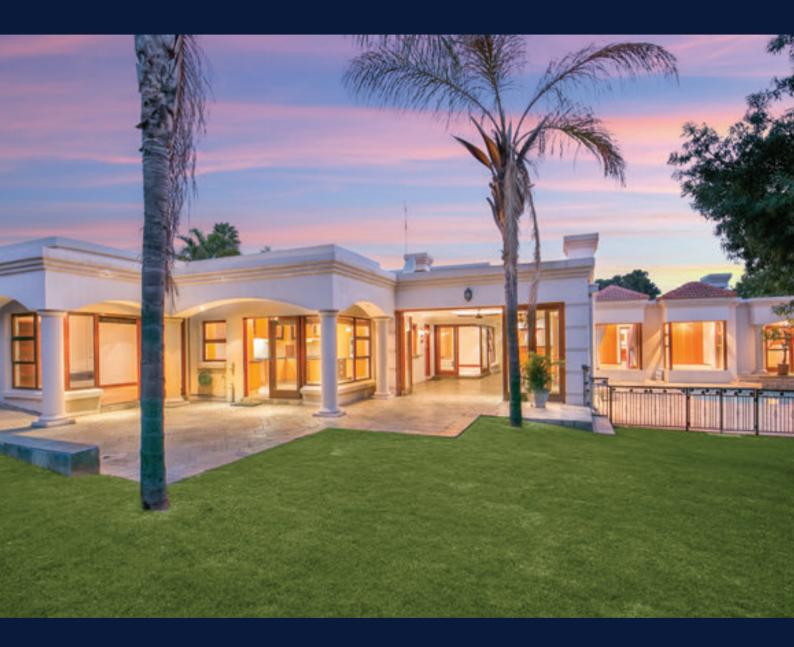


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(operating hours 08h00 - 16h00 Mon to Fri)

info@fwg.co.za

Estate Security RSS 011 465 5465/66

Main Control Room

**Emergency and** 011 467 1400

Medical Response

Council Service 011 375 5555

and Enquiries:

In case of emergency:

Douglasdale Police Station 011 699 1300

ER 24 Emergency 084 124

Police/ Flying squad 10111

Life Hospital 011 875 1000

Eskom 086 003 7566

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Sewer problems

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Fire and Ambulance 10177

#### **June 2017**

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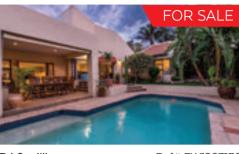


#### **FOURWAYS GARDENS**

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Ref# FW1263136



**R3.895** million Ref# FW1284298 **R6.95** million Ref# FW1312800

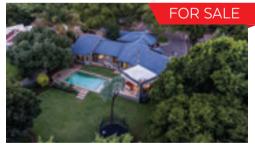




R2.65 million Ref# FW1313013

R3.95 million Ref# FW1310728

**R7.45 million** Ref# FW1308351







R3.79 million

Ref# FW1292221

R46 500pm

Ref# FYL1315762

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**R45 000pm** Ref# FYL1301370

R34 000pm

Ref# FYL1317394

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## FROM THE FWG HOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

he past month has played host to a hive of activity at the HOA, with many projects and plans coming to fruition. One of the most important matters we had to address was the employment of a General Manager for our Estate. To this end, the Board embarked on a thorough process of interviews. A panel consisting of board members and residents alike was constituted to evaluate submissions received.

We are extremely grateful to the residents who volunteered their services to assist us in this regard, and we are pleased to announce that the position has been filled by Mr Gary Haynes.

Gary has extensive experience in Estate Management, and brings with him a personable

and practical approach to the position. We are confident that Gary will not only add value to our Estate, but will further strive to promote the core values and principles that we as an Estate ascribe to.

Welcome Gary and we look forward to you being a part of the HOA team!

Further important news is that the security tender for our Estate has come up for review, and at the time of writing this article the process is well under way. Having made requests for proposals via the newsletter and local newspapers, security companies were invited to submit their tenders. We have received a plethora of impressive responses! Security remains the

utmost priority in our Estate, and the consideration of tenders received will receive much focus and attention from the Board. To this end, we have further temporarily engaged the services of a security consultant to guide us in this highly specialised field.

A board meeting was held on 16 May 2017, whereat Gillian Benson was elected as our new Chair and Nick Huson as Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors. Whilst Ray Flint has stepped

down as the Chairman of the Board (but remains a Director), he has guided the remaining Board members and furnished us all with his insight, after years of experience gained from service on the Board. We thank Ray for all his devoted time and mentoring in the last several months! Ray is now able to concentrate on more particular

projects with which the Board is tasked.

The various portfolios remain as are. Gillian, as our new Chairlady, will remain seized of our Legal Portfolio, and Nick continues as the director of Strategic Planning for the remainder of our term.

Our access control and catering contracts are further coming up for renewal. In preparation for the catering contract

at the Clubhouse, the Board conducted a survey with the residents. These surveys provide the Board with valuable insights into how members

# We encourage our residents to continue to play a positive and pro-active role within our Estate

perceive and interact with the services and we are grateful to those of you who completed the survey. We encourage our residents to continue to play a positive and pro-active role within our Estate!

Notice will be given shortly on the date nominated for our Financial EGM. We are also still in the process of an investigation into the traumatic security incident which occurred in March 2017. We will revert as soon as this process is completed and all relevant information is to hand.



In the interim, we are busy with (amongst many things) various considerations for our roads, and the creation of a nursery in the K56 area. All in all, never a dull moment on the Board! Wishing you all a warm and cosy June 2017! Keep the fires stoked and the hot beverages brimming!

Yours in Service.

Jonathan Cooke

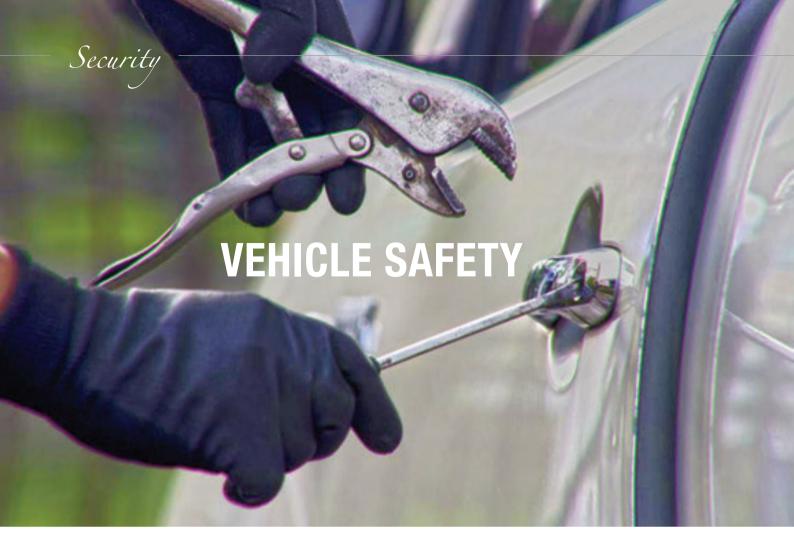
The Fourways Gardens Estate Magazine focuses on the Fourways Gardens Residential Estate. The magazine is distributed to all residents at the guardhouses.

The magazine is co-ordinated and published by Estates in Africa (Pty) Ltd on behalf of Fourways Gardens Homeowners Association. The opinions of workers and personnel of Estates in Africa (Pty) Ltd do not necessarily reflect those of the HOA of the Fourways Gardens Residential Estate.

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#### Officer of the Month



Our officer of the month for April is Eislen Makwela for constant outstanding work output for the past 12 months.



With a criminal syndicate working in the area focusing on vehicle thefts and thefts from and out of motor vehicle I felt it prudent to touch up on vehicle safety tips for this month's article.

Over the last few weeks there have been vehicles stolen from two `neighbouring complexes and businesses so when parking your car remember the following:

- Always lock the car (doors and windows) whenever you are not with the car.
- Physically test that the car is locked by trying to open one of the doors if your vehicle has central locking.
   Car jammers are targeting the local shopping centres.
- Never leave valuables like tablets or laptops in visual range from outside the car. Preferably lock valuables in the boot or trunk.
- Don't unlock your doors until the vehicle is switched off and keys are out of the ignition for key operated vehicles.
- Park your vehicle in places that are well lit when not at home.
- Put up a mirror against the front wall of your garage to see if someone is following you into the garage.
- Avoid parking your motor vehicle where there are no security officers guarding other cars when away from home.

- Be aware of people coming to you and informing you that you have a flat tyre or distract you in some way, their intention may be to steal items that they see inside the car or rob you of your car
- Make a mental note of people hanging or loitering around your vehicle when you park it, even when at home.
- Fit an alarm and/or anti-theft device in your car.
- Fit a live monitored tracking device in your car.
- When all else fails use common sense. If it feels unsafe it probably is.

The above list is a short list of the most important safety tips and are relatively simple to follow. The most important element of the list is your state of mind. If you don't consciously make an effort to conscientiously follow the tips they will not work for you.

Matthew Smith
Security Manager of Fourways Gardens

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## Estate News



						<u> </u>		
TIME	MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY		FRIDAY
08:00	Bootcamp				Bootcamp (8-10)			Bootcamp (8-10)
08:30	(8-10)		Pilates - Tracey (8:30-9:30)		Rhona Williams	Pilates - Tracey (8:30-9:30)		Rhona Williams
09:00	Rhona	Yoga - Wendy	082 894 6096		083 600 1868	082 894 6096		083 600 1868
09:30	Williams 083	(9-10:15)						
	600 1868	011 465 7155						
10:00		083 400 6211			Cristina (10:00-11:00)			
10:30					Flamenco Dance 076 521 8750			
11:00								
11:30								
12:00								
12:30								
13:00								
13:30								
14:00					SmartPlay Soccer	SmartPlay Soco	er	
14:30					(14:00-15:00)	(14:00-16:00)		
					Vincent 078 1223 944	Vincent 078 1223 944		
15:00					Helen O'Grady Drama			
					Academy			Yogabats (15:30-16:30)
16:00	Jazz - 082 425 6098				(15:00-18:00)			Desley White
					Kerry Holbrook			011 465 1939 / 084 465 1939
16:30			Goju-Ryu		083 410 2940	Goju-Ryu		
17:00	Cristina (17:00-	18:00)	(16:30-19:30)		www.dramaafrica.com	(16:30-19:30)		
17:30	Flamenco Dano	ce 076 521 8750	Stef and			Stef and		
18:00	Yoga - Wendy (	18-19:15)	Roberta	FWG Running	FOR HOA	Roberta	FWG Running	
	011 465 7155 /	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	083 384 3026 /	Club	AND AGM	083 384 3026 /	Club	
18:30			083 309 5352	secretary@ frra.co.za	MEETINGS	083 309 5352	secretary@ frra.co.za	
				Mandy			Mandy	
19:00				083 462 2725			083 462 2725	
19:30								
00.00								
20:00								

Clubhouse

Phase 2 Outside

Phase 2 Soccer Nets

All fees and times to be confirmed with the activity provider concerned.



