



THE PLATFORM

With the school year almost over, perhaps you're starting to think about holiday entertainment. Two forthcoming shows, Kickstart's annual pantomime, *Jack and the Beanstalk* and *Criss Cross Christmas*, performed by three well-known Durban actors, offer excellent family entertainment during December.

Many of Andrew Pender-Smith's delightful poems have been enjoyed by teachers and pupils over the years. Now these, and many more, are available in an e-book, as are Andrew's four children's stories which were published this year. Details for obtaining the books are on page 3.

An annual highlight on our calendar is the Bruce Piper Award Monologue Competition, which will be held on Saturday, 2 November. Details are on page 5 where you will also find two original poems that were presented in festivals this year.

A review of Ashwin Singh's recently published book of five South African plays and our regular *Festival News* completes this final issue for 2013.

1943 - 2013

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Fourth Term 2013

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Jack and the Beanstalk

A fun-filled family pantomime

Written and Directed by Steven Stead, designed by Greg King,
with lighting design by Tina le Roux.

With Rory Booth, Jessica Sole, Darren King, Liesl Coppin, Shelley MacLean,
Peter Court, Bryan Hiles and Lyle Buxton.

Join Durban's best-loved actors on a magical romp up the famous fairytale beanstalk and beyond, on an adventure that includes toe-tapping songs, jokes, slapstick, fantastic sets and fantasy costumes! A must-see holiday treat for all ages!

Book before the end of November and be eligible for Early Bird group booking discounts: Pay for 8 seats get 2 free! Available through Ailsa Windsor of Going Places: editor.goingplacessa@gmail.com or 0832502690.

Other bookings all through Computicket: 0839158000
or www.computicket.co.za

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JACK AND THE *Beanstalk*

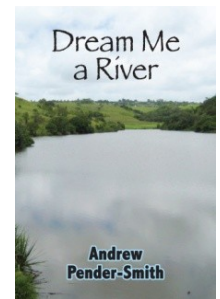
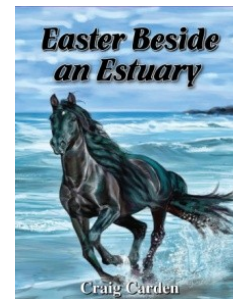
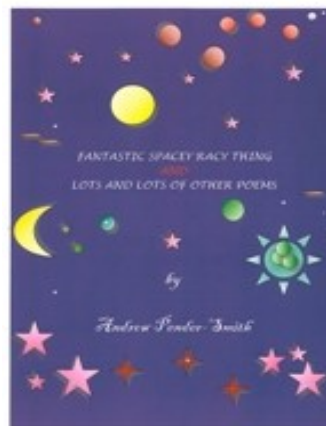
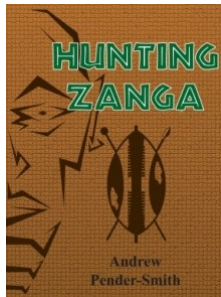
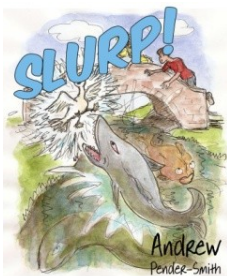


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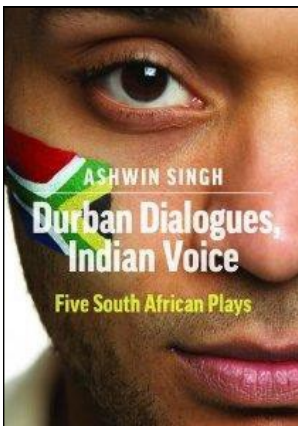
MY E-BOOKS BY ANDREW PENDER-SMITH

Earlier this year I took the plunge into e-book publishing under the **GREEN MONKEY PUBLICATIONS** label. Four books were readied and uploaded with the kind and patient help of Luke Meiklejohn. It didn't help that my eyesight was giving me hell and that what I know about e-book publishing couldn't fill a postage stamp. However, when it all came together, it was exciting seeing *Dream Me a River*, *Hunting Zanga*, *SLURP!* and the 'open secret' *Easter Beside an Estuary* up on a number of sites.

Over the years I have frequently been asked: When are you bringing out more of your poems? After all these enquiries I began working on an e-book in which I have included over seventy of my children's poems. 'FANTASTIC SPACEY RACY THING AND LOTS AND LOTS OF OTHER POEMS' is due out between the end of October or early November. In the creation of this book a big 'Thank You' must go to the Speech and Drama Association, who have used about 25 poems in their syllabi over many years and who have offered feedback and encouragement to me as a writer. Another e-book, **Colour Me More**, is being developed and is due out at a later date.



THE BOOKS CAN BE FOUND ON AMAZON KINDLE, KALAHARI AND GOODREADS.



