest of the day was covered by the further showcasing of ideas by:

- Help2Read, the child literacy

organisation whose volunteers give learners one on one reading lessons

- Well-known storyteller Sindiwe Magona who enthused delegates with her powerful storytelling talent, showing how a good storyteller can turn a child into a reader for life
- Via Afrika Publishers who gave a quick overview on the e-book and its implications for libraries and the possibilities for improving literacy
- Book Buddies, a community project encouraging adults in communities to read to young children thereby developing a culture of reading within a community

Fifteen publishers and booksellers as well as the WCED's EDULIS held an exhibition of their material inside the venue and those who attended were given the opportunity to see what is available in the market with regards to literacy.

Delegates left the pre-conference feeling informed, motivated and encouraged to use their library effectively to promote and transform literacy within the learning environment that they serve.

Theresa de Young

SLYSIG National Chairperson

National Librarian of the Year 2013

SLYSIG to host its first biennial conference in July! CALL for PAPERS

The Executive Committee of the national School Library and Youth Services Interest group is excited to announce its upcoming conference to take place in Durban on 15 and 16 July 2014. The theme of the conference is "Move into the Future @ Your Library" focusing on librarians and libraries of the future.

Librarians are in an age of extreme and dynamic change. With the digital information shift, which is much akin to the times which heralded the age of the printing press, we realise we need different libraries and different skills if we are to continue to meet the needs of our communities.

As LIASA and SLYSIG members we feel libraries need to adapt, adjust, transform,

innovate and reinvent themselves.

Librarians need to be the facilitators of this transformation and this requires that librarians need new skills in order to be at the cutting edge of the new digital information era.

The SLYSIG conference will provide an opportunity for paper, poster and workshop presenters to explore issues related to reading, literacy and the dynamic role and practices of the librarian in our schools and youth communities.

The conference will take the form of papers, workshops, colloquia and poster displays.

The SLYSIG executive committee is inviting LIASA members to submit proposals to be presented based on one of

the following sub themes to slysigsa@gmail.com by 31 April 2014:

- The role of the school or youth service library in reading, teaching and learning
- The role of the librarian as leaders, facilitators of change, professional developers and curriculum collaborator
- Training and development of librarians
- The impact of the school or youth service library
- Digital literacy, open access, licensing and new technologies
- Innovative design/layout of the future school or youth service library

Theresa de Young

LIASA SLYSIG National Chair

Irene Reid

LIASA SLYSIG National PRO

IASL Bali, Indonesia Conference 2013

I attended the International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) Conference from 26 – 30 August 2013 in Bali, Indonesia. The theme of the conference was Enhancing Students' Life Skills through School Libraries.

Bali Island in Indonesia is the largest tourist destination and is renowned for its highly developed arts, dance, sculpture, painting, leatherwork and music. It has miles of sandy beaches well-known amongst surfers. The island's rich cultural heritage includes over 20 000 temples and palaces.

During the opening ceremony of the conference we were entertained by cultural dancers dressed in colourful costumes. It

was officially opened by the Indonesian Vice-Minister of Education and Culture, Mr. Musliar Kasim, the Director of the National Library of Indonesia and the Indonesia Association of School Library Personnel and other local library associations.

The conference was honoured by the presence and presentations by two very special people, Siniteka Sipila, President of IFLA and Barbara Stripling, President of the American Library Association (ALA). There were 5 pre-conference workshops including the School Libraries on the agenda and the conference proper covered research papers, professional papers, workshops and posters.

The conference was attended by 395

participants from 37 countries and 290 were School Librarians from Indonesia who were funded by the Ministry of Education. The event provided professional development and networking opportunities. Cosmas Mabeya from the Bookery Project of Equal Education was awarded the IASL Jean Lowries Leadership Award for their contribution towards quality education.

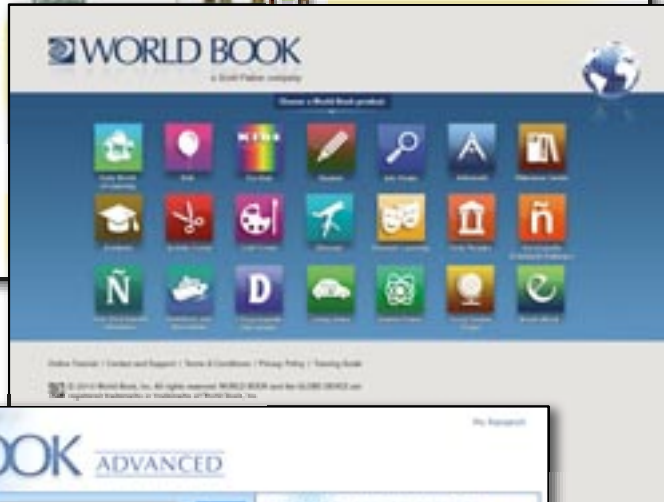
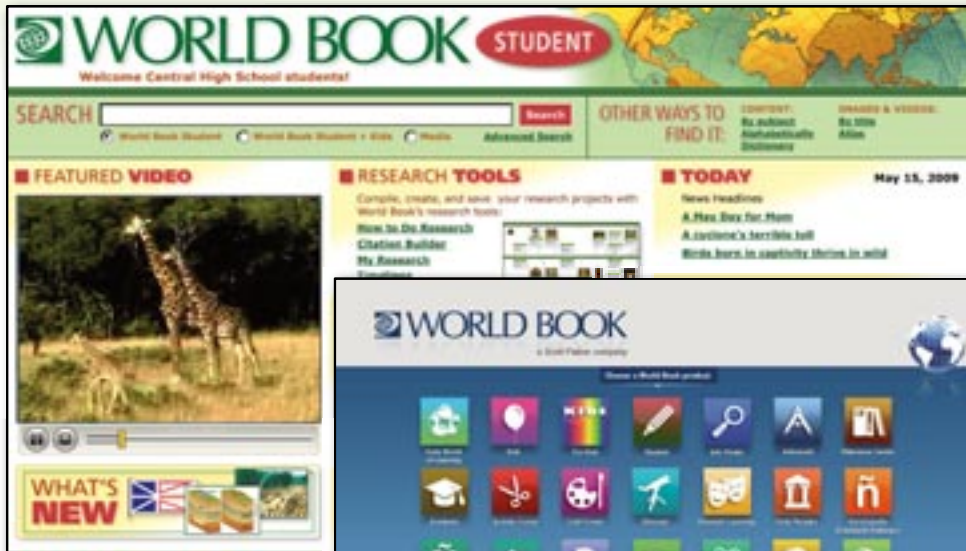
IASL Conference 2014 will take place in Moscow, Russia from 25 – 29 August 2014.

Busi Dlamini

*IASL: Regional Director: Sub Sahara Africa
Gauteng Department of Education
Library Service Head*

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A response to Peter Lor

The 2013 LIASA Conference was the first one I have been able to attend in years where I was just an ordinary Conference delegate, not an EXCO member having to work behind the scenes and only attending snippets of sessions. By the end of the week I could say that it was an exhilarating experience that left me with food for thought, resolve to tackle new things and the desire to try and bring about change, if only amongst public librarians. My reason for this? Peter Lor's letter in the September LIT and the subsequent session at Conference on public libraries.

On first reading Prof. Lor's letter, I felt anger as a public librarian that once again the same assumptions of public librarians and public libraries were being made. What nerve, even if it was Professor Lor making these assumptions. Upon closer inspection however, and following the dialogue held at the public libraries session at Conference and various other sessions during the week, I reflected on some of the points raised and had to conclude that perhaps there is some merit in the argument put forward. What does disturb me though is the idea that public libraries and by implication, public librarians, do nothing in their respective communities and merely sit back and wait for things to happen and then react to that. The reality is further from the truth.

The truth is that:

- There are many public librarians out there who are already doing the very things that we are being asked to do.
- There are many public librarians out there who transformed long before a Transformation Charter was even uttered as a possibility

- There are many public librarians out there who are making positive changes in the community and make the library a centre of excellence.
- There are many public librarians out there who engage with and present innovative and responsive programmes to meet the ever-changing demands made upon them by their communities.

Not everyone likes the phrase that public libraries (all libraries) are "more than just books", but it is however quite true. Despite the many years of engagement with communities, there are many myths about libraries. And that for me is perhaps the crux of why the assumptions are made about public libraries and public librarians. Public librarians do not talk, write or publicise what they do. At the public libraries session at Conference, I found it telling that the only person who spoke about the work that public librarians were doing was the speaker from outside South Africa. She even mentioned a South African library.

Why is this? It seems that that the only attention public libraries receive focuses on the things they are not doing, should be doing or should be doing differently. Perhaps the time has come for our public librarians to step up to the plate and do the telling themselves. Instead of talking about the ifs and buts, we should talk and write about the things that we are doing, the innovative programmes, the engaging programmes, the new programmes. How refreshing would it not be for the 2014 Conference to have public librarians speaking about the things (positive things) that they are doing.

