

## News from the DLN

Another newsletter is ready. Hope you all will enjoy the reading.

### The DLN board who were elected on the April 2016 AGM.



From the left: Karen Steffensen, Lisbet Kristensen, Grete Mygind, Anne Andersen, Marie Villumsen, Karina Ruby, Carsten Brønden. Anne-Marie Erikstrup og Louise Bau Jensen was absent when the photo was taken.

### News from the Board

By: Anne Andersen

The Vision Day and the AGM in Nyborg is well concluded. Plenty of good ideas for the future and the strategy for the next four years came forward. The atmosphere was very good and conducive. It is always nice to be with

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### Nyt fra bestyrelsen

Af: Anne Andersen

Visionsdagen og generalforsamlingen i Nyborg er vel overstået. Der var mange gode ideer til fremtiden og strategien de næste 4 år. Der var en rigtig god stemning, og masser af engagement. Det var som altid dejligt at være

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people who are dedicated to Lesotho and Basotho.

The setting was good, the food was excellent and everything worked well. Villa Gulle can certainly be recommended for similar events. (See the new strategic plan elsewhere in the newsletter)

A new Board was elected and will be responsible for implementation during the next year. Immediately after the AGM the Board was constituted as follows:

Chair: Marie Villumsen

Vice-chair: Lisbet Kristensen (also web-responsible)

Treasurer: Karen Steffensen

Secretary: Karina Ruby

Member: Anne-Marie Erikstrup

Member Carsten Brønden

Member: Grete Mygind

1st Alternate: Louise Bau Jensen

2nd Alternate: Anne Andersen



*From the AGM*

DLN has decided that we want a new and more modern website. The communication group is still working on it. Keep an eye out for it. It will be smashing!

Dependent on voluntary work as we are, it will take some time before it is included in all the media, so for the time being the newsletter will maintain its usual appearance.

The Board proposed a new logo to the AGM and it was approved.

sammen med alle, der brænder for Lesotho og Basotho. Rammerne var gode, maden var fin og alt fungerede godt. Villa Gulle kan bestemt anbefales til et lignende arrangement. Se den nye strategiplan et andet sted i nyhedsbrevet.



*Der bliver lyttet til oplæg på visionsdagen*

Der blev valgt en ny bestyrelse, som nu har opgaverne med implementeringen i det kommende år.

Umiddelbart efter generalforsamlingen konstituerede bestyrelsen sig som følger:

Formand: Marie Villumsen

Næstformand: Lisbet Kristensen (også web-ansvarlig)

Kasserer: Karen Steffensen

Sekretær: Karina Ruby

Medlem: Anne-Marie Erikstrup

Medlem: Carsten Brønden

Medlem: Grete Mygind

Suppleant 1: Louise Bau Jensen

Suppleant 2: Anne Andersen



*Oplægsholder Kristine Pors*

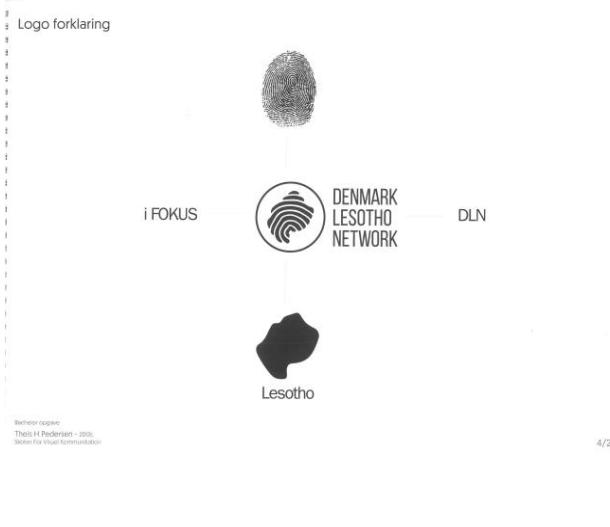
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DLN har vedtaget, at vi skal have en ny og mere moderne hjemmeside. Det arbejder kommunikationsgruppen stadig på. Hold øje med den. Den bliver flot.

