

The Wind Call

The Christian Community
in and around Cape Town

Nov.2016 – Jan. 2017

39 Timour Hall Road, Plumstead 7800

Tel/fax (021)762-0450

e-mail: christianco@telkomsa.net



Contents

Page

Leading thought by
Richard Goodall .. 1

Ralph Ahlenstorf,
Windhoek..... 2

Celebration for
Reingard..... 3

Julia's Project 4 & 5

Fete 20165 & 6

New residents at
T.H.C. 7

From far afield,
Announcements
and thank yous... 8

Our Website:

www.thechristiancommunity.org.za

To unsubscribe
from this e-mail
newsletter send an
e-mail with the word
'unsubscribe' in the
subject line.

Becoming aware of how we stand in the stream of time.

ANOTHER YEAR DRAWS TO A CLOSE as we look ahead towards Advent and at the same time remain mindful not to lose the mood and dynamic of Michaelmas and all that it has awoken within us. In preparing for Advent, which itself is preparation for Christmas, it is useful to call to mind everything that we have learned in the past round of festivals since Advent last year. What new insights have I really made my own, what inspirations have brought a change to my life and how I look at the world? How can I use these to approach Advent a little differently this year?

In the fourth Michaelmas Sunday we explored the image of the 'Armour of God' and how this can become a daily inner practice. If we admire a painting by a master painter, we are very unlikely to say "look what Raphael's paintbrush painted". We would say "Look what the master painter Raphael painted." Of course he needed a paintbrush with which to do it – many in fact – and possibly the better the paintbrush the better the outcome. However the painting is the inspiration of the painter and not of the paintbrush. This is very obvious, but it becomes a little less obvious when we look at our own lives. We all enter into this life on earth with very definite strengths and abilities and with an agenda to accomplish for our further development and growth. We also bring with us many weaknesses and limitations of which we often become painfully aware and which can become a great burden to us. This is only the case if I assume that I am to fulfill this life task of mine all on my own and unassisted. This makes me a little like the paintbrush which becomes all miserable and bemoans the fact that it is unable to paint a picture! That is not its task. And it is not our task to do everything in our lives all on our own.

The moment that we realise that there is a master painter – a creator being, to whom we can make available our strengths and possibilities, our primary task is no longer to paint the picture ourselves but to make ourselves available to him. He alone knows what the painting is to look like and how best to use our possibilities. Suddenly our limitations are of far less consequence and extraordinary things can and do come about through us with very limited means. Living 'in the hands of the master painter' makes life very interesting, continuously challenging, totally unpredictable and full of surprises. On the other hand I feel myself to be held and protected by the master as a precious instrument for helping to fulfill His work. Above all I feel fully engaged in my own path as a human being.

Cont. Page 2/ ...

Cont. from Page 1 ...

Paul's 'Armour of God' is an inner path of practice and awareness - a way of being - which places all our strengths and abilities and limitations in the hands of God. It is a path of study and striving for understanding and knowledge - and a path of faith in the fruitfulness of a living personal relationship with Christ. It is the only true security there is. It not only fills us with light and strength but does so with such abundance that it flows out from us into our surroundings and therefore leaves no room for any kind of intrusion from negative influences. This is not only a matter of my personal wellbeing and sense of security, it is of great consequence for the whole of creation because it makes me a place through which the second creative impulse of Christ can work in the world.

When we picture the sun, we generally only think of the physically observable orb of the sun up there in the sky. However a total eclipse of the sun reveals the extraordinarily beautiful spectacle of the corona of the sun which fans out from the center of the sun in all directions encompassing our whole planetary system. We live and weave and have our being in the arms of this life giving corona. It is something out of which we cannot fall. However, what works spiritually within this corona is the historical working of the creative logos not the present working of the creative Gods. This historical working of the first creative impulse we can refer to as the Father world. It sustains and maintains the natural world as we know it – but it is largely depleted. It is in need of a new creative impulse which can now no longer rejuvenate it from without but only from within. This rejuvenating impulse of the re-enlivening of the dying earth existence can only work through the portal of the en-christened human soul. This means that we are able to allow the Christ to let shine into the world a new re-enlivening corona emanating from the individualised suns of human hearts of those who choose to cloth themselves with the Armour of God.

This awakening of the Christ within our hearts is what we prepare for in Advent in our Michaelic times and thus place ourselves at the cutting edge between the old, declining 'Father world' and the new emerging future 'Son world.'

Richard Goodall.

