

AREA 9 – JAARVERSLAG / ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Minette Steyn Executive officer

As ons terugkyk na die jaar se werk sê ons amen op die woorde van GK Chesterton: "Ware tevredenheid is die vermoë om uit enige gegewe situasie die beste te haal wat daaruit te haal is."

Hobhouse

Hobhouse branch consists of eleven members. Everyone has the need to empower themselves at every meeting held. We strive to embrace every opportunity with courage and determination. There's a Chinese proverb that says: "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step". This was exactly how we experienced our year: day by day and one step at a time to where we find ourselves at this very moment filled with gratitude.

Ons het vanjaar weer ses studierigtings deurgewerk, so tussen al die ander by-mekaar-komme vir die Konferensie.

Ons het die jaar afgeskop met 'n mooimaakssessie deur "La Mazelle" wat werklik 'n veer in die hoed was vir Vandag se Vrou. Wepener tak het ook vir ons kom kuier en ons het nog van die dorpsdames genooi, wat na afloop van die sessie, armer maar baie mooier hier weggegaan het.

We unfortunately had few members attending our May meeting, as a result we solved some issues concerning the upcoming Conference. We enjoyed a delicious cup of tea and custom made delicacies after looking through memories of Ria and her sister's European summer tour.

Ons Junie vergadering is met Rooi Hoofletters aangeteken, want dis die dag waarop Jannie en Vanda Gagiano ons tak besoek het. Wepener het ook die vergadering bygewoon. Ons het geluister na Hansie van Staden se goeie wenke vir veiligheid. Laura demonstreer ook aan ons hoe sy tafels vir drie afsonderlike geleenthede sal dek.

Elize Anderson addressed us in August concerning investments, pensions and taxes. Medical aids were also mentioned, afterwards a great deal of questions were asked and answered. We felt empowered to implement our savings much wiser and to sometimes let go and take that much deserved holiday.

Op 19 September besoek 'n klompie van ons lede saam met ons toergids, Christy, die sjokoladefabriek op Ficksburg. Ons smul aan heerlike sjokolade, koop van die peperduur sondetjies vir die pad en besoek ook die Blikplek terwyl ons daar was. Ons gaan natuurlik nooit in daardie rigting sonder om by The Cabin aan te gaan nie.

From October onwards, except for Christmas of course; our get-togethers all were concerned with the upcoming Conference. Actions spoke louder than words with everyone pulling their weight. We believe that all our guests will enjoy the event and will appreciate all the love and labour we put into it.

Ons tak was ook goed verteenwoordig by die Kongres in September en het ons dit regtig baie geniet.

When we look back on our year we say amen on these wise words of Calvin Coolidge: "All growth depends upon activity. There is no development physically or intellectually without effort, and effort means work."

Wepener

"Success isn't always about greatness. It's about consistency. Consistent hard work leads to success. Greatness will come." Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson

Wepener VLU-tak skop die jaar in eerste rat af en reeds vanaf die 6 Januarie word almal opgeroep vir Areakonferensie reëlings. Ons kom weekliks bymekaar en bied uiteindelik die 23ste Februarie 'n gesellige Areakonferensie by Lord Fraser gastehuis aan.

We reflect on the Conference with our meeting that took place in March. It's a new year with loads of new fun filled activities that awaits us. Two cars filled with lovely ladies attended the Enrichment Seminar at Onze Rust Dutch Reformed Church which we found informative and well presented.

Aprilmaand hou ons eers Bybelstudie in Amandelhof en geniet ons 'n vrolike Hap-en-Hoed-oggend wat weer help om ons fondse aan te vul. Ons skaterlag en raai die dorpe wat op almal se hoede voorgestel is.

Our May meeting was all about mental health, the big MH which everyone is either avoiding or exploiting. Everyone received a labyrinth to complete, revealing tips on how to deal with toxic circumstances and still be healthy: seemed as though we found wisdom where least expected.

"You can start from the ordinary bizarre to the extraordinary incredible"
— Richmond Akhigbe-

Juniemaand hou ons saam met Hobhouse-tak vergadering en Mnr en Mev. Gagiano woon ons vergadering by. Hansie van Staden se praatjie oor veiligheid tref ons almal baie diep.

Augustus woon ons almal die Effekto-praatjie by wat OVK aangebied het by en bespreek die inligting weer by ons volgende vergadering. Einde Augustus ry 'n paar lede op slagveld toe en gaan sit in die skanse teen Barryshoogte, vanwaar die Britte 'n 360 grade blik oor Wepener en agtertoe na Lesotho gehad het.

September was our annual Congress month where we had to say farewell to our elegant president. Four of our members attended the occasion, the feedback was astonishing: seemed as though it was a colossal success. The week after Congress we had an outing to Dewetsdorp at "letsie lekkers" – the place where women build an alliance to take over the world. We made stocking puppets for the children at Omosa kindergarten whilst discussing the Congress.

Eendag op 'n reëndag in Oktobermaand bak ons pannekoek nadat Friends se Moslems aan die einde van hul Ramadanvastyd hulle vriende op gevulde pannekoek wil trakteer. Die fondse word gebruik vir welwillendheid en 'n uitstaande tandartsrekening. Ons besoek ook Omosa kleuterskool, verf die kinders se gesiggies en dra speelgoed aan. Hulle sing weer en dra versies voor tot in Afrikaans.

November we concluded our year on a farm near Wepener where Siobhan Whitfield welcomed us. We urbanites enjoyed being in the presence of pigs, sheep, cattle and kittens. Siobhan and Marlize spoiled us with homemade Pizza; everyone had to build their own. Another splendid meeting and year was saluted.