

NEWS & VIEWS

2018 2nd EDITION

Campus OUTREACH

When the Local Associations of East London, Johannesburg and Pretoria, sold their houses in 2012 and 2014, their Committees requested that the monies from the sale of their houses be utilised to assist similar organisations within those same areas.



The YW Trust assists in supporting



Campus Outreach's female ministry.

At the close of 2015 The YW Trust was established with the monies from these sales.

The purpose of the Trust is to (1) assist the affiliated YW Local Associations with projects and major maintenance issues, and (2) to look for suitable organisations and/or individuals who are ministering to young women in the areas of East London, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

One such organisation was found that covers both the Johannesburg and Pretoria areas. It is called Campus Outreach, and they minister directly into the Gauteng universities using young people (guys and girls) who have completed their degree/s and are willing to spend at least a year of their life in ministering into the lives of other young people on the campuses.



Below is the testimony of one of their workers, **Olivia Stuart-Cox.**

This year has been such an amazing and enriching experience and it seems to have just flown by. In September we had a really helpful day of sharing and equipping as the women staff of CO shared with us how to find rest and replenishment in the Lord.

I was so encouraged by Psalm 23 and felt inspired to use it as the topic for my personal time with God. What a humbling study it was! Tim Keller says: It's always good to know when you're insulted - and being called a sheep is in fact, quite insulting as the world wants us to be independent and self-sufficient, whereas sheep can do nothing on their own - they are utterly helpless. They are not like other animals that can be let out and brought back in; they are defenceless against predators and even parasites; they can't even find water and food by themselves; they are completely dependent on their shepherd. It is a perfect example of our dependency on God. He does everything and we only need to walk with Him. He is the One who provides for us, feeds us, cleans us, leads us to rest, and He is the only one who can restore our souls and then help us obey Him.

It was also lovely to talk about biblical womanhood and how we can do ministry from this place of complete dependency on the Lord. As I drove home I felt so amazed by God and thanked Him that the great 'ministry of reconciliation' gets to be my job!

It has been so wonderful to have the opportunity to disciple young ladies on campus. It has been so incredible to see their love for God growing as we journey together in a discipleship group. I have been so encouraged in sharing about God's love and mercy. Meeting with them is always the highlight of my week!

I want to spend my entire life enjoying and loving God as I serve others and help those who don't know Him to discover His beauty and grace.

Olivia is a B.Com graduate from the University of Johannesburg and joined the Campus Outreach Gauteng staff team in January 2018. She enjoys hanging out with people and going on fun adventures.

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen!"

Eph 3:20

Bloemfontein

Time really flies...October already!

Welcome back after the holidays

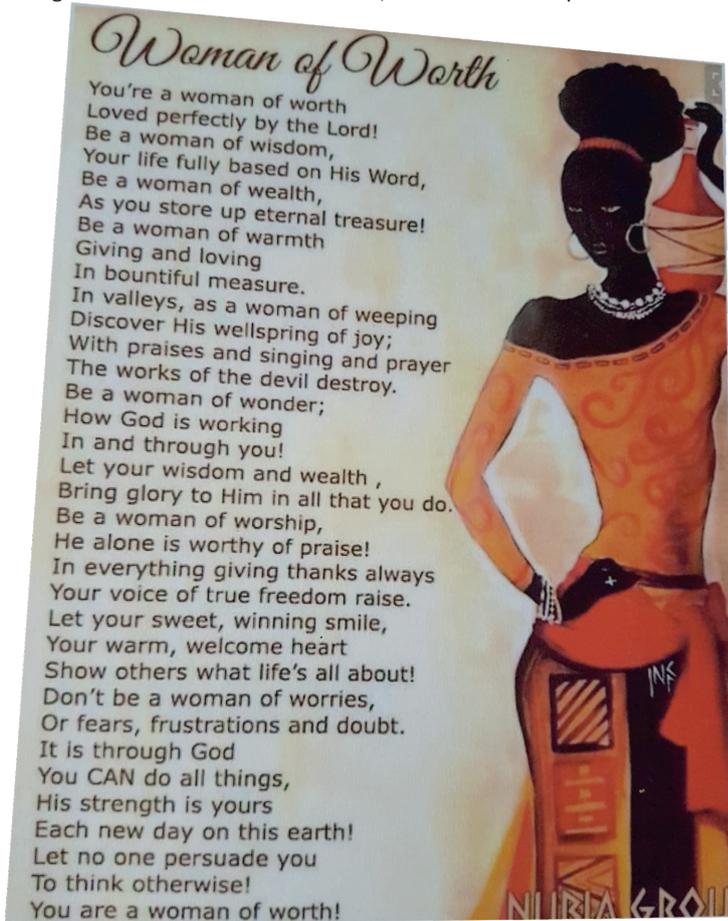
When our ladies got back after the holidays, Vanessa and her husband, Willem, surprised the girls one Friday evening with some eats and cool drinks to welcome them back and to let them know that we have missed them during the holidays. It was a lovely little get together.

