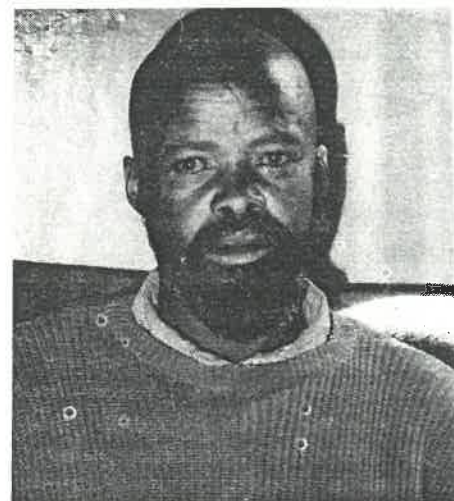


Wie Het Wat Gewen?

Iemand hier naby behoort warm te voel. Dit is nie net nog 'n "droom" van die Toverberg Indaba nie. R907 136 het uit Sun City se "Dream Machine" gestort nadat 'n plaaslike inwoner se laaste paar rand daarin verdwyn het. Dit is wat gebeur as 'n mens op die regte plek op presies die regte tyd is!

Hierdie wengeld, al is dit ou nuus, is die moeite werd om in ons annale aan te teken. Dit behoort goeie herinneringe vir die wenner te bring, en warm drome vir die res van ons.

Talle luistervinke het ons telefoon-gesprek met die wenner onderbreek - hulle kon net nie die versoeking weerstaan nie. Daarom het ons (so min of meer) met haar saamgestem toe sy ons weer kontak en sê, jammer, maar daar was nou rêrig genoeg publisiteit. (En dit was voor 'n ander plaaslike koerant haar naam en besonderhede op sy voorblad uitgedruk!)
Dus, as u weet, dan weet u. En as u nie weet nie - die ander wat weet mag nie sê nie. As u nou deurmekaar is, hou aan droom!



Mr Joseph Nazo

LOCAL MAN GETS R18 000 PAYOUT

Mr Joseph Nazo of Colesberg has won R18 000 in a settlement awarded by the Minister of Law and Order.

This follows a court case involving alleged police assault in 1985.

Mr Nazo told our reporter that he would deposit all the money in his bank account and start planning on how to use it.

This is one of similar awards won by local residents from the Minister of Law and Order. Other local people who have received payments include Mr Christopher Siyonzana, a Mrs Pampier and William Mchithwa.



Keeping Colesberg Clean:- here is local personality Mr Joseph Arries at his home. Mr Arries has been a signwriter for 25 years in the town.

Published by co-editors Maeder Osler, & Oupa Mpekula. Design, photographs, illustrations Peter Westoby. Printing by Toverberg Indaba, P.O.Box, Colesberg, 5980.

STOP PRESS!

New political party here?: rumours Kuyasa township formation branch Pan Africanist Party Azania (PAC).

Soccer: Kuyasa Football Club upturn local champions Cosmos Club winning town soccer tournament. Colesberg sides in final, defeat two teams De Aar one team Middelburg.

Boxing: First competition Colesberg Boxing Club at Richmond against De Aar. Two Colesberg boxers win technical knockouts, three force draws, three loose.

Meatlands: Local enterprise, Meatlands, aims raise R1 500 000 "to fully process meat carcasses and reduce them to meat cuts."

Eskom: Expansion electricity supply Colesberg "going very well" according Eskom spokesman. Some 270 applications Kuyasa township; 220 already connected. Representatives communities East Cape visit pre-payment meter system Colesberg.

TOVERBERG INDABA*

- To serve the entire community of Colesberg and surrounds.
- Independent; not party political.
- Not for private profits.
- Democratic and accountable to all.

Ukusebenzela abahlali base Colesberg ngokubanzi nendawo eziyingqongileyo

- Lizimele - alimelanga qela lopolotiko.
- Alimelanga nzuzo zabucala.
- Lilawula ngokumelwa (Democratic) lixhomekeke kubo bonke abantu.

- Om die hele gemeenskap van Colesberg en omgewing te bedien.
- Onafhanklik; nie party polities.
- Nie vir privaat wins.
- Demokraties en verantwoordig aan almal verskuldig.

TOVERBERG INDABA

September 1991
Edition 6.
R0,40c.



AANSOEK VIR OOPSTEL VAN SKOOL.....

I Kuyasa F.C. Iphumelele

LOWRYVILLE IMPRESSIONS

Ons Skou Gaan Voort!