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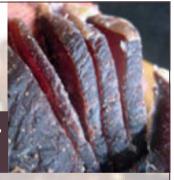
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# FWG Gardening Club

#### FOURWAYS GARDENS GARDENING CLUB

# Different types of Garden Designs

On Thursday 11 May
ROSE VERMEULEN
from INDIGO
LANDSCAPES
addressed our Club
on the topic of creating
your own garden to reflect your and your
family's personalities.

In Real Estate, we are convinced that a beautiful garden can add 10% or more to the value of your home!

# DIFFERENT GARDEN DESIGNS IN GAUTENG:

Formal Informal Ecological/indigenous Oriental, Zen, healing gardens Succulents

#### **DESIGN PRINCIPLES:**

Your garden reflects your personality and taste. Your beliefs or religion also have a bearing on your choices and fashions change all the time in choices of plants.

- Gather as much information as you can before changing the whole garden.
- Consider and write down what you want to achieve?
- Look at the existing dwelling and architecture and decide on a style to suit your home.
- Extend the lines of the house into the garden to give harmony and flow.
- Call in a landscaper to consult and help you with your design.
- Start off with a landscaping plan and work from this. Landscapers will assist with this.
- Decide what HARD landscaping you would like to install and where.
   Stepping Stones, circles, pools, ponds, statues and so on.
- Monitor the sun in your garden. Mark on your plan where you have sunny areas and deep shade.
- Discover what type of soil you have a high clay content or loose and friable?
   To determine what plants will grow and what will not.































- A golden rule when grouping plants: always use an uneven number, 1, 3, 5, 7 etc.
- Do not be tempted to buy specials at the nursery unless they are part of your plan.

Rose has been consulting to Fourways Gardens owners for many years. Give her a call on 072 268 4659: office 011 792 3933: www.indigo-landscapes.co.za Email: rose@indigo-landscape.co.za.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US, CALL FRANCESCA ON 011 705 2384 OR 083 678 8001 or email her at info@ fbproperties.co.za





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# RealGree



#### Clubhouse Annuals

New annuals at the Clubhouse were replaced in early May to add a burst of fresh colour for winter.





#### Wetlands

The wetland areas were cut open to ensure a better view of the landscape.



# FROSTY GARDENING

rost is one of nature's gifts, intensifying the colours of autumn leaves and improving the flavour of your winter vegetables. Many of the most beautiful flowering plants love cold weather and many of them are the most popular spring flowering plants. With some planning and preparation, frosty gardens can thrive right through winter and summer.

Most of the inland areas of South Africa experience some degree of frost and the frost belts fall within vast areas. The degrees of frost can vary enormously from place to place; so if you are new to gardening in these regions consult with local gardeners and experienced nurseries in your area before making your final plant selection.

Rainfall and frost tolerance are the two most important factors to consider when selecting your plants. Frosts occur at night when temperatures drop below zero and there is no wind and clear skies. That is when water forms into minute needles of ice on cold surfaces and in the morning everything is covered with the silvery beauty of frost.

Many plants have adaptations that help them cope with cold and frost. Generally tropical plants have large, lush leaves and this large surface area makes them tender to frost. Plants with small or fine leaves are generally hardier to frost. For example, conifers have fine foliage that is tough, leathery and angled, preventing frost from settling on the leaves and doing damage. Choose varieties like Juniper horizontalis that come from cold regions. Plants that have small leaves that are densely packed together, such as Escallonia, Veronica and English box are also hardy to frost.

Camellia 'Guest of honour', another frost adaption, has tough, leathery

foliage that helps protect from the severity of frost and ice; like Viburnum tinus and Camellia. Deciduous plants like maples, magnolias, betula and flowering cherries that drop all their leaves have no foliage that could be affected by frost. There are degrees of frost tolerance and many plants will grow in a fairly wide range of temperatures, but there is a clear distinction between those that are able to tolerate severe frost and those that will only take mild frost. Remember that many evergreen plants may drop some of their leaves or become totally deciduous in cold regions.

There are several ways to lessen frost damage, especially in severe frost belts. Planting hedges and windbreaks and building walls and fences can create sheltered areas in the garden where more tender plants can be grown. Cold air is heavy and accumulates naturally in low lying areas or gullies, and frost occurs. Bear this in mind when installing hedges and walls as they can create blockages and trap cold air if they are placed incorrectly. Always ensure that there is an exit point at the lowest level to allow the cold air to drain away. Warm north facing walls will radiate heat and benefit more tender plants growing nearby.

Many beautiful trees and shrubs may be more vulnerable to frost when young, but fully hardy once they are established. Protect these by covering them for the first few winters with a special plant cover like Kaycover or Cropguard. This lightweight material can simply be thrown over shrubs and secured to the ground with something heavy like bricks. No need for stakes etc and the cover lets in enough light so it does not need to be removed during the day. Putting down a very thick mulch of shredded newspaper, autumn leaves, dry grass cuttings, bark, straw, or any other organic material will protect the roots of tender shrubs, and even if they do get frosted, should shoot again in spring. Larger plants like palms, tree ferns and tender trees can be covered in winter and their main stems protected with hessian or other plant protector covers which have been cut into strips. Bandage the stems thickly but not too tightly and secure the ends. The smaller branches may still get frosted but the plant should shoot again in spring.

Viburnum FlowersSpecial anti-transpirant sprays like Wilt-pruf are available which place a protective membrane over the leaves of the plants, making them more frost tolerant. If you do get frost damage in your garden, resist the temptation to prune it off until spring, because even dead foliage will protect the leaves underneath. Pruning will just encourage new growth which is lush, tender and susceptible to frost damage. If a severe frost strikes you can minimize severity of the damage by quickly spraying the leaves of your tender plants before the sun hits the plant.

Early autumn is a good time to plant hardy plants as this gives them time to settle before winter, improving growth in summer. More tender plants should be planted in spring once all danger of frost is over.

# Tips for Protecting Plants from Frost First and Gardening in Frosty Regions

You need to take precautionary measures to protect tender plants from exposure to cold temperatures and subsequent damage. Listed below are some of the most common:

Covering plants – The most popular way to guard against frost is with the use of some type of covering. Most anything will work, but old blankets, sheets, and even burlap sacks are best. When covering plants, drape them loosely and secure with stakes, rocks, or bricks. The lighter covers can simply be placed directly over the plants, but heavier covers may require some type of support, such as wire, to prevent the plants from becoming crushed under the weight. Covering tender garden plants in the evening will help retain heat and protect them from freezing. However, it is important that the covers be removed once the sun comes out the following morning; otherwise, the plants may fall victim to suffocation.

Watering plants – Another way to protect plants is by watering them a day or two before the frost is expected. Wet soil will hold more heat than soil that is dry. However, do not saturate the plants while the temperatures are extremely low, as this will result in frost heave and ultimately injure the plants. Light watering in the evening hours, before temperatures drop, will help raise humidity levels and reduce frost damage. Also, water in the mornings, once your plants have thawed out; this allows the soil to drain and warm up again during the day.

Mulching plants – Some people prefer to mulch their garden plants. This is fine for some; however, not all tender plants will tolerate heavy mulching; therefore, these may require covering instead. Popular mulching materials that can be used include straw, pine needles, bark, and loosely piled leaves. Mulch helps to lock in moisture and during cold weather, holds in heat. When using mulch, try to keep the depth at about two to three inches.

Cold frames for plants – Some tender plants actually require over-wintering in a cold frame or indoors. Cold frames can be purchased at most garden centres or built easily at home. Wood, cinder blocks, or bricks can be used for the sides and old storm windows can be implemented as the top. For those needing a quick, temporary frame, simply incorporate the use of baled hay or straw. Stack these around your tender plants and apply an old window to the top.

Raised beds for plants – Designing a garden with raised beds will also help guard plants against frost during cold temperatures. Cold air tends to collect in sunken areas rather than higher mounds. Raised beds also make covering of plants easier. The best way to know what type of precautionary measure you should take for tender garden plants is knowing their individual needs. The more you know the better off your garden and tender plants will be.

## Estate News

### **May Overview**

At the beginning of May the monthly coffee morning was held at the Clubhouse Restaurant. This is always a nice morning to catch up with others over a coffee and a slice of cake.

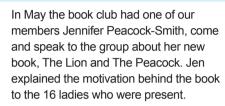








The Wine Club enjoyed wines from Taillard Family Wines. A number of the wines were award winning and these were passionately presented by Anelise Taljard.





The Games Group is currently meeting twice a month on a Friday evening playing a variety of board games. Eric is the host of this group and everyone aged from 12 and up are welcome. So if you have a favourite board game you would like to play with new people. just contact Eric.







Every Friday afternoon in the Clubhouse Restaurant you will find a couple of tables busy with Bridge players. These sessions are becoming more and more popular.



Fourways Gardens Social Club







The weather has turned colder and there have been a few wet days so there hasn't been as much tennis as we would have liked. Everyone is welcome as we are a mixed ability group, so join us on Tuesday morning at 7am and Saturday afternoons at 3pm.

The Ceramic Painting and Art group meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 10am. New members and crafts are always welcome, so if you would like to be creative then join the group.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1st	2nd Bridge - 13h00 Games - 19h30	3rd Tennis - 15h00-17h00
4th	5th	6th Tennis - 7h00-8h00	7th	8th	9th Bridge - 13h00 Games - 19h30	10th Tennis - 15h00-17h00
11th	12th	13th Tennis - 7h00-8h00 Book Club- 10h30	14th	15th	16th Bridge - 13h00 Games - 19h30	17th Tennis - 15h00-17h00
18th	19th	20th Tennis - 7h00-8h00	21st	22nd	23rd Bridge - 13h00 Games - 19h30	24th Tennis - 15h00-17h00
25th	26th	27th Tennis - 7h00-8h00 Ceramic Painting – 10h30	28th	29th	30th Bridge - 13h00 Games - 19h30	





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# Our May wine tasting was presented by



The FWG Wine Club was treated to the wonderful wines from Taillard – a family owned and run boutique estate. We were thrilled to have Anelise Taljaart, daughter of the owner, do the presentation. Whilst their estate is not as well-known as some of the previous estates we have tasted, their wines spoke for themselves and were thoroughly enjoyed but all. On arrival we were treated to a unique MCC produced from pinotage grapes, this variety being their prime source of grape on the farm – certainly a special tasting.