Winter and the kaggel

This year we experienced a really very cold winter. We bought some kaggel wood and our ladies camped out in front of the fire. Our study, where the kaggel is positioned was the most occupied and used room in the bitterly cold winter.

Women's Day

I surprised our girls each with a slab of chocolate, a little card and a poem: "Woman of Worth".



Exercises

Our ladies just love their exercises. They club together and rent a fitness trainer.

Solar Panels

Thanks to a grant from The YW Trust we were able to install 8 solar panels earlier this year. These now help to heat our geysers.

Daily from 04:00 to 09:00 and from 16:00 to 20:00 (the peak hours) is the only time we use Centlec Electricity to warm the geyser elements. From 09:01 till 15:59 (the non-peak hours) the solar panels are operating and then from 20:01 till 03:59 there are no Centlec Electricity nor Solar panels in use.

Dirty Plot and the clean-up

After years of struggling to clean the dirty little plot next door, it finally happened. A huge big thanks to Richard and Veronica Werth, the Paulsen brothers and Hans Brits for all their help to make this happen.

Here are some before, during & after photos >>>



Welcome back after the holidays



Winter and the kaggel



A message for my daughters : What Love Is

"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done" (Luke 22:42).

My lovely one. Do you know how I love to call you that? You ask Me about my Son and His sacrifice and My sacrifice. And I help you picture it. I help you imagine.

Yes, I hid My face that day. Yes, I let the sky tremble, the earth shake. All of heaven wanted to explode. A battle waged, a victory won, a sacrifice: what love is. One of the pictures of love.

Yes, love is sacrifice. Yes, love is putting self on the altar, giving yourself back to Me.

Love is giving yourself to Me. The eyes of the created looking to the Creator, the beginning of death and the beginning of life.

You are born through Me. I give you life. No one else. You can find life nowhere else.

Are you willing to let yourself die to be born again, with Me? What needs to be sacrificed? Of what are you willing to let go? What do you hold tightly? What seems impossible - creates in you fear - to give to Me, to entrust to Me, to let Me take it and give you peace?

My Son's death and life and sacrifice and resurrection is enough. Just once. The birthing of love once more. Come and give Me all of you. Let love live in you. Hold nothing back. I am coming now. My eyes are on you.

Oh, lovely one, I know you want all I have to give.

Almarie Gouws
Manager

Hello there,

my name is **Desiree Tabane** and I originate from Welkom. I'm 22 years old, I'm a quiet, down to earth person, God fearing, sincere, honest and outgoing, my word is my bond. Basically I am a person of substance I am more than what meets the eye, I love music, music, cooking, reading (although I'm not a book worm) and travelling. I'm also a sportswoman "Tennis player". I like to help others and I'm truly grateful to be part of the girls at the YW.

What I'd love to share with you is to not ever lose faith in God for he will never forsake you. The previous year did not go well for me but it has taught me so many things and brought me more closer to God. By the grace of God I can further my studies whereby I thought it won't be possible so 2018 has been a glorious year for me because I am now rich in Faith.

Exodus 14:14 "The Lord will fight for you, You need only to be still."

My name is **Lona Nkwezane**. I stayed at the YW Bloemfontein under the care of Tannie Veronica from 2012 until 2014. I was studying at the Central University of Technology (CUT) pursuing my studies in electrical engineering.

During the 2 years I stayed in the YW there were laws that I had to abide in and the laws taught me the following :

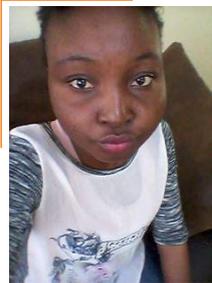
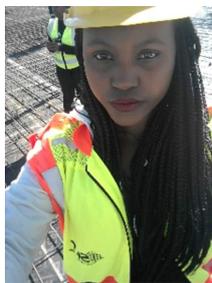
- There was a curfew time that I should be back at the Y by 09:30pm on weekdays and 23:00pm on weekends. This has helped me in my everyday life to understand the importance of time and to respect time in everything I do. As we know, the streets of Bloemfontein can be dangerous and the curfew times were there to help me to return home safely.
- No men were allowed to enter my bedroom: As a young Christian lady this taught me to live according to the biblical principles of "No sex before Marriage ". This also taught me self-discipline and to live according to the Word of God. By the Grace of God, within the 2 years I spent in the YW I accomplished my studies without getting pregnant.

