

Report prepared by:	Chief Executive Officer Prieur du Plessis
Reporting period:	December 2003
Report prepared for:	Board of Directors Meeting 19 January 2004

The House Group came through a period of festivities and revelries unscathed. It seldom happens that Hillbrow lets us off this easily. More often than not, we will be burgled during the Xmas and New Year season.

Most of the activities for the past 30 day period will be covered by the Kulula and the Theosis Skills reports.

Great news is that the Vrije Scholen, a college in Amsterdam, donated the sum of R62, 000-00 to The House Group, mainly to be used for maintenance and repairs to Kulula. I intend to send a monthly report to the Vrije Scholen so that these dedicated friends will know how their money is spent.

Some of the improvements and repairs that were done at Kulula during this month include the following:

- Six of the wooden cabins were moved to a central square close to the ablution block.
- Ten cabins were painted with a protective varnish and doors and windows were repaired.
- The school building, which was badly scorched during the fire, needed a new coat of green paint.
- The borehole pump is being enclosed with bricks.
- A centrifugal pump was installed next to the cement dam.
- A sprinkler system was installed in the vegetable garden.
- A hothouse was erected so that we can produce vegetables during winter.
- The barbed wire fence surrounding the property had to be repaired after the fire.
- Two hundred steel droppers were bought to replace the wooden droppers that burned out.
- 26 Artichoke plants were planted.

The staff and personnel of The House Group received an annual bonus of ten percent this year.

The Dasia bakkie was send in to be repaired at a cost of R10,00-00 which include a reconditioned Renault engine. The bakkie should now serve us well for several years.

A Business Plan and a three year financial projection, as requested by the Department of Welfare and Social Development, were compiled. A copy for safekeeping will be handed to the Director of Finances and the Director of Administration.

The Prodeo Webmaster worked extremely hard to provide us with a most excellent Website. The site is now complete but needs body. This site will be the window in to the world of The House Group and should inspire would be donors to make donations to our worthy cause.

An African lady was employed on a temporary basis to assist with the administration of The House. Her permanent employment will be considered after this three months trail period.

ed E-commerce Enabled Banking Facilities so that donations can be made and transferred. Jean, in an advisory capacity, suggests that we should have a Merchant Account with at least a Visa and MasterCard, and for the USA also a Discover Card. Jean kindly offered to arrange the facilities for us.