



Wind Call

The Christian Community in and around Cape Town: August – October 2017.
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Our Website:

www.thechristiancommunity.org.za

What could our Silk Route Project look like?

CAN A MOVEMENT BE A MOVEMENT without continuous growth and development? If it is the same from one decade to the next how can it be called a movement? What does growth and development look like in a movement such as ours? These are challenging questions.

An inspiring activist for the continuous renewal of culture in our time is the outstanding cellist Yoyo Ma. A French born, American Chinese (work that one out!), Yoyo Ma became a world renown cellist at a very young age. He tells the story of a child who said to his father “When I grow up I want to be a musician”. To which the father replied, “You can’t do both”. And indeed Yoyo Ma has retained a wonderful childlike enthusiasm for new discovery right up to this day. He is now 61. He lives with the question “What is the relevance of me playing my cello all over the world when the whole world is filled with suffering, conflict, corruption and the like?” His grappling with this existential question led him to realise that for his music to become an agent of change in the world he had to meet and work with musicians of other cultures. This idea gave birth to “The Silk Route Project”.

He sought out leading musicians in as many different cultures as he could around the whole world and invited them all to bring their traditional instruments and meet together in America. What followed was a multinational jamming session of the most diverse musical expressions imaginable. One cultural instrument and style would begin and everybody else would then join in and enhance their music without detracting from its uniqueness. Everyone involved was enthused into breaking new ground - a Whitsun musical experience.

As Yoyo Ma says, “If a culture does not continuously grow, it will become smaller and smaller.” To grow, cultures need to be inspired by each other and so be coaxed out of their comfort zones. Never have you seen such inspired and purpose-filled musicians as in the Silk Route Ensemble.

We could all do this in our own spheres of life. We could all be open to meet and learn from people of other cultures and religions and points of view without needing to defend anything or compromise ourselves. Most of all we could do this with regard to the spiritual world – go out each day to meet it on its own terms with the intent of listening and learning and expanding our take on life and the people with whom we have to deal. This would allow a movement such as ours to grow and develop on as many fronts as there are people in it.

Richard Goodall.

Confirmations 2017.

ON SUNDAY, 14TH APRIL six children were confirmed.

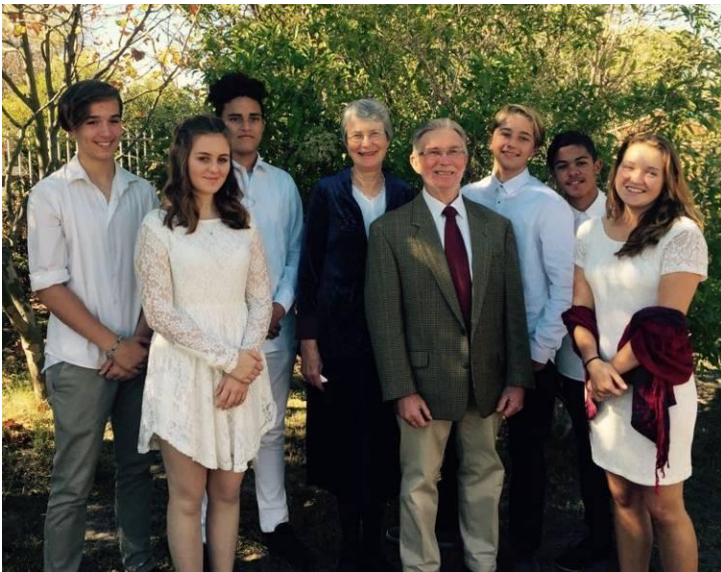
They were *(picture below from left to right)* Mateo du Plessis, Tallulah Perrin, Noah Bradshaw, Lenker Reingard Knausenberger who came from Johannesburg to hold the service, Cape Town Priest Richard Goodall, Arusha Olckers Snel, Alex Fortuin and Shakira Kempken. *Right above:* A relaxed moment before supper *(below right)*. At *bottom right* is the happy trio: Noah, Arusha and Mateo.

Our congratulations go to these young people for reaching this milestone. Thanks to Mascha du Plessis and Ilze Olckers for their photos. Marilize.

Confirmation is such a valuable gift for the young person - a gift which has the potential to enrich their entire future life. They are confirmed in their very being and the whole process of preparation is to prepare them to receive what pours into their being in this service and to be able to connect with it continuously throughout their lives.

