

NEWS&VIEWS

THE FUTURE ???

By Margrit Temple - our National President



We are all very different, be it our shape, size, or personality yet something we all have in common no matter what our age, is curiosity about our future. We have concern about our career, finding the right life-partner, achieving our goals, our future happiness and security. We are all born with a God-given fixed number of days and years known only to Him. Some die a seemingly untimely death, some linger on in weakness for years and years. One thing is a certainty, and that is we all will pass on, but very hard to believe personally when you are a young adult.

What does the future look like? Bright for some; Varsity or College is going well and there is every prospect of finishing according to plan and qualifying for good employment positions.

For most, the future just happens as each new situation is negotiated. The world around has become unstable with ongoing terrorism, wars and rumours of wars, starvation and violence = **Our unknown future.**

We already know that the working environment is changing. Gone are the days when a person worked for the same company until retirement, or even for 10 to 15 years. In many cases the "office" will be the computer anywhere, working clusters that will change continually, with work guaranteed for a contract period only, this being the order of the day = **Our changing future.**

As computer systems advance and become more sophisticated, as also social media, there is nowhere that you are not traceable and your details are available worldwide = **Our scary future.**

How can I cope with this unknown, daunting future?

Some facts:

- God is in the Future. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8
- God knows your name and address and has a plan for you. "All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be." Psalm 139:118. "And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered". Matthew 10:30
- God has a rescue plan for you and me in this uncertain and sinful world through His Son Jesus. "For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves. In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Colossians 1:13-14.

Our part in His Plan is to:

a) Recognise it. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Jesus Christ." Romans 3:23-24.



b) Accept His plan and incorporate it into your life. "To all who received Him, to those who believed, He gave the right to become the children of God." John 1:12

c) Become a Child of God.

- Live under His care: "Cast all your anxieties on Him because He cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7.
- Live under His direction: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart... and He will direct your paths." Proverbs 3:5.
- Live under His protection: "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Joshua 1:5.

Our future is safe in Him. When all is said and done and our future comes to an end, He has promised the gift of life with Him in heaven for ever! "This is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son." John 5:11.

God will be your Guide, Rock and Refuge into your unknown future, if you ask Him in. He has promised!

BLOEMFONTEIN

Almarie Gouws – 2012 to 2017

Almarie is the new Manager of the Bloemfontein YW and we are very happy to welcome her 'home'. This is her story

In December 2012 The YW house in East London was sold - an end of a season ... or so I thought.

After being away from home (the Western Cape) for a long period, I thought it is time to go back. I started to work as administrator for STOP (Stop Trafficking of People), which is an NGO and based in Stellenbosch.

After hosting about 50 pastors from East Africa as a last event at the East London YW, I was invited to Kenya to be part of a Gospel crusade and to speak about Human Trafficking and what role the church has to play. I spend 10 amazing days in Kenya. There were lots of meetings and I met the most wonderful people. At the end of my stay I told my host, Bishop Kamau, that I don't know who or what is the most beautiful in Kenya ... the scenery or the people.

Back in South Africa I liaised with the Hawks, the Human Trafficking Coalition, safe houses, donors and YWAM'S Media Village, all to raise awareness of the human trafficking crisis. I went to different schools and spoke to teachers and learners about human trafficking; I ran fundraising events in the form of art exhibitions; I worked with a group of ladies on the Cape Flats and I was invited to Parliament for the discussion sessions on the TIP Bill. I also attended the session when this Bill was accepted to be signed as law.

It was a very interesting time in my life. Because STOP was an NGO there was not a lot of money to pay me a market-related salary so I had to take on a 2nd and 3rd job to ensure there was enough in my bank to cover my expenses. I cooked and took care of a grandpa and grandson while the mom was in the UK doing care work. I also cooked for an elderly gentleman and his wife who had Parkinson's disease. This was hectic and I could not keep all the balls in the air. The cost of living in Cape Town was very high.