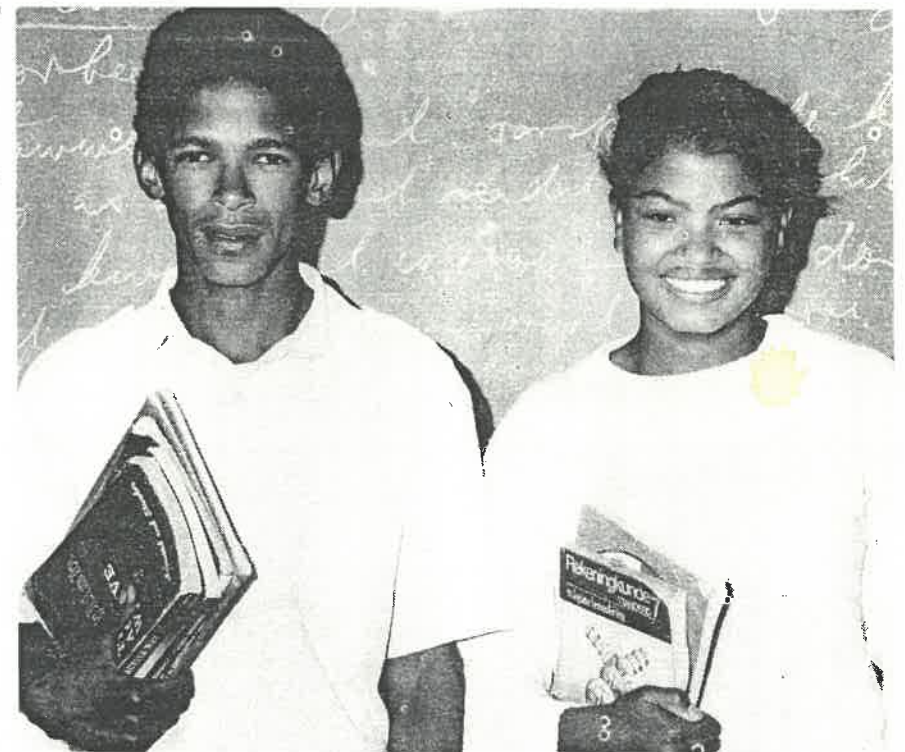
Stutterheim - A way for SA?

Farm Homestead

Trade Union Office Here?

Regulars

Editorials, Columnists, P.5.
Legal Forum P.8.
Literacy P.9. Law series P.10.
Letters P.11. Policy P.16.



Chrisjan Roules (left), and U'anda Keet: they hope to do post-Std 7 schooling in their hometown. U'anda would like to train for nursing after matric.

Die skoolhoofde van Lowryville Primêr en Colesberg Sekondêr het onlangs samesprekings gehou - die gemeenskap van Lowryville het aansoek gedoen om toelating vir hulle kinders tot die blanke skool.

Die Ouer-Onderwyser-vereniging sal waarskynlik die blanke ouers inlig sodat verdere bespreking kan plaasvind. Dit is deur die twee skoolhoofde, mnr. A.C. Jansen en W. Norval bevestig. In 'n verdere ontwikkeling het die Lowryville Primêre Skool ook met die Hoof van die Umso Sekondêre

Skool, mnr. I. Lobbie, onderhandel. Hulle will graag hê dat 'n dubbelmedium-onderrig in Afrikaans en Engels by die nuwe tegniese skool moet plaasvind. Lowryville-skoliere kan dan soontoe gaan vir tegniese opleiding. In die versoekskrif sê Lowryville se leerkrigte en ouers: "Inwoners van Colesberg, laat ons iets doen om die probleem op te los." "Die gemeenskap van Lowryville se wekroep weerklink nog altyd in die woestyn: Wanneer sal skoolopleiding tot sy volle reg kom in ons gemeenskap?" (Sien Bl.2).

Lowryville doen Aansoek vir Sekondêre Skole

"Jarelange onderhandelinge tussen die departement en gemeenskap, vir die daarstelling van 'n Sekondêre Skool te Lowryville word nog steeds gevoer, maar word telkemale afgeskiet weens 'n skynbare tekort aan finansies.

"Die behoefte aan 'n Sekondêre Skool bestaan al jare in die gemeenskap. Tans word daar aansoek gestuur na verskillende Sekondêre skole om die Std 7-leerlinge te akkomodeer. Probleme ontstaan wat betref losies, vervoer en skoolgelde.

"Begaafde kinders van ouers met 'n karige inkomste van so min as R30 per maand, met ongereelde bystand van hul ouer kinders, moet een of ander Sekondêre opleiding ontvang. Hierdie leerlinge moet voor of na matriek die skool verlaat om as petroljoggies, rakpakkers, algemene arbeiders, ens te werk.

"Met die aankondiging in die media van bykomstige modelle vir onderwysvoorsiening op 11 September 1990, het daar hoop opgevlam vir van ons leerlinge. Aan die hand van hierdie aankondiging is daar

daadwerklike pogings aangewend om hierdie kans aan te gryp. 'n Skrywe is aan die plaaslike 'blanke' Hoërskool gerig. Verdere moet is geskep toe daar gereageer word op die skrywe. Dit bied geleentheid tot die bespreking van die moontlikhede.

DIE GESPREKVOERING

"'n Afvaardiging van Lowryville Primêre Skool is heeltemaal vriendelik en simpatiek deur die skoolhoof, mnr W. Norval, sy adjunk-prinsipaal en voorsitter van die bestuursraad (skoolkomitee) ontvang. Na die bespreking van probleme, moontlikhede, bekendmaking van inhoud van omsendbrief no. 65/1990 soos uitgereik deur die Kaaplandse Onderwysdepartement, blyk dit dat saak wel onder die 'blanke' ouers se aandag gebring sal word. Soos bespreek is, moet daar eers toestemming van minister verkry word en daarna moet 80% van die ouers/voogde stemme uitbring en 70% moet positief stem om 'n model te implementeer.