Ralph Ahlenstorf – Deceased on 19th October in Namibia.

IN THIS MOMENT, where I am starting to write a few lines for the Wind Call in memory of Ralph Ahlenstorf, his ash is lowered into the soil on a little "koppie" on the farm Krumhuk. For the first time this year the sky is overcast, a smell of rain lies in the air – the most promising and relieving message that could come from Ralph, who had passed the threshold a week ago on Wednesday 19th of October.

Ralph and his family moved to Namibia from Germany in the year 1994 and founded a farming community on the farm Krumhuk, just south of Windhoek, with the Voigts Family. Bio-dynamic farming, education, culture and religion were to be the new pillars carrying this impulse. From day one Ralph got his hands into the soil, his feet onto the vast spaces of the bushveld and his deep questions and thoughts towards the being of this farmland. Healing the earth, Christianizing nature, and a strong pedagogical input based on Waldorf Paedagogy were his priorities. He always made sure they were grounded on a stable financial basis.

The last five years of his life he spent on the farm Eichenbach, where he could do agriculture in a way that had not been possible in Krumhuk. He worked day and night to heal this piece of land (400 Ha), change the soil into a healthy and strong carrier of plantlife – and he succeeded. However three years of drought in four years of farming there took their toll on his health. In January 2016, being 61 years of age he was diagnosed with a severely aggressive cancer and lived another 10 months.

A true Michaelic fighter for the healing of the earth has laid down his armour, but the Krumhuk Community is deeply aware and sure that he will carry his endeavour into the spiritual world – conscious, courageous and with a great love for this earth and its people.

Rev. Kine Voigts.

THE CELEBRATION OF 25 YEARS of priestly work in South Africa was held for Reingard Knausenberger on 2nd October at the end of the Regional Michaelmas Weekend titled "Developing the Michaelic Gaze – How the 'Christ in Me' transforms the three faces of evil." This was led by Michael Merle from KZN.



Above right: From left to right: Hazel and Tony Fornali, George Nurse, Reingard, Susan Goslett, Julian Holtz and Sophia Turner.

WHAT A PRIVILEGE it has been to be able to be part of the 25 Year Jubilee Celebration of Rev. Reingard Knausenberger, priest in Johannesburg and Lenker for the Southern African community. After the Act of Consecration of Man and a tea break, musical presentations of works by Schubert, Schuman, Wagner and Beethoven were followed by words of thanks and praise so eloquently put by Karin von Schilling. Many more of the congregation went down memory lane recalling specific events over the years and Rev. Peter Holman conveyed thanks to and appreciation of Reingard from the whole region. The Johannesburg community had put on a royal feast which was accompanied by light musical entertainment. A memorable day for a very special person, who has given so much to so many of us during her time in Southern Africa. Dear Reingard, we thank and salute you!

Rosemarie Enthoven.



Above: Michael Merle (left front) and some of the community members enjoying lunch in the dappled shade. **Right:** A concert was held for Reingard with several artists participating. Here Francis Higgins plays the harp with her husband, David, singing.



Julia O'Leary's Travels.

WELL-KNOWN IN OUR CHURCH AND WIDER COMMUNITY Julia O'Leary doesn't need much of an introduction. Trained in sculpture, art, eurythmy, curative eurythmy, Waldorf Education and colour therapy, and mother of five, Julia's foot prints reach far.

This year she has undertaken a journey first to Sweden and other European countries to do essential networking for her project and from there down through Africa, starting in Ethiopia. The purpose is to establish the needs, obstacles and challenges Africa faces in anthroposophical education, farming and medicine, and to create a networking between African countries in healing modalities. She is undertaking this project on behalf of the Medical Section of the Goetheanum through Michaela Glöckner, who are the sponsors and it is called IPMT AFRICA (International Post-Graduate Medical Training AFRICA). Julia's faithful companion for the first part of the African journey "through thick and thin, joy and woes" has been Bernadette McCabe, who took many of the photos, until her camera got stolen en route. Now Julia has Janeth Mamoni Mbuguni as her new companion and she has to take her own photos. Janeth, with the help of all her contacts through Africa, has been of great help to Julia in trying to obtain the necessary visas. Julia comments on her blog: "I have been excited to discover how many Anthroposophical initiatives are germinating in Africa. We are so out of touch in the South."

Terra PLC Damask Rose Farm, a bio-dynamic enterprise in Ethiopia, visited by Julia.

Right: Bio-dynamically grown rose with heavenly fragrance and happy visiting bees. **Far right:** one of the employees on the farm.