This year I will have worked in the public

library sector for 21 years. Looking back on it I can still say that I could not have asked to work in a better sector of our profession. It taught me things that I do not think I would have been taught had I started in another sector (my own assumptions coming through here). Coming away from the 2013 Conference I have had a number of conversations with colleagues near and far about the need for us as public librarians to become more vocal about our work. I would like to encourage public librarians across the country to write articles for the *LIASA-in-Touch*, their Provincial Library Service magazines and any other appropriate channels to publicise their work. When there are opportunities to speak about what we do, take it. Send interesting stories to the LIASA blog, your local newspaper and even mainstream magazines such as *You* and *Huisgenoot*. What is the worst thing that could happen? I myself have to this end submitted a proposal to the OCLC Conference for one of their "Lightning Sessions" and was accepted. To the 2014 Conference organisers, can we have a 2nd public libraries session talking about the things public librarians do? We were after all encouraged to come back in 2014 and look back on the 2013 session and see whether there has been change. I believe that change takes place everyday within our public library sector. We just need to learn to talk about it.

Nazeem Hardy
Marketing & Research Officer
City of Cape Town Library & Information Services

Sensitised Politicians

Libraries are hardly ever the subject of an election campaign; the only one I know of ever making libraries and the establishment thereof in communities and schools part of a lobbying campaign was Melinda Bam and it may just have been the crowning glory to her run up as Ms SA 2012.

Our politicians, on the other hand, only see libraries as a quick fix for addressing service delivery protests. It is therefore more shocking that on a local level they show so little regard for libraries as community assets and are now looking at showing permanent staff members the door "as libraries only cost them money and don't generate an income."

As librarians we seriously need to heed the advice voiced at the 2013 LIASA Conference, that we need to start addressing the political literacy of our library customers. We need to take up the challenge and educate our communities to vote for community leaders who show a positive and distinctive interest in libraries as part of the non-formal education sector in our country, in this way improving and enhancing growth in community development. Libraries today are a vital source through which a community educates its younger generations as so many schools do not have fully equipped or

functioning libraries.

Politicians and political parties who don't recognise LIS as a wise investment in their communities should therefore not be considered seriously for the overall growth of our economy or protecting our cultural heritage or the running of our country.

When local government elections are about improving service delivery and the quality of life at community level, it is indeed strange that hardly any politician considers including libraries in their political campaigns. It should come as no surprise then that these very same politicians in local government target libraries for budget cutbacks. When putting libraries on the chopping block these cutbacks will inevitably have an impact on all other economic and educational sectors that depend on the cultural vibrancy which our libraries offer and attract community members.

As librarians we need to start making use of institutions like The South African Political Forum to educate our customers to vote for politicians who view libraries in a serious light and who will work towards ensuring that this aspect of our community legacy is conserved, maintained and kept up. It is in the hands of the "born frees" to ensure that local politicians are appointed

to office who will support their councils to purchase new books and library acquisitions to add to existing stock for community libraries to enhance lifelong learning.

Current local service delivery demands across the country unfortunately focus on toilets. Librarians can still seize the moment by mobilizing their customers by means of political literacy to vote for a party that will not flush away part of their community's education system.

Concerned Community Librarian

A day in the life of ...

Harare Library, Khayelitsha

It's 11:45 a.m. on 31/12/2013. Two staff members from Harare Library visited the nearby Spaza shop during their 20 minutes lunch break. This is what happened:

Two gentlemen entered the Spaza with DVDs stacked under their armpits, and greeted.

Gentleman 1: (Looking at library staff) I am selling these DVDs at R20.00 each.

Staff 1: Give them to me, let me have a look? (Gentleman hands them over).

Staff 2: They look interesting, where did you get them?

What National LOY means to me...

and my expectations from LIASA

To be awarded the accolade of LIASA National Librarian of the Year from the only national association in the LIS Sector in South Africa is an overwhelming honour.

This is an opportunity not only to showcase my sector, school librarianship, but also to contribute towards the shaping of LIASA into the kind of association that I would like it to be and in strengthening it as an association that is truly representative of all LIS sectors.

For me, LIASA should be looking at the sculpturing of a new look librarian, encouraging a professional image that is respected. LIASA should be encouraging young people to aspire to become a librarian.

I also feel that LIASA should take a bold stand for library workers by leading the statutory body legalities. As the overarching body, LIASA should take LIS forward and keep it on par with other international library associations.

LIASA should advocate strongly for the LIS Transformation Charter and its recommendations particularly that of school libraries.

I believe that we librarians should be much more vocal in our opinions.

Naturally, because it is my field of interest, I would like to contribute towards LIASA actively participating in and supporting projects that deal with improving the quality of education in South African

schools through the promotion of school libraries. This I feel would involve all sectors of LIS from academic libraries to the private sector. We all deal with the product of our education system (learners) at some stage of their lives.

I feel that school libraries have the potential of uniting the LIS sector, enabling all librarians to play a role in improving the standard of education of their current or future patrons.

I therefore support closer collaboration between academic librarians; public librarians and school librarians; government and NPOs in ensuring that the literacy levels of learners increase and that teachers' information literacy skills are developed or sharpened.

As Librarian of the Year, I would like to see the following:

- Training opportunities for members, through the use of modern, enabling technologies
- Engagement on a global scale with international collaboration and projects enriching LIS sector
- Advocacy on a huge scale
- LIASA becoming more accessible to more LIS workers (e.g. dual professionals such as teachers that manage libraries)
- Outgoing (retiring) experts being encouraged to pass on valuable library skills and expertise to young professionals and active dialogue between the two



2013 LIASA Librarian of the Year award and floating trophies

being encouraged through structured mentorship programmes within the LIS Sector.

To hold the LOY title at a time of celebrating 20 years of democracy is an added advantage for me. As a school librarian the past 20 years has been a bitter sweet experience: a celebration of all that we have as a result of democracy, but also marking almost 20 years of the struggle to keep libraries in our schools. However, it is also an opportunity to highlight this plight and to show how school libraries are instrumental in promoting democracy and shaping informed, responsible citizens and leaders.

Theresa de Young

LIASA SLYSIG National Chairperson

LIASA National Librarian of the Year 2013

Campbell Collections

LIASA 1st Runner-Up Librarian of the Year 2012 Award

Ms Nellie Somers of the Campbell Collections, who was named KwaZulu-Natal's Librarian of the year for 2012 by the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA), recently returned from a short visit to the Preservation Conservation Department in the Trinity College Library in Dublin. Ms Somers' selection as the first runner-up in the national Librarian of the Year 2012 Awards Ceremony enabled her to make the visit to Ireland, thanks to EBSCO Information Services, who sponsored the prize money for the award.

Ms Somers is the Senior Library Information Officer based at the Killie Campbell Africana Library, a collection

which comprises books, manuscripts and photographs which cover an extensive range of historical information about the south east African region and its population. In her capacity as Collections Preservation Monitor of the library, Ms Somers visited the Trinity College Library in Dublin in order to gain insight into the methods used for preservation of important records in the Preservation Conservation Department.

"It was an interesting behind-the-scenes tour of the preservation conservation practices in the Long Room of the Trinity College Library," said Somers, speaking of her visit. "It was fascinating to see the research projects currently being investigated by the Library, such as the

investigation into the significance of book structures, analysis of pigments and ink on parchment and manuscripts, and the study of library dust."

Of particular interest to Ms Somers were: the care, handling and storage of rare collections; the technique of cleaning the collections using micro-filtered vacuum cleaning systems and micro-fibre cloths; the basic technique of



Nellie Somers shows of her Award

using cotton tape to secure loose covers and the method of writing a disaster preparedness plan for archives and special collections. Ms Somers also took careful note of the equipment used for monitoring and measuring temperature and relative humidity and specific techniques used for setting up displays and exhibitions.

Not only is Ms Somers an excellent librarian, proven by her award and keen interest in developing the Collection's preservation skills, she was also involved in a community outreach project held on Madiba's Birthday where a total of 600 library books was distributed to a few schools in Durban, highlighting her passion for literacy, learning and the sharing of information.

Christine Cuénod

... a librarian

Gentleman 1: We took them from one lady who was from the library.

Staff 1: Do you have a library card?

Gentleman 2: We don't have a library card.

Staff 2: Will you follow us? We will get money from our Boss at Spar. DVDs are very educational.

Staff 1: You know these are library property? Why are you selling them?

Gentleman 2: We want money to buy booze; it's the 31st. We also want to be happy.

Staff 1: What about the person who borrowed these from the library? Ok, follow us to get the money.

The men followed the library staff but when they saw the staff members enter the library, they ran away. We recovered the DVDs and checked them in.

Lulama Langeni, Senior Librarian

librarian of the year



Central staff in the dressing room preparing to take the ramp in the CENTRAL FASHION SHOW 2013, proudly sporting their Mandela T-shirts, designed by Angelo Drage (far right).