The new Confirmation Class for 2017/2018.

I would like to meet with parents of the new class during the first week of August so as to get the new group started as soon as possible in the new term. Richard Goodall.



From one of the parents.

The memorable event of the confirmation of our son, Mateo, was emotional, rewarding, life changing and beyond special in many ways. The journey the children went on to come to this day was not fully comprehensible as things taught were on another level of our every day thinking and living. They were nourished from the soul outwards and confirmed as beautiful individuals each on their own paths in this life. This event was enjoyed and cherished by all who attended and will live forever in our souls, the fruits of its occurrence to be witnessed in the future. Once again a huge thank you to Richard Goodall and Reingard Knausenberger for the immense blessings they have bestowed on our children.

Kind regards, Mascha Rutherford.

New developments in the Christian Community world-wide.

IT WAS HEARTENING TO HEAR in the recent international Synod in Berlin that The Christian Community is still breaking new ground in new areas of the world. There has been a strong input in recent years to expand into the Eastern European region. This has now born fruit both with regard to new priests from these countries and the founding of new communities there. This had led to the establishment of a new Eastern European Region and between now and Michaelmas 2019 communities with local priests will be established in Hungary, Rumania, a 2nd community in the Ukraine in Kiev, Moscow in September 2018, and Lithuania at Michaelmas 2019. There is an extremely enthusiastic group of pioneer priests (all women) who will be taking on this exciting task and they will be extremely grateful for all the morale support that they can get from all of us world-wide. Watch this page.

Richard Goodall.

Ordination in Johannesburg.

AS YOU ALL KNOW BY NOW, this wonderful service of ordination for Michael Merle will be held in South Africa in Johannesburg for the first time ever on **24th September** this year. This is a very important moment for our whole region and for the future of The Christian Community in this country. It is one of those events about which, in the future, you would like to be able to say, "I was there!"

It would be a great show of support for our work in this part of the world if as many people as possible from Cape Town would be there to witness and participate in this weekend's events. It will begin on **Friday evening 22nd** with an introductory talk about ordination. There will be various activities on the Saturday and the Ordination on Sunday. Monday is a public holiday.

Please try to be there.

Richard Goodall.

Whitsun 2017.

ON 4TH JUNE, FORTY DAYS AFTER EASTER, we celebrated Whitsun. Howard Dobson and helpers prepared a homeopathic mixture called Preparation '500' introduced by Rudolph Steiner as horn manure. The preparation involves packing cow manure into cow horns, identified by birthing rings, which are buried in Autumn and lifted in Spring. When we are ready to use BD500, we add a small dose to the water and 'dynamise' the solution by means of a specific way of stirring that simulates the power of a vortex. To spray it on the soil each person uses a bucket and a small leafy branch to help distribute the preparation all over the garden to enliven the earthly forces. Fortunately some long-awaited rains for Cape Town arrived two days later to help soak the goodness of the 500 into the parched soil. Thanks to Howard for leading us once again in this healing activity to enrich the earth.

Marilize.



Participating in the spraying of the Preparation 500 on the left are Johanna Oltmanns and her daughter, Lulama (4) and on the right Andreas van Breda with his two children, Sahar (4) and Ara (5). Helping them is Olivia (7) daughter of Carla and Rudolf Roux and grand-daughter of John and Jeanne Roux.



Visit to our Community at Camphill Hermanus.

DURING THE MONTH OF MAY Hanna von Maltitz and I had the opportunity of visiting Camphill Hermanus in the Hemel en Aarde Valley. We wanted to see the Chapel where The Christian Community services take place as well as meet with some friends and church members – or at least as many as we could fit into the day.

It is easy to see where the Hemel en Aarde Valley gets its name from: turning off the N2 a few kilometers before Hermanus one enters a lush area of the brightest green grass imaginable and many mature trees. The road winds ever higher amidst unfolding vistas of farms and tranquil-looking animals.

At the Village we found Richard Goodall setting up for the next day's service as it was his weekend with the Community there. The altar cloths were being ironed by Anet, one of the residents and Richard's faithful ironer. An ingenious solution to a chapel had been found in the multi-functional hall where, on one end, there is a stage that can be used for any other event e.g. concerts, musical recitals and plays, and on the other end a raised section of floor in a niche housing the altar and candles with bright flowers. Rows of chairs completed the picture. The peace and quiet was a balm to our souls.



