



Graaff-Reinet MUSEUM



Supported by The Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts & Culture

(Incorporating Reinet House, The Old Library, Urquhart House, The Old Residency and The Military History Museum)

P.O. Box 104, Graaff-Reinet, 6280 Tel: 049 892 3801 Fax: 049 892 5650

Vision

Our vision is to be an institution which preserves and reflects the cultural history and natural heritage of all the inhabitants of the Camdeboo area.

Mission

We collect, conserve, research and display the rich cultural history and heritage of the Camdeboo area, for the education, recreation and upliftment of the community and visitors whom we serve.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr M E Fynney (Chair)	-	Premier's Representative
Mrs P Wallis	-	Premier's Representative
Mr D S Smith	-	Premier's Representative
Mr J Daniëls	-	Subscribers' Representative
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Vacant	-	Municipal Representative
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Mr A Gradwell	-	Premier's Representative
Mr P Whitlock	-	Premier's Representative
Mrs L Lipshitz	-	Premier's Representative
Dr R Stauth	-	Premier's Representative
Ms K E Kekana	-	Premier's Representative

PERSONNEL

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

Mrs A F Kayster	-	Principal Museum Human Scientist
Vacant	-	Chief Auxiliary Service Officer
Mrs J J De Gama	-	Senior Auxiliary Service Officer
Miss D D van Wyk	-	Auxiliary Service Officer
Miss V Z Pika	-	Auxiliary Service Officer
Mrs N A Jacobs	-	Auxiliary Service Officer
Miss X P Blouw	-	General Assistant
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Miss K Booysen	-	General Assistant
Mr J Pylman	-	General Assistant
Mr J Isaks	-	Tradesman's Aide

BOARD OF TRUSTEE EMPLOYEES

Mr D van Wyk	-	Retired
Mr Z Isaks	-	General Assistant
Mrs C Williams	-	General & Museum Assistant

RELIEF STAFF

Ms A Le Roux	-	Retired due to illness
Ms Y Arnesen		
Ms L Du Toit		
Mrs D Hansen	-	Resigned
Mr D van Wyk		
Dr O Prozesky	-	Since July 2010
Mrs V Du Plessis	-	Since June 2011

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

I remember how, in my youth, we had a very kind middle-aged gentleman who was quite extraordinary because he lived in the past. You have heard of the habit of answering a question with a question? Well, this gentleman would always relate everything to some past event and never refer to the present or to the future. What an entertainment this was.

Many of the visitors to our museums consider that the museum is only about the past. Well today we are going to pop that bubble once and for all. We at the Graaff Reinet Museum manage items of the past but let me assure you we are in the future's business. When we teach history to our children at school we do it to give them a sound grounding for their future. We spoke last year about the little boy who found his family at the Museum and through this experience found himself.

I think that amongst all the old pictures and historical objects, we could mount an empty picture frame for a youngster to step into the frame and have his picture taken while we ask him or her where their passion for the future lies and what they will leave for us to collect and cherish.

I met a young family at the local Spar some weeks ago and noted that the boy of eleven had a little red elephant embroidered on his cardigan. One could see that this little red elephant, which signified he had earned his provincial colors for some sport, meant a great deal to the boy. Watching the special relationship between the boy and his father gave me hope that the boy was being steered towards his true potential for his future role as employee, husband, father and leader in our future.

Here at the Graaff-Reinet Museum we are mandated by the Provincial Government who provides the subsidy that makes it possible to achieve our objectives. We are expected to plan and to chart our future and the role that we too must play in the future of our museum and the influence that we will have on the lives of the hundreds of students and young adults that pass through our doors. But each year we are faced with the disparity between our growth and our true potential. I make no apology in repeating the quandary that the Board of Trustees and the management of the museum are faced with year after year. We are measured by our ability to meet the demands of our future, to expand our horizons and

facilities, to accommodate an ever-changing and growing expectation, while we are governed by a policy that says, "Expand and grow and meet the need of your developing community and we will reward you for your growth by increasing your subsidy in proportion to your growth" - while in reality we experience just the opposite to the rule. We raise funds and expand, we plan, we dream dreams which are brought to fruition, but the subsidy that we expected to see increased, hardly keeps abreast with inflation and has less and less value. We have an obligation to the arts and cultural integrity of the future and of this generation and there comes a time when we must realize that we are compelled to look outside the system that cannot feed us. We need to find a patron who understands the imperatives that govern the business that we are in. We don't look for profits or accolades, but we cannot continue to live from hand to mouth, month after month, year in and year out. The Museum must find a solution to this dilemma.

