



JANUUS

December
Desember
2017
Uitgawe
Edition
16



THE DEPARTMENT @ 40 #JOURNALISM4.0

OUR small department, originally housed at 26 Crozier Street, will celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2018. Alumni can celebrate with us on March 2 during the Word Fest when our publication celebrating – and reflecting on – forty years of journalism education and training at Stellenbosch University, #Journalism4.0/#Joernalistiek4.0 @Stellenbosch, will be launched.

Founded in 1978 by legendary newspaper editor and then chair of Naspers, Piet Cillie, regarded at the time as a liberal Afrikaner thinker, the postgraduate Department of Journalism in the elegant Edwardian house at 26 Crozier Street had by 2010 expanded into a super-modern annexe to house its Honours, Master's and Doctoral students.

And yes, the need for journalism education and training in our technological age is more important than ever. Amidst all the noise in the digisphere's post-truth/alternative truth/fake news era, a clear and strong voice of professional media workers providing weighed, balanced, independent information is crucial. And such a clear, strong voice, to provide a trusted public record of our times, begins with the education and training of young media professionals who have the necessary conceptual and practical knowledge and skills that need to dovetail constantly in our merciless, 24/7 news cycle.

To quote a former UNESCO official: "Fostering journalistic training institutions in Africa is key to Africa's development as a whole, whether for tackling poverty, ushering in democratic practices or promoting social change."

In fact, the role of the media in society is so important that it is mentioned in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that was adopted by the United Nations in 2015. In the previous Millennium Development Goals, which guided

development between 2000 and 2015, there was no reference to the role of the media. Yet a strong media sector is now regarded as so fundamental to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that the importance of public access to information as a fundamental freedom is mentioned explicitly. These SDGs should guide our planet's actions in the crucial next 15 years to address the challenges facing us, from poverty and inequality to climate change.

In South Africa, particularly, a myriad of problems face us as a society, from state capture resulting from an immoral and corrupt leadership, to inequalities such as the vast, growing and unsustainable reliance on welfare grants, plus all the other complex factors destabilising the promise and potential of a post-colonial and post-apartheid "New South Africa".

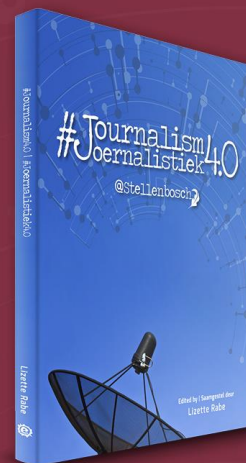
Therefore: it also takes a strong commitment to education and training to ensure that our publics are served by a professional, ethical media sector. Indeed, may one hope that a professional, ethical media can be an agent of change in addressing our problems?

The 40th anniversary publication contains a collection of essays reflecting on what has happened over these four decades regarding our commitment to media education and training inside – and therefore mostly outside – of 26 Crozier Street. In Part I, the history of the department is presented in two parts as a reflection in the "rear-view mirror" – from 1978 to 1994, and from 1994 to today. This is followed in Part II by academic essays on journalism education and training. The next section consists of class photos of the Honours students' who stepped over 26 Crozier Street's threshold for over forty years, as well as some photographs capturing a glimpse of the soul of 26 Crozier Street.

#Journalism4.0 #Joernalistiek4.0

@Stellenbosch

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Stellenbosch University's Department of Journalism celebrates its 40th anniversary with this publication reflecting on the four decades between 1978 and 2018 and all that happened behind 26 Crozier Street's front door. But, in essence, it celebrates a lot more. It is an assessment of the importance of the media's essential role in a democracy. This collection of essays, therefore, is a celebration of the inalienable right of freedom of expression, especially in the form of media freedom.

Stellenbosch Universiteit se Departement Joernalistiek vier sy veertigste bestaansjaar met hierdie publikasie wat terugkyk op die vier dekades tussen 1978 en 2018 en wat alles agter Crozierstraat 26 se voordeur gebeur het. Maar in essensie vier dit veel meer as dit, want dit is 'n assessering van die belangrikheid van die media se noodsaaklike rol in 'n demokrasie. Hierdie versameling essays is daarom 'n viering van die onvervreembare reg van vryheid van uitdrukking, veral in die vorm van mediavryheid.

printed book R 250.00 978-1-928357-46-9 gedrukte boek



Book launch event

2 March 2018, Woordfees Book tent,
15:30-16:30

Tickets available through Computicket

Bekendstellingsgeleentheid

2 Maart 2018, Woordfees Boeketent,
15:30-16:30

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In Part IV, a number of Rykie van Reenen Fellows reflect on the role of journalism, their secondment to the department, or other relevant issues. The publication concludes with essays by a number of alumni representing the Department's four decades.

Die bundel gedenk die eerste vier dekades van 'n baie spesiale plek met 'n unieke atmosfeer (en 'n eie inwonende spook, dalk selfs meer) wat al meer as 'n duisend baie spesiale studente gehuisves het – 'n groep studente wat die beste vergestalt van wat 'n joernalis en professionele mediawerker kan en moet wees: nuuskierig, talent-

vol, analities, krities, skeppend, skepties, sinies. En dalk as laaste maar beslis nie die minste nie, en 'n voorvereiste vir oorlewing: 'n superskerp, gitswart sin vir humor.

Long may this very special place still produce critically minded media professionals who can answer to all the needs of our society, thereby providing a public record of events and people – the first rough draft of history: honest, clear, strong and reliable. ■

– LIZETTE RABE, wat vanjaar uittree as roterende voorsitter.
Gawie Botma is van Januarie 2018 in die voorsitterstoel.

HOW 26 CROZIER STREET ALMOST MADE THE NEWS

MONDAY 27 February 2017 started out like every other weekday in Crozier Street. Crazy and crazier, in other words. Just as well we did not know how it would end, because we almost made news ourselves.

Where there's smoke, there must be a fire. That we know from politics. Fortunately, for us, on this specific Monday, it turned out to be smoke without a fire – nor flames. But it could have been a lot worse. So this is how our Monday in February this year ended:

Late afternoon, just before closing time, smoke was detected in the newsroom (those pre-2010: the upper storey of the annexe, where our computers and studios are). One of the air conditioners stopped working, and after, that the room filled with smoke. Stalwart and hero of the day, aka Superwoman and Captain Invincible and Office Ninja, Elizabeth Newman, of course, immediately did all the right things.

Lizabeth switched off the main switch, and fortunately, there was at that stage only one student in

the newsroom, who was formally asked to “could she please evacuate” (yes, we do everything politely and according to the rule book).

The SU Protective Services's Mr Howard Koopman was quick to be on the scene, and he, in turn, called an electrician, the two of whom holding a close watch-out for more smoke – or, indeed, flames. Mr Nadeem Gafieldien, another stalwart, was also making his way to the department.

The electrician fortunately quickly established that the cause of the smoke came from one of the fluorescent lights. The electricity was still switched off, so whatever caused the smoke was now not getting any heat (or power) anymore. However, all the necessary safety measurements were taken, e.g., a notice to all the students that they should not be using the revolving door but the front door the next day, and that everything will remain switched off in the annexe until the next day. (Yes, the SU has had too many fires these past years to take any chances...)

In the meantime, Protection

Services have assured us that everything is under control and they will be monitoring the building.

So what was the cause of the smoke and the almost-fire? Turned out ... to be a crumpled-up computer print-out that got stuck in the fluorescent light on the ceiling.

We know Crozier Street students to be passionate about their work. And yes, when the nerves are raw, paper starts flying... and it may even end stuck on the inside of a fluorescent light. Where, in this case, it would just lie there for a couple of years, heat up, cool down, and one day heats up to the extent that it starts smouldering... and smoking.

What to do in future with passionate journalism students? Of course, now also tell them that if they want to start throwing papers around, please make sure the papers do not get stuck in the lights... because even though there is an Annual Inspection of Lights by whoever the Annual Inspection of Lights Department is, they clearly did not notice the stuck piece of



The piece of crumpled up print-out that almost caused a big problem...

paper inside this particular light. And at least the good news was that the smoke did not turn out to be a fire. And that we didn't make it to the front pages.

PS: The evidence of just whose print-out it was, of course, was also clear: student's name, date, and subject: the print-out of the final Photojournalism portfolio of a certain individual who will not be named. And it has been stuck in the light since November 2011. So now the do's and don'ts of the Department also include that whenever you feel like throwing around papers during that very testing exam time, please make sure it does not get stuck in the lights. We might just have another almost-fire in about five years' time.... **!**



LEONARD Makombe, from Harare in Zimbabwe, graduated in December 2017 after completing his PhD (Journalism) dissertation after years of dedicated research into the role of Twitter in the election of a new government. He studied journalism at Harare Poly Technic from 1999 to 2001 and worked as a journalist at *The Herald*, the oldest and largest newspaper in the country. While working at *The Herald*, Leonard enrolled for a Bachelor of Science in Political and Administrative Studies (Honours) at the University of Zimbabwe, which he completed in 2004. Upon completion, Leonard enrolled for a Master of Science in International Relations at the same institution and completed it in 2006. After a stint as Public Relations Officer with one of the parastatals, Zimbabwe Posts, Leonard re-joined the journalism profession as a senior reporter for *The Zimbabwe Independent*, a privately owned weekly newspaper. In 2011 Leonard left this paper to join World Vision as a Communications Officer, a position he held until mid-2014, when he left to join the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, where he is currently a National Communications Officer. Dr Gawie Botma was his supervisor. **!**



Leona Amoraal, wat van 1978 by die departement betrokke was, eers as tik- en snelskrif/shorthand-instrukteur, en van 1994 as sekretaresse, het na Windhoek verhuis, waar haar twee dogters en hul gesinne woon. Hier is sy by die doop van haar jongste kleinkind, Jean Esterhuizen, op Sondag, 3 Desember. Agter staan Jolanda Amoraal-Esterhuizen saam met Ameli Füscher, en Willelman Amoraal, wat in Engeland woon, met sy seun Dominic, en voor sit Leona met Jean, Lezél Amoraal-Füscher (lid van die klas van 2000) en Mareli Füscher.