Na samesprekings is daar wel

moed geskep vir die toekoms, want daar bestaan wel 'n moontlikheid vir die gedeeltelike oplossing van ons jarelange probleem. Die skoolhoof het genoem dat hy begrip en simpatie het vir ons probleme.

"Verdere onderhandelinge is ook aan die gang gesit met die prinsipaal van UMSO-Sekondêre Skool en SADTU die onderwyserunie. Voelers is uitgesteek om te verneem na moontlikhede om die nuut aangeboude skool 'n Afrikaans/Engels medium, skool te maak. Die saak geniet nog aandag.

"Die gemeenskap van Lowryville se wekroep weerklank nog altyd in die woestyn: Wanneer sal skoolopleiding tot sy volle reg kom in ons gemeenskap? Tans is daar meer as 200 leerlinge op sekondêre skole in plekke soos Middelburg, De Aar, Bloemfontein en selfs sover as Kimberley, Johannesburg, George en Kaapstad.

"Inwoners van Colesberg laat ons iets doen om die probleem op te los.

"Saamgestel en opgestel: Leerkragte en ouers."

Advertisement



The Colesberg Ride and Tie: (left) winners by 27 seconds, Liezel & P.C. Ferreira; (right) Theo Gilfillan and Sarel Pienaar who came second overall and first in the Men's Endurance Ride. (Pictures Mrs L. Rous).

Regular Advertising Pays!

SPORT PRESTASIES BY SKOOL

33 rugbyspelers van Lowryville Primêr is gekies om die noordelike streek van die unie te verteenwoordig.

Die skool se 0/55kg en 0/40kg spanne is tans die bekerhouers van die unie.

Vyf sokkerspelers, is in die noordelike streek span. Die 14 jarige en ope dogters is tans die kampioen netbalspanne in die streek, en nege is vir die noord-span gekies. Die skool maak ook voorsiening vir tennis en atletiek.

Onvoldoende sportfasiliteite is 'n groot probleem.



Two local delegates were at the recent ANC Congress at Durban. Here Mr Nelson Mandela signs autographs. (Picture O. Mpekula)

Central role of civics association

INCREASED LOCAL CONSULTATIONS



The chairman of the Civics Association, Mr Manelisi Nelani, speaking at a Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Local consultation meetings are taking place, on largely informal levels.

* There have been discussions involving the civics association and the local representative of the provincial administration, Mr André Fourie.

* A representative of the town council, Mr George Heunis, has been at some discussions with the civics and the local administrator.

* The initiative for some of these moves has come from the civics association according to the chairman (Mr Manelisi Nelani) and vice-chairman (Mr Toto Maliti). Mr Nelani said "We are always open for discussions - that's our policy. All our talks have been exploratory. They are investigations. No resolutions have been adopted, no promises made."

* Mr Fourie has, on invitation, introduced himself at one of the regular community-meetings in Kuyasa of the civics association.

* Meetings have taken place between the chairman of the local Sakekamer, Mr Phillip Fourie, and chairman of the Kuyasa-based Chamber of Commerce, Mr Sam Hans.

* Other older-established meetings such as the Masazana Womens-Group and groups on education, have continued.

Mr Fourie, who advocated wider discussions on his appointment, said "We have to get to know each other first. I am keen on a sort-of mini-forum idea. We really can't wait, we must do something now."

FARMERS - FOR A DAY!

Local agricultural-science matric pupils from UMSO High School - we believe for the first time ever in this part of rural South Africa - spent a day out of classrooms learning at a local sheep farm. Their visit, 35km away to Hanglip Farm, was arranged by local teacher Mr Simon Tshayana. The 60 pupils, boys and girls, examined aspects of the farm day, watched demonstrations by farm staff and management, and asked plenty of questions.



The group of students, with teacher Mr Simon Tshayana.



A lamb has lost its tail.

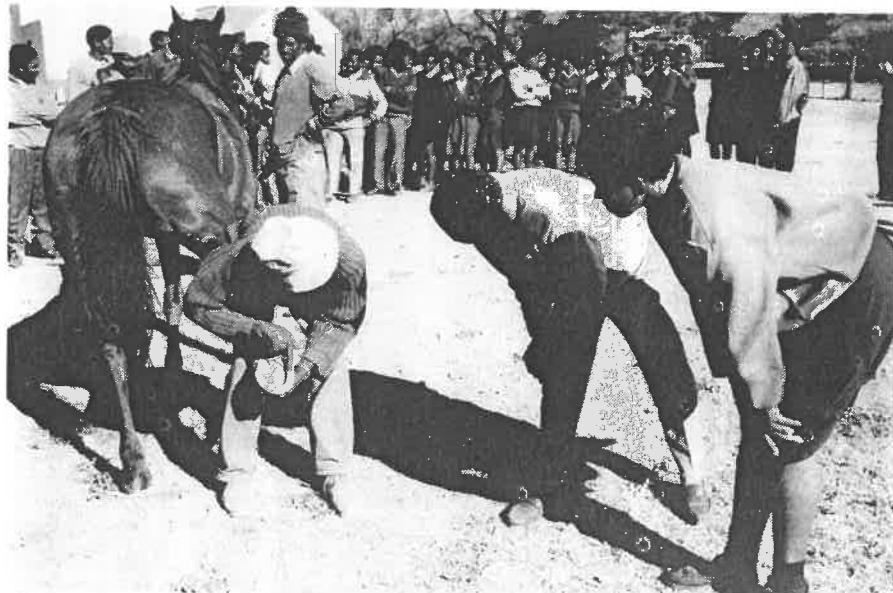


Milk and cream, hot off the rack, milked by a pupil.