Perhaps the future lies in making ourselves as self-sufficient as we possibly can, by directing our small expenditures towards the serving of tea and scones to our guests in the coach

house? With our facilities could we compete in the out-of-town seminar market or have weddings at Reinet House? Offer stalls to bead-makers and small business enterprises. There is a truth that says, "Do not despise the day of small beginnings..."

Besides making such small beginnings, we simply must venture further afield in search of a like-minded community that understands our passion in the field of arts and culture, which understands that teaching has its role, but that interaction with young lives produces champions of many causes. We have no choice, for we are those champions who benefited by this very input into our young lives and we understand the dynamic and the huge potential there is for developing young lives in the field of arts and culture. If we fail we fail the nation that birthed us.

This year I will be seeking a mandate from our Board of Trustees to begin the search for the solution to our problem, one that will put an end to this ongoing drain on our endeavors and help to launch us into the future.

Thank you.

Mark Fynney: Chairman of the Board

JAARVERSLAG VAN DIE HOOF VAN DIE MUSEUM

Wat 'n jaar! En die adrenalien pomp nog steeds. Ons het 'n fantastiese jaar gehad, nou nie soseer wat finansies betref nie, maar die samewerking en spangees was onblusbaar. Projekte en take is met geesdrif aangepak en die personeel, die Trusteeraad en die gemeenskap het soos 'n goed ge-oliede masjien saamgewerk.

Wees verseker, die geesdrif is nog glad nie gedemp nie. Ons almal spoed nog volstoom voort en is nog steeds besig om die persepsie dat museums stowwerige dooie, plekke is, die finale nekslag toe te dien.

Een van die grootste gebeurtenisse van die jaar was die aanstelling van ons nuwe Trusteeraad. Groot was die vrees dat ons van hierdie fantastiese groep mense, wat die belange van die museum op die hart dra, sou moes afskeid neem. Die Department Sport, Ontspanning, Kuns en Kultuur het egter besef dat daar 'n groot skroef los is met die Museumwet van 2004 en dat Trusteerade nog glad nie uitgedien is nie.

After more than seven years, the new Board of Trustees was finally appointed by the MEC of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture. Quite a dynamic group of people, this new

Board, which consists mainly of old members, promises to be just as proactive, loyal and diligent as the previous Board. I would like to commend the previous Board who stood the test of time and who, without one complaint, served this Museum well past their official terms of office. Their services have been much appreciated.

I would like to welcome our new members. Members who have never served on the board before are: Cllr Eunice Kekana from the Cacadu District Municipality, Mrs Louise Lipshitz, librarian at the SAP Training College, Mr Andy Gradwell, a local teacher, and Dr Roy Stauth, who in heritage circles needs no introduction.

Of course there are a few other faces who need no introduction and one of those belongs to none other than our resident historical architect Mr Peter Whitlock. We are also very glad to have back on the Board, Messrs Mark Fynney and Daniel (Patrys) Smith, as well as Mesdames Pat Wallis, Ansie Malherbe, Thandeka Majoka and Elizabeth Buisman. The elected Friends of the Museum Representatives remain Mrs Hermi Baartman and Mr Jacob Daniels.

Ons het glad nie 'n idee wie die nuwe Munisipale Verteenwoordiger

sal wees nie, maar wil graag vir raadslid Colin Abels bedank vir sy passie en belangstelling in die Museum. Mnr Mark Fynney is weer eens aangewys as die Voorsitter van die Trusteeraad, glad nie 'n taak wat ligtelik opgeneem moet word nie. Sy regterhand en ondervoorsitter is Mev. Hermi Baartman, vorige hoof van die museum en nog steeds 'n individu op wie ons kan staatmaak juis omdat sy oor soveel kennis en ervaring beskik. I look forward to a wonderful, rewarding working relationship with these two energetic and motivated individuals, as well as with the rest of the Board.