AN HISTORIC PHOTO



Stellenbosch Journalism's Class of 2017, its 40th Honours Class, together with the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Prof Tony Leysens. BACK: Dalaine Krige, Aidan Jones, Marius Boonzaier, Marli van Eeden, Holly Charlton, Paula-Ann Smit, André Huisamen, Dylan Jack, Andeline Wieland, Franco Havenga, Tom Stapylton-Smith and Tegan Mouton. MIDDLE: Lida Malherbe, Welile Makena, Martinette Hay, Tembisa Mgzuzulo, Ayn Parrott, Christina Pitt, Nyakallo Moleko, Tania Heyns, Marsha Leitch, Vonani Ngomana and Andrea Kohrs. FRONT: Marenet Jordaan, Elizabeth Newman, Gabriel Botma, Anthony Leysens, Lizette Rabe (chair), George Claassen, Andre Gouws and Lijuan Williams-Daniels.

MIRANDI EN HAAR VERRE HORISONNE

Mirandi Nel, Klas(leier) van 2015, skryf oor haar jaar in die lug, en is nou éérs reg vir nuwe roetes en nuwe avonture in 2018!

AS JY my in die middel van my joernalistieke studies in 2015 sou sê dat ek vir 'n jaar lank by 'n lugredery in die Midde-Ooste sou werk, sou ek jou seker nie geglo het nie. Dit was nooit deel van enige plan nie, maar hier sit ek nou in Doebai, besig om die weervoorspelling, tydsverskille en aktiwiteite vir een van my laaste 24-uur avonture te beplan.

Ek het vanjaar die wêreld vol gevlieg, sommige foto's op sosiale media gedeel en duimpies (*likes*) van heinde en ver ontvang. Maar ek moet bieg: hierdie beroep is dikwels nie naastenby so fabelagtig soos wat dit op Instagram lyk nie. Ek het nooit gedeel hoe moeg ek is, of dat ek geen slaappatroon het nie. Gesê dat die kajuitpersoneel twee uur voor 'n vlug al voorbereid (en gegreimer) moet aanmeld nie. Vertel hoe alleen ek soms gevoel het, of dat daar nie genoeg tyd op 'n *lay-over* was om regtig te kan sê dat jy 'n

land se kultuur kon beleef nie. Niks genoem van mense wat soms op die vliegtuig in jou gesig hoës, of vir jou vertel van die ma wat vir haar dogter sê "jy moet hard leer in die skool, anders gaan jy ook soos sy (beduidend na my) hier opeindig".

Ek is miskien nie meer die vrygeestige kaalvoetkind van die Noord-Kaap wat ek gedink het ek is nie. En ek is oukei daarmee. Dit was nog steeds 'n diep verrykende jaar, en ek het wonderlike mense ontmoet. Die oomblikke wat ek nie my kamera uitgeruk het nie, was eintlik die spesiaalste. En ek het al 'n wolk in die vorm van 'n T-Rex vanuit die lug gesien.

Ek hou van lysies maak, ek hou van struktuur, ek hou van roetine, en die heel meeste van my eie tyd. As die soeker in my, soos Janus, ná hierdie jaar kan terugkyk (en vorentoe!), sal sy 'n ry spore wil sien wat seker loop – in 'n rigting gereed om haar eie geluk te skep. *Bring on 2018!* **!**



PROF TON – ONS WELDOENER

Ton Vosloo, ereprofessor in joernalistiek aan die US se Departement Joernalistiek, het namens hom, sy vrou, Anet Pienaar-Vosloo, en hul kinders 'n reusebedrag aan die US geskenk waarvan die opbrengs vir die uitsluitlike gebruik van die Departement Joernalistiek geormerk is.

EREPROFESSOR Ton Vosloo het al baie titels in sy lewe gedra – van uitvoerende hoof tot direkteur van vele maatskappye, tot voorsitter van 'n globale tegnologiemaatskappy – maar nou kan die Departement Joernalistiek hom nóg 'n titel gee: Ons Weldoener.

Oud-Maties sal weet dis die woorde wat onderaan die standbeeld van Jannie Marais op die Rooiplein staan, aangesien hy 'n bedrag nagelaat het wat die stigting van die Universiteit Stellenbosch uit die bestaande Victoria Kollega in 1918 moontlik gemaak het.

Crozierstraat se eie Weldoener het reeds in 2016 'n eerste skenking van R7 miljoen gemaak, en vanjaar 'n verdere R7 miljoen, alles geormerk vir die Departement Joernalistiek. Die rente-opbrengs van dié skenking sal jaarliks deur die Departement gebruik kan word vir enige doel waarvoor dit nodig gevind mag word.

Aan die US se skenkingsblad *Phambili* het ereprofessor Vosloo onlangs gesê: “Met hierdie skenking wil ek en Anet 'n beskeie bydrae tot die handhawing van die US se hoë peil van onderrig maak sodat ons afgestudeerdes die land kan instuur om Suid-Afrika sterker te maak. Die US, en voor hom Victoria Kollege, stuur al vir meer as 'n eeu lank mense die land, Afrika en die wêreld in om 'n bydrae tot ontwikkeling te lewer. Dit is ons innige wense dat hierdie dienslewering voortgesit moet word.”

Die bedrag is namens die Vosloo-Pienaar-gesin geskenk.

Vosloo het gesê hy hoop die skenking kan bydra tot 'n sterk

joernalistiekdepartement.

Vosloo het beklemtoon hoe “die beste en vaardigste joernaliste elke dag broodnodig” is “om te keer dat ons vryheid uitgehol word”. Vir hom kan die grondwetlik gewaarborgde vryheid van spraak net staande bly met die hulp van deeglik geskoolde joernaliste. “Die US se Departement Joernalistiek is 'n uitstekende slypskool en hierdie sterkte moet uitgebou word.”

Prof Vosloo se loopbaan strek oor amper sestig jaar: van joernalis, redakteur en mediabestuurder – wat in dié tyd waarin hy uitvoerende hoof van Naspers was, die maatskappy geposisioneer het om elke nuwe tegnologiegolf te ry – tot voorsitter van die maatskappy se moederdireksie. Hy het in 2015 as voorsitter afgetree. Anet Pienaar-Vosloo se eerste pos ná haar kunsstudies aan die US was

as moderedakteur van die tydskrif *Sarie*. Sy is 'n multivaardige media-persoonlikheid wat as skakelpersoon uitblink het, en het ook al haar eie TV-program gehad. Hul verbintenis met die US strek oor generasies, met altesame 21 Pienaaars, Strydoms en Vosloo's wat aan die US studeer het in onder meer die regte, kuns, joernalistiek, ingenieurswese, filosofie en sielkunde. 'n Gedeelte van die skenking in 2016 is juis in die naam van hul kinders gemaak.

Die Vosloo's se skenking is gedoen in die middel van 'n onstuimige tydperk in die hoër onderwyssektor, maar hulle is dit eens dat opbouende protes-optrede kan lei tot vernuwing.

Vosloo: “'n Kenmerk van die betogings was dat besware van studente in baie gevalle intern opgelos is deurdat universiteitsleiers

koelkop met betogende studente onderhandel het.” Terselfder tyd het hy egter gesê die “eise en geweld, soos die omstamp van standbeelde en vernietiging van portrette, is onaanvaarbaar en belhamels moet gestraf word. Om op hoër vlak te studeer, is 'n voorreg en nie 'n absolute reg nie.”

Hy het bygevoeg dat skenkers vrede het met wat die oud-Matie en persleier (en stigterprofessor van ons departement) prof Piet Cillié genoem het wat “bedônerde mense” soms aanvang, want hul optrede lei tot vernuwing. “Daar is egter 'n perk aan hierdie tipering: ons bou 'n toekoms op bouers en nie brekers nie.” ■

(Die berig is gebaseer op inligting wat onder meer in die US se donateursverslag Phambili Herfs 2017 verskyn het.)



Prof Ton Vosloo and his wife Anet Pienaar-Vosloo who donated R14 million to the SU, ring-fenced for the Department of Journalism, of which the interest is for the sole use of the Department.



Die grondwetlike geborgde vryheid van spraak kan staande bly met die hulp van deeglik geskoolde joernaliste. Die US se Departement Joernalistiek is 'n uitstekende slypskool en hierdie sterkte moet uitgebou word.

– Vosloo

NERISA COETZEE GM: MEDIA24 MONTHLIES

NERISA Coetzee (Class of 2004) has been appointed as general manager of the Monthlies portfolio at Media24, effective 1 September 2017.

Media24 Lifestyle GM, Raj Lalbahadur, said of her appointment: “Throughout her career at Media24 Nerisa has been making a valuable contribution to each of the business units where she has worked. She has all the right qualities for this

position; the right experience and skills, and a passion for our brands. I welcome her to the senior team and look forward to working closely with her on the road ahead.”

Nerisa was publisher of Media24: Leisure since October 2014. She has a Bachelor's degree in Consumer Sciences (*cum laude*), the BPhil in Journalism and an MBA. Her career started at *Die Burger* in 2005. Since

then she has worked at many magazines in the Media24 group, including marketing and publishing roles with *Sarie*, *Huisgenoot*, *YOU* and *DRUM*. Before her appointment as GM: Monthlies she was publisher of Media24's travel and Rodale titles. ■

REGS: Nerisa Coetzee, Klas van 2004, wat in September vanjaar as Hoofbestuurder: Media24 Maandblaie aangestel is.



LUCILLE EN HAAR LEWE AS LANDBOUJOERNALIS

Lucille Botha, Klas van 2005 en assistentredakteur van *Landbouweekblad*, het onlangs die Izethelo-prys vir landboujoernalistiek ontvang. Sy skryf oor haar werk:

EK ONTHOU so vaagweg 'n klas-gesprek oor gepaste kleredrag vir die nuuskantoor. Of dit deel was van 'n spesifieke vak of bloot 'n klasbespreking wat opspoor het, weet ek sowaar nie meer nie. Maar professor Lizette Rabe het 'n opmerking gemaak oor hoe belangrik gemaklike skoene vir enige joernalis is – bloot omdat jy nie weet waarheen die dag se nuus jou gaan lei nie. Dalk 'n brand op Tafelberg (my aankoms by *Die Burger* se nuuskantoor het destyds met die Kaapse brandseisoen saamgeval en ek moes so baie brandstories skryf dat iemand my eendag Lucille Brand genoem het), miskien 'n onderhoud met die slagoffer van bendegeweld op die Kaapse Vlakte, of selfs 'n mediakonferensie met 'n bekende Hollywood-akteur – dikwels sommer alles op een dag.