Our first visit was to **Louisa Boedinghaus** who lives at Mountain Rose, a cottage set amidst fynbos on top of a hill, quite close to Camphill. At the end of a dusty track the cottage peeped through the trees, reminding us of something out of Tolkien's "Hobbit". We were warmly welcomed into her kitchen for morning tea. There the sun streamed in – it was a cheerful room where books, plants and food items easily co-exist on compact shelves. There is no electricity, she explained. When the sun sets it gets really dark. Louisa's days are busy. She teaches some classes of Eurythmy at the Camphill School, participates in Anthroposophical study groups and attends to the various tasks in and around the cottage.



Louisa arrived in Cape Town in 1979 from Germany, a widow with five children, who then attended Michael Oak School. For several years she commuted weekly between Kenilworth and Hermanus where the children could enjoy the farm life at Camphill over weekends. In the meantime, just before her 50th birthday, she had started her 4 year Eurythmy training at the Eurythmy School. Her children now live in Perth, Australia, and some in South Africa. One child died from illness in childhood.

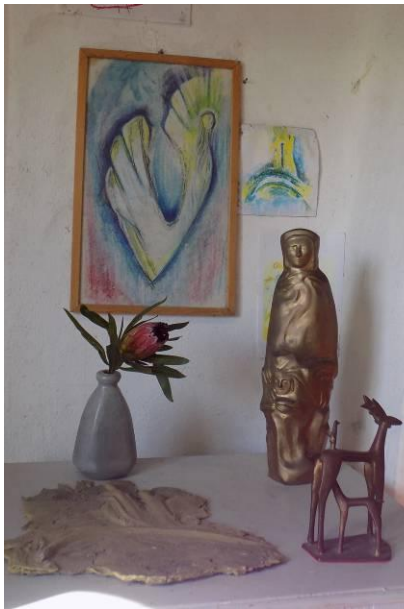
We were invited to the studio directly next door where the late Johannes Jellinek, her life partner of several decades, used to create his sculptures of which several are still holding a silent vigil. Here a steep staircase leads up to a small loft area where her grandchildren enjoy staying when they visit her. (Johannes Jellinek died ten years ago in 2007.)

Above: Louisa in her kitchen.

Right: A view of the valley from one of the studio's windows. **Far right:** Louisa and Marilize at the entrance to the studio.

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Left: An artistic corner in Louisa's studio .

The time passed too quickly and soon we were en route again, following the road up through the valley to **Barbara Sanne** on Oldlands Farm. She is a long-standing family friend of Hanna so it was a happy hour spent there. Again we marveled at the lush, green grass. A swathe of arum lilies had already started flowering in a patch of mottled sunshine with many trees dotting the landscape: a lane of pin oaks led right up to the farmhouse nestled amidst the bounty of nature.

Barbara's dogs panted a welcome as we entered the house. I noticed the sturdy doors of Burmese teak, some of them inlaid with stained glass panes. She told the story of how the doors and windows originally belonged in the church's old Community house, Oakdene, in Plumstead. When the building was sold and demolished to make space for two new blocks of flats, these strong and durable doors and windows were earmarked for the scrap heap by the demolition team. This news reached Barbara and her late

husband, Reinhard via Neville Adams, our priest in Cape Town at the time. The Sannes then bought the lot to use in their home that was being refurbished on their farm, Oldlands, in the Hemel en Aarde Valley. It was a déjà-vu moment for me: in the late 1980s I was working at The Novalis College which was housed in Oakdene, and I recognized the doors and windows, some of which used to be part of my office.

Oldlands is a stud farm where race horses are raised and cared for until they are ready to be sold at age one and a half. The quality of these horses' lives is very important, Barbara explained, therefore bio-dynamic farming methods are used as far as possible. These beautiful thoroughbreds have evolved from a cross of European indigenous horses and Arabian stallions during the 17th and 18th Century. Initially called "that obscure woman breeder" she soon became known for the winners she bred.