Central Library aiming to innovate

With the popularity of mobile gadgets that provide instant access to all things imaginable, Central Library, like its counterparts globally, got to thinking about ways of remaining relevant and alluring to individuals in the broader community.

No doubt librarians the world over realise the importance of public libraries. But how to market ourselves so that people step into the library regularly – rather than staying home with their edutainment-providing gadgets, or going to malls or bookstores, for that matter?

With the support of a handful of likeminded partners, including the Open Book Festival; the Children's Art Centre in Zonnebloem; Cape Town Activa and others, Central embarked on a series of energizing programmes to draw particularly young people into our exciting and stimulating space.

Highlights on our 2013 programme included the consolidation of the teen discussion forum, Teen Thunder, under the competent leadership of a dynamic librarian, Natalie Denton. Teen Thunder is a success and, much to our glee, the teens have come to own Central as a welcoming and safe space.

With our even younger patrons in mind, our passionate children's librarian Tracey Muir visualised a Storytelling Festival in the beautiful Company Gardens in Town. World Book Day thus saw Central staff taking to the Company Gardens with 500 school children and a motley of storytelling librarians, authors and book-loving folks, with the express aim of entertaining the children in the natural ambience and to invoke a love of books and authors, with the sheer enjoyment of the written and spoken word. Don't tell, but we think the adults may have enjoyed it more!

Schools had hardly opened this year, when teachers called our Children's Library to be included in this year's Storytelling Festival. Our response: Yes! We would certainly be in touch!

Our annual Library Week programme is invigorating. Each staff member gets engrossed in creating a colourful banner proclaiming their love of libraries and books, or the services offered. The purpose of the banners? To be held aloft in the streets of the CBD, as we negotiate our way across streets, with our patrons and friends in tow. During our annual "Love Your Library" march, we go out en masse with

loudhailers to make our presence in the City felt, so that those who don't know about libraries and what we offer perchance will see our banners and be inspired to pay us, or any other public library in the Western Cape, a visit.

Other programmes included an evening of Opera in the heart of the library, with world class performers that provided an introduction to many people who had never heard opera before, some of whom were moved to tears. There was also the Career Expo; Fashion Week that concluded with a strident Fashion Show to showcase the wonderful talents of young, mostly unacknowledged, designers in our midst; on-going weekly workshops to empower unemployed individuals with skills to draw up CVs, prepare for interviews, search for work online, etc.; the engaging Open Book Festival programmes at Central; and lots, lots more.

Our much-talked about Guinness domino book chain and Pulp Fiction events provided lots of interest and marketing for Central Library, and libraries in general. A number of these programmes will remain on our annual calendar, as a means of continuing to engage our communities.

Central has taken some steps towards breaking the mould of libraries as strictly "quiet" spaces, and of librarians as uninteresting, weary individuals. Our staff is vibrant; and we seek to provide a dynamic space within which people feel welcome, while we provide the material and room needed for individuals to thrive. We have recognised the need to do libraries differently. Have you?

Akeela Gaibie

Senior Librarian, Central Library



Afrikaans Reading Programme with Help2Read

In 2013 Parow Library in partnership with Help2Read offered a reading programme designed to improve 2nd language Afrikaans reading for grades 1-6. Volunteers had to attend a two day workshop for which they received a certificate. Help2Read presented the library with a plastic container of books and games for the programme. The programme was quite a learning curve for the children's section. There were some hiccups with children and volunteers dropping out leaving us with 9 children and 4 volunteers in the end.

Children read once a week with a volunteer and the results speak for themselves - one child's Afrikaans mark went from 50% to 70% and another's went from 10% to 27%. Parents who saw the reading taking place in the library showed interest in letting their children participate. Due to the success of the programme it will continue in 2014.

The Library thanks Help2Read for their partnership.

Kathleen Laishley, Parow Library

Children's librarian, Angelika van Hees (back right) with two volunteers



LIASA Western Cape 2013 Bosberaad

The LIASA Western Cape Branch held their annual Bosberaad (strategic planning meeting) on Tuesday, 3 December 2013 at the University of Cape Town (UCT).

Members of the BEC and Interest Groups shared their plans and programmes for the year to come and finalised the diary for workshops and events in 2014.

We were honoured to have our President, Ujala Satgoor, and Annamarie Goosen, Programme Co-ordinator at the LIASA National Office, present. The President gave

much needed input and clarity on a few issues which made this a most productive meeting.

We have a great team in the Western Cape, the WIN team as we like to call ourselves, and are all looking forward to a bumper year ahead. We will be privileged to host the launch of Library Week 2014 as well, and excitement is building for this as we will be celebrating 20 years of Democracy.

Elmarie Waltman, PRO: LIASA Western Cape



save the date

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Valhalla Park Public Library wins the 2013 Woordveertjie Reading Award

Valhalla Park Public Library received the award for Promotion of Reading for 2013 at the annual Woordveertjie Awards Ceremony held at D'Aria Wine Estate in Durbanville on 13 September 2013. According to the judges, it is the first time that a library has been the winner of the ATKV Woordveertjie award for reading.

Nomination for reading award

The ATKV (Afrikaans language and culture association) is a society that aims to promote the Afrikaans language and culture. Valhalla Park was independently nominated for the Woordveertjie reading category by Izak De Vries, the marketing manager of Lapa Publishers. The Library only learnt about its entry into the competition at a later date.

"The ATKV-Woordveertjie accolade was presented to the Valhalla Park Public Library for initiating and sustaining reading projects that promote the importance of books and reading. In a community where literacy is at a low level and where children do not read, Valhalla Park Public Library has made a huge difference in the lives of these people. The library is a very good example of the role a public library should play in the development and advancement of a community through books and reading," said Thandiwe Mtshengu, senior librarian at Valhalla Park Public Library.

The award was gratefully received by the library staff who have made it their goal to uplift and empower their community through a range of literacy projects.



Valhalla Park library staff receiving the award for Promotion of Reading. Back left: Rodwin Van Wyk (volunteer); Rene Willemse (assistant librarian); Jerome Fortuin (librarian). From front left: Adrienne Jurd (volunteer); Alan Kannemeyer (assistant librarian); Ruda Landman; Thandiwe Mtshengu (senior librarian); Dairmaid Wessels (district manager).

Early beginnings of reading programme

Ms Mtshengu explains that the Valhalla Park Public Library has run community-based reading projects for the past ten years. A reading competition was launched in 2003 to promote a culture of learning amongst children. The aim was to capture young learners' interest through innovative reading activities. Grade 7 learners were identified as the target group and Eskom was secured as a long-term sponsor for the reading competition, which featured English, Afrikaans and Xhosa categories.

In 2008, the Delft and Delft South libraries challenged Valhalla Park library to an inter-library reading competition. This marked another milestone in the development of the literacy programme and led to further growth and another successful

event in 2009. By 2010, the competition had established itself as an annual event on the City of Cape Town's Library and Information Services' (LIS) calendar for District 4. Thirty-two learners from schools across the district competed in the final that was held at the Belhar Community Hall on 8 October 2010. The event received high praise from both sponsors and educators.

In 2011, due to the success of the competition and its clear success in promoting literacy, it was extended to libraries in District 3 as well. The District 3 libraries served a similar socio-economic profile as the District 4 libraries and it was felt that similar interventions were needed. In addition, District 6 libraries piloted the programme

in a number of their wards.

Reading competition extended city-wide

In 2012 the LIS made the competition a departmental project and included libraries from all six Districts. A record number of around 10 000 Grade 7 students participated in the event.

In addition to the reading competition, Valhalla Park Public Library also runs a Youth Corner, a Children's Book Club (ages 6 – 12), a Read for My Future @ My Library initiative and a number of adult outreach programmes.

Thandiwe Mtshengu
Senior Librarian
Valhalla Park Library



The annual literacy graduation

Kimberley Literacy Classes 2013

Literacy classes are currently provided twice a week at the Main Library and four times a week at the Galeshewe library. All classes are free for the students and grant funding from the Northern Cape Provincial Library Services (NCPLS) provide for the salaries of the trainers.

The aim of the classes is to establish new library users once they are literate. This will enable them to read their Bibles, newspapers and books set aside in the

library to fit their level of literacy.

More than 250 students have received their literacy certificates since we started the classes in 1991 using the Joan Basson method from Paarl. Since then we have translated some of the course material into English and Tswana.

We would like to thank our sponsor the NCPLS.

Fritz van Dyk

LIASA Western Cape's year-end breakfast

It has now become a tradition for the LIASA Western Cape Branch to have their annual Year-end Breakfast on the last Wednesday in November.

Our venue for 2013 was Groenvlei.

Colleagues could network, update their membership, enjoy a relaxing morning out in the country and celebrate the end of another busy year.

