

News from the DLN

Welcome to the second newsletter in 2017. A lot has happened during the last three months. Hope you will enjoy the reading and all the nice photos.

Congratulations to DPE and the DPE-group. The next three years are covered by a new grant from CISU.

The text in Danish below is about the cultural trip to Lesotho 2nd - 16th November 2017.

PS! Der er stadig ledige pladser på den kulturelle rejse til Lesotho fra 2. – 16. november 2017. Det haster med tilmeldingerne, så vær så venlig at sende besked til l@askw.dk eller aan@nrdn.dk, senest den 5. juni, hvis du ønsker at komme med. Se program og rejseomtale på www.lumela.dk, News.

Here in Denmark we are following the snap election very closely and hope for the best outcome.

DLN's new board elected at AGM March 2017.



From the left: Lisbet Kristensen, Nis K. Skau, Carsten Brønden, Bodil Mathiasen, Grete Mygind, Anne Andersen, Karen Steffensen, Karina Ruby og Arne Pedersen.

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Membership of DLN

News from the Board, May 2017

By Karina Ruby

DLN held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on March 18th with 23 participants. This year's AGM did not involve a lot of discussions. We continue to work along the guidelines that were decided on the 'Vision Day' and last year's AGM. The minutes can be found under 'Who we are, View reports' at our website www.lumela.dk

The new Board consists of:

Chair: Karina Ruby

Vice-Chair (and web responsible) : Lisbeth Kristensen

Treasurer: Karen Steffensen

Secretary: Carsten Brønden

Member: Nis Skau

Member: Bodil Mathiesen

Member: Grete Mygind

1. Alternate: Anne Andersen

2. Alternate: Arne Pedersen



The 2016 Board holding the letter from His Majesty King Letsie the 3rd

A lot of interesting things are happening in DLN at the moment, which is good, considering the challenges we will face in the years to come. The Danish government has cut the budget for development aid, which means that it could be more difficult to obtain gvt. funding for projects in Lesotho and other developing countries. DLN is therefore searching for other possible funding sources

Nyt fra bestyrelsen, maj 2017

af Karina Ruby

Siden sidste nyhedsbrev har DLN afholdt sin årlige generalforsamling d. 18. marts med 23 deltagere. Der var i år ikke de store diskussioner. Vi arbejder videre efter de retningslinjer, vi vedtog på visionsdagen og generalforsamlingen sidste år. Referatet kan læses på hjemmesiden www.lumela.dk under Who We Are, View Reports.



Marie fremlægger årsberetningen

Den nye bestyrelse ser sådan ud:

Formand:	Karina Ruby
Næstformand:	Lisbet Kristensen (også web-ansvarlig)
Kasserer:	Karen Steffensen
Sekretær:	Carsten Brønden
Bestyrelsesmedlem:	Nis Skau
Bestyrelsesmedlem:	Bodil Mathiasen
Bestyrelsesmedlem:	Grete Mygind
Suppleant 1:	Anne Andersen
Suppleant 2:	Arne Pedersen

Der sker mange spændende nye ting i DLN for tiden, og det er godt, for vi står overfor nogle udfordringer i de kommende år. Der er blevet skåret i budgettet til udviklingsbistand fra den danske regerings side, og det betyder, at det kan blive sværere at få bevilget penge til projekter i Lesotho og andre udviklingslande fra de statslige midler. DLN er derfor i gang med at se sig om efter andre muligheder for

than CISU from whom we have received nearly all our project funding so far. However finding other donors is quite a task. It is therefore very positive to note that new people join the Board and the project groups. The AGMs are always conducted in a nice, high-energy atmosphere, which encourages the Board to work for our DLN activities. Thank you for that!



From the AGM 2017

The three projects Rural Self-help Development Association (RSDA), Development of Peace Education (DPE), and Berea Agricultural Group (BAG) that we have worked on for quite some years continue. However the DPE project will finish soon. Here DLN wants to say congratulation to DPE and the DPE-group. A new project is granted from CISU. It will last three years and the amount is around 3 million Danish kr. The project among other things is to develop digital libraries in the districts so knowledge can be shared quickly.



DPE meet at CISU

finansiering end blot gennem CISU, som vi hidtil har fået bevilget projektmidler fra. Det er dog et stort arbejde at finde andre donorer.



Tak til den afgangende formand.

Derfor er det dejligt, at der kommer nye folk til i bestyrelsen og i arbejdsgrupperne. Der er altid en god energi og god stemning på generalforsamlingen, og det giver bestyrelsen lyst til at arbejde for DLNs aktiviteter. Tak for det.

De 3 projekter med Rural Selfhelp Development Association (RSDA), Development of Peace Education (DPE) og Berea Agricultural Group (BAG), som vi har haft i gang i flere år, kører fortsat. DPE-projektet slutter dog snart. Her må vi sige tillykke til både DPE og DPE-gruppen. CISU har bevilliget en ny tre-årig periode og omkring 3 millioner kr. til bl.a. at udvikle digitale biblioteker ude i distrikterne, så viden hurtigt kan opsamles og deles.

RSDA-projektet kører godt 1 år endnu, og BAG-projektet ligeså. Derfor er det rigtig godt, at der ser ud til at være et nyt projekt med en ny partner på vej, nemlig et projekt med Lesotho National Council of Women (LNCW). Det bliver spændende at følge processen

The RSDA project will run for another year and so will the BAG project. It is therefore good news that a new project is shaping up together with Lesotho National Council of Women (LNCW). It will be interesting to follow the new projects.

Board Secretary Carsten Brønden visited Lesotho for one week at the end of April. The purpose was to establish a firmer foundation for our cooperation with LNCW. The aim of this cooperation is to support capacity development at LNCW's vocational schools that offer training to poor young people. Carsten's travel expenses were covered from DLNs own sources, while the school/LNCW provided food and transport for participants in meetings and workshops. Carsten describes the visit to Maseru as very successful. Both LNCW and the school are very interested in starting the cooperation, and there is full appreciation of who we are in DLN and what we can do. Also that we are not a donor, but that we can facilitate the process of obtaining funds for relevant activities. Carsten and the project group will now prepare an application to CISU together with LNCW for funding of agreed training activities. This will be under CISU's 'Citizen Participation' window (for small projects), where applications received and assessed currently.

