



PIEKE

EST. 1973

WELCOMING BOOKLET
2026



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to keep up to date with
Welcoming 2026!



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01

DEAR PROSPECTIVE PIEKE NEWCOMER



Congratulations on both your prospective placement at Stellenbosch University and Pieke CSC (Commuter Student Community). Pieke is a community that provides the same experience and activities as a residence, but for students who reside in private accommodation. Pieke is proud to be an active community on campus, without being limited to a single residence building.

Pieke was established in 1973 and has flourished ever since. We pride ourselves on our values of Honour, Excellence, Integrity, and Service. Grounded by these values, Pieke has been extremely successful in all spheres. Being part of the Rubix Cluster (which you will learn about shortly), Pieke has shown its capability of being a dedicated and vibrant community. As a CSC, we are full of spirit, despite the fact that we don't live together under one roof. We maintain this spirit by organising numerous events throughout the year, which range from formal House Dances to informal movie nights. Pieke aims to create a home away from home, providing safety and security for all of its members. It is, therefore, the mission of Pieke to maintain unity within the House by treating each Pieke member equally regardless of race, language, identity, or sexual orientation and providing a platform where it is possible to achieve your full potential.

For inquiries regarding admissions, courses, and finances, please contact info@sun.ac.za
For inquiries regarding Pieke and the Welcoming Program, please contact pieke@sun.ac.za

We look forward to meeting you all!

**Start meeting your fellow Pieke newcomers, House Committee and
Mentors on our WhatsApp group, available by scanning the QR code!**



02 WHAT IS PIEKE?



What is Pieke and what is a CSC ?

Pieke (Afrikaans for “peaks”) is a Commuter Student Community (CSC) at Stellenbosch University. We function identically to a conventional residence; except we serve the needs of students in private accommodation.

This means that commuter students (like all of us) are at no disadvantage when compared to residence students. Pieke still offers the same social, sport, cultural, academic and leadership opportunities that residence students enjoy - the only thing we don't provide is accommodation.

If you're looking for private accommodation, you can follow this link: <https://www.su.ac.za/en/apply/undergrad/accommodation/private-accommodation>.

What does Pieke provide me ?

We know that the transition to university can be a daunting one (we've all gone through it ourselves). As a community, we therefore assist you in getting to know life in Stellenbosch through our comprehensive two-week Welcoming Program and provide you with the support and tools needed to excel through your time at university. After Welcoming, we continue to provide you with a place to belong, hang out, meet new people and develop graduate attributes (the skills employers are looking for).

We are your home-away-from-home throughout your journey at Stellenbosch University and we can't wait for you to join us. We are run by students, for students and couldn't do it without you!

Pieke 4 Pieke Fund

We foster a culture of giving back, and truly believe that our members are our greatest asset. Our Pieke 4 Pieke fund is maintained by our alumni members and our various fundraising events throughout the year to ensure that all Pieke members are able to partake in all facets of Pieke's offerings without financial burden.

Pieke Event Fund

We pride ourselves on having something for everyone at Pieke, but if there is something we don't offer yet please let us know and we'll help you make it a reality. We want to invest in you and your ideas for future events and ideas.

03

OUR OFFERINGS:

ACADEMICS & LEADERSHIP



Academics

We have a variety of academic support structures for you to utilise whether on campus or at home.

You will be assigned a mentor who will be able to give insight into your faculty and degree. These mentors will guide you through navigating your academics and will form a group with your fellow Pieke Newcomers within your faculty, creating a network that you can utilise throughout the year.

Within our Rubix Cluster, we also have initiatives to help with your academics, including Rubix Study Nights leading up to exams. The study nights are held in a rec hall in one of the residences which form part of the cluster and provide an opportunity to study with other members of our cluster.

Leadership

There are many leadership opportunities that are offered both within Pieke, as well as within the broader Stellenbosch University. Whether it be courses to better and learn about leadership or serving in our community, we have it all.

Within Pieke we have a First Years Committee that is only available to you as a newcomer. This role allows you to grasp the workings of our community, give back to Pieke, and puts you in charge of organising our first social event of the year! We also have positions as Mentors, Seniors Committee, House Committee (HC), and on various sub-committees that you'll be able to apply for during your university career.

Outside of Pieke, there are positions such as class representatives, faculty committees, and the Student Representative Council (SRC). More information will be provided by the University for these positions.



04 OUR OFFERINGS: SPORT & CULTURE



Sport

When it comes to diversity of sport, there is no other comparable CSC to Pieke. From rugby to e-sports, we give it our all. We have made a name for ourselves not only as Pieke CSC, but we also form part of the Rubix Vikings which competes with other CSC communities on campus. We compete in the Men's Residence Rugby League and are quite a force to be reckoned with.

Culture

Culture is something that is very close to our hearts and have made a positive name for ourselves within the Stellenbosch University community. We offer a range of cultural activities from acting to singing and everything in between.

Sér

Commonly known as SU Acapella, Sér provides an opportunity to showcase our collective voice. The experience one gains is almost as good as the harmonies we create, but at the end of the day, it's the bonds you form within your team that make Sér the cultural powerhouse it is.

Toneelfees

Otherwise known as the epitome of campus drama. Taking the stage as a CSC and acting out a script dedicated solely to stealing the spotlight is what drives many students to take part in this cultural rollercoaster.

Pieke Serenades

One of the big events in the Welcoming Programme is the campus serenade - so get your singing voices ready! However, this is not a once-off event; we do this continuously throughout the year, much to the excitement of the communities we serenade.



WELCOMING

What is Welcoming?



As you enter this new phase of your life, we aim to ensure that you feel included in the diverse environment that is Stellenbosch, as well as Pieke CSC. We are here to make your transition as smooth as possible and to equip you with all the tools you may need to tackle this new chapter. We offer various activities that have been put in place to help you develop holistically. These activities include sports, culture, academic assistance, as well as personal and leadership development. As we walk this path with you, we want you to make memories, meet new people, and most importantly, have the time of your life!

What is Connect?



More commonly known as **Vensters** is thus far the largest open-air event in the Southern Hemisphere. Every student community is grouped with one or two other communities to collaborate. This partnership then aims to challenge, impress, and win over spectators and judges through productions that utilise acting, dancing, humour, and innovative storylines - all to be achieved within 15 minutes.

