

st Anne's @ home

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OVERVIEW FROM THE DIRECTOR



GRATITUDE ... That is the overwhelming feeling that is bursting out of me when I look at what God has been doing at St. Anne's Homes in this first half of 2013!! This edition is an attempt to share with you the many forms in which our thankfulness presents itself thus far.

We dedicate this newsletter to Father John Oliver whose sudden passing on 4 July 2013 came as a massive shock to many of us. Father John gave so much of himself to St. Anne's for more than a decade. I am deeply humbled that I had the opportunity to engage with him and got him to share his experiences about his time at St. Anne's, for this edition.

What I know for sure is that despite economic challenges, if our hearts are connected, we can overcome all adversities.

Corporates, patrons and individuals all find creative ways to support St. Anne's. And in an unusual act of kindness, to mark her 16th birthday, Lara Barnard persuaded her parents to donate the money for her birthday to St. Anne's Homes. This prompted family and friends to give us money in lieu of gifts to Lara.

It is my hope that this newsletter will demonstrate that it's not always about giving cash but more about using what we **have** to help the "have not's".

Joy Lange, Director



Dear Joy and the Staff at St. Anne's

My story is an example of how with time, the seeds sown by St. Anne's Homes and other shelters for abused women and children eventually start to produce flowers...

I arrived at St. Anne's homeless and pregnant. Attending workshops, completing my duties and trying to assist where possible, I was given an opportunity to work for the shelter, first as a receptionist and later as Joy's PA. I also received a bursary to study at Rosebank College, where I received a certificate in Office Administration.

During this time, my children's father stopped taking drugs, got a job, a place to live and even started going to church with me. After being separated for a year and six months, we moved in together again.

It did not take long for things to start going sour; he started taking drugs again, in the second month he was hitting me, and by the third month we were homeless. It took another year-and-a-half for me to get the courage to finally leave him. But you all never gave up on me -- allowing my boys to attend crèche, trying to convince me that the children and I deserved better. You even assisted me with nappies and food for my children.

I searched for shelters closer to my mother, who lives in Johannesburg, and was accepted at Amcare, a Christian-based organization in Johannesburg that has a shelter, circumcision clinic, catering school, Cansa and lots more on the premises.

Amcare had a vacancy for a House Mother and I applied for the position, not truly expecting to get the job. The interview was conducted by a panel. The following week I was informed that I got the job! With it came a flat, food and a salary!

GOD HAS GIVEN ME ANOTHER CHANCE.

I would not have been competent for this position was it not for my time at St. Anne's. Thank you all for not giving up on me.

Lots of love and appreciation,

Celeste, Jayden and Caleb



FATHER JOHN...

YOUR LEGACY WILL LIVE ON

Father John and Elizabeth Petersen at the Ruyterwacht home in 2007

When I look back on my time as Chairman of St. Anne's Board I do so with an immense sense of gratitude. Coming from a rural parish in Southern Zambia where development projects were the main feature of ministry, it was a great joy to find St. Anne's - a place so rooted in the Gospel while at the same time responding effectively to the immediate needs of marginalised women and children.

When I joined the organisation in 1997 there was a need to strengthen the relationship between St. Anne's and the Anglican Diocese of Cape Town, as the home's origin and legacy stems from the Anglican Church. The link with St. Mark's was significant and provided prayerful and pastoral support for the staff and residents.

In those days the buildings of St. Anne's were rather quaint in their state of disrepair. I remember sitting on a chair being held up by bricks when I first met Elizabeth Petersen in her office! It was clear that major renovation was a priority. Room by room, donation by donation, Elizabeth and I began knocking down walls, stripping floors and re-designing spaces to create reception area, crèche facilities, workshop space and office facilities.

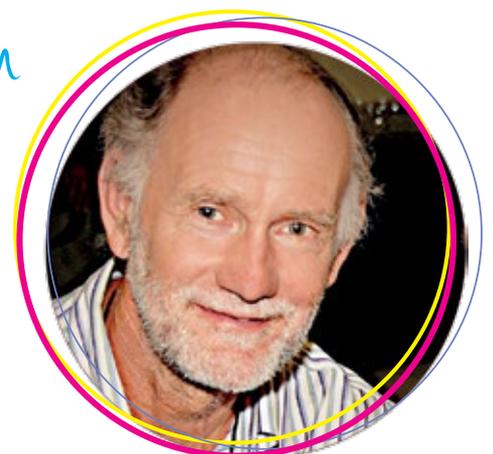
Along with the drive for renovation I acknowledge Elizabeth's pursuit of professional imaging and profile for the project. AGM reports, meeting décor and corporate colours earned St. Anne's renown in the high standard of presentation and event management. At every event I was told what I had to wear in order to be colour coordinated!

But this was all a backdrop to the main focus to which I was often a spectator: that of the transformation of lives. To see women hesitant, insecure, often troublesome, slowly as the months would unfold, find a sense of their true selves to hold their heads high -- new employment, new strength of purpose and even able to stand confidently to witness to the gift of St. Anne's, was both humbling and gratifying.

St. Anne is remembered for teaching the Virgin Mary to take her first steps in life, a life that was to lead to the painful bearing of Christ into the world. In the name of St. Anne, we continue to walk alongside those whose steps are faltering, whose cross is burdensome, and through the ministry of support are raised to new life, carrying the life of Christ into the world.

I share the gratitude of all whose lives have been touched and transformed by the ministry of St. Anne's.

Fr. John



GIVING TO THE NATIONAL SHELTER MOVEMENT

On Mandela Day, 18 July, the Body Shop South Africa initiated an exciting collection campaign in support of the National Shelter Movement. "As a business, we are passionate about having a positive impact on the communities in which we operate", says Lana-Anne Abrahams, a National Trainer. "We have been collecting non-perishable food items and cleaning supplies for the NSM. Our store teams have given this initiative their full support, by encouraging customers to donate. The collection runs until 18 August."

