



January 2017

## Hangberg Pre-Primary School: Some news, some thank yous, and how you can stay involved

### Friday 20 January 2017.

See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AFIf7tAVIh4&feature=youtu.be&t=1211>

The official opening of Hangberg Pre-Primary School was a significant milestone in HET's medium term vision to provide quality care for 300 pre-schoolers in Hangberg. The official opening was attended by nearly 150 stakeholders and supporters as well as two special guests: Minister Debbie Schäfer (Western Cape MEC for Education) and Minister Donald Grant (Western Cape MEC for Public Works and Transport).

The entertaining Wayne McKay led the proceedings as Master of Ceremonies. Antonia Viljoen, Sentinel Primary School's SGB chairperson, welcomed guests to Sentinel Primary School's grounds. The welcome was followed by a quick introduction by HET chairperson, Mark Allen. Minister Donald Grant, on behalf of the land owner Public Works, handed over the scissors to German Rotary members. Ian Pürsch, district governor noted the role of Rotary in the world, and was followed by Werner Schuster, who explained how the project became a passion of Rotarian members in Germany. Local German Rotary club Am Kap Sea Point chairperson, Friedrich Schaefer, presented how the construction was completed in time (8 months), within an agreed budget (just over R5.5million) and at satisfactory standards. The Rotarians were seen to represent all stakeholders (big and small) at the proceedings as over 60% of the total

construction cost was funded by Rotary clubs. The Rotarians requested Minister Debbie Schäfer to do the honours and cut the red ribbon. A satisfying moment for many! To end with Minister Schäfer noted the challenges the Western Cape education system faces due to high levels of migration towards the province and that powerful collaborations like this one could potentially



alleviate the pressures on the system, especially in less advantaged communities.

[Picture courtesy of Sherri Ekermans: Ribbon cutting moment with Min Grant, Min Schäfer (cuts), Werner Schuster and Friedrich Schaefer]

More pictures of the event by Sherri Ekermans:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sc/8ilr33u4y9k0x3e/AAB2pWUQAr8wacHAVOnV46u1a>

### Other school news.

The 2017 school year started with a bang. After just two days and a growing waiting list, our principal Karen Temlett and our teaching team agreed that another class must be opened. Our school now welcomes 106 beautiful, happy children aged 4 to 6 years into four classrooms on a daily basis. A moms-and-babies morning group will soon be launched in the after-care centre. The after-care centre is also used for the Wordworks intensive early literacy programme which is

closely managed by Tania Gray, one HET's founding members and our leading full-time volunteer at the new school. The programme reaches 150 Grade R children from Sentinel Primary and HPP School. Our first school outings are happening in February with Seal Island trips generously sponsored by Drumbeat Charters. Big plans are being made by the two teams who will represent HPP School at Valley Pre-Primary School's Sand Castle Competition on 4 March 2017... All so super exciting!

### **Want to stay involved?**

Wordworks volunteer? The impactful Wordworks programme requires 25 volunteers and is currently short nine people for 2017. Any Hout Bay community members who wish to commit to a Wednesday or Thursday morning from 8:15am to 10:15am for at least six months can contact Tania Gray at 082 491 5626.

### **Support-a-child?**

The monthly school fee per child is R300pm whilst the average budgeted cost per child is just under R1 000pm. To meet this significant shortfall over the long run, the team is working to register for Department of Social Development- and Western Cape Education Grade R subsidies as well as reconsidering fee structures. The aim is to become financially sustainable in three years' time. In the meantime various fundraising initiatives and interim cost savings measures are being implemented. The main fundraising initiative is the "support-a-child" drive: you may wish to consider sponsoring a child at R4 000 for a year; a once off payment of R4 000 or ten monthly payments of R400 each. A wall with 120 handprints and donor names will be created in the school to recognise all "support-a-childers".

### **Thank you...**

No milestone like this can be reached without a lengthy, resounding thank you. There are so many to mention and I will definitely miss some. I apologise in advance.

- To Sentinel Primary School's principal, Mrs Claudene Overmeyer and its school governing body. Thank you for sharing your premises and your knowledge with us for the next 15 years. Also to the Sentinel's ex-principal, Amanda Engelbrecht, who shared in and supported our vision from the outset.
- To the Western Cape Education Department. Thank you for allowing a dream to begin... In August 2013, WCED granted Sentinel Primary School's SGB permission to develop and manage a pre-primary school on Sentinel Primary School's property, Erf 2725... and here we are now.
- To the Department of Public Works: Thank you for approving the initial plans in May 2014 and for being so instrumental in helping with all the approval processes and issues that arose during construction. We can honestly say it is a joy to work alongside you, paperwork and all. You give us hope!
- To the Hangberg Educational Trust's trustees with their vision and drive: Thank you to the seven dedicated trustees namely Mark Allen (chairperson), Janap Davids, Carol Fisher, Liz Huckle, Evelyn Masemola, Gerhard Pietersen and Mike Schröder. Thank you for believing in us and for your unwavering support of Tania and me. An extra deep, special thank you to Mike Schröder who never, never, never allowed funding to dry up and sat through all the weekly site meetings for eight months. You're a lifetime hero for many children who will never know it.
- To the key volunteers who drove most of the funding and strategic initiatives over the last four and a half years and who I now have the privilege to call my friends: Tania Gray, Michele Harvey, Nicolette Rotter and Karen Temlett. At the same time a good

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**TRUSTEES:** Mark Allen, Janap Davids, Carol Fisher, Liz Huckle, Evelyn Masemola, Gerhard Pietersen, Michael Schröder

**EXECUTIVE:** Tania Gray, Michele Harvey, Nicolette Rotter, Marquerithe Schreuder, Karen Temlett

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**Bank Account:** Hangberg Educational Trust, ABSA, Branch 632 005, Savings Account no. 927 428 6990, SWIFT code ABSAZAJJ

bye from the team to Michele. Mich, you have left an incredible mark in many lives. Best wishes with the next ventures. We will miss you.

- To the funders and donors. Thank you to Sea Point's Rotary Club Am Kap, and four German Rotarian clubs: Eggenfelden-Pfarrkirchen, Germering, Landshut-Trausnitz and Neuss. These clubs collectively raised just over R3.2million of the total cost of R5.5million. There were also many companies and individuals who donated funds and specifics such as kitchen appliances, a refurbished kitchen, the solar system from SolarWorld Africa installed for free by local provider OneSolar, lights and electrical fittings by EuroLux, sanitary ware by Flush Bathrooms, crockery by Hout Bay Spar, and so much more. Also thank you to all companies and individuals who donated the exciting prizes to be auctioned at HET's annual dinner dance. Supporters' logos will be displayed on our beautiful new website to be launched soon, thanks to Greymatter Finch. Watch this space.
- To the amazing contracting teams who delivered a quality and unique building, on time and within budget: The contractor Johan Fick and his wonderful building team from Teknon Development, the phenomenally able carpenter Jan "Plankies" Theron, Gerrit Steyn and Charl Hamman from KLS Engineers, Herman Mynhardt from Sigma Quantity Surveyors, Design Architect Dawid de Vaal, Principal Agents / Project Managers Herman Joubert and André vom Hagen from MLB Architects, Jacques van Heerden from Safetycon and Dirk Oosthuizen from NES Consulting, the fire engineer.
- To the Hangberg Pre-Primary staff: Our principal, Karen Temlett, our teachers June Arn, Yusrah Petersen, Nicole Abrahams and Demi-Lee Leonard, our teaching assistants Siddika Adams, Lanthea Pockpas, Monique Meyer, Tamryn Lucas. Also our resourceful cook-cum-cleaner Hombisa Nguqu and

our caring school janitor, Uncle Ivan van Wyk. You have hands and hearts for children and are always ready for the next big leap forwards. Thank you for your hard work and dedication on a daily basis.

- Finally, to our numerous volunteers who help with refurbishment of old classrooms, weekly reading with children, assistance with outings, cleaning of the premises, gardening and more. The success of the pre-school is unthinkable without your support.

#### **In closing, in memoriam.**

On Monday 13 June 2016 Rolf Schnauer, a key Rotarian supporter passed away. Rolf attended every weekly site meeting from January 2016 up to his sudden passing. He gently engaged from the wings, listening and understanding the building strains, encouraging us at all times. Rolf was also the key driver of the solar panel donation we today so value. We at Hangberg Educational Trust and Hangberg Pre-Primary School miss this special man. May we carry Rolf's name and contribution in our hearts and between the walls with fondness. Rolf, thank you for setting us on our way. May we continue to make you proud.

[A little site meeting clip, with the first solar donation mention (Friday 10 March 2016): <https://vimeo.com/202221088>]

For any further information contact us at [hangbergeducationaltrust@gmail.com](mailto:hangbergeducationaltrust@gmail.com) or call Tania Gray at 082 491 5626 if you wish to arrange a visit.

And that's a wrap. Until next time...

With love, gratitude and joy,  
Marquerithe x

[Picture courtesy of Sherri Ekermans: HET volunteer team on Friday 20 January 2017: Tania Gray, Karen Temlett, Marquerithe Schreuder, Michele Harvey, Nicolette Rotter]



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