Merino ram gives his blanket away.

Die plaaslike matriekleerlinge van UMSO Hoërskool wat landbou-wetenskap as vak het, het 'n dag op 'n skaapplaas deurgebring om meer daarvan te leer. Dit is waarskynlik die eerste keer dat dit in hierdie deel van die platteland plaasgevind het. Die besoek aan Hanglip, 35km uit die dorp, is deur hulle onderwyser, mnr. Simon Tshayana, gereël. Die 60 leerlinge - seuns en meisies - het verskillende aspekte van 'n tipiese plaasdag belewe. Hulle het gekyk na demonstrasies deur plaaswerkers en bestuur, en het baie vrae gevra.



Shoes for a horse.

"...an office in due course..." says trade union general secretary

TRADE UNION ACTIVITY IN COLESBERG

Organised trade union activity in Colesberg has arrived.

Memberships of the Hotel Liquor Catering Commercial and Allied Workers Union of SA (HOTELICCA) have been organised among some employees of at least five major town businesses.

HOTELICCA is an affiliate of the National Council of Trade Unions (NACTU), a national federation of trade unions.

Negotiations between union organisers and the Golden Egg, Colesberg, have taken place.

The General Secretary of the union's head office in Johannesburg, Mr Welcome Mbalo, confirmed the trade union activity and details.

He also told the Toverberg Indaba: "We will be opening an office in Colesberg in due course."

The businesses mentioned by Mr Mbalo are: Merino Inn, Wimpy, Central Hotel, Mobil Garage, the Golden Egg and the motel at the H.F. Verwoerd Dam. He said the union had numbers of members working in each of the businesses.

The union's negotiations were confirmed by the union's national organiser Mr Oscar Malgas, as well as Golden Egg manager Mr Clive Gerada.

Mr Gerada told us the talks with the union's representatives in Colesberg had "gone smoothly."

"As far as I am concerned, the union can be an asset. I am satisfied with the way things have gone."



National organiser Mr Oscar Malgas



Manager Mr Clive Gerada: "...the union can be an asset..."



Teachers Get Together

SOUTH AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC TEACHERS UNION (SADTU)

The South African Democratic Teachers Union (SADTU), for the first time since its launching, has held a rally in Colesberg.

The rally, held at Lowryville, "was to popularise the union, to get more members and also to explain itself to the teachers," we were told.

The rally was opened by a prayer by the Rev Ben Kock who outlined the role of the teachers to the community at large. Mr Mzamo Mtubu, local teacher, gave a brief analysis of the union.

Mr Charles Gedezana, who addressed the Nationalist Party Youth Congress recently at Vanderkloof, was Master of Ceremony.

Highest Colesberg Circulation - By Far!



A choir practices in Kuyasa.



Dancers at practice, Kuyasa.

Need To Reach the Most People In Colesberg?

Die Skou gaan Voort!!!

Die jaarlikse Colesbergkou gaan wel dié jaar gehou word! 'n Nuwe komitee het ons verseker dat die skou nie meer in die weegskaal is nie.

Die toekoms van die skou is onlangs op 'n vergadering van die boerevereniging bespreek. Die ondersteuning het oor die laaste paar jaar drasties afgeneem, en daar is besluit om wyd in die gemeenskap te konsulteer. 'n Nuwe, en groter skoukomitee is gekies, met Mnr S.D.Naudé, 'n boer van die distrik, as voorsitter.

Die skou sal op Vrydag 26 Oktober en Saterdag 27 Oktober plaasvind. 'n Wye verskeidenheid programme sal aangebied word.

Die skou het 'n lang en kleurvolle verlede. Heelwat van hierdie byeenkomste het onder leiding van mnr. David Arnot, 'n prominente leier in die gemeenskap, plaasgevind. (Dit is ironies dat mnr. Arnot tot onlangs nog as "Kleurling" geklassifiseer sou gewees het).