I applied via Facebook for the position of receptionist at the Morgan Bay Hotel in the Eastern Cape. The packet included accommodation, food and laundry service. The hotel was just opposite the road from where I lived. By this time I was in a very bad financial situation but I was amazed by God's grace and provision. I have never in my life worked as hard as I worked at the reception at the Morgan Bay Hotel. Morgan Bay is an international and local family holiday destination. People who used to go there for holidays as little children, now come and bring their little kids for the holidays. Apart from the normal holiday and weekend guests, the hotel is also a very popular wedding destination. In my second year at the Morgan Bay Hotel, the position of bookkeeper opened. I applied for the position and was successful. So, from 2014 I was the bookkeeper of the Morgan Bay Hotel. The logo for the Morgan Bay Hotel is "It is like coming home". Strange, at the YW it is "home away from home".

In June 2016 Noreen contacted me and asked if I would be interested to come and help out in Bloemfontein. At that stage I said no, because I was working and quite happy where I was. The owners (4th generation) of The Morgan Bay Hotel are lovely Christian people and one of the magazines that they subscribe to was the Joy. Every month the YW Bloemfontein advertisement jumped out at me, when I read the magazine. So, I said okay God, let's see what You want to do. When God got my full attention, things started to happen very, very quickly ... and here I am.



Irene & Almarie



The STOP team



Morgan Bay Hotel

BLOEMFONTEIN

Way back in 1980, I had been given the opportunity to come and study at KOVSIES in Bloemfontein. I had a bursary and accommodation. Two weeks before I had to be in Bloemfontein for the course, I contacted them and said that I would rather stay in the Western Province. Throughout my life there has always been this little thought about what might have been different in my life if I had gone to Bloemfontein then, in 1981? What amazes me is that God opened a door again in Bloemfontein after all these years. When I find out why, I will let you know.

I attended Brother Angus Buchan's call to prayer in Bloemfontein earlier this year and was absolutely shocked when, amongst all the thousands of people there, I met up with Irene Visagie. Irene had been the Assistant Manager together with me when the East London YW house was sold in 2012 and we hadn't seen each other since as she had returned to her home in Piketberg in the Western Cape. God is soooo good!



Adelaide Mogweng

I am **Adelaide Mogweng** from a small village called Gantatelang, Kuruman, in the Northern Cape. I am 21 years of age.

I have attended numerous schools in the Northern Cape, from Gantatelang to Lime Acres, from Lime Acres to Danielskuil, Kathu, and matriculated in Hotazel. Having to be raised by a single parent made things a bit challenging as I had to move to wherever Mom got work. However, I didn't grow up disadvantaged. When I was doing my grade 10 I had to choose subjects to 'major' in and I took Maths and Science. That didn't go well and therefore I had to change my subjects.

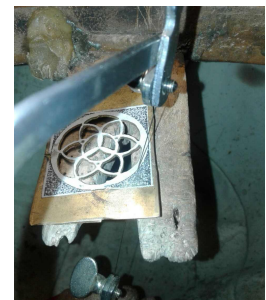
I then moved to Hotazel where I took Art. This was my way of escaping the Science world. Juf Marthani was then my Visual Art teacher. It was challenging at first because I didn't find it as easy as I thought it would be. But time went by and it all became better. I was mostly very theoretically strong. I was the top student and mom finally gave me the go-ahead in pursuing my Art. At a later stage Markus Steinman became my Art teacher and he advised me to go for Graphics Design.

When I applied for the course at CUT, my mind was already made up about me doing Graphics. I fell in love with jewellery in my first year and didn't hesitate in focusing in that field. Jewellery is a whole new world, it's bold, it's fresh, it's exciting and free. It allows one to go beyond boundaries and that matches my personality quite well.

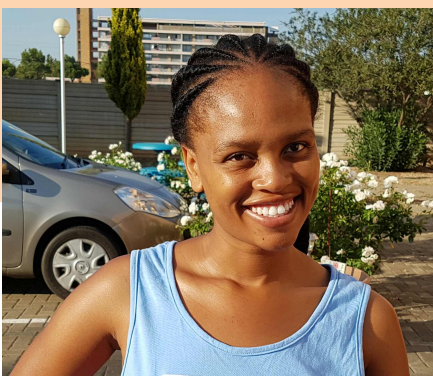
I believe I am one very advantaged individual - from a small village to Bloemfontein, and actually being able to study what my heart really desires. God couldn't be Greater!!