Above: Ethiopia -Church Magnificent in Lalibela. Built into the rock one has to descend with steps to get to the entrance at the bottom.



Above: Zanzibar: - Julia, with Waldorf Assistant training teacher at the Waldorf School in Zanzibar, at one of the spice farms where 29 farmers are doing the bio-dynamic agricultural training. Her crown was made from coconut leaves by the local people.

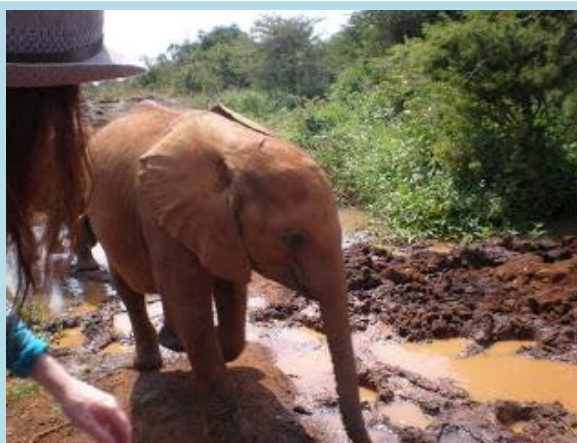


Above and right: Mbagathi Rudolph Steiner School in Nairobi district, Kenya.



Right: Elephant Orphanage in Kenya. Julia writes, "I had the most wonderful experience of being hugged by an elephant. The baby elephant leant on my chest and wrapped its trunk around my neck, covering me in mud. I fell totally in love with this beautiful creature."

Thanks to Julia for keeping an extensive blog where we can follow her adventures:
juliaoleary021.blogspot.co.za. She returned briefly to Cape Town to sort out some visas and left again on 7th October for the rest of the journey through Africa. Our good wishes follow you, Julia! Marilize.



From the wilderness of Africa to our church garden in the suburbs: Several people have commented on how beautiful the garden is looking, indeed it has never looked this good. Our warm appreciation goes to Clare Bell for her creative flair and Monde, our gardener, for his hard work. Marilize.

Fair 2016 Feedback.

THIS WAS A LOVELY EVENT and we were blessed with beautiful spring weather. The profit made is earmarked to upgrade the church house where the Goodalls are living. A very warm thank you to everybody who helped to make this a pleasant and successful day. The musicians also added much to the relaxing ambience. Marilize.

"What I treasured most about organizing the big tent was my experience of community spirit both during the preparation phase as well as on the day. It was most enjoyable working together and having fun together."

Delphine Oliver, Games and Children's Activities.

Dear Friends,

What a wonderfully delicious array of quiches and salads were so freely donated to our lunch table! Once again we received comment after comment of just how delicious and affordable our lunches are. For many it was the reason for coming to the Fair. A heartfelt thanks to each and every one who, not only donated food, but also came back to buy a plate full.

Warm wishes, Anne-Marié, Leza, Eva and Helen.
 Pictures on next page/ ...



From top left clockwise:

1. Beautiful display of crafted dolls with tea garden in the background.
2. Lunch tables inviting visitors to partake of nourishing foods.
3. New books receiving attention from keen readers.
4. Attractive display of deli foods with cake & bread table in the background.
5. Marquee tent providing space for games and activities. Ulrich von Wechmar teaching copper beating to enthusiastic pupils.



Timour Hall Cottages.

THE VERY IMPRESSIVE PHASE 3 of the THC housing project was officially completed early in August. The builders handed over the new building to our architect, Keith Struthers, on Friday morning 12th August who made a final inspection of the building, together with the builders, and the new residents started moving in only hours later.

This is another major step of development for our community and one for which we are immensely grateful. Special thanks go to Richard Cox and his THC management group, Keith Struthers and Geldenhuys Construction Company for all of the co-operative effort that they have put into this phase of the project over the last few years.

We look forward to the commencement of Phase 4 - hopefully before too long.

Richard Goodall.