Anne Andersen and Lisbeth Kristensen from the travel group have conducted research in Lesotho in preparation of the Culture Travel scheduled for November this year. Appointments and bookings have been made regarding accommodation, transport, visits and activities during the tour. It is still possible to join this event, which is limited to 20 participants. Read more at www.lumela.dk Lisbeth also used the opportunity to visit the DPE project as she is a member of the project group. She was joined by Andreas Kristensen, who supported DPE in improving their website www.dpe.org.ls

omkring nye projekter.

Bestyrelsesmedlem Carsten Brønden har i april været en uge i Lesotho med det formål at etablere et mere konkret grundlag for samarbejdet med LNCW. Hensigten med dette samarbejde er at støtte kapacitetsopbygningen på LNCW's erhvervsskoler, der tilbyder træning for fattige unge. Carstens rejseudgifter er afholdt af DLNs egne midler, mens skolen/LNCW sørgede for forplejning og transport af deltagere til møder og workshop. Carsten Brønden betegner besøget i Maseru som meget vellykket. Der er stor velvilje og interesse fra LNCW og skolens side for at komme i gang med samarbejdet, som vi nu har et godt grundlag for. Der er fuld forståelse for, hvem DLN er, og hvad vi kan. Også at vi ikke er en donor, men at vi vil være behjælpelige med at søge at fremskaffe midler til relevante aktiviteter. Carsten og projektgruppen går sammen med nøglepersoner i LNCW i gang med at udarbejde en ansøgning til CISU om støtte til gennemførelse af planlagte kursusaktiviteter under CISU's nye 'lille vindue', som har løbende ansøgningsfrist.



Fra landsbyen i Malealea

Fra Rejsegruppen har Anne Andersen og Lisbet Kristensen været på research i Lesotho som forberedelse til Kulturrejsen, som er planlagt til november i år. De har lavet aftaler omkring overnatning og transport i Lesotho samt diverse besøg og aktiviteter på turen. Det er stadig muligt at tilmelde sig turen, som har max. 20 pladser. Se hjemmesiden:



Lisbet working for DPE

DPE is very busy informing about democracy and campaigning to encourage people to vote at the election on June 3rd. An election turnout higher than the 46% in the 2015 election is hoped for.

The Culture travel is ready

By Anne Andersen

The third of April was a day I had been looking forward to. On that day I was again going to Lesotho, my second home. I went on behalf of DLN with the purpose of finding good places for the upcoming culture travel in November. It is always exiting to come back to see if everything is fine.

Here in Denmark we had again heard of a snap parliamentary election and I was uncertain about possible impacts on the security situation. Fortunately I maintain good contact with 'Masebueng, who runs the kindergarten that we are going to visit in November and with whom I worked together when I lived in Lesotho. She assured me that there were no problems, and, as it turned out, it was not very noticeable that an election was underway. It was however mentioned that unless the government passes a Finance Bill before the election there wouldn't be funds for salaries etc. in the meantime.

www.lumela.dk

Lisbet kombinerede sin rejse med et projektbesøg hos Development for Peace Education (DPE), da hun også sidder i DPE-projektgruppen. Med sig havde hun Andreas Kristensen, som støttede DPE i forbedringen af deres hjemmeside, www.dpe.org.ls. DPE har nu travlt med at informere om demokrati og at medvirke i en kampagne for at få befolkningen til at stemme ved valget d. 3. juni.

Valgdeltagelsen skulle gerne blive højere end de 46 % ved valget i 2015.



Mountainbike i de rette omgivelser

Kulturrejsen er nu klar

Af: Anne Andersen

Den 3. april var en dag, jeg har glædet mig meget til. Den dag skulle jeg igen en tur til Lesotho – mit andet hjem. Jeg tog af sted for DLN for at finde gode steder til den kommende kulturrejse i november. Det er altid spændende at komme tilbage og se, om alt står vel til.



Lisbet og Andreas på landsbytur i Malealea

Herhjemme havde vi igen hørt om et valg til Parlamentet i utide, og jeg var usikker på, hvad

A full programme had been prepared beforehand, both for my research trip and for the culture travel itself. Lisbeth travelled with me and also used the opportunity to take a look at the project accounts with DPE. Andreas also joined and helped the DPE design a new website. A meeting with the two tour organisers made it clear that Lisbeth and I need to modify the plans for the culture travel, which will now involve less travel. However all planned activities will still be implemented so the motive for joining remains unchanged.



'Me Mamojalefa, her grandchild and 'Me Masebueng

I also managed to meet with 'Masebueng, 'Mamojalefa, 'Me Fumane and 'Me Mampaka, With whom I worked together in Lesotho Preschool and Day Care Association (LPDCA) from 1998 to 2001. I was informed that LPDCA is still active in the training of kindergarten teachers, and that 'Mamojalefa is working as an unpaid volunteer. LPDCA held its AGM shortly after my visit.



Band playing traditional music at Malealea

det betød for sikkerheden. Jeg har heldigvis tæt kontakt med 'Masebueng, som har den børnehave, vi skal besøge i november, og som jeg arbejdede sammen med, da jeg boede i Lesotho. Hun fortalte, at der ikke var nogen problemer, og det viste sig, at det ikke var at mærke umiddelbart, at der er et valg under vejs. Dog hørte jeg om mangel på bevillinger, dersom regeringen ikke har vedtaget en finanslov, før der blev udskrevet valg.

Der var lagt et stramt program hjemmefra både for den uge, jeg var på research og for kulturrejsen. Lisbet var med for at se på Development of Peace Education (DPE)s regnskaber, og Andreas var med for at hjælpe DPE med at få lavet en ny hjemmeside. Ved et møde med to turoperatører blev det klart, at Lisbet og jeg måtte ændre planerne for kulturrejsen. Det er nu en rejse med kortere transport. Der er stadig rigtig meget at tage med på rejsen for, og alle aktiviteterne gennemføres.



Frokostpause i børnehaven

Jeg nåede også at møde 'Masebueng, 'Mamojalefa, 'Me Fumane og 'Me Mampaka, som jeg arbejdede sammen med i Lesotho Preschool and Day Care Association (LPDCA) fra 1998 til 2001. Jeg hørte om, at LPDCA stadig er aktiv i uddannelsen af børnehavepædagoger, og at 'Mamojalefa arbejder der på frivillig og ulønnet basis. LPDCA havde deres generalforsamling lige

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I also met 'Me Fumane's son, who was a five year old 'forceful character' when I first came to Lesotho. He is now a handsome young man who is studying accountancy.