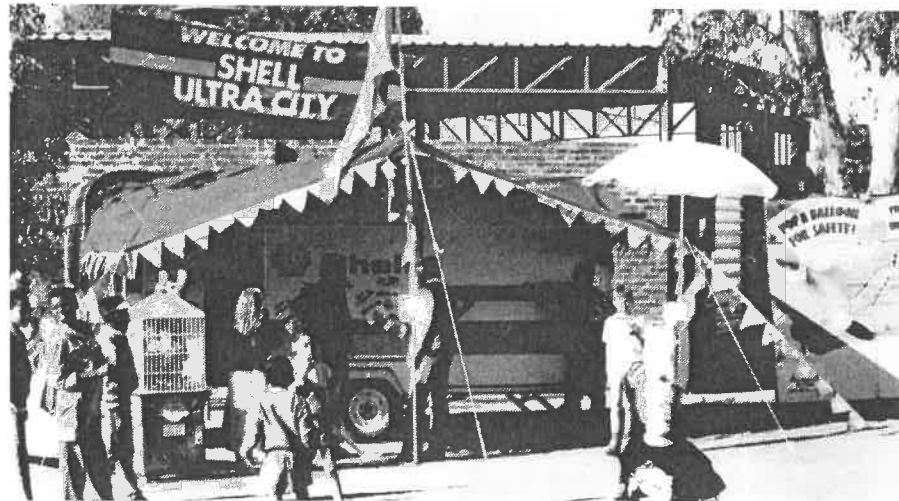
Teen druktyd was dit nog nie duidelik in hoe 'n mate die skou-idee met die verskillende gemeenskappe bespreek is nie. Mnr Phillip Fourie (voorsitter van die Sakekamer) en mnr Johan Barnard (Stadsklerk) is van die verteenwoordigers wat gesê het dat hulle in kontak met die organiseerders is om hulp aan te bied.

Na-skoolse Studiefonds Beoog.

Die jeug van Lowryville word breedvoerig ingelig oor keuses en ook slaggate van die toekoms, sê plaaslike onderwyser mnr. D.Sors.

Die program behels beroepskeuses, tienerswangerskap en misbruik van alkohol.

"Vir die toekoms word ouer-aande beplan, waar die jeug wat reeds gematrikuleer het, betrek sal word en beroepsvoorligting sal ontvang," sê mnr Sors. "Op 2 September word so 'n aand beplan, waar ouers en leerkragte gaan kragte saamspan en 'n na-skoolse studiefonds stig."



A scene from last year's show.



Small-business enterprises in Colesberg have begun, arranged by the Chamber of Commerce in Kuyasa. Here a group of hawkers assemble at the first course - together with NAFCO instructor Mr L. Matiwane from Port Elizabeth (top row).

TOWERBERG SLAGTERY! Vleis!... • Meat!... • Nyama!...



tel: (05852) 29. 59 Kerkstraat 59. Colesberg.

NOUPOORT BEGRAAFPLAAS SKOONMAKER SÊ "...polisie maak 'n nagmerrie van my lewe..."

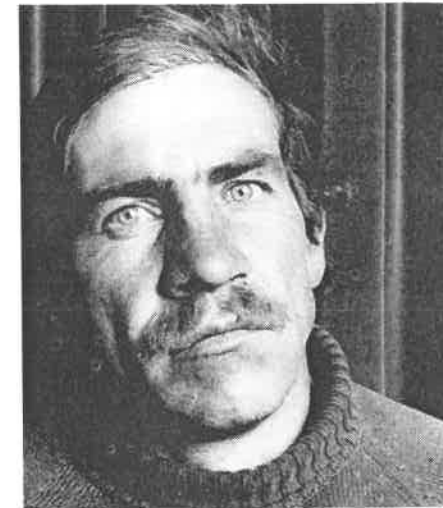
Hans Prinsloo is 'n stil, beskeie man. Hy maak die kleurlingbegravingplaas in Noupoort skoon en bly met sy vrou, Sarie, in die bruin woonbuurt van Euriekaville. Hy is 'n 'blanke.'

Volgens mnr Prinsloo het 'n groep wit polisiemane van Noupoort onlangs van sy lewe 'n nagmerrie begin maak.

Hulle het hom geblameer vir die heengaan van apartheid en hom uitgetart oor sy verblyf in die 'kleurling'woongebied, sê hy. Maandagnag 5 Augustus is hy en sy vrou in hul bed aangerand en is skote later op hom afgevuur. Mnr Prinsloo beweer dat hy sekere blanke polisiemane van Noupoort in verband met die insident uitgeken het.

Hy het die saak by die polisie-stasie aangemeld maar beweer dat hy later genader is om die saak terug te trek. Hy het geweier, sê hy, want hy en sy vrou is te onsteld daarvoor.

Die saak is ook by adv. Antony Osler van Regslui vir Menseregte in



Mr Hans Prinsloo.

Colesberg aangemeld. Adv Osler sê hy het nog nie die aangeleentheid met die polisie opgeneem nie, maar "as die aantygings waar is dan breek ek in 'n koue sweet uit - dit sou 'n skandelige misbruik van mag op 'n skadelose gesin wees - ek vertrou dat die polisie die saak deeglik sal ondersoek."

-from box Page 12)

...I really do not know what kind of leaders we're going to be if we do not focus on education, which is the answer to almost all our problems. In what other way do you think we could govern our country if we are not educated, because ... we would still be very much dependent on our oppressors economically..... Thanks editors... I was very impressed with your informative journal because in the past at Colesberg it would be a pipedream to even wish of coming across a journal like yours... 'hopeful'

*Lt J.J.P. Labuschagne, bevelvoerder van Noupoort Polisie, het aan die Toverberg Indaba gesê: "Daar is wel 'n saak aangemeld. Dit word ondersoek en ons sal alles in ons vermoë doen. Op hierdie stadium is daar geen getuieis dat daar enige polisiemane van Noupoort betrokke is nie."