Presies hóé waardevol dié raad was, het ek eers besef toe ek in Februarie 2007 by *Landbouweekblad* begin werk het. Want as jy vir *Landbouweekblad* werk, beteken dit jy "boer" vir 'n goeie deel van die dag saam met die land se kosverskaffers. Jy stap saam buitetoeges as dit vir die eerste keer in maande reën, jy's daar as boorde uitgetrek word omdat die appelkoosprys onmenslik laag is en jy huil saam

as 'n veldbrand hand uitruk en wingerde in puin lê of die damwal breek en lusernlande voor die voet wegvee. Wanneer die boere besluit om swart te dra en hul bakkijs op die snelweg te parkeer omdat nóg een in hul midde wreed vermoor word, dra jy – en jou hele kantoor – ook swart. As die minimum loon styg, maar die produktiwiteit staan stil, maak jy saam somme om te kyk hoe dit die bedryf se inkomste gaan raak. Maar jy leer ken ook die smaak van 'n vars appel wat nog nooit die binnekant van 'n opbergingskamer gesien het nie, jy kan 'n boek skryf oor boerehumor en -wysheide wat jy elke dag hoor, en jy staan telkens verstom as jy sien hoe die gesegde "n boer maak 'n plan" byna daaglik vir jou afspeel.

Ja, ek sou nooit kon dink ek sou by *Landbouweekblad* vashaak nie, maar nou kan ek my skaars 'n lewe indink waar ek nie daaglik met die landbougemeenskap omgaan nie. Vir 'n joernalis is dit 'n droombedryf – die storiemyn bykans onuitputbaar. Dis brandende knelpunte waarby enige Suid-Afrikane wat graag wil eet, 'n belang het: voedselsekuriteit, die gronddebat, wetenskap, geweld op plase, die plattelandse verval, werkloosheid, opheffing... noem maar op. Boere

is dikwels aan die voerpunt van tegnologie – en dikwels ontaard boereplanne in 'n uiters lonende kommersiële vertakking.

Ek wonder baie of daar nóg 'n tydskrif is met sulke lojale lesers soos *Landbouweekblad* (en ek sluit ook ons handelsmerkuitbreiding *Boerekos* hierby in). Hulle mis eenvoudig nie hul tydskrif nie – soveel so dat ons uitvind het van 'n informele verspreidingsmodel wat spontaan op kleiner dorpie ontstaan het in die tyd van die poskantoor-chaos (en ander probleme) met aflewings. Boere het eenvoudig met die kafee-eienaar op die dorp begin reël om 'n klompie *Landbouweekblaaie* onder die toonbank te hou; elke man kom haal dan sy boek of twee wanneer dorpdag aanbreek. Soos klokslag wanneer *Boerekos* verskyn, word ons toegegooi met e-posse en briewe van lesers wat herinneringe aan hul oumas se koolstowe of hul ma's se kleinkoekieresepte wil deel.

Om week ná week so deel te wees van lesers se lewens, bring uiteraard geweldige verantwoordelikhede mee om die wêreld waarin produsente leef en boer, so akkuraat en gebalanseerd as moontlik te probeer verklaar – soos die tydskrif al vir bykans 'n eeu lank regkry. **J**



Lucille by Nico Groenewald, hoof van agri-besigheid by Standard Bank. Foto: Hortgro

Lucille Botha is assistentredakteur van *Landbouweekblad* en het onlangs die Izethelo-prys vir landboujoernalistiek ontvang van Hortgro, die produsente-organisasie vir die Suid-Afrikaanse sagtewrugtebedryf. Buiten haar werk as assistentredakteur skryf Lucille artikels oor verskillende bedryfsvertakings en doen ook die beplanning van die gesinsblaaie en skryf vir *Landbou Boerekos*.

'n Paar van haar voorblaaie deur die jare:



HUIS genoot

en die sin
van die lewe

Yvonne Beyers, Klas van 2002, skryf oor haar redakteurskap van *Huisgenoot* en hoe dié blad week vir week werklik wys wat dit is om te lewe.

EK HET nie grootgeword in 'n huis waar ons *Huisgenoot* weekliks gelees het nie. Nou eers weet ek waarop ons al daardie jare uitgemis het.

Tien jaar gelede, in die winter van 2007, het ek my pad byna toevallig hierheen gevind. Ek was destyds 'n joernalis by *Insig*, en laat ek dit erken, 'n *snob*. Toe het ek nog nie besef wat ek nou weet nie: As jy jou neus optrek vir *Huisgenoot*, trek jy jou neus op vir die lewe.

Maar daar sluit *Insig* toe sy deure en ek voel verward en onseker oor waar ek 'n heenkome moet vind. Ek huil my oë rooi oor die einde van *Insig* en sê melodramaties my droom om 'n tydskrifjoernalis te wees, lê aan skerwe. En dis toe dat ek hoor van 'n pos by *Huisgenoot* in Johannesburg en dink: Miskien is dié die plek waar ek voortaan ander mense se stories kan vertel...

Sedert kleintyd het ek geworstel met 'n droefheid oor my eie verganklikheid. Ek het dikwels gewonder: Hoe kán dit wees dat 'n mens net een lewe het; net een perspektief kan ervaar?

Die dag toe ek my eerste notaboek by *Huisgenoot* kry, het daardie wroeging verdwyn. Hier kon ek my weekliks in ander lewens, ander wêreld, inleef. Met elke week se storie kon ek in iemand anders se liggaam gereïnkarnear word en in hulle skoene stap.

Soms was dit onverklaarbaar vreemd: in Bloemfontein het ek aan't huis gekuier by 'n vrou wat haar bed met 'n klomp jagluiperds deel; in Thabazimbi moes ek kilometers stap saam met 'n man wat 'n kruis deur die land sleep; teen die grens van die Kruger-wildtuin het ek gaan aanklop by 'n vrou wat honderde bobbejane op haar erf probeer versorg het. Daar was die vrou wat vir my gewys het sy sweet pienk – haar wit waslap het pienk

geword as sy dit teen haar vel vryf. En in die Vaaldriehoek het ek heel-nag lank saam met 'n klomp spookjagters gewag op bonatuurlike wesens om hulle te kom aanmeld (hulle hét, volgens die spookjagters – ek is steeds skepties).

Ander kere was dit byna ondenkbaar pynlik: die man wat in die hospies met sy geliefde getrou het net voor sy aan kanker oorlede is; die ouers wat vir hulle siek dogtertjie 'n vroeë Kersfees gehou het enkele ure voor sy dood is; die tannie wat handeervoet moes loop nadat 'n rugdokter met die bynaam “die slagter van Rosebank” haar rug opgeneuk het.

Daar was ook soveel stories van hoop en moed: gewone mense wat deurdruk en planne beraam al het die noodlot hulle probeer pootjie.

Natuurlik was daar skandes ook: dié bekende het daardie verneuk; hierdie een wou daardie een hof toe sleep. Waar daar mense is, is dinge nie altyd mooi nie. Dit is deel van die lewe en daarom deel van die storie wat ons weekliks in *Huisgenoot* vertel.

Ek moes my pad oopworstel deur ingewikkelde onderwerpe en verbruikersake (tot vandag toe voel ek geknak deur 'n storie waarin ek die voordele en nadele van elke bank en elke soort bankrekening met mekaar moes vergelyk om vir ons lesers raad te gee) en leer om blitsvinnig vir nuusstories 'n invalshoek te soek wat geen ander joernalis sou kry nie.

“Die plek van 'n *Huisgenoot*-joernalis is daar waar ander joernaliste nié is nie – as almal by die voordeur saamdrom, moet jy aan die agterdeur gaan klop,” het ons destydse nuusredakteur, Inge Kühne, my geleer.

Soms het dinge beroerd gelyk. Op Ventersdorp het ek vir 'n week

lank pasteie geëet en Coke gedrink op soek na 'n nuwe manier om die moord op die AWB-leier Eugene Terre'Blanche te dek. Die dag toe ek aanmeld vir 'n onderhoud met Julius Malema het hy my eers op my plek gesit en gesê ons moet sy nuwe ID-foto's vir hom neem voor hy na enkele vroeë besluite het hy is klaar met my. In Hartbeespoort moes ek aan 79 (of 97, ek kan nie meer onthou nie) deure klop voor ek die ma van 'n gevalle sportheld se minnares kon opspoor. En in Nieu-Seeland het ek dae lank gesoek na die huis van 'n sanger wat deur sy protégé van molestering beskuldig is.

Maar dié het ek gou geleer: daar is altyd 'n storie om te vertel, selfs al is dit hoe moeilik om te skryf. Daar is altyd mense wat wil help. En daar is geen groter voorreg as om ingenooi te word en by iemand se kombuistafel te sit en te luister na hulle lewensverhaal nie.

Die jare het my met hulle saamgedra, ek het weer by koerante gaan draai, en toe my pad terug na *Huisgenoot* gevind – die keer as hoof van die nuuskantoor in Johannesburg. Toe eers het ek geleer hoe lekker dit is om ander joernaliste te help om hulle stories te jaag. Hoe lekker dit is om te skaaf aan die *mix*, te spartel om 'n voorblad of *lead* te kry, en om geen krisis of

konflik as onoplosbaar te beskou nie.

Die joernalistiek het 'n ingeboude ironie: dit vul 'n mens soms met 'n diepe wanhoop en sinisme omdat dit jou so gereeld konfronteer met die ergste, maar dit maak jou ook onkeerbaar optimisties omdat jy so dikwels sien: daar is altyd 'n uitweg, altyd 'n stukkie hoop, altyd 'n volgende hoofstuk vir elke storie.

Hier is ek nou – tien jaar nadat ek die eerste keer by *Huisgenoot* ingestap het – al ses maande redakteur van die tydskrif wat ek liefgekry het asof dit een van my naastes is. Dinge het baie verander sedert my begindae hier. Ons het uitgebrei en ons webtuiste agter die betaalmuur op Netwerk24 is nou ons toekoms. Handelsmerkuitbreidings het gekom en gegaan en in ander projekte getransformeer; fliëks en TV-reekse is gebore. Deesdae dink ek nie net aan intro's en slotte nie, ek krap ook kop oor data en kostebestuur en sake-oorwegings.