Start of a jewel...



...finished product



Boipelo Seleke

My name is **Boipelo Seleke**. I am 21 years of age. I am from a small town in the Karoo named Beaufort-West. The Lord placed me in Bloemfontein in 2015 to study at the Central University of Technology Free State, not knowing where I was going to stay. Accommodation was a struggle but the Lord never ceases to amaze me, He is faithful at all times. I had a cousin who lived in Bloemfontein and referred me The YW.

The YW is a place full of rules, which got to me at some point. There was a time where I wanted to leave the place, but I knew deep down God wanted me here. I thank God for keeping me at The YW. Living here has taught me so many things. It taught me how to live with people and accept them the way they are, to be responsible and also it gave me the platform to proclaim the gospel through music, which I thank God for.

I have been through a lot in my life, emotionally, mentally and spiritually, Satan attacking me personally and through loved ones, but let me tell you thing: God is still good! I can testify that God has been with me through everything and has given me strength to endure all kinds of challenges. Prayer and my faith in Him, I believe, has kept me going. My advice to my peers and the younger ones is firstly: seek God and His righteousness, be honest with yourself and God, accept that you are unique and love yourself. Never give up, pray harder, believe and have faith. Don't base God's goodness on the things He does for you, understand that God is good because it's His character. Be grateful that you are alive and give thanks. God loves you. Amen!

CAPE TOWN

From the Slopes of Table Mountain

**From Wayne Lofthouse
President of the CT Local Assn Committee**

Welcome to all our Residents in 2017, and on behalf of the Committee, we would like to extend a special word of WELCOME to our first-time residents. It is good to have you with us and we pray that this will be a very special time as you all enter a new stage of your lives and that you will be richly blessed by your stay at the YW.

We are so thankful to have such wonderful, caring Managers in Mr and Mrs Wood. We thank God for their availability and dedication in serving God in this way. We are sure that if you have any questions, about anything, you have realized that you can call on them at any time and just ask and they will assist you.

Much is planned for this year and the Committee wish to challenge you all to take full advantage of everything that The YW has to offer and that you will enjoy it to the full. We are so grateful to have Steph, who so willingly gives of her time to get to know you all and to provide the platform for many discussions, which we hope you will find relevant to your lives.

We trust that by now you have got to know the wonderful Team who cook, clean and ensure that The YW is a perfect home away from home for you all. I am sure that you will extend your thanks to them as they not only serve you, but also as they serve God in this way.

May your year be filled with great insights and may you gather many pearls of wisdom as you study or work. May God bless you all richly.

Our Staff Christmas Treat – A harbour cruise that brought squeals of delight as some had only ever seen the boats in dock. **A REAL trip** out to sea; WOW, delightful, you cannot capture the enjoyment as we set sail. Each staff member could **bring a family member** to enjoy the trip with us.



Heathia and her son Lyle, Roger and his Mom Alice, and Bernard our gardener, in 2016.



Staff of 'The YW' Cape Town.

Alice was able to invite Roger her son, whom we have been praying for throughout the year. He has terminal cancer, and lives daily working through the emotional and physical stages of the disease. **We praise God for this opportunity to bless Roger**, as he joined us on our **celebration of PRAISE** as we enter 2017, **God is faithful**, and the ministry of reaching YOUNG WOMEN with HIS LOVE has continued through the ministry of our residence in **Cape Town**; allowing us the privilege of building relationships with young people. Many of our young ladies arrived with their parents to view the house and then make a choice to stay with us for the year 2017. Parents slept over at the "Y" as the **girls settled in** and found their way around the city of Cape Town and the **various transport** modes within our city.

Our guests for the evening -



David & Sarah from Camps Bay and Steph & Sam our life coach couple & Luzelle a past student.