Our restaurant served cottage pie and a salad and we have had compliments aplenty about the supper. Well done François and his team.

Our thanks to Tyson Properties for their ongoing support. Without them the evening wouldn't be possible.

The FWG Wine Club monthly tastings are now well known as being a great social occasion, enjoyed by all.









Fourways Gardens Wine Club

















## **The July 2017** wine tasting will be presented by



Kyburg is a family-owned Wine Farm in the picturesque Devon Valley, 10km from Stellenbosch town. The Devon Valley is part of the Stellenbosch Wine Route and is known as one of South Africa's prime areas for producing exceptional red wines.



At Kyburg they are dedicated to detail, from pruning to bottling, and they believe that it is this attention to detail that expresses itself in the quality and fruitiness of their full-bodied wines. They take great care in the production of their wines and make only a limited quantity every year. Kyburg wine is matured in French oak barrels for 18 months and stored in ideal conditions before being released. This ensures that they provide their customers with only the highest quality premium red wines and a taste to satisfy every palate.

Their wines are very exclusive due to the limited production under the Kyburg brand. The estate is not open to the public unless by prior arrangement.

Fred and Rosmarie Ruest own the farm and we are very fortunate to have Fred doing the presentation. He is known to be very knowledgeable about the ins and outs of the vineyards and the full production to the end product. People thoroughly enjoy his presentations as his passion is so evident. This promises to be a wonderfully entertaining evening tasting exceptional wines.

5th July 2017 Date:

Time: 19h00 Cost: R130.00

Our restaurant will provide local cheese and biscuits with the welcome wine on arrival and Meat Lasagne with a green salad and an assortment of breads AFTER the Wine Tasting. A vegetarian option is available - please let us

know when making your booking if that

would be your preference.

Numbers are Limited.

Please make your bookings and payment directly at the Clubhouse.







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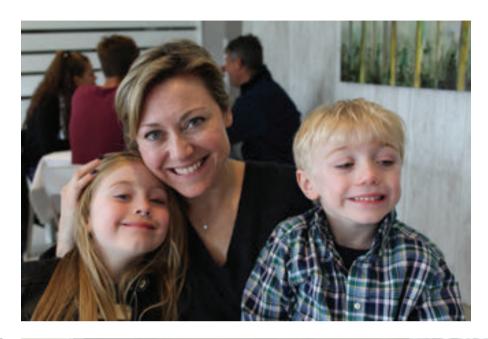
Corner William Nicol & Broadacres



## **MOTHER'S DAY AT FWG CLUBHOUSE**

Our Clubhouse hosted a delicious Mother's Day lunch on 14 May. A traditional roast was on offer to give mom the day off cooking.

It was wonderful to see families enjoying the day together. Some tables had up to four generations celebrating Mother's Day! Thank you for supporting the FWG Clubhouse!











# Mother's Day





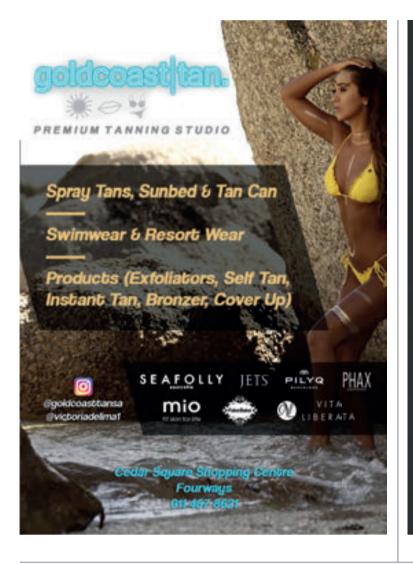
















# Advertorial

# Grease is the word!

ainfern College rocked to the sounds of 'Grease' in their highly successful adaptation of this popular musical. Each year, one section of the College puts on the annual 'major production' and this year it was the turn of the High School. The production ran from 15 to 17 March and was a sell-out hit, enjoyed by young and old alike.

The enchanting love affair between Sandy (played by Grade 10 student Chiara Watson) and Danny (Zane Mancer, Grade 11), was given a Dainfern College flavour through the hard work of the school's Performing Arts and Music departments, as well as the many gifted students involved.

Put together in seven short weeks, the production not only wowed audiences with its outstanding choreography by Kate Forbes, the College's Head Girl in 2016, but really took the College to new heights in terms of vocals and acting. The quartet of Mrs Ilse Hansen (acting coach and director), Mrs Gillian Koller (musical director), Mrs Kim Yon and Mr Brinly Yon (vocal coaches) brought out the very best in the young, talented cast.

Director Ilse Hansen challenged the cast to find the subtext of the play: the thread that links all young adults throughout the ages - rebellion against the establishment. This resounded with the performers during the rehearsal period when no line was left unquestioned and they found intonations and non-verbal 'language' that gave depth and relevance to their characters.

This year's production once again emphasised the High School's ability to confront important social issues whilst providing entertainment of the highest calibre

For more information about Dainfern College, please contact marketing manager Mrs Deidré Proxenos at dproxenos@dainferncollege.co.za or 011 469 0635.





















n Mother's Day we hosted our annual Family Fun Run. What better way to start Mother's Day than enjoying the outdoors as a family!

Phillip and Pam from Lew Geffen Sotheby's sponsored fantastic prizes for the fun run, which ensured that everyone gave their best in the race! Fourways Road Runners assisted along the 4km route with marshals and Simon Parkinson was our MC for the mornina!

The race started at 10am with some budding young athletes unaware that 4km was a bit longer than a 100m sprint, as the speed that the race kicked off with was very fast. Within the first kilometre, however, the race smoothed out and the faster, stronger runners came to the front.

The kids were definitely the stars of the day! Phenomenal times were set by the younger runners with the three top times set by runners under the age of 16. Young Logan Gray, who is 9 years old, set a fantastic first place time of 18:08 and 12-year-old Matthew Porteous completed the race in 18:03, only 9 seconds slower as Marc Durandt, who won the Men's race with 17:54.

Please see below first and second placings in each of the categories. 1st Man - Marc Durandt (time - 17:54) 2nd Man - Graham Tyrell (time -18:51)

1st Woman – Lisa Miller (time 21:08) 2nd Woman - Sabrina Kraus (no time was recorded)

1st Boy - (under 13) Matthew Porteous (time 18:03)

2nd Boy - Caleb Webb (time 18:43) 1st Girl – Logan Gray (time 18:08) 2nd Girl - Emily Basel (no time was recorded)

A R1 500 Monte Casino lucky draw

voucher was won by A Baumester (5 Celtis Crescent).

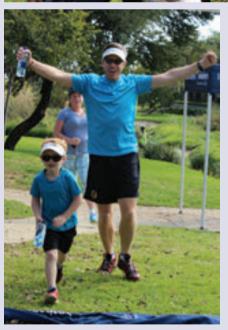


































## Estate News













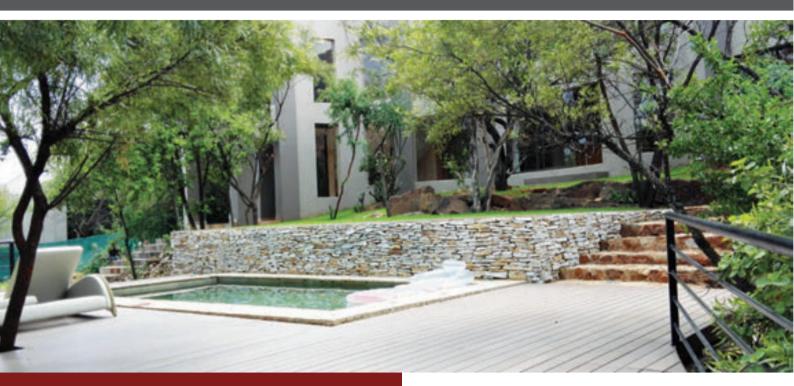






# The Mighty Tigris

WE DO TURNKEY PROJECT
FROM ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS
TO THE COMPLETE PRODUCT.



The Mighty Tigris is able to ensure streamlined projects through the availability of a number of services, such as in-house architectural services, an engineering service and building and garden planning. The turnkey service offering allows the home owner to take comfort in knowing that the company has everything covered.



#### **GETTING THE BASICS RIGHT**

The biggest challenge in the contracting industry is the miscommunication between the client and the contractor regarding the basic business principles that apply to any form of contractual agreement. Below are a few questions you should be asking when taking on a new build or renovation.

Am I choosing the right company?

Does the company you chose suit your building or renovation requirements? Does it deliver the style you are looking for? Does it offer a turnkey building package that includes architectural drawings, council approval and hand-over, or does it specialise in only one area?

2 How much will it cost?
One of the most important factors is to ensure that the project cost was made clear before any work commences, and that what was quoted is delivered. The biggest challenges and disagreements come to light when there are hidden costs or changes to the original cost of the project.

**3** Do I have to worry about site safety? While working on the project, does the company offer public liability on the site's facilities, including the health and safety of the workers on site, as well as site visitors?

Who will handle quality control?

Are there staff members on site available to answer the questions and address the needs of the client? Is there a designated staff member who ensures that the project meets the standards of the current building regulations?

# **5** Will this project keep to the agreed time frames?

It is important to stay within the time frames of the project, and also acknowledge the different building seasons and downtimes.

6 Who will hold the builders accountable? It is important to take stock and ensure that what was quoted for is delivered, and that all certificates from the relevant parties can be provided when needed.

The Mighty Tigris will be offering a series of features tackling all of your building and renovation matters, so look out for next month's edition. For questions regarding this feature, email info@tigris.co.za.



Jaco van Deventer is an expert in the field of construction, and turnkey building projects. As general manager of The Mighty Tigris, Jaco is passionate about delivering high-end services to his clients and ensuring that the vision for each project is fulfilled.