Maar al het baie dinge verander, bly dit wat ons doen in wese dieselfde: Ons vertel stories oor ons mense vir ons mense.

En elke week wat ek op *deadline*-aand hardop vir myself ons voorbladprikke voorlees, dink ek: Hierdie stories wys wat dit beteken om 'n mens te wees. Hier, in hierdie blaie, wys ons wat dit is om te lewe. ■





SCOOPS AT A COST

BEWARE THE GREAT AGENDA TRAP

Pieter-Louis Myburgh, Class of 2009 and author of *The Republic of Gupta: A story of state capture*, writes about the lure of hunting scoops without checking the agenda of your sources...

WHEN A group of investigative reporters at one of the country's leading Sunday newspapers started receiving information on dodgy dealings at the South African Revenue Service (SARS) in 2014, they surely thought that they had hit the journalism jackpot.

Starting in August of that year, the newspaper's investigations team would over the course of more than a year run a series of reports on a supposed "rogue" intelligence or espionage unit that was alleged to have been covertly operating at the revenue collector.

In one front page report after the other, the newspaper maintained that this "rogue" SARS unit had spied on President Jacob Zuma, had bugged the offices of the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) and had even operated a brothel, among other jaw-dropping "revelations".

The goings-on at SARS, as reported by the team of muckrakers, were so shocking that it was difficult to believe.

But, then again, the reporting team consisted of some of the country's best known and most respected investigative journalists, and the publication that carried their reports was revered in equal measure.

To add to the apparent credibility of the exposés, the journalists also referred to documents they'd ob-

tained from well-placed sources.

As incredible as the "rogue unit" narrative may have sounded, the documents and information the reporters got from their sources seemed to adequately verify the "rogue unit" narrative.

However, the newspaper's "rogue unit" run would eventually come to a crashing halt.

In 2015, some of the SARS officials implicated in the "rogue unit" stories started speaking out publicly against what they deemed to have been a deliberate attempt to tarnish their reputations and to ultimately pave the way for their forced exit from SARS.

The death-blow to the "rogue unit" narrative came in the form of a series of rulings by the Press Ombudsman, in which the newspaper was harshly criticised for publishing stories that contained allegations and claims that could in fact not be properly backed up or verified.

By the time the Press Ombudsman forced the newspaper to retract most of the "rogue unit" stories, the damage had unfortunately already been done – the officials implicated in the reports, of whom many had actually been involved in legitimate investigations into the tax affairs of politically connected individuals, had all been forced to leave SARS. On top of this, the

"rogue unit" narrative became a valuable tool in the hands of powerful political groupings. Pravin Gordhan, the axed former finance minister who'd also once served as SARS commissioner, was probed by the Hawks for his supposed role in the formation of the "rogue unit".

If there is anything positive to be salvaged from the wreck of the "rogue unit" saga, it would be that the whole affair now serves as a valuable case study for investigative journalists in particular, and also for journalists in general.

This cautionary tale should immediately spring to mind whenever journalists are offered juicy tip-offs, documents and scoops by their sources or by total strangers.

Instead of blindly relying on the veracity of documents and reports merely because they'd been obtained from sources in government or in the intelligence community, journalists should at all times go to the greatest of lengths to ensure that all of the information contained in such documentation actually check out.

We live in an era in which the dissemination of fake news on social media outpaces the ability of these new media platforms to contain such disinformation.

But as pervasive as social media-driven fake news may have become, it is not viewed as the holy

ABOVE: Pieter-Louis Myburgh is an investigative journalist at News24 and the author of *The Republic of Gupta: A story of state capture* (Penguin Random House). Photo: Felix Dlangamandla

grail among all the tools of influence available to those who wish to promote their agendas through mass communication platforms.

That dubious honour belongs to the traditional media and mainstream online news platforms.

There are powerful forces within politics and business who are media savvy enough to know that a news article carried by a respected newspaper or on a major news site's homepage is a vastly more potent influencer than any amount of fake news stories bouncing around on Facebook or Twitter could ever be.

The very credibility of respected and established journalists and publications is a sought-after commodity in the eyes of these agenda peddlers. Ironically, it is this very credibility that may be lost forever once the public realises that a journalist or a news outlet has promoted some dubious agenda by means of flawed reportage.

With fake news, disinformation and smear campaigns so pernicious in our current political landscape, journalists and editors would do well to keep those BS detectors on at all times. ■

DIE GEBOORTE VAN 'N VOORBLAD

Deur Johnn-Grant Munro, Klas van 2003, wie se pionierswerk in grafiese ontwerp onlangs bekroon is – vir die soveelste maal – hierdie keer (weer) met die Media24 Legends-toekenning.

'N VOORBLAD se geboorte is meestal moeilik.

'n Voorblad word selde vroeg gebore. Dit gebeur gewoonlik net voor of net ná saktyd en baie hande is nodig om dié baba veilig by die rolpers te kry.

Ek is verantwoordelik vir die uitleg en ontwerp van *Die Burger* op 'n daaglikse basis. In die nagkantoer is dit ek, die eindredakteur en die inhoudsredakteur (natuurlik in oorleg met die redakteur) wat die "legkaart" van die volgende dag se koerant moet pak.

As jy 'n koerantvoorblad beplan, moet jy dit op papier doen, met 'n pen of 'n potlood sodat jy kan skribbel, lyne trek, skets en krap.

Dit is die slagare wat die voorblad se hart die volgende oggend laat klop – soos op die meegaande foto's.

Met die opkoms van digitale nuus kan die gedrukte produk nie meer eerste wees met die nuus nie, want brekende nuus word op Netwerk24 gepubliseer. Daarom glo ek dat 'n koerant se uitleg en ontwerp juis dit is wat jou 'n voordeel kan gee bo jou kompetisie.

Die verpakking van die gedrukte produk raak jou tweede hoek op 'n storie, kan waarde toevoeg, en vir lesers 'n vars perspektief bied op nuus wat reeds heeldag bewerwe, sosiale media of die TV oorheers het.

Koerante het ook baie bedrewe herskrywers en eindredakteurs wat stories bywerk en verfris vir die vol-

gende dag se koerant en dit, saam met die aanbieding, word "die 'spin' wat ons op die bal sit" vir die volgende dag, in die woorde van Bun Booyens, voormalige redakteur van *Die Burger*.

'n Goeie skeut ontleding, plaaslike stories en ook die waarde wat grafikas toevoeg, maak die volgende oggend se koerant steeds 'n vars seleksie van nuus uit *Die Burger* se streek.

Digitale nuus is die toekoms, maar koerante het beslis nog sy plek. Mense sê steeds "die of daai het die voorblaai gehaal". Kollegas vertel altyd hoe veral die politici die gedrukte koerant fyn dophou om te sien wat die koerant oor hulle sê.

Die rede hiervoor?

Die gedrukte koerant dwing nog respek af en het 'n eiesoortige gravitas.

Ton Vosloo, oud-redakteur en oudvoorsitter van Naspers, het gesê "papier absorbeer alles".

In hierdie dae van fopnuus, vlietende twiets, vinnige "status updates" en gestileerde selfies op Instagram kan die gedrukte produk steeds vertroue inboesem, "alles absorbeer" én betroubare nuus weergee vir hul lesers. ■

Johnn-Grant het in 2017, 2015 en 2013 die Media24 Legends-toekenning vir Uitleg-subredakteur van die Jaar gewen vir sy voorblad-ontwerpe. In 2013 en 2014 het hy ook die Standard Bank Sikuvile-Joernalistiekeprys vir Koerantuitleg gewen.



Daar is baie insette wat versoen moet word tydens die beplanning van 'n voorblad. Die redakteur het sy idees en dan ook die adjunkte. Daarom lyk die beplanning van die voorblad dikwels baie anders as die eindproduk omdat die nuus binne 'n oogwink kan verander in die loop van die aand. Beplanning is egter steeds belangrik, want dit is makliker om dan aan te pas as om iets van niks te bou.

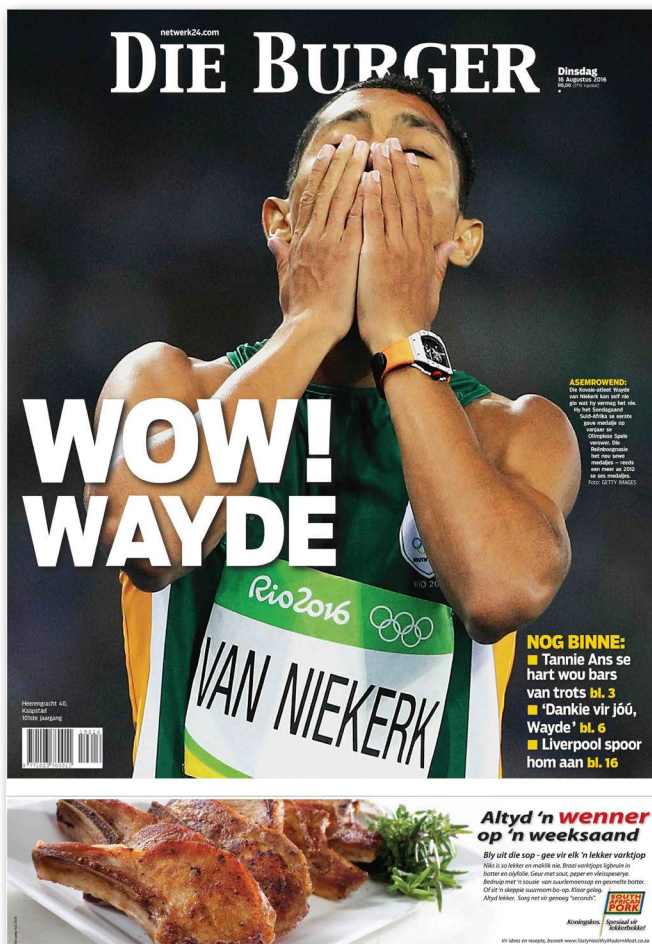


Johnn-Grant by sy redakteur, Willem Jordaan (Klas van 1997), en sy Legends-prys.

