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## NEWSLETTER OF THE CAPE TOWN BRANCH OF THE SIMON VAN DER STEL FOUNDATION NO 1 July 2012

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### **NUWE LEDE/NEW MEMBERS**

Ons wil graag die volgende nuwe lede hartlik verwelkom by die Stigting Simon van der Stel:  
We wish to welcome the following new members to the Simon van der Stel Foundation:

Me R du Toit, Mnr I le Roux, Mrs Y Leibbrandt, Mrs L Punt, Mrs A McNally, Mrs J Bowring

### **DONASIES/DONATIONS:**

Ons bedank graag die volgende lewenslede en gewone lede vir donasies ontvang:  
We are extremely grateful for the donations received from our life and general members:

Mr JA de Kock, Mr R Jeffery, Mrs SE Collins, Mr M Bosazza, Mr & Mrs F le Roux, Mr MJ Ravenscroft,  
Mej C Beyers, Alan Harvey

### **DR DAN SLEIGH MET NEDERLANDSE RIDDERORDE VEREER**



Die bekroonde Afrikaanse skrywer Dan Sleigh het onlangs die koninklike Nederlandse onderskeiding *Ridder in die Orde van Oranje Nassau* ontvang. Dit is tydens die viering van Koninginnedag by die Kasteel deur mnr David de Waal, Konsul-Generaal van Nederland, aan hom uitgereik. Volgens dr. Sleigh was die feit dat die toekening in Die Kasteel plaasgevind het vir hom 'n besondere eer.

Die VOC-periode staan sentraal in dr. Sleigh se werk en hy word algemeen beskou as die belangrikste kenner van hierdie periode. Sy kennis en lang ondervinding van die Kaapse VOC-argiewe het gehelp om die TANAP-projek, waardeur 'n groot hoeveelheid belangrike VOC-dokumente getranskribeer en gedigitaliseer is, 'n sukses te maak. Dr Sleigh is skrywer van verskeie historiese romans en hy het reeds verskeie toekennings en pryse vir sy werk ontvang.

Twee ander lede van die Stigting Simon van der Stel het by vorige geleenthede dieselfde eerbewys ontvang en is ook *Ridders in die Orde van Oranje Nassau*, nl. mnr. Piet Westra en dr. Hans Fransen (komiteelid).

Dank aan mnr. Piet Westra vir die foto asook 'n verkorte weergawe van die berig wat in *Die Burger* verskyn het, uitgesluit die laaste paragraaf.

Anlen Boshoff

### **JACKIE LANGE**

Long time committee member, Jackie Lange, has resigned from the committee so that she and her husband, Ronnie, can devote more time to visiting their growing brood of grandchildren in America. On behalf of Jackie's colleagues on the committee we would like to extend a word of thanks for her years of service, especially in respect of the Blue Plaque programme which she has been so diligently overseeing, we will miss her presence at the meetings but wish her many years of travel to her family.

This does of course mean that we have a vacancy on the committee. Would any of the Foundations members be interested in taking over the very worthwhile Blue Plaque portfolio?

## RHODES MEMORIAL CENTENARY

To celebrate the centenary we will be having a morning tea on the 5<sup>th</sup> July during which, well known architect, John Rennie will tell us about the monument and it's history. To book please contact Pat on 021794 7464



The Rhodes Memorial was financed by public subscription raised from the estimated 30 000 citizens of Cape Town and was completed and dedicated in 1912. The memorial is situated at Rhodes's favourite spot on the lower slopes of Devil's Peak. Rhodes's own wooden bench is still situated below the memorial. The magnificent view facing northeast can be imagined as the start of the Cape to Cairo road, Rhodes's imperial dream of a British colonial Africa which had Rhodes as one of its greatest champions.

The architect, Sir Herbert Baker, allegedly modelled the memorial after the Greek temple at Segesta although it is actually closer to the temple of Pergamon in design. It consists of a massive staircase with 49 steps (one for each year of Rhodes's life) leading from a semi-circular terrace up to a rectangular U-shaped monument formed of Doric pillars. The memorial is built of Cape granite quarried on Table Mountain. At the bottom of the steps is a bronze statue of a horseman, Energy by George Frederic Watts, a tribute to the restless drive and determination of Rhodes. Eight bronze lions by John Macallan Swan, modelled, in situ, upon those protecting Nelson column in Trafalgar Square, flank the steps leading up to the memorial, with a bust of Rhodes (also by JM Swan). The inscription on the monument is "To the spirit and life work of Cecil John Rhodes who loved and served South Africa", together with a stanza from the 1902 poem *Burial* by Rudyard Kipling in honour of Rhodes:

With thanks to Wikipedia

## CONSERVATOR TRUST

Administered by Simon van der Stel Foundation/Cape Town

The Trust is now in a position to receive applications for grants for restoration or preservation of heritage properties. Applications must be made in writing and include all details of the project.