Our first get together was an **evening of chatting** through house rules and how to protect ourselves within the city as we traveled to and from our colleges and universities. Then came **VALENTINE**, love with the **BIG RED HEART**; we **celebrated** with a Mexican supper and delicious chocolate mousse cake and enjoyed having **Steph and Sam back with us**, now a delightful married couple. Looking forward to our **connect evenings** with Steph on Wednesday's.

Pastor David and Sarah Skevington joined us for the evening and shared their desire from the Young Adults Group from **Christian Life at Camps Bay Church** to join them on Sunday's. A wonderful opportunity to belong to a **spiritual family** and get involved in ministry times. 'God Is Good' and certainly taking care of our every need. May we continue to give Him thanks for our house.

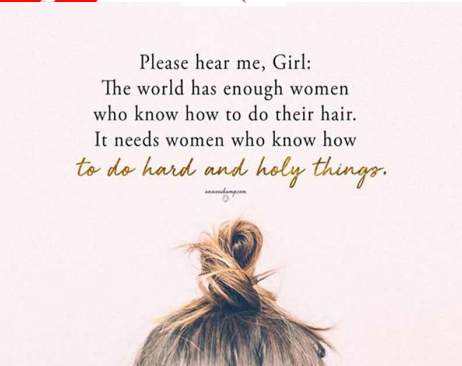


CAPE TOWN

From the Slopes of Table Mountain



Big Red Heart Celebration –
God's love for me



Every loving desire for any man or woman should be taken before God in prayer - Charles Spurgeon

The topic of **Identity** is what we've been braving here at The YW In Cape Town.

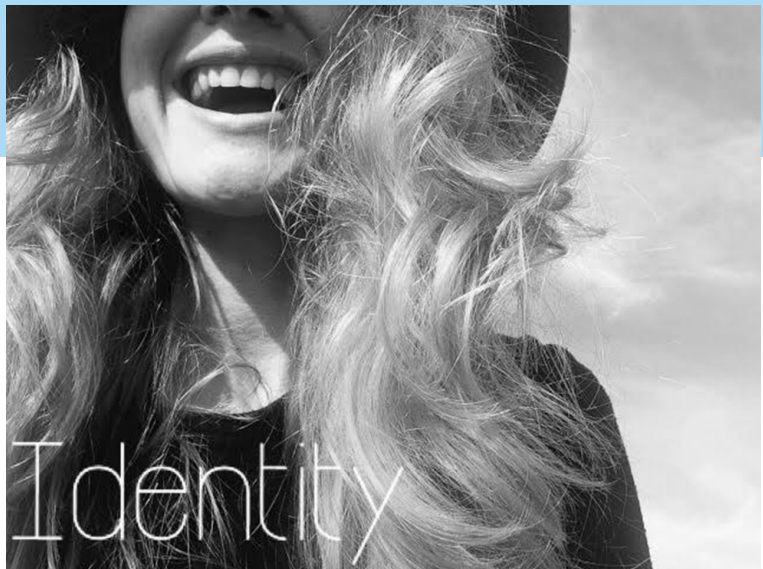
We've been challenged to search a little deeper when sharing with others who we are, how we see ourselves and how we portray ourselves around others.

Starting our year looking in the mirror honestly, has set a real tone in our group.

We've talked about fears, insecurities, hopes, beliefs, our strengths and unique qualities.

We've briefly looked at aspects that inform / shape our identity, including that of Faith. Together we put together a colleague - painting a picture of what our Faith, Hope and beliefs look like.

We hope that by putting it up at the Y, we will be reminded of our foundation, of what is good and true. A mirror to reflect ourselves in Christ when the world around us makes us forget.



It has been a great start to the year. To Journey with young woman of potential in the light is very exciting and rewarding. It's the hard and holy path. Until next time - Steph Biggs Life Coach at The YW Cape Town

Thank you for praying with us as we journey together in ministry. Blessings from all at the YW Cape Town, Brian & Loraine, Heathia, Anne, Nikki, Alice, Annie, Josheline, Phumeza and Distone.