'N TYDLYN

9:00-10:00	11:00-11:30	13:00-13:45	14:30		
Kyk op internet en koerante na die nuus.	Gaan deur dag se nuuslys wat uitgestuur word deur Nasionale Nuusredakteur en begin werk aan idees vir voorblad.	Kyk vir updates op nuuslys. Gooi vinnige oog weer oor nuus van die dag. Werk verder aan idees en konsep indien nodig.	Arriveer by werk en woon middagnuusvergadering by saam met nuusredakteur, adjunkredakteurs en inhoudsredakteur. Nuusredakteur bied sterkste stories aan.		
15:30	16:00	20:30-21:00	21:15	21:15-21:45	22:30
Nasionale nuusvergadering om bladsye te bespreek en moontlike hoofstories te identifiseer.	Begin volstroom aan volgende dag se koerant werk.	Stuur voorblad na redakteur vir goedkeuring.	Eerste uitgawe vir die Suid-Kaap sak.	Doen tweede en derde uitgawe (Boland en Stad).	Alle uitgawes van die volgende dag se koerant moet by die rolpers wees, tensy iets laataand gebeur.

Onder: Dié voorblaaie was die wenners by die Media24 Legends-toekennings. Die beoordelaars het gesê: "Vanjaar se wenner het daarin geslaag om die intensiteit en emosie van twee ikoniese Suid-Afrikaanse sportgebeurtenisse vas te lê."



LUS VIR 'N BRAAI MET PITKOS?

Engela Duvenage (Botes, Klas van 1996, later gevolg deur 'n M) is een van die 'surrogaat-ma's' van die sosiale media platform *Scibraai* wat fokus op Suid-Afrikaanse wetenskap. Sy vertel meer.

SCIBRAAI (www.scibraai.co.za) het op die trappies van die Grand Hall in Helsinki begin. Ek't 'n reisbeurs van die oorkoepelende wêreld-organisasie ontvang om in Finland die 2014 Wêreldkongres vir Wetenskapjoernaliste by te woon.

Dis bygewoon deur mense van regoor die aardbol wie se dagtaak dit ook is om oor nuwe navorsingsbevindinge te skryf op so 'n manier dat Jan en San Publiek dit kan verstaan.

Daar ontmoet ek toe vir Suid-Afrikaner Anina Mumm, 'n MSc-gegradueerde van Gauteng wat besluit het sy's regtig lief vir skryf en om moeilike konsepte vir mense te vereenvoudig. Ons het mekaar elektronies via die netwerk van die Suid-Afrikaanse wetenskapjoernalistevereniging SASJA geken, maar het mekaar die eerste keer in Helsinki ontmoet.

En middag sit ons op die grys-erige kliptrappe voor die hooflokaal. Ons gesels werk, en oor hoe lekker dit is om daaglik te mag gesels met en te skryf oor van Suid-Afrika se skerpste breine. Ons kla wedersyds 'n bietjie daaroor dat die media so min aandag gee aan wetenskaplike bevindinge of die mense daaragter, en eerder bladsy

vol skryf oor Karlien, Bobby, Beast en Bafana. Daar en dan besluit ons toe om ons eie Trots Suid-Afrikaanse inisiatief aan te pak – een wat gratis nuus oor die wel en wee van ons plaaslike navorsings-gemeenskap deel.

Terug in Suid-Afrika laat weet Anina die inisiatief moet Scibraai genoem word – 'n virtuele "science"



Ons besef toenemend dat die hoeveelheid mense wat breinkos wil lees, meer is as wat die boekhouers by mediahuise wil glo.

braai, dus. Dit word ons ideaal dat mense die brokkies oor een of ander navorsingsbevinding wat hulle op *Scibraai* se webwerf, Facebook blad of Twitter-adres raaklees, weer sal oorvertel tydens praatjies rondom die braaivleisvuur, so saam met hul stories oor die Zuptas en die Proteas. Die artikels moenie te swaar wees nie. Dit hoef ook nie altyd oor aardskuddende ont- ▶



Die Scibraaiers aan 't braai. Van links Engela Duvenage, Paul Kennedy, Anina Mumm en Stephan Mumm.

◀ dekkings te gaan nie – soms is dit bloot net interessant om te weet dat 'n erdvark wel water drink, dat sportwetenskaplikes navorsing doen oor krieketspelers se boul-aksie, en dat Suid-Afrikaners se belastinggeld gebruik is om 'n spesiale stukkie toerusting te koop wat fisici baie bly maak.

Bowenail moet dit die besonderse werk uitlig wat agter die skerms in ons navorsingsinstellings, universiteite, in laboratoriums en op veldekskursies gedoen word.

So word *Scibraai* toe op Erfenisdag 2014 van stapel gestuur, op die nasie se nie-amptelike Braaidag. Vier jaar later hou ons klein groepie vrywilligers regoor die land steeds saam met ons die wetenskapstorieure aan die brand. Onder hulle is Kapenaar Paul Kennedy, wat as mikrobioloog aan die US gekwalifiseer het, en nou saam met Anina in die veld van wetenskapkommunikasie werk. Sibusiso Biyela woon in Richardsbaai, en skryf *Scibraai* se gereelde #ShisaSayensi wetenskapsrubriek in Zoeloe – bes moontlik die enigste van sy soort in 'n Suid-Afrikaanse inheemse taal buiten Afrikaans.

Scibraai is sedertdien as 'n nie-winsgewende organisasie geregistreer. So tussen kinders grootmaak en ons "regte" werke skryf ons artikels in Engels, Afrikaans en Zoeloe, en deel ons op Facebook en Twitter nuusbrokkies wat van Suid-Afrikaanse universiteite en navorsingsinstellings afkomstig is, of van oopbron-webbladsye soos The Conversation Africa en HTXT en Wits se The Science Inside-radioprogram.

Scibraai is 'n "open source" webwerf, wat beteken dat enige van die artikels wat ons self skryf weer

gratis deur ander publikasies gebruik kan word. (Dis 'n vriendelike uitnodiging – gaan loer gerus, en gebruik gerus.)

Op die oomblik plaas ons weekliks een van die 53 profielartikels uit die Academy of Science of South Africa se 2017-boek "Legends of South African Science" waaraan ek, Anina en Paul voorheen help skryf het. Soms kom nie een van ons daarby uit om iets nuuts te laai nie, want mens het net soveel tyd in 'n dag.

Al het niemand nog vir ons daarvoor betaal nie, doen ons dit omdat ons glo dat die verhale van Suid-Afrikaanse navorsing in wese "goeie nuus" stories is. En dat ons nodig het om meer daarvan te

hoor, want daar gebeur meer in ons land as net padsterftes, kapings en benedegeweld.

Stadig maar seker het ons al 'n getroue groep ondersteuners opgebou. Ons nerd-neurone skiet behoorlik vonke wanneer iemand soos argeoloog Lee Berger van *Homo naledi*-faam of die Minister van Wetenskap en Tegnologie van ons items "like" of "repost".

Scibraai doen nie sleg vir 'n sosiale mediaplatform wat fokus op 'n baie "nerdy" nichemark nie, en deur vrywilligers gedryf word. Ons besef toenemend dat die hoeveelheid mense wat breinkos wil lees, meer is as wat die boekhouers by mediahuise wil glo.

Ons begin nou daarvan droom

om *Scibraai* meer gestruktureerd te bedryf. Ons wil 'n redakteur aanstel (teen vergoeding) en joernaliste betaal vir spesifieke stories, wat dan weer deur ander media-entiteite gratis gebruik kan word. *All in the name of South African science.*

Alles kos egter baie tyd, wat op die ou einde op een of ander manier in geld omgesit moet word. Tans hou ons dus duim vas vir sekere befondsingsaansoeke wat ingedien is, sodat ons onder meer werk kan skep vir ander joernaliste. ■

Kontakbesonderhede

<http://scibraai.co.za>;

Twitter @Scibraai

www.facebook.com/scibraai

ENGELA DIE WETENSKAPJOERNALIS

My eie loopbaan as wetenskap-skrywer het half by verstek begin.

Ná 'n paar jaar as gemeenskapskoerantjoernalis (wat 'n mens leer om oor alles te skryf) was ek lus om 'n M te doen, maar nie oor media-etiek of -bestuur nie. Wetenskapsjoernalistiek as spesialis-opsie bly toe oor, en ek't my mini-tesis oor omgewingsjoernalistiek gedoen. Daarna het ek onder meer by CapeNature en as wetenskap-skrywer by die US Fakulteit Natuurwetenskappe gewerk.

My vryskutloopbaan het vyf jaar gelede begin toe my oudste dogter skool toe is.

Die veld pas my sedertdien soos 'n chirurg se latexhandskoen. Ek't nog altyd van bietjies-bietjies inligting oor baie

onderwerpe gehou ("Jy't 'n brein soos 'n Chappie-papiertjie," het 'n vriend op 'n dag gesê), en daar's baie onderwysers in my voorgeslagte. Sien, wetenskapsjoernalistiek is bietjie soos skool hou. Mens leer heeltyd nuwe konsepte en onderwerpe vir ander mense, in die hoop dat dit hulle sal help om die wêreld beter te verstaan.

Sedertdien het ek nog nie een vervelige werkdag beleef nie. Ek skryf in Engels of Afrikaans oor enigiets, van die SKA-teleskoopprojek tot 'n dokter wat operasies uitvoer op ongebore baba's, van energiekwessies wat vrugteboere raak, tot 'n naaldekokker wat blitsig van kleur verander. Soms fokus ek op 'n spesifieke onderwerp vir 'n tydskrif of 'n dagblad. Heel dikwels is ek die

middelman-skrywer wat 'n stuk navorsing identifiseer en dit dan in 'n persverklaring omsit wat deur ander joernaliste opgevolg kan word.

My gunstelingstorie vanjaar was oor "Dr Biltong", die voedselwetenskapstudent wat 'n PhD net oor dié ikoniese Suid-Afrikaanse happie gedoen het. Die storie is selfs deur *Huisgenoot* opgevolg!

Ek was verlede jaar gelukkig genoeg om twee toekennings te ontvang vir van my skryfwerk oor landbouervante navorsing: die Suid-Afrikaanse Landboukrywersvereniging se prys vir die beste tegniese artikel, en die Suid-Afrikaanse vrugtebedryf se Izithelo-toekening vir Uitmennende Joernalistiek.