Bestyrelsen havde et forslag til nyt logo med til generalforsamlingen, og det blev vedtaget.



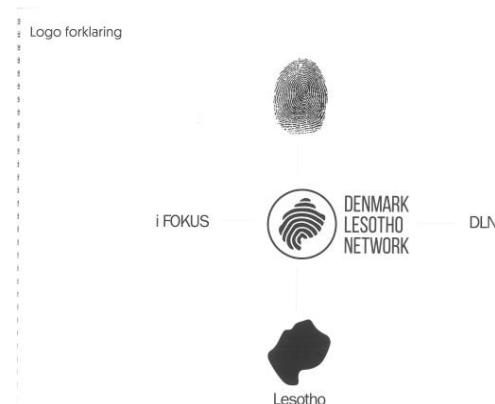
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In the centre is the new logo that was approved (- together with an illustration of the four components that went into its making)



Immediate plans for the future include an evaluation of the culture/nature travel October 2015. It will be held in July in Bodil Mathiasen's allotment garden. All participants are invited, and so far six persons have registered – in addition to the three organisers. It is planned that two persons from Development of Peace Education (DPE) should visit Denmark late August/early September. They will visit various democratic institutions and hopefully also participate in a panel discussion for one day during the 'Verdensspejl' (World Mirror Festival) during the Aarhus Festival 2016. If everything falls into place, incl. visas, it is also the intention to arrange a Pitso on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Despite continuous political instability in Lesotho DPE has been able to carry through with most of the planned activities that are supported by DLN. In addition it has been



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Det nye logo

Det tager noget tid, når frivillig arbejdskraft skal rette alle medier til, og derfor vil nyhedsbrevet indtil videre se ud, som det plejer.



*Input til diskussionen om visionen*

Af fremtidsplaner – altså de nærmeste – er, at

possible to reorganise some activities, so overall the DPE activities make good sense for people in the districts where they work.



*Time for lunch*

Rural Selfhelp Development Association (RSDA) is turning 25 years old this year. They are preparing the celebration. To exist for 25 years as an NGO in Lesotho is an achievement in its own right, so there is good reason for celebrating. RSDA has a solid foundation and has achieved a lot in terms of creating awareness amongst farmers. RSDA has become very well-organised and is striving to influence political decisions that concern conditions for agriculture in the country. It is still an organisation on a positive development trend, which has an excellent cooperation with DLN.



*Group discussion*

Working Kids is a project that has found it difficult to gain a proper foothold and find the

der skal være en evaluering af kultur/naturenrejsen fra oktober 2015. Det bliver i juni i Århus, hvor Bodil Mathiasen lægger kolonihavehus til. Alle rejsemedtagere er inviteret, og indtil nu er der – ud over tre rejsearrangører – 6 tilmeldinger.

I slutningen af august, starten af september er det planen, at der skal komme besøg i Danmark af to personer fra Development of Peace Education (DPE). De skal besøge forskellige demokratiske institutioner og forhåbentlig deltage en dag i Verdensspejl i Århus Festuge 2016 med en paneldebat. Går alt op i en højere enhed incl. visa til Basotho, er det planen, at der skal holdes Pitso den 3. september.

Trots fortsat politisk ustabilitet i Lesotho, er DPE i stand til at gennemføre størstепarten af de planlagte aktiviteter, som DLN støtter. Desuden har det været muligt at omorganisere nogle aktiviteter, så generelt giver DPEs aktiviteter god mening for befolkningen i de distrikter, hvor de arbejder.



*Gruppediskussion*

Rural Selfhelp Development Association (RSDA) har 25-års jubilæum i år. De er i gang med at forberede fejringen. Det er i sig selv en præstation for en NGO i Lesotho at have eksisteret i 25 år, så der er god grund til at det skal fejres. RSDA er der ud over godt funderet og har opnået meget i forhold til at bevidstgøre landmændene. RSDA er blevet velorganiseret og forsøger at få indflydelse på politiske beslutninger omkring landbrugets forhold i

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right partners in Lesotho, but we are still working on it.