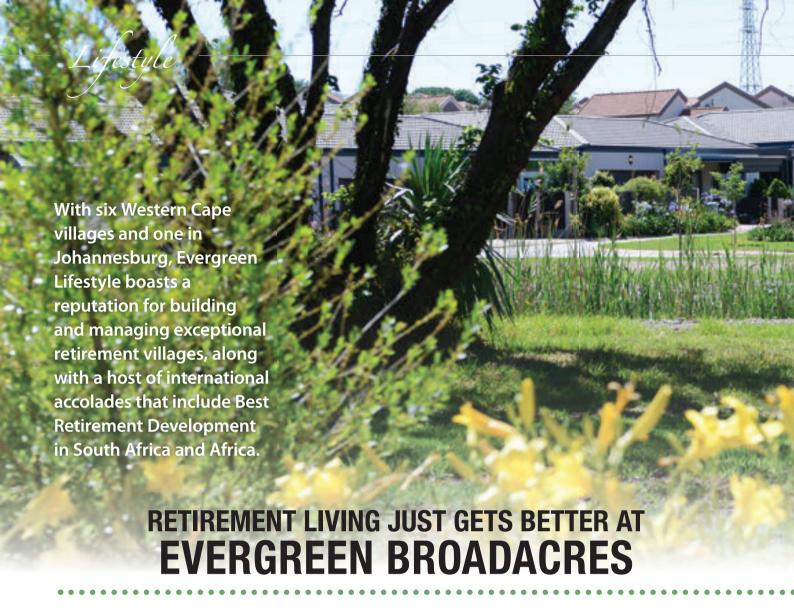
For more information on The Mighty Tigris:

Call us: 082 090 4796

Email us: sales@tigris.co.za

Visit us: www.tigris.co.za.





rguably the most beautiful of all Evergreen's lifestyle villages is brilliantly positioned in the warm heart of Broadacres. Just 3 km north of Fourways and close to William Nicol, Witkoppen and Cedar Roads, Evergreen's secluded Broadacres eco-estate - with its exquisitely beautiful 2-hectare green belt, glorious gardens and architect-designed homes - offers a unique 'town and country' atmosphere to go with a unique Evergreen Lifestyle.

AN IDYLLIC RETIREMENT LIFESTYLE

Arthur Case, Evergreen Group CEO believes that peace of mind is essential to enjoying retirement to the full. "At Evergreen we've always maintained that it is not how old you grow but how you grow old that really matters," Case says. "Sustained independence, friendships, vitality plus a vibrant, companionable community makes for retirement living at its best. We take care of village maintenance

and provide a range of domestic services that allow residents to retain a high level of independence. Freedom from obligations provides residents the time to pursue new interests and friendships, and reignite forgotten passions. An established community of fun-loving residents means that newcomers will enjoy warm friendships, clubs, special interest groups, events and vibrant company from day one."





#### **BEAUTIFUL HOMES**

With over 100 of the stylish (petfriendly) homes sold out, those seeking to purchase at Evergreen Broadacres are in for a treat. A selection of brand new apartments will soon be launching. Furthermore, there are only 8 Phase 3 houses on offer, all with double garages and set in beautiful landscaped gardens. The houses themselves are spacious and, along with signature quality fixtures and finishes to go with the enviable lifestyle, the choices are flexible, offering three bedrooms, one of which can serve as a study or home office. Folk interested in owning a home in this idyllic village will find homes attractively priced which provides a real incentive to buy now.

## BRAND NEW 4000 m<sup>2</sup> LIFESTYLE CENTRE

Thanks to Evergreen's superb resortstyle communal facilities, village life and its many wonderful activities provide endless opportunities for fun and relaxation and a real sense of belonging. Work has begun on Evergreen Broadacres' impressive new Lifestyle Centre which is situated on the edge of the village's lush green glade. Residents will find it tough deciding whether to start their day with a workout in the gym, a dip in the heated pool, or a delicious meal in the restaurant. In addition, a TV lounge, games room, library and salon are set to complement the fantastic outdoor environment at the Evergreen Broadacres village. The Lifestyle Centre will also be home to a separate 2000 m² Care Centre.

#### LIFE RIGHTS PURCHASE MODEL OFFERS FLEXIBLE, AFFORDABLE PURCHASE

Evergreen National Sales Director,
Philip Wilson explains how Evergreen's
approach provides flexibility and
affordability. "Our internationally-popular
Life Rights Purchase model offers
many advantages over its freehold and
sectional title counterparts - notably
a home for life with flexible purchase
options, transparent and affordable
levies and no transfer duty or registration
costs."

"Among the many benefits of downscaling, freedom from the

stress of managing and maintaining one's own home (or village) ranks high," Wilson adds. "Whilst Life Rights confer the right of occupation for the remainder of the residents' lives, Evergreen remains the owner of the property and so carries the responsibility of village management, maintenance, services and security in perpetuity. This allows residents to get on with doing the things they most enjoy without the burdens of village and home maintenance and management. In this sense, Life Rights could be viewed as a housing product, an insurance policy and a good night's sleep rolled into one.

"A key advantage with Life Rights is that purchasers enjoy the freedom to structure their purchase according to their means, or to have their families purchase a home on their behalf. It means that Evergreen residents can confidently plan and fund an Evergreen lifestyle tailored to their particular circumstances, without concerns regarding sustainability and affordability."



#### SELLING AND MOVING TO EVERGREEN MADE EASY

"We recognise that, more often than not, it requires the sale of an existing home to enable the purchase of an Evergreen home," Wilson continues. "Evergreen's preferred linked-sale property consultants, Alexo Property Brokers, are fully experienced in all aspects of selling homes and will evaluate yours for free. They will also market your home discreetly and present purchase offers promptly. Also, their sales commission for Evergreen purchasers is only 3,5%. These benefits mean that you'll be settled and content in no time at all, enjoying life in the most prized and beautiful corners of the country."

#### **COMMUNITY**

New residents are enjoying top quality retirement along with the joy of living within the vibrant community. The Evergreen brand is recognised for the deep sense of community spirit that you'll find at Evergreen Broadacres. Friendships form just as naturally and easily as special interest groups and (so far) upwards of twenty five clubs are the outcome. This sense of belonging provides the backdrop for the community's interaction and their enjoyment of the village's top-quality retirement features and facilities.

"A socially active and rewarding lifestyle is our goal," Wilson explains. "Whilst clubs and relationships form naturally in each village, we go further with initiatives such as Evergreen's digital 'Connect' platform which includes 'how to' training for less tech-savvy residents!" Wilson concludes.

### ACTIVE AGING, HEALTHCARE AND FRAIL CARE

Evergreen seeks to provide a managed, healthy way of life within a continuing care environment, offering scaled levels of care specifically tailored to meet residents' needs. Evergreen's active aging philosophy is supported by

# "Should residents need it, our fully-equipped specialist Frail Care Unit will provide the necessary professional treatment





personalised home-based healthcare, administered by well trained, friendly staff, along with primary care at the Care Centre.

Evergreen Lifestyle Villages' Managing Director, Derek Drew explains: "Our partnership with national specialist care group, Unique Health, offers us an experienced, brilliantly trained and managed team of carers and nurses to go with our layered and discreet approach; with care for those who need it and great health and active lifestyles for everyone in order to combat aging and the onset of frailty.

"Frailty, however, is often a consequence of aging, and the need for specific care is a challenge that some residents and their families face. Should residents need it, our fully-equipped specialist Frail Care Unit will provide the necessary professional treatment, 24-hour nursing and recuperative and palliative care. Residents will be able to relax in the knowledge that - should they need it - help is always at hand, with nurse call alarms in every home."

#### FOCUSED MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY

Evergreen Lifestyles operates as an independent company within the Amdec Group. Derek Drew explains: "Our mission and vision is achieved via dedicated and focused national and regional Development, Sales and Operations divisions, along with Evergreen's Village Management teams - the folk on the ground who take care of all aspects of the day-today running of the villages. Security is steadily becoming a key concern for all South Africans, with older people often the targets of housebreaking and theft. The advantages of security village living are numerous, and at Evergreen, we have taken these to a new level. Walled villages with electric fencing, CCTV cameras, 24-hour patrols and push-button assistance are - to us - the minimum standard. Working together, the entire infrastructure is geared towards delivering our promise, which - in a nutshell - is 'retirement made perfect'!"

#### OPEN SHOWCASE: 29 JUNE

• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

Please join them for an open showcase at 11am on Thursday 29 June, at Evergreen Broadacres where you will have an opportunity to view their beautiful homes on offer.

To reserve your place RSVP by calling Maureen on 011 467 7097 or email info@evergreenlifestyle.co.za. www.evergreenlifestyle.co.za





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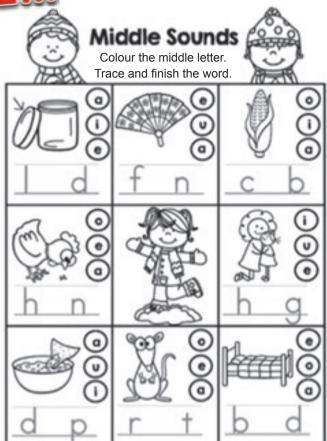


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What's the buzz...

#### WINTER AND SUMMER PICTURES.





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SNOWBALL SNOWMAN COLD

ICESKATING

SNOWFLAKE WINTER

MITTENS

The Beehive is closing! We would like to thank The Homeowners Association and all the residents of Fourways Gardens for their support during the last 4 years!

Please contact Michelle on 084 386 0055 or Lisa on 060 465 2009 for more information.





SUNDAY June 18 is Father's Day, the day dedicated to saying "thank you" to your dad for everything he does for you. Make sure you say "I love you, dad" and make him feel special on Father's Day.

be put on our thinking caps and came up with some fun things to do with dad on Father's Day. Most dads are still little boys at heart and love to play games! So start off dad's day with a great breakfast made with love and then choose one of these fun activities for a Father's Day to remember.

#### Have a picnic

Picnics are always great and are perfect for a father who needs some relaxation. Choose a beautiful park in FWG or a nature reserve as the venue. Pack the picnic basket with all dad's favourite foods and drinks. Take along a big blanket so dad can have some quiet time reading his newspaper. Then bring out the ball – for either cricket or soccer, or whatever else dad likes to play.

#### Go karting

Most dads fancy themselves quite the hotshot behind the wheel! Treat dad to an adrenaline high at the indoor karting track at Cedar Square Mall on Father's Day. Whether



you're a karting pro or have never been behind the wheel of a kart, you're likely to become a speed freak!

