

# The Wind Call

The Christian Community  
in and around Cape Town

Aug. – Oct. 2016

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### Our Website:

[www.thechristiancommunity.org.za](http://www.thechristiancommunity.org.za)

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## Activity is called for.

The ten weeks between St John's and Michaelmas is a time of taking definite steps to bring about the change that John calls for and through this to prepare ourselves to participate in Michael's battle in the world and in the human soul. What exactly is this battle?

On the one hand there are mighty forces afoot which strive to achieve complete control of every aspect of our lives. One tool for this is to generate increasingly mindless thickets of bureaucratic hurdles and loops of legislation with which we have to comply to remain legal citizens. Another is the relentless fear mongering churned out globally by media houses and politicians alike which supposedly justifies the need for the red tape jungle and further disempowers the individual. The meddling with real food and the abundance of junk food and also the flood of mindless entertainment are other tools of dumbing down the human spirit. The end game is to quash the possibility of people to really exercise their faculties of imaginative and transformative creativity which could very quickly bring about a healthy world situation quite different to the past and present. Put differently, it strives to render the fruits of the Mystery of Golgotha –the overcoming of death through resurrection by Christ in the human soul ineffective.

On the other hand are the forces of Michael which depend on our individual co-operation to help fend off this onslaught on human creativity and freedom so that we can stand our ground as awake and aware individuals through whom the Christ forces can work to bring about the changes so badly needed in the world.

The dense fog created by fear, bureaucratic overload, non-nourishing food and banal entertainment threatens to blind us to the realities of what we are dealing with in the world and to render us inwardly passive and submissive. One of the most urgent aspects of change that John calls for in our time is that we regain insight into the spiritual realities behind the events unfolding in the world around us. Behind the dramas of upheaval and strife in our time is this Michaelic battle which strives to clear the way for us to become aware of the shining being of Christ as he nears us in the world of the etheric forces. He is the sun that lifts the fog of fear and bewilderment and leads us to clear understanding and determined action. The ten weeks to Michaelmas map out a path of inner awakening to the guiding light of Christ.

For Him to become a living reality in our own lives, we need to acknowledge his being and presence. We need to create strong imaginative pictures of his presence and to really focus on him often every day. This can develop into a deep longing for him in our lives and a sense of being seen by him. It is this sense and what issues from it that makes us co-workers of Michael.

Richard Goodall.

**WE ARE NEARING COMPLETION OF PHASE 3** and the residents should be well settled by the beginning of September.

Everyone is impressed with the design and finish of this building which fits in so well with the existing structures. Warm congratulations to Merwe Geldenhuys and his construction team and Keith Struthers the architect.

Helen Baker will be living upstairs and downstairs will be Barbara Herbert and Patricia Kuhlmann. Patricia has been part of the Johannesburg congregation for many years and we are delighted to be able to welcome her into the Cape Town community.

John and Margaret Coates will also be moving to Mrs Gabler's cottage in September and can't wait to be living in the community. They are purchasing the Life Rights and Mrs Gabler will be duly refunded and paid her portion of the growth. We are looking forward very much to their presence. There will be some minor changes in this cottage before they come.

Keith Struthers will be moving into what was Pauline's cottage when Helen moves into her new unit. It will be good to have Keith living in the community, experiencing his own handiwork and having the opportunity to contemplate Phase four while experiencing the dynamics of what we currently have established.

On the maintenance side we have had a recent re-varnishing of all cottages' exterior woodwork and will be fitting some new motion detector spot lights. This is being done by Bradley Crowsen who lives nearby and is a great find.

Thanks, Richard Cox.

**Below left:** The north-eastern façade of Phase 3. **Below Right:** The north-western façade of Phase 3.



### **Christianizing architecture by Keith Struthers.**

**SATURATING A BUILDING** with a vitalized sense of warmth and dynamism encourages those very same qualities living in us to come to life. But as in life, so in architecture, they are hard won. And as with anything that inspires us to become larger than our everyday self, they are qualities not ready-made but require conscientious intentionality.



As all artists, painters, musicians, sculptors and architects know, beauty lives in the tension and interplay between polarities, common to all the arts in their own way; that which shocks us awake and that which comforts us, that which turns us inward and that which unites us in community, or that which quietly deepens us and that which expands us beyond ourselves. And the remarkable quality of opposites is every one-sidedness lives somewhere in its opposite.