Malealea Lodge has been extended since 2000 when I was there last and the dining facilities have been improved. A beautifully situated place with local choir and orchestra, well-kept surroundings and access to a village, where we can visit. The range of activities has also been extended; mountain bikes can be rented and local guides are ready to take us hiking, either walking or on horseback.

In Upper Moyeni, Quthing I visited 'Maneo. She showed me her home, her garden and her catering company. Maneo is certainly an active lady, who has managed to get many things up and running over the past 10 years.



'Maneo in her catering company

Lisbeth examined the possibilities at Hillsviw Lodge an only two year old lodge, established by a local taxi man. It is a nice lodge with beautiful views from many of the buildings. The staff is really nice and helpful. The dining hall is located in one of the old buildings, which was neatly restored, and the old doors and the fire place had been maintained.

In Masitise there was Palm Sunday Mass in the church, and beautiful songs and music flew towards us when we arrived. A guide came up

efter, jeg havde været på besøg. Jeg mødte også 'Me Fumanes søn, som var 5 år og en rigtig spradebasse, da jeg kom til Lesotho første gang.



'Fumanes søn

Han er nu en flot ung mand, der er i gang med at uddanne sig indenfor regnskabsbranchen.

Malealea Lodge er blevet udbygget, siden 2000, hvor jeg var der sidst, og spiseforholdene er blevet bedre. Et sted i skønne omgivelser med lokalt sangkor og orkester, velholdte omgivelser og adgang til en landsby, hvor vi kan komme på besøg. Aktiviteterne er også udvidet, så man nu kan køre på lejede mountainbikes, og der er lokale guider parat til at tage os med på gå- eller rideture.

I Upper Moyeni, Quthing besøgte jeg 'Maneo. Hun viste sit hjem, sin have og sit cateringfirma frem. Maneo er bestemt en driftig dame, der har fået meget op at stå i løbet af de sidste 10 år.



Hillsviw Lodge i Moyeni

to us and gave us the key for the Cavehouse, and he showed us the place where Ellenberger, the first French missionary, conducted his first Sunday School. It was his wife, who first made Sesotho a written language. The guide was a really good narrator, so our travellers can look forward to meeting him.



The cave house in Masetise

Many roads have been tarred in both Lower and Upper Moyeni, and quite a few new, big, nice houses have been built in Upper Moyeni. It is obvious that a lot of development has taken place since my last visit in 2008.

A very busy and inspiring week, and I really hope more participants will sign up for the tour before the 5th June, so the travel will be possible in November

Assisting DPE Online, in person.

By: Andreas Stjerneklar Kristensen

In this program, I was tasked with making sure that the DPE's new website lived up to the wishes of the DPE.

DPE Coordinator Sofonea Shale described to me that he wanted a modern, expandable website connected with the DPE's social media platforms. He was also interested in having a map on the website showing the locations of DPE activities inspired by the cisu.dk world map.

A new website had recently been developed by a local company but had seemed lackluster

Lisbet undersøgte mulighederne på Hillsvie Lodge en kun to år gammel Lodge, som en lokal taxi mand havde fået bygget. Det er en god lodge, og der er en smuk udsigt fra flere af bygningerne. De ansatte er rigtigt rare og hjælpsomme. Spisesalen i en af de gamle bygninger var fint restaureret, og de havde bevaret de gamle døre og pejsen.

I Masetise var der var palmesøndagsmesse i kirken, og skøn sang og musik strømmede os i møde, da vi kom dertil. En guide kom os i møde med nøglen til The Cavehouse, og han viste os det sted, hvor Ellenberger, den første franske missionær, holdt den første søndagsskole. Det er hans kone, der har sat Sesotho på skrift. Guiden var en god fortæller, så det kan vores turister godt glæde sig til.

Både i Lower og Upper Moyeni, er der kommet mange asfalterede veje, og der er blevet bygget flere nye store og fine huse i Upper Moyeni. Der er helt klart sket en udvikling, siden 2008, hvor jeg var der sidst.

En rigtig travl og oplevelsesrig tur, og jeg håber virkelig, at flere melder sig til rejsen inden 5. juni, så vi kan gennemføre den til november.

Personlig on-line assistance til DPE

By: Andreas Stjerneklar Kristensen

Jeg havde fået til opgave at sikre, at DPEs nye hjemmeside lavede op til DPEs ønsker.

DPE coordinator, Sofonea Shale, forklarede mig, at han ønskede en moderne hjemmeside, der kunne udvides, og som var forbundet til DPEs sociale medie platforme. Med inspiration fra cisu.dks verdenskort, var han også interesseret i have et kort på hjemmesiden, som viste hvor DPE har aktiviteter.

when I initially inspected it. With the help of Sesale "Godfrey" Masike, DPE's newly appointed webmaster, I analyzed the status and usability of the site.

We quickly concluded that the existing website was not worth attempting to repair.

- There was no discernable Content Management System, which would be hopelessly backward.
- The website would redirect to various malicious sites including pornography on mobile devices.
- Large sections of content were missing pages were unreachable due to errors in code.

Instead we decided that we would use Wordpress, one of the most used Content Management Systems worldwide. Quick, flexible, expandable, secure and well documented.

Working side by side we set up a Wordpress installation on a subsection of the existing DPE website and recovered any old content that we could.

I would run Godfrey through an action such as copying a page by first doing it while explaining my actions and then by observing as he handled the next page. There are a lot of things to remember in this work and I was deeply impressed with how quickly Godfrey was able to pick up the details and utilize the methods I explained to him.

Within the first day of work we had fully replicated the original sites available data and on the second day of work we felt comfortable replacing the original site with our new version. This was quickly accomplished, eliminating the malicious redirects.

We moved on to improve the visuals of the site, adding new features and recreating the lost

En ny hjemmeside var for nylig blevet udviklet af et lokalt firma, men den forekom mig temmelig kedelig, da jeg kiggede på den. Med hjælp fra Sesale "Godfrey" Masike, DPE's nyligt udnævnte webmaster, analyserede jeg hjemmesidens status og brugbarhed. Vi kom hurtigt til den konklusion, at det ikke var umagen værd at forsøge at reparere hjemmesiden.

Der var tilsyneladende ikke noget system for styring af indholdet, hvilket forekommer håbløst forældet.