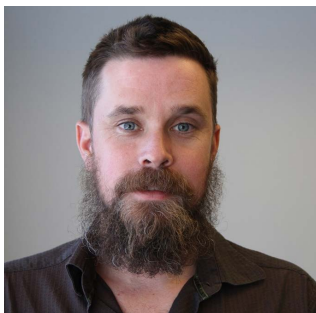
LARRY'S PHD DOWN UNDER

LARRY Schwartz, member of the very first class of 1978, recently completed his PhD at Swinburne University in Melbourne, Australia. Larry also lectures journalism at Swinburne and edits Swinburne Journalism's publication, *The Standard* (www.theswinstandard.net).

He is a former senior writer/reporter with *The Age* and worked at Fairfax Media for nearly 25 years. He has worked as a news reporter and feature writer for *The Sydney Morning Herald* and was its Melbourne bureau chief before joining *The Sunday Age* shortly before its

launch in the late 1980s. He worked at *The Manly Daily* in Sydney after migrating from South Africa in the early 1980s and has written extensively on migrant and refugee issues and the arts. He is the author of an apartheid-era memoir, *The Wild Almond Line* (Allen & Unwin, 2000), and his PhD was also published as a book, *A Knock on the Door*. He also has an arts degree from the University of Cape Town, followed by his journalism honours degree from SU. He lives outside Melbourne with his family and Labrador cross, Jesse James. ■





SWANGER EN DRONK 'N STORIE OOR MOEDERS EN BABAS

Le Roux Schoeman, Klas van 2001, het die Goue Prys in die kategorie Craft – News or Feature Writing by die Bookmarks-toekennings in Johannesburg gekry vir sy storie “Die stil aktivis”. Dís die storie agter die storie:

SWANGER vroue in Suid-Afrika drink hul baba’s letterlik in ’n toestand in teen die hoogste koers ter wêreld.

Dis die basiese gegewe – ’n soort stadige aksie-nuuswenk as jy wil – wat uiteindelik gelei het tot ’n storie oor ’n merkwaardige vrou, Tisha Lourens, én derduisende Suid-Afrikaners om ons wie se moeders, nes Tisha s’n, straf gedrink het terwyl hulle weerloos was, in hul ma se baarmoeder.

In die weird maar gevestigde tradisie van akronieme wat die ménslikheid van dit waarna dit verwys, totaal verberg, is Tisha se storie dus ’n storie oor FAS. Fetale alkoholsindroom.

FAS val binne die breër definisie van fetale alkoholsindroom spektrumstoornisse (FASS), wat minder ernstige gevalle as Tisha (21) insluit. Tussen 13,6% en 20,9% van kinders in van die (meestal landelike) Wes-Kaapse gemeenskappe waar navorsing gedoen is, ly aan FASS.

In die akademiese kringe waar die data verwerk word, word verwys na ’n “binge”-subkultuur, wat daarop neerkom dat tot soveel as 40% van vroue in dié gemeen-

skappe tussen twee en nege drankies op ’n Vrydag- en Saterdagagaand drink, luidens ’n akademiese artikel wat in 2015 in die *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* verskyn het.

Baie van hierdie en soortgelyke “skoksyfers” doen gereeld die ronde op koerantvoorblaai, maar sak dan weer uit namate die nuussiklus se maniese gejaag verhaas. So, toe ek ’n bietjie tyd tot my beskikking het, danksy ’n uitplasing na Code for South Africa se Data Journalism Academy vroeg in 2016, het ek die geleentheid gehad om net so bietjie remme aan te slaan en stil te staan by hierdie syfers.

Tyd om te gaan gesels met kundiges (soos prof Charles Parry, verbonde aan die Alkohol, Tabak en Ander Dwelmnavorsingseenheid by die Suid-Afrikaanse Mediese Navorsingsraad in Kaapstad), en van die navorsing te lees wat onder meer deur kundiges aan die Universiteit Stellenbosch gedoen word.

’n Verdere meevaller was die hulp van my BPhil-klasmaat uit toeka se Crozierstraat-dae, Ronel Bester, wat deesdae Strategiese Verhoudingsbestuurder by die Univer-

siteit se Fakulteit Geneeskunde en Gesondheidswetenskappe is en uitstekend geplaas was om my ’n paar kortpaaie tot by die toonaangewende navorsing te wys.

Die data was een deel van die storie. Die ander was die mense. ’n Ma wat roekeloos gedrink het (“Ja, ek het soms my kinders se All Paytjie uitgedrink,” het Lena Weimers voor haar huis in De Doorns erken en vertel hoe ’n plaaslike ouderling haar op die pad na nugterheid gekry het tot waar sy vandag ’n voorbeeld en mentor vir ander ma’s is), Francois Grobbelaar, uitvoerende hoof en stigter van FAS-facts, en dan Tisha en haar aanneemna Vivien.

Toe Tisha tien weke oud was, het Vivien, destyds ’n pleegmoeder van Pinelands, ’n telefoonoproep gekry.

Die Kaapstadse Welsynsdiens wou weet of sy kans sien om ’n baba in te neem wetende dat dié kind waarskynlik nie sou oorleef nie?

Vivien het al meer as 80 kinders versorg oor die 16 jaar dat sy ’n noodpleegmoeder in Kaapstad was.

“Die hospitaal het gesê sy maak nie vordering nie en sal teen die Maandag sterf. Ek het haar die Vry-

dag gekry en was vasberade dat sy nie sal doodgaan nie,” het Vivien onthou.

Vandag leef Tisha met volle FAS – sy het onlangs 21 geword. Haar verstandelike ontwikkeling is dié van ’n sesjarige.

Die storie oor Tisha en haar toestand het op 18 Julie 2016 (in Afrikaans, en agter ’n betaalmuur soos moderne joernalistiek noodsaak!) op Netwerk24.com verskyn, getitel “Die stil aktivis”. Ek het op 16 Maart 2017 ’n prys gewen by die Interactive Advertising Bureau South Africa (IAB) se Bookmarks-toekennings wat in Johannesburg gehou is. Die prys was ’n swaar vierkantige blok wat ’n kollega met tere sorg en taamlike vaardigheid as handbagasie na die Kaap gebring het en aan my kom oorhandig het.

Tisha het pas 21 geword en was heel bly om dit een onlangse middag onder toesig van ’n trotse Vivien van my hande af te neem by die restaurant langs die verpakingsaanleg waar sy werk. En ek was heel bly om dit vir haar te kon gee.

Ek wonder dikwels wat sy dink as sy daarna kyk waar dit in hul huis in Pinelands staan. ■



Tisha Lourens met die Bookmarks-toekening. Langs Tisha staan haar werkgewer, Julie Tobiansky, mede-eienaar van Merrypak in Pinelands.



Photo: Franco Havenga

NEW *LIP* FOR PRESS FREEDOM DAY

FOR THE first time since its establishment in 1978, Stellenbosch University’s Journalism Department has published the annual *LIP* newspaper with the theme of Press Freedom.

On 3 May the department also hosted a panel discussion and presentation to celebrate World Press Freedom Day.

It was chaired by SU lecturer Marenet Jordaan. The panel consisted of Professor Tanja Bosch, an associate Professor at the Centre of Film and Media Studies from the University of Cape Town, Ms Chantel Erfort, the editor of Cape Community Newspapers and Ms Alide Dasnois, associate editor of GroundUp.

Chair of the journalism department Professor Lizette Rabe kicked off the discussion by highlighting the importance of World Press Freedom Day.

Addressing increasing issues in the field of journalism she said: “We cannot sell our integrity and credibility for the sake of cheap click bait, sensation and controversy.” She also stated that for the media, “freedom simply is not the right to publish anything”.

Bosch spoke about the impor-

tance of community radio stations in South Africa and how it plays a big role in providing a voice for the marginalised communities. She said that although listener numbers appear to be increasing, funding is slowly diminishing.

This poses a real threat to the industry. Despite this, Bosch said she still believes in the value of community radio to serve as a news medium for communities that do not receive print media or are illiterate.

Erfort discussed the role of community newspapers and the developmental role it takes on.

She also mentioned how community news quite often acts as the “proverbial voice of the voiceless”. Erfort also stated that community newspapers often pick up on stories that start off small but which eventually become national stories of interest to the entire country. She referred to the example of Tim Noakes who first approached his community newspaper before his Banting diet became a national story.

Dasnois elaborated on the duty of GroundUp, a donor funded agency, which provides images and copy to large media houses about local human rights issues

with a focus on poverty. “We go where the mainstream media don’t go” and “we offer them what they haven’t got”. She also explained how their work is different to that of other media houses in that they focus on facts.

According to Dasnois there is already too much opinion. “South Africa is a noisy country,” she said.

Rabe pleaded that the public must support good journalism: “Please support mainstream media by subscribing to their services. We do not get our groceries and

medication and municipal services for free – how can we expect to get quality information for free?” she concluded.

In previous years *LIP* covered the SU Woodfees, but it was decided to rather focus on the crucial issue of media freedom. ■

– ANDREA KOHRS & ANDELIN WIELAND, CLASS OF 2017

This is an abbreviated version of the story that first appeared on Matie Media, <https://www.matiemedia.org/>.



Alide Dasnois, Chantel Erfort, honourary professor Ton Vosloo, Marenet Jordaan and Tanja Bosch.

| GET INVOLVED |

With her passion for journalism, the late Mandy Rossouw was a respected and well-known political reporter in the industry. Now, the Mandy Rossouw Bursary, established in her honour in 2013, is giving aspiring female political journalists the opportunity to follow in her footsteps.

Deur **ILSE ARENDSE**

Mandy Rossouw, an alumna of Stellenbosch University, was a renowned political reporter and the first journalist who wrote about the Nkandla saga. She passed away at the age of 33 in March 2013. She graduated from SU with a BA degree in 1999 and a BPhil degree in Journalism in 2000.

In 2013, the Mandy Rossouw Bursary was instituted by her friends and colleagues, and is awarded to a female BA Honours Journalism student with an interest in politics who has been selected for this one-year postgraduate degree at SU.

The bursary is awarded annually in collaboration with Rossouw's family and SU's Department of Journalism and covers the recipient's tuition fees.

The bursary currently has two alumnae, S'thembile Cele and Nation Nyoka.

