

Griet Griet



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The next GrietGriet will be published in March 2017.

GrietGriet is ook in Afrikaans beskikbaar - laat weet ons gerus as u 'n Afrikaanse weergawe verkies.

Team building exercise at the internal camp



Bush walk at sunset



HK 2017



2017 HOUSE COMMITTEE SELECTED

The new House Committee was announced on the 17th of August 2016, after the nerve-wrecking HK circus that took place on the 15th of August 2016. Of course, the real work of being on the HK started immediately.

From the 19th-21st of August 2016, the HK went on their very first internal camp. On this camp the group experienced quite a number of different activities, nothing like they could ever imagine. Their weekend entailed a lot of internal training and preparations for the 2017 term, together with many team building and bonding activities.

The internal camp ensured that the 2017 HK really got to know each other on a whole new level as this was their first time coming together as a team. However, apart from the training, preparations, bonding and activities, the highlight of the weekend was when Esbé van Zyl, Primaria of 2012, joined the team for a motivational session.

Esbé facilitated a session on the bright future of Magrietjie and without a doubt, every HK lady enjoyed every minute of Esbé's presence, experience and wisdom shared. After spending time with the HK of 2017, Esbé had the following feedback after the weekend:

"On Saturday, 20 August 2016, I had the privilege of spending the day with our newly elected HK members. The wide-eyed pink ladies were confronted with the daunting task of transforming a shared dream into practical guidelines for the year ahead. After establishing the shared dream of a home for ALL and a space where Magrietjie ladies can truly "be the best that they can be", they were faced with two critical questions: What does this environment look like? And how do we create this environment? These questions lead to an intensely constructive conversation amongst the HK members. They soon realised that through the collaboration of their diverse views and opinions, the solutions were evident. I was inspired by their openness to share, willingness to grasp new concepts and stepping into the unknown to explore alternatives. I am convinced that these ladies are geared and ready to re-enforce the strong foundations of Magrietjie. Myself, and the rest of the Magrietjies, will be waiting in anticipation to see and hear what the Pink Ladies will accomplish in the year to come. It is so wonderful to see that Magrietjie ladies are still leading the way after 35 years. Good luck and remember that we all share the dream with you! MY ALLES, VIR ALTYD, VIR MAGRIETJIE."

The HK extends their gratitude towards Esbé for her time and guidance to ensure Magrietjie's bright future. (Photo: Esbe in back row, third from left with the 2017 HK)



Serenade finals for Mags!

Serenade 2016 was a definite highlight for the Magrietjie ladies. Our theme was "drive-through attendants", with a subtle message of the flawed capitalist system. Preparation for the Serenade competition already commenced in March and by the 8th of August 2016 the ladies were ready and very excited for prelims. Magrietjie made it to the finals held on the 12th of August 2016 and placed 3rd overall. As usual, Serenade proved to be much fun, with the added benefit that the ladies created a special bond with each other. A huge thank you to Nangamso Gumbe for all her hard work in putting a great show together.

Written by Chrizané Venter



New Spikkels get a glimpse of Mags

Magrietjie's Spikkel Information Day for the 2017 Spikkels was held on 15 October 2016. It was the day our new Spikkels got a glimpse into their futures and all the new adventures that they will soon encounter. Spikkels from all over the country were shown what Magrietjie has to offer. They had the opportunity of meeting their HK and their house parents. As the day progressed, cupcakes were enjoyed, stories were told, a few tears were shed and young hearts were racing with excitement. Our soon to be fellow sisters viewed the facilities with moms making mental notes of what would be needed to ensure a smooth transition. One thing is for sure, the Spikkels of 2017 cannot wait to be a part of the pink Magrietjie journey!

Written by Libby Tillema

United in our differences on Heritage day

On 23 September 2016 Magrietjie celebrated our very first Heritage day! The goal of the day was to give Magrietjie ladies the opportunity to experience the diversity of the different cultures in the residence. For a whole week we focused on learning greetings from different language groups. On the actual day, the ladies indulged in food samples from different cultures such as vetkoek, pancakes, melktert and mageu. The ladies also had the opportunity to get their hair braided, have a henna session, understand and try on different cultures' attire and accessories while listening to the beautiful vocal performance by Penelope Shoyisa, Itumeleng Mashego and Winnie Matsheni. The ladies even taught each other their

different dances. This not only inspired to accept each other for who we are, but also strengthened bonds. At the end of the day, we realised that it is our differences that bring us together. Viva la Magrietjie Heritage day!