Each of the partnerships features only Stellenbosch University's newcomers, and Pieke's partner for 2026 is... **Huis ten Bosch!**

Welcoming Programme Symbols

Alongside our Welcoming Programme, you'll see a few symbols to assist everyone in navigating their participation. Please familiarise yourself with these:

- The venue/activity is accessible to those with disabilities or special needs.
- The activity requires physical movement and/or high energy levels.
- The activity involves loud music, cheering, singing or other loud sounds.
- The activity involves interacting in large groups (>=50).
- The activity involves interacting in small groups (<=30).

PRE-ARRIVAL PROGRAM

A week before the official start of Welcoming, Pieke will host a virtual programme on our Instagram account, presenting everything you need to know about Welcoming, the Pieke CSC, and all things related to Stellenbosch University!

Day 1: Monday, 19 January 2026

Theme: House Committee



Day 2: Tuesday, 20 January 2026

Theme: Mentors



Day 3: Wednesday, 21 January 2026

Theme: Cluster (RUBIX)



Day 4: Thursday, 22 January 2026

Theme: Faculties



Day 5: Friday, 23 January 2026

Theme: Sports and Culture



Day 6: Saturday, 24 January 2026

Theme: Wellness



MONDAY 26 JAN 2026

DAY 1

09:00 - 09:30	   	Pieke Registration @ First Year Chemistry Building	52 De Beer Rd
09:30 - 10:30	  	Formal Pieke Welcoming @ First Year Chemistry Building	52 De Beer Rd
11:00 - 12:30	  	Meet Your Mentors @ Piekstaai	12 Joubert Street
12:30 - 13:30	  	Lunch @ Piekstaai	12 Joubert Street
14:00 - 16:00	   	Piekelympics @ Rubix Grass	C.O. of Bosman & Van Riebeeck Street
16:00 - 17:00	 	What To Expect For Day Two @ Piekstaai	12 Joubert Street
18:00 - 20:00	 	Law Faculty Program @ Old Main Building	52 Ryneveld Street
TBC		Cluster Law Social @ TBC	
 			

Need help finding the venue? Check the Campus Map at
<https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



TUESDAY 27 JAN 2026

DAY 2

08:00 - 09:00



MyBrew & Banter

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

08:30 - 16:00



Law Faculty Program

@ Old Main Building

52 Ryneveld Street

09:00 - 10:00



Pieke Songs & Chants

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

10:30 - 12:30



Discovering Stellies

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

13:00 - 14:00



Lunch

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

14:00 - 15:00



Safety Talk

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

15:00 - 16:00



Connect Practice

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

16:00 - 17:00



Pieke Values Talk

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

17:00 - 18:00



Make Your Mark

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

18:00 - 18:30



Debrief & Next Day Agenda

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

18:30 -



Pieke Show and Tell

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street



WEDNESDAY 28 JAN 2026

DAY 3

08:00 - 09:00	MyBrew & Banter	
		
08:00 - 12:00	Law Faculty Program	
		
09:00 - 10:00	Pieke Songs & Chants	
		
10:00 - 11:00	Paint and Signs	
		
11:00 - 11:30	Mentee Riff Off	
		
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch	
		
13:00 - 13:30	Ha Ka Saw	
		
13:30 - 14:30	Mentor Session	
		
15:30 - 17:00	Move to Danie Craven	
		
16:00 - 17:00	Dinner	
		

Need help finding the venue? Check the Campus Map at
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WEDNESDAY 28 JAN 2026

DAY 3

17:00 - 19:00



Danie Craven Programme

@ Danie Craven Stadium

20:00 - 22:15



Dreamwalk

@ Victoria Street (Ending at Neelsie)

Need help finding the venue? Check the Campus Map at
<https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



THURSDAY 29 JAN 2026

DAY 4

08:00 - 08:15	Meet at Piekstaai	
	@ Piekstaai	12 Joubert Street
08:30 - 13:00	Cluster Day	
	@ Rubix Grass	C.O. of Bosman & Van Riebeeck Street
13:15 - 14:00	Cluster Lunch	
	@ Rubix Grass	C.O. of Bosman & Van Riebeeck Street
14:00 - 15:00	Nerina Social	
	@ Nerina Residence	2 De Waal Road
15:00 - 15:30	SRC Roadshow	
	@ Rubix Grass	C.O. of Bosman & Van Riebeeck Street
16:00 - 17:00	Prim Talk	
	@ Krotoa	52 Ryneveld Street
17:30 - 18:00	Pieke Activity	
	@ Piekstaai	12 Joubert Street
18:30 - 20:00	Connect Social & Dinner	
	@ Huis Ten Bosch Residence	9 Bosman Street

Need help finding the venue? Check the Campus Map at
<https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



FRIDAY 30 JAN 2026

DAY 5

08:00 - 09:00



MyBrew & Banter

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

08:00 - 12:00



Academic Program

Please see your SU 2026 Welcoming Booklet

09:30 - 11:00



Let's Talk Consent

@ TBC

11:30 - 12:30



Brunch

@ Rubix Grass

C.O. of Bosman & Van Riebeeck Street

12:30 - 13:00



Move to Welcoming Fair

@ Rubix Grass

C.O. of Bosman & Van Riebeeck Street

13:00 - 14:30



Welcoming Fair

@ Coetzenburg B & C Rugby Fields

14:45 - 16:15



Theatre Production

@ Coetzenburg Centre

16:30 - 18:00



Pool Party

@ Maties Sport Swimming Pool

18:00 - 19:00



Dinner

@ Rubix Grass

C.O. of Bosman & Van Riebeeck Street

19:00 - 20:30



Cluster Chill

@ Nerina Residence

2 De Waal Road

Need help finding the venue? Check the Campus Map at
<https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



SATURDAY 31 JAN 2026

DAY 6

ALL DAY

Personal Admin

As we are conscious of the needs of our students we have dedicated this day to our Newcomers to rest and sort out any personal matters or admin they may have, such as moving into accommodation, shopping and preparation for university, as well as family time during this Welcoming Programme.

Need help finding the venue? Look for our map on Page 25 or check the Campus Map at <https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



SUNDAY 1 FEB 2026

DAY 7

ALL DAY

Personal Admin

As we are conscious of the needs of our students we have dedicated this day to our Newcomers to rest and sort out any personal matters or admin they may have, such as moving into accommodation, shopping and preparation for university, as well as family time during this Welcoming Programme.