Hjemmesiden omdirigerer brugeren til 'ondsindede' hjemmesider, herunder pornografi på mobile enheder.

Store indholdssektioner var utilgængelige, fordi der var fejl i koderne.



Godfrey og Andreas arbejder godt sammen.

Vi besluttede derfor, at vi ville bruge Wordpress, som er et af verdens mest brugte Content Management Systems (Indholds styresystemer). Hurtigt, flexibelt, udvidelsesparat, sikkert og veldokumenteret.

Sammen installerede vi Wordpress på en underafdeling af den eksisterende DPE hjemmeside og reddede alt det gamle materiale, vi kunne.

Jeg demonstrerede for Godfrey, for eksempel hvordan man kan kopiere en side, alt imens jeg forklarede, hvad jeg gjorde. Dernæst observerede jeg, mens han prøvede den næste side. Der er

sections of the website such as the personnel page. Whenever possible, we would focus on technical challenges and defer the creation of content to a later date, reasoning that content could always be added at a later stage without my direct assistance.



Andreas and Ntate Shale discussing the homepage

Towards the end of the project I focused on the map feature while Godfrey gathered content for the website and map. To create the map I bought a popular map plugin for Wordpress where we could show the districts of Lesotho and have them lead to maps of that district with markers for the CBOs (Community based organizations) within the area.

In the end we were able to give the DPE a modern website fitting their vision, Godfrey learned a lot about Wordpress and Ntate Shale got the map he wanted.

virkelig meget, man skal huske under dette arbejde, og jeg var dybt imponeret over, hvor hurtigt Godfrey forstod detaljerne og kunne bruge de metoder, jeg viste ham.

I løbet af den første fik vi kopieret alle tilgængelige data fra de gamle sider, og på anden dagen følte vi os klar til at erstatte den originale side med vores nye version. Det var hurtigt klaret, og de 'ondsindede' omdirigeringer var fjernet.

Vi gik videre med at forbedre sidens billedmateriale og tilføje nye emner, samt genskabe tabte sektioner såsom personale siden. Hvor det var muligt, fokuserede vi på de tekniske udfordringer og udsatte udarbejdelsen af indhold til senere, idet ny indhold altid kan tilføjes senere uden min assistance.

Mod slutningen koncentrerede jeg mig om 'kort'-faciliteten, mens Godfrey samlede indhold til siden og kortet. Til at lave kortet købte jeg en populær kort 'plugin' til Wordpress, hvor vi kunne vise alle Lesothos distrikter, hvor man så kan 'klikke' videre til kort med markører for Community Based Organisations (CBO'er) indenfor området.

Vi fik altså lavet en DPE hjemmeside, der passer til organisations vision, Godfrey fik lært en masse om Wordpress og Ntate Shale fik det kort, han ønskede.

A chief's visit and a success story

By: Nis Skau and Solveig Kappel

As described in the last issue of Lumela.dk, we were on a project visit at Rural Self-help Development Association (RSDA) in Lesotho, December 2016. We participated in the 25 year jubilee celebrations and also conducted a project visit and financial audit at RSDA's office in Maseru. In addition, we also visited Mr Leutloileng Matsepe in Mafeteng, chairman of RSDA, and the RSDA demonstration and

Et høvdingebesøg og en succeshistorie.

Af: Nis Skau og Solveig Kappel

Som beskrevet i sidste nummer af Lumela.dk var vi på projektbesøg hos Rural Self-help Development Association (RSDA) i Lesotho dec. 2016, hvor vi deltog i 25 års jubilæumsfestlighederne og gennemførte projektbesøg og finansielt tilsyn med DLN's landbrugsprojekt på RSDAs kontor i Maseru.

training farm.



At the RSDA office 'Mampo Thulo, Nis and 'Mateboho Lelimo

The first visit was to the farm owned by chief and chairman of RSDA Mr. Leutloileng Matsepe in Mafeteng. He has a very versatile farm. His herd consists of 14 cattle, including twin calves for fast fattening with fodder (Lucerne bales) from South Africa. He also had South African breed of pigs (1 sow, 6 piglets and 2 pigs for slaughter) sheep, geese, chicken and rabbits.



Mathulo and manager in front of RSDA's Demonstration and Education farm i Mafeteng.

But unfortunately, the whole area of Mafeteng was marked by draught and everyone wished for rain. Mr. Leutloileng Matsepe is chief of the village, a position he inherited from his farther. He was only 10 years old, when his farther passed away, so his mother had to take charge during the years when he did his engineering studies in Swaziland and Bloomfontein. The job of a chief is very wide-

Herudover var vi på projektbesøg i Mafeteng hos Mr. Leutloileng Matsepe, RSDAs formand og til fremvisning på RSDAs demonstrations og uddannelsesfarm.



Formand for RSDA, Mr Leutloileng Matsepe, på sit høvdingekontor

Først var vi inviteret til et bedriftsbesøg hos høvding og formand for RSDA, Mr. Leutloileng Matsepe i Mafeteng. Han har et særdeles alsidigt landbrug. Besætningen var på 14 stk. kvæg, heraf et sæt tvillingekalve til hurtigt opfødning med foder(lucerneballer) fra Sydafrika. Han havde også sydafrikansk landrace grise (1 so, 6 smågrise og 2 slagtesvin), får, gæs, kyllinger og kaniner. Men hele området ved Mafeteng bar desværre præg af tørke, og alle håbede på regn. Mr. Leutloileng Matsepe er høvding for landsbyen, et hverv man overtager fra sin far. Han var kun 10 år da hans far døde, så hans mor løftede opgaven i de år, hvor han blev uddannet ingeniør i hhv. Swaziland og Bloemfontein. Høvdingearbejdet er meget alsidigt. Det omfatter stort set alle forhold, hvor der kan opstå tvist/konflikter mellem mennesker, både i familien og mellem naboer. Her skal høvdingen mægle og træffe beslutning. En dygtig og respekteret høvding er afgørende for trivsel og fredelighed i landsbyen. Det er også høvdingen, der skal inddrive skat. Hvis folk er i restance, så har høvdingen plads til at opbevare en ko eller flere som sikkerhed for gælden.

RSDAs rugeri og fjerkræ-demonstrationsbrug i

ranging and comprises more or less all issues where disagreements and conflicts between people can arise, be it within the families or between neighbours. The chief must mediate and make decisions in all such cases. A clever and respected chief is crucial for the well-being and peace in the village. The chief is also in charge of collecting taxes. If someone is in arrears the chief has the capacity to store a cow or two as security for the debt.