The guest speaker was author Alex d'Angelo. Instead of speaking, he read from his new book, *Goblin diaries: apprenticed to the Red Witch* and two short stories he contributed to the book, *Madiba Magic*.

It was most appropriate, as we were all saddened by the loss of our dear Tata Madiba a little bit more than a week later.

We look forward to a new venue every year and welcoming more and new members to this dynamic branch. We had a visitor all the way from Vredendal. She was one of the privileged ones to get a gift from the lucky draw, which everyone enjoys at the Breakfast. A big thank you to our generous sponsors, Van Schaiks, for the thermal mugs, Ebsco for the notebooks and Sapnet for the various prizes handed out during the lucky draw.

Be sure to book your place for this year's Breakfast. Places get taken up fast, as the Breakfast has become most popular and a highlight on our calendar.

LIASA WC Chair, Ingrid Thomson
and guest speaker, Alex d'Angelo





The Annual General Meeting which was held at the National Library of South Africa on Friday 6 September 2013 was attended by 64 people.

The purpose of the meeting was to report back to members on matters affecting the branch; activities for the whole year; challenges facing the branch; achievements and future plans for the branch. The minutes of the 2012 AGM were adopted and the 2013 AGM report and financial

report presented. No motions were received.

The 2013 Branch Librarian of the Year, Ms Therese Els was announced and the trophy presented to her by the 2012 Librarian of the Year, Ms Martha de Waal. Prizes were awarded for best spring attire and new Interest Group Convenors for MAIG, SSIG, RETIG, HELIG announced.

Mmakgoshi Reetseng
PRO: LIASA GN Branch

LIASA Gauteng South year-end



Branch members at the function

The Gauteng South Branch celebrated its achievements of the year 2013 on the 29th November at the City of Johannesburg's Florida Library in Roodepoort. This successful event was well attended by branch members. The branch chairperson, Ms Phindile Bekwa, directed the programme and thanked the branch members for their support. Ms Bongki Nkabinde, Assistant Director at the City of Johannesburg Region C Libraries, welcomed everyone and thanked the branch executive for bringing the event to one of their libraries.

The guest speaker, Ms Marthie Mare, took the stage and shared her skills and knowledge of face profiling. She highlighted the assessment of a person's character or personality from their outer appearance, focusing especially on the facial features. She will be launching her first book on face profiling early in 2014 and the Gauteng South branch wishes



Ms Marthie Mare presenting



Ms Marina van Wyk

her all success with the launch. The audience interacted enthusiastically with Marthie and asked many questions.

Next on the agenda was the launch of the branch membership drive which will run until the 28th March 2014. The branch would like to thank RedPepper Books and WWIS for their sponsorship of the membership drive prizes.

The branch chair-elect, Mr Ben Ramela, gave a vote of thanks and the meeting was closed with the celebration of the branch Librarian of the Year, Ms Marina Van Wyk, who put the branch in the spotlight at the national conference by being placed as first runner-up for the National Librarian of the Year. Members took the

opportunity to network during the refreshment break.

Phindile Bekwa
Wits Health Sciences Library
Chair: Gauteng South Branch



The presenters at the Library Showcase

Gauteng School Library Showcase

Schools from the Gauteng Department of Education celebrated International School Library Month by participating in the Provincial School Library Showcase that was held on 19 October 2013. The theme of the 2013 School Library month was School Libraries: Doorways to Life.

The purpose of the showcase is to provide a platform for schools to showcase their library activities and share best practices with other schools. Schools were given an opportunity to give short presentations on any aspect of their school library that is worth highlighting, e.g. how they converted a certain space into a library, collection development and organization of the library, how the library is staffed in the absence of a teacher-librarian post, reading programmes, information literacy, marketing the library, using learner monitors, fundraising and a library in a special school.

The library showcase acknowledges the good work schools are doing in developing their libraries under difficult conditions with very limited resources. It provided teachers/school library coordinators with an opportunity to network and learn from each other.

Fourteen schools participated in the annual event after presenting and being selected at district level. The primary schools were Parkridge, Nkabinde, Bathokwa, Modderfontein, AG Visser, Florida, Boskop, Duduza, Milton and Emmarentia.

The participating secondary schools were Boys High, Sutherland and Protea Glen.

The schools covered most of the topics mentioned earlier. One of the presenting schools, Dominican Special School, caters for deaf learners. The Library Assistant is deaf and a teacher did the sign language for the benefit of the deaf assistant. One of the highlights was a few learners that co-presented with their teacher-librarian. We had Bongani Godidi from Nal'bali presenting a short story. Two grade 12 learners from Isaac Morrison read poems and entertained the guests. The event was well attended by teachers and district education officials. All the participating schools received some books for their library as a token of appreciation.

Mona Niemand
Gauteng Department of Education



Celebrating reading

The Johannesburg Library and Information Services' "Celebrating Reading" event was all about literacy - the ability to read and write which is essential to fully develop a sense of well-being and citizenship. In support of the City of Johannesburg's Growth and Development Strategy 2040, the Library and Information Services Directorate focuses on increased literacy, skills and lifelong learning amongst all our citizens.

The Celebrating Reading event took place at the Roodepoort Civic Centre on 7 November 2013 and consisted of the launch of the Million Books Donation campaign, and a graduation ceremony for adult community literacy learners.

Among the guests was Consulate General of the US Embassy Mr. Earl Miller and his associate Karin Kitching, Mr. Jerome Chevrier from the Embassy of France, Suraya Dadoo, author of "Why Israel?", and Dr. Luisa Frago from the Consulate of Portugal.

The first activity of the event was to launch the Million Books Donation Campaign in a quest to support the increase in literacy levels in the City of Johannesburg. The primary aim of the launch was to start the five year plan to obtain one million books, especially books to give and read to children. It is intended that the campaign will run for two months of each year for five years. For the first year the campaign started on 7 November 2013 and will end on World Book Day, 23 March 2014. During this time the recipients and focus in particular will be on books for children, especially children from disadvantaged communities (print-poor environment). Literacy and the desire to read must be introduced from a very early age to create readers and learners. Unfortunately not enough adults realize that it is their duty to introduce children to books - especially in disadvantaged communities - and expect the formal schooling system to teach their children. It is then too late for children to be introduced to learning and reading in a fun and exciting manner - essential elements to lifelong learning and the will to succeed and perform well. The campaign intends to use the books to overcome the stressful and pressured introduction to literacy that many disadvantaged children have to endure in the formal school system. The books for children will be given to parents, caregivers and children in disadvantaged communities. Others will be donated to the identified schools.

The second activity of the event gave acknowledgment to adult community literacy learners, many of whom are already senior citizens, for their hard work, dedication and determination to become literate members of our society, and who will still continue with lifelong learning. The City's community literacy programme provides people with a basic foundation for lifelong learning and equips them with the skills and critical capacity to participate in society. "Learning to read and write is an essential skill to actively participate as a citizen of the city, however, it is critical to provide reading material for the newly literates in support of their lifelong learning" said Nobuntu Mpendulo, Director of Library and Information Services. The focus of the programme is on adults who did not have the opportunity to learn or attend school (especially women and the disabled); out of school and unemployed youth; and immigrants from Africa or elsewhere who want to improve their proficiency in the English language. A total of one hundred and nineteen (119) learners have graduated and received their certificates.

Maryna Moolman
Operations Manager
Service Extension & Resource Development
CoJLIS



Employee of the year: Nesheena Maswanganyi in the centre

City of Johannesburg Performance Excellence

At an award ceremony held on 11 December 2013 the City of Johannesburg Library and Information Services Directorate gave recognition to twelve staff members whose consistent excellent performance promotes and enhances service delivery in Johannesburg public libraries. The winners of the various regions and sections are:

Region A: **Phedo Maeko**
Region B: **Robert Chauke**
Region C: **Sandy Visser**
Region D: **Joyce Nkabinde**
Region E: **Yoliswa Kgasago**
Region F: **Olga Da Silva**
Region G: **Phillip Rameetse**
Johannesburg City Library: **Thandiwe Gulwa**
Office of the Director: **Phumla Xipu**
Bibliographic and Distribution Services: **Nesheena Maswanganyi**
Business Technology & Development: **Karin de Bruin**
Service Extension and Resource Development: **Fetisang Mogodiri**
Nesheena Maswanganyi was chosen as the overall winner and received a trophy for the Employee of the year for the Library and Information Services Directorate.

Maryna Moolman

Coligny Community Library (Northwest)



During the December 2013 Holiday Programme, the Library in Coligny had fun all the way! The Librarian, Henriët van Loggerenberg and her assistant, Mandie Rademeyer prepared a programme for five days. This was indeed a busy time. Children had the opportunity to be creative and also learn some skills. Making use of different materials is also a learning process, while they do enjoy every moment of this activity. Before going home the children also had their faces painted and received some refreshments.



