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Denis Goldberg



Denis Goldberg House of Hope

Newsletter no. 25

August 2024

CUM LAUDE



In our last newsletter we wrote about our new-look Tuesday drama sessions. We also alerted readers to the fact that the participating children would be performing at the Cape Town Eisteddfod after the mid-year school holidays.

Mid-afternoon on Friday 19 July our team set off for the Wave Theatre, the venue for the eisteddfod. They organised their own final rehearsal on the transport there. On arrival, after having fortified themselves with chicken mayonnaise rolls, they performed.

Their chosen piece was “Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf” from Roald Dahl’s *Revolting Rhymes*.

Both the children and the audience clearly enjoyed the whole performance. The adjudicator awarded the group a “cum laude” – the highest grade possible. Her report called the children “SUPER STARS”. She commended the rhythm and pace of their delivery, and the “brilliant projection, modulation and articulation”. She said that the children should be proud of themselves. We certainly are!

We plan to have the group perform their piece here in Hout Bay during the September school holidays. We will use this occasion to hand out the individual certificates which the eisteddfod organiser has sent us.

After the performance, our cum laude performers will show the child participants in our holiday programme how to do some of what they learnt from their teacher, Nicole Senekal, without whom their achievement would not have been possible.

CAUTIONARY TALES

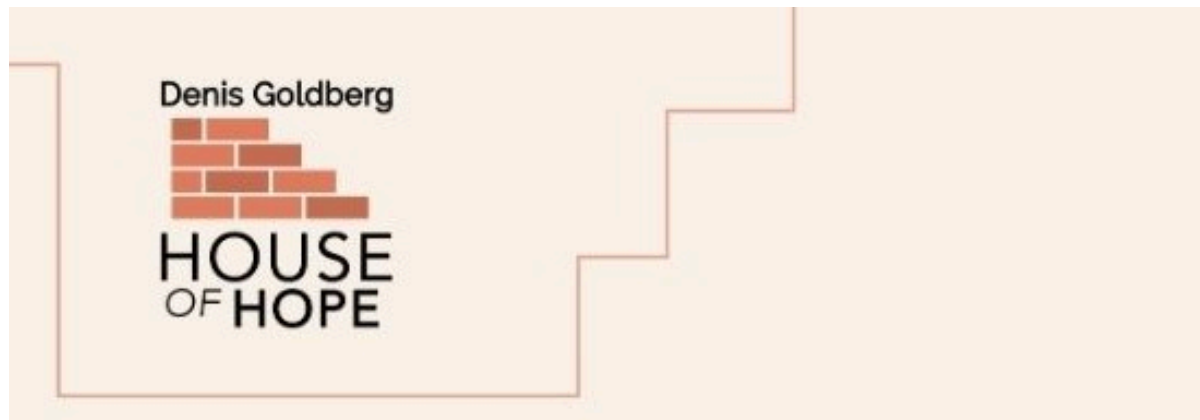
Over the course of each school term, our Hout Bay Hoppers group is exposed to reading, discussion and other activities on a diverse range of topics.

Soon after the start of the second school term we had a session which looked at the lessons adults want to pass on to younger people, and how the adults try to teach them the lessons. The reading was based on examples of English cautionary tales over the decades, including the video clip and lyrics of Australian Metro "Trains Dumb Ways to Die" and Walter Sickert's "The Dreadful Story of Harriet and the Matches".

After going through these and other readings, we asked the learners to write their own cautionary tales. We asked that their tales be based on the lessons they had told us that their parents had tried to teach them.

We were amazed and delighted by the (sometimes gruesome) stories they concocted. Over subsequent sessions the learners illustrated the stories and did further writing inspired by a set of strange images.

Finally, we composed the stories and illustrations into a little booklet. Each learner received a hard copy, as many do not have cellphones. Anyone who *does* have a phone or computer with internet access can enjoy the flipbook of stories by clicking on: https://issuu.com/dghoh/docs/hbhoppers_cautionary_tales



CAUTIONARY TALES



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THE WONDERS OF THE OCEAN

Our three-day programme during the June holidays had the ocean as its theme.

The packed programme included sessions with two wonderful visitors.