PIETERMARITZBURG

HOW DID WE END 2016?? WE PARTIED!!

Orphanage Christmas Party 2016

As with most things in 2016 the protests at the university complicated matters and the date and time for the party was pushed back and changed several times. The girls were trying to keep up with their studies under difficult circumstances but we all decided that this could not stop us from blessing the children.

Fred and I went off to buy gifts on the day before the party which, unbeknown to us was Black Friday. My goodness we won't do that again!! It was more stressful and tiring than the actual party!

On the day of the party we borrowed cushions from the TV Lounge and arranged them comfortably in the back of the bakkie. Then as many girls as could fit in with the games, equipment, chips, cool drinks etc. climbed aboard. Another five girls were shoe-horned into our car and the balance into that of a young man from the church. Off we set for Indawo Yethembe. The children were ready for us, wound up as tight as springs. We set up and called them to come and play various games, the bulk of which had been selected for their energy-sapping capabilities.

Fred and I then dashed off to collect pizza – not very traditional Christmas fare (unless you are Italian, I suppose), but a very popular choice nevertheless. When placing our order the previous day the Manager had wanted to know what we were doing with all the pizza. When we arrived at the pizza place, we found that not only were our pizzas ready, but that the Manager had kindly donated eight 2lt bottles of assorted cold drinks.

On arrival back at the orphanage we were enthusiastically welcomed by exhausted, hungry children and exhausted, hungry leaders. We passed out pizza until I thought we were feeding the five thousand - those little tummies had a never-ending capacity to eat more. And then on to the enormous cake, a creamy concoction sprinkled with gold-dust. Even this did not prove a challenge to the kids, many of whom came back for seconds.

The leaders then put on a play about the birth of Jesus, which kept the children enthralled. We all sang worship songs with gusto, the kids and the fitter leaders doing the accompanying actions. Finally small gifts and big hugs were given out and we waved goodbye to tired (hopefully), round-bellied (definitely), smiling (oh yeah) kids.



Yummy!

Our End of Year Function 2016 ...



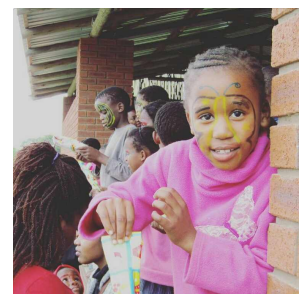
... was held in October. Much thought goes into choosing a theme which will appeal to the majority of the girls and for 2016 we decided on a Western theme with Line Dancing as the main entertainment for the evening. Two young dancing instructors came to do the teaching and calling. I tried, I really did, but when your daughters (45 of them) have everything together and you are tripping over your own feet and not getting two consecutive steps in the correct order, it is best to retire quietly and watch. Young ladies can be so superior! Anyway, enough about hurt pride! The girls were incredibly quick to pick up the routines and had so much fun doing them, all whilst getting a fantastic workout.

We had a couple of breaks for everyone to catch their breath, have a cool drink and replenish their energy with a snack and then it was back to the dance-floor. When it came time for the instructors to leave you would have thought that the protest action had come to the Y and I was thinking about running for the fire hoses. Anyway, the instructors were so touched that the girls were having such fun that they continued. Eventually we all filed into the lounge to "build our own" burgers, relax and eat.

To close the evening various awards were made and thanks given, and we certainly did not forget to mention those people who had done such arbitrary things during the year that to ignore them would have been criminal. Then it was off to bed, ready to hit the books again the following day, having had a fun-filled evening.



The Gang



Face painting fun

PIETERMARITZBURG

HOW DID WE START 2017? WE WELCOMED SOME NEWBIES!!

My Experience of Coming to the Y – Chelsea Nyandoro (1st Year B Com Accounting)

I am enjoying staying at The YW, to the extent where a day never goes by without me laughing. I thought moving away from home was going to be tough since I have never stayed away from home. Well, the complete opposite happened – or should I say, is happening? The YW family welcomed me into their home and made me feel at home.