It was wonderful to have so many ladies helping with the Coligny Library Holiday Programme. The staff also used this time to market the Library, especially to the children attending the programme for the first time.

The children were very creative and all of them were surprised to see what they could do with some help from the adults.

Henriët van Loggerenberg
Librarian



Inspiring Displays

Every library needs to create effective visual displays that stimulate public interest in books and other sources of information as people of all ages visit public libraries to borrow, read and learn. While just one person can create and set up a friendly display, many people will see its message, making it a wonderful marketing and outreach tool.

I have a passion for beautiful library displays and therefore want to pay homage to one of my fellow colleagues. Her name is Naomi Moolman and she has worked as a Library Assistant-cashier at the Florida Regional Library for 16 years. Naomi's natural flair for doing library displays inspires me - every time I see one of her displays I stand in awe and admiration of

her skilful creativity and the same goes for the library patrons. Naomi does an average of eighteen displays per year and each one is as striking as the other.

Naomi, you make the City of Johannesburg Library and Information Services proud! Thank you!

Maryna Moolman

Movies Enhance School Curricula

Now more than ever, movies are used

- for film adaptations of set-work books
- as film clips in course projects
- to generate revenue through movie fundraisers
- for movie nights to bring families together



Movies are commonplace at schools, necessitating the need for easy copyright compliance. Under South African law, all public viewing of films, including at schools and universities, require a public performance license, regardless of setting, audience size or length of the audiovisual clip. In addition, private groups often show films using school facilities which mean a school can be considered a "contributory infringer" for any unlicensed exhibitions.

MPLC Umbrella License®

Until recently, it has been difficult to readily obtain a license for the use of films at South African schools. The good news is that Motion Picture Licensing Company (MPLC) can now offer a simple copyright compliance solution with the MPLC Umbrella License®. MPLC is the leader in motion picture copyright compliance, facilitating legal access to public screening of films across five continents and more than 20 countries. The company represents over 800 of the world's top producers and distributors, from the major Hollywood studios to independent and foreign producers. Once licensed, schools can screen unlimited amount of MPLC movies obtained from any legitimate source, whether rented or purchased, with peace of mind and without fear of criminal prosecution.



The Umbrella License® is an annual fee based on the school's full-time enrollment. For pricing, questions and additional information please contact the MPLC at (021) 465-6449 or email Liesl Ernst at LErnst@mplc.com or visit www.mplcsa.org.



Mohamed Ismail presenting the cheque to Righardt le Roux and Jimmy Mokgosi from Westonaria library on behalf of Ons spens/Our pantry



M. Ismail with Es'Kia Mphahlele Library staff for The Manger Marine



Neesha Ramsumar (UKS MD) and Julian Schroeder of Elsie's River Library

UKS - Helping Hands Competition Winners

First prize
Ons Spens / Our Pantry
submitted by Righardt le Roux

Westonaria Library serves as a spring board for many community development programmes and through this specific programme they address the most basic needs of our most vulnerable and needy, namely, child headed households. Westonaria Library was instrumental in securing 1,5 tons of maize on World Hunger Day 2013 for children attending Westonaria High School. The Library was also able to donate 170 jerseys to destitute children from Thusanang informal settlement during June 2013. A community development centre is responsible for knitting the jerseys.

Second prize
Elsies River Friends of the Library
submitted by Julian Schroeder

The project is a remarkable example of the ability of a simple idea to spread through grassroots efforts and result in great success. Elsie's River Friends of the Library was founded to minimise the vulnerability of the community and to help them realize the possibilities they have for the future to improve the community from within. The Friends work to improve literacy, cultivate a love for reading and develop a sound knowledge base.

Third prize
The Manger Marine project
submitted by Evelyn Matjokane and Kenneth Khumalo

The Manger Marine Home in Uitzicht takes care of elderly and disabled people. Currently they look after about 110 people. As the majority of residents are either elderly or disabled, books are their main source of leisure.

Everyone who participated in the contest is a winner.

Congratulations and keep up the good work for 2014.

Neesha Ramsumar
Managing Director



Bea Greyling (Chair WAU Westonaria Branch), Righardt le Roux (LIS Westonaria), Juanita van Zyl (Shalom Children's Village) and Ina van Biljon (WAU Westonaria Branch)

According to Jen Drake, Public and Community Libraries should be looking at helping underprivileged people when striving to address community needs or enhancing the reader experience. Reflecting on these words "I feel more than anything else it is my duty to worry about everybody and their lives in this country, especially our children, and to try and find ways to improve things through my network of friends if I possibly can," says Righardt le Roux, Programme Librarian at LIS Westonaria.

Over the past couple of years LIS Westonaria has forged strong relationships with various stakeholders, the local WAU branch being one of them. The world is full of children in need and while driving to the LIASA 2013 conference I listened to a radio interview with Juanita van Zyl, Centre Manager

LIS Westonaria & WAU Helping Underprivileged Children

of **Shalom Children's Village** in Heidelberg (Gauteng).

"It was really heartbreaking to hear how this lady is working in her community to restore abandoned children's sense of self worth and overcome obstacles," says Righardt, "her wish to ensure that each child at least got a birthday cake on his / her birthday touched me greatly as this is something most of us take as a given. I immediately called on my good friend Bea Greyling, Chairperson of the WAU in Westonaria and said "we" need to do something, not just as a once off but ensuring a sustainable programme throughout 2014. Bea got the buy in from the WAU branch in Heidelberg through Nelda de Wet and as a grand end to Federal Children's Month a big birthday party was hosted for 40 plus children at Shalom Children's Village as part of the WAU's "We Care" community service.

Talking during the event and expressing her gratitude to ensure a fun filled day Juanita said: "To be part of an orphan or a special child's life and people in need is a privilege. They build up and fill up my life with the simple things and remind me to be humble and go on my knees daily; they let me have true joy and be grateful for what I have. Many of the children grew up in front

of my eyes and are now young adults."

Apart from presents for the three children who celebrated their birthdays in November 2013, there was cake, pizza, cold drinks, cupcakes, snack boxes, toys and books for all the children attending the programme. Some of the books were donated by UJ Campus Librarian and Children's Literacy Advocate Julia Paris and her group **Ladies in Aid of Children's Literacy**.

Through the **UKS Helping Hands Trust** LIS Westonaria was also in a position to donate maize for one month to the village to ensure the children have something to eat for breakfast.

Speaking about the intervention, Nelda de Wit from the WAU Heidelberg branch had the following to say: "I was pleasantly surprised. The work Juanita and her team is doing was an eye-opener for me. I was impressed by the motivational speech delivered by Refilwe Tlali, a grade 11 scholar from Westonaria High School, especially with how she encouraged the children from Shalom to take charge of their own lives and not be imprisoned by their past. "She said that the Heidelberg branch deems it a great privilege to become part of this project launched by Westonaria and to bring joy to children during 2014.

Westonaria Library wins UKS Helping Hands Competition

As part of proposals submitted to UKS, the Programme Librarian at Westonaria Public Library showed why this library should seriously be considered to win the annual competition as it would equip library services within Westonaria to reach out and help even more people in the community.

The UKS Helping Hands Competition focuses on community development and how a library can use the funding from UKS to improve the lives of those less fortunate.

"In my proposal we illustrated to UKS how our libraries play an important role in the everyday lives of our community. We no longer just serve as an information and book lending service, but constantly strive to impact positively on our community

through social development and educational programmes," says Righardt.

As librarians we need to be aware that the role of libraries is shifting, especially in areas where people do not read or simply cannot read.

"Therefore, we use the libraries in and around Westonaria as a safe space where people can meet and engage in dialogue without laying out money, or acquire life skills to improve their everyday life."

Due to their positive proposal and well-argued issues, UKS chose Westonaria Library as the overall winner of the **2013 Helping Hands Competition**. The criteria that was taken into consideration focused on sustainability; the ability to engage with outside

stakeholders; community involvement as well as long-term benefits to the community.

Westonaria Library's proposal fulfilled the required criteria and was "against all odds, named winner for 2013," says Righardt.

"By receiving this grant from UKS, Westonaria Library now finds itself in a stronger position to assist more destitute pupils and unemployed women in a year-long programme, thereby encouraging socio-economic development that will once again impact positively on South Africa as a country."

Righardt le Roux
Programme Librarian
Westonaria Local Municipality



Ons Spens, Our Pantry

Light and Love @ Westonaria Library

As programme librarian for Westonaria I enjoyed the privilege of not only attending the recent **LIASA conference** hosted in Cape Town but also rendering a paper during the session: **Public Libraries – the people's university**, a sound bulwark of a democratic state, underlining the important role the public library has to play within South African society where the current state of the nation is one of fear and increasing pessimism. As public servants it is our foremost duty to help all people, especially our youth who are the future leaders, to pursue intellectual goals, acquire new skills and competencies and to ensure that they live life adding value to our nation.