Need help finding the venue? Look for our map on Page 25 or check the Campus Map at <https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



MONDAY 2 FEB 2026

DAY 8

08:00 - 09:00



MyBrew & Banter

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

09:00 - 17:30



Academic Program

Please see your SU 2026 Welcoming Booklet

12:30 - 13:30



Lunch

@ Rooiplein

16:30 - 18:00



Goldfields Social & Dinner

@ Goldfields Residence

11 Hammanshand Road

Need help finding the venue? Check the Campus Map at
<https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



TUESDAY 3 FEB 2026

DAY 9

08:00 - 09:00



MyBrew & Banter

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

09:00 - 17:30



Academic Program

Please see your SU 2026 Welcoming Booklet

12:30 - 13:30



Lunch

@ Rooiplein

17:30 - 18:30



Let's Talk Alcohol Safety & Dinner

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

19:00 - 21:00



Night Life

@ Punk

3 Victoria Street

Need help finding the venue? Check the Campus Map at
<https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



WEDNESDAY 4 FEB 2026

DAY 10

08:00 - 09:00



MyBrew & Banter

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

09:00 - 12:30



Academic Program

Please see your SU 2026 Welcoming Booklet

12:30 - 14:00



Olympus Social & Lunch

@ Jan Marais Park

11 Marais Road

14:00 - 15:00



Connect Practice

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

15:30 - 17:30



Crossing the Line

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

Need help finding the venue? Check the Campus Map at
<https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



THURSDAY 5 FEB 2026

DAY 11

08:15 - 10:00	Compulsory Faculty Benchmark Test for Newcomers of Science and Agriscience Faculty		
08:00 - 09:00	MyBrew & Banter		
		@ Piekstaai	12 Joubert Street
09:00 - 10:30	Sustainability		
		@ Piekstaai	12 Joubert Street
10:30 - 12:00	Let's Talk Culture		
		@ Piekstaai	12 Joubert Street
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch		
		@ Piekstaai	12 Joubert Street
13:30 - 15:30	Connect Practice		
		@ Piekstaai	12 Joubert Street
15:30 - 16:00	Mentor Session		
		@ Rubix Grass	C.O. of Bosman & Van Riebeeck Street
16:30 - 17:00	Supper & Move to Maties Athletics Club		
		@ Rubix Grass	C.O. of Bosman & Van Riebeeck Street
17:30 - 21:00	Cluster Newcomers' Athletics Meeting		
		@ Maties Athletics Club, Coetzenburg	

Need help finding the venue? Check the Campus Map at
<https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



FRIDAY 6 FEB 2026

DAY 12

08:00 - 09:00



MyBrew & Banter

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

09:00 - 12:00



Social Impact Morning

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

12:00 - 12:30



Lunch

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

13:00 - 14:00



Connect Practice

@ Huis Ten Bosch Residence 9 Bosman Street

14:30 - 15:00



Dress Rehearsal

@ Welgevallen Sport Fields

15:30 - 16:30



“Gees” Session

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

17:00 - 19:00



Pieke Campus Serenade

@ Piekstaai

12 Joubert Street

Need help finding the venue? Check the Campus Map at
<https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



SATURDAY 7 FEB 2026

DAY 13

07:00 - 07:30	Meet at Piekstaai	
		@ Piekstaai 12 Joubert Street
07:30 - 09:30	Pieke Summit	
		@ Piekstaai 12 Joubert Street
10:00 - 11:00	MyBrew & Banter + Mentor Session	
		@ Rubix Grass C.O. of Bosman & Van Riebeeck Street
11:30 - 13:00	Connect Practice	
		@ Huis Ten Bosch Residence 9 Bosman Street
13:00 - 13:30	Lunch	
		@ Huis Ten Bosch Residence 9 Bosman Street
13:30 - 14:00	Connect Preparation	
		@ Rubix Grass C.O. of Bosman & Van Riebeeck Street
14:15 -	Departure for Connect	
		@ Rubix Grass C.O. of Bosman & Van Riebeeck Street
14:45 -	Connect Performance	
		@ Welgevallen Sport Fields
16:00 - 23:00	Connect (“Vensters”)	
		@ Welgevallen Sport Fields

Need help finding the venue? Check the Campus Map at
<https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



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MESSAGE FROM THE COMMUTER STUDENT COMMUNITIES UNIT (CSCU)



Dear Pieke Newcomer

Congratulations on your provisional acceptance to Stellenbosch University, and a warm welcome to Pieke! Studying at SU is both a great honour and an exciting opportunity. As you prepare to begin this new chapter, we wish you every success as you take the first steps in your university journey. Please note that your allocation to the Pieke community is conditional and subject to you receiving an academic offer and successfully registering at Stellenbosch University.

The Commuter Student Communities Unit at Stellenbosch University is responsible for managing the Pieke Community, together with its House Committee and mentors. We form part of your support network and are here to assist with your academic and social integration at SU. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or need guidance along the way.

Pieke is a values-driven community, and these values guide everything we do. Being part of Pieke will allow you to forge new paths, build meaningful relationships, and discover innovative ways to grow both personally and academically.

The Commuter Student Communities (CSCs) model ensures that students living in private accommodation remain connected to one another and to campus life. Through a combination of in-person and virtual engagement, Pieke offers a range of opportunities to participate in community activities, mentorship, and events even when you are off campus.

We encourage you to make the most of every opportunity that comes your way. At Stellenbosch University, your academic programme is only one part of your developmental experience. Pieke will help you become a well-rounded graduate, ready to thrive in an ever-changing world.

We look forward to welcoming you into the Pieke community with open arms.

Warm regards,
Commuter Student Communities Unit



22 INTRODUCING... THE RUBIX CLUSTER



Dear Newcomer,

Congratulations on your acceptance into Stellenbosch University, and welcome to **RUBIX** - a cluster known for its warmth, unity, and unmistakable sense of community

RUBIX brings together five diverse student communities - Heemstede, Metanoia, Nerina, Pieke, and Venustia - creating a space where you can feel supported from day one. Here, you'll find people who encourage you, challenge you, and walk with you as you find your place at Stellenbosch. It's a community where you can show up as yourself, grow confidently, and build connections that truly matter.

What makes **RUBIX** special is the energy our students bring into every space - the willingness to show up, support one another, and create experiences that make this cluster feel like a second home. You'll quickly realise that **RUBIX** is more than just a name; it's a feeling, a community, and a collective spirit you'll become part of.