Making friends as well as getting on with my housemates was not much of a hassle. I have managed to develop close friendships with some of the girls here, to the extent that I now consider them my sisters. Whenever I have some sort of imbalance they are able to assist and guide me in the right direction.

The Connect group has had a positive impact on my spiritual well-being. I have learnt to open my heart to the Lord and to others, and to let God be the centre of my life.

Since the year has had such a splendid start, I am guaranteed a fruitful year ahead.



Chelsea Nyandoro

WHAT MAKES A HOME?

Many will argue that a good home is constituted by shelter, security and good rules, which is the fundamental concept of a good home. Leaving 'actual' home and coming to The YW was a little scary because it was, of course, a foreign environment and transition is never easy, but when I came to 'The YW' it fulfilled ALL the requirements of a good home although a little too much.



Amanda Iwara

Not only was there good shelter and security, which we sometimes resent because when it's time to "bounce" with the clique on a Friday night, signing the late night register is a drag, not to mention the tags. But I've realised that it is a necessary procedure so that Uncle Fred knows our movements and that we're safe, although the white tag still haunts me in my sleep.

Here at the Y I've also realised that a good home is made up of much more, it's in the warmth of all the souls that surround you (although you might bump into Uncle Fred's soul a little too often!). It's the effective communication amongst your peers (again Uncle Fred takes that to another level because he doesn't just communicate, he interrogates). It's every smile on Aunt Penny's face that goes with every encounter with her, the hellos, good mornings and good evenings from your housemates – and it's not just the people you live with but also those who are cleaning and maintaining the yard. Also there are the beautiful creatures we live with, yes Emily and Daniel, I couldn't possibly forget you two scaring the butterflies out of my visitors.

You see, The YW is not a commune, it is home away from home. I love it here.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE EDUCATIONAL FRONT?

Nosipho, another of our "Oldies" brings us up to date. She has been a stalwart of the Homework Project at the orphanage for a number of years and the kids have grown into her heart as she has into theirs.

The "Homework Project" through the years : Nosipho Khweshube

I was asked to write a short piece on my experience with the children in the homework group because, I guess, I have been "doing " homework group for a few years now. Even so, with all that time, writing this is actually quite difficult. It is impossible to put words to my time with the kids throughout these years – it has been filled with laughter, frustration, joy and a lot of confusion, from both the children and myself, but mostly it has been a great learning experience. It has been exciting to see children who initially struggled with spelling and reading, now reading a book and expressing if they enjoyed it or not. Watching a kid try their best and working hard, and then explaining to them a word or a maths concept and seeing the light bulb go off in their head is really a heart-warming experience.



Nosipho

In all this time I have come across different personalities, such as the inquisitive Grade 1 who wants to talk to everyone and ask everything all the time, and who will not let you help other kids because he really just wants to read another book to you. Or a moody Grade 3 who refuses to talk about their day – or anything, actually, especially how they lost a tooth at school that day. Or the scariest personality of all; the mid-pubescent Grade 6 who questions your credibility and who I have to constantly reassure that I did pass matric and I am qualified to help her with her Grade 6 homework. Honestly, through all these, and countless other personalities, through laughter, frustration and confusion, it has been fun and I feel blessed and fortunate to have watched these kids grow into these people who are full of happiness and potential and I cannot wait to see what blessings God has in store for them and what they will all become one day. Nosipho is currently doing a Post Graduate Diploma in Marketing and Supply Chain.

PIETERMARITZBURG

HOW ARE WE DOING SPIRITUALLY?

How "Connect" Impacted My Life in 2016

2016 started as a hard year for me. After working hard the previous year, in matric, and passing well, I still did not have enough points to get into the field of study I wanted.

When "Connect" started at the beginning of the year I just thought to myself, 'It's going to be like any other prayer meeting I have been to'. I had lost faith in myself and did not know what I was doing with my life. I just wanted God to bring light into my life. As I continued attending "Connect" I realised I had a purpose in life and that there was a reason I was in Pietermaritzburg at this time. I then gave my life to the Lord and was saved.