On the second day Pedro the Music Man spent the afternoon with the children introducing them to the many different ways in which our long-ago ancestors used kelp to make musical instruments. As one expects with Pedro, the session was very interactive. It ended with the children divided into several groups, each with their own type of instrument, each making up their own rhythms and sounds. Thank you, Pedro, for yet another magical session.

On the third day Thabo Sabeko, one of the Two Oceans Aquarium's outreach teachers, facilitated a session on rockpools. He came armed with six glass containers, each equipped with an anemone, a red starfish, and a spiky sea urchin. The children were entranced. Most were brave enough to take up the invitation to (gently!) touch the three creatures.

While we did not have a full-scale outing in this holiday programme, we did visit our neighbour, the Hout Bay Museum. During the visit the children learnt about the close ties between Hout Bay's history and the ocean, fish and fishing. As "homework", the children interviewed one of their older family members about when and why they came to live in Hout Bay. They learnt that each of us has a place in history!

Besides the visits, the programme included a range of arts and craft activities, games, and competitions – all with a link to the ocean. As usual, the children took most of their artworks home with them. However, some of the artworks are now on display in our gallery. These include the children's own versions of the three-dimensional artwork from Denis's collection that is currently on display. In the children's version, the boats are made of folded paper, and the fishing rod from small sticks and thin string. Visitors can also admire the colourful jellyfish with their bright paper-chain arms and legs.

Fitting in with the theme, the last lunch consisted of fish (and chips) from Snoekies. The other lunches were kindly provided by Massimo's and the Pelican.





DENIS'S STORY GOES TO CARNEGIE HALL

On 28 October, the Met Orchestra Chamber Ensemble and our international ambassador, Gareth Lubbe, will be performing "Moments in a Life" at Carnegie Hall in New York. The evening will be entitled "Voices from South Africa".

"Moments in a Life" was the outcome of multiple conversations between Matthijs van Dijk, the composer, and Denis. The latter wrote the text that is narrated against the background of the powerful music. The piece was premiered at Stellenbosch University in 2016, and the most recent performance was in Germany last July.

You can watch the world premiere of "Moments in a Life", which had Denis as narrator, [here](#).

DENIS GOLDBERG'S LIFE

As visitors to the DGHOH know, one wall of our gallery displays a pictorial history of Denis's life. This version of Denis's history can also be viewed [here](#) using a cellphone, tablet or computer. History lovers may be interested in the more archival pictorial version of Denis's history available through this [link](#).

Recently two new sources have become available. Firstly, SA History Online has made [Denis's autobiography, "The Mission"](#), available on its website. Secondly, Nashira Davids, a postgraduate student at the University of Western Cape, has created a lovely little website on Denis's role in the production and sale of [ANC memorabilia](#) overseas in the late 1980s.

DENIS GOLDBERG HOUSE OF HOPE RUGBY 7s

On Saturday 13 July, teams of enthusiastic women and men braved London's wet weather and muddy fields for the third annual Denis Goldberg House of Hope 7s tournament. Jack Goldberg, Denis's grandson, is a London-based sports teacher and enthusiast. He started organising these annual events in 2022 as one of several ways in which he has supported his grandfather's dream project.

Jack's hard work results in lots of fun and enjoyment in London, while generating funds for fun and enjoyment for the young people of Hout Bay. Thank you, Jack, and all those who worked and played with you to make this event a success.



**THANKS ONCE AGAIN TO
COMMUNITY HEART e.V.**



We recently received a welcome donation of € 2 140 from Germany. Thank you to all our friends in Germany who once again supported us through donations through this channel, and also to Tina, Herbert and Gareth for their management of the donations.

DO YOU WANT TO USE OUR BEAUTIFUL SPACE?

Please do contact us on dglftrust@gmail.com or 061-8855430 to make a booking or find out more.

If you are donating from outside South Africa you may find it convenient to send your donation by credit card to our UK website

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US-based donors can donate through Omprakash. **UK-based donors** can also contact Omprakash about how to make a donation that is eligible for Gift Aid.

OMPRAKASH

If you wish to donate directly, our bank account details are:

Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust

Nedbank

Account Number: 1146197411

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If donations are paid into our bank account in cash or via EFT, please send your name, the amount, and date to dglftrust@gmail.com Please let us know if you would like us to send you a section 18A tax certificate.

. **#lifeiswonderful**



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