Written by Bianca Pienaar

Seniors say goodbye Umemulo style

The Zulu culture has celebrated the transition from "girl into womanhood" for decades. This celebration is known in isiZulu as Umemulo and is the coming of age ceremony that commemorates the journey a woman has gone through that has prepared her for the greater world as well as wishing her well for the future. This was the inspiration behind Magrietjie's farewell of 2016; namely the desire to celebrate the beautiful journey that all of the ladies who were invited had undergone as well as to wish them well as they embark on a different journey outside Magrietjie.

The night began with traditional music and face painting as soon as the ladies walked in. Speeches from the House Internal HK member, the Primaria and the House Parents all had the common elements of thanking the ladies for their contribution to the Magrietjie family as well as wishing them all the best in all of their future endeavours.

A slideshow highlighted some of the most memorable moments the ladies experienced during their stay in res. The rest of the night was filled with special Magrietjie traditions such as the reading out of the Magrietjie pledge, the singing of the house song, writing in the Magrietjie memory book and writing one's dreams from Magrietjie on a balloon. Catherine Haupt said: *"This bitter farewell was made sweet by a lovely event wishing us well as we enter our futures. The friendly faces, yummy snacks and well-worded wishes greeted us fondly as we said 'see you soon' to our pink palace."*

Written by Ayabonga Sithole



"Tea Can"

On the misty morning of 20 October the Magrietjies enjoyed a flapjack breakfast at the reopened McGiggles clubhouse @ 7am.



Exam prayer

Values HK, Tshepang Motsoeneng held the last exam prayer on the 3rd of October to wish the ladies well with their final exams of 2016. Despite a difficult year with many student protest actions disrupting classes, Magrietjies were eager to write exams and finish the year successfully.

This issue of GrietGriet was compiled by the editor, Dawn Barendse.



Please join the Magrietjie Alumni group on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/7131942833/> and also follow us on Twitter & Instagram @MagrietjieRES & @instagriettjie
If you have any news to share, contact us at magriettjie@up.ac.za

From our treasure chest

The alumna Danita Meiring loves to read the *GrietGriet* and says it reminds her of the good old times she had as a Magrietjie lady. Danita reminisces about being a Spikkel huppeling across the 'blad' and being a HK member walking around on campus in her uniform. Her advice to every Magrietjie lady is to enjoy every moment at the pink palace and to treasure every friendship made.

Thanks for your feedback Danita!

Student protest action

Despite 2016 being filled with national protest action, which also affected the University of Pretoria, all students had the opportunity to successfully complete the academic year. Thumbs up to UP management that kept all residence students safe and who walked the extra mile to arrange free internet access for students to enable them to access all study material and online classes. We trust that 2017 will be less volatile in this regard!

Seniors messages

A farewell message from the Primaria of 2016 as she leaves the pink palace after 5 years: *"The 2016 farewell was not just a 'senior farewell', it was an experience all on its own. It was great that we got to learn something from the Umemulo theme. Personally, it was the first time in Magrietjie where I felt like the guest of honour, like I could enjoy the event!"* - Christél Muller.

House Internal HK of 2015 Izanne Oberholzer leaves Magrietjie after 4 years and said: *"I really loved the theme! It was nice to say goodbye and to be reminded of the good times we had in Magrietjie."*

It is evident that whoever comes to Magrietjie leaves with a big part of it in their hearts. Magrietjie has really become a home away from home over the past 35 years for many ladies."

Message from the 2017 Primaria

My three years in Magrietjie has been the best of my life, and during this time I have learned that fear limits you and your vision. Fear serves as blinders to what may be just a few steps down the road for you. It took a lot of courage for me to accept the honour of being the Primaria of 2017, but nothing is more rewarding than knowing that I made the right decision when I trusted myself and went beyond my fears. And thus far every moment has proven to be fulfilling and worth cherishing.

Together, my exceptionally passionate team and I have decided to stem our goal for the house from this invaluable lesson. We aim to create an environment where every lady can go beyond her fears in order to become the best that she can be in all that she does. We have realised that this journey that we intend on embarking could only be achieved by refocusing our energy on building the new, and not on fighting the old. It is essential to understand that this journey only becomes more valuable when you believe in your talents, abilities, and your self-worth. These are tools that can empower every Magrietjie lady to walk down an even brighter road than she did before and as a result the ladies will transform their fears into freedom. Lastly, I want to encourage every Magrietjie lady to grab the opportunities that come her way in 2017 - to see every day, every moment shared, as a chance to write a different life story than the previous one and to remember this house is not a home without every single one of them.

Pink love, Dalreé de Lange