It is in this liminal place, between contradictions that the battle for the soul is most alive. This is as true for our creative activity as it is in our interpersonal relationships. And within this field of activity my creative intention with the buildings has been to engender a sense of inner homecoming where the battle of the soul has a spiritual ally. A place that lends you strength by embodying a quality that brings the tension of opposites into a harmonious relationship.

So what are some of these polarities in the actual building? The implicit warmth and gentleness of the forms is balanced with their fluidity and dynamism, the quietness of some spaces is balanced with the movement of others, the sense of solidity of the overall building is balanced with the experience of levity inside, the sense of being part of the earth is counterpoised with the feeling of being elevated, the place of privacy is balanced with a sense of belonging to the community...

It is not that one polarity cancels its opposite, but they come into a relationship that pleases us. And through this offer us hope, offer us the mirror and support that our inner challenges can be managed, can be lifted, so we become more than we were before they faced us. This has obviously not been achieved everywhere, but it is the underlying creative intention of the design.

And as with all things, it is not something done in isolation by one person, but has been achieved through the co-operation and diligent efforts of many, both visible and invisible.

Keith Struthers.



### ***Impressions from the meeting of the Southern African Council of the Christian Community in Windhoek, Namibia 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2016.***

**THE COUNCIL MEETS TO HEAR ABOUT** the lives of each of our Southern African communities, their struggles and successes, to create helpful responses and to maintain a legal structure that supports the work of The Christian Community in this part of the world. The Council was formed in 2003 principally to devise clarity on common accounting and financial approaches to our work. The Christian Community in Southern Africa was then still struggling to think and act as a regional grouping - we were



still pioneering. For example - whilst individual congregations looked after their own affairs we would all share responsibility if debts overwhelmed one congregation. This was not a modern way to run an organization, nor a Christian one. The Council members saw it as a priority that the congregations began to accept each other as a regional group with common needs, and to support each other.

The Council has made excellent progress as we now have policies and procedures that give us guidance; we have a pension plan (even though still small) for our priests; we have a regional initiative in the Africa Seminary to work with young adults and offer a path into the priesthood especially for local people; we have the beginnings of a regional fund that can support regional initiatives; the region is a registered Public Benefit Organisation (PBO) with accompanying rights and responsibilities and we are a valued member of the International Christian Community supporting its work into the future.

At this meeting we were forced to accept our inability to assist Marcel Frank to get a work visa from the S.A Government and regrettably he has now had to look elsewhere for a position. It still might be possible to receive a Blanket Waiver but this is only obtainable from the Minister of Home Affairs and may well be quite a long drawn out affair. It is an urgent need to find local people to train for the priesthood.

In our meetings we now make space for bringing new life into our thinking and understanding through spiritual input and this time Reingard guided us and members of the Windhoek Community through content and exercises into Building Social Community. We looked at this from the perspective of the Sacraments of Baptism, Consultation and Marriage within the overall framework of the Act of Consecration of Man.

We received a most stimulating talk from Christian Bosse, a teacher at the Windhoek Waldorf School on the Economy and Money in connection with the work of the Knights Templar which was destroyed in 13<sup>th</sup> Century Europe. Their symbol was a Knight and a Monk riding together on a horse, emphasising the reality that money has at least two sides - not just one. Rudolf Steiner pictured money as serving three aims – for Purchasing – Gifts – and for Lending. Money is the stream of the Future coming out of the Spirit into our lives – how will we let it guide our actions?

We completed our Council meeting with a visit to the Windhoek Community's Green Market on the Saturday morning and in the afternoon to Krumhoek, Kine's family farm, a short distance from the city. We walked out through the beautiful spaces, attended a Close of Day service in the Farm Chapel and enjoyed bread and soup around a cheery fire.

At this meeting I stepped down as Regional Chairperson after 13 years and handed over to Glenda Tuckell from the Durban Kangelani Way Community.

Thank you, Leigh Sax.



**Right:** Priests and trustees at the Regional Meeting in Windhoek. **Top right:** Some play in between sessions of hard work.

**Jacquie Frylinck – Longest residing resident of Timour Hall Cottages.**

**AS PHASE 3** of our Timour Hall Cottages project comes to completion with two new residents moving in any day now, it seems like a good time to introduce our readers to our longest in-house resident, Jacquie Frylinck. Although Lia Gabler was the first resident she relocated to Germany in 2015 to be nearer her family.