As a new initiative, the AGM decided that we should endeavour to organise for Danish students to do their work placement/practicum in Lesotho. This work has started and Grete Mygind has interviewed some Danish education institutions in order to clarify the rules and requirements for the students' practicum.



*Signing of account.*

With these words we wish all our readers a pleasant summer or winter, dependent on which side of the Equator you are on.



landet. De er stadig en organisation i positiv udvikling, som DLN har et rigtigt godt samarbejde med.

Working Kids er et projekt, der har svært ved at få fodfæste og finde de rette samarbejdspartnere, men der bliver stadig arbejdet på sagen.



*Højt humør*

Som noget nyt, besluttede GF, at der skulle arbejdes på at sende danske studerende i praktik i Lesotho. Det arbejde er der også kommet gang i. Grete Mygind har lavet interview på nogle danske uddannelsesinstitutioner, der handler om, hvilke krav disse stiller til de studerendes praktik.

Hermed ønskes alle læsere en god sommer eller vinter afhængig af, hvilken side af Ækvator, man befinder sig på.



*Blomster og dejlige ord til den afgående formand*

## DLN future

*By: Louise Bau Jensen*

I had the pleasure to participate in Denmark Lesotho Network's Vision Day on April 9. No less than approximately 20 members participated in the day - an impressing number when considering the small size of the organisation. Great enthusiasm characterised the discussions on DLN's visions for the future.

The day clearly shows that the organisation is made up of good people doing a great job in supporting the work for a better, stronger and more democratic Lesotho.

Let's hope that the enthusiasm shown on the Vision Day, will continue to do good for the Basotho in the future.



*The ideas were present during the dinner.*

## Weekend in Nyborg, 9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016

*By: Anni Petterson*

The meeting was held at Hotel Villa Gulle in Nyborg, an old hotel in the centre of town. It was a well suited venue for a meeting with both a professional and a social agenda. Besides, it was a nice place to be accommodated and we were served plenty of delicious food.

## DLNs fremtid

*Af: Louise Bau Jenssen*

Lørdag den 9. april havde jeg fornøjelsen af at deltage i DLN's Visionsdag i Nyborg. Af en lille forening drevet af frivillig interesse, kan man ikke være andet end imponeret over den store tilslutning på dagen. Ikke alene var godt 20 medlemmer dukket op, men alle deltagere udviste desuden et stort engagement og entusiasme i diskussionerne om DLN's visioner og planer for fremtiden.



*Gruppearbejde*

Ingen kan efter visionsdagen være i tvivl om, at der er gode kræfter samlet i foreningen i arbejdet for et bedre, stærkere og mere demokratisk Lesotho.

Lad os håbe at dette engagement fortsat vil føre masser af gode og nyttige aktiviteter med sig i fremtiden.

## Weekend i Nyborg 9.-10. april 2016.

*Af: Anni Pettersson*

Mødet blev holdt på hotel Villa Gulle i Nyborg, et gammelt hotel centralt i byen. Det var et godt sted at afholde et sådant møde med både et fagligt og et socialt indhold. Desuden var det et rigtig rart sted at være, og vi fik serveret en masse god mad.

The Vision Day compelled us to pay careful attention, but it was very stimulating to learn about possible strategies for development anno 2016.



*Hotel Villa Gulle*

The Annual General Meeting was carried through in a very professional manner, fast and efficient while still observing all rules and regulations. That was quite impressive! It is an interesting way to follow the progress of the projects in Lesotho. For someone like me, who has been so lucky as to visit all three of them, it is a lot easier to understand what is happening. One can get quite excited about it – so it is important to maintain a sense of realism when it comes to assessing one's actual possibilities of getting engaged in project work and so forth.



*Intense listening*

The weekend also was an opportunity to meet old friends and make new acquaintances that



*Snak over middagen*

Visionsdagen krævede, at man holdt ørerne stive og fulgte med, men spændende var det at høre om mulige strategier for udvikling anno 2016.