Graag wil ek hierdie jaar se Jaarverslag in 'n meer gebruikersvriendelike formaat lewer. Ek word elke jaar na aanleiding van vier werksverrigting-kriteria evalueer: Finansiële bestuur, Interne organisasie, bestuur en aktiwiteite (Line Function), Administrasie en Fasiliteitsbestuur. Dus het ek besluit om die Algemene jaarverslag ook in hierdie kategorieë te verdeel en dit so makliker te maak vir ieder en elk om te lees.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Overview of the finances

As always, the Museum is still experiencing financial difficulties and we have to work tirelessly to make ends meet. Although inflation, general living costs and day-to-day

expenditure have risen, the Departmental subsidy has not. This really hampers performance, but unfortunately it is something that we cannot control. Miss van Wyk is still doing a sterling job keeping a watchful eye on our finances with the help of Mr Abie Nel. Our finances are in good hands.

Financial Challenges

One of the major concerns is the outstanding account presented by the Auditor General. Just to refresh your memories: Museums are expected to pay 1% of overall expenditure when an audit is done by the Auditor-General. According to legislation, National Treasury is responsible for the outstanding 99%. Since 2007 this account has not been paid by National Treasury, which has left the Museum with an outstanding account of over R71,000. After numerous letters to our Head Office, the problem has still not been addressed and it has left me with no other option but to refer the Auditor General's Office to the Department. One solution to the problem was that all the museums in the Eastern Cape appoint their own auditing firms to save costs. The Graaff-Reinet Museum is one of the museums that has followed that route.

We are still in the process of trying to obtain a permit to distill Withond.

Withond is a big money-maker, but unfortunately we now have to buy Withond from a cellar in Oudtshoorn. We do get the brandy at almost cost price, but it will be worth our while if we can distill it ourselves.

One of the biggest headaches of the past year has been the continuous burglaries. Years of experience has taught us to be vigilant, but security remains one of our major concerns. We have installed security gates, bolted our windows, installed burglar bars and put up security fencing around the premises. Thieves and robbers are very clever these days, but how one could jump a security fence is beyond me. This happened, however, and I have continuously been called out after a string of attempted burglaries. Rest assured, the collections are safe, but the vandalism caused after such an attempt caused us to cough up a lot of money. During the past year we have had no less than six break-ins. Doors were forcibly pulled from their hinges and windows were smashed. After one such break-in, we had to completely replace the garage door. This is putting the finances of the museum to a severe test, since we just cannot afford spending money which is already budgeted for. Time and time again the male staff have had to step in to fix and clean the area. Luckily the

local police have started to patrol the area. They, together with the Vosloo family of Graaff-Reinet Security, have the situation well in hand.

Visitors and Visitor Statistics

Our visitor statistics show a slow but steady decline, although December 2010 and Jan 2011 were our most profitable months of the year. We still receive visitors from all over the world, such as from: USA, Lancaster, Cologne (Germany), Oxford (UK), Austria, Bolivia, Nevers and Limoges (France), Hamburg, Espoo (Finland), Dresden (Germany), Kent (UK), Nieu Bethesda (Durban) Australia, Milano (Italy), Zürich, Polokwane, Suffolk, Belgium, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Canada, Secunda, Hermanus, Swellendam, Delmas, Gobabis (Namibia), San Diego, California, Minnesota, and so the list carries on.

Their comments are inspiring and their enjoyment of our neat and tidy museums, tangible: *Fantastic – most helpful and informative, very impressive – staff very helpful, ‘n Wonderlike ervaring saam met Vuyokazi, een van die dae wat ons lank sal onthou, Outstanding, Fabulous, Superb, Baie bly julle doen nog moeite Julle doen groot werk!, Thank you for being so helpful with my family research, Friendly service – wonderful place,*

Mal oor die frille en valle! Loved the raisin cleaner, Oorlog is gevaarlik, Haldane Murray lived about 4 miles from us, Maak 'n eie soldaat se hart trots!, Baie rukwekkend en intrissant! (sic).