Discussions amongst academics, which I haste to point out I am not part of, made it clear that while we should be concerned with the intellectual enrichment of our patrons we should also guide them towards ensuring social improvement within our

communities. For the academics it is no longer a question of language and mathematical literacy as the buzz clearly shifted to political literacy.

(Inter)nationally we must realise that we need to start taking responsibility for mentoring today's youth to one day take responsible, sensible and moral decisions to ensure a liveable environment for all.

Entering into discussions with local sponsors as well as the **Women's Agricultural Union and Ons Spens / Our Pantry**, LIS Westonaria decided to launch a coffee club for the youth, as sometimes effective change can come from unconventional methods.

On Saturday 2 November 2013, as a launch to celebrations for Federal Children's Day 23 local youth gathered at Westonaria Main Library, collectively with 150kg of maize which was then donated to Ons Spens / Our Pantry to help bring relief to the destitute of our community.

Speaking at the event Neesha Ramsumar, CEO of UKS, said she was "astounded by what the kids have achieved." Stating that

their joint effort proves "that nothing is impossible if you put your mind to it and work toward realizing one's goals."

She encouraged the youth to continue supporting LIS Westonaria in this project and not to see it as a short term goal, as with everything else in life, stressing that one of the most important things any person can do is to make sure you choose the relevant people to help mentor you. By making use of a mind map a person confirms where you are going and you need to keep on being focused. In closure she also reminded everyone gathered to remember "together is a wonderful place to be."

Anneke van der Hoff, spokesperson for Ons Spens / Our Pantry had the following to say: "I was so impressed with these youngsters. Even in these very difficult times they show strength to face their future. Thanks to Mr le Roux they have grown into responsible boys and girls. I am very grateful for all the maize meal we have received for Ons Spens / Our Pantry."

Righardt le Roux

Lala ngoxolo Madiba LIS Westonaria

On 7 December 2013 a group of local youth from various schools in and around Westonaria congregated at the Main Library to voice their loss of former president Mr Nelson Mandela.

Quoting Kurt Vonnegut, 13 year old scholar Jamie van Rensburg from Gerrit Maritz Primary, reminded all present that each of us should "ensure that we use our lives in such a way that we create stable communities in which the terrible disease of loneliness can be cured." Jamie said it is by adding value to other people's lives that we grow and that being part of a community "means supporting and being supported; that it is about giving more than taking and that we are responsible for each other", in this way touching so strongly on Mr Mandela's sense of social justice.

Christopher Temba, a 17 year old scholar from TM Letlhake High School, concurred by stating: "If lending a helping hand means money disappearing from those hands to help those that need it, then that is an ideal I am prepared to get broke for" Talking about the violence which manifested itself in our community over the past couple of months, he said this does not represent the stance of all South African children as there are many children honouring the principles of UBUNTU and that is "up to the youth to keep this hope from dimming".

Dindi Khukhulela, a 17 year old scholar from Westonaria High School, remembers "Mr Mandela as a man of honour and integrity, a freedom fighter for a nation that was once imprisoned, but most of all as father to our rainbow nation". Reflecting on Mr Mandela's life, Dindi concluded that "with the passing of Mr Mandela we are also saying goodbye to an era of political

discipline as he always and in all situations remained humble and respectful and that was what lifted him high above other political leaders. He carried no bitterness despite 27 years of hardship and he understood the only way to achieve a democratic nation for all was through reconciliation." Dindi encouraged all the youth present to take up the challenge as future leaders to "finish what Tata Madiba has started to ensure his spirit remains alive."

All the children who gathered at the library once again donated maize to Ons Spens / Our Pantry which goes a long way to helping the needy in Westonaria. In November 2013, 57 families benefitted from the children's generosity and hard work. "Fulfilling your duty in a community is really not all that difficult when following in the spirit of Madiba," Programme Librarian, Righardt le Roux, said in closure.

Righardt le Roux

LIS Westonaria celebrates "World Hello Day" @ Venties

World Hello Day was begun in response to the conflict between Egypt and Israel in the autumn of 1973. Since then, World Hello Day has been observed by people in 180 countries. In the light of the riots in and around the communities of Westonaria, Grade 7 scholars from Venterspost decided to join in this global effort to bring about better understanding between people from different backgrounds within our very own community.

People around the world use the occasion of World Hello Day as an opportunity to express their concern for world peace. Beginning with a simple greeting on World Hello Day, their activities send a message to leaders, encouraging them to use communication rather than force to settle conflicts. By means of poetry the Grade 7 scholars penned their own concerns about their future and despite the increasing pessimism amongst local youth it is clear that they still find much to celebrate. Mrs Lina Vogel, HOD Languages at Venterspost Primary had the following to say; "the fact that our scholars requested LIS Westonaria to run this competition clearly indicates that there is a desire amongst our youth to be heard. All the entries were of a very high standard and once again Venterspost Primary School could count on the support of LIS Westonaria and specifically that of Mr Righardt le Roux. Not only were excellent prizes awarded, he also ensured that top quality, objective judges were involved in selecting the overall winner: Karabo Madumo".

On hearing Karabo was the winner Mrs Vogel responded: "She is fully deserving as overall winner as she is a passionate, hardworking, sensitive person. It is my hope that she will continue carrying on writing and continue to be a star person."

World Hello Day enjoins local participation in a global expression of peace.

Eleven entries from the school were sent to WordNSound, a platform for established poets in and around Johannesburg, to choose the overall winner among these youths who see the value of World Hello Day as an occasion for preserving peace and

that makes it possible for anyone in the world to contribute to the process of creating peace.

In his feedback to the scholars, poet Mpho Khosi had the following to say: "if we nurture these kids, who at the age of 12 are writing such beautiful pieces, then we as a country are surely blessed for the coming times."

Betsie Jacobs, acting deputy principal was also overjoyed saying that since grade 1 Karabo proved to be a committed learner. She is competitive and sets high goals for herself and now her hard work has paid off. "We look forward to her future achievements."

When tomorrow is too late

*I remember those days
where I didn't care
how I looked,
school skirt dancing below my knees,
with two front teeth out,
morning would find me,
ponytails and hair all messed up
and now I find myself
missing those days*

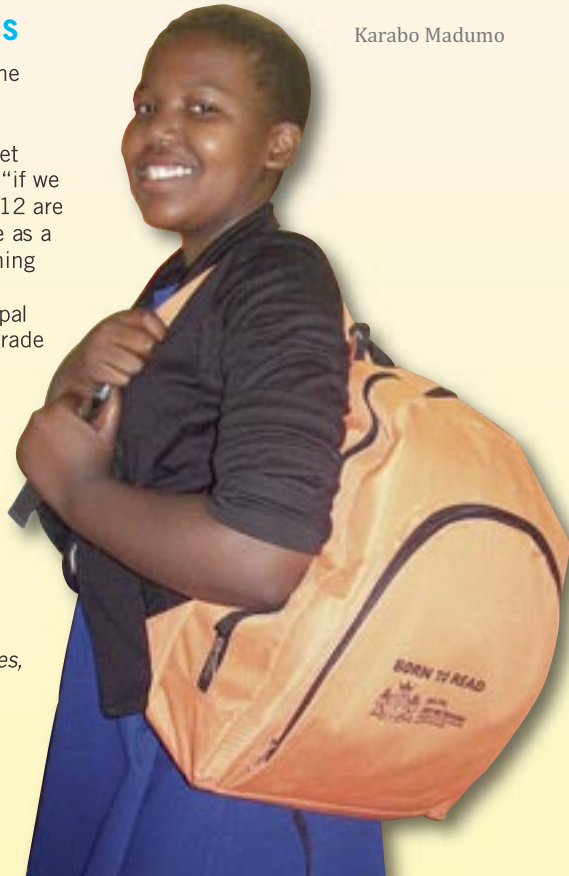
*I remember my mother
always urging me on:
"Enjoy your childhood"
me not understanding
then what she meant
to grab every chance,
every opportunity
and use it to the full*

*Celebrating childhood means
living life,
taking a day
hour by hour,
just like you are doing now.*

**Karabo Madumo
(12 years old)**

The contents of the Goody Bag

Righardt le Roux



Karabo Madumo





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Central Library

The Best Big Public Library in the Western Cape

Central Library deems it an honour to have been named the Best Big Public Library in the Western Cape at a prestigious awards evening that took place at the Artscape Theatre Centre in Cape Town on 10 February 2014.

In addition to providing an excellent collection and access to much-needed resources to the public, the Central Library team exerts itself to provide beneficial and vital programming in its efforts to uplift the communities it serves.

It is indeed gratifying to have our efforts acknowledged and we are delighted by our win. We submitted three nominations for the Western Cape Cultural Awards, including the one mentioned above.