Languages Songs, Dances & Colours

Some Colesberg occasions have a verve and style which many of our readers would find different. One such event was the recent ceremony for the building of a methodist church in Kuyasa for its 3 000 members.

The church dignitary was the Rev. Harold Irons, District Bishop. This was his return to Colesberg, where he began preaching in 1950 at the methodist church in centre-town.

Speaking Afrikaans he said Colesberg was a special place. Xhosa was translated into Afrikaans, and Afrikaans into Xhosa, and the Bible



Part of the large procession at the ground consecration ceremony for the Methodist Church to be built in Kuyasa.

started in English then moved into Xhosa!

There were representatives of most of the many 'township' churches, and methodists from the Lowryville church.

There were ladies in white dresses, scarves and stockings from Lowryville; the methodist Manyana women in their red-and-white outfits; a choir in blue and navy; many

of the men in red waistcoats; drum majorettes in blue-and-white; colourful banners.

The hours' long ceremony was punctuated by singing, swaying, dancing as the programme unfurled in the windy dusty afternoon. The 'turning of the sod' was to singing and shuffling as dignitaries, officials and guests, took turns with the silver-painted spade.



Campbell Street near the Masonic Hall today. This was one of several areas in the town occupied by families who had to leave their homes because of the Group Areas Act (now abolished).

education

(* This letter is from a prisoner at Goedemoed Prison, Aliwal North. He had to leave school in Colesberg in his Std 6 year).

...There is an urgent need for all of us to put our differences aside, get together and do everything to build the future of our country. If not for us, at least for the coming generation.

Illiteracy, the son of poverty and grandson of apartheid of all the atrocity facing the black nation. Commitment to adult educational, cultural and religious projects will do us enormously in building a new and non-racial society.

(continued in box on Page 13)

Impressions of Lowryville...

These impressions of Lowryville were written by Cape Town journalist Mr Paul Bell. They were originally for Leadership Magazine's glossy focus on Colesberg, as part of his impressions of the town. Because of space they were not used in the published article, but we got his permission to use the extract. Commenting on his article as a whole, Mr Bell has told us: "The impressions are mine and obviously we all have to live with them, including me."

Colesberg has two satellite townships. It seems best simply to dispose of Lowryville, the coloured township, as quickly as possible. In the words of one of a leading resident, it has "lost its sense of survival", and must perhaps be left just where it is - perched on a hill outside town - until its people no longer have to feel they are just brown ham in a black and white sandwich.

Coloured people used to own houses in some of the more picturesque parts of Colesberg - around Murray Street, for example - but 25 years ago the Group Areas Act dispatched them to the hill. Today Lowryville's 3 000 residents are poor but their gravel streets have at least the semblance of that swept-clean poverty that characterises many rural backwaters.

Lowryville residents are also Colesberg ratepayers so for the past two years its toothless management committee, chaired by local builder Harold Pennells, has been permitted to attend the meetings of Colesberg's white town council - a fact which Mayor Van den Berg says testifies to the white town's willingness to talk and negotiate and improve the lives of all Colesberg's people (except Kuyasa, which is outside the white council's jurisdiction).



Mr James Colby

I found Pennells sitting on the steps of James Colby's house at the top of the hill. Colby was a member of the management committee but he quit last year in frustration. I soon realised why everybody had said Colby was the real guy to talk to, because when I asked Pennells what hopes Lowryville had of the new South Africa, Pennells said he didn't want to be involved in political matters. Instead Colby did the talking.

Colby, a teacher, made a measured speech laden with gall: "I am 50 years old," he began. "I believe in going to the polls and voting for what I can get. I don't believe in violence and intimidation or to-it-toi - it makes the adrenalin pump so anything can happen. I believe in rationality."

"But we all watch the political process. We have our doubts. We've been out in the cold all of my life. In my time the white man has played the coloured man against the black man, and now Lowryville has lost its sense of survival. I shouted at the white council for two years and they said nothing. My life is behind me."

This, then, was the sum of Lowryville's ambition, as expressed by two leading citizens. Leave us alone. We get what we get by minding our own business. The business unfolding at the bottom of the hill has always left us out, and right now we are probably better off without it anyway.

- by Paul Bell



Imvo Zomhleli

Ukuculwa kwengoma zomzabalazo kwitumente zebhola iya isiba yinto eqaphlekileyo nangona kwintlanganisano zomzi kunzima nditsho ukuba uve kuculwa enye.

Enye into eqaphlekayo kukungayi kwabantu kwezintlanganisano ekulindleleke ukuba bacule ezingoma zithi zingqalamane neso siganeko maxa wambi nentlangano leyo okanye lo nto izinyaswayo. Oku kungayi kuqaphleka kakhulu xa uthelekisa neminyaka emibini edlulileyo.