As your Cluster Convenor, I'll be working alongside a dedicated and passionate team of student leaders who are just as excited as I am to welcome you into this community. Together, we're committed to creating spaces where you feel included, supported, and inspired throughout your journey at Stellenbosch.

Welcome to Stellenbosch. Welcome to **RUBIX**
We are RUBIX!

Warm regards,
Cameron Fisher
Rubix Cluster Convenor



*N*ERINA
EST. 1968



23 INTRODUCING... OPEN DINING HALLS



What are Open Dining Halls ?

Open Dining Halls is a system implemented by the University to help integrate CSC students into the broader university experience. Through this system, CSC students can book meals (breakfast, lunch, or dinner) at a residence within their assigned cluster. As part of Rubix, you'll be able to book your meals at Heemstede Residence. This is a great opportunity to enjoy tasty food while socialising with your cluster community. More information will be provided during Welcoming.

How to book a meal ?

- 1) Navigate to MySun and click on 'Accommodation'
- 2) Click on 'Meal Booking', sign in, and follow the prompts
- 3) When choosing the facilities, ensure that you click on Heemstede

Create a Booking

- Click on the date you want in the meal calendar
- A pop-up will guide you through selecting your meal
- Use the arrows at the top to switch between months

Modify a Booking

- Click on the booked meal (e.g. Dinner) in the calendar and follow the pop-up instructions
- Note: some bookings close for edits close to the meal date

Cancel a Booking

- Click on the booked meal (e.g. Lunch) you want to cancel and use the pop-up
- Note: cancellations are also restricted close to the meal date

Eco-friendly living

How to reduce your carbon footprint
and join the Net Zero Carbon journey

Water

- Water restrictions still apply.
- Use only 80 L /person/day.
- Shower 3 -5 min.
- Use eco-friendly personal products.
- No rinsing or washing with running water.

Energy

- Use LED lamps only.
- Limit fridge use to one 150 L bar fridge per room.
- Air-dry clothes when possible.
- Turn off lights & unplug devices when not in use.
- Use A++ energy efficient appliances (low wattage).

Transport

- Everything is within easy walking distance on campus.
- Walk or cycle instead of driving.
- Hire a Matie bike.
- Share rides or use shuttles.

Waste

- SU has a zero waste to landfill goal.
- Buy less items that must be thrown away.
- Bring reusable bags, cups, bottles and containers - no single use items.
- Compost food scraps & sort recyclables properly.
- No wet items in the recycling bin.

Get involved

- Join your community Green/Sustainability Com.
- Follow: [@su.environmental.sust](https://twitter.com/su.environmental.sust)

CLUSTER NEWCOMERS

ATHLETICS DAY

COETZENBURG ATHLETICS
STADIUM

5 FEBRUARY 2026 17:30 - 20:30



PRESENTED BY THE CENTRE FOR
STUDENT LIFE AND LEARNING AND
MATIES SPORT



26 OUR HOUSE COMMITTEE



The House Committee (HC) consists of 12 students that have been chosen to represent our community. Their goal is to ensure that everyone within Pieke has the necessary opportunities throughout their university career to develop holistically. The House Committee is a leadership body within the Stellenbosch University framework. They are responsible for upholding the rules and regulations of Stellenbosch University, the university's rules for residences/CSCs, and the rules of the Pieke.



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INTRODUCING... OUR PRIMARIUS



MARK MAREE



piekeprim@sun.ac.za

PORTFOLIOS:

Primarius
Alumni Relations
Constitution
Maintenance



BA International Studies III

Home Town: Durban, KZN

Hey Pieke Newcomers!

First and foremost, I want to congratulate you all on your final acceptance into Stellenbosch University and your placement into Pieke. You are about to step into what I can truly say are going to be the best and most memorable years of your life.

My name is Mark-Philip Maree, and it is my privilege to serve as your Primarius for the 2025/2026 leadership term. In this role I work to lead our dedicated and enthusiastic house committee, whom you will be introduced to over the next few pages, as well as representing our incredible community as a member of the Prim Committee, where I serve to elevate your needs and voices to the wider university.

So, who am I? Well, I am originally from Durban, KZN and have lived there my whole life until I began my studies at SU. I am entering my fourth year now studying a BA in International Relations. Since the day I arrived at Pieke, I have been involved

from the get-go, serving on the first-year committee in 2023, a general HC member in 2024, Vice-Primarius in 2025, and now I have the honour of serving as your Primarius in 2026. I am an avid sport fan and nature lover, particularly rugby and a die-hard fan of Liverpool FC. When I am not studying or serving in my HC role, you will find me climbing the mountains across South Africa, which is my biggest passion, and a fun fact, in 2026 I will be climbing the tallest mountain in Africa: Mount Kilimanjaro.

I want to take this moment to truly welcome you to our community. It is no exaggeration when I say that there is no place quite like this one. Pieke is a home away from home that gives its members the opportunity to flourish in a variety of different areas. Whether you want to make some big tackles on the rugby field, a top musician or actor, or are someone who wants to develop their leadership skills and serve those around them, you will find that there is something for everyone here. This is a space that celebrates its inclusive and diverse offerings.

Finally, before we dive into what promises to be a fantastic Welcoming and great year ahead, I want to remind you all to stop and just take a deep breath. The start of your university journey is one that can be daunting, but at the same time, incredibly rewarding. Take each day at a time and engage in all the incredible opportunities you will find here. My door is open to every single one of you, whether you need a laugh or a chat, I am always here to support you in every way I possibly can. Welcome to Pieke CSC. I cannot wait to get to know you all and watch you excel during your first year at Stellenbosch University

28 INTRODUCING... OUR VICE-PRIMARIA



BA Humanities III



Home Town: Cape Town, WC

Hey Pieke!

It is both a privilege and honour to welcome you into this family, Pieke CSC. Congratulations on becoming a member of this community and a student at Stellenbosch University. You've arrived in a place to grow, to learn, and to belong.