Central staff members Senior Librarian, Akeela Gaibie, and Assistant Librarian, Natalie Denton, receiving the award for the Best Big Public Library in the Western Cape from Mr Stefan Wehmeyer, Deputy Director of the Western Cape Library Services at the prestigious Western Cape Cultural Awards function at the Artscape Theatre Centre

Central was also shortlisted for the Best Public Library: Youth Services award in recognition of the remarkable work we do with the teens who frequent our premises. We also submitted a nomination for Best Public Library: Children's Services because of the enjoyable and empowering programmes we offer to the many children who visit Central Library.

The hardworking and winning team at Central is elated by the award and we will use the momentum gained from the acknowledgement to spur us on to even greater heights!

Akeela Gaibie
Senior Librarian,
Central Library



Greater Tzaneen Library Services Annual Schools Competition 2013

The Greater Tzaneen Library Services has hosted annual competitions for school children with a different book/reading theme every year since 2002.

In 2002 and 2003 school children who read the most pages during a specified time were awarded with certificates and prizes.

The competition was altered from 2004 to make it possible for all school children to enter, even those without access to libraries and multiple books. The competitions may be entered in any of the four main languages spoken in the Greater Tzaneen area: Sepedi; English; Afrikaans and Xitsonga.

The format of the competition is different every year and has included posters on books; bookmarks with a slogan on reading; self-made storybooks; drawings of the children themselves reading and stories told by grandparents.

Certificates and prizes are awarded to the best entries in all school grades, in all four of the languages.

In the 2013 competition, children filled in speech bubbles in a comic strip about reading. Comic strips are fun and allow children to be creative and use their imagination, without taking much school time.

Entry forms were distributed in schools and in the Tzaneen, Letsitele and Haenertsburg libraries from August 2013 and were due by the 4th of October. A record number

of 2,409 entries were received from 26 schools in the Greater Tzaneen area, as well as from individual library users.

The mammoth task of adjudication fell to library staff members and members of the Tzaneen 'Friends of the Library'. Adjudicators were requested to look for creative entries – 'Something which makes you laugh, smile or think!' Grammar, spelling or whether the entries were colored in or not were not important as the aim of the competition was for children to use their imagination and be creative.

Using the free website www.123certificates.com, library staff members completed, printed, cut and laminated the award certificates. The prizes were bags filled with items of stationery from Walton's and the PNA and snacks from Woolworths.

From Monday the 28th of October to Wednesday the 6th of November 2013, schools with winning entries were visited to hand out certificates and prizes and for a promotional talk on stories, reading and libraries. Some schools preferred to fetch the certificates and prizes at the Tzaneen Library as the learners were about to write exams.

Because entries are not judged solely by academic merit, but rather by creativity, originality and the use of the imagination,

it is often children who do not regularly win prizes at school that win in the library competitions. Teachers say that the library competition certificates mean a lot to the winners and their classmates are inspired to see that creativity is valued. Library staff was touched by how happy the teachers and the rest of the school children were for the winners.

As the children at one of the schools in the town of Tzaneen, Unity Primary, are already well informed about the Tzaneen Library and often visit the library, it was decided that a promotional talk would not have a big impact and staff members rather dressed up as characters from books to entertain the children. A princess, a Tsonga dancer, a cowboy and Bob the builder showed the children at Unity Primary books that might interest them and invited them to visit the library. This certainly was effective as children from Unity visited the Tzaneen Library on the same afternoon, asking for the books they were shown – and to play with the princess!

Visiting the schools, most of them rural, and seeing how hungry the children are for information and for something different, lighthearted and fun was humbling, and made library staff realize the difference a library, a book or even just a single story can make.

Christine Nel, Library Services Manager



University of Limpopo celebrate Christmas Day with Orphans

The University of Limpopo Department of Information Studies in conjunction with the University of Limpopo Information Studies Society (ULISS) celebrated their Christmas with children from Hlahlaganya Drop-in Centre in Turfloop on 25 December 2013. The purpose of the visit was to donate books to the children and celebrate Christmas with the orphans.

Millions of South African children do not have access to books and low literacy levels are linked to poverty, unemployment and crime. The department and the students society donated books and narrated stories from the books to teach children about the importance of reading as this will make them to become critical thinkers and better leaders of tomorrow. The aim was also to try

and instill the culture of reading in children while they are still young and promote reading and learning. All people should have access to books no matter what their circumstances are. These books will also make a real difference in enhancing literacy skills among children.

Lefose Makgahlela

Drakenstein Libraries



Wellington Readers Library:
Tanya Wiese surrounded by children holding their photo frames



Wellington Readers Library:
Children showing off their handmade Xmas cards

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Wellington Readers Library holiday programme:
Facepainting

year-end activities

SA Library Week 2014: Plans for Free State Public Libraries

Check In @ Your Library – Where Democracy Lives!

In 2014, the Free State Provincial Library and Information Service plans to put the focus on democracy during Library Week celebrations. This project explains the 7 principles of democracy, with fun-filled practical activities to three age groups: children of primary & pre-primary and secondary school age, as well as adults.

Each of our 172 public libraries will receive an arts & crafts box containing bottles of bubbles, balloons, clay, craft paint, paint brushes, African seed beads, glue, magnet sheets, carton paper in different colours, ribbon, paper plates, red and orange paper, finger paint, colour-coated paper clips and templates where applicable.







- In our Guidelines, we start off with
- a definition of democracy; and then
 - the seven major principles, summarised as follows:
 1. Freedom and liberty – freedom of speech, freedom of political association and expression, freedom of the media, freedom of religion.
 2. The right of equality to all people.
 3. Respect of human rights – we must all realize that people are the most important commodity, the purpose of government is to serve the needs of the people, not vice versa. This is the main reason for the Bill of Rights.
 4. The Rule of Law – no-one is above the law





- we are a nation of laws. Presidents and legislatures can't just do whatever they can get away with, they are limited by law. Laws represent the will of the people.
 - 5. Inclusivity – nobody will ever be excluded from anything again
 - 6. Power of the people – the people make the decisions and work through their representatives.
 - 7. Opportunities for all – to school education, to tertiary education, to have a job etc.
- With this Library Week programme, the FSPLIS hopes to strengthen the perception of democracy and how we should practice it on a daily basis amongst young and old.

Adri Smuts

LIVING DEMOCRACY

Fun ways to teach young and old the application of democratic principles

PRINCIPLE	PRIMARY & PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN	SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN	ADULT
Freedom & Liberty 	Setting bubbles free <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each child gets a bottle with bubble water. - The concept is explained to them that nowadays we are all as free as the bubbles that we blow – they are free to go where ever they want. <p>Area of stimulation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The skill to blow a perfect bubble. 	Setting a balloon with a message free <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Each child (in privacy) writes a short message or note in which they indicate what is taking their freedom from them at that specific moment: e.g a bully at school, a teacher who picks on him/her; bad circumstances at home, a lack of money – it can be ANYTHING. * They do NOT share their message of lack of freedom with the rest of the group. * Each child folds his / her message in a piece, so small to fit into a balloon so that it can be slid through the neck of the balloon. * Each child blows up his / her own balloon. * If the group is ready, everybody goes out and throw the balloon up in the air – the wind will hopefully take it and the child can watch the balloon with that “thing” that takes their freedom away from them simply fly away, up. Up and away ... and experience total FREEDOM! 	Book discussion or sharing of ideas <p>Book: <i>A Long walk to freedom</i> by Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The librarian with savvy can incorporate a discussion on the film that was released at the end of November 2013. 
Equality	Rainbow fridge magnet made of clay <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Each child receives clay to create a rainbow to indicate the rainbow nation - we are all equal. * White air dry clay is provided and painted into the different colours. <p>Area of stimulation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creativity - Eye-hand / fine motor skills 	Clay = signs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Each child gets a piece of white air dry clay and creates an equal sign = <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This symbolizes equality. • They can decorate their equal sign as they wish and put it on a magnet background for a fridge magnet 	Beads activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Adults take part in an activity symbolizing that we are all equal under the flag. * On an A5 sized template of the flag, they give colour to it by adding seed beads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the red area of the flag is covered with a layer of glue, followed by a layer of red seed beads. - the excessive beads are shaken off and left to dry. - proceed with the other colours until the flag is completed.
Rule of law	Colouring-in activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Children colour in a picture of a policeman with children * The concept is explained that democracy means that you are protected by the law. 	Paint-by numbers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The children paint a figure symbolizing the rule of law – no one is above the law. 	General discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Using Madiba as subject again, the librarian engage in a discussion with adults on the topic: “Madiba was a man of the law (being a lawyer himself): how did he apply the fact that no-one is above the law in his own life?”