Well-known to many of our wider community Jacquie had been a Waldorf parent and still attends events, markets and study meetings at the Waldorf Schools and the Anthroposophical Society. Her long life (she celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday at the end of May) stretches from 1936 in the then Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) to where she is today, a resident on our church grounds. She was born and grew up in Bulawayo. Her work in the fashion industry later took her to Salisbury where she met and married Vickie Frylinck and they

purchased an estate outside the city in the countryside of Umwinsdale. There they built their residence called 'Luna'. It was a life close to nature: farm animals and especially horses (she was both a keen rider and did dressage with the horses). They were a close farming community with friends, neighbours and their employees and their families who lived there and who looked out for each other.

An art route for visitors developed in Umwinsdale with one of their neighbours doing pottery, another one making furniture from Zimbabwean timber and yet another, a silver smith, starting a factory in silver ware. During that time Jacquie had become a keen painter of landscapes and her output was such that she could hold exhibitions every year. Fortunately she knew who most of her paintings found a home with and it was with only a small stock that she arrived in Cape Town - but that is going ahead of things. She replied as follows to a few questions.

***What triggered your interest in art?***

Through marriage to one of our family friends, Canon Petersen of the Cyrene Mission (which is now a National Monument) had a close connection to us. As a priest he offered lessons called "Education through Art" for the local children to help enrich their learning. He greatly inspired me as a young person and I often sat in on these lessons. After a while I joined art lessons with Anne Linsell-Stewart, a well-known local artist, and from there I gravitated to oil paintings.

***What was your main inspiration for the landscape painting you did?***

That would be the richness of nature in Zimbabwe, the majestic trees of which the Msasa tree is a wonderful example, its foliage resembling the colours of flames (*see painting with white horse above*). It was at its most brilliant during the months of July and August. There was also the African sun to intensify the colours.

I then got to hear about Rudolf Steiner and his insights on colour and art, and soon I started searching all over for literature by him – remember, those were the 1960s, still early days for his work there. Eventually I found a book by Steiner, which had been discarded by somebody else, and through reading that book I gained a new and different angle on art. I got to know Anthroposophy and I knew without any doubt that I wanted our son, Dion, to have a Waldorf School Education. One of the mothers in our circle of friends said to me at the time "You sound like one of those weirdos!" However, nothing was going to stop this 'weirdo' and we decided to move to Cape Town for Dion's schooling at Constantia Waldorf School, after which we would return to Zimbabwe.

*(Cont. on next page) ...*





(Cont. from page 4) ...

***It must have been a big change from rural Zimbabwe to suburban Cape Town.***

We were fortunate to live in the scenic Scarborough on the Atlantic Coast and that helped to ease the change. I grew to love the sea and did some more paintings there. Vickie and I started a paint factory – the making of paints - in Muizenberg, called 'Pyramid Paints'. Dion was happy at Waldorf and he was baptized by Rev. Neville Adams in The Christian Community. As a parent of the school I discovered much to appreciate in the artistic realm. The flowing movements of Eurythmy as an art form reminded me of the therapeutic movements of the dressage we did with our horses.

Then Vickie suddenly took ill and died soon after. As Dion had finished school I returned to Zimbabwe, back to my beloved valley, where I refurbished an older home to settle down in. However, because of the political upheaval there, many of our friends had started moving away. The social fabric of life was disintegrating and I was faced with increasing loneliness, so I eventually returned to Scarborough.

***What helped form your decision to move to Timour Hall Cottages?***

For some time I was living alone at Scarborough. I wanted to be nearer to the church community. While in Zimbabwe a priest from The Christian Community, Rev Heinz Maurer, had visited Salisbury and that started my interest in the church. Although there was a very small group of Anthroposophists meeting in Salisbury when possible, there were not any other cultural activities based on Steiner's work. The time was right – the Timour Hall Cottages were ready to be built and I took the decision then to move to Plumstead.