*Karen fremlægger regnskabet*

Generalforsamlingen blev gennemført på en meget professionel måde, hurtigt og effektivt og med overholdelse af alle forskrifter. Det kunne godt imponere. Det er spændende på denne måde at følge med i projekternes udvikling i Lesotho. Når man, som jeg, er så heldig at have besøgt dem alle tre, er det langt lettere at følge med i, hvad der sker. Man kan blive helt optaget af det – så er det om at bevare realitetssansen m.h.t. egne muligheder for at engagere sig med projektarbejde m.m. Week-enden gav mulighed for at mødes med gamle og nye/nyere bekendte, som man ikke ser i andre end DLN sammenhænge. Tænke sig – vi var hele 3 fra det hold, jeg blev udsendt med af MS i 1980. Der var tid til at snakke og

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one doesn't meet other than through DLN. Just imagine: There were actually three of us present from the Danish Volunteer Service team who went out together in 1980. There was time for some nice walks and talks in beautiful Nyborg before it was time to say goodbye again – and hopefully another reunion in future.

Thank you to the Board for a couple of fine days.

gåture i det skønne Nyborg, inden det igen var tid at sige farvel – og forhåbentlig på gensyn. Tak til bestyrelsen for et par gode dage.

## Louise Bau Jensen

*Elected as substitute to the DLN board.*

With a master's degree in African studies, I have a natural interest in the African continent. I find DLN's work in Lesotho relevant and rewarding, as I believe that we with small means can support and assist the existing powers in union- and democratization processes. I live in Copenhagen, where I work as a media coordinator at Copenhagen Business Academy. I've taken part in DLN's DPE-group for the last 2 ½ years, and look now very much forward to be part of DLN's board and to take part in the organisation's future work.



*Louise listening to the facilitator at DLN's vision day*

## Louise Bau Jensen

*Valgt som suppléant til DLNs bestyrelse.*



*Louise*

Med en cand.mag. i Afrikastudier har jeg en naturlig interesse i kontinentet. DLNs arbejde i Lesotho er på flere måder relevant og givende, da jeg tror på at man med små virkemidler kan støtte de allerede stærke kræfter der eksisterer i landet, til at fremme befolkningens bedste gennem forenings- og demokratiseringsarbejde.

Jeg bor til daglig i København, hvor jeg arbejder som mediekoordinator på erhvervsakademi Cphbusiness.

De seneste 2 ½ år har jeg været en del af DLN-DPE-arbejdsgruppe, og ser nu meget frem til at fungere som suppléant i DLNs bestyrelse, og at få lov til at tage del i foreningens fremdrift fremover.

## Obituary, Joan Løschenkohl

After a short period of illness Joan Løschenkohl passed away peacefully on May 7th in the presence of her family.

Joan was in Lesotho as an accompanying spouse to Claus Løschenkohl, Coordinator for MS (Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke), from 1997 to 2002.



*Joan Løschenkohl*

Joan was known for her marvellous cooking, and it was always a great pleasure to be invited to dine at Joan and Claus. Joan willingly shared her recipes, and she was engaged in preparing a cookbook, which has unfortunately never been published. She was very creative and could transform various kind of scrape into imaginary objects of art that she generously gave away. Joan was straightforward and voiced her opinion exactly as it was. She was also a very caring person and had a big beating heart for those who were facing difficulties. Joan had a very beautiful funeral service in her home in Hundested. Our thoughts now go to Claus and the family.  
Rest in Peace

Anne Andersen, DLN

## Mindeord om Joan Løschenkohl

Efter kort tids sygdomsov Joan Løschenkohl stille ind lørdag den 7. maj omgivet af sin familie.

Joan var i Lesotho som medfølgende hustru til Mellemfolkeligt Samvirkes (MS) Coordinator Claus Løschenkohl fra 1997 til 2002.

Joan var kendt for sin fantastiske kogekunst, og det var altid en fornøjelse at blive inviteret på mad hos Joan og Claus. Joan delte gerne ud af sine opskrifter, og hun var i gang med at skrive en kogebog, som desværre aldrig er blevet udgivet. Hun var meget kreativ og kunne omsætte forskelligt skrald til fantasifulde kunstværker, som hun gerne delte ud af. Joan var ligefrem, og sagde sin mening nøjagtigt, som den var. Hun var meget omsorgsfuld og havde et stort hjerte for dem, der havde det svært.