Xtreme Indoor Karting boasts the best technology and unequalled facilities. Where: Cedar Square Mall, Cnr Cedar and Willow Rd Contact: 011 465 0088; info@xikarting; www.xtremeindoorkarting.co.za

#### **Fishing**

If your dad's an avid fisherman, this would be the perfect way to spend Father's Day. There are many venues in and around Fourways Gardens of turn to page 35



#### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR FOURWAYS GARDENS

NELSON MANDELA DAY 2017

#### Dear prospective sponsor,

Last year Fourways Gardens Estate together with our community of friends and families as well as with the amazing support provided by our sponsors were able to collectively raise an incredible R67 000! After the resounding feedback from our sponsors as to the exposure they received and from the families who so enjoyed giving back whilst at the same time spending it together, there was no question as to whether we would be doing it again this year. All proceeds will be donated to our established charity. Stop Hunger Now. This incredible NGO feeds a child for just under R750 a year and what you probably are not aware of, is that this feeding scheme runs throughout the year bar weekends and public holidays. So that means even while the children are on holiday they are still being catered for at their schools with these nutritious meals.

Our agreement with Stop Hunger Now was that we would first cover the cost of food for the Mahlasedi Playschool in the informal sector of Diepsloot and its 55 children. This is the school that we at FWG have decided to take under our wing and focus on. The extra proceeds will then go on to support other schools that are not yet on this feeding scheme.

We would like to yet again give you the opportunity to participate in the Fourways Gardens Estate Nelson Mandela Day fund raising event to be held on Saturday, 22 July 2017. You truly can be the change that this country needs so let's as a community get together, and improve these children's lives.

Broadly speaking, there are two sponsorship options. You can either sponsor a specific activity or you can donate hampers, vouchers and prizes.

# Option 1: sponsoring an activity

We have the following activities for you to choose from. These will take place from 10 am to 4 pm. Activities in red have already been sponsored, listed in black still available!

Activity	Cost		
	(including VAT)		
Parachute Rocket	4750		
Mechanical Bull	3500		
Wipe-Out	3250		
Swings	3750		
Fufi Slide	3750		
Ferris Wheel	3750		
Inflatable Climbing Wall	3750		
Giant Wave Slide	4750		
Playstation Castle	2500		
Gladiator Ramp	2500		
Crocodile Castle	2500		
Face Painting	3000		
Pop Corn Stand	3500		
Candy floss Stand	3500		
Magician	2500		
Mahlesedi kids	12000		
expenses and generator			

The last item will include branding on t-shirts printed for children and banner exposure in the Fun Park as well as the area where the activities for the small children will be hosted.

Please note that activities will be reserved on a first come first serve basis for our generous sponsors. In exchange for your generosity, you will receive the following:

 an opportunity to display marketing material around your sponsored activity on the day;

- a business card size advertisement in the Fourways Gardens Estate magazine valued at R1,600 (in the edition following the event); and
- acknowledgment in all social media postings and the local newspaper for the activity you sponsor
- 4 access bands for the day that will entitle you to make use of all the fun activities.

#### Option 2: donating a hamper, prize or vouchers

In exchange for this sponsorship, you will receive the following:

- acknowledgment in the Fourways Gardens Estate magazine (in the general article on the Nelson Mandela Day event);
- announcements on the day about your business; and
- acknowledgement in all social media postings for the item you sponsor.

Nelson Mandela Day is all about communities coming together to make a positive impact. We encourage you to dig deep and participate in this wonderful event.

If you are interested in supporting this initiative, kindly contact Elmine in the Fourways Gardens Estate office on (011) 465 7731 or via email on elmine@fwg.co.za. Please note that we need all sponsorships to be confirmed by Friday 23 June 2017.

Yours sincerely,

Elmine Durandt

Communications and Events Manager Fourways Gardens Estate

from page 33

## I cannot think of any need in childhood as strong as the need for a father's protection. - Sigmund Freud



which we have chosen two that won't take more than 40 minutes to reach:

Brookwood Estate is an idyllic retreat in the Cradle of Humankind boasting five well-stocked dams and excellent Yellow Fish fishing in the Blaauwbank River. Brookwood claims that their trout dams hold some of the biggest

Rainbow Trout in Gauteng! The largest of the five dams holds a multitude of fish including Bass, Yellows, Carp and Bream.

You could even stay overnight in a luxurious two-bedroom chalet with en suite spa baths and open fireplaces.

There is also a quaint fisherman's cabin and a tackle shop.

Contact Brookwood on 011 957 0126 or info@brookwoodtroutfarm.co.za.

### Kloofzicht Lodge & Spa, Driefontein Road, Muldersdrift

Nestled at the foothills of the Zwartkops Mountains in the Cradle of Humankind, Kloofzicht Lodge & Spa is a comfortable 30 minute drive from FWG.

The stillness of Kloofzicht Lodge is embodied by water as the lodge, comprising 60 suites, overlooks six exquisite fly fishing dams and the lower reaches of the Blaauwbank Spruit, which meanders through the unspoilt Zwartkops gorge. Five star hospitality and service is the trademark of Kloofzicht Lodge & Spa and can be found from their conferencing and banqueting to their wedding, leisure and spa facilities.

The lodge accommodates groups from 2 to 120 delegates within five main conference venues and two smaller meeting rooms. Spa conference packages are popular with cutting-edge companies, while fly fishing packages are available as an interesting teambuilding alternative.

The small but magnificent nature reserve upon which Kloofzicht is built, is home to kudu, impala, blue wildebeest, eland, red hartebeest, springbuck, gemsbok, zebra as well as a fascinating array of bird life.



Glenburn Lodge, Kloofzicht Lodge and Bush Willow Tented Camp are all within easy access (approx. 10km) from Maropeng where Homo Naledi, a new species of human relative, has been discovered in a cave in The Cradle of Humankind, South Africa.

Contact: 011 317 0600 Fishing is open from 06h00 until 18h00

and is subject to the occupancy of the hotel.

And if nothing's caught your fancy yet, you can still try putt putt, paintballing, a round of golf...

Happy Father's Day!
Please contact the establishments mentioned directly.







## Curiosity, and why questions are always more powerful than answers

As a young child I would often lie on my back, on the lawn, staring up into a sky full of colossal cumulous clouds. For the non scientific among us, those big fluffy ones, that constantly move and churn, almost in slow motion.

It would have been summertime, most likely, for it is too damp and cold, to be lying on the lawn at any other time of the year, in dear old England.

I remember becoming fixated, obsessed by the constant shift shaping taking place above me. It was simply hypnotic, lying there observing, as a whole aerial performance of moving fuzziness blended and drifted. I watched as parts of the clouds would break off and then morph with another. An art form of ceaseless merging and contorting, always with the potential to summon up something special.

Then it would happen.

What was simply a blob of cloud became the protruding nose of some gigantic rounded face, with the other defining features, of eyes, ears and mouth slowly forming, as if on cue, completing the look. There it would hold its self, in all its majesty, a splendorous work of oxygen and water, sculpted by high altitude winds.

Created, just for me.

### Or by me?

I would wait, and watch longer, clinging onto the look of that mammoth face, made of cloud, as the elements that built it, would slowly alter it again. Like melting wax the same shift shaping process that had created it, pulled and distort it, to the point where all prior recognition had evaporated.

What those little moments of heavenly magic gave me where really very special.

Some days I would lie for ages before such a face drifted into being. And on other days, my luck was out. No giant

colossus of clouds that day, but it would return again, of that I was certain. As long as I pitched up with an enquiring eye, I would be treated to the theatre of the skies.

A most curious thing, our curiosity.

Such a gift, that we have an inquisitive mind, a wonderful probing restless energy, ever questioning, exploring, observing and investigating, always on the lookout for another aspect, another point of view.

Alive and abundant, it lives within each of us, most obvious and notable in children. Recall, for a moment, how often we hear their probing questions, of when, why and how?

Then think – and recognise too – our awkward shut down responses, because we lack the energy to play or engage with them, for the fear we may let something out that we shouldn't have.

So, our curiosity withdraws, in inconspicuous retreat. Gently closing a doorway, once so wide and open.

Some say its departure, in our formative years, happens to coincide with the arrival of the need for certainty and fact. That we are encouraged to abandon daydreaming to prepare our young minds for the volumes of exacting information they must acquire, so that they can compete for the goals and results demanded.

Makes sense doesn't it?

There is agenda and importance now, roles to fulfil. Objectives and targets that demand immediate answers, there is simply no space or time, for wandering in the heavens, any longer.



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Life is a serious business, we are told, and we must prepare those young minds accordingly. The shift to focusing on finding the right answers becomes the all, and the childhood nonsense of pondering must be left behind, certainly until assignments are in, and the credits are on the board.

But it's a long slog through education, exhausting and most of the time, not that inspiring.

Our children press on, motivated by the constant reminder of failure, and what that would bring. They conform and align, as we did before them, and before long they are moulded into the young adults we expected them to be. Proud are we not?

But are they ready? Are they really prepared for what now lies ahead of them?

Or have we, in ignorance, stripped them of a very vital tool?

For curiosity is far more than meets the eye.

We know it is the bedrock that questions emerge from, and more than ever before, in this vastly complex world, questions and questioning have a significant role to play.

A well-formed question digs deep. It wriggles down into our very being and can often reveal an insight, or point of view, that was simply absent seconds before.

Designed with forethought, questions evoke a depth that transcends the often-superficial encounters we have with one another. A caring and meaningful question draws on our values and purpose.

If I were to ask you at this very moment... "What provides you with the greatest joy and happiness in life?"

Your mind will take you off on a splendid journey, through friends and family, places and things, and moments of bliss. It is also likely, that in the process of really being with that question, that your very mood and feeling would alter, to a more profound and happier state.

If I said to you..."What might you do that would immediately reduce your levels of stress?"

Once again, it is likely that you would quickly review all the pressing issues that clog your path, and in the process, begin to take a mental inventory of the actions you might consider. With a bit more thought you may even act on those, and in return a feeling of peace may be evoked.

Questions go further than simply providing a multitude of potential outcomes.

It is well acknowledged that in environments where deep listening is encouraged and supported, communities strengthen their non-judgmental minds. They develop a patience to listen attentively, and are rewarded by peers who genuinely hear them in return, and do so without judgment.

Where questioning is encouraged and promoted, respect for diversity, emerges as a byproduct.

Questions also challenge our status quo. They bring a test of ourselves and of those around us.

So, "What part did you play in the breakdown of that relationship?"

Questions seek honesty and truth, and if we are courageous and acknowledge our faults, then we can also build self worth and value in our making right. And of course questions reach beyond our inner worlds as well.