There were a lot of meaningful things that the YW instilled in me as a young girl. I'm a living testimony of how the YW has shaped my life. If it wasn't because of the laws and the obedience I had towards my elders at the YW, I wouldn't have accomplished what I have accomplished so far.

I urge all the girls staying at the YW to obey the laws and most of all to live your lives in Christ. His grace is sufficient enough for you. God loves you

My name is **Noxolo Ntshani**. I am from Giyani in the Limpopo Province.

I was raised in a Christian family so staying here was the best decision I made and I love everything about it. The YW is secure and it has God fearing people, and I love Tannie Almarie. Since I've just been staying at the Y for a year, I'm a 100% sure I will be coming back to stay at the Y to further my studies. I thank God for this place.



Hi, good day to all, my name is **Gabriella Ntshani**. I am happy to be staying at The YW where Tannie Almarie listens to each one of us individually as we all come from different backgrounds, communities, languages, religions and cultures. I am grateful for all the little things she does for us, and the smiles each girl gives to one another. I also love the Christian meetings this place offers, I have learnt much so far about God and how to engage with life as a whole. I haven't stayed here long enough but I'm loving each day.

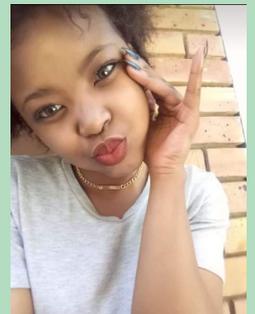
TLHOMPHO Poloko Tote

Walking with the Lord is my Cardio, and it's the best decision I've ever chosen. I am from a small town in the Free State called Bethlehem. I'm currently studying Travel and Tourism at Boston City Campus (BCC) here in Bloemfontein and it's my first year. My life's journey has been amazing with its ups and downs. It took me time to be the woman I am today.

I believe that in order for someone to grow they have to encounter obstacles and therefore I've always lived up to this quote that states "Small minds can't comprehend big spirits, to be great you have to be willing to be mocked hated and misunderstood STAY STRONG!" I personally love this quote so much because it helped me and gave me courage through a lot of challenges I went through in primary school, high school and even now in college.

God has been so good to me throughout my whole life. I learned that having a relationship with Him and making it a priority is the first and far most important thing ever because I believe you are never too broken to be used by God. He accepts you just the way you are. I will never forget His commandments for by them he gives me life. Psalm 119:93.

Work hard, be yourself. God created you with talents and He will definitely show you how to use them. Trust him at all times because "FEAR NOT" is written 365 times in the Bible which is for every single day, so I believe that fear is just an Illusion - don't let it get to you.



Cape Town

Busy, busy, busy

The Cape Town house has been pretty active these last few months. There have been comings and goings, as usual, but activity never stops. It is such a blessing to us to see the maturing of these young lives and how each has grown in independence.

Decorating and Renovating

The Cape Town residents are delighted with their newly decorated diningroom. With the walls painted in a light grey and an accent wall of light pink, the new white chairs and white vertical blinds have finished off the diningroom very nicely. We are still hoping to be able to transform the current table tops by having them 'wrapped' to look like brushed stainless steel, but this is still being investigated and discussed. If this is done, then it will mean that we will only use table cloths for special occasions thus keeping cleaning to a minimum. There is a definite minimalist, café-style feel to the diningroom with just one painting on the walls at this stage.

We have also had the last of the old metal windows and wooden doors replaced with aluminium. The building is therefore looking neat, clean and inviting.

Little Gardens seed planting

May was a busy month one way and another. With Checkers doing their promotion of 'Little Gardens' with purchases of R150 or more, we were able to collect sufficient 'Little Gardens' for each of the members of staff to plant their own little plant. It was great fun doing the planting and then watching as they grew into healthy green plants.

SA Children's Home treats

During May we also arranged the baking and icing of little cup cakes. Several of the ladies got involved in icing these on the Friday evening and then, on Saturday morning, a group of 10 ladies walked down the road to treat the children at the SA Children's Home to cup cakes and juice. It was wonderful to see how our ladies immediately connected with the children. The matron of the home showed us around the facilities and rooms and we were all extremely impressed with the care and love that is shown to the children in their care. Once the cupcakes were eaten and the juice enjoyed, the ladies went off to sing, dance and spend time with a group of the children. After just 2 hours it was hard to drag the young ladies away. We are hoping to have further interactions with the children at SA Children's Home.