Only one celebrity visited us this year and that was Altus De Bruyn from 7de Laan's Bruynwaves.

Most of our revenue comes from our visitors and we try to keep our museums interesting and varied. It is always such a pleasure to work over the holiday and festive season, when we get an opportunity to really meet our visitors and answer their questions.

Fundraising

We really are sick and tired of always complaining about funds or, rather, the lack of funds. This year we embarked on aggressive fundraising, kicking off with a stall at the Town of the Year Festival. We sold Withond, Withond liqueur and also had a raffle doing the rounds. Staff worked shifts and it was great fun working together while also experiencing the electric atmosphere of stalls and local and national music talent.

We also had a winter and summer Street Stall, which raised over R5,000. Unfortunately the winter street stall was not as successful as we had hoped, but every cent

counts. Apart from the Street Stalls, the Museum, together with the John Rupert Theatre Society, held three movie screenings in aid of museum funds. We baked, cooked and worked very hard to make refreshment to sell, and worked shifts to man the refreshment table. The entrance fee and the money made from selling refreshments were a very welcome addition to the museum's coffers.

Apart from booked events, the staff also made, took orders and sold breyani, boerewors rolls, pancakes, and soup around town. It does take a certain amount of courage to ask people over and over again to support our fundraising ventures, but to date the staff have done it willingly and with great enthusiasm.

On many occasions our Museum kitchen was a hive of activity: we made jam, grapes in Withond, fragrant oils, chutney, liqueur and spicy vinegar to sell in our museum shop. The shop is responsible for a major part of our income and we are in the process of upgrading our shop to present a wider variety to our visitors. Very soon we will have arts, crafts and bottled goods for sale.

One of the most successful fundraising efforts was *the Night At the Museum* performance. We wrote a script, rallied people from the

community to act and viola a performance was staged. We presented the show twice in 2010 to different groups of people, one of which was the Heritage SA Conference. People loved it, but it was the staff and the actors who had the most fun putting it together and performing it. The performance was so popular that we were requested to repeat it for the Fly Away Conference that was held in May 2011. Not only did we do the show, but we also supplied and prepared the venue where the conference-goers had a three-course supper. The only staff got into their beds at 01h30 after a week of intensive preparations. It was, however, worth our while when a hefty amount was deposited into the Museum account and we were able to survive for another month.

Funding Proposals

We are greatly aware of the fact that our annual subsidy is not nearly enough to carry us through the financial year. We were left with no other option but to approach all the banks and companies in our area to request financial support. This is such a sensitive issue and one has to have a very thick hide to carry this through. Unfortunately, none of the banks saw its way clear to provide assistance. In a few cases our request was not even acknowledged, but it was worth a try.

Catering

As a way of saving money, we do our own catering. This we once again did when we entertained the soccer veterans and hosted the opening of the Uyawuz'u Moya exhibition on 15 June 2010. We cooked beef stew, rice, pumpkin and chicken. We also catered for a workshop hosted by the Karoo Development Corporation.

Annual Subsidy

We have not received our annual subsidy, although we were one of the first museums who entered into the Service Level Agreement with the Department. Our subsidy should be transferred at the beginning of the financial year, which is the 1st of April, but this has not happened. In the meantime we are doing everything in our power to keep the wolf at bay. We hope our subsidy will be deposited at the end of June and I am looking forward to having a breather and a restful night's sleep.

LINE FUNCTION

Transformation Projects

The Oral History Project

The Oral History Project is one of our major initiatives, but due to a lack of funding is not progressing as it should. Dr Roy Stauth and I, have taken the training of Oral History volunteers upon ourselves, compiled a booklet and presented a training

workshop. An application for funding to the National Lottery Distribution Fund was also completed. In the meantime the collecting of Oral History is well on its way even with the slender resources we have at our disposal. The team interviews members of the community on various subjects including life in the olden days, cultural tradition and practices, religion, social activities, the economy and views on Apartheid and its consequences. We are planning to establish a museum exhibition, make a documentary film and publish a book on the subject.