What would we be, were it not for the countless, men and women of history, that have asked that most inquisitive question... "What if?" To be followed, thereafter, by some hugely significant advancement of humankind.

Albert Einstein was well known for his challenges of the status quo, and suffered the setbacks and ridicule of the assumed authority of the day.

He attributed many of his greatest breakthroughs to his imaginative mind. He cultivated a very strong visual method of seeing his question play itself out in his mind. He would stand still, and simply gaze into the sky in front of him. As time marched on around him, his imagination was enthralled in a play of possibilities, probing and reviewing, searching for set of imagery that answered the questions he posed.

I'm a great believer that there are many young Einstein like minds out there, all ready and fired up to explore possibilities, to come up with new ways of doing the same old things.

I really believe we are going to need them, if we are to seriously challenge the significant problems we face today, we require a generation of young minds that are willing and ready to question everything that is. And that they feel supported in the pursuit of their daydreaming and imagining.

So, take a moment now, take a breath, put down whatever you are doing, and go stand outside or lie on the floor and look upwards. Let your mind wander, just be with it.

I ask that you support curiosity, in yourself and in others.

Until next time, keep questioning.









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# A new experience with every visit

At Lots & Crates they sell off the floor so you know exactly what you're buying and there's no wait. The style and genre of the furniture is mainly mid-contemporary with a tinge of French Provincial and Country thrown in.

here's always something new at Lots & Crates and that's because, as their name suggests, the formula for stocking their stores is buying job lots, ends of ranges and samples from quality furniture manufacturers, thereby keeping the pricing realistic and reasonable.

"We do carry a core of regular furniture items such as sofas, bedside pedestals, wall units and tables, because this is furniture that people want on an ongoing basis," says Craig Rheeder, MD of Lots & Crates. "But the fun part is the lucky dip effect of the job lots. Customers don't know what's coming

in and because we sell off the floor, the showroom displays are constantly changing. They have a new experience every time they visit."

Lots & Crates has also become very involved in helping charities and they now sell items made by individuals participating in the upliftment projects that they support. One of the charities that they help is called the Wot-if? Trust that's running skills improvement programmes in Diepsloot and Alexandra.

Volunteers buy yarn and material and take them along to the training sessions. They teach sewing, knitting and

crocheting. The end products are then taken to selected stores and markets that sell them on behalf of these previously-disadvantaged people.

"They did a survey asking the ladies benefitting from the training how much money would be enough to change their lives. The most common amount was a paltry R500," Craig adds. "These upliftment schemes not only bring these ladies extra income, they also help to improve their self-esteem. The doorstop houses, for example, are personalised by the people making them and you buy them flat and when you get them home you fill them with old books or even bricks for the weight.

Lifestyle











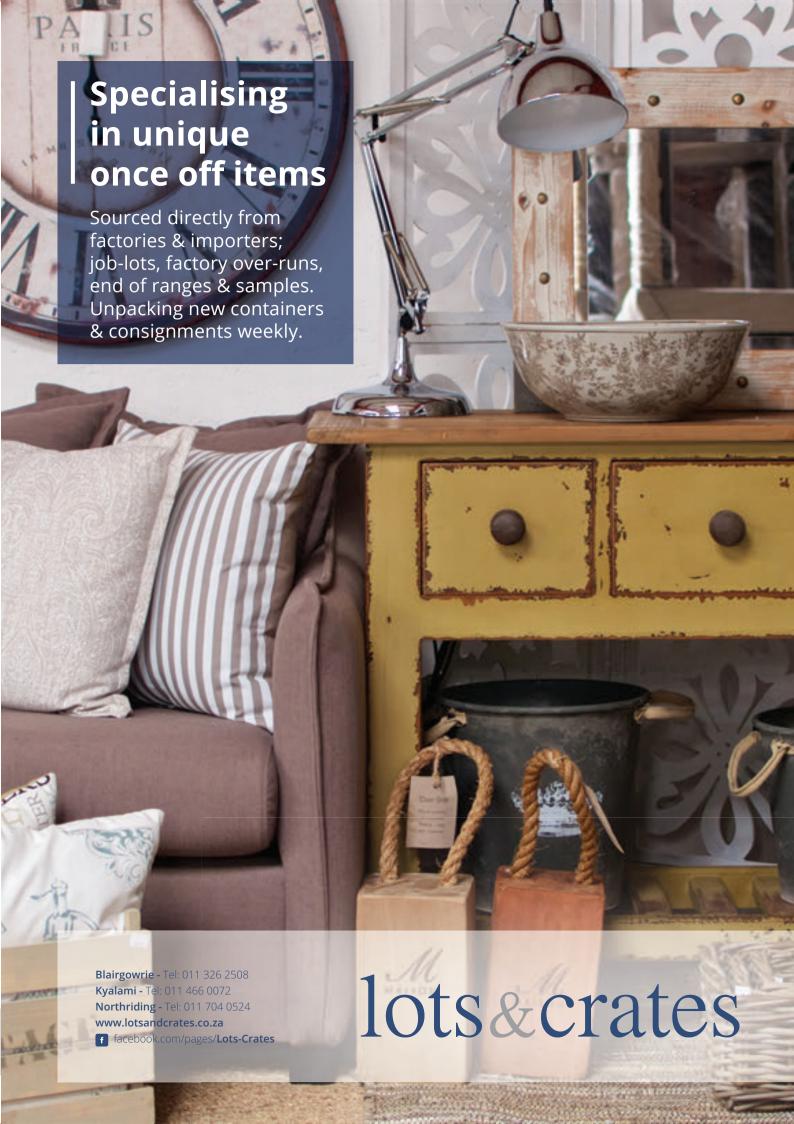


They make excellent gifts for friends and family overseas. Then there are bags made from recycled waste materials that are tastefully decorated. They also make wonderful gifts."

"We also have lots of accessories, clocks, ornaments and scatter cushions over and above the upliftment stock, so even if it's not actually furniture that you are looking for, there's a wide variety of stock to choose from."

If you would like to assist the Wot-if? Trust, visit http://wot-if. co.za/ Lots & Crates is open Mondays to Fridays from 8h30 to 17h30 and on Saturdays and Public Holidays from 9h00 to 14h00. Kyalami: 011 466 0072 Northlands: 011 704 0524 Blairgowrie: 011 326 2508

For more information visit www.lotsandcrates.co.za or check out their Facebook profile where you'll find news about the latest stock that's been unpacked.





Hartbeespoort Dam from the Cableway. Courtesy John Wesson

We are not strong climbers but we ascended the precipitous south face of the Magaliesberg in a matter of a few minutes and were a little bewildered by what we found at the top. We found lots of people and several attractive food outlets; tables with sun umbrellas; a winding walkway along the crest of the mountains with discreet information boards pointing out significant distant landmarks.

To the south, beyond the bushveld and hills was the toothy outline of Johannesburg spread along the Witwatersrand ridge. Directly below we could see the activity in the small town of Hartbeespoort and, stretching 12 kilometres westwards was the dam which, in six years' time, it will be celebrating its centenary.

Now I did not say we climbed the cliff – I said we "ascended" – and this was our view as we stepped off the Magaliesberg Cableway high above the valley.

For many years I used to climb the south side of these mountains at dawn every Sunday and sit on top and look down on the vultures as they rode the thermals below. I watched them stepping off their cliffside nests and floating effortlessly on the rising hot air. I could hear the wind thrumming through their stiff flight feathers.

From the Cableway, blurred by the afternoon haze, we could pick out the Dome in Randburg and Fourways in

Sandton from where, that morning, we'd made the one hour car journey to the cable station.

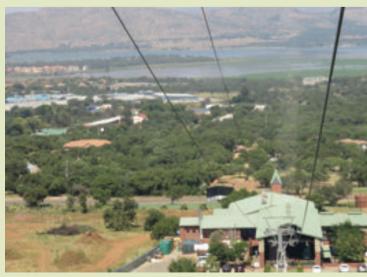
We'd never really appreciated how near Hartbeespoort was to Johannesburg (60km) nor the Mediterranean feel of some of the resorts along it. From here we could see the full extent of the dam.

The dam was built across the poort where the Crocodile River used to plunge through the narrow gap between towering sandstone cliffs and tumble down the steep rocky slope to the bushveld below. It is still a magnificent sight looking down from the dam wall. Just before the dam wall the Magalies River joins the Crocodile but the confluence is now 30 metres beneath the dam's surface.

Ninety years before the dam was built, in 1923, William Cornwallis Harris, the 19th century hunter-explorer, in the deep valley which is now under water, counted 60 white rhino in a day and witnessed a herd of 400 elephant. It was in this valley that he became the first non-African to describe to the world Africa's most magnificent antelope – "Harris's buck" as it was known for a time. It is now called the sable antelope.

Red hartebeest, in herds up to 30 strong, abounded and some are still to be found on surrounding farms. So are white rhino, giraffe and many other species. Leopard and brown hyenas are frequently seen.

There are elephant too – and for those who want to ride them or walk with them



The cableway station.



The walkway along the crest. Courtesy John Wesson

and learn about them, there's Elephant Sanctuary just north off the dam wall where the craft market is. We have yet to visit it. It costs R695 for the full experience (a lot cheaper for pensioners) and an extra R495 to ride one bareback.

Stretching to the north of the Magaliesberg there's an undulating plain carpeted with multi-hued fields irrigated by the dam; beyond that, the Waterberg. Some distance away, incongruously, entirely surrounded by the fields, are three blast furnaces each venting thin spirals of orange flame. They are smelting platinum from the world's biggest platinum deposits.

We hadn't set out to explore Hartbeespoort for we were having a short family holiday at Seasons Sport and Spa – 10 minutes from the dam wall. It's a five star establishment in the RCI stable to which Mary subscribes.

It was new to us and we spent four days at the resort exploring the web of roads that burrow through the bush above the resort and admiring the new privately-owned cottages and even mansions that are being built. The roads are named after birds – we identified 70 species within walking distance of our accommodation.

We were also surprised at the variety of wildlife: blue wildebeest, bushbuck, nyala, blesbok and hares.

We spent a lot of time exploring the area around the dam and afterwards wondered why we almost never visit

"Harties". So many times we were reminded of the Mediterranean, especially at Cosmos which is just around the corner from the dam wall – an amphitheatre of fine homes whose steeply terraced gardens are filled with bougainvillaea of many colours.

There's a fine art gallery there which is worth visiting.