*Joan sammen med Claus*

Joan fik en meget smuk bisættelse fra sit hjem i Hundested.

Vore tanker går til nu Claus og familien. Æret være hendes minde.

Anne Andersen, DLN

## Strategic Plan for Denmark Lesotho Network 2016-2020

The purpose of DLN:

- To support initiatives in Lesotho that facilitates the work to develop and improve living conditions in the country.
- To promote contact between people in Lesotho and Denmark.

### A competent contribution to the development work

Aim: Develop DLN's capacity and motivation to make a competent contribution to development in Lesotho.

DLN will

- Ensure transparency and openness in the working culture and decisions making processes of the organisation.
- Organise the activities of the organisation in working groups. The groups have autonomy within the framework that are defined by the Board and the AGM. It is the intention to have all working groups represented in the Board.
- Engage members actively in the work of the organisation and create opportunities for involvement in different types of tasks. Differences in members' resources and possibilities for contributing are taken into account.
- Call on all members to participate actively in CISU's courses and events.
- Urge the working groups to engage students and resource persons in the activities of the group.

### Support cooperation with civil society in Lesotho

Aim: To establish and strengthen partnerships and cooperation with organisations in Lesotho in order to strengthen the building of a democratic and independent civil society in Lesotho.

## Strategi plan for Denmark Lesotho Network 2016 – 2020

Målsætning for DLN:

- At støtte initiativer i Lesotho, som fremmer arbejdet med at udvikle og forbedre levevilkårene i landet.
- At fremme kontakten mellem folk i Lesotho og Danmark.

### Et kvalificeret bidrag til udviklingssamarbejdet

Mål: Udvikle DLN's kapacitet og motivation til at yde et kvalificeret bidrag til udviklingen i Lesotho.

DLN vil

- Sikre transparens og åbenhed i foreningens arbejdskultur og beslutningsprocesser.
- Organisere foreningens aktiviteter i arbejdsgrupper. Grupperne har autonomi inden for rammer der defineres af bestyrelsen og generalforsamlingen. Det tilstræbes at alle arbejdsgrupper er repræsenteret i bestyrelsen.
- Engagere medlemmerne aktivt i foreningens arbejde og skabe muligheder for involvering i forskellige typer opgaver. Der tages højde for medlemmernes forskellige ressourcer og muligheder for at bidrage til arbejde.
- Opfordre alle medlemmer til at deltage aktivt i CISU's kurser og arrangementer.
- Opfordre arbejdsgrupperne til at inddrage studerende og ressourcepersoner i gruppernes arbejde.

### Støtte til samarbejdet med civilsamfundet i Lesotho

Mål: At etablere og styrke partnerskaber og samarbejder med organisationer i Lesotho for derved at styrke opbygningen af et demokratisk

## DLN will

- Engage in partnerships with organisations in Lesotho that work in accordance with the purpose of DLN. Partnerships that involve economic support are anchored in a working group. The number of partnerships is adjusted to match the capacity of DLN.
- Preparation of project strategies in cooperation with partners taking the wants and needs of the partners as the starting point. Where necessary DLN and partners will jointly seek funding for the work.
- Share knowledge and methods with the partners.
- Share experiences and cooperate with other organisations in Denmark and Lesotho in order to build and actively utilise the network to strengthen the work in Lesotho.
- Ensure that partners and DLN can work under constantly changing conditions in Lesotho.
- Focus on marginalised groups.

## Support understanding between people in different cultures

Aim: To strengthen understanding in Denmark of the living conditions of the people of Lesotho and keep up the will to fight poverty and strengthen democracy and human rights in Lesotho.