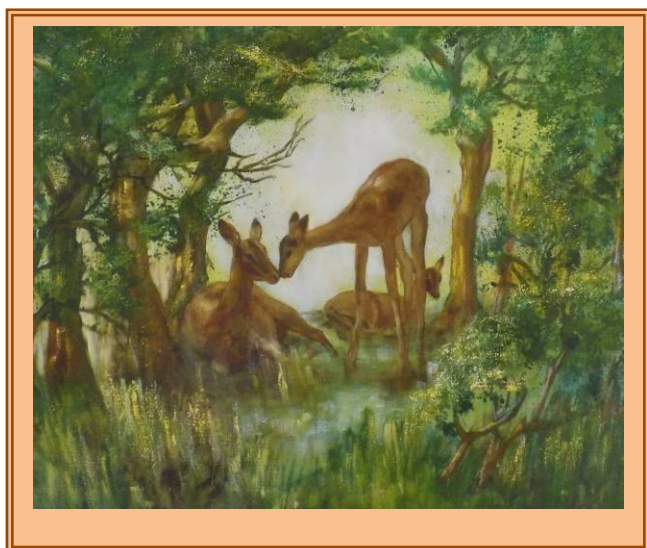
I am very happy here and don't wish to live anywhere else. In addition to the church and other activities which I can now easily attend as often as I wish, I am surrounded by like-minded friends. Where else in suburbia can I live in such park-like surroundings, with my house amidst so many beautiful trees and wild birds?

Jacque Frylinck.

*One of the things that Jacque brought with her from the years in Zimbabwe is her alertness about her surrounds, wherever she finds herself. She can be seen daily doing her rounds to inspect every window, door and gate of our building to make sure everybody is safe. As she did so many years ago in Zimbabwe on their estate she is still looking out for those around her – a self-imposed task which she fulfills cheerfully. Thank you, Jacque, for sharing some aspects of your eventful life with us.*

***Below left: Jacque's painting from a daily scene on their estate in Zimbabwe. Right: Painting of Scarborough beach with Vickie and the family dogs.***

Marilize.







**St John's Festival.**

*This most successful event was held on Sat 25<sup>th</sup> June. After the making of the lanterns the angel lit the candles and the children were escorted by parents or grandparents over a small bridge into*



*the forest where a meandering path led them to the center. There they could leave their lanterns for ... See list of thanks to the organizers on Page 10. Marilize.*



# Fair 2016

When you receive your newsletters there are only five weeks left to the Fair to be held on **Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> September from 10h00 – 15h00**. It is time to pull out all the stops to make this a joyful, successful event. Please note the following requests from the different stall holders arising from our first Fair Meeting this past Sunday.

- **Cake and Bread Table:** We need large home-baked cakes (also for the Tea Garden) as well as the smaller size cakes which are just right for a couple or a small family. Also welcome are tarts, biscuits, muffins, scones, cup cakes or whatever you enjoy baking. In addition we need home-baked loaves of bread, rolls or savoury breads. Please remember to indicate the ingredients with a flag – some folks are gluten-intolerant or have sensitivities to sugar. For more information please phone **Carole Penfold on (021)794-4110**.
- **Lunches:** One of our main stalls and popular with all, it needs contributions from each family to feed everybody: quiches and salads made with wholesome ingredients and also flagged. Enquiries: **Anne-Marie Winkelman Cell: 082 885 0624**.
- **Pudding Table:** As usual we need your masterpieces of desserts. Who will make the pavlova this year? **John Penfold and Kosma von Maltitz will man this table**.
- **Nearly new:** If you have nearly new items that you wish to get rid of please let us have it by latest **Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> September**, so they can be sorted during the last week leading up to the fete. **Enquiries: Jeanette Kane Tel (021)797-1908/Beverly Hart**.
- **Second Hand Books.** Thanks to those who have already delivered their books. We do need more, please. **Malcolm Attfield and helpers** will help at this stall as before.

## ***Timour Hall Cottages – First baby born.***

**ON 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE A BABY BOY WAS BORN** a bit sooner than expected to his parents, Lee and Ian Armstrong, here at the house of his grandmother, Helen Baker, who is one of our residents. Lee was a learner at Constantia Waldorf School and she was christened and confirmed in The Christian Community. She and Ian were married by Rev. Neville Adams. Lee and Ian have six other children, some of them attending Imhoff Waldorf School in Kommetjie.

Helen Baker feels that they as the residents of Timour Hall Cottages were blessed with this new life seeing the first light of day here. "Moving here has had many blessings for me," she says. "For one thing, a lot of birds have found a protected home here in the garden. When my grandchildren come to visit they are delighted with the environment, the freedom plus the security."

Marilize.