Nearly all resorts, lodges and complexes around the dam have limited access and although we were anxious to view some of them with the thought of one day spending a couple of nights there we had no luck and were told to apply to head office.

Schoemankloof resort on the edge of the town was one of the few that did



The dam wall and its Triumphal Arch.



Craft Market.





Albino hartebees on the Season's golf course.



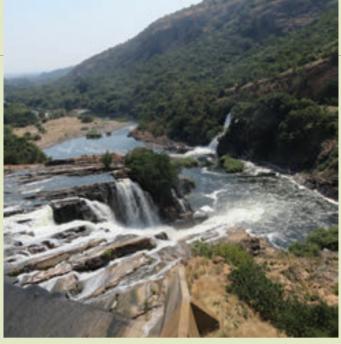
Water weed temporarily engulfs the Yacht Club.

allow us to look around. It is one of the oldest and largest and obviously tuned for family holidays. The yacht club was a few hundred metres away and it seemed the yachts were resting on a vast lawn. In fact they were surrounded by water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*). The weed appears to cover about a third of the dam's surface.

When we crossed the dam wall the poort itself was wall-to-wall weed. Next day there was not a sign of it. The slightest of winds had been enough to drive the floating mass to the yacht club.

Water hyacinth originates from the Amazon Basin and was first noted in South Africa in the Cape Flats over a century ago.

In Hartbeespoort's case the phosphateenriched waters flowing into the dam act as an incessant supply of phosphate – a powerful fertiliser. The phosphate is partly wash-off from farmland though a substantial amount is from sewage treatment plants which cannot adequately



The Crocodile tumbles through the poort.



The west side of the dam.

cope with household detergents.

The subsequent growth of the floating mass of hyacinth suffocates aquatic life and affects the irrigation infrastructure. There was no sign of waders such as sandpipers and thick knees (water dikkops) for the shallows were smothered with hyacinth and the reed beds choked. Although boats can push through it, it still spoils recreational attraction on the dam – an important part of the region's economy. The noxious weed also increases water loss because of evapotranspiration and provides habitats for malaria-carrying mosquito larvae and the bilharzia snail.

There are solutions. Various control measures have been applied, the most effective being biological control using a certain species of grasshopper but it still needs physical intervention. The thousands of tons of weed would have to be dumped somewhere and turned into compost.

In Britain and a few other countries, there is a national register of people who are prepared to give their time, free, for undertaking conservation projects which local or regional authorities cannot otherwise afford.

Most of the volunteers are highly skilled, and include scientists and technologists, so that teams of varied expertise can be tailored for all manner of projects. The work camps – the tents or other accommodation are usually organised by the sector that stands most to gain (often a local council) – are visited by local experts who give lectures, or video shows, or chat about the locality.

I recall Scotland's Loch Ness, many years ago, threatened by an invasive weed and, lacking manpower to clear it the local authority called for 200 volunteers, including at least one medical doctor and a biologist, to spend a week or two of their summer holidays helping to clear the weed. Tents, food and evening talks were provided. It worked.

The Loch Ness Monster, as usual, kept a low profile.









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o one enjoys failure.
Regardless of whether it be not meeting a personal expectation, underachieving or outright failure, disappointment is common in all of our lives. For our children and, in fact, for most people, it takes some doing not to internalise this disappointment and

we eventually start to doubt yourself, thinking that perhaps you aren't good enough, smart enough, especially when you have applied a lot of time and effort.

But, history has shown us that many of the greatest success stories are those of individuals who triumphed over adversity and countless set-backs. The



list is impressive: Walt Disney, Oprah, Colonel Sanders – founder of Kentucky Fried Chicken, Sir Isaac Newton, JK Rowling – the world's first billionaire author of the Harry Potter series , Albert Einstein, Fred Astaire, Stephen King, Lady Gaga... the list goes on.

### Self-pity derails you

Barbara Corcoran, a "shark" on the US Shark Tank show, started out as a waitress and managed to self-create a multibillion dollar real estate company. In observing her successful and unsuccessful sales staff, she noticed that whilst they all failed at some point, those that didn't stop to feel sorry for themselves, and were resilient, bounced back quickly and moved forward to the next deal.

It is always easier to blame the circumstances that led to the failure, to look for reasons beyond yourself to justify what happened. This is an important point. We have to teach our children to be resilient, to bounce back and learn from these experiences, from their mistakes. Often, the greatest learning comes from failure. Too often our children let this failure define who they think they are, becoming their benchmark for life.

How can you help your child counteract feelings of self-pity? Help them to learn to laugh and not take themselves seriously – this will definitely help to overcome those feelings of self-pity. Help build up their self-esteem in small incremental steps. If they feel good about themselves, a let-down won't take them to the depths of despair. Also, encourage them to have a fighting spirit, to not just give up. In essence you will be teaching them to fight for themselves and to not just accept their reality but to actively work to change it to help them succeed.

### Take responsibility

In every negative situation, we have to find ways to counteract the self-doubt, pity, disappointment and fear we may feel. We have to take personal responsibility for our lives. We have a choice to decide how we want to respond to a set-back and this choice will have a major impact on our sense of self-belief and happiness.

### It takes courage to fail

You may wonder how you can help your child in these situations. Instinctively we want to protect them and shield them as much as possible from the feelings and consequences they are experiencing. But, by letting our children learn from these scenarios, they are building valuable life skills. These include resilience, creative thinking, various coping skills and even the ability to collaborate as they learn they sometimes need other people to help along the way. Here are a few thoughts on what you can do:

- Guide your child when things go wrong, talk them through it. Ask them why they think things went awry, how they felt when it happened getting them to actively think about it may just show them what they could have done differently. This helps them to learn from their mistakes and to take responsibility for their part in it.
- From a young age, encourage your child to try different things, with different approaches. This will show them what they are naturally interested in and good at or not.
- Remind them that we are all unique with unique talents. In time, they will discover what their uniqueness is. Often our children try to emulate others and what is perceived as being special about those people. You can never truly be happy until you are happy with and love yourself.
- Don't limit your child by being an overbearing, overprotective parent – unless they are placing themselves in danger. They have to learn for themselves through trial and error.
- Manage their expectations too often life just happens and when things go wrong it doesn't need to mean that the world has turned against you. Let downs happen. Encourage your child to persevere, to try their best, to not give up but, if things go wrong, remind them that it is okay and there is always a next time.
- Be a role model your children will observe how you deal with frustration

or setbacks and will mimic the behaviour. Try to show restraint when you are feeling frustrated.

- Delay gratification this is such a valuable lesson to learn. Our children live in an instantaneous world information is at their fingertips, friends respond immediately to texts but the downside is that they expect everything to work the first time and have a sense of entitlement. By teaching them to delay gratification, they learn vital skills to help them cope with frustration, set-backs, disappointment and anger. Learning to wait for something, or to work for it, will stand them in good stead in later years.
- Nurture self-control –basic things like keeping your room tidy, hanging up your wet towel these things gradually teaches our children self-control. They learn that certain things are expected of them and go without saying. This will translate into habits and eventually a good work ethic and discipline, which should help them when things don't always go as planned.

On a final note – remind your children the only way to succeed in life is to never give up on themselves. Every life experience ultimately shapes them into a better stronger person. Success is also a personal definition and is defined by what makes them happy in life.

### Other sources:

http://www.businessinsider.com/successful-people-who-failed-at-first-2015-7 https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/happiness-purpose/201305/refuse-self-pity

### **About Life Talk® Forum**

Our mission is to create happy, successful and fulfilled youth, guided by sound values. Life Talk is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness, stimulating discussions and seeking solutions to the challenges faced by parents and their children.

For more important parenting tips & information visit www.lifetalk.co.za or email Forum@lifetalk.co.za

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AA AIRPORT SHUTTLE, TOURS AND TRANSFERS: Fourways Gardens resident owner / driver. Personal, reliable transfers to / from ORT from R420 & Lanseria from R200, Free in car Wi-Fi connection, half & full day tours arranged. For all your transport or driving requirements contact Mike on 072 284 0340 / 011 465 3262 or mikeashcroft@telkomsa.net

**ACCOMMODATION:** Needed – a garden cottage or flat let for FWG resident for a 6-month period, contact Keith on 465 9577

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APPLICANCE REPAIRS: To all makes and models, AEG, Bosch, Whirlpool, Siemens, Samsung, LG, Defy, Kelvinator, Miele. Contact Gwentech Appliances on 072 952 8183 / 073 947 2447 or email: gwentech7@gmail.com same day service (26 yrs experience)

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ATTORNEY: Ante nuptial contracts, wills, mediation, divorce, parental rights, rights for unmarried fathers, maintenance, domestic violence, adoption, surrogacy, cohabitation agreements, separation agreements, parenting plans, curatorship applications, post – divorce issues & any other family law related matters. Practicing in Fourways Gardens, Contact Jennifer Scholtz on 011 467 1165 or email: jennifer@jenniferscholtz.co.za or www.jenniferscholtz.co.za

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HOUSE AND PET SITTING: Going away for a few days or on holiday? There is no need to be concerned about your beloved pets. Entrust them to us, a mature couple. We will love and care for them in the security of your home. Our years of home and pet sitting will provide you with peace of mind. We will also care for the pool and garden if you wish. Please call Henry 082 565 9317 or call Deidre on 082 335 5096 deidredevine89@gmail.com References available on request.

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**PLUMBER:** (RC PLUMBING) Reliable professional local plumber for all your plumbing maintenance needs at reasonable rates. Please contact Ryan on 082 598 4881 or 011 465 5198.

**PLUMBER:** 40 years' experience FWG resident, call Stan on 082 552 8155.

**PLUMBER:** Lonehill plumbing for all your plumbing requirements, same day service call 083 212 6048.

PHYSIOTHERAPY: Vanessa Fourie Physiotherapy, 30 years of experience, treatment for headaches, neck and back pain, post op rehabilitation, sports injuries, home visits within 3 km, medical rates charged, 26 White Ash Street FWG, call Vanessa on 083 458 4720.

**POOL SERVICES:** Maintenance, repairs, re-marblelite, pumps, sand changes etc. For all pool requirements call Jackie or Martin on 072 132 5703.

PROFAVOUR CONSTRUCTION: We specialize in carpentry, ceiling, roofing, fitted cupboards, plumbing, electrician, office partition, building, brick laying, plastering, gamazine, painting, please call Faith on 011 056 0143 / 079 696 2842 / fndima127@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL CARE NURSE: Christen has been in the industry, taking care of people at home anywhere, dealing with old people or toddlers with trachea, feed via peg, diabetic to count, give an insulin, recover at home from hospital, doing exercise together and taking vital signs, has driver's license and has traceable references, please call 078 132 8874.