Kwindawo ezithengisayo (ndithetha umabil'ebanda) kulapho ufumana ulutsha luzinikele khona ekuculeni nasekukhuleni abo babafumana bengamakhoba abo. Akuyi kukhwankqisa kwiminyaka ezayo xa sibona kuculwa ingoma zetoyi-toyi ezintlobeni nasemitshatweniyethu. -zincinci-

Redaksie

Colesberg lê halfpad tussen Johannesburg en die Kaap, aan die grootpad. Daarom oornag hier baie mense, en almal is bly daaroor. Dis goed vir die dorp se ekonomie - hotelle, 'herberge', vulstasies en winkels maak staat op die deurgang, en dit gee aan baie mense werk in al die gemeenskappe.

Maar wat van dié wat nie kan betaal nie?

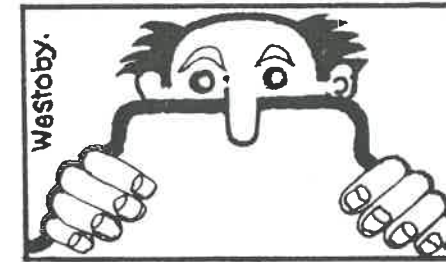
In Matteus word hulle genoem die vreemdelinge sonder klere, honger, dors, siek, tronkvoëls. Nie iemand wat jy in jou spaarkamer, badkamer en - afgryslik! - jou toilet wil toelaat nie.

In Lowryville en Kuyasa is dit nie net die predikant se werk om mense slaapplek te gee nie. In die kleinste tweeslaapkamerhuisie slaap die huismense op die grond sodat hulle gaste op beddens kan slaap.

Waar moet die "opheffingswerk" gedoen word - in Lowryville en Kuyasa... of in blanke Colesberg?

Editorial

The Colesberg High School has contributed much to the youth of the country, and has much to offer. We hope applications from Lowryville Primary pupils will be favourably received. And we hope too that applications for more technical education through the local UMSO High School will also be favoured.



by Ysterkop

One thing is clear. The much discussed global warm up has not yet reached Colesberg. Frozen feet stamp at every corner and gleaming noses shine under woollen caps. Even snow has fallen, to the delight of the children who have shoes.

Another thing that has not reached us is what is called the New South Africa. Nor is it ever likely to, in the view of a recent article in a fashionable magazine. This unhappy thought now adorns coffee tables from Tuynhuis to Toronto, together with pictures of the Indaba editor wrestling sheep in his bakkie, the bombsite that is Kuyasa and depressed white men drowning their privileges in a whites-only bar under stern gaze of a cardboard merino ram. Of course the fashionable magazine has not reached Colesberg either.

The magazine declares Colesberg to be a political basket case: things are awful here and they won't change. This at least has the virtue of startling the local whites out of their stupor. But, like any other political observation, it misses an important point.

This is that rural life is determined by realities more earthy than politics. We are a small band, bound to each other in our isolation and bound to the rhythms of the veld. Things here have always been better and worse than elsewhere. Never as rigid, never as open. It is an organic human existence, alive with both humiliations and singing.

Reasons for acceptance are overwhelming: the applicants are largely Afrikaans-speaking, their alternative is to travel to board (often in trying situations in Middelburg and beyond) to continue after Std 7. This is expensive, often socially hazardous, and educationally questionable.

The past is the past! The future of

Die Lewe is 'n Lied!

deur Susanna.

"Kannie kla nie." So sê ek as iemand my vra hoe dit gaan. Want eintlik wil ek kla.

Die somer was helwarm. Die winter gee my wintershande. Die westewind verskroei alles, maar as hy nie waai nie, is daar fout met die weer. Die skape vrek van die droogte. So nie, vrek hulle van die reën, want die muggies is 'n plaag.

Die kinders het leerprobleme of is te groot vir hulle skoene. Die onderwysers wat wel belang stel in die kinders, voer hulle alles met 'n lepel. Die een klomp mans stel nie belang in hulle gesinne nie, en die ander klomp kan nie hulle neuse uit die kosspotte hou nie. Die huishulp is óf bot óf oorlams. Die werkende vrouens verwaarloos hulle kinders en dié wat by die huis sit, word vet en vaal.

Die boere leef van die vette van die aarde, maar die middelman vat al die wins. Die een koerant is vervelig en die ander links-liberaal. Die dominee se preke is futloos, maar die duiwel is los as hy altemit teen die sonde protesteer. Die politieke veranderinge gaan te vinnig vir my, maar eintlik is dit te min, te laat...

"Hoe gaan dit, Susanna?"
"Ag, kannie klanie..."

**Highest Colesberg
Circulation - By Far!**

No-one will ever succeed in imposing a political pattern on us - neither apartheid fundamentalists nor headoffice activists. Patterns work in straight lines. They cannot reach us here - we live too close to the sky.

our whole town society is at issue here. It would be a great shame if high school entrants from Lowryville are not accepted in their home town's high schools. The school applications could bring credit to Colesberg, improved chances for its children, and help remedy the problems of divisions in our society.

Beyond Our GatesStutterheim.

SHOWING A WAY FOR SOUTH AFRICA?



War memorial at the town's centre.



A scene in the main street.

While most South African towns and cities wait to see what the major players and cities will do about changed local government, the small rural town of Stutterheim has taken its own initiative. It is now launching its single local government model: the first in the country.

Mr Nico Ferreira is one of its spokesmen we visited. He is an Afrikaner, a small-business developer, deputy-mayor. "Stutterheim will be the first in the country," he told us. Another main spokesman has been the local ANC chairman, Mr Chris Magwangqana. But Mr Ferreira emphasises the team effort involved throughout the whole community.

The town council and the four civics associations, together in a body called the 'Stutterheim Forum' have agreed "unanimously".

"We are going ahead. We have succeeded. There is a nucleus of people from the entire community and its organisations who are now running with this ball," Mr Ferreira says.

He told the Toverberg Indaba: "It has taken blood and sweat to get here. One can't do this sort of thing overnight anyway."

Just How has this come about?

The present town council was elected on a non-party ticket some



Deputy-mayor Mr Nico Ferreira.

years back. It faced a massive consumer boycott for 7 months, and the town was almost brought to its knees. During this Mr Ferreira and other councillors went into the black townships and settlements to understand what the real problems were. Informal dialogue was established, a measure of trust gradually developed. A public meeting to look at the problems found people very positive. The boycott was ended, the Stutterheim forum launched.

What does this do? A number of sub-committees function to look at aspects such as agricultural development, economic development, constitutional matters, education. There is also

an active women's group. All these function on a non-racial and representative basis.

"People are now asking, 'What can I do?' 'How can I help?' 'There has been a complete turnaround," says Mr Ferreira.

Some small-business complexes have begun; blacks and whites are shareholders of the Amatola Dairy, planners acceptable to the whole community have been brought in...

Positive contacts have been made with the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the Independent Development Trust, the Molteno education project....

"We view our community as a whole community of all its 30 000 people...and that's that!", he told us.

Meetings are planned for ratepayers and civics to decide on the single local government plans. An interim council is expected.

"We could not have done this thing if there was a 'You-We' situation. If we want to have conflict we can have it this afternoon - and that will get us nowhere. We treat everybody as an ally."

"The situation will differ from town to town. This is the road we see we should take. We are satisfied it is the right road."

Briewe...



SATERDAG BIBLIOTEK

Ek het opgemerk dat die biblioteek in ander plekke op Saterdag oop is. Ouers wat werk kan dus saam met hul kinders biblioteek toe gaan. Dit is jammer dat dit nie in Colesberg moontlik is nie. boekwurm

PLAASLIKE HOSPITAAL

Ons eerste baba is in 'n groot stad gebore; ons tweede hier in die hospitaal te Colesberg. Die personeel hier het 'n professionele en menslike diens van hoë gehalte gelewer en die atmosfeer was altyd vriendelik en vol liefde. Ons wil dankie sê daarvoor en ook die hoop uitspreek dat meer mense van ons plaaslike hospitaal gebruik sal maak.

Antony & Margie Osler, Poplar Grove, Colesberg.

Letters...



EXCHANGE THANKS

Recently, as has happened to me before, I found myself waiting for midnight bus-travellers at the wrong venue. Were it not for the efforts of the local exchange personnel my two young guests would have been left alone all night in the cold and I would have gone home and been out of contact. In this, and many other ways, the local exchange deserve much thanks. *sleepwalker.*

Only letters with full name, address, and signed can be considered - though pennames will be used on request. We might have to shorten letters.

The Editors, Toverberg Indaba, P.O. Box, Colesberg, 5980.

Answers to letters: Every effort will be made to publish answers to letters!

Lincwadi...



DISRUPTORS

Attending the last mass meeting of the newly elected civic was like attending a gathering of 12 years old children if not under that age who have no knowledge of meeting proceedings. This was evident when a group identified as members of the former civic tried to disrupt a meeting where the Administrator of Colesberg, Mr André Fourie was to introduce himself to the community. The group stood near the entrance of the hall although there were empty chairs. They shouted words like, "down with Fourie" (phantsi ngo Fourie). Some people felt that the action was uncalled for as the Administrator was busy outlining his scope of work and what can be expected from him, after which it was decided to give him a chance to prove himself. It was at this stage that the group tried to take control of the meeting and were challenged by angry women. The disruptors were told to either leave the hall or behave themselves.

It was evident from that meeting that the civic has the backing of the masses and I hope it will continue to consult from time to time.

kuyasa resident



Junior rugby trials at Lowryville Primary School sports field.

MEDICAL ATTENTION



If one is a low earning person who relies on the medical application form from the Magistrates Court, there are sometimes difficulties getting proper treatment from the doctors here. Other people pay for transport from Colesberg to see doctors in either De Aar, Middelburg or Burgersdorp! Many of us who need to see our local practitioners have no option but to accept the fact of waiting in a veranda until 12h00 or 12h30 before a doctor gives attention. patient, kuyasa.

SHADY PARKING



On recently visiting Colesberg, we drove through the town and stopped over at a park for a picnic lunch. I did not want to leave the car parked in the hot street (that day!). Unfortunately I was not allowed to enter the shady parking lot next to the park. We left feeling irritated and unwelcome.

tourist.



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