The Uyawuz'u Moya (It is here, South Africa!) Exhibition

In the spirit of soccer and the FIFA World Cup™, the Graaff-Reinet Museum opened its Uyawuz'u Moya (It is here, South Africa!) exhibition on Tuesday, 15 June with a special gathering of Graaff-Reinet Soccer Veterans at the Old Library Museum.

The exhibition had been in the pipeline for the past six years and after putting our heads together, the museum decided to involve the community in the opening. Thus, soccer veterans gathered on Tuesday morning, 15 June 2010, to share stories of how soccer was played in Graaff-Reinet.

The exhibition was well received. We researched and designed the exhibition ourselves and worked overtime to mount the exhibition to be in time for the opening of the World Cup.

The Soccer Veterans get-together was also a means of collecting oral history of our favourite sport. The veterans were interviewed and recorded and afterwards were treated to a good meal which we cooked ourselves. The opening of the exhibition featured in the local newspaper and afterwards one of the veterans told us that the morning at the museum had been like a reunion meeting, since they started seeing less and less of each other after 1953 when they were forced apart because of the Group Areas Act. The Uyawuz'u Moya exhibition was on display until the end of the year (2010). It depicted the history of soccer in South Africa and also payed tribute to Bafana Bafana. A special panel was dedicated to Soccer in Graaff-Reinet.

Educational Programmes

The museum was once again in a position to host various educational programmes:

- The National Orders Exhibition & Educational Programme
- The Uyawuz'u Moya Educational Programme

- The Historical Building Educational Programme was hosted for two consecutive days for learners from local schools.
- The Rock Art Educational Programme. We have numerous requests for this educational programme, our most successful educational programme.

I would like to stress the fact that this museum has adhered to its operational plan in which we undertook to host four educational programmes, one per quarter. If money was not available we put our heads together to meet the challenge. Our Educational programmes are well and flourishing.

Xhosa Labels

Our vision is to transform this museum and its exhibitions. Xhosa labeling is very necessary since this is one of the languages spoken in our town. We have embarked on a project to label all our exhibitions in Afrikaans, English and Xhosa. Most of the labels of artifacts are done, and we are currently busy with the brochures.

The Ablution Facility Project

The aim of the museum is to create ablution facilities for all the people of the community, since we have come to notice that such a need exists. Numerous proposals for funding were submitted and

thorough research was done. A lot of hard work went into compiling proposals and letters to plead for funding. At present it looks very positive and very soon the museum will be in a position to offer clean public ablution facilities to the community.

The Damaged Sobukwe Grave

The Sobukwe grave was severely vandalized. The Museum was tasked to host a public meeting, with all stakeholders, the community, the National Heritage Council and the Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture, to discuss the way forward. We also catered for all those who attended.

The Sobukwe Day Celebrations

Annually, close to or on Robert Sobukwe's birthdate, we open the museum to the Pan Africanist Congress who usually gather in Graaff-Reinet for a celebration. We take visitors around the Sobukwe Exhibition free of charge and assist wherever we can.

Die Uurglas/ The Hourglass

Alhoewel nie deel van my werkverpligting nie, versprei ons twee keer per jaar die Museum Nuusbrief wat interessante inligting bevat oor navorsing gedoen en al die projekte wat ons aanpak en poog om aan te pak. Die Nuusbrief is ons skakel tussen die Vriende van die

Museum, ons ondersteuners en die breë publiek en ons stuur dit met graagte uit. Koste vir aflewering is egter baie duur en ongelukkig sal slegs diegene wat betaalde lede van die Vriende van die Museumvereniging is dit ontvang.

Bemaking en Media aangeleentede

‘n Nuwe glans Museumbrosjyre het in Desember 2010 die lig gesien. Dit is verbruikersvriendelik en baie akkuraat. Die ontwerp sluit aan by ons nuwe webtuiste en weerspieël die kenmerkende Graaff-Reinet Groen en ons mooi en netjiese geboue.