Now I know that God never left me; all my suffering is preparing me for the glory He will bring into my life in the future. It is all part of His plan and His timing is never late or early. "Connect" made a huge impact on my life. I am glad I had the chance to meet our leader, Faith, and to be living at The YW. Thank you so much,
Sinethemba Khanyile (2nd Year Bsc student)

Benjamin Generation

Our church is running "The Power of Sixty" programme for the months of March and April. People are encouraged to give up 60 minutes of their time whenever possible and use it to assist persons in need.

On a bleak, damp but thankfully cool morning, Penny and four young YW ladies joined other volunteers at Benjamin Generation to see if they could make a difference.

Benjamin Generation is situated on a farm in New Hanover, outside Pietermaritzburg, and operates in two capacities – firstly in rescuing little ones from 0 to 5 years with their "Place of Safety", and secondly in developing long term foster homes for those children.



Baroe, Penny, Patricia, Zama and Nonto ready for the task at hand

As one of the business initiatives to finance and sustain the organisation, the farm has tunnels where various crops are grown. The task given to the volunteers on this particular day was to fill small bags with the growing medium for the next crop of jalepenos.

The bags then had to be transported into the tunnels and placed correctly for the drip irrigation system. The team worked for about two hours and managed to complete one entire tunnel!

Well done Team YW Pietermaritzburg! Once again you were awesome! (For more information on Benjamin Generation please visit their website at www.benjamingeneration.org)

WHAT'S UP IN THE KITCHEN?

Six of our kitchens were upgraded in January of this year before the girls returned. Mmbatho does not live in one of the Houses with an upgraded kitchen but she does have a nice stove and plenty of working space. Her passion is cooking, and that is the field she will work in once she has completed her degree.
Mmbatho Molefe (3rd Year BA student)

When I entered "The Fresh Living Competition" I had no expectation of being selected, mainly because it was a national competition and there is a lot of talent in the country. The competition required that you send in a three course menu and the top ten would be selected for a cook-off competition in Cape Town. This would be a two hour "mystery basket" competition which meant that we would only find out our ingredients upon our arrival.

I emailed my menu and within two weeks learned that I had been selected as part of the top ten. Preparation for the event meant reading up on everything from sweet to savoury and I was dead-set on making a risotto with whichever ingredients we were given. Luckily we got chicken, pastry, brie, pear and bacon and had to use a minimum of two ingredients.

I was the second to present my dish and was very nervous because I thought my risotto was too salty. I had prepared a rosemary risotto with pan fried chicken. It was intimidating to present my meal to food stylists, chefs and restaurateurs.

When the deliberations were done the winner of the R70 000.00 bursary was announced – I, unfortunately, was not that person. I came third and received a 10% discount on my fees if I were to register at "Sense of Taste Culinary School".

Before my sad departure I was approached by one of the chefs who gave me his number and said if I wanted to get kitchen experience I should call him. The first thing I did was to Google his name which is Harald Bresselschmidt, chef, patron and owner of Aubergine Restaurant. During the end of year vac I spent 6 weeks working in his kitchen with his team of brilliant young chefs. I must say, as long as the hours were, I am going back!



It was Delicious!

NATIONAL OFFICE:

The National Administrator, PO Box 2039, Ruimsig 1732
Baptist House, 44 Blende Avenue, Roodekrans 1724, Roodepoort
Tel: 011 764 3034 • Fax: 086 671 8247 • email: theyw@iafrica.com

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS:

Bloemfontein YW, The Manager, PO Box 31920, Fichardt Park 9317
10 St Davids St, Willows • Tel: 051 444 5307 • Fax: 051 444 5873 • email: ywbfm@lantic.net

Cape Town YW, The Manager, 20 Bellevue St, Gardens 8001
Tel: 021 423 3711 • Fax: 086 547 0714 • email: ywct@telkomsa.net

Pietermaritzburg YW, The Manager, PO Box 100939, Scottsville 3209
31 Golf Rd, Scottsville Tel: 033 386 3938 • Fax: 086 518 4004 • email: theywpmb@gmail.com

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