On 19 July, The Body Shop Head Office team had a successful internal campaign, selling tokens towards the purchase of supplies to its own staff. The same level of response was expected with a planned second collection drive.

Shelters have benefitted enormously from the campaign, each collecting supplies donated by the public to their allocated store.



AND IN THE LATEST NEWS



SABC TV's Weekend Bulletin recently featured a broadcast about a unique opportunity offered to eight of St Anne's residents by Varsity College. Siphokazi Ntsomi, Michelle van Wyk and Haadia Williams were interviewed by TV writer, Mariska Botha and camera operator, Pam Zokufa

about the Diploma in Office Administration which they started in July. What an opportunity to stand tall and acknowledge the difference this shelter, together with our amazing partners, can have on women's lives! Thank you, Varsity College and SABC.

AN ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS DAY!!!

Haircuts and styling, facials and makeovers, gifts, cake and treats – what a day! Nailah Kippie, a volunteer, organised family and friends to host a Pamper Party for our residents. Nailah also works for the Vodacom Academy and was responsible for bringing the corporate on board St Anne's in 2009 for the Vodacom Foundation's payroll giving- from which we benefit to this day. Thank you Nailah – we are grateful for your love and generosity of spirit.

As for the Pamper Party, "what an experience!" enthused Nailah's crew. "We will definitely do it again!!"



FREEDOM DAY FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST



Our gratitude to patrons and friends who support our fundraising events. Here, Joy takes a group around the Home after breakfast. Special thanks also to volunteers, Avril & Beatty who are always there, preparing our breakfasts with love.

A NEW WAY OF SEEING

Martin Gumpo, the Children's Programme Coordinator at Wonderland Crèche at St Anne's recently attended a Site Learning Programme workshop introduced by the Department of Social Development.

"This programme will be rolled out by Grassroots and the DSD to all Early Childhood Development centres in the Western Cape to create an equally recognised syllabus for all the crèches to follow and to have all the crèches registered. The workshop focuses on themes development using a holistic approach towards child development. Topics on inclusive education, assessments, and the types of play that children engage in are all covered in the workshops. This has opened my heart and eyes to a completely new

way of seeing the world through the eyes of children.

Planning, creativity and being proactive are the most critical parts in the themes implementation. I know exactly what the teacher is expected to plan for in terms of activities. It is with great joy I can announce that St Anne's Homes went through a lengthy and rigorous re-registration process with Department, and as of November 2012 we became one of the few registered ECD sites in Western Cape."



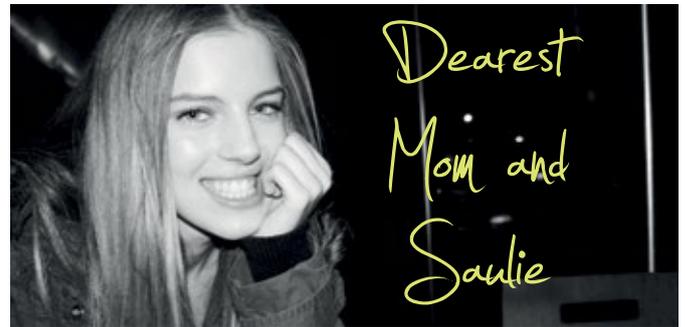
RECYCLING CLOTHING TO CASH

Church communities were invited to recycle unwanted clothing into much-needed cash for St Anne's through the innovative Clothes to Cash Exchange (Pty) Ltd which buys unused clothing through schools, churches and charities. C2CX uses the clothes to create small businesses among the poor (Distributors) and employs the jobless to sort, clean and repair clothing for re-sale.

During the month of May, St Anne's received R5 from C2CX for every kilogram of clothing received. "C2CX is a brilliant concept which can lead to job creation for our residents and potentially provide a regular income for St Anne's, as we plan to become a Distributor", says Joy.



The NSMSA received funding from the National Department of Social Development to mentor and do capacity-building for women's shelters in the Northern Cape and Eastern Cape. Joy, Linda Fugard of Sisters Incorporated and Zubeida Dangor for the NISSA Institute, provided the training.



I've been thinking long and hard about what I would like for my "sweet 16th" - jumping back and forth from various ideas and items, but to be honest I cannot think of anything I really want. I don't want to ask for something just for the sake of getting a birthday present, so I've done some research and have decided that I would prefer to donate money to this special charity.

I went through a few charities but thought this one fit best. I keep thinking how much I dread turning 16 because it comes hand-in-hand with so many responsibilities and new independence.

As this birthday is a mark in slowly entering womanhood, I want to ask for something that I know for as long as I'll live, I can think back and know that I entered womanhood in a manner that I will always hope to define myself by, and with a quality I will always hope to keep - compassion.

In the theme of womanhood, I decided on a charity that helps empower and look after abused and disadvantaged woman and their children. St Anne's Home: <http://www.stanneshomes.org.za/>

Donating money to this charity would really mean the world to me and it is all I want.

And I know that this will make my 16th sweeter than anything money could buy.

Lara

OUR GALLERY



67 Minutes for Madiba

.... for Acucap Management Services meant 4 days of service at our second stage home, Peace Haven. From Tuesday 16 to Friday 19 July, the energized and inspiring group cleaned up, did building repairs, painted and re-decorated. A great job for which we are very grateful.



All Wrapped Up

South Africa has never had such a delightful representative as little Nicky Hartnick.



Our brand new car, a Toyota Avanza, kindly donated by L. Scheele Fonds



Leah Snyders - all of 1 year old -and her mom, Lee-Ann, share a birthday with Madiba.



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