My name is Amy Vermaak and I have the honour of serving as your Vice-Primaria for 2025/2026. In my role as VP, I work closely with our Primarius, and House Committee to support the overall functioning of our CSC and to hold the bigger picture of our community together. My portfolios are Safety, Discipline, Internal Relations, and Welcoming Leader - each one speaks to a part of my heart for this house

With Safety, I ensure that Pieke is a secure environment in which everyone feels physically and emotionally safe and is respected within our space. Discipline will allow me to create spaces where we are able to grow from our mistakes and be held accountable to uphold our house values. Through Internal Relations, I can strengthen our team dynamic and ensure that there is consistency, transparency and honest communication in the way we lead and in the way we receive feedback from one another. Lastly, as Welcoming Leader, my role is to create a safe and inclusive environment for all newcomers, to bring gees every day and to help build our sense of community early on.

My journey in this community has so far been filled with growth, connection and lots of GEES. I arrived as a second year into this space and found belonging, my purpose in continuously wanting to serve this community and confidence in leading by example. I am a Capetonian at heart and pursued a Bachelor of Arts degree in Humanities. Leadership has been my passion for most of my life. I grew up playing the clarinet and always found classical music to be my hidden serenity. Despite being from Cape Town, I fell in love with Stellenbosch, its nature, and the overall 'small town' vibe. I love meeting new people and giving great advice. If you don't find me having a chat with someone, I will most likely be binging any series whilst enjoying some ice cream. Since I am lactose-intolerant, I usually suffer afterwards!

Despite my role as VP, my door will always be open if you ever need a friend. This transition period into university is not the easiest and at times can be scary, but you're not alone. You have arrived at an inclusive space where you will always be embraced, supported, and celebrated. I cannot wait to meet you all during Welcoming and welcome you into YOUR home away from home!

AMY VERMAAK



27170012@sun.ac.za

PORTFOLIOS:

Vice-Primaria
Internal Relations
Safety & Discipline
Welcoming

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INTRODUCING...

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE



LOUCHAN BOTHA



BA Humanities III



Home Town: Kraaifontein, WC

PORTFOLIOS:

Head Mentor / Wellness / Academics / Pieke Week

Hey, Newcomers!

I'm Louchan Botha, your Head Mentor, and I want to give you all a really warm welcome (seriously, it gets HOT during Welcoming. Bring water!). My job is to lead the mentors in supporting you, guiding you, and making sure your questions or concerns reach the House Committee. If something's stressing you out, talk to me and my team, we've got you. I'm also in charge of Wellness and Academics, so if you're overwhelmed or have general academic questions, come find me.

Fun fact: I can hold a full conversation using only pop culture references. My team and I can't wait to meet you and help you through the transition. I know it'll be a good one <3

LA'SHAUNN BENJAMIN



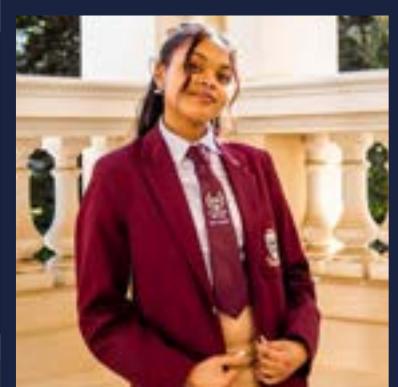
BAcc III



Home Town: Bonteheuwel, WC

PORTFOLIOS:

Financial Manager / Connect



Hi there!

I'm La'Shaunn Benjamin, and I'm so excited to meet you all. I am a BAcc student! I have a real passion for both people and numbers. Right now, I'm diving into my roles as the Financial HC and one of the Connect HC's, where I get to help build our community, boost student engagement, and create awesome experiences on campus. Whether it's managing budgets, planning fun events, or just connecting with fellow students, I love playing a part in making our community feel lively and united.

And here's a fun fact - I also bring music to life as a violinist!

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INTRODUCING...

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE



LIAM RODGERS



BA (Law) III



Home Town: Cape Town, WC

PORTFOLIOS:

Secretary / House Dance

hi there, fellow Pieke members!

firstly, a huge congratulations on being placed into SU. it simply only gets better from here, especially now that you're part of the Pieke family. my name is Liam Rodgers, and i'll be your secretary + house dance HC for the year! this means all Pieke's admin will be handled by yours truly, and i'll also be leading Pieke's House Dance team, which you'll learn more about in due time - so get keen! two lil fun facts about me: i'm an avid book lover, and if i'm ever not on campus, trusstt i'm chilling in stellies' botanical garden. I simply cannot wait to meet you all - i know 2026 is gonna be a great one !!

- with gees and anticipation, Liam :)

ILYAAS GABRU



BAcc III



Home Town: Cape Town, WC



PORTFOLIOS:

Socials / Huisfondsdans / Pre-Welcoming

Howzit Pieke Newcomers!

Congratulations and welcome to stellies! An exciting time awaits you. My name is Ilyaas and I am your socials HC for the year, so i'll be planning events and activities with other communities and also the Pieke Huisfondsdans (a massive jol). A lil fun fact is that I am known as George Bush or Pablo.

Can't wait to meet y'all and look forward to a great year!

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INTRODUCING...

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE



INATHI BUKWELE



B Social Work III



Home Town: Cape Town, WC

PORTFOLIOS:

Cluster / Sustainability / Connect

Hey, hey, hey!

Firstly, I want to start off by congratulating you on being so awesome that you made it into Stellenbosch University, and even BETTER being in the Pieke family. Before I yap away, my name is Inathi Bontle Bokwele and I'm your Cluster, Sustainability and Connect HC. I don't know what my fun fact is, but I know that: I'm taller than Tarah, I'm a good terrible singer, and I love saying sana/chomi. Ohk, as Cluster HC I will help connect you with other first years from our Cluster (Rubix) creating a community beyond just Pieke; for Sustainability - ensuring that you stay informed about all things environmentally sustainable (in a fun way of course). Finally, for Connect - that you'll have to just find out during Welcoming. All the best with your university journey, you belong here!

ROSS COLLINS



BA Humanities III



Home Town: Cape Town, WC

PORTFOLIOS:

Culture / Societies



Hey newcomers of 2026!

My name is Ross Collins, and I'm a general House Committee member in Pieke. I'm 20 years old and I'm in my third year of studying a BA in Humanities. My portfolios within Pieke are Culture and Societies, meaning that I'll be organizing all the Pieke events relating to music, acting, dancing, etc. As well as running the various societies surrounding your special interests that Pieke has to offer. A fun fact about myself is that I have never lost a pub quiz in my life. I look forward to meeting all of you in the Welcoming period, and I hope to provide you all with the opportunities to excel for Pieke through your cultural interests. Let's make 2026 a great year and your memories of Pieke great ones!

