

Pets as Therapy: 2001 - 2016

Annual General Meeting Minutes

04 June 2016

1	Opening, Welcome & Apologies	Judith Dodds
	<p>A warm welcome from the EXCO at AGM and PAT's 15 yr celebrations! Special welcome to the founder of Pets as Therapy, Hazel Hill. Welcome to previous chairs, Charmaine French and Bruce McGee Welcome to area coordinator all the way from George and all the other area coordinators. Welcome to all the volunteers with their dogs, Friends of PAT and Stellenbosch University students Welcome to representatives of some of the facilities Welcome to residents from the facilities Welcome to sponsors Regal Health Welcome to guest speaker Dr Magdie van Heerden and all the other PAT speakers.</p> <p>Apologies Previous chair, Tony Davidson and all the others on the list.</p>	
2	Chair's Report	Marieanna le Roux
	<p>NEW VOLUNTEERS: 13 new volunteers (since last AGM) Current members with new visiting dogs: Freyja (Nici Reed), Anna (Marieanna le Roux), Lucy (Rina Nel). Chloe (Valda Krige) Total number of volunteers country wide: 74 (only 44 have paid this year and 2 Life Members) Total number of Friends country wide: 83 Total number of institutions country wide: 63 (41 on waiting list)</p> <p>NEW INSTITUTIONS: 4 new institutions Huis Aristeia, Durbanville Pikanini Playgroup, Cloetesville, Stellenbosch Robin Trust, Pinelands Vue du Cap, Table View</p> <p>4 Institutions back on our waiting list: Huis Nuweland, Princess Christian Home, Huis Horison, Stellenbosch, Protea Home, Goodwood</p> <p>LEES – UKUFUNDA – READ program: 3 Schools participating the reading programme, Oklahoma Street Primary School - Maccassar, Somerset West (Nici Reed & Juno), Riverlands Primary School - Malmesbury (Bretchen & Lexi and Lita & Spice), Klapmuts Primary School (Lizelle & Tammy), Sambuca, our reading dog at Weber Gedenk Primary School, Jamestown passed away and we are now looking for a new READ team at the school.</p> <p>PATRON: Jenny Morris, well known celebrity chef and radio personality, also known as the Giggling Gourmet.</p> <p>TALKS/EVENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Therapy dog training, companion animal loss & bereavement and AAI workshops (Magdie van Heerden)• HAI workshop at Stellenbosch University (Magdie van Heerden & Marieanna le Roux) 30 people attended	

- Radio interview with Smile 90.4FM (Marieanna le Roux)
- CANSA rely in George (Elaine Swanepoel)
- Talk at George Hospital for the Autism Children Group (Elaine Swanepoel)
- Talk to a Ladies Craft Club in Fishoek (Lindy Croxford)
- Article in newsletter of department of Psychology, Stellenbosch University (Marieanna le Roux)
- Happydale Special School & Huis Genot in Port Elizabeth (Glenda Walters)
- Demo by Algoa Frail Care Centre – Bethelsdorp (Glenda Walters)
- Demo at Care Haven Psychiatric Centre (Glenda Walters)

Volunteer passed away:

Volunteer Dalene Martins and her PAT dog Razzle Dazzle

Dogs passing:

Sambuca, devoted READ visitor of Amanda de Wet

Mo Mo, devoted PAT visitor of Barbie Howes

Bosco, devoted PAT visitor of Gillian Lay

RESEARCH PROJECTS:

- Intervention at Alta du Toit School in Kuils River with Lizelle and Tammy, Jean and Gemma, Hans and Blackie, Britta and Duke, Christina and Zak and Bretchen and Lexi, Nici and Juno
- Research project at Dream Tree Autistic School in Somerset West with Jean Lewin and Gemma.

OTHER:

- Amazing Wine Race – R1000.00
- Avril Cronje sponsoring the dog food for dogs at Includid Home
- Cavendish Book Fair: R13 515.00
- Donation of R15 000.00 from Helderberg Sunrise Rotary Club, Somerset West for PAT

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NEW INSTITUTIONS:

4 new institutions

Huis Aristea, Durbanville

Pikanini Playgroup, Cloetesville, Stellenbosch

Robin Trust, Pinelands

Vue du Cap, Table View

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3	Guest Speaker	Dr Magdie van Heerden
	Dr Magdie van Heerden is a human-animal interaction practitioner who specialized in human-animal interactions. She gave a talk on Human-animal interactions/bond. She spoke about the research over the past years and the International Conference which is held every third year on Human animal interactions. The research gives direction on where are we heading.	
4	Financial Report	Margie Wood
	Financials are looking much better this year	