Open Day

We hosted an Open Day in July and this was very well attended. The event was publicized to as many people as we could reach and those who popped in were very impressed with our facilities. Our staff were complimented on the cleanliness of the house and the attention to detail that is given with love on a daily basis. We opened one of the student rooms, one of the flats and our guest accommodation so that our visitors could wander through and experience what we offer for themselves. Many stayed and chatted in the lounge for quite some time, enjoying tea, coffee and eats. All in all it was a successful event that we hope to repeat in the not too distant future.



The diningroom now painted and with new chairs, blinds and lights



Anglo Windows did an amazing job of replacing the windows



Planting the seeds



The staff delighted with their finished product



Cup cakes made and iced



At SA Children's Home



Guests socializing at our Open Day



Signs guiding our guests through the house



Women's Day lunch - listening to the guest speaker



The War Room - a prayer room for a few days



Everyone who was at the Baby Shower for Steph



Gifts for Steph



The Life Coaches: L to R - Bianca, Steph and Danielle

Woman's Day of Prayer

In planning for Women's Day in August this year, we decided to combine Women's Day with a Day of Prayer. We started well ahead of Women's Day with the showing of The War Room film for those ladies who hadn't seen it. This was followed the next week with a discussion, led by Denise Atkins, on the creating of a War Room in the Cape Town YW house. The ladies were left with lots to think about and the following week they arrived to assist in the creation of focus areas for prayer in the guest room, which we had set aside for our very own War Room. The walls were lined with white paper and focus areas were written up on the walls to help those praying to pray into Family, Thanksgiving, Confession, Studies/Education/Work, The Future, Words of Affirmation, Relationships, South Africa and Missionaries. There was seating in the middle of the room (in the form of a covered double bed) and there were crayons for writing on the papered walls. Pen and paper was also available for the writing of private prayers and these could be posted into the Prayer Box placed in the room.

On Women's Day itself a special lunch was prepared, mainly by Wayne, with the idea of treating all the ladies in the house for Women's Day. They were treated to various braaied meats, a variety of colourful and tasty salads and several delicious desserts to end off the meal. At the table there was a little gift (a little packet of truffle chocolates) for each one who attended. We had invited several guests to join us and the staff on duty joined us at the lunch table. With a good number of people around the table it made for happy and lively occasion. Mandy Cohen was our guest speaker at the luncheon and we were very blessed by her message.

Steph's baby shower

We have also had the privilege of hosting a baby shower for Steph, who was The YW Life Coach to several years. Her baby should be arriving in October and so, as a house, we celebrated the impending arrival with fun, games, prayers and eats. What a jolly evening it turned out to be.

Farewell Bianca

We used the occasion of the baby shower to also say goodbye to Bianca, the Life Coach who had taken over from Steph, as her career is currently making it difficult for her devote her time to us. She has been a great blessing to us and the ladies and so we wanted to give her a prayerful send-off.

New Life Coaches

In addition to saying goodbye to Bianca, we were also able to welcome Danielle as the new Life Coach. How special it was to have these three beautiful Life Coaches in one room together! They are all special people and we will miss those moving on but are excited for the future with Danielle taking on the coaching of our ladies.

Looking ahead

We are seeing a steady stream of new applications for 2019 so we look forward, with excitement, to a full house come February next year. We are delighted that some of our local colleges and universities are recommending us to students who are requiring accommodation whilst studying with them, this being a result of our Open Day. We are hoping that their visiting lecturers might also use our guest accommodation should they need to spend a few days in Cape Town.

Pietermaritzburg

**DOING IT FOR JESUS
ON A MISSION..... TO DUNDEE OF ALL PLACES!**

A number of our young ladies joined with other young people from the One Life Campus team and headed for Dundee to make a difference in some children's lives. Sine tells her story :

What a great experience!!

Mission with One Life on Campus Squad was filled with so much fun, laughter and homely love, from the start of our three hour road trip, where we were 'jamming' to music and getting to know each other, to the heart-warming welcome we received at Dundee's One Life Site.

Morning devotions were especially touching for me as we learned more about trusting God and believing that we are made in His image and perfect in His sight. God loves us and we should be confident in ourselves and more especially in Him for we are a chosen people, a royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9) and lastly, God never makes a mistake.