Graaff-Reinet en die Museum was vanjaar voortdurend in die kollig en ons sê glad nie Nee Dankie nie. Teen hierdie tyd is almal bewus daarvan dat Graaff-Reinet in 2010 die Dorp van Die Jaar Kompetisie gewen het. Dit was die beste ding wat met die Museum kon gebeur. Ons Withond het soos soetkoek verkoop en besoekers het ons gedurende Desember en Januarie oorval. ‘n Artikel oor Graaff-Reinet en die Museum het in verskeie vooraanstaande koerante verskyn, onder andere The Weekend Post en Rapport.

Op 16 April 2011 het ons die Jan Braai Erfenis Toer onthaal. Verskeie mense is na hierdie geleentheid genooi waar ene Jan Braai,

voorspraak gemaak het vir braaivleis en braaivleisvure as deel van ons erfenis. Te midde van ‘n skielike koue het ons die heerlikste gebraaide skaapboud, volstruisfilet, sappige wors en skilpadjies bedien. Kyknet was weer eens teenwoordig om alles op te neem en die program sal gedurende die eerste week van September uitgesaai word.

Navorsing

‘n Sleutelfunksie van die museum is om navorsing te doen. Ons het egter ‘n ernstige tekort aan personeel en die tyd is ons net nie beskore om navorsing te doen nie. Ons het wel navorsing gedoen vir Nuusbriefartikels, die Sokker Uitstalling en die Anglo Boereoorloguitstalling. Ek het ook navorsing gedoen oor die onderwerp *Transformasie in Museums* wat tydens die Nasionale Erfenis Konferensie in Graaff-Reinet voorgelê is. Genealogiese navorsing word op ‘n gereelde basis gedoen en almal is daarmee gemoeid.

Die Argiefbewaarplek

Die herorganisasie van die argief was een van ons hoofogmerke gedurende die pasafgelope jaar. Twee van ons raadslede, Mev Baartman en Mev Malherbe, het saam met ons ingespring en die klere gesorteer. Dit was ‘n reusetaak. Daarna moes alles in suurvrye bokse en in kategorieë

gepak word. Die argief kort nog heelwat aandag en natuurlik is ons tyd beperk, maar ons is goed op dreef.

Internasionale Museumdag

Ter viering van Internasionale Museumdag het ons besluit om 'n opstelkompetisie in samewerking met die Graaff-Reinet Advertiser van stapel te stuur. Ons het oorgenoeg inskrywings gehad en ek het 'n hele naweek spandeer aan opstelle lees. Dit was moeilik om die wenners te kies want elkeen was spesiaal. Die opstelle van die wenners is in die koerant geplaas en u kan maar self oordeel of ek die regte keuses gemaak het. Ons is baie bly dat die Graaff-Reinet Advertiser hul weg oopgesien het om ons met advertering van die kompetisie tegemoet te kom. Sonder die koerant sou dit maar 'n powere poging gewees het. Ons borge wat sonder 'n woord hul hand in hul sak gestee en 'n kinderhartjie baie bly gemaak het, jul ondersteuning word opreg waardeer.

ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

What can I say: the staff of this museum work relentlessly, enthusiastically, and with team spirit. This past year was a test of all our loyalties to the museum and all passed with flying colours. It takes great commitment to work longer

hours than are necessary, to do work outside your job description and this all without financial remuneration. I want to thank each and every one of you for the hard work and commitment of the past year. We could not have done it without each other. You are superstars and it's a great honour working with a group of such dedicated individuals. Always remember that my heart beats warmly for all of you and for what we share.

Shiftwork

Shiftwork and the non-payment of staff for working on Saturdays presented quite a challenge this year. The staff are very dissatisfied with this state of affairs. Although they did not receive any compensation for working on weekends, they were at their posts when it was required. It should be noted that all staff are government officials and are required to work a 40 hour week. At present staff work much more than that and this includes Saturdays.