Grants will only be made:

To projects undertaken in the Peninsula area as defined in the Constitution of the Simon van der Stel Foundation (Cape Town).

Projects must be completed within 12 months.

All grants will be to tangible visual heritage projects which can be viewed physically.

Grants will not be made for study or travel purposes.

All grants will be specific and may not be used for other or general purposes.

The appointment of architects, professional consultants, heritage consultants or other advisors and the appointment of builders and contractors are subject to Trustee's approval.

Grants available up to a maximum of R50 000.

Applications should be sent to:

The Secretary, Conservator Trust, PO Box 366, Plumstead 7801 Telephone 021 794 7464

## GROOT CONSTANTIA VISIT, Saturday, 10 March



Members of the Foundation met curator Wieke van Delen at the Groot Constantia Orientation Centre (the old *Jonkershuis*) for a brief introduction to the site including a look at archaeological remains found during excavations.

After that, we visited the homestead and the Cloete cellar. Wieke explained that the farm dates from 1685 when the land was granted to Simon van der Stel. The homestead with its exhibition of furniture, paintings, textiles, ceramics, brass, and copperware, provides an insight into the life of a successful 18th to late 19th century Cape farmer. Wieke also informed members of possible alterations in the near future to make the displays more interpretative.

It turned out to be a glorious day weather wise and the afternoon was enjoyed by all.

Anlen Boshoff

## KLIPOKASIE

VIER hoërskoolleerders van Oudtshoorn wat in die Kliplokasie woon, het van die eerste baanbrekerswerk gedoen om die geskiedenis van dié geskiedkundige woongebied te begin dokumenteer.

Hulle werk gaan nou voortgesit word om seker te maak die gebied se unieke storie gaan nie verlore nie. Die Kliplokasie by Volmoed, 'n landelike gebied suidwes van Oudtshoorn, spog met unieke klipbouwerk deurdat die kerk en huise daar slegs deur die opeenstapeling van klippe gebou is.



Jong baanbrekers wat help met die dokumentasie van die geskiedenis van die Kliplokasie! Van links is Rowan Mouton, Hilzayne Stoffels, Corine -Witbooi en Greg Julies by me Hazel Jonker.

Volgens me Hazel Jonker van Oudtshoorn, 'n bekende in bewaringskringe, het die dokumentering van die Kliplokasie se geskiedenis begin toe die Stigting Simon van der Stel die omgewing in 2011 besoek het en Jonker hulle na die Kliplokasie geneem het.

Die Stigting het daarop 'n klein donasie beskikbaar gestel waarna Jonker met die hulp van mnr Roy Reddy, evangelis wat in die Kliplokasie werk, vier hoërskoolleerders geïdentifiseer het.

Hulle taak was om ou inwoners van die Kliplokasie te identifiseer en vir elkeen 'n vraelys in te vul om so inligting in te samel. Altesame 35 inwoners is so deur die leerders betrek.

Volgens Jonker het die vier leerders uitstaande werk gedoen en is daar met die hulp van die CP Nel Museum op Oudtshoorn besluit om voort te gaan en met die hulp van die inwoners inligting oor hulle en die Kliplokasie mondelings te dokumenteer.

Dié mondelinge dokumentasie sal dan in die museum bewaar word sodat dit nie verlore gaan nie.

## NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

**The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium of Heritage South Africa**  
**From survival to opulence in 100 years: The rise of the Cape Dutch manor house**  
**Thursday 4 – Saturday 6 October 2012**  
**Paarl**  
**Hosted by the Drakenstein Heritage Foundation**  
**Everybody is welcome!**

Join us at the Heritage South Africa Symposium where we will trace the development of the Cape from its geological beginnings, through the earliest inhabitants, to the arrival of the Dutch East India Company. The endeavours of these people, together, created the wealth that gave rise to the Sumptuary Laws (*die Wet van Prag en Praal*) of Governor Rijk Tulbagh 100 years later to curb the ostentatious display of opulence. This period of prosperity is still represented by many examples of Cape vernacular architecture in the Drakenstein Valley.

The digital age has opened up exciting avenues for archival research, giving new perspectives on our history. Social historians, researchers, architects and restorers will discuss the social and economic history of the Valley and its influence on the development of the famous Cape homesteads. We will be visiting 18<sup>th</sup> century sites in the centre of town and on surrounding farms during the symposium.

Find out how the three forces – indigenous peoples, settlers and slaves – combined to shape our heritage, and decide for yourself how we should honour their contributions.

### **Provisional programme:**

#### Thursday 4 October 2012

18:00 An evening at Nelson's Creek commemorating the sites of forced removals in Paarl. Members of the community will reminisce about their personal experiences and Blue Plaques will be handed over for placement at 3 of these sites. A light dinner will be served.