**Q.G CONSTRUCTION:** Building renovation, pool renovation, painting, tiling, paving call Givemore on 071 349 7486.

QUICK SERVICE I.T: We supply quick, quality onsite I.T. services, support, service, networking printers etc. Contact us for all your I.T requirements, call 083 600 2533 / www. quickserviceit.co.za / quickserviceit@icon.co.za

QUALIFIED YOGA INSTRUCTOR: Private lessons conducted in your home for convenience, offering training for all levels of experience. Strength, flexibility and mindfulness. Contact Catherine on 072 039 8339 / catherine@yogaventure. co.za / www.yogaventure.co.za

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RAYCON CONSTRUCTION: Additions & New builds, resident builder, we specialize in up market houses – new and alterations, contact Steve on 083 601 1594 / office on 011 465 4547.

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SCHOOL – RUN: Tired of sitting in traffic doing school drop offs and pickups? Allow me to assist you with safe transportation for your children. Independent, kind, caring, attentive female=e driver. Valid driver's license, a clean driving record, highly trustworthy and dependable. Call 073 978 7368 / ckaps10@gmail.com references readily available.

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**SUBJECT CHOICE ASSESSMENTS:** By a registered educational psychologist, contact Gillian IIsley 083 414 0869.

**TRANSPORT HIRE:** 3 Cube Tipper truck for hire, for building materials, rubble removal or garden refuse, call Ozzy on 073 058 0464.

**TUTOR:** Maths tuition by a qualified teacher, all grades up to and including Grade 10, phone Mike on 082 448 4311 / mike@4waysscuba.co.za

WINDOW CLEANING: The Cleaning Medic – Fourways, other cleaning services offered include carpets, mattresses and upholstery. For more information, contact Phillip on 082 453 2151 or phillip@thecleaningmedic.co.za

### PRODUCTS FOR SALE:

FOR SALE: Solid Oak square pedestal open top (glass finish) dining table & 8 chairs – R5995, photo available, solid oak side board to match table and chairs – R 3500, photo available, 6 seater rectangular wood slater garden patio table and chairs – R3500, 2 x wooden slated patio lounges – R 500 each, queen size slumber land bed – R 1995, 2 x 3 seater exclusive modern suede couches – R 5995 each, many other household items for sale including vacuum along with garden equipment & tools, can be viewed anytime at 61 Camdeboo Road, contact Keith on 011 465 9577 / 072 325 0048.

### **DOMESTIC WORK:**

**Modester:** Seeks work as domestic full or part time, please contact 073 733 9796, for a reference call 079 752 5252.

**Tarisai:** Childminder looking for work in FWG, currently working for a family in Phase 2, availability from 1 August 2017, please call 076 639 4338 (current employer)

**Rozalia:** Malawian looking for housekeeper position, full / part time, good with children and animals, neat and clean, call 078 301 4056 / 084 506 0931, for reference call Dolly 073 822 5051.

Queen: Looking for full time domestic work from the end of June, extremely hardworking, trustworthy, good with children & pets. Has been a valuable part of our home & always gone the extra mile. Call Sarah on 079 791 4099 or Queen on 082 099 5375.

**Lindiwe:** Due to relocation my fantastic helper is looking for part / full time work as a domestic / childminder, she can do first aid & CPR, she is hardworking, trustworthy and a magical ironer and great friends with my dog, for reference call Sandra on 079 320 4377 or Sandra.lantinga@gmail.com or 072 677 0696.

Nancy: Our well-loved and dedicated nanny and housekeeper is looking for full time live in employment from mid July 2017, she is excellent with children, dedicated, hardworking and honest, we pray we can find a suitable home for Nancy as we are emigrating, call Robyn on 084 777 4332 or Nancy on 078 743 7167.

**Elsah:** A good and hardworking lady is looking for work on Tues, Thurs & Sat, she is honest and has never missed a day of work, she can do childminding as well, call Elsah on 072 627 0557 / Norma on 074 162 7417 for a reference.

**Cornelia:** Lovely, happy and honest hardworking helper is looking for work on Tues and Thurs, current references available call 072 359 4214.

**Themekile:** Looking for domestic work, she is hardworking and likes children and pets, needs full / part time work, excellent at cleaning, call 078 500 2463, for a reference call Jennings on 083 632 1107.

Caroline: Malawian seeks domestic / childminder work full / part time, 062 241 3821 / 071 997 1250, for reference call 084 318 5750.

Vaidar: Looking for full / part time work, she is honest, reliable and very diligent also very good with children, for reference call Sally on 083 232 3867 or Vaidar on 083 351 2053

**Thandi:** Looking for domestic work on Wed, Fri & Sat, call her on 083 669 9078 / 078 646 0154.

**Engelina:** My fantastic domestic is looking for work full / part time, she is Malawian, and is very trustworthy and hardworking, good with children and pets, for reference call Geeta on 072 992 1707 or Engelina on 073 390 7324.

**Thokozile:** Malawian seeks part / full time work as a domestic from Tues to Sat, she is totally honest, very hardworking and meticulous in her work, for a reference call Liz on 083 280 6400 or Thokozile on 073 687 9372.

**Josephine:** Looking for full time domestic / housekeeper work, she is reliable, hardworking and honest, she stays in Cosmo city, call her on 073 335 3646, for a reference call Maria on 072 506 5830.

Hilda: A wonderful person, very dedicated and a good worker, she is honest and trustworthy, an excellent domestic, please call Hilda on 082 099 1080.

Maureen: Has been an extremely valuable part of our home for over 3 years, from Malawi, we are relocating and it is important that she finds a wonderful home to work in, she is very good with children and animals, looking for work on Tues, Wed & Fri, call 074 821 3584, reference call Karen on 076 716 6882.

Constance: Looking for work on Tues, Wed & Thurs, currently working in FWG, please call 063 414 2778 / 061 803 5677.

**Catherine:** Malawian, honest and reliable looking for housekeeper position, good with children, neat and clean, call 061 939 7873, reference available on request.

**Amanda:** Looking for work on Tues, Wed and Friday she is hardworking, trustworthy & reliable, 072 340 9943 for a reference or Amanda 083 729 7488.

**Emily:** Looking for domestic work, from Malawi and has been in the Fourways area for 3 years, she has working experience



with children and is comfortable around pets, also very proficient helping with people with disabilities, available on Mon to Fri, 073 150 0890, for reference call Karen Kennedy on 076 716 6882

**Connie:** Highly recommended, very reliable, hardworking, cares about the house and family, available in June part or full time, call Connie on 072 555 2817 or 071 623 6846 for a reference

### **GARDENERS:**

**Thomas:** Gardener, general maintenance, Thomas has been working in FWG for over 18 years, he is honest and a dedicated person, available on Tues & Thurs, for a reference call Hein Botha on 082 651 8882 or Thomas on 071 059 6097.

Lucas: Malawian who worked for me for 17 years, needs work on Mon & Fri, as a gardener / handyman, he is knowledgeable, intelligent, hardworking, pleasant and meticulous. Call James Clarke 011 465 3660 / 082 875 7231.

**Dexter:** Malawian is looking for work on Thurs, he is friendly, intelligent and very hardworking, knowledgeable on irrigation systems and swimming pools, he shows a lot of intitative and also has his own transport, call Dexter on 073 171 6388 or Lizelle on 082 890 8514.

**Aaron:** Looking for garden work 3 days, Tues, Fri & Sat, contact 078 888 6521, 074 759 1416, for reference call 083

**Artwell:** Has been with me for over 3 years employed as gardener, he is very hard working, very reliable and good with animals, looking for work on Mon, Tues & Fri contact Elke on 083 454 9615 for a reference or Artwell on 074 025 9469.

**Moses:** Has been working for me for 2 years and he is highly recommended, he is excellent at gardening, housekeeping and as a handyman, very punctual as well, looking for Mon to Fri work, call Moses on 078 761 0214 or Ivana on 083 982 7646.

**Thabo:** Looking for full / part time work as a gardener / Driver or Handyman in FWG, good references available, call Mary Jane on 076 480 5881 or Thabo on 083 953 0350.

**Neil:** Looking for garden work or house work immediately, he is hardworking, honest, reliable and has a professional and quiet nature, he is very capable with all tasks given to him, call Robyn on 084 777 4332 or Neil on 061 804 9631.

**Oscar:** Looking for part time work on Mon & Fri, he can also paint, call 078 584 0883.

**Gracious:** Looking for gardening work on Thurs, he works for me on a wed and is competent and efficient, for reference call 082 459 7706 or Gracious on 061 092 4591.

Maxmos: Malawian seeks work as a gardener / welder on Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat, call 060 891 2488 / 074 970 4845.

**Robert:** Carpenter, Plumber, Tree Felling, worked as a carpenter in Malawi and as a gardener / carpenter / plumber in PTA under the same family for the last 4 years, currently in JHB and working for us temporarily, very clever and hardworking, call 073 631 1241.

**Duncan:** Malawian is looking for part time garden work Mon – Sat, call Duncan on 073 234 3081 or Andrew on 082 801 0726.

**Moses:** Seeks work on Mon, Tues, Sat & Sun, he is hardworking, very honest and works without supervision, he has been working for me in FWG for past 4 years, and I highly recommend him, call Moses on 063 159 5225 or Debbie 083 302 7493.

**Matthew:** Malawian looking for gardening work on Thurs, call Catherine on 079 454 0539 or Matthew on 074 028 2806.

Abel: Looking for work for Tues & Thurs, he has worked for me for 4 years at 5 Leopard Tree Close, has helped me create and maintain my beautiful rose garden, he has many years' experience at a nursery and has done courses at Ludwicks Rose Centre, contact Tracey Boon 082 901 0198 or Abel 084 275 5630.

**Edward:** Due to our relocation, my reliable, competent and hardworking gardener is looking for work on Sat in FWG, he is Zimbabwean with a SA ID, he has been with my family for over 20 years and is totally honest and trustworthy and needs little or no direction in the garden, we are so sorry to lose him due to our move, please call 076 902 6944 or Andrew for reference on 083 274 3503.

**Emmanuel:** Handyman and gardener looking for work Mon, Tues or Thurs, contact 076 819 9108, for reference, call Bernadine on 083 457 4070.

**Godfrey:** Young, enthusiastic and very hardworking gardener, walks our dogs, looking for part time work, