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if

you've been a *Rhodes Journalism Review* reader for a while, you'll be surprised by the smaller magazine you are holding in your hands right now. *RJR* started off life as an A4 but has been big since no 9, December 1994, and the size I inherited when I started as editor in 1997. It's a format I've always loved; it stands (er, stood)



out among the wash of pamphlets at international conferences, it gave designers and photographers a fantastic sweep of canvas, and it was distinctive in the world of magazines, a true original.

But now we're taking a brave step into the digital age because the costs of distribution have become prohibitive. But because

many of our readers have patchy connectivity (if any at all) we're reluctant to abandon print, just yet. So the *RJR* board has made a decision to reduce the size of the publication so that we can still get it into those corners of the continent we want to reach, but to start the migration online. This edition is both a print and online version. But we're not just archiving the print material; if you go to www.rjr.ru.ac.za you'll see the first monthly edition of *RJR Alive* with extra reading material from *RJR 33* and the first digital monthly edition "Viva Radio", a special focus on that most important medium. *RJR Alive* will publish new material on the website every month from February to November. If you'd like to sign up for an email alert then please use this email address to give us your contact details: rjreditor@ru.ac.za

Accountability. The media-people relationship.

Not just the media-our audience relationship, or the media-our readers relationship. For this edition we take our cue again from the Highway Africa conference (theme: "Speaking truth to power") and from the international colloquium organised by Prof Jane Duncan of Rhodes and Dr Julie Reid of Unisa (theme: press accountability and ethics internationally). We started this discussion in the pages of Review last year. This conversation is not yet done and it needs to continue until we have a better grip on how the media serves the people and helps gives them access to decision-making power, especially in places where their voices should be better heard.

Young people, the media and citizenship.

We also take a cue from two recent projects conducted by our school into young South Africans

and their use of the media and whether what they consume helps them speak and act in ways that improve their lives. The SANPAD-funded study surveyed nearly a thousand youngsters across five provinces (with the help of researchers at UCT and UKZN) and looked at 18 months of coverage of young people in the media in South Africa (this part done by Media Tenor) and the Mellon Media and Citizenship project did focus group studies in Johannesburg and in the Eastern Cape. The results are both depressing and heartening. Depressing because young people are being systematically ignored by those in power and abandoned by the media. Heartening because young people have ideas, energy and want to act, and this is a significant force to harness. The cover picture, **Sibulele Mabusela's** portrait of a stranger, was taken in the parking lot at Sandton City of a young man taking a smoke break. If you look into his eyes you will see the familiar defiance and engagement that many youth carry as their defence against the uncertain world. We've peppered this edition with photographs of the youth to keep them in your eye as you're reading and we thank the President's Award, Africa Media Online, Neo Ntsoma, Sydelle Willow Smith and student photographers in Jenny Gordon's third-year photojournalism class for their pictures.

Then we give you "Notes from the Cutting Edge", a heads up from those watching the technological wave and assessing its breaking power. We look at the aftermath of the Marikana massacre and its meanings for us as South Africans and we carry two of **Greg Marinovich's** pictures, one of the few to go behind the lines of policemen and ask questions of how the massacre happened.

And we're bilingual!

The School of Journalism and Media Studies is involved in an IREX project in Mozambique. The Sol Plaatje Institute is working with several media houses to improve business and journalism practices and the teachers are working with the Escola de Comicação e Artes at Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo. Dr Nataniel Ngomane, head of the school, and Vanessa Malila have sourced the stories and **Matthew Kay** supplied the pictures. It's wonderful to be bilingual again and to focus on a country facing a really interesting media future. We are also in discussions with Highway Africa and certain funders about the possibility of carrying regular copy from West Africa in French in this magazine and so we hope to become, over time, a truly trilingual, Africa-wide magazine.

Enjoy the beginning of the new *Review*.

Anthea Garman, Editor