RSDA's hatchery and poultry demonstration farm in Mafeteng is a success story. Mampho Thulo, director of RSDA, showed us the farm and explained about the poultry project. RSDA started the project in 2014 when an egg hatching machine was purchased and has managed to start a production of egg laying hens. RSDA can deliver day-old chicks for fattening to farmers. At the same time RSDA is generating an income from sales of surplus eggs or fattening of surplus chicks. The daily production is ca. 130 eggs in summer and ca. 180 during winter. Fodder is grown in separate 'kitchen gardens'. RSDA employs 3 people at the hatchery, one manager and two assistants. The manager earns 6.300 Maloti per months, and the assistants 2.900 Maloti incl. pension.



Educational poster

The whole poultry farm is built as a demonstration unit and evolves around the concept of educating/training farmers, primarily women, in poultry farming. They are trained in checking of eggs, checking for cockerel or hen, fertilised egg or not, the life

Mafeteng er en succeshistorie. Mampho Thulo, RSDA's direktør, viste os rundt på RSDA's demonstrationslandbrug og fortalte om fjerkræprojektet. RSDA har med opstart i 2014, købt en rugemaskine og opbygget en produktion af æglæggende høner.



RSDA's Rugemaskine

RSDA kan således levere daggamle kyllinger til opfødning hos farmerne. Samtidig har RSDA indtægt fra salg af overskudsæg eller opfødning af rest-kyllinger. Om sommeren produceres ca. 130 æg og om vinteren ca. 180 æg dagligt. Der dyrkes foder til hønsene på farmen i særskilte "køkkenhaver". RSDA har 3 ansatte på rugeriet. 1 manager og 2 assistenter. Manageren tjener 6.300 Maloti pr måned en Assistent 2.900 Maloti incl. pension.



Urtehaver, hvor der dyrkes foder til høns og kyllinger.

Hele hønsefarmen er bygget op som et demonstrationsbrug over konceptet at træne/oplære farmere, hovedsagligt kvinder, i

stages of a chicken within the egg, fattening and chicken, looking after egg layers, and growing of fodder for hens and chicken. All with the purpose of enabling each woman/farmer to become self-reliant with egg and meat, or establish their own business selling eggs or chicken for fattening. Moreover, RSDA is also training on how to start a business by investing in an egg hatching machine and subsequent sales of day-old chicken. Mampho Thulo explains with some pride that RSDA has facilitated the establishment of 10 such hatcheries in Lesotho, and that local people have been trained and enabled to service the hatching machines, so that there is no longer a need to call for service personnel from South Africa. In other words another exemplary indication of the good work carried out by RSDA.



RSDA's Educational Center in Mafeteng

The poultry farm is also a source of income for RSDA through sales of surplus egg and chicken. The current price for one day-old chicken is 10 Maloti fertilized eggs 6 Maloti and eggs for eating is 1,5 Maloti each. MaMaria whom we met at the RSDA office in Maseru was one member of a group of 14 women in a ERFA group. *(The concept is called 'ERFA' in Danish and is widely used within agriculture in Denmark. It consists of a group of typically 4 to 10 farmers who meet regularly to share experiences and results. A consultant leads the meetings, which can deal with any issue considered important, i.e. crops,*

fjerkrædrift. Der er undervisning og træning i tjek af æg, om det er kok eller høne, om æggene er befrugtet, kyllingens livsstadier i ægget, opfødning af kyllingerne og pasning af æglæggende høns samt dyrkning af foder til høns og kyllinger. Alt sammen med henblik på, at den enkelte kvinde/farmer kan være selvforsynende med æg/kød eller etablere egen virksomhed med salg af æg og opfødning af kyllinger.

Endelige laver RSDA også undervisning og træning i etablering af egen virksomhed ved investering i egen rugemaskine og efterfølgende salg af daggamle kyllinger. Her fortæller Mampho Thulo stolt, at RSDA har medvirket til etablering af 10 sådanne rugerier i Lesotho, samt at der tillige er sket en oplæring af lokale montører, der nu kan servicere rugemaskinerne, så der ikke skal ringes efter service montører fra Sydafrika. Altså et skoleeksempel på godt arbejde i RSDA.

Driften af hønseriet også en indtægtskilde for RSDA gennem salg af overskydende æg og kyllinger. Dagspriser for salg af daggammel kylling er 10 Maloti befrugtede æg sælges for 6 Maliti pr stk., spiseæg sælges for 1,5 Maloti pr. stk.

MaMaria som vi mødte på RSDAs kontor i Maseru, var en af 14 kvinder i en ERFAgruppe i Maseru *(ERFA er meget brugt i landbrugskredse i Danmark og betyder ERFAringsudveksling, typisk samler man grupper af 4 til 10 landmænd med en konsulent som mødeleder, deler hinandens erfaringer og resultater, lige fra planteavl, husdyrproduktion, økonomi og sociale forhold).* Hun har etableret en kyllingeproduktion. Hun opdrættede 200 kyllinger ad gangen. Kyllingerne er salgsklare til slagtning efter 42 dage og sælges levende. Tilsammen producerede de 14 kvinder 2800 kyllinger.

Kyllingefodret indkøbes i Maseru. Salgsprisen er 70 Maloti for een slagteklar kylling. Læs

*animal husbandry finances, social matters,
etc.)*



Nis looking into the Matsepe's empty water tank

MaMaria has established a chicken production business where she grows 200 chickens at a time. The chickens are ready for slaughter after 42 days and are sold alive. The 14 women produce 2800 chicken totally. Fodder is bought in Maseru and the current selling price is 70 Maloti per chicken. (read also the article in the Jubilee magazine about Mapotsane, a woman who has become self-sufficient with eggs for the family thanks to the RSDA initiative).

www.lumela.dk



*Spiral aloe, Lesotho's national flower, in front of
Matsepe's farm water tank*

The RSDA poultry farm is not connected to the grid, so electrical power for the hatching machine has to come from a generator that runs 24 hours a day. Grid connection to substitute the generator would increase the reliability of the hatching machine and reduce the running

også fortællingen i jubilæumshæftet om Mapotsane, en kvinde, der er blevet selvforsynende med æg til sin familie takket været RSDAs initiativ.

www.lumela.dk



Dieselgeneratoren til rugemaskinen kører 24-7

Der er ikke lagt strøm ind på RSDAs fjerkræfarm. Der produceres el til rugemaskinen fra en generator, der kører døgnet rundt. En fast el-installation til erstatning af generatoren til drift af rugmaskinen vil øge driftssikkerheden og medvirke til driftsbesparelse til køb af diesel.