Our days were spent building a kiddies' jungle-gym, creating props for Noah's Park (kiddies' area) and playing with young children at a hostel. It ended with a braai (an overly generous one at that!!).

My highlight was being part of the worship team - a first time experience I'm very grateful for. Dundee mission was great!!

Sign me up for the next one!!
SNE MGUNGWANA is from Margate and is busy with her BComm Accounting Degree.



When the Saints go marching in

FEEDING THE HOMELESS

Every 2nd Wednesday Penny makes food for the homeless people of Pietermaritzburg and she and whichever girls are available shoot off to a house in the city where a feeding scheme, run by Youth For Christ and One Life Church, is held. Shirelle is one of the most consistent helpers and this is what she has to say :

The 'Feeding the Homeless' programme was something I got into in the hope of helping at least one person, but instead it was me who was helped. In meeting all these people who have a fraction of the material things I have, I realised that they actually had more than I. They have a hope I never understood until I spoke to them - they have an undying faith that God will provide (which He continues to do) and complete faith in GOD'S PLAN. There are days when I have to drag myself there because I have had a busy day or something, but I always leave there grateful that I went because from the church service to the working staff and the homeless, everyone and everything just lifts my spirits and strengthens my faith. It is something I truly feel blessed to be a part of. SHIRELLE HORNER comes from, wait for it, Mthatha and is busy with her BComm degree.



Shirelle
Champion of the homeless

CONNECT GROUP

At the beginning of the year Penny decided that she would ask certain of our young ladies to be leaders of groups during our cell meetings. Penny would start the meetings with an introduction, normally followed by a video. The girls would then join their appointed leader to discuss what they had seen and heard. The year started with teachings, mainly by Joyce Meyer, and then led into the "Alpha Course". This is what the Leaders had to say about their experiences:

NONTANDO MABATHA, from Amanzimtoti, is busy with her Bcomm degree in Finance and Economics.

This year I have learnt a few crucial lessons as a leader of a 'small connect group'. Firstly, it pushes you out of a place of comfort and you realise that as a 'leader', and more specifically as a Christian, your job is to empower and uplift others. All of the fruits of the Holy Spirit are required in order to lead and do so effectively. My group consisted of ladies who were rather shy and were unfamiliar with sharing. This taught me to have patience and allow everyone to be themselves, and showing them that opening up is a good thing. God was so faithful because they grew to be more open and our group flourished. Yes, "He has made everything beautiful in its time". Ecclesiastes 8:11. I also realised that leadership is not just about leading others but it is also about allowing them to lead and follow you. This has been a beautiful year and I am very grateful to God for my growth and the growth in others.

SPHI GAMBUSHE

(Honorary Y girl - she lives at the digs across the road) is from Port Shepstone and is doing her Bachelor of Social Sciences degree in Government, Business and Ethics (I never thought I would see those two words together in the same sentence!).

LEADERSHIP IN 2018 – A BLISS!

When life gives you leadership you step up to the plate and lead!! My year as a leader has been so fruitful. I am an extrovert so I have learnt that a little bit of patience allows people to let their guard down. Once they did, Monday nights became a circle of laughs, tears and learning. We were all so different but surprisingly, we gelled amazingly - we basically became a little sisterhood. God moved and changed every single one of us through our time together, which I am so grateful for.

THANDO MASEKO (see under Women's Day for details).

I was fortunate enough to be part of one of the culturally and religiously diverse groups - I initially thought this would mean getting the Gospel across would be slightly trickier but I was mistaken. Differences meant that good friendships were a priority which allowed people to be free enough to open up about their ideas and beliefs. This became a great opportunity for people to what the Bible has to say on the various topics. In the end people had a desire to know more about Christ and a desire for deeper experiences with the Holy Spirit which was one of our topics. In this way, we as a group were able to steer each other towards closer relationships with Christ. I could not be happier. Christ was brought across through friendship, laughter and deep, meaningful conversations - what a joy.



Lulama, Khwezi, Limpho, Yolokazi, Sandi, Mbali, Nontando, Sphi, Thando & Sine Mgunswana.

LULAMA SHEZI (AKA Perskop) comes from Amanzimtoti. She is doing her BComm Accounting.

Dear Aunty Penny, I'd like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a leader this year. It has helped me to conquer my fear of opening up to people I am not close to. I have learned that there is more to God than what I knew and that I still have a lot to learn about so I will have to press in more. I also enjoyed the testimonies that were given and our talk about the Holy Spirit, which gave me a better understanding that the spirit lives within me as I walk with Him and connects me closer to God. I also learned that God does not choose, He wants every part of you. There is nothing He views as so awful to the point that He will not love you. Lastly I learned that if you know that God loves you, and His love IS sufficient, life just makes sense.