	<p>Nett income: R77000 Donations: R48000 include services which is given to PAT, free of charge Donations to Blackie Savings account balance: R144 0000 R2480 was earned as interest on the investment.</p> <p>Event: Jenny Morris Cooking demonstration/Lunch Tickets at R395 pp – date to be announced.</p> <p>Financial report will be available on our website after auditing.</p>	
5	Questions on Financial Report	General
	None	
6	Area coordinator: George	Elaine Swanepoel
	<p>In 2011 Elaine Swanepoel's dog was assessed she's glad to be part of the PAT family. Since then she noticed that her bond with her dog became stronger. She read her dog's behaviour much better and became more in tune with her dog's needs. Her visits with her dog to the facilities made her less selfish with her dog, she does not mind sharing her dog with others. People at the facilities made her feel good about herself and her dog and she felt needed, It is heart-warming to realise that you can make a difference in someone's life. She also does assessments for PAT dogs in the area.</p>	
7	Resident in Sunnyside Lodge, Plumstead	Daphne Groenewald
	Not present	
8	Retired PAT volunteer now being visited by PAT dog	Betty Rynhout
	<p>Betty misses going out to the retirement home with her dog. She herself is at a retirement home and is always looking around to see if there is a dog to talk to. The owner of the retirement home has a dog and she takes him for walks.</p>	
9	Previous chair	Charmaine French
	<p>It's always been good for Charmaine to be part of PAT and to see how things have changed, how the organisation has grown and developed. Human-animal interactions are now an important facet of science and psychology and are included in research, which leads to published articles. She is of opinion that animals put us in touch with the natural world, companionship gives devotion unconditionally and opportunity to share loving kindness.</p>	
10	Current PAT volunteer in Somerset-West	Gillian Lay
	<p>Bella has been with her for 8 years and 5 years as a therapy dog. They work at House Esperansa, in the dementia unit. At Helderberg Village they visit the frail care and dementia units. Staff and people you visit are very friendly. They also visit the autistic school, Dream Tree where they see a group of children between ages of 10 – 14years. This was their first encounter with disabled children. The aim is to try to get them to engage with the dog. They are very grateful to be part of PAT, it's a wonderful organisation.</p>	
11	Feedback via email from London	Bronwynn Douglas
	<p>Bronwynn was previously the vice chair and moved to London to look after her sister in law. Her dog Rosie always calmed down when in the presence of her sister in law. They had the PAT assessment right after her sister in law passed away and was placed at the March memorial children's home. After her health deteriorated she became more involved with the administrative side of PAT. In Cape Town they did ad hoc visits to Ocean View Special Needs School, a school in Durbanville which was part of a research thesis of a master's student. She is happy to still be involved with PAT, seeing it grow and hope that the organisation will go from strength to strength.</p>	

12	New PAT volunteer	Megan Durand
	Megan is a volunteer for 6 months now. She and her dog had the assessment in January and visits Vue Du Cup Old Age village in Table View and school for children with autism and dementia. One of the children ran away the first day but after 5 weeks he comes running to the dog.	
13	Feedback from the audience	
	There's a guy living with multiple sclerosis for 30 years. After a few visits at The Nest, he started talking.	
14	EXCO and Committee Elections	Charmaine French
	Same EXCO members are standing for re-nomination 1 new nomination – Megan Durant Accepted and seconded	
15	Thank you from the chair	Marieanna le Rous
	<p>Master of Ceremony: Judith Dodds Guest speaker: dr Magdie van Heerden Other speakers: Elaine Swanepoel, Megan Durant, Charmaine French, Gillian Lay, Betty Rynhout, EXCO: Nici Reed, Lizelle Openshaw, Margie Wood, Avril Cronje & Bronwynn Douglas all the way from London for all the extras. Area Coordinators: Sherri Farrinha, Elaine Swanepoel, Louise Botha, Karin Steenkamp, Magdie van Heerden, Karin Steenkamp, Mariette du Toit Assessors: Aileen Pypers, Mandy Gibson, Jorisna Bonthuys Pinelands North Primary School Students: Divan, Megan, Caitlin, Esti, Newsletter: Julie McFarlane Insurance: Irvin Sammons Food: Pizza on the go. Photos: Karin Sponsors: Regal Health, Rouge Day Spa, Doggobone, Aquarium, Bravecto, Vondi's, Hills Absolute Pets, Prac-tic tick and flea Solutions Necklace from Miglio Jewellery Gift hamper with Champagne Freshwater Pearl Bracelet from Peter Gilder Jewellers</p>	
16	Raffle prize draw	Avril Cronje
	List of all the prize winners available on the website	
17	Close and refreshments	Judith Dodds
	All are invited to join us after the meeting for the 15th anniversary party	