***Below left:*** The new arrival, as yet unnamed, and the youngest of seven siblings, with his circle of happy family members welcoming him into the world ***below right.***





*(Birgit Blumer lived and worked at Camphill West Coast and is known to many in our congregation. M.K.)*

**From far Afield: News from Portugal.**

Dear Friends,

I left West Coast Camphill Village at the end of November 2015 to retire to a smallholding I acquired 16 years ago through a friend when I was still a Kindergarten teacher in Tübingen, Germany. So that is where I live now: in the south of Portugal, in the Alentejo. My cottage is 15 km by dirt road out of a little town called Ourique. Initially the nearest neighbours were 2 km away but now a family has moved in next door, within calling distance. This is my "Monte", or small-holding in Portuguese. *(See picture below.)*

The garden is overgrown with rockrose and bramble - not even the goats want to eat it! So I got a piglet (actually two, but the one ran away) to do the tilling of the earth. He does it very well, including the salad patch and basil pots! As a result he's now "locked" away in the bottom garden.



So this is my retirement life: physical hard work that makes me stronger than ever before. I also have lots of time for reading and contemplation. In summer it gets very hot. The day starts at 05h30 and gardening work stops at 10h00, just to re-awaken after 19h00. Over the hot part of the day we stay on the stoep or indoors. As we are on top of a hill, the currents of rain can wash down in winter and one catches a little breeze in the hot summer, like right now. It is about 39 degrees and summer hasn't started yet.

It is a very rural but tranquil place, which helps one to breathe out. Keys can be left in the doors at any time. However, it is not all sunshine and roses (although two rose cuttings have taken and I am very glad about this, having been inspired by Renate Sleight). At the moment 'muggies' are a real pest, even during the day while indoors.

My best greetings to all.  
Birgit Blumer.

**Below:** Up close and personal: Birgit's new farm hand, a piglet, who is the tiller of the soil.



**Right:** Birgit's retirement cottage in the rural area of the south of Portugal.





**In light vein – Extracts of tales from Pauline Scott during her recent travels.**

(Thank you, Pauline, for keeping the Cape Town Community in your thoughts, wherever you go! Marilize.)

Dear Friends,

I've just got back from Peru and a short trip to Los Angeles (visiting my daughter). Communication was not all that easy in Peru. The pattern seems to be that the internet goes off-line every day at certain times (never the same times). So I was pretty well *incommunicado* for 6 weeks. (Does that sound familiar to some South Africans?)

Funny things happen in Peru. It never rains and the wind never blows (imagine that). However, it rained the other day (for rain, read "drizzled"). My brother was in a taxi and the driver told him he had not used his wind-screen wipers since 1960!!! (Picture that!)

Once back in England I was on the local bus and as is the custom here, everyone getting off the bus says 'thank you' to the driver/conductor. When it came to my turn I said to the driver, "This must be the only country in the world where everyone says thank you to the driver before getting off the bus." The driver said to me, "Where in the world do you come from?" I told him South Africa. He replied, "O, praat jy Afrikaans?" He was from Cape Town and I could have kissed him if the steering wheel hadn't been in the way!!!!

And finally, Estelle Bryer - on holiday in the U.K - and I nearly got thrown out of The National Gallery when we started to sing "Daar kom die Alabama" at the tops of our voices!!

Love, Pauline.

**From Rhoda's travelogue we received the following news on their latest adventures in Asia.**

"Dear Friends,

Hong Kong was fun; we were in the masses of people watching fireworks and the parade. I don't think I've ever experienced such large crowds! Most of the photos were just blurry messes of colour, everything moving around us.

In May we went to Bali and the Gili Islands - that was really lovely. The sea is clean and they have their trash situation under control so you don't see as much waste lying in the streets. Bali has beautiful temples, waterfalls and many fresh cold coconuts. I did my first ever scuba-dive in the clean, warm water. It was quite an experience. The best part was seeing huge turtles swimming slowly in their natural environment - they looked so relaxed.

In August we are going to be traveling for three weeks to the south and north islands of New Zealand. I'm really looking forward to that. I hope to see real snow for the first time!

Love, Rhoda.



**Above:** The Monkey Sanctuary in Ubud, Bali.

**Thanks to Leigh Sax.** At our recent Regional Council Meeting in Windhoek - the 13<sup>th</sup> since the Council's inception – our trusty chairperson, Leigh Sax, resigned. Leigh has presided over all of our meetings to date and has helped to guide our way from very humble beginnings to a legally registered PBO body which plays a very important role in the affairs of our whole region. A very big thank you to Leigh for his calm and determined leadership over the last 13 years.

