



SAARP SOCIAL SERVICES GROOTE SCHUUR

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Newsletter - July 2018

Dear fellow members,

With all those national crises on our minds every day – corruption, crime, a faltering economy, etc – it is natural to think of the past and join in the chorus of “Those were the days! And here we are today – with the wheels coming off”

Comparisons are odious, as the saying goes. In fact, those fond memories of the “Good old days” can be selective – even more so as we age.

Consider some of the comparisons some of our younger South African expats are making with life in their adopted country and their former life in S.A. Reasons for their migration include all the things that currently plague us, as previously mentioned.

So, I could not suppress a chuckle when one former South African, when asked about New Zealand, his new home, replied – “Boring!” It seems that he too finds the grass on the other side not greener! He found life in SA more “exciting” – in fact, “never a dull moment!” No doubt the Zuma years added to this excitement!

To us, senior citizens, many with deep roots in this beautiful land, it’s natural to be pessimistic when faced with our current problems – but those words of wisdom : “Hope lies eternal in the human breast” still apply, I’m sure.

And many find good reasons to be hopeful. They see a light at the end of the tunnel. (Let’s hope it isn’t an approaching train!)

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The day-outing to Hopefield (21 June) was a treat! After the rain of the previous days, the sun was out, the countryside was green (the Western Cape’s “Green Season”) and we enjoyed the usual camaraderie on the bus.

Hopefield is a charming little town between Malmesbury and Langebaan on the West Coast. It is named after two of the pioneers – a Mr Hope and a Mr Field!

“Simply Bee”, our destination, is worth a visit. It has a large selection of locally produced honey (from the fynbos), and an array of beeswax byproducts for those interested in cosmetics and health-boosters.

We visited the DR Church for a talk on its celebrated stained-glass windows and its equally celebrated organ, which is placed in the centre, next to the pulpit – with the console at the back for the organist.

Lunch in the kerksaal was very tasty – a choice of beef&butternut lasagne and chicken pie, “farm cooked”. At a very reasonable R75pp

FOR YOUR DIARY

This month's General Meeting – Monday 16th July. Venue – Rosebank Methodist Church Hall. Doors open at 09h15. Speaker: Wouter v Warmelo on “Namaqualand”
Next month's General Meeting – Monday 20th August - Venue & times as above.
Speaker/ Entertainer: Details in next newsletter.

BEST WISHES

Congratulations and Best Wishes to those who will be celebrating birthdays & anniversaries. Our condolences to those who have lost loved ones. To those in hospital or ill at home, we wish you well.

THEATRES (Info supplied by Gaby Saurma-Jeltsch)

Artscape

17th July - **Mandela Trilogy (Opera)** – Tuesday 7.30pm. Back row R130 Groups of 10 or more R150. Prices up to R240

21 – 29 July : **Ruddigore (G&S) Matinees** Sun 22/ Sat 28/ Sun 29 R150

Bollywood Enchanted – Timeless classic Sun 5 Aug 3pm Evening 3/4th Aug 8pm

Journey Beyond with Orchestra Zip Zap Circus: 17/19 Aug Matinees 3pm
Evening 7.30pm Fantastic when presented last year,

City Hall : Symphony Concerts resume : Resurrection– Choirs Sat 4th August
7pm R90/230

Orchestra Rehearsals 16/23/30 August R50 11am Evening 8pm R90/130

OUTINGS

Please note: There is no outing in July.

The outing in August will be to Wellington. Details in next newsletter.

INTO OUR KITTY (June 2018)

Bring & Buy (R173); Lucky Draw (R22); Tea monies (R60)

GENERAL

Please support our Bring & Buy table. Special request for cookies, etc
Donations of clothing items, wool, materials, etc are gratefully received. Collection bag at the attendance table. ToCH distributes to the needy.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

Please use one of the following methods of paying subscriptions:

- a) CASH at monthly meetings (50.00 per member annually)
- b) EFT to ABSA Account – Number 9172732609 , Branch Code 632005, providing your full name and membership number.
- c) CHEQUE – payable to SAARP Social Services Groote Schuur , but add R25.00 to cover bank charges. Submit to Membership Secretary.

PLEASE : No cheques to be deposited at Banks due to increased bank fees.

If you are receiving a news letter by post, this is an additional R30

PAYMENTS FOR OUTINGS : CASH only at meetings.