DURBAN DIALOGUES, INDIAN VOICE

A contemporary play collection

Ideal for schools, colleges and theatre companies

Durban Dialogues, Indian Voice is an anthology of five engaging and eclectic South African plays by award-winning playwright Ashwin Singh. The plays selected, namely *To House*, *Duped*, *Spice 'n Stuff*, *Reoca Light* and *Beyond the Big Bangs* represent the complete array of Singh's storytelling skills in drama as well as satire.

Each play reflects, in different ways, on the complexities and contradictions of life in post-Apartheid South Africa, and focuses particularly on people of Indian origin and their relationship with other South African communities. The plays, each one set in Durban, present a moving portrait of a unique array of characters and are punctuated by Singh's trademark humour.

About the author

Ashwin Singh is an attorney, lecturer, playwright, actor and director. He has been internationally published as both a playwright and an academic author. Aurora Metro published his play *To House* in the 2006 anthology *New South African Plays* and Catalina UnLtd have just published his play *Spice 'n Stuff* in the anthology *The Catalina Collection*. Singh is a three-time national award winner for playwriting via the PANSA Playreading Festival. The Playhouse Company and the Catalina UnLtd Theatre Company have been the most prolific producers of his work.

Contact the author on ashwingsingh1512@gmail.com to order the book.

FESTIVAL NEWS

128 Festivals and 7 workshops, have kept our adjudicators busy from March until November this year. We hope you enjoyed your festivals and that they have been positive and worthwhile experiences. We can see that the benefits of having an annual festival are appreciated by schools, parents and pupils, as the number of entries are growing all the time.

We congratulate the following schools on successfully completing their first speech and drama festival during 2013: Anjuman Islam Primary School, Glenashley Junior Primary School, Liv School, Midlands Home Schooling, Northlands Primary School (Senior Primary), Oasis Christian Academy and Virginia Preparatory School. Other new members are Grace College, Mandini Academy and Sathya Sai School.

We also welcomed Tessa Louw to the panel of adjudicators.

As you know we have been busy compiling the 2014-2016 Syllabus. The new English and Afrikaans books will be available to paid-up members from the beginning of next year. The isiZulu book has not changed, so if you have the 2011-2013 book, you should continue to use it.

You may book your festival dates for 2014 by phone, fax, email, or by submitting the online form from our website.

Finally, on behalf of the Executive Committee, I would like to wish you happy and peaceful holidays. I shall be in touch with schools, studios and adjudicators when the office reopens on 13 January 2014.

FEEDBACK FROM OASIS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY, HOWICK.

Earlier this year, we joined the Speech and Drama Association, and our Grade 2 - 12 learners practiced their poems and sonnets during drama times in preparation for our festival in September.

According to Mrs. Jeananne Gunthorp, who adjudicated the work, all the candidates did exceptionally well. She is pictured here with some of the pupils.



ORIGINAL POEMS

CATCHING MY KINGFISH



By Graydon Emberton
(assisted by Carol Emberton)

Grade 4, Holy Childhood School, Eshowe

The lagoon lies before me, the water a-shimmer,
Like little lights dancing with a glitter and glimmer,
On the surface it all seems too still and calm,
But beneath the water the fish are alarmed.

The silence is broken with a splish and a splash,
Tiny, silver mullet begin their desperate dash,
This way, and that way, they swim to escape,
From the mighty Kingfish that's after my bait.

I sit on the edge with my rod in my hand,
My heart pumps excitedly as I wait and stand,
For I know it is only a matter of time
Until the Kingfish bites, and takes my line.

Then suddenly there's a pull and my line starts to sing,
It whizzes through the eyes with a zing, zing, zing.
There's a burst of colour - blue, white and green,
As the Kingfish jumps with its silvery sheen.

My line is stretched tight so I start to reel,
Slowly, slowly I begin to feel
That with patience I will surely win this fight,
If I use my strength and all my might.

I reel my catch gently on to land,
The fish lies exhausted on the white, wet sand,
Its tail flaps quietly, its beady eye looks,
Will it be released, or will it be cooked?

I carefully remove the hook from its lips
Hold it up for a photo - its as high as my hip,
Then I set it free in the ocean to swim,
To fight the next battle which I hope it will win!

SOCCER

By Cleodeen Wang

Grade 6, St Patrick's College, Kokstad

Soccer is a game I play.

If I had a choice I'd play all day.

Running free without a care,

My friends and I would play almost
anywhere.

When I play I am as focused as can be.

I picture myself playing as great as Leo
Messi,

Dribbling the ball, the open goal's my
aim -



I've scored!! I've won the game!

ALL WELCOME



BRUCE PIPER AWARD MONOLOGUE COMPETITION

DATE: Saturday, 2 November 2013

TIME: 2pm

VENUE: Studio 5, UKZN, Durban

Criss Cross Christmas

KIDDIES SHOW

7-24 December
SUNCOAST @ 11am

TICKETS R60 COMPUTICKET /
AT THE DOOR / 083 2502690