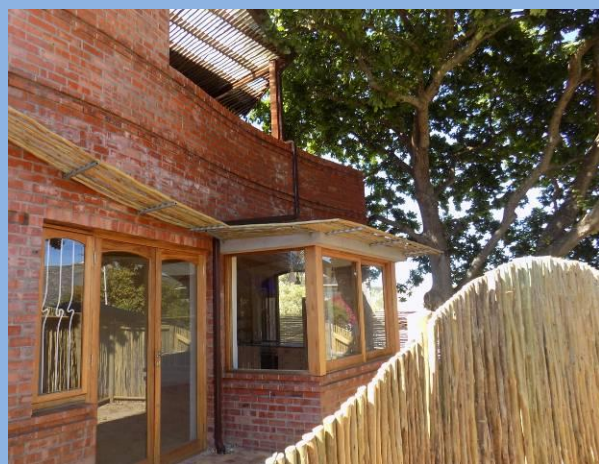
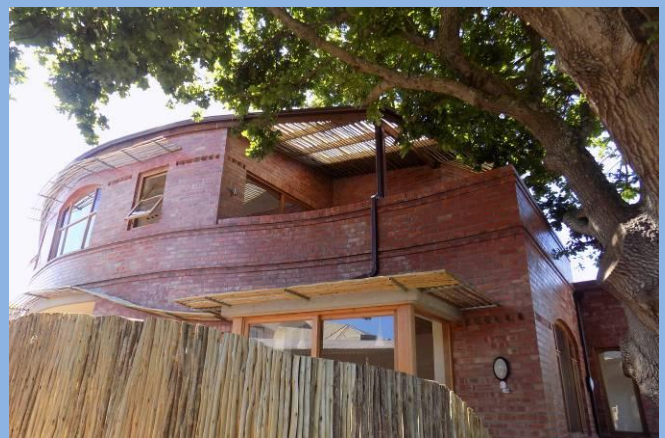
Welcome to new residents.

Our new residents in Phase 3 are Barbara Herbert, with her carefully selected interiors, Helen Baker upstairs with panoramic views and the 3rd cottage being rented by Julia O'Leary. Keith Struthers has moved into the cottage first occupied by the Scotts and we are informed that its new name is *Leafy Greens*, and is work in progress. He also runs his architectural design studio from there. He is displaying strong summer beach life tendencies with a sun umbrella permanently set up outside his front door and the commute to work is traffic free.

A warm welcome also to John & Margaret Coates who have moved into the cottage originally occupied by Lia Gabler. They had to do some serious down-scaling from where they lived in Onrus but they now happily say that at least they are "starting to see the floor" as the removal boxes are getting unpacked.

Our church property has been greatly enhanced by these beautiful homes and the sense of community that has been created.

Marilize.



Clockwise from top left:

1. Barbara's home on the ground floor with the garden being established.
2. View from "Leafy Greens" up to Helen's top floor home.
3. Julia's home, also on the ground floor, awaiting her return.
4. View southwards with newly planted trees.



From further Afield.

WINTER IN NEW ZEALAND was beautiful. Snow covered mountain peaks in the distance, rolling green hills dotted with sheep, cows and wild turkeys. It felt nice to be a little cold after 8 months in the tropics! On my birthday, for the first time ever, I played in the snow, perfect crystals of frozen light. What a birthday present! The sun was out making the snow glisten, and warming my face while my hands froze inside the gloves as we built a snowman. Visiting the Franz Josef glacier and the magical glow worm caves in Paihia was a real highlight.

Right now I'm looking forward to coming home, to see all the faces I love and the places that warm my heart. See you all soon.

Love, Rhoda Rutherford.



Dear All in Cape Town,

You can guess who is hidden behind the autumn leaf with its message of winter around the corner!

Missing you all
and with love,
Pauline Scott.
U.K.

(Photo taken by
Francis Burton.)

Namibian greetings.

Konstanze Gebhardt-Strack from Windhoek sends warmest greetings to all the Cape Town friends.

Children's Camp.

The Children's Camp will be held once again at Wildgarten farm near Hermanus from 14th – 21st December. As in previous years it is filled to capacity. We wish everybody a most enjoyable camp! Marilize.

Thanks to:

- **Heike Prinz** for donating three new beds with head boards to the church flats. This has improved the flats a lot. Heike also arranged for the old furniture to be removed on short notice – no mean task!
- **Rosemarie Enthoven** for selling a chest of drawers, some bookshelves and a wardrobe, thereby adding to the church income.
- **Patrick Enthoven** for repairing the damaged altar and for his ongoing technical support with computer matters.
- Likewise, **Stefan Enthoven**, also for his invaluable electronic support.

New Books for Sale.

There will be new books for sale in the foyer on **Sunday, 20th November** as well as **on Sunday 4th & 18th December**. These books make lovely Christmas gifts, so please diarise these dates. Hanna Hack.

Advent Festival.

Date: 26th November 2016.

Place: The Christian Community.

Starting time: 4 pm.

All welcome.