Barbara was born near Breslau when it was part of Germany and grew up on a sugar estate where they always had horses and later, during the war, oxen. After the war there was no money for her dream of studying to be a vet, so she joined Siemens who paid for her to qualify as an electrical engineer - there was a serious shortage of engineers after the war. There she met and married Reinhard Sanne. The Siemens Group relocated the family to Johannesburg in 1963 where, five years later, she established Oldlands Stud and started breeding as a hobby. (Her first horse bred in 1969 was named Gold Esel, after the Grimm's Fairy Tale.) Today their three sons are living in Moscow, Germany and South Africa respectively.

The Sannes had a holiday home in Hermanus and Barbara's research informed her that it rained there every month of the year. She thought it was like "Ireland where they grow horses", so they bought the farm, Oude Hemel en Aarde, in 1995.

Before our departure Barbara took us for a drive around the farm through the different camps and also the fynbos. The horses were magnificent – in peak condition, the views unsurpassed. It was a highlight of the visit.

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From there it was back to the main buildings of Camphill where we enjoyed our picnic lunch under a tree in the garden. A handsome specimen of a shiny, black mole snake as long as my arm slithered out of its hole in the lawn, proceeding to sun itself. Fumbling for my camera, hoping to get closer for a picture, the moment was lost when one of the residents approached it too quickly and the snake disappeared with the speed of lightning back into its hole. We were subsequently warned that there were regular sightings of tree snakes and we cast wary eyes to the overhead branches



After lunch **Elma Young**, house mother of Castor, received us at the communal home she shares with several residents. In the cheerful red and yellow living room she replied to questions. She has been at Camphill for 13 years, not only caring for her house of residents, but also doing a lot of the communication and organizational work connected to an organization like Camphill. (This last bit of information was provided by Richard Goodall who, when he visits Camphill, stays at Sunbird Cottage directly across the road.)

We asked Elma what all happens in a Village like this. Actually quite a lot, as it soon became clear.

- A lay service is held by different people on all the Sundays in between Richard Goodall's visits. • There are regular Anthroposophical study groups and class lessons. • The seasonal festivals are celebrated. • There are exercise groups and every Saturday is library day, preceded by a storytelling session. The residential houses also go on outings.
- Camphill School is directly next door on the adjoining farm. It is a tranquil haven for children with intellectual and other disabilities. Established in 1952 as an independent, special needs school, it has offered generations of children the opportunity for high quality education and care.
- They have seven homes for residents with special needs. • Workshops have been established for crafts and herbs (culinary and medicinal). Planting and pruning takes place regularly.
- There is a dairy and an egg garden which houses 300 laying hens that enjoy a varied, natural diet in the permaculture designed rotation yard system – "a free-er than free range life" (as per their website). **(Pictures below centre and right.)**
- The Phila Therapy Centre **(picture below left)**, donated by the NLDTF (National Lotteries Distribution Trust Fund) and many others, offers therapies and health care for the children and young adults of Camphill School and the adult residents of the Camphill Farm Community as well as the co-workers living and working in these communities.
- The presence of The Christian Community is much appreciated by the church members and residents. They are deeply grateful for the invaluable work done by Richard Goodall during his visits every two months for four days – as far as his schedule permits. **Thank you, Elma, for your wonderful support to Richard each time he visits.**



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Our last hosts for the day were **Christoph and Elizabeth Reppel**. They live in a spacious flat in the building which houses the community hall, the church and library. Christoph is a retired music therapist from Nutley Hall, U.K. He still does music therapy with some of the children from the Camphill School and teaches various other instruments – and has one star cello pupil! Christoph also developed the orchestra for the Camphill farm residents and directs it on a weekly basis. In addition he composes music for church services which includes the piano, lyre and chimes. The Christian Community in England began in his family home.

We were enchanted by the colourful puppets made by Elizabeth (*picture on right*). Elizabeth, who came to the Constantia Waldorf High School as a history teacher several decades ago, did a Puppet Training Course for the Community Schools Project, run by John Coates at The Novalis Institute during the 1990s. The teachers were very enthusiastic about puppet-making and performing. They gave shows at Bongoletu Primary and various township schools in Khayelitsha. When the funding for the Community Project came to an end it resulted in the puppeteers dispersing.