## DLN will

- Organise culture tours to Lesotho in order to increase knowledge of Lesotho and DLN's work.
- Invite partners to Denmark for information purposes
- Organise presentations and lectures
- Participate in CISU's campaigns
- Facilitate contacts between institutions in

## DLN vil

- Indgå partnerskaber med organisationer i Lesotho, der arbejder inden for DLNs formål. Partnerskaber der involverer økonomisk støtte forankres i en arbejdsgruppe. Antallet af partnere afstemmes med foreningens kapacitet.
- Udarbejde projektstrategier i samarbejde med partnere og med afsæt i partnernes ønsker og behov. Hvor nødvendigt, søger DLN og partnerne i fællesskab midler til arbejdet.
- Udveksle viden og metoder med partnerne
- Udveksle erfaringer og samarbejde med andre organisationer i Danmark og Lesotho med henblik på at opbygge og aktivt bruge netværket til at styrke arbejdet i Lesotho.
- Sikre at partnere og DLN kan arbejde under stadig skiftende vilkår i Lesotho
- Sætte fokus på marginaliserede grupper

## Støtte til mellemmenneskelig forståelse i forskellige kulturer

Mål: At styrke forståelsen i Danmark for Lesothos befolknings vilkår og fastholde viljen til at bekæmpe fattigdom og styrke demokrati og menneskerettigheder i Lesotho.

## DLN vil

- Organisere kulturrejser til Lesotho for at øge kendskabet til Lesotho og DLNs arbejde
- Invitere partnere til Danmark med henblik på oplysningsvirksomhed
- Foredagsvirksomhed
- Deltage i CISU's kampanjer
- Formidle kontakt mellem institutioner i Syd og Nord, eksempelvis indenfor uddannelse
- Udgive et nyhedsbrev 4 gange årligt.
- Formidle nyheder og information om Lesotho gennem hjemmeside og opprioritere sociale medier til

the South and the North, e.g. within education

- Publish a newsletter four times per year.
- Publish news and information about Lesotho through the website and give higher priority to social media for communication and greater visibility.

kommunikation og synlighed

## News from Lesotho:

### From BBC News

#### **Lesotho: Famine fears in African country twinned with Wales**

By Garry Owen BBC Cymru

- 12 May 2016
- From the section [Wales](#)



A small southern Africa country twinned with Wales is facing a crisis which could lead to thousands of people dying from hunger. One of the world's leading humanitarian agencies has told BBC Cymru Wales Lesotho needs international help to stop the current crisis turning into a

humanitarian tragedy.

The World Food Programme - a United Nations (UN) agency - said the international community must act fast to avoid a tragedy in the drought-hit kingdom.

Food emergencies have been declared across southern Africa as a result of the drought caused by the El Nino weather phenomenon.

Throughout Lesotho, crops have failed and food prices have risen dramatically, beyond the reach of a large section of the population.

 Consequently, more than 500,000 people - a quarter of the nation's population of two million - are in danger, according to the UN. This is a result of severe food and water shortages and malnutrition.



Crops have failed this year



And with winter about to set in, bringing cold weather, Unicef has warned as many as 800,000 people could be facing hunger in a few months' time.

I travelled to Lesotho with a BBC Wales crew to film a documentary for S4C, looking at the impact of the drought.

On a personal note, I had travelled there in 2005 to film a documentary for BBC One Wales looking at the HIV/Aids crisis.

The situation was desperate then, with one in three people living with HIV/aids.

Lesotho had one of the highest rates of the disease in the world. The HIV/Aids crisis continues, but I wanted to see now how the country was coping with this, and with the new crisis - drought.

One doctor at a clinic near Maseru, the capital city, told me that, unless the situation improves, "it could be like Ethiopia".

It was very worrying to see people facing the reality of a winter without food.

The crops have failed in Lesotho for the second year running and 80% of the people living there are subsistence farmers who depend on their crops.

Many people told me they were already going without food and children I spoke to told me they only had food in school because there was "nothing to eat at home". Schools have to rely on help

from the World Food Programme. At the moment the situation is very difficult for people in Lesotho but it is going to get much worse over the coming weeks and months as winter sets in. It gets freezing cold during the winter season and many families are facing extreme hardship.

Agencies such as the World Food Programme are appealing for international help immediately to make sure people get the aid they need to survive.



## 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](mailto:karen.steffensen@mail.dk)

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Homepage: [www.lumela.dk](http://www.lumela.dk)

### KHOTSO – PULA – NALA

Responsible Editor: Anne Andersen

(submission of articles to  
[dln@lumela.dk](mailto:dln@lumela.dk) or any board member)