På vej til græsning.

costs. Connecting the demonstration farm in Mafeteng to the grid would cost 150.000 Maloti as one-time investment. Me Thulo hopes to be able to make that investment during 2017.

Tilkobling til el-nettet på RSDAs demonstrationsanlæg i Mafeteng vil koste et engangsbeløb på ca. 150.000 Maloti. Me Thulo håber at kunne indfri dette investeringsbehov i løbet af 2017.



Leribe Farmers' Market

By: 'Mampo Thulo

The first Leribe farmers' market was 04th -05th April 2017. Leribe Farmers' market is one in the series of Farmers' Markets promoted by RSDA and DLN in the 5 Districts of Lesotho. Their second farmers' market in Leribe is 4th - 5th May 2017.

Berea District is holding their farmers' market every last Thursday and Friday of the month (last one was 27th -28th April 2017). Mohale's Hoek District will be holding their first one on the 25th -26th May 2017. Mafeteng will start in June 2017.



Some of the food for sale at the market

Leribebøndernes fødevaremarked

Af: 'Mampo Thulo

Det første Leribe bøndernes fødevaremarked blev holdt 4.-5. april 2017. Det var det første af en række markeder i de fem distrikter i Lesotho, som RSDA og DLN står bag. Næste fødevaremarked i Leribe holdes 4.-5. maj 2017.

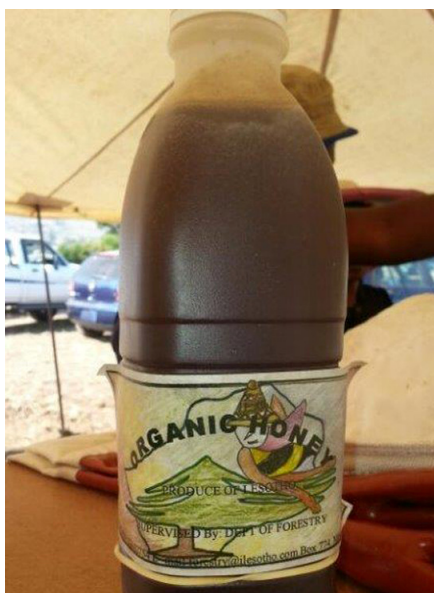


Babyplanter til salg

Berea District holder fødevaremarkeder den sidste torsdag-fredag i hver måned, senest 27.-28. april 2017. Mohales Hoek distrikt holder deres den 25.-26. maj, mens Mafeteng stater i juni 2017.

Fødevaremarkederne bliver støttet og

The farmers' markets are supported and promoted under the Project "Improving living conditions and position of the Lesotho smallholder farmers in society through lobbying and advocacy and capacity. The project aims at ensuring that at least 1000 smallholder farmers are exposed to viable agricultural practices, benefit from market linkages and are able to graduate from subsistence farming to semi-commercial status. Through the farmers' market, farmers are able to sell and engage with business and access new markets.



Nice and sweet

The first day of the market was kick started with 22 farmers and the first day started slowly with poor attendance of the potential buyers, but the second day was wonderful and by the end of the second they had collectively sold products amounting to 30,000 Maloti. The farmers were selling grains-beans, poultry products, sheep and pigs, animal feed, honey, fresh produce - sweet peppers, potatoes, chillies, green mealies, tomatoes, flowers, dried fruits and hand-crafts and others. They also got contacts and orders to supply on off market days. Farmers were able to get immediate

promoveret under projektet 'Forbedring af Lesotho småbønders levevilkår og rolle i samfundet gennem lobby- og fortalervirksomhed og kapacitetsopbygning'. Projektets mål er at sikre, at min. 1000 småbønder stifter bekendtskab med brugbare landbrugsmetoder, drager fordel af markedsforbindelser, og bliver i stand til at bevæge sig fra subsistens- til semi-kommercielt landbrug. Gennem fødevaremarkederne bliver de i stand til at sælge på forretningsmæssige vilkår og komme ind på nye markeder.

Den første markedsdag kick-startede med 22 bønder, men der var ringe fremmøde af potentielle købere. Den anden dag var derimod særdeles vellykket, og det samlede salg beløb sig til 30.000 Maloti. Bønderne solgte korn, bønner, fjerkræproducter, peberfrugter, kartofler, chili, grønne majs, tomater, blomster, tørrede frugter, kunsthåndværk og andet. De fik også kontakt og ordrer på levering udenfor markedsdagene. Bønderne fik umiddelbare reaktioner fra køberne og fik også ideer til nye produkter, som måske kan sælges på kommende messer og markeder.



Bier og blomster

Her bagefter er bønderne yderst glade for at

feedback from the buyers and received new product ideas which could help in the coming trade fairs/farmers' market.

On reflecting on the market day, the farmers are very happy to see they can organize such an event. They also acknowledge the fact that they heavily relied mainly on the farmer leadership/organizers and as such things didn't go smoothly. The major challenge identified was the issue of market location which is one of the main factors in marketing plan, which if fixed on time will help attracts more buyers and help farmers in their planning especially in their budgeting for their participation. Most farmers indicated they could have brought a large variety of their produce if transport was organized properly. Even those that managed to sell, it was sadly to cover the transportation costs thereby reducing the profits which they could have otherwise made. The issue of pricing was raised as a major challenge and set back as the farmers could not set attractive prices for the event. The follow up training of farmers was proposed by the forum, whose aim is to capacitate the farmers on costing and pricing.

The main lesson learnt is to fully commit their efforts as the forum in organizing the future farmers' market. It is therefore highly recommended that in organizing future farmers' market, the all farmers should be highly involved to ensure success and avoid mistakes made in this event. In the future more resources will be committed towards promoting the event to ensure that all parties involved in market participate namely farmers, traders, regulators, suppliers and so on.