Elizabeth was one of the Founding Members of the Community Puppetry in Education Trust. She became a very welcome annual working visitor at the Trust in Hermanus where John & Margaret Coates worked, having moved to nearby Onrust. When the Trust closed and John moved back to Cape Town the Puppetry Project was taken over by the Enlighten Education Trust where the six trained puppeteers continue the good work of getting puppet shows into the Township Schools and ➔



Educare Centres. They also run weekly Puppetry Clubs in their own homes for local children. Elizabeth still gives shows when invited to do so.

Thank you to all our hosts for your warm welcomes and inviting tea trays. The day was far too short!

Marilize.

Hello from Ecuador - June 2017.

It's **THE ANDEAN FESTIVAL** of Inti Raymi and all across the Andean towns there are celebrations. Last night Chris and I found ourselves in the midst of a procession. The huge new Cathedral of Cuenca City opened up and, led by three priests, little girls in pink dresses threw rose petals in their path and the community followed while singing and carrying candles, the military band keeping the rhythm. They walked once around the beautiful central square and then the fireworks started! We had to jump out of the way as dancing cows shot sparks from their ears. I've never been so close to live fireworks - I could feel the ashes falling on my hair.

It's just over two months into our travels and so much has happened. We started in Brazil, moving from São Paulo to Rio de Janeiro where we hiked up to the majestic Christ the Redeemer statue on Easter Sunday. Next we spent a month in Colombia where I did an Open Water dive course in the strange little town of Taganga. Traveling south toward Ecuador became challenging as roads were closed after heavy rain and mud slides. But we made it with some cheap local flights to Cali, and bussed down to the boarder. In Ecuador we spent four days in the Amazon. What an extraordinary place! There are more species of trees, flowers and insects than I've ever seen or been bitten by! The quiet fresh water dolphins swam down-river from the lodge and groups of macaws flew overhead.

Today we leave Ecuador and cross the border into Peru.

Warm regards, Rhoda & Chris.



Top: Welcome to the Republic of Ecuador.

Right: Statue of Christ the Redeemer putting everything around the travelers into perspective.



Prego Rolls and Going Green.

IT IS A PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE the Pereira family to our Community friends. After a lively and warm conversation with Mariana and Joah we can share the following about their lives.

In 2001 they returned from Johannesburg to Cape Town where they live with their two daughters, Sophia (14) and Francesca (11) in Muizenberg directly next to Sandvlei. Mariana and Francesca were the friendly faces looking after our Raffle Table at our last Fair and the girls have both been on our camps. In February 2016 Francesca was baptized and during April 2015 Sophia was confirmed here at church.

Mariana, a graphic designer, has always been interested in creative and artistic work. Furthermore, Joah hastened to add she also enjoys gardening, sewing, baking and much more. She studied Graphic Design at the University of Stellenbosch and that gave her a solid foundation for the work she is currently doing. This covers a wide spectrum from murals to illustrations as well as the total layout of books, including the covers and labeling.

Sophia also enjoys writing and illustrating and has been taught several skills in this area by Mariana. Sophia, who attends Fish Hoek High School, has been creating all of the backstage art for their school play as well as posters for plays.

Like her mom and sister Francesco is also creative and has an unusual sense for colour and pattern. Add to that her love of Latin-American dancing and singing and one can see that her life, too, is filled with interest and opportunities. She attends Bay Primary School in Kalk Bay, just a stone's throw from the colourful fishing harbor.



Left: Joah & Mariana
celebrating life.

Below:
Examples of Mariana's creative work:
on the left some embroidery and on the right a birthday poster.



Above: Francesca pondering a mural created by Mariana, Sophia and herself on a wall in Kalk Bay.

Why the move to Cape Town? Mariana and Joah agreed that they had no lifestyle in Johannesburg and that the smog of a big city was impacting negatively on their lives. What better place to relocate to than next to a lagoon, very close to the sea, where the southeaster in summer blows all the cobwebs away as soon as they open their front door? Mariana has always been keen on environmental issues and found a needy cause on their doorstep: she had been helping to clean Sandvlei of waste for years already – it was started by her. The impulse had grown and the rest of her family as well as their neighbours are now helping her to keep Sandvlei clean. This is her way of looking after the environment and she is passionate about it. Her interest for all things green is deeply-rooted – she is also experimenting with the making and producing of eco-friendly products some of which they are already using at home.