#### Friday 5 October 2012

Venue: Toringkerk Hall c/o Main and van der Lingen Streets, Paarl

08:30 Registration

09:00 Prof Izak Rust: the Geology of the Valley

10:15 Dr Judy Macquire: the earliest people at the Cape – from Stone Age to the Khoi

11:00 Prof Nigel Penn: The Khoi people and their interaction with the Dutch

12:30 Lunch is served in the hall

13:30 Prof Juttie Bredenkamp Slaves at the Cape – their contribution to the wealth of the Colonists

14:30 Johan Fourie the economics of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> C

15:30 Walk across to the Paarl museum for tea.

16:00 Walk to the early farms Bethel, Nantes, Cheve and the old mill (1 km)

#### Friday Evening

19:30 Medal Awards Dinner at Labori Restaurant

#### Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2012

09:00 Meet at the Toringkerk Hall. Len Raymond will give a short presentation on the places we will visit.

10:00 A coach will take the group to

10:30 Amstelhof

11:30 Lanquedoc

12:30 Babylonstoren. Lunch, a talk on the archaeology of Babylonstoren and a visit to the gardens.

15:00 Visit to Donkerhoek

16:00 Visit one of the forced removal sites in central Paarl.

Coach returns to Toringkerk Hall.

**Enquiries to Cathy Raymond at [heritage@iafrica.com](mailto:heritage@iafrica.com)**

For updated details on the symposium refer to : [www.heritagesa.org](http://www.heritagesa.org)

## **RESTAURANTS WITH HISTORY**

### **The Retreat at Camps Bay**



Thomas Earl Skaife bought the estate from the Cape Marine Suburbs in 1911. He sold it to Friedrich Wilhelm Knacke in 1920 who named the estate Earls Dyke. Knacke demolished the original house in 1929 and built a house to be envied. This house designed by William Grant with its extensive gardens are now an exclusive nature retreat in the heart of Camps Bay. Visitors can eat either on the pillared terrace within sight and sound of the ocean or in the original dining room complete with open fire. A creative classic French menu with unique culinary touches is updated daily to incorporate the freshest ingredients and

hearty home baked breads and pastries. Organic home grown herbs, vegetables and micro herbs clearly features as an ingredient or garnish throughout.

Lunches are kept light and current, and best served as a picnic in the shade of mature trees with the ocean as backdrop. Unpretentious dishes grace the dinner menu with modern touches to the classics. The tender signature Chalmar Beef Fillet is the ever popular dish – either cooked on the grill, or over open fire during the summer months.

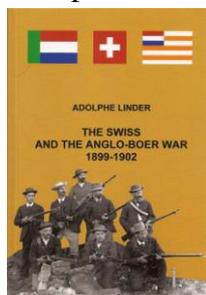
Bookings are essential. (0) 21 437 8300 or [book@campsbayretreat.com](mailto:book@campsbayretreat.com)

Breakfast 07:00 to 11:00      Lunch 12:30 to 16:00      Dinner 19:00 to 22:00

## **BOOKSHELF**

### **The Swiss and the Anglo-Boer War 1899 – 1902**

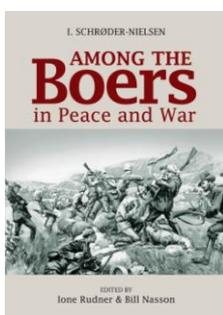
#### **Adolphe Linder**



The confrontation between Boer and Brit lasted three years and is remembered as the Anglo-Boer War. A wave of sympathy for the Boers swept through the world. Everywhere money, medical supplies, clothing and provisions were collected, field ambulances and complete hospitals equipped and sent to the republics. More than 3 000 volunteers from overseas joined the Boer forces. This book tells how one small country, Switzerland, reacted to the war, how the Swiss living in the two republics participated in their defense and how they were influenced by the war. It also includes a description of Swiss emigration to the two republics and a detailed register of the Swiss known to be resident in the two republics in 1899.

### **Among the Boers in Peace and War**

#### **I Schroder Nielsen**



Among the many little-known stories of the Anglo-Boer War is that of Ingvar Schrøder-Nielsen, a young Norwegian land-surveyor, who lived among the Boers and described their ways with humour and empathy. He befriended a number of Boer families and writes with great sympathy about their often tragic plight.

Nielsen was captured and taken to a British camp where he witnessed the tragic execution of his comrade Piet Schuil, a young Hollander who had been sentenced to death on trumped-up charges. Less sombre, even entertaining, are his descriptions of life in the prisoner- of -war camps on the Bermuda Islands, where Nielsen, himself having been threatened with execution, was to remain until his release in July 1902, when he returned to Norway.

Anlen Boshoff