The project supported the farmers' forum with facilitating meetings, publicity through media and promotion material, tents and training.

konstatere, at de var i stand til at organisere sådanne arrangementer. De erkender også, at de var dybt afhængige af landbrugsorganisationerne og organisatorerne, og at tingene ikke bare gik helt glat. Den største udfordring var placeringen af markedet, hvilket er en af de vigtigste faktorer i markedsføringen. Hvis det ordnes i god tid, er det lettere at tiltrække kunder, og det hjælper bønderne med at planlægge og budgettere med deres deltagelse. De fleste bønder sagde, at de kunne have bragt en større udbud af deres produkter til markedet, hvis transporten havde været organiseret ordentligt. Selv for dem der lykkedes med at sælge godt, gjorde transportomkostningerne et stort indhug i deres fortjeneste. Prisfastsættelsen blev også efterfølgende nævnt som en stor udfordring. Bøndernes forum foreslog, at der skulle organiseres træning, så bønderne bliver bedre til at beregne omkostninger og fastsætte priser.



Den vigtigste lære af de erfaringer, man har gjort indtil videre, er, at bøndernes forum skal gå fuldt og helt ind for at organisere markederne og koncentrere indsatserne. Det anbefales kraftigt, at alle bønder involveres, så man sikrer succes og undgår misforståelser. Fremover skal der afsættes flere resurser til at promovere markederne, så alle parter deltager, nemlig bønderne, handelsmænd, tilsynsførende, leverandører osv.

Projektet støttede bøndernes forum med at arrangere møder, skabe opmærksomhed gennem medier, udarbejde reklame materiale, telte og træning.

New chair of DLN

By Karina Ruby

After the election of the new Board I ended up as the chair of DLN. I have been a member of the Board for many years, as far as I remember since 2004, including a break of four years. My background for working for DLN is my three years in Lesotho from 2000-2003, where I was a development worker for Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke (MS). That was three very good years, and I think



Karina Ruby

parts of my heart and soul stayed behind when I went back to Denmark. Lesotho will always be my second homeland. Therefore I am committed to support development in the country and its beautiful people through my work for DLN.

Newly elected member of the DLN Board.

Nis K. Skau:

I live between the towns of Haderslev and Vojens where I am a pig farmer. I am married to Solveig Kappel and we have four children aged between 15 and 24. Education wise I am an agronomist specializing in economy. While studying at the University I became a member of 'Ulandsgruppen' (the Developing Countries Group), and in 1983 I travelled to Lesotho, Botswana and South Africa as a backpacker. I have visited Lesotho again in 2002, 2014 and most recently in December 2016. I have been of member of the Rural Self-Help

Ny formand i DLN

Af: Karina Ruby

Efter valget af ny bestyrelse på generalforsamlingen i marts endte jeg som formand for DLN. Jeg har siddet i bestyrelsen for DLN i mange år, vist nok siden 2004 med en pause på 4 år undervejs. Min baggrund for at arbejde for DLN er mine 3 år i Lesotho fra år 2000-2003 som udsendt udviklingsarbejder gennem Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke. Det var 3 gode år, og lidt af min sjæl blev vist hængende i Lesotho, da jeg rejste hjem.



Karina og Claus

Lesotho vil altid være mit andet hjemland. Derfor støtter jeg gerne udviklingen af landet og dets dejlige folk gennem arbejdet i DLN.

Valgt til DLNs bestyrelse.

Nis K. Skau:

Jeg bor mellem Haderslev og Vojens. Jeg er svineproducent og gift med Solveig Kappel. Vi har 4 børn i alderen 15 til 24. Jeg er uddannet agronom med økonomi som speciale. Medens jeg studerede, var jeg medlem af Ulandsgruppen på Landbohøjskolen. I 1983 rejste jeg som back packer i Lesotho, Botswana og Sydafrika. Jeg har besøgt Lesotho i 2002, 2014 og senest i december 2016. Jeg har nu været 3 år med i Rural Self-help Development Association (RSDA) gruppen, deltaget i kurser, workshops og rådgivningsmøder hos CISU i forbindelse med

development Association (RSDA) group for three years now, participated in training, workshops and consultations with CISU in relation to our current RSDA-project.



Nis together with Solveig and nate Phafane

The rural population of Lesotho has always fascinated me, and I am impressed by the efforts put in by the staff of the RSDA office in Maseru, - be it in terms of advising the many small scale farmers among the members, or be it in terms of promoting associations and democracy in the interest of the members.

Bodil ready to join the board again



Bodil Mathiasen

in democracy/civic education and human rights. A work period in her life that she looks back upon with much joy. Bodil has visited Lesotho many times and still have a lot of very good Basotho friends.

Bodil is one of the founders of DLN and the

Bodil lived and worked in Lesotho from 1996 to 1999, where she worked with CLRAC - Community Legal Ressource Center - mainly training para-legals

vores nuværende RSDA-projekt.

Landbefolkningen i Lesotho fascinerer mig, og det er imponerende, hvordan de ansatte på RSDAs kontor i Maseru knokler på, dels med rådgivning til de mange medlemmer indenfor small scale landbrugsproduktion, og aktiviteter til at fremme befolkningens forenings- og demokratiseringsprocesseer.



Så er der tid til diskussion

Bodil klar igen til at være i bestyrelsen

Bodil boede og arbejdede i Lesotho fra 1996 til 1999, hvor hun arbejdede for CLRAC - Community Legal Ressource Center - hovedsageligt med træning i lovparagraffer omkring medborgerdemokrati og menneskerettigheder.



Bodil og Lisbet

En arbejdsperiode i hendes liv, som hun ser tilbage på med fornøjelse. Bodil har besøgt Lesotho mange gange, og hun har stadig mange meget gode Basothovenner.

first chairperson of the association. From 2007 until 2010 she was a board member and she organized the first "Culture-Tourist Visit" for 20 people in 2008. After a break Bodil is now ready to join the board again. She is a member of the DPE project group.

Bodil er medstifter af DLN og foreningens første formand. Fra 2007 til 2010 var hun bestyrelsesmedlem og organiserede den første kulturrejse til Lesotho for 20 personer i 2008. Efter en pause, er Bodil nu igen klar til at lægge et stykke arbejde i DLNs bestyrelse. Hun er medlem af DPE gruppen.

New Alternate



Arne Pedersen was elected as a new alternate of the DLN Board at the AGM 2017. He writes: I was a volunteer in Lesotho from 1980 to 1982, where I worked with production and sales of school furniture at Leribe Technical School. We managed to establish a company with 30-40 people employed in the production. Since 1982 I have been employed as a Dy. Manager at the 'Vingstedcenter' (sports- and congress centre) for more than 25 years. After my two years in Lesotho the country has always meant a lot to me. I have visited more than once in recent years. And now I look forward to contributing to DLN.