SISTAS ARE DOIN' IT FOR THEMSELVES ENTREPRENEURSHIP IS IN THE HOUSE – YOU GO GIRLS!

Money is scarce, things are expensive and jobs are hard to come by so a number of our young ladies have decided to do something about it :

"SURPRISE IN THE AIR"

KWANDIWE LUGAYENI was born and raised in Durban. After matriculating at Westville Girls' High School in 2015 she went on to study a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agribusiness, majoring in crop and horticultural sciences at the University of kwaZulu-Natal Pietermaritzburg Campus. She is currently in her third year. During her childhood years her love of business grew as she witnessed her Grandmother, Mother and Uncle run different businesses. This influenced her to start her own business.

Kwandiwe's interest in architecture and interior design inspired her, in 2017, with the help of her partners, to start a renovations and home improvement business named "KwandiSam Renovations". Just months later, in 2018, her obsession with personalised balloons and gifting encouraged her to start a balloon and gifting business, aptly named "Surprise in the Air".

I was only 20 years of age when I started these businesses and when you are so young nothing seems impossible or unachievable. You are forever ready to take risks, which is one of the core qualities an entrepreneur should have.



Kwandiwe with one of her creations

My creativity, confidence, competitive nature and open-mindedness are traits that have helped me to move forward in business and be the young and thriving businesswoman I am today. (I do not think the amazing pair of dimples and sparkling personality are a hindrance!).

I am beyond grateful to have a strong support system that is a part of my journey, cheering me on and stimulating me to never give up no matter how tough the journey may get because difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations.

"X – COLLECTIONS"

X – Collections is a small handbag business inspired by the line, 'a girl can never have enough handbags'. With a limited student budget and the constant pressure to look good, online shopping prices were just not cutting it. I thus decided to start up something which caters for the need to look good at student friendly prices.

At first it all seemed far-fetched. I had my doubts and fears but over all odds I took the chance. Safe to say, it was the best decision I have ever made. The support that I have gained from the ladies at The Y, Aunt Penny (I'm sure I actually bought the bag for Penny - just saying (Fred)), and a whole lot of other young women has been amazing. Although there have been a number of challenges by God's grace I have pulled through. The venture has taught me a lot and inspired me to do more. This is the start of great things!

NONKANYISO XABA'S other home is Mooi River – how stunning is that? She is busy with her Bachelor of law degree.



'a girl can never have enough handbags'

RARE_FEELS

SAMKELISWE (SAM) NDLELA is a Durban girl and is busy with her BSc in Microbiology and Genetics.

Rare_Feels is a thrift store that has carefully hand-picked quality clothing. Rare – it is not something that you are used to. Unusual fabric and knits feel great on the skin – Feels. The idea for this store came about when we realised that there is quality, one of a kind clothing that can be sourced and sold at affordable prices, as opposed to buying replicas in stores. We knew we wanted to tap into that market. Rare_Feels is therefore the bridge between you and a fabulous closet. Sam markets her clothing on Instagram and Twitter, by word of mouth and at markets.



Fine clothing from Rare_Feels

LEAD

LIFETIME EMPOWERMENT ASSOCIATION FOR DIVERSITY

LEAD is a newly established non-governmental organisation which was founded by four first-year students, namely Nosipho Ngcobo, who is doing a double major in psychology and human resources, Nqobile Nene and Ayanda Madevana who are both studying towards Bachelor of laws degrees and Noxolo magubane who is studying towards a degree in geography and environmental management.

We seek to advance as well as extend a helping hand to the people in our communities. We do not limit ourselves to any specific project but our main focus is on education as we firmly believe that is the key to success. We feel very passionate about this because as students we resonate with this - for example providing children from impoverished backgrounds the opportunity to apply for a university education.

This process would start off with us running a career guidance workshop so that when application is made they are making an informed decision. We would also assist them with getting financial assistance and accommodation. This is just one of many ideas that we cannot wait to tackle.

Our vision is to be effective pioneers in enriching people with education. We are a selfless organisation which empowers and inspires greatness in society, whilst lifting up Ubuntu.

We have launched our "LEAD Christmas Creations Project" where the aim is to give orphans a gift for Christmas. By doing this we will be showing our future leaders that we do care for them. We have started a approaching people to help as "one hand washes the other".

Gezibuso Projects is our chosen orphanage and we are trying to get as many people as we can to assist us in reaching our target.