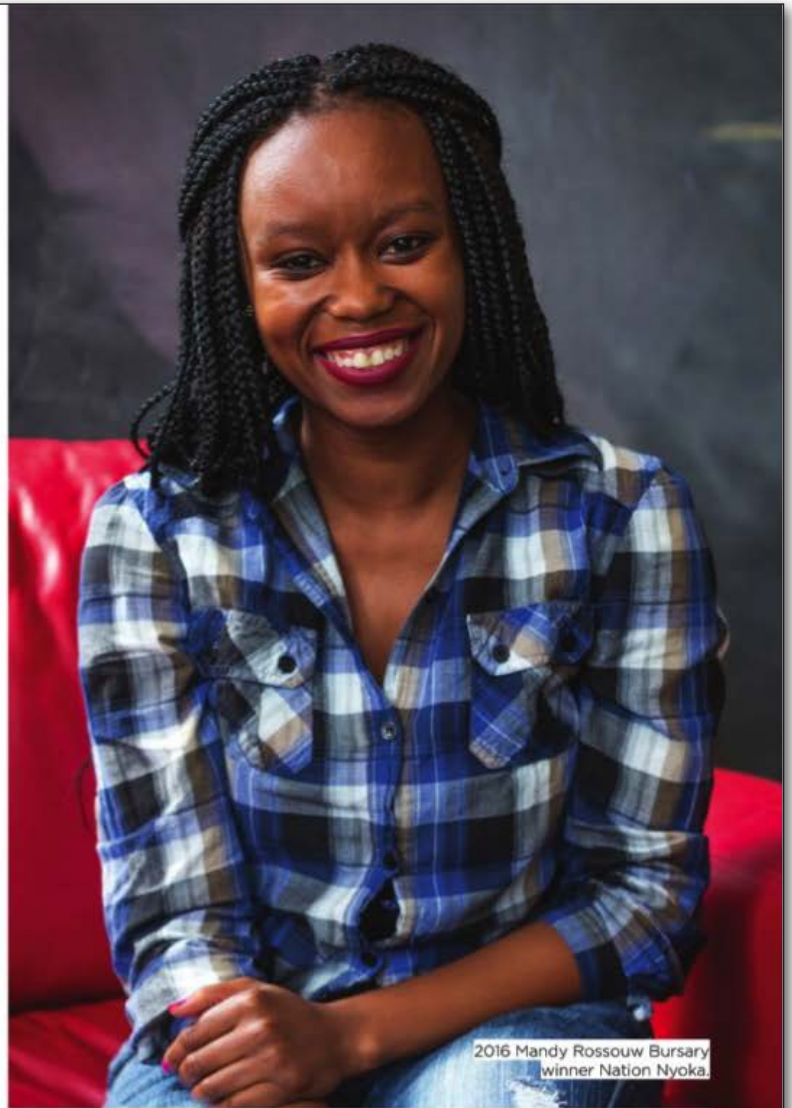
S'thembile, who currently works as a journalist at *City Press* newspaper, was the first recipient in 2014 and said at the time: "Having this scholarship is a whole new ball game; it's like having greatness thrust upon you.

"I have the chance to set a precedent for other amazing young women that are going to come after me that will stand head to head with people like

Mandy Rossouw. It's exciting. It's unbelievable. It's hugely sentimental."

Upon receiving the bursary in 2016, Nation expressed similar sentiments, saying that she hopes to leave a lasting impression on the political journalistic sphere.

"I am very humbled and hope I can live up to the journalistic integrity that Mandy Rossouw set as a precedent," Nation said.



2016 Mandy Rossouw Bursary winner Nation Nyoka.

BOOST FOR JOURNALISTS

HOW TO HELP

Would you like to contribute to the next generation of journalists? Liaise with the Alumni Office on 021 808 3651 or send an e-mail to alumni@sun.ac.za for more information on how to contribute towards this bursary.

CLASS OF 2007 10 YEARS LATER

DURING the first weekend of May the Class of 2007 got together at 26 Crozier Street for a trip down memory lane. Classmates and their partners flew down from all over the country to catch up on a decade's worth of memories and news. The reunion started on Saturday 6 May with a braai at the department, during which the Class of 2007 could look back on the year that they shared there 10 years ago, and ended with a delicious lunch at the Mont Marie wine farm on Sunday. The class would like to thank Gina Schreuder for all the arrangements, and the Department for the use of the facilities. **■**

10 Years later: Anri van der Spuy, Joanita Cillié, Margaux Petersen (back), Daniëlla van Heerden, Gina Schreuder, Sarietha Engelbrecht and Siyabonga Africa (front) at Mont Marie.



The beautiful new facilities get a thumbs up from the Class of 2007.



All smiles. Margaux Petersen, Sarietha Engelbrecht, Ian McNaught Davis, Herman Scholtz, Siyabonga Africa and Beer Adriaanse (back), and front, Juliet McGuire, Anri van der Spuy, Daniëlla van Heerden, Alida van Niekerk and Gina Schreuder at 26 Crozier for their 10-year reunion.

BONGIE GIVING A VOICE TO UNTOUCHED CITIZENS

BONGIE Mpofu, lecturer in communication and media studies at the National University of Science and Technology in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, and former journalist, received her PhD in Journalism at the December graduation ceremony of Stellenbosch University. Her dissertation is titled "Are 'untouched citizens' creating their deliberative democracy online? A critical analysis of women's activist media in Zimbabwe". Dr Mpofu was part of the 2015 Graduate School cohort of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. She examined Zimbabwean women's political participation by investigating whether online media platforms provide spaces for critical communicative interaction to challenge dominant discourses and participate in politics. She anchored her study in the broader conceptualisation of political participation, the epistemological premise of the

study, and explored how "everyday conversations" by women in blogs morph into political conversations. Her findings revealed that blogs, as alternative spaces, offer possibilities for social transformation by enabling women to have a voice in political, socio-economic and cultural spheres, thereby enabling them to challenge dominant discourses and providing a nuanced understanding of how previously "untouched citizens" can create a deliberative democracy online. Her supervisor was Prof Lizette Rabe. Dr Mpofu did her Master's in International Journalism at the University of Westminster, UK, in 2005. She has more than ten years' of journalism experience in both mainstream media and media-related NGOs, as well as ten years' experience in the academic field, teaching undergraduate and graduate programmes. **■**



Bongie receives her PhD in Journalism on 7 December 2017.

MEDIA TOUR 2017

THE EXTRA-CURRICULAR LEARNING EXPERIENCE



The Class of 2017 during their Media Tour at the Sterkfontein Caves. The (very brave) chaperones on the Media Tour were Departmental Administration Officer Lizbeth Newman (first row, second from right) and Rykie Fellow Andre Gouws (third row far left).

IT WAS the first trip to Joburg for many of us and a first flight for one of us, so excitement cut through the exhaustion as we took off from Cape Town airport on a cool winter's day in June, leaving the relentless deadlines and exam stress behind.

The dry, brown Highveld stretched out before us during the bus ride to our accommodation in Auckland Park. It was from this central base that we would, over the coming week, visit several media houses and cultural sites in and around the city – courtesy of M-Net, who yet again sponsored Stellies Journ's Media Tour.

Among the media houses we visited were Times Media Group, Media24, Caxton, Mail & Guardian, Multichoice, Cliff Central and the SABC. Industry professionals at these organisations took time out of their day to speak to us about journalism and being a journalist, and gave us a taste of how things really work in the industry.

At *City Press*, Nicki Güles, the assistant news editor, gave us many practical tips and a no holds barred account of what it takes to be a journalist and a news editor at a weekly publication; a job which she said is "like a massive chess game with all the pieces moving at the same time". She emphasised the need for tenacity and honesty and always staying sensitive to social issues.

It was a massive privilege for us to sit down with current Press Ombudsman Joe Thloloe at the

Press Council in Parktown. Thloloe handed out copies of the Press Code as we took our seats around the boardroom table, half-joking that we should sleep with these booklets under our pillows and read them every day. He gave us practical examples of ethical predicaments he faced during his life as a journalist, and emphasised the responsibility of journalists to act ethically, above all else.

At Cliff Central, we learned about the fast-growing industry of podcasts. Founder Gareth Cliff explained that radio is changing and people want more niche content that they can access anytime, anywhere through their mobiles. Cliff said: "As a content creator, if you're not on people's phones, you're irrelevant." We were also advised that the best journalists are to a certain extent irreverent and say what needs to be said, but in a compelling way. Before leaving, one of us, Vonani Ngomana, got to go live on a show called "BeLighted with Rami and Romeo", and she handled it with all the panache of a Stellies honours journalism student.

Journalism is intimately connected to context, the profession cannot be detached from the place in which it is practiced. As future journalists working in South Africa, being sen-

sitive to our country's history is just as necessary as being privy to the inner workings of the industry.

We visited Vilakazi Street in Soweto on Youth Day, the entire place was abuzz with celebrations, a perpetual baseline shuddered at our feet as people smiled, laughed, talked and ate together. At one of the intersections along Vilakazi Street, a group of pantsula dancers moved with dazzling fluidity to the syncopated beat pounding from their portable stereos.

We made our way down to the house at number 8115, a small building that was home to Winnie and Nelson Mandela. The walls were adorned with photographs, awards and letters, and in the bedroom lay the blanket that was given to Madiba in Qunu when he became a man.

Another suburb we visited that stood out was Cyrildene, where a new Chinatown has sprouted up on the back of an influx of Asian immigrants to the city. Four red pillars support an archway decorated with dragons at the top of a street lined with vegetable sellers, and stores packed with Chinese products tucked between Asian restaurants.

Or the gentrified suburb of Braamfontein, where you can see upmarket buildings, trendy stores and hip

cafés rising out of its grimy streets. A place where truffles, flat whites and chic clothing at the Neighbourgoods Market exist alongside bargain stores and KFCs. Our close proximity to the bohemian suburb of Melville made it the spot for two particularly lively dinners.

At The Cradle of Humankind we learned about where we as a species come from, who our ancestors were and how they lived. Looking down at the glistening bones of *Homo naledi*, the most recently discovered species in the genus *Homo*, it was hard not to feel a sense of wonder at just being a living human. It was a fascinating and humbling journey that reminded us just how small we are in the grand scheme of things.

Equally significant was our trip to the Apartheid Museum. From the stifling entrance, through the dark passages lined with stories of ordinary people and struggle heroes alike, to the bright departure hall, filled with the sound of the national anthem opening up to the outside world. It was a transitional journey that was difficult for our group, with some shedding tears as we made our way through the museum.

We may not all go on to become journalists, but this tour – like our year in Crozier Street – was informative and enriching, and for whatever new beginning lies ahead for each of us, I think it's safe to say that we are all better off for it. - AIDAN JONES ■

“ She handled it with all the panache of a Stellies honours journalism student.