Ny suppleant

Arne Pedersen er valgt på DLNs generalforsamling 2017 som ny suppleant til bestyrelsen. Han skriver: I årene 1980-82 var jeg u-landsfrivillig i Lesotho. Dengang arbejdede jeg med produktion og salg af skolemøbler på Leribe Technical School. Det lykkedes os at etablere en virksomhed med 30-40 ansatte i produktionen. Efter 1982 har jeg været ansat i Vingstedcentret i over 25 år som souschef. Lesotho har efter mit 2-årige ophold altid haft stor betydning for mig. Landet har jeg besøgt flere gange i de senere år. Nu glæder jeg mig til at gøre en indsats i DLN.



Arne deltager i generalforsamlingen

From DLN AGM 18th March 2017





After the AGM the participants had social gathering and food.



News from Lesotho:

From Lesotho Times:

Army speaks on 'coup' claims

Posted by :Lestimes Posted date : May 27, 2017 In Election 2017



... as speculation swirls of a terror campaign Tefo Tefo





THE Lesotho Defence Force (LDF) has dismissed allegations it is planning to stage a *coup d'état* in the event that the current government loses the parliamentary elections scheduled for Saturday next week. The assurance comes in the wake of swirling speculation the LDF was preparing to unleash terror if their "favoured political parties" were not elected in the upcoming polls. The speculation was ignited by a request the LDF commander, Lieutenant-General Khoantle Motšomotšo, made to the commissioner of lands to avail 22 areas that include hills and plateaus in the country for the army.

LDF spokesperson, Brigadier Ntlele Ntoi

The areas concerned are in all the country's 10 districts and include Thabana-Ntlenyana, Thaba-Phafane, Qeme Plateau, Machache, Qoaling Plateau, Lion Rock, Pela-Tšoeu, Phatla-Khomo, Mokotjomela, Thaba-Ntšo, Nkokobe, 'Mamalapi, Maseepho, Thamathu, Tšepeng, Baneising, Kalime, Thaba-Tšoeu, Leqooa, Qhaliseng, Mok'hopha and Thaba-Mokhele.

The *Lesotho Times* is in possession of Lt-Gen Motšomotšo's letter of request to the commissioner of lands.

Part of the letter, dated 6 March 2017, reads: "Lesotho Defence Force is kindly requesting your good office to secure the below tabulated Hills and Plateaus, for the Ground of Tactical Importance (GTI).

"They will be used for foreseeable security threat and security purposes.

"Lesotho Defence Force is aware of the community around and also (sic) retains of the developments."

The timing of the request, which was made soon after the passing of a parliamentary no-confidence vote on Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili's government on 1 March 2017, has raised the eyebrows of the opposition and critics of the regime.

The no-confidence vote was sponsored by the All Basotho Convention (ABC), Alliance of Democrats (AD) Basotho National Party and Reformed Congress of Lesotho (RCL) cutting short the five-year tenure of the government which was formed in March 2015.

The opposition has also pointed to the fact that the request was made on 6 March 2017, the day King Letsie III dissolved parliament at the advice of Dr Mosisili to pave the way for the setting of the election date.

Basotho National Party (BNP) spokesperson, Machesetsa Mofomobe, yesterday told this publication concerns about the security situation in the country ahead of the elections "should not be taken lightly in light of the army's machinations". He said it was "common knowledge" that the army preferred the outgoing seven-party governing coalition to the opposition parties.

Apart from Dr Mosisili's Democratic Congress, the outgoing governing coalition consists of the Lesotho Congress for Democracy (LCD), Marematlou Freedom Party, Basotho Congress Party, National Independent Party, Lesotho People's Congress and Popular Front for Democracy.

The parties cobbled Lesotho's second coalition government on 4 March 2015 after the 28 February 2015 general election had resulted in a hung parliament.

Mr Mofomobe said the LDF's request to occupy strategic places ahead of the elections was suspicious "given their track record".

The BNP spokesperson cited the LDF's raid on three key Maseru police stations on the morning of 30 August 2014 as the reason for the concern.

The raid, which left one police officer dead, triggered a chain of unsavoury events that led to the collapse of the Thomas Thabane-led coalition government and intervention by the international community in an effort to avert a complete breakdown of the rule of law in Lesotho.

Read the whole article on: <http://lestimes.com/army-speaks-on-coup-claims/>

From AllAfrica 9th May:

Ramaphosa to Visit Lesotho Ahead of June Elections

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) facilitator, Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa is on Tuesday expected to visit Lesotho ahead of the country's elections in June, the presidency has said in a statement.

Ramaphosa's visit was in pursuance of decisions taken by heads of state and government at the SADC summit in Swaziland in March.

Lesotho was scheduled to hold general elections on June 3.

Ramaphosa and the SADC Oversight Committee were mandated to "conduct a multi-stakeholder national dialogue before the elections of 3 June, with the aim of building consensus and trust among all stakeholders and charting the way forward for the implementation of SADC decisions".

Ramaphosa was set to meet with his majesty King Letsie III, Prime Minister Phakalitha Mosisili, the Independent Electoral Commission, opposition political party leaders, churches and civil society.

Lesotho plunged into a political crisis following the 2014 failed coup attempt by an army general.

Source: **News24**

What is Denmark Lesotho Network?

The NGO Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN) was founded in 2002 by former Danish development workers in Lesotho and other good friends of the tiny mountain kingdom in Southern Africa. DLN aims at supporting NGO's in Lesotho in their work to develop civil society. DLN uses its network of people and organisations in Lesotho to pinpoint beneficiaries of DLN's support – and to keep an eye on that funding is used according to agreements made. DLN wishes to enhance knowledge of the living conditions in Lesotho and to seek funding from foundations, business enterprises and organisations for actual projects in Lesotho.

Membership of DLN

Anyone, who can support the aims of DLN, can achieve a membership. Members contribute to support initiatives in Lesotho that develop and better living conditions in the country. Members will receive an electronic newsletter four times a year and be invited to DLN's annual general assembly. The cost of a membership is 100 Danish kroner yearly. For membership contact cashier Karen Steffensen, tel.: +45 98677185, cell: +45 23880099, e-mail: karen.steffensen@mail.dk

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KHOTSO – PULA – NALA

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