Our goal for the future is to create projects that are sustainable for communities, leaving "footprints" as we grow.

For further information you can contact us through Facebook and Instagram : leadsa, email : leadsa.org@gmail.com or on 0732494453.

AND TRAVELLING THE GLOBE FROM THE Y TO THE WORLD! SHAMILA MPINGA

After completing my undergraduate degree, I decided to leave home (The YW) to pursue postgraduate studies at the University of Cape Town (UCT). My most notable highlights as a UCT student have been my international trips to Kenya and China. In February 2018, I traveled to Nairobi, Kenya to present my research at a Mineral Law Conference. The highlight of my trip was catching up with my housemate from the YW, Abah Otieno in Nairobi. They were right when they said, 'once a Y girl, always a Y girl.' Over July and August 2018, I attended a Summer School on the governance, politics and diplomacy in BRICS countries held in Shanghai, China. After completing the program, I toured three cities on my own, namely, Beijing, Guangzhou and Hong Kong. These trips have allowed me to expand my knowledge and grow as a person. Although I am not yet a seasoned traveler, I would encourage my fellow YW girls to seize travelling opportunities in order to push your boundaries and maybe even 'find yourself'.



Shamila graduates in Shanghai!

21ST BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS - SINE COMES OF AGE

SINETHEMBA KHANYILE, a BSc Microbiology student in her third year not only goes big, but also takes it home!! Sine recently turned twenty one and her parents threw her a glittering party with 200 guests at their Durban home.



Sine comes of age... beautifully



Things got going with a traditional 'coming of age ceremony' in the morning followed by a sit-down dinner and dancing in the evening.

The neighbours were all invited and the party continued well into the following day.

We did give Sine a key (well, a gate tag actually), but she lost it, so we will wait a while...

AND WEDDING BELLS - YOYO MARRIES HER MAN

Yolanda Mabasa left us at the end of 2016 and relocated to Durban. Yolanda's young man, Mbongeni Mnisi, must be very persuasive because Yolanda's Dad, Jabulane, is extremely protective of his little girl. We pray that the Lord will bless the marriage of Mr and Mrs Mnisi, that they will walk with Him for the rest of their days and that He will guide their steps into the future.



FAREWELL

CHANGE IS THE ONLY CONSTANT - OR IS IT?

As Penny and I look to the end of another year it is always with a twinge of sadness - some of our 'daughters' will be leaving the YW nest and venturing into the wide world, their degrees tucked firmly under their arms. New girls will arrive, excited yet apprehensive about grappling with university life, and we will grow to love them. Even though they will not replace the ones who have gone before, they will etch new memories into our hearts and minds.

It is always sad to part with loved ones. We have no idea of where the future will lead them, and neither do they. Scary! But, to those of you who are entering another phase of your life, we would like to remind you that you are not alone. God is with you. And change is not the only constant. God does not change: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever". Hebrews 13 : 8. and "every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, Who does not change like shifting shadows" James 1 : 17. So you may go in confidence (and we can stay), knowing that not only does God not change, He also has good and perfect gifts for you - and plans! "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" Jeremiah 29 ; 11. How exciting is that? But God is not finished yet - He says : "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go" Joshua 1 : 9. So, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanks-giving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" Philippians 4 : 6-8.

So stride out boldly, like the Israelites, and may "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face towards you and give you peace." Numbers 6 : 24-26.

A little bit of history

The YWCA is the longest serving women's organization in South Africa and had its beginnings in Cape Town in 1886. It was born out of a concern for the spiritual condition and need of the young people living there. Its first building (originally a bottle store!) was used to accommodate 13 ladies, but before long it became clear that bigger premises were required. Mr JA Bam donated a property in memory of his two daughters who had died of typhoid while at school in Germany. Monies were raised and a new building opened in 1904. The YW moved out of these premises only in 1971 to another property in Bellevue Street, in the suburb of Gardens, from where the Cape Town YW Local Association still operates today – at the base of Table Mountain.

The heart of the work, being the sharing of the Gospel and Word of God, with each young girl whom The YW accommodates, continues to this day. Following the opening of the work in Cape Town, other Associations were formed in other centres, beginning with Pietermaritzburg in 1896. After moving from one establishment to another, over the years, they are still operating from their premises in Golf Road, Scottsville.