THE BASICS PLUS THE CAMERA

Mia Cilliers (Class of 2009) writes about winning the 2017 SAFTA for Best Achievement in Directing.

IN MY year at Crozier Street I used to barge into Dr Botma's office harping on that we ought to do more video training in class. "You have to learn the basics of journalism first, and then you can apply it across different media," he assured me.

So I learnt the basics, and then enrolled for a Master's degree in Documentary Arts at UCT's Centre for Film and Media Studies, and in March this year I was incredibly honoured to win a South Africa Film and Television Award (SAFTA) for Best Achievement in Directing for *Six to Six*, a documentary short film.

Of course, Dr Botma was right. I applied the basics, added a camera, and together with two colleagues from Reel Epics Productions we made the film, shooting intermit-

tently over two years. *Six to Six* follows the night shift workers at the Salt River mortuary in Cape Town. The film reveals the human and often humorous side of working with the aftermath of loss by painting a portrait of three forensic pathology officers who deal with death night after night.

The SAFTA awards ceremony is a three-day extravaganza held in Sun City and is a significant event on the South African film industry calendar. Creative and technical crews and actors are acknowledged for their work across the film and television sector, which includes awards for feature films, short films, documentary films, soap operas, TV shows, etc. And yes, I definitely could not have done it without those basics. [▶](#)



Mia at the SAFTA's.

GRADUATION

RIGHT: The top students in the Class of 2016 were, together with the two top Master's students, from left to right: Walter Botha, Joan van Dyk, Annamarie van Wyk (MA), Fanie van Rooyen (MA), Storm Mudde, Karin Hammond and Saarah Survé.

ONDER: By die Maart 2017-gradeplegtigheid was Foeta Krige, een van die sogenaamde SABC8-joernaliste, die geleentheidspreker. Hier is Foeta, tweede van links, by George Claassen, Tony Leyssens (waarnemende dekaan), Ton Vosloo, Baldwin van Gorp, besoekende akademikus van die Katolieke Universiteit van Leuven, Gawie Botma en Lizette Rabe.





DIE WOORD WAT LEWE GEE

Jo Prins, Klas van 1999, is boekeredakteur van Media24 se Afrikaanse dagblaai en Netwerk24. Hy is by Media24 se Legends-toekennings bekroon as rubriekskrywer van die jaar.

EK IS nie mal daarvoor om te skryf oor skryf nie.

Dit voel geweldig baie daarna om indringend die inhoud van jou naeltjie te bestudeer.

En meta-skryf voel ook vir my dikwels lui: Jy't nie 'n ander idee gehad nie, toe gaan jy maar op loop met die wit papier voor jou en die foto's van jou gesin teen die muur...

Maar gun my dan, ten spyte van myself, hierdie paar woorde oor die kuns van om na jou naeltjie te staar.

Ons wat vir 'n lewe skryf, weet dat die woord jou lewe gee, maar dat jy ook deur die eerste woord om die lewe gebring kan word.

Verslaggewers verstaan dit soms. Joernaliste besef dit terdeë.

Maar dié van ons wat rubrieke pleeg, daardie grys gebied wat dikwels 'n vermenging van feit en fiksie kan wees, óns weet elke woord moet behoorlik geweeg word.

Want woorde skend betekenis, het die digter Johann Johl eens geskryf, en die onthou van 'n spesifieke gebeurtenis is ook maar ten beste net een weergawe.

Mense praat soms ook van historiografiese metafiksie – maar laat ons nou nie te diep agter die mal haas met die groot horlosie aanhol nie.

Om rubrieke te skryf in dié tyd van die voortdurende *deadline* is

dikwels 'n geweldige uitdaging.

Skryf jy net om die aanlyndier se onversadigbare diep keel te voer of skryf jy om relevant te wees? Of, beter nog, skryf jy juis weg van die nuus van die dag sodat jou leser 'n bietjie kan asem skep?

En hoe bou jy 'n behoorlike profiel as jy nie gereeld genoeg deur die regte mense gelees word nie?

Die geheim, dink ek, is redelik eenvoudig: Asem diep in en gaan leef 'n bietjie. Oefen om te skryf, natuurlik, maar belangriker: Probeer die drang onderdruk om elke lieue oomblik onder woorde te wil bring.

Neem waar met al jou sintuie. En skryf dan die hele ding in jou

kop. Nie op papier nie... maar nét in jou kop.

Bedink die *intro* in die stort. Begin met die tweede paragraaf wanneer jy afdroog. Bou die intrige verder uit oor koffie en kry 'n idee vir 'n kicker op pad werk toe.

Skryf dán.

Moenie halsoorkop agter 'n einde aanjaag nie.

Die reis is 'n belangrike bestemming vir die leser. Dis hier waar jy jou spiere kan bult en rek en strek om uiteindelik met die groot beweging – die arabiersprong met die dubbele agteroor salto – te eindig.

Een van die lekkerste dinge vir 'n rubriekskrywer in dié tyd van *clickbait*, is wanneer 'n koerant jou vra om eenkeer per maand vir hulle 750 woorde te lewer. Nét een keer per maand en nét 750 woorde.

Dié luukse maak dat jy drie weke het om met verskeie idees te speel en eindelijk met één vorendag te kom: daardie stadige ene wat nie slim genoeg was om in die rigting van die brullende leus te hardloop nie...

Want papier is aansienlik geduldiger as die flikkering aanlyn.

En die selfondermyning van die lewe in die stadige baan kan niemand onder jou gat uit-twiet nie. ■

DIGITAL FIRST = MATIEMEDIA

By Dalaine Krige, editor-in-chief of MatieMedia (www.matiemedia.org)

IN 2016 I was faced with a few options of which degrees to pursue on postgraduate level. I had been accepted into political science, history, law and journalism. Overwhelmed with opportunities, I took a step back and made a pro's and con's list.

Decision made, I took to social media (as the millennials do) and declared that I had chosen journalism. Why? Because I hoped it would combine all my loves – history, politics and writing. And it did not disappoint.

Within our first term we decided to go where no class before us had gone: online. While previous years had experimented with an on-line news site/doing digital, we are the first to have a real live news website.

We played around with different website-development platforms and appointed a team. A news editor, design team and subbing team was put together and I was chosen as editor-in-chief. After two weeks of experimenting, a lot of hard work

and late nights, we found our feet and launched MatieMedia in March, over the week of the Word Fest.

We slowly built up a following, one that is still growing, and started sharing news from the Stellenbosch area.

We hit our big break when the Nazi-poster scandal broke on campus. In between lectures and guest speakers we covered what was happening on campus and reached our peak web traffic (for the time) in May.

For our class's annual magazine *SMF* this year, I wrote about MatieMedia and our most viewed articles. The site has had over 60 000 views and our top three articles were about the Nazi-saga and a student being stabbed outside of a residence.

Yet, just after *SMF* went to print, a shooting occurred at Cubana, a popular bar lounge in Stellenbosch. Not only did the article we put up outperform our previous pieces by nearly 100%, but it was the story



Dalaine (far right and below right) and some comrades of the Class of 2017 working on MatieMedia.

that challenged my role as editor the most.

We were faced with ethical dilemmas, a subject that we had often discussed in class. Put into practice, we struggled – despite having 10 months of practice behind us. We had sound from the scene – real, raw emotion. The class was torn and had to struggle to come to an agreement on whether we would share it. We did, and received no backlash.

A quote that I shared in my social media announcement about choosing journalism was from Horace Greeley: "Journalism will kill you, but it will keep you alive while you're at it."

I know Greeley didn't have a student-run digital media platform in mind when he made this declara-



tion, but I find it apt in describing what it feels like. The site is still young and the class of 2018 will inherit it from us – and I can only hope that we've built something that will be able to stand the test of time and keep producing accurate and quality news. ■

2017 IN FOTO'S

Crozierstraat se alumni, personeel en huidige studente agter die mikrofoon, voor die kamera en op die verhoog gedurende 2017.



CENSCOM, Journalism's Centre for Science and Technology Mass Communication, hosted its first International Summit on Quackery & Pseudoscience on 20 and 21 November at Stias, Stellenbosch, together with the Tygerberg Campus's Centre for Evidence Based Health Care. A number of international and national speakers on science communication participated. The conference was initiated and organised by CENSCOM's director, Prof George Claassen (above). The Twitter handle was appropriately called #Quackbusters. For more information on CENSCOM, visit <http://www.censcom.com/index.php/about-us>.



Tim du Plessis (klas van 1978) en Jan-Jan Joubert (klas van 1996) by die Frederik van Zyl Slabbert-gesprekreeks by die Woordfees 2017. Tim was die gespreksleier van die reeks. By Tim (links) en Jan-Jan (middel) is prof John Stremelau, professor in Internasionale Betrekkinge aan Wits en dr Leon Schreiber, navorsingsgenoot van die Universiteit van Princeton in die VSA. Dié gesprek het oor die VSA onder Trump gegaan.



During June this year Crozier Street was home again to our Master's students from all across the continent for intensive workshops on research methodology, mass communication theory and everything from media management to science communication. The first-year Master's students pictured here are, from left, Zamuxolo Matiwana, Keith Dinabantu, Mvuyisi Tyiwani, Elaine Swanepoel, Chantelle Whittles, Maria Amakali, Helené Bam and Chikezie Omeje.



Marita van der Vyver (Class of 1979, back row), well-known and versatile author, guest-lectured the Class of 2017 during this year's Word Fest in March. She spoke about her latest book, published in both English and Afrikaans as *You Lost Me* and *Misverstand*, as well as what lessons she has learnt from the discipline of journalistic writing.



Daniëlla van Heerden, Klas van 2007, het in Oktober die Jong Alumnus van die Jaar-toekening van haar voorgaande alma mater, die Noordwes Universiteit op Potchefstroom, ontvang. Daniëlla is 'n joernalis en nuusleser by e-tv.



Elizabeth Newman, ook bekend as Lizbeth, Lizzie en by sommige selfs as Liesbet, maar eintlik Crozierstraat se eie Office Ninja, op vanjaar se Sekretaressdag (of Kantooradministrateursdag) met haar Office Ninja-koekies. Dankie van almal van ons vir altyd se raakvat en regvat, Lizbeth!