PRINCIPLE	PRIMARY & PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN	SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN	ADULT									
Human Rights	<div>Bookmarks</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">* Library Workers explain to the children<ul style="list-style-type: none">- what a basic human right is; and- make examples of human rights.- children respond by making bookmarks with the words I AM ENTITLED TO THE FOLLOWIWNNG HUMAN RIGHTS:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- prosperity- dignity- rule of law- justice- peace- hope- freedom- equality- trust</div>	<div>Bookmarks</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">* Library Workers explain to the children<ul style="list-style-type: none">- what a basic human right is;- what human rights are NOT; and- make examples of human rights.- children respond by making their own bookmarks depicting what they have learnt about human rights.- they can decorate the bookmarks as they please with carton and ribbon provided.<div>INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY</div></div>	<div>General discussion</div> <div><p>Library Workers engage with adults in discussion about human rights.</p><ul style="list-style-type: none">* Adults share the ONE outstanding human right that democracy has brought to them.* nonfiction & non-fiction books about human rights are introduced.</div>									
Inclusivity – always part of	<div>Sun face mask</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">- The concept that we are all the same under God’s sun is explained to the children – nobody is excluded anymore.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- children make sun face masks to always remind them about this principle.</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Paint the plate yellow- Add yellow & orange sunbeams like this:</div>	<div>9-piece puzzle</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Each participating child is informed beforehand to bring a photo of him/herself to the library.- If they do not have a photo, they can draw a picture of themselves.- The concept of inclusivity is explained by means of a 9 piece puzzle:<table><tr><td>Flag</td><td>Coat of arms</td><td>Extra-mural activity</td></tr><tr><td>Bafana Bafana Team</td><td>Photo/ picture of child</td><td>Church</td></tr><tr><td>School</td><td>Springboks</td><td>The family</td></tr></table><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Within South Africa, you are part of a whole, in other words always INCLUDED and never EXCLUDED.</div>	Flag	Coat of arms	Extra-mural activity	Bafana Bafana Team	Photo/ picture of child	Church	School	Springboks	The family	<div>General discussion</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Library workers engage in an activity where adults can share the pain of being / feeling EXCLUDED.* Uplifting books (fiction & non-fiction) on inclusivity is promoted.</div>
Flag	Coat of arms	Extra-mural activity										
Bafana Bafana Team	Photo/ picture of child	Church										
School	Springboks	The family										
Opportunities for all	<div>Chain of opportunities</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Library workers explain to the children that democracy brought opportunities to us all;- Children use paper clips to make e.g. a bracelet, a necklace or a collar for their dog.</div> <div></div>	<div>Opportunities – what can you create with a box of paper clips and a sheet of colour paper?</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Library workers explain to the children that democracy brought opportunities to us all;- However, we should create our own opportunities;- They demonstrate it by giving each child a box of paper clips and a coloured sheet of paper.- They can create ANYTHING with that.- The best results can be entered into a competition ... with PRIZES!!!</div>	<div>What opportunities did democracy bring for me?</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Library workers allow adult participants in the programme to share the opportunities that democracy has brought about for each person individually.- If a person feels they have NO new opportunities, this viewpoint should also be discussed / addressed by the group.</div>									
Power of the People	<div>Together we are stronger</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Paper sheets are pasted onto a wall in the library- The words: TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER are cut out and pasted onto the sheets.- Each person who took part in the Library Week Programme dips his / her her hand into finger paint and put their hand print on the paper in the following order:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Small hands on top;* Medium hands in the middle;* Adult hands at the bottom.- Each hand next to the other.- Having dried, each person can write his/her name in the palm of his / her own handprint – stating, together we are stronger!</div>	<div>See previous column</div> <div><p>This age group can cut and paste the letters onto the sheets of paper.</p><div></div></div>	<div>See previous column</div>									

ON THE MOVE

Dr Reggie Raju is Deputy-Director: Client Services at UCT Libraries.

Renate Mayer has been appointed Section Manager: Special Collections.

News from Rhodes University Library is that **Larshan Naicker** has been appointed Head: User Services & Research Support Services while **Linda Ntaka** is the new Faculty Librarian: Humanities & Education.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Avishana Kushial from Ethekwini Municipal Libraries, a recipient of the LIASA NGPL grant was invited to a special lunch at Ushaka marine World on 18 December 2013, hosted by the Dean of the School of Social Sciences at University of KwaZulu Natal (UKZN) for the top students in the faculty. Avishana was selected as the overall top student for PGDIS.

RETIREMENT



Eugene Jacobs (left) and **Leonora Starr** retired in 2013

from the Judy Scott Library (Kimberley).

RETIREMENT

Tanya Barben (Special Collections), **Lesley Hart** (Section Manager: Special Collections) and **Carolyn Coombe** (Acquisitions) have retired from UCT Libraries.

Elize van der Westhuizen, Manager: Acquisitions of the City of Johannesburg Library and Information Services (CoJLIS) has left the City in February 2014 after 37 years of service.

Elize has spent her working life in mainly the "old" Johannesburg reference section, and Bibliographic Services – Cataloguing, Periodicals and Acquisitions & Distribution.

Elize started her career at the City of Johannesburg during December 1972 as a Library Assistant just after writing matric. She started in Human Resources filing leave forms. She was asked by HR whether she would like to work at libraries and her first thought was: "What – Stamping books all day?" Nevertheless, she went for an interview with the then City Librarian Miss Lucy Kennedy, and started in the reference section in January 1973.

She worked as a Library Assistant in the Periodicals and Cataloguing office until she left in 1974 for the birth of her son. In January 1977, after a year at the Allied Building Society, she decided to take a chance and ask the City Librarian for a position again – she was interviewed immediately and appointed as a Library

Assistant until 1979 when she applied for the post of the City Librarians' secretary. She did not get the position but was informed that she would be granted a bursary should she be interested. The rest is history. After 4 years of full time studies (with a full salary after the second year due to excelling at University) doors opened for her.

Elize's experience ranges from being a reference librarian, to stack librarian, to cataloguer (concentrating on periodicals) and was eventually appointed as Manager: Acquisitions in 2005.

One of Elize's strong points is computerization. She was involved with the automation of the CoJLIS and subsequent amalgamation of Sandton, Roodepoort, Soweto, and Johannesburg library systems into a single database. The task of building and maintaining the central database (the then URICA and more recently Symphony) was a huge challenge.

Her dedication to the City of Johannesburg and her commitment to the library profession especially with regards to acquisitions will be sorely missed. Her attention to work within the rules and her sense of professional courtesy earned her the respect of staff outside the LIS directorate. Elize also served on the LIASA Acquisitions Interest Group (LACIG).

Maryna Moolman

Submissions to Ingrid Thomson ingrid.thomson@uct.ac.za Accompanying photos in high resolution only.



@ uShaka Dolphin Show

LIASA KZN year end function

LIASA KZN held their annual year end breakfast at the Ushaka Marine World in Durban on Wednesday, 4 December 2013. The morning began with breakfast at the Spur followed by a spectacular Dolphin Show, a walk through the Aquarium and some members even got Wet n Wild in the water theme park thereafter. It was an experience to remember. Where else can you take pictures with sharks and dolphins, shop, ride the waves and have a good meal? We had excellent support especially from our Msunduzi members all the way from Pietermaritzburg. The KZN branch executive would like to thank all members for their support throughout the year and wish them well in their endeavors for 2014.

Avishana Kushial, LIASA (KZN) PRO



Mandla trying to catch a Shark!

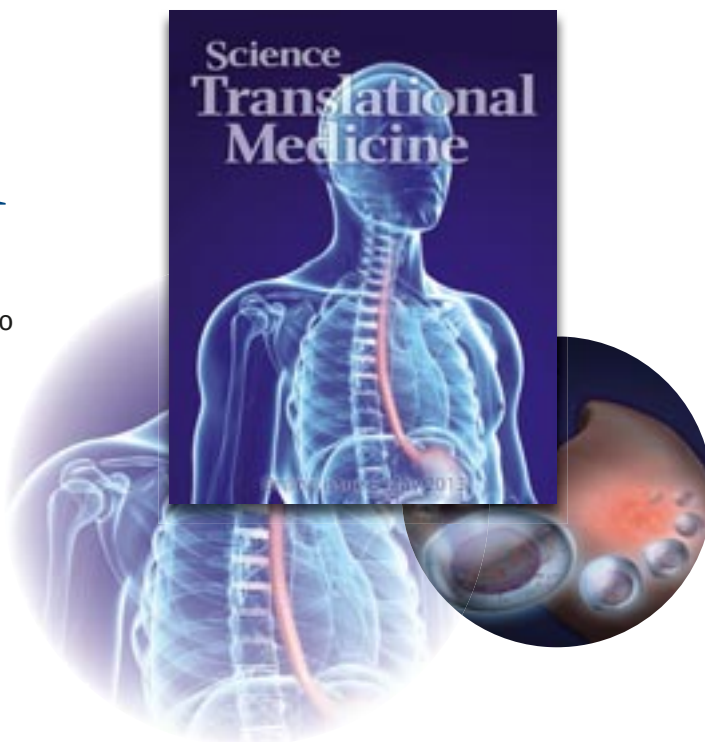


LIASA KZN Branch breakfast meeting

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