Johannesburg's YW opened in 1903, by first operating from a shop in Jeppe Street which was used for a Lunch Club which business girls could come to during their lunch break. Later, in 1910, the Princess Christian Home became available, also in Jeppe Street. However, that building was later sold and demolished in order that a new business tower could be erected. The monies from that sale enabled the Johannesburg YW to relocate to Braamfontein and its new building, which faced the Johannesburg Civic Centre, opened in 1956.

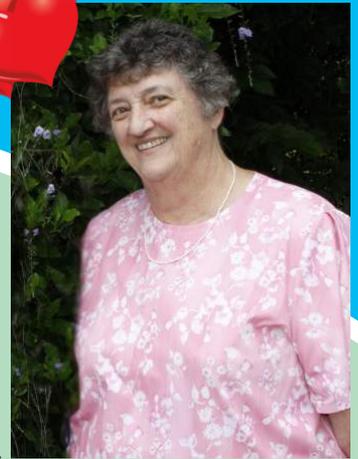
The Pretoria Association was established in 1910; East London in 1914, and Bloemfontein in 1921. Further work was done amongst the coloured community of the Western Cape with a hostel in Hanover Street, and finally a new residence was opened in Crawford in 1974. This was later taken over by the Cape Town City Mission in 1979.

The decision to form a YW Central Committee (National Office) was a result of the Conference held in Port Elizabeth in January 1905. Each Local Association agreed to provide finances to run this office and the development of affiliated Local Associations began. The YW's Basis of Faith and Constitution became the platform on which all issues of faith and principle were resolved.

The YW continues to provide vitally needed safe accommodation for young girls coming to the main city centres from outlying districts to work and study. All who run our residences are dedicated Christian people who have the welfare of the young women in their houses, at heart. Many parents have a greater peace of mind because they know their daughters are staying at 'the Y' where there is personal supervision.

Currently in South Africa, there are YW facilities in Bloemfontein, Cape Town and Pietermaritzburg.

Information taken from the writings of Enid Sharratt, National Secretary, Dec. 1978 – June 1995 and "The Romance of the Blue Triangles" by Val Nowlan



A TRIBUTE TO MAVIS LOTTER

Mavis was the longest serving member on The YW National Executive and National Council.

Apart from having been a Committee Member on the Bloemfontein Committee for a number of years and subsequently the Johannesburg Local Association Committee for around 36 years, her involvement with The YW spanned a total of over 40 years. She had a lively interest and concern for the young women in our residences.

Mavis's life showed the Fruits of the Spirit. I met her over 20 years ago and consistently experienced her love, kindness, gentleness and faithfulness, to name a few.

Her love and kindness flowed out of her in so many ways. She spent hours and hours using her creative talents to add an extra dimension to our National Conferences. She designed and created large banners reflecting and illustrating our Conference theme of a particular year. She made five such banners, each which was a work of art, great skill and patient craftsmanship. Two were given to Local Associations and the others are hanging in our National office.

For each Conference she also made "object gifts" consisting of a small handmade item with an appropriate Bible verse attached to it. Each morning, for four consecutive days, there would be a lovingly made surprise at each person's place - one year we had 35 delegates. I still have mine.

Over the past four years Mavis made cheese puffs early in the morning, for our Executive and National council meetings, for people who had travelled to enjoy with a cup of tea before the commencement of the meeting.

Mavis was our historian. She remembered people, events, protocol, positive and negative experiences of the past which were lessons learnt then, and of value to us. She regularly made insightful and wise contributions.

Mavis had a special wit, and a way with words which often had the Committee enjoying laughter together around the table.

Mavis was faithful. When we moved our National Office from Braamfontein to Roodekrans, she drove the extra distance along a busy freeway, she very seldom missed a meeting. Thankfully we found a more convenient meeting venue here in Midrand through her efforts.

She was patient and long suffering. We had a crucial National Conference in Cape Town in 2005. She had recently broken her ankle and could only move about in a wheelchair but was not daunted, she flew down with us and endured being carried up and down a flight of stairs a few times each day.

Her hearing became a challenge and it was sometimes difficult for her to follow a discussion. We all know that she had a particularly difficult year last year, yet she faithfully attended meetings with a spirit of peace and gratitude for all that Gavin (son) was doing to help her.

Mavis loved her Lord. It was always evident by her love, support and enthusiasm for the work of The YW in reaching young women for Christ and it was also evident by her gracious kindness and her faithful prayers for us in the National Office.

We have lost a treasured person and a prayer warrior so vital to our work. But we rejoice with her, she ran her race so well and has reached her goal in the arms of Jesus, her Lord and Saviour!

MARGRIT TEMPLE
NATIONAL PRESIDENT
OCTOBER 2018

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Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus