

IN VOELING • IN TOUCH

132 jaar van omgee • 132 years of care 1883 - 2015

Nuusbrief • Newsletter Februarie/February 2015 - May 2015

Children get chance to sing their troubles away

I hope you and your family will have a blessed and peaceful Easter. Easter is a time for rejoicing, renewal of spirit and rekindling of faith.

I would like to share the following excerpt from a recent edition of *TygerTalk*, written by Camila, with you. This article highlights the powerful effect of one person making a difference.

"It's 3pm on a sweltering African afternoon. I'm sitting in a starkly decorated room, lined with mismatched sagging sofas and the sun casts sharp shadows across a tiled floor where 20 excited children between the ages of three and 10 are enjoying a music therapy session.

They don't know it is music therapy, of course. To them it is just an exhilarating chance to sing and dance their hearts out. To me, the sound of their laughter is as beautiful as any music because, whilst they might seem as happy and carefree as any youngsters, I know that these are tiny, vulnerable and damaged children, whose scars run far deeper than the skin-deep ones visible on some of them.

At the helm of the session is former Hallé Youth Choir and National Youth Choir member Damson Tregaskis, a 20-year-old volunteer from Heaton Moor. First stepping foot in the residential children's home two years ago, and recognising that her own musical training could have a positive impact on these children, she set up regular sessions, which soon became the highlight of the week for the youngsters.

She has an energy that's admirable. Together she and the children enthusiastically sing, dance, shake and jump their way through a half-hour playlist, barely pausing for breath.

The children know all the words and actions, the happiness they get from the sessions is glaringly obvious and they clearly adore Damson.

Each child here owns a shattering story, and their brave determination at life is humbling. The younger ones are so affectionate, but feel so delicate that it seems a hug will crush them, whilst the older ones have seemingly developed a harder shell. I feel helpless. It seems there

is so much wrong with their worlds, but it is clear to me that Damson has drawn out something incredibly special from these seemingly tough, yet terrifyingly vulnerable children, and she has found a place for them to visit where they can forget their worries and sing with an untroubled joy."

If you would like to make a donation or become a volunteer at the Durbanville Children's Home, please contact Johanna Strauss at jstrauss@durbanvillekinderhuis.org.za or phone 021 975 6822.

Kind regards
Rudolf Bezuidenhout



Volunteer Damson Tregaskis with one of Durbanville Children's Home's children.



Contact Durbanville Children's Home
Tel: (021) 975 6822 | Fax: (021) 975 1613
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Durbanville Children's Home, a registered non-profit organisation (NPO 011 - 891), is a programme of BADISA that is a joint ministry of the DR Church (Western and Southern Cape) and URCSA (Cape).

Alle kinders het vlerke, ons leer hulle om te vlieg! [1]

Weer skool toe! Hoërskool!

Bydraes deur die kinders verskaf word nie geredigeer nie en word geplaas soos dit ontvang is.

Jou hard klop in jou keel. Jy is benoud dit voel anders. Jy wonder vir jou self wat gaan gebeur. Is dit 'n meneer of 'n juffrou. Dalk is hoërskool nie lekker nie.

Hoeveel maats en in wie se klas. Kan dit nie glo nie... hoërskool nooit dit kan nie wees nie. Dit is jou eerste dag en almal kyk. Gaan dit 'n streng meneer of juffrou wees. Jy sit in die klas en wag vir hoërskool om te begin.

Seun, 14



CALL FOR SUPPORT

We are calling on corporates and individuals to make a difference in our children's lives by donating R25 000 to our urgent needs programme.

Your generosity will be rewarded in the following ways:

- A table for 10 guests at the Rugby Day.
- A table for 10 guests at a ladies tea or a four-ball to the Golf Day.
- 10 tickets to our Christmas Concert.
- A table for 10 guests to the Annual Ball.
- Your logo will be displayed on our website, in our newsletter and in our annual report.
- You will receive an 18 A tax certificate.
- A BEE certificate will be available on request.
- There will be volunteer opportunities for staff.

Please contact Sunette for the urgent needs list at email: events@durbanvillekinderhuis.org.za or telephone: 021 975 6822.

