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November 2007

It's been a hugely busy year for Pebbles, and we have grown immensely in strength, impact and reputation over the last year. This is as a result of the wonderful support we have received from all our donors and sponsors (and the hard work of our trustees and staff!) Thank you all.

DONATIONS, SPONSORSHIP AND EVENTS

- We received a huge delivery of art and craft resources from **School Aid**, thanks to an introduction to them by Su Birch from WOSA.
- We are working with JF Hillebrand to register Pebbles with the DTI, and will be allocating donations from JF Hillebrand to specific projects for 2008.
- FNB** funded the purchase of a Wendy house for the Eikendal after-school club, and a team of 12 volunteers from FNB came to paint it one weekend.
- We were given a stand for the three-day Cape Town **WineX** show, supported by Posy and Jeremy Hazell.
- We received the wonderful **22-seater bus** from **Audi Centre Winelands** and **FNB**, and approximately 45 guests attended the handover event.
- The bus will be used 3 days per week for trips for the crèches and after-school clubs, as well as for the Beauty Workshops for the teenagers on the farms and staff training sessions. This will increase to 4 days per week in 2008, dependant on funding. Ruben Pillay is the driver, he has the code 10 licence and all the other necessary permits / licences etc. The children have already visited the Cheetah Outreach Project at Spier, the Nature Reserve, Jimmy Jungles and will be off to the beach and Butterfly World in the coming months.
- We also received free insurance from **FirstLink Insurance** for the vehicle for a year, and a free tracking system worth over R3000 from **Shurdrive**.
- We raised in the region of R200,000 from the **London Mega Party** - this included a donation from Karen Storey for £2000 and the R50,000 **Ken Forrester** raised for shaving his head for Pebbles. Ticket sales, gaming table income (£900) and matching donations from the gaming table company made up the rest of the income from the event. We still have more cash due to come in from the auction of the leftover wines, which Sensible Wine Services are organising. The event was a great success, with huge thanks to Lucy, Ansgar and Chris Orr.
- We received a huge amount of **donated wine** for the London event from many of the wine producers of South Africa - a big thank you to them.
- Eikendal** farm have approached us with the offer to donate a percentage of the sales of one of their wines to Pebbles, and Pebbles will feature on the back labels of selected wines in the future.
- Pebbles was chosen by **Cheviot Publishing** as the beneficiary of R10,000 from the Essential Guide to SA Wine book.
- Pernod Ricard SA** are sponsoring 260 Christmas gifts for all our children for the Pebbles Christmas Party in December.

STAFF

- Marilize Buys** will be coming on board 4 days a week as from January 2008 to manage and oversee all our programmes. She has worked tirelessly over the last year and is a huge asset to the organisation.
- We will be employing a full time **Project co-ordinator** and a full time **Community Worker** as from January 2008.
- We have increased the hours of **Kirsten Dansie** who is tutoring a child on one of the farms, and also is currently assessing 4 children from the after-school clubs with learning difficulties, and will put together individual work programmes for them all. Kirsten will also assist the ASC staff with implementing the programmes. This is funded by the Dept Social Development after-school club funds.
- We have taken on a crèche support and special needs teacher (**Jo Rabey**) to assist at the Remhoogte crèche and to work specifically with 6 children with special needs in the various crèches. This is funded by the Sponsor A Child income.
- Audrey Mills** has been assisting Anna Lusty with running the Sponsor A Child programme.
- We are paying **Luthando** crèche in **Kayamandi** R500 per month for their new teacher. This is funded by SAC income also. We also contribute towards the salary of the teacher at the Lwandle crèche every month.

CRÉCHES - ENRICHMENT CENTRE 2008

The Department of Social Development has introduced us to their (and the CECD) concept of managing Early Childhood Development services in the province, which consists of one main 'Enrichment' centre, from which outreach services are provided. The services they suggest are very similar to the ones we already provide, and we are now aligning our programme to their model as we are applying for funding from the Department for the crèche activities for 2008.

We have continued with the weekly **on-site training sessions** for the crèche staff, thanks to funding from the **Cape Winemakers Guild**.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS - IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ANNA FOUNDATION

- We have met several times with the Department of Social Development re: funding for the **After-school clubs** next year and we are optimistic for continued funding from the Department for next year.
- **Volunteers / Service Learning Students** from Stellenbosch Uni were with us for a period of 7 weeks, assisting at the Villiera ASC and Remhoogte ASC.
- The **Eikendal** after-school club is now open and running well.
- The **Delheim** after-school club opened on the 29th October after the farm carried out all the conversions to the building.
- **Thierry's Wine Services UK** and donations from **Keith Prothero's** wine tastings in the UK funded the 2 Bellevue after-school club buildings.
- The **Bellevue ASC** will open in November, the buildings are ready, the electricity has been installed and we are planning a hands-on day at the end of November to paint.
- The **Villiera and Remhoogte** ASClubs continue to work very well and the children enjoy all the activities provided for them. There has been a reported noticeable improvement in the school grades of children attending the ASClubs.
- The **vegetable garden** at Remhoogte is growing fast, with all the support and hard work from the **Spescom Datavoice** volunteers and the after-school club kids.
- We welcomed the **CEO of FNB Commercial** for a visit to the Eikendal ASC to introduce her to our activities and to show her what the FNB staff has achieved with us.
- Natasha Abels has started with her beauty workshop with a group of 10 teenager girls from Eikendal, Remhoogte and Villiera. The workshops will be over a period of 6 weeks.
- It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with the **Anna Foundation** on this After-School Club project over the last year.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Pebbles has featured in two documentaries in 2007, one on SABC1 Beyond The Classroom, and the other on SABC3 Free Spirit. Copies are available from the Pebbles office.
- I visited the **Buffelskloof Primary School** in McGregor and delivered a box full of resources. We intend to continue to support them in the future.
- Pebbles did a presentation about FASD for 12 **priests** from the local area, in partnership with the Foundation for Alcohol Related Research (FARR).
- Pebbles has been approached by several other **wine farm owners** to give advice on how to go about setting up crèche facilities on their farms, and we intend to continue to support these farm owners as much as we can.
- Pebbles has been working with the **FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder)** Task Team on the development of a FASD SA website, due to launch at the end of November.
- Pebbles participated in an **International FASD Day public awareness event** at the Kenilworth Centre with 7 other FASD organisations. We are now planning a huge event at the Waterfront next year.
- Pebbles is involved with three other FASD organisations planning a **FASD Training Workshop** on 14th November for educators, nurses, parents etc.
- Anna Lusty has designed **Pebbles Christmas cards**, with a fabulous photo of some of the kids from Remhoogte crèche. These are on sale in the Pebbles office.
- **Pebbles UK** is still in the process of being registered. Funds raised in the UK will be allocated to specific projects here in South Africa.
- Pebbles is teaming up with **The Wine Desk** to arrange some wine tasting / crèche visit tours for local and overseas guests. Visitors will have the opportunity to come and meet the children that we work with, and get involved with some activities such as face painting and beading, as well as tasting some of the farms' fabulous wines.
- **The Pebbles Christmas party** will be on Thursday 6th December - we will need as much help as possible please - all volunteers welcome!

A special thank you, to Annette Badenhorst who is off to Europe soon, and who has been a loyal, generous and wonderful supporter of Pebbles since we started. We will miss you hugely.