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INTRODUCING...

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE



TARAH WARIES



BA Humanities III



Home Town: Paarl, WC

PORTFOLIOS:

Social Media / Social Impact / Welcoming Planner

Heyy pieke members!

Welcome to Stellenbosch University, a huge congratulations to each of you !! I am Tarah Waries, a third year BA Humanities student hoping to major in psychology and one day become a paediatric/clinical psychologist. A fun fact about me is that I did ballet between the ages 3-17 years old. My portfolios in the House Committee of 2025/2026 are social media, social impact, and welcoming planner. My role as the social media HC is to ensure that all our social media platforms are constantly up to date and keeps everyone informed. As the social impact HC, it is my duty to ensure that Pieke fulfils its responsibilities and gives back to the community. Being Welcoming Planner required me to plan the whole Welcoming Programme, with my welcoming committee, so that Pieke can be beyond ready to welcome you to Stellenbosch University. With that being said, I cannot wait to meet each and every one of you. This year is going to be a blast

JAMES FIFIELD



BA Humanities III



Home Town: Johannesburg, Gauteng



PORTFOLIOS:

First Years Committee / Sport / Welcoming Leader

Howzit Everyone!

Welcome to Pieke! I am James Fifield and I am one of your welcoming leaders. I am a Joburg boy that can't wait to meet all of you and show you what it's like to be at Stellies. I am a general HC member in charge of sport and first year's committee, so I am super excited to be able to work with all of you. A fun fact or two about me is that I love to surf and bake red velvet cakes. I'll see all of you in 2026!

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INTRODUCING...

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE



HANNELIE DU TOIT



BA Language and Culture III

Home Town: Worcester, WC

PORTFOLIOS:

Merchandise / Sport

Hey Pieke!

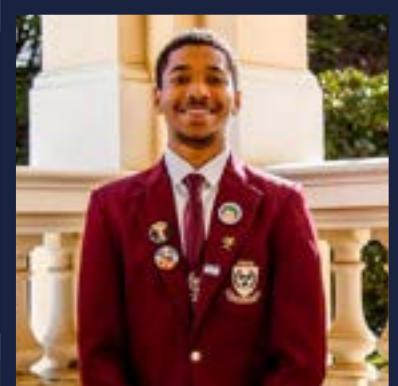
We are so excited to have you at Stellenbosch and, more importantly, at Pieke. My name is Hannelie du Toit and I am your Sport and Merchandise HC. My job is to oversee all things related to female sports and all things clothing-related. A fun fact about me is that I have way too many hobbies, and can never quite get to all of them. I'm so incredibly excited to meet all of you, and make some new memories. And may this year be one full of #gees

JEREMIA SUBRAMONEY



BEng Chemical Engineering III

Home Town: Durban, KZN



PORTFOLIOS:

Seniors Committee / Critical Engagement / Transformation

Wassup Pieke!

I'm Jeremia Subramoney, a 23-year-old third-year Chemical Engineering major and the head of the Senior Committee here at Pieke. My role is all about connecting senior students and creating a platform to create memories through social activities and engagement - because let's face it, the senior years can be a bit hectic but should be the best years of your life! I am also the HC of Critical Engagement, where we dive into some of the most serious and pressing social and economic issues affecting not just our campus, but the world. And in my Transformation portfolio, I focus on making sure our university is an inclusive and safe space for everyone. Oh, and fun fact: I'm a total Harry Potter nerd. I can recite dialogue from every single movie, so feel free to quiz me anytime! Also, if you see me squinting, it's not me pulling a weird face - I'm just trying to see better! Maybe one day I'll invent magic glasses for that but, for now, regular specs will have to do the job.

34 INTRODUCING... THE MENTORS



All Pieke newcomers will get sorted into two mentor groups: social and academic. Your social mentors are your 'plug' into campus life. They will help you connect with your peers, try new things, and are generally all about gees and making Welcoming exciting. Your academic mentors, on the other hand, help you navigate your program, find your classes, understand your module requirements, and assist with any additional questions you may have about your degree.



TOP ROW:

SECOND ROW:

THIRD ROW:

BOTTOM ROW:

Chloë Dippenaar (Deputy Head Mentor)

Charl Cilliers, Chase Nolan, Dominic Norkie

Dylan Williams, Ethan Jarvis, Freddie van der Mescht

Gizelle Rhode, Goodnews Godfrey, Jeremiah Moodie

35 INTRODUCING... THE MENTORS



TOP ROW:

SECOND ROW:

THIRD ROW:

BOTTOM ROW:

Johannes Lipinge, Josh Witbooi, Kayla Coetzee

Kelsey Smith, Kesia Gelderbloem, Lana Sachse

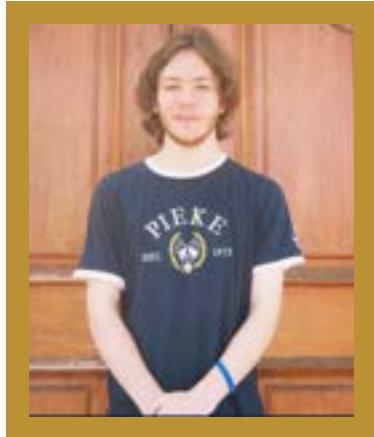
Lehann Botha, Morgan-Jane Gibbs, Tamsyn Diedericks

Tyler De Vincenzo, Zelnita Samuels, Zikho Magengenene

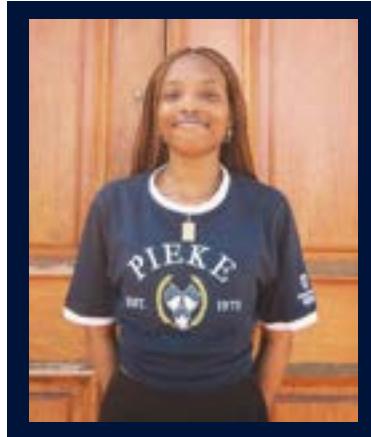
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INTRODUCING...

THE SENIORS COMMITTEE

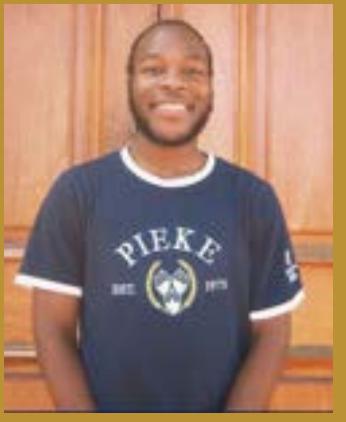


Aidan Leech
Chairperson



Gracious Mwamba
Vice-Chairperson

Tawananyasha Dhakwa



Angeline Alberts



Arianne Floris



Cameron Fisher



The Seniors Committee consists of twelve dedicated members of our community who help to welcome newcomers to Pieke. They serve the house as limitless leaders and use this committee as a platform for personal and leadership development whilst ensuring energies are kept high throughout Welcoming.

They play a crucial part in our Welcoming Programme as they assist the House Committee and Mentors with the preparation and execution of events and activities. This years Seniors Committee cannot wait to meet you all!

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INTRODUCING...

THE SENIORS COMMITTEE



Emma Van Schalkwyk



Martinique Meyer



Nishaan Titus



Ntebatse Mashigo



Lethu Ngidi



Lu-ché Stoltz



38 CONTACT DETAILS



For any queries regarding Pieke CSC, please use any of our following channels for communication.

Email:	pieke@sun.ac.za	(managed by Liam Rodgers)
Instagram:	@pieke_1973	(managed by Tarah Waries)
TikTok:	@pieke_1973	(managed by Tarah Waries)

Additionally

CSCU@sun.ac.za
help@sun.ac.za
Centre for Student Life and Learning (CSLL): 021 808 3064

Physical Address

HC House (Piekstaai):	12 Joubert St, Stellenbosch, 7600 & 149 Banghoek, Stellenbosch, 7600
HC Office:	Office E69, 4/F, Neelsie Centre, Stellenbosch, 7600



39 USEFUL CONTACTS



EMERGENCY

CAMPUS SECURITY (EMERGENCY)	021 808 2333
CAMPUS SECURITY (GENERAL)	021 938 9500 / 021 938 9507
SAPS EMERGENCY	10111
STELLENBOSCH POLICE DEPT	021 809 5000
STELLENBOSCH FIRE DEPT	021 808 8888
PUBLIC AMBULANCE	10177 / 999
24/7 RAPE CRISIS HOTLINE	082 977 8581
LOCKSMITH	082 879 7399

MEDICAL

MATIES ER24 AMBULANCE	010 205 3032 (IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS AN SU STUDENT)
NEEDLE STICK INJURIES	021 808 3496 (08:00-17:00)
CAMPUS HEALTH SERVICES	021 808 3494 (08:00-17:00)
	076 431 0305 (AFTER HOURS & WEEKENDS)
STELLENBOSCH HOSPITAL	021 887 0810
STELLENBOSCH MEDICLINIC	021 883 8751
MEDICLINIC EMERGENCY	021 861 2094
STELKOR MEDICROSS	021 887 0305
ER24 AMBULANCE	084 124

MENTAL HEALTH

CENTRE FOR STUDENT COUNSELLING & DEVELOPMENT	021 970 7020 (08:00-16:00)
UNIT FOR PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC & SUPPORT SERVICES	010 205 3032 (AFTER HOURS)
LIFELINE 24/7 SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE	021 808 4994 (08:00-16:00) 0861 322 322

FITNESS

MATIES GYM	021 808 9133
VIRGIN ACTIVE EIKESTAD	021 882 8228
VAN DER STEL GYM	021 882 9805

UNIVERSITY

INFORMATION SERVICES	021 808 9111
EQUALITY UNIT	021 808 3136
SAFETY ESCORT (20:00-05:00)	021 808 2333 / 021 808 4202
CSC OFFICE	021 808 3023



There are many ways to get around the Stellenbosch University campus and we'll show you how to do it like a true Matie.

Walking

What better way to explore Stellenbosch than by foot? Walking is the easiest way to get around Stellenbosch as the town is quite flat and everything is within walking distance. Plus, it's good for you and the environment!

Walking at Night? Make use of Campus Security's free Walk-with service where a security officer will escort you between campus buildings or to your car. Call 021 808 2333 or Whatsapp 082 808 2333 to book.

Driving & Parking

As a small town, parking is limited in Stellenbosch. Parking can be rented from the University for between R456 - R960 per year depending on location. Hourly parking is also available at Eikestad Mall, Helshoogte SuperSpar, and on-street around Stellenbosch.

Public Transit & Maties Campus Shuttle

Stellenbosch is served by many taxi routes from the Taxi Rank located on the corner of Bird St & Merriman Avenue.

Stellenbosch University operates campus shuttle services between central campus and the various SU car parks between 07:30 and 17:00. From 18:00 - 06:00, a shuttle also operates from the Neelsie to any private accommodation within a 6km radius to help you get home safely. The evening shuttle needs to be booked in advance via MySun.

Cycling

Cycling is a great way to get around Stellenbosch, with bicycle racks available outside all faculty buildings, residences, and some shops around town. Use your own bike or rent a 'Maties fiets' for the year. Maties Bikes can be booked by contacting fiets_bike@sun.ac.za for R3000 per year.

Campus Map

Get around Campus like a Pro by using the SU interactive map, available online at <https://campusmap.sun.ac.za>



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YOUR GUIDE TO STELLIES



There are many ways to be a Stellenbosch University (SU) student and we've put together some of the things that made us feel like Maties when we were newcomers.

13 Things Every Newcomer Should Do

1. Attend your community's Welcoming Programme.
2. If you are a coffee-lover, find out which is your favourite café in Stellies.
3. Visit a wine farm, some of the best wines and charcuterie boards in the world can be found at your doorstep, and don't forget about the incredible views (and photos).
4. Visit the Stellenbosch Botanical Gardens (the oldest botanical garden in South Africa).
5. There are tons of ice cream shops in Stellies, go try them with friends!
6. Back our Maties at a Varsity Cup rugby game (don't forget to wear your maroon shirt).
7. Hike Coetzenburg Mountain.
8. Try something new, whether it be a new sport, cultural activity, academic module, or leadership.
9. Have a 'lekker' summer's day at the Dam.
10. Check out the Dorp Street Market on Wednesdays at the Rooiplein.
11. Eat cake at The Blue Crane & Butterfly (arguably the best cake you'll ever taste).
12. Watch the SU Choir and SU Acapella for some pitch-perfect entertainment.
13. Have a picnic at Jonkershoek Waterfall.

Tips for Newcomers

- In Stellies, when it rains, it pours. Come prepared with a raincoat. Trust us, an umbrella is great but not when rain and wind join forces!
- Get yourself both a fan and a heater! You'll thank us later.
- Know your student number off by heart, now already!
- Don't skip classes, practicals, or tutorials. Oh, and make sure you know your timetable!
- Leave in advance when heading to class.

Stellies Jargon

Ons gaan nou braai: Time to get the charcoal and meat.

Lekker: Like 'nice', only better.

GEES: Spirit and enthusiasm (Pieke's version).

December 2025

Dear Prospective Student

CHARGING FIRST YEAR WELCOMING PACKAGES TO STUDENT ACCOUNTS 2026

Welcome to your Commuter Student community at Stellenbosch University! You have been assigned to a CSC (Commuter student Community) as you have not chosen to stay in an SU residence in 2026. During the annual welcoming period in the beginning of the year, communities take responsibility for exposing first years to Stellenbosch University in a welcoming manner.

Because CSCs do not have a dining hall (although some CSCs will arrange meals for their students in dining halls during the welcoming period) where students can enjoy meals, CSC first years are provided with "welcoming packages". These packages usually consist of several meals, clothing, and other items unique to each community. During CSC registration on the first day of Welcoming (Monday 26th January 2026), you will have the option of purchasing one of these welcoming packages at a set price (which may vary from community to community). Each CSC will also offer different options (both clothing and meals, only meals, only clothing, etc.) that students can then select. Please see the bottom of this email for more information.

Stellenbosch University utilizes a cashless system to allow students to purchase these packages hassle free. You, or your parents or guardian, will have to sign an acknowledgment of debt on the day so that the clothing, food, etc. for the welcoming period can be made available to you. After registration the cost will be charged to your student account to be paid with all other student-related expenses. Please note that once the form is signed you will be liable for the costs of the package selected, regardless of you having all the meals or not, or not wanting the clothing after the first few days.

Acquiring the "welcoming packages" is not compulsory, but we do want to encourage you to take the opportunity to do so as it will make your welcoming period a much more enjoyable experience. Please find attached the form for your completion. You are welcome to print the form and bring it along.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at cscu@sun.ac.za

PERMISSION: CHARGING COST OF WELCOMING PACKAGE TO 2026 STUDENT ACCOUNT

DETAILS OF STUDENT

NAME AND SURNAME:

STUDENT NUMBER:

CSC:

CHOICE OF WELCOMING PACKAGE (MARK WITH AN X):

FULL PACKAGE (Clothing and Meal Package) COST: R 1050	ONLY MEALS COST: R 500	ONLY PACKAGE COST: R 600	CLOTHING

By signing this form, you commit in writing to the following:

I hereby grant permission that the cost of the welcoming package may be charged to my student account.
I understand that acquiring the welcoming package is not compulsory.

I understand that if I sign the form, I must pay the costs and I will not be able to be reimbursed¹.

SIGNATURE OF STUDENT OR GUARDIAN:

DATE:

¹ Please take note that we usually do not reimburse students simply because they change their minds. However, if the goods are faulty or defective, have been described incorrectly, differ from the sample shown to you or do not function according to their purpose, you can choose between reimbursement, exchange, or repair of the goods.

44 PIEKE SONGS AND CHANTS



Pieke is Hier (Pieke is here)

HC: Pieke is hier!
YOU: Pieke is hier!
HC: Pieke is hier!
YOU: Pieke is hier!
HC: Pieke is hier vir julle plesier!
YOU: Pieke is hier vir julle plesier!

En wie ons is (And who we are)

HC: En wie is ons
YOU: PIEKE!
HC: En hoeveelste
YOU: EERSTE!
HC: Hou hom daar
YOU: Ah Ah
HC: Aan die brand
YOU: Ah Ah

Die "Pieke Groet" (The Pieke Greeting)

Ons groet jou met 'n swaar gelaaide hart,
Al die mense van
Die mense van die Pieke gaan verlang,
Na die mense van
Ons groet jou met 'n swaar gelaaide hart,
Al die mense van
Die mense van die Pieke sê goodbye, sê goodbye,
Aan al die mense van
Ooooh Ooooh Ooooh

45 PIEKE SONGS AND CHANTS



Save Tonight - Eagle Eye Cherry

(Chords: A Min/F/C/G)

Go on and close the curtains,
'cause all we need is candlelight.
You and me and a bottle of wine,
gonna hold you tonight, oh yeah.
Well, we know I'm going away
And how I wish, I wish it weren't so
so take this wine and drink with me
let's delay our misery.

CHORUS:

Save tonight
Fight the break of dawn
Come tomorrow
Tomorrow I'll be gone
Save tonight
Fight the break of dawn
Come tomorrow
Tomorrow I'll be gone
There's a log on the fire
and it burns like me for you
Tomorrow comes with one desire...
to take me away.
It ain't easy to say goodbye,
darling please don't start to cry.
'Cause girl you know I've got to go,
Oh Lord I wish it wasn't so

Save tonight
Fight the break of dawn
Come tomorrow
Tomorrow I'll be gone
Save tonight
Fight the break of dawn
Come tomorrow
Tomorrow I'll be gone

Tomorrow comes to take me away
I wish that I, that I could stay
but girl you know I got to go,
oh and Lord I wish it wasn't so

Save tonight
Fight the break of dawn
Come tomorrow
Tomorrow I'll be gone
Save tonight
Fight the break of dawn
Come tomorrow
Tomorrow I'll be gone

Save tonight

46 PIEKE SONGS AND CHANTS



Pieke House Song (to the melody of 'oh my darling')

**Kwimithunzi yasePieke
Bly 'n trotse Maties stam.**

(In the shadows of the Pieke)
(Lives a proud Matie clean)

**Woon die mense van 'n huis
In hul oë der vuur en vlam.**

(Live the people of a house)
(In their eyes are fire and flames)

**Tussen wingerd, see en berge
Stands the Pieke high and proud.**

(Between vineyard, sea, and mountain)

**Die berge is ons woning
en die woning onsrots.**

(The mountains are our home)
(and our home is our rock)

**Firm and steadfast, bring us glory.
We will strive to win it all.**

**Sihlala sizama
Altyd ewig.**

(We are forever striving)
(Always forever)

PIEKE!