Richard Goodall.

## Thank you to ...

▪ **Rosemarie Enthoven** for organizing a large repair job for part of the church roof – there are no more leaks in the foyer. Thanks also to her for organizing the repair and cleaning of the stained-glass window in the chapel (see picture on right) by the artist Karl-Heinz Wilhelm from Stellenbosch. It wasn't easy to find him and the work itself was time-consuming and challenging. The church gate needed urgent repairs and these have now also been attended to, as well as an ongoing list of maintenance jobs.

▪ **Heike Prinz, Barbara Herbert, Megan Weissman** and their helpers for their major efforts in transforming the hall into a 'forest' for St John's Festival. It was done with such artistry that children and adults alike could feel transported into the enchanted world of angels, lanterns and elementals. Warm thanks also to Richard Goodall for his story about Ranero and his wife, Franceska - the children were spell-bound. Thanks to the handwork teachers: Sue Nepgen and Sheilagh Dobson, who guided the lantern-making process, and also to Carole Penfold who organized the refreshments. And not the least to Christina Goodall, for arranging the music and singing!

Marilize.

### Rev. Kine Voigts in Cape Town.

**FROM THE 14<sup>TH</sup> OCT TO 21<sup>ST</sup> DEC** Rev. Kine Voigts from Windhoek will be visiting our community and living in the church flat.

This is an opportunity for Kine to experience another community in our region different to the Windhoek community in which she has worked since her ordination.

It would be wonderful if you could all make Kine feel at home here in Cape Town and invite her for meals to your homes.

Regards,  
Richard Goodall.

### Echoes of the Past ...

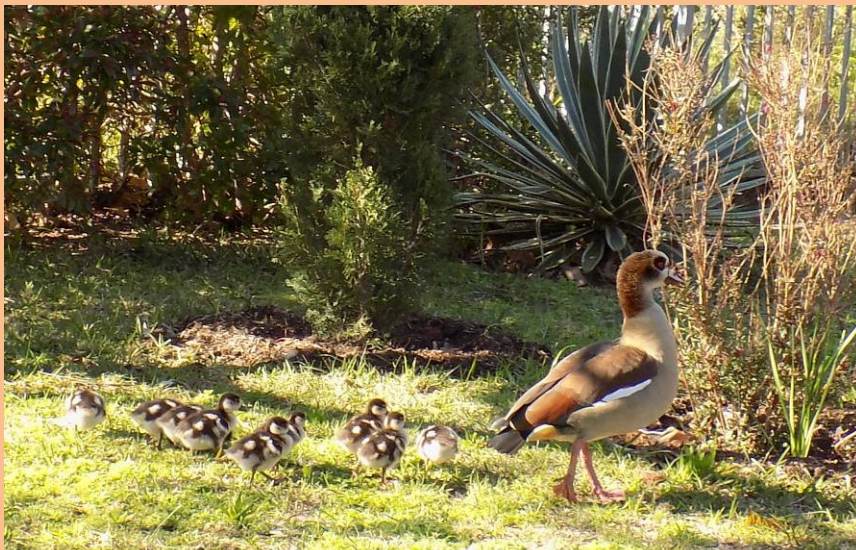
#### A snippet of early Congregational history.

*By July 1966 the Chairman of the Church Committee, Mr MacLeod, informed the rest of the Committee that it would be more convenient for most people attending The Christian Community to have a more central venue for the Sunday services (which were being held at 99 Milner Street, Rondebosch). Rev. Evelyn Derry (Capel) and he had found a Girl Guides' Hall in Rosebank, a short walk from the railway station, which was available at a rental of R1.00 per Sunday!*

*This would be only for the Sunday Services while the Chapel in Milner Road would be kept for other community activities. The necessary arrangements were made and the first Sunday Service was held at Rosebank on 31<sup>st</sup> July 1966.*

*This serves as another reminder of how far we have come in the last 50 years from not having suitable premises to what we have today, including the peaceful scene in our own garden below.*

Marilize.



*This is one of the delightful corners of our garden where a pair of Egyptians Geese are raising their brood of nine chicks. Fiercely protective, they don't allow anyone near their off-spring.*

Marilize.

Marilize will be away on leave from 19<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September during which time the church office will be closed.