The Industrial Strike

The Public Service strike only affected us once, when the neighbouring Social Welfare Offices were invaded and the staff forced to leave. All the staff feared for their safety and went home. We had to do crisis management but luckily relief staff was on standby to man the museums. Although the strike did

affect the staff in some way or another, we tried our best to remain on duty and keep the doors of the museum open. A lot of time and effort also went into keeping track of staff for the duration of the strike. Time sheets had to be signed and submitted to our Head Office on a daily basis. I would like to commend the staff for their diligence during a period of upheaval and immense pressure.

All staff members except one scored four out of five during their personal evaluations. These are fantastic scores and are indicative of their commitment to the Museum. Congratulations to all and allow me to say: Keep up the good work!

Hellos and Goodbyes

We have a new addition to the museum family and it is non other than the beautiful little girl born to Mrs Nomakhosazana Jacobs and her husband. Congratulations. We are positive that she will be a joy to both of you.

Ms André Le Roux, one of our relief staff members, became very ill recently and was hospitalized. We wish her a speedy recovery. Unfortunately, her illness has left a big gap. On top of that Mrs Dorothy Hansen resigned and it became very difficult to find people to man the museum on weekends and Public Holidays. Luckily Mrs Veronica du

Plessis came knocking at our door and she was a Godsend. We are very happy to welcome her on board. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to Dr Oskar Prozesky who has taken over from Oom Dennis van Wyk during the lunch hour at Reinet House.

FASILITEITSBESTUUR

Die wete dat die jaarlikse subsidie ons beswaarlik deur die jaar sou dra het ons genoop om drastiese stappe te neem. Tydens 'n vergadering met die manspersoneel het ek hulle gevra om dit te oorweeg om self al die nodige onderhoudswerk aan te pak. Sonder om twee keer te dink het hulle ingestem en fluks en entoesiasties die groot taak begin. Binne twee en 'n halwe maande het hulle hul gereedskap neergelê: Reinethuis en Urquharthuis het wit geskitter en die Ou Residensie kon spog met 'n geverfde kombuis en gang en 'n goedherstelde dak. Alles was blink en skoon, binne en buite. Die dames het natuurlik die mans se werk oorgeneem en Mev De Gama moes selfs 'n paar keer die tuin nat lei. Almal het soos 'n span gewerk en die geld wat ons gespaar het, het alles die moeite werd gemaak. Ons kon dit egter nie sonder die Pienaar erflating doen nie en daarvoor is ons diep dankbaar teenoor wyle dr Pienaar.

Die manspersoneel het hulself duidelik bewys en deur die jaar het verskeie weggesteekte talente na vore getree: Selfs elektriese werk kon hulle nie onderkry nie en met loodgieterswerk is daar kort mette gemaak.

DANKIES / THANK YOU'S

Dit klink te eenvoudig as ek sê dat ons hierdie jaar baie hard gewerk het. Wanneer dit verby is, word al die harde werk glad nie eers meer onthou nie. Moet egter nie dink ek het vergeet van al die harde werk, krisisbestuur en lang ure wat elke lieve personeel hierdie jaar ingesit het nie. Woorde is nie genoeg om my dankbaarheid te beskryf nie. Baie, baie dankie – hierdie museum bly staande as gevolg van julle lojaliteit en bereidwilligheid om meer in te sit as wat daar van julle verwag word.

A big thank you to our Board of Trustees who so willingly attend Board meetings. With your support and advice we were once again able to realize most of our goals.

A big thank you to our regular sponsors, namely the Graaff-Reinet Advertiser, Drostdy Hotel, Mad Hatters, Izienne van Jaarsveld, Spandau Spar, Mark Senekal, Louise Lipshitz, Steers, the John Rupert Theatre Society and KFC. I would also like to commend the ladies of the Board and Mr Daniels

for being so willing to contribute something to our Street Stall or whenever we have a function. We appreciate all the muffins, éclairs, cakes, biscuits and sandwiches that you make. Thank you also for providing the hot soup and bread which will be served after the meeting.

Finally, I would like to thank our Department and more specifically the Directorate Museums and Heritage as well as the Cacadu district office for their continued support.

We could never have done it without your help. Allow me to say that I and the rest of the staff look forward to a wonderful working relationship in the coming year.

Thank you.