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Joah's life might sound like a roller coaster, but it is one with a plan and purpose. Coming from a farming background in Johannesburg and of a Portuguese family, he wanted to be an engineer but instead did a trade and qualified as a builder of aircraft. However, he clearly had many entrepreneurial skills and the necessary business acumen which steered him into farming and vegetable shops. His interest was in the food industry from where it starts with the plants growing on the farm to the end point where it is sold to the consumers. A stint on a game farm in Zeerust and a two year recovery period after a car accident eventually led him to Cape Town, where he continued in the food industry. He was the owner of Kuzmas, a Middle Eastern eatery in Rondebosch, when he met Mariana. They travelled widely and got married en route in Las Vegas. Throughout their travels he was studying a variety of farming methods and food production.



Joah started with producing and selling Portuguese Prego rolls at Constantia Waldorf School's food market and from there he branched out to other markets **(picture above)**. Clearly he is a people's person. He specifically enjoys speaking to groups of people and enthusing them for his subject. While still in Johannesburg he used to do tours to farms and he also spoke to the Portuguese Market community. His experiences included the meat whole sale business.

He says his food is made from scratch and he tries to use only free-range ingredients. From having several staff members he is now slowly winding down his food business, ready for his next move: into the Stock Exchange world where he says he is still only on the periphery and where he can hopefully apply his business acumen acquired over several decades.

No doubt their lives will never be pedestrian as they as individuals and as a family are constantly on the look-out for the next opportunity to add meaning to their existence. Thank you to Mariana and Joah for sharing their story so easily. It was a pleasure to be on the receiving end.

Marilize.



Baptism.

CONGRATULATIONS TO Michael and Astrid Bastos from Windhoek who had their four month old infant, Thiago Fernando da Silva Bastos baptized here at our church on Sunday, 7th May. (Picture left.)

Their seven year old son, Jonathan, also seemed very happy on the occasion. The Bastos family chose to come to Cape Town for the event as both godparents live here.

Marilize.

Greetings from far afield ...

Greetings to everybody from Lia Gabler who is doing well in Germany. She now has three dogs as pets and they give her endless delight.

Richard Goodall.



Above: Paola Muirhead's Deli Stall is sought after – she and her helpers make sure there is an interesting variety of fine foods.

Family Fair

OUR ANNUAL FAIR will be held on **Saturday, 9th September, from 10h00 – 15h00.** That gives us six weeks to finalize our stalls' and other arrangements.

At a Fair Meeting held on 23rd July it was agreed that we will all work together as a team to get this, our annual fundraiser, off the ground; that individual stall holders will be responsible for their own teams of helpers and that we will all communicate, communicate, communicate!

Look out for further information from the different stall holders over the next few weeks. This is our Community Event – let us hope for a sunny Spring day and lots of visitors.

Marilize.



Left: One of our members, **Tatiana Thaele**, a “passionate soloist, chamber musician and orchestral flautist” as per the Cape Argus dated 7th April 2017.

The reporter further wrote: “She has appeared as a soloist with various orchestras across the country, including the KZN and Cape Town Philharmonic orchestras. In 2016 she was a semi-finalist for the Samro overseas scholarship competition as well as the second-prize winner of ATKV-Muziq, winning an additional prize for the best performance of a South African work.”

Our congratulations to Tatiana on her musical success story. She has just returned from an inspiring visit to the U.S.A.

Thanks.

- To **Patrick Enthoven** for producing a new, custom-built lectern according to Richard Goodall's specifications. **(Picture left.)** Made from hard American Ash wood, it is finished off to a high standard of workmanship and complements the simple lines of the altar. An anonymous donor paid for all the materials and thus there was no cost incurred to the Church. Patrick – you are a star!
- To **Keith Struthers** for his gift of a table and legs for the Children's Camp to replace the ramshackle table used until now; also for the long-term loan of a big table for the foyer. Richard G.
- To **Malcolm Attfield** for providing the beautiful picture for our logo, this time from the work of David Newbatt. Malcolm's ongoing interest in our newsletter is much appreciated.
- Likewise, thanks to **Mariana McCann-Pereira** for her interest in and helpful suggestions with the lay-out. We may be a bit limited in our software and not able to do full justice to her ideas but it is nevertheless heart-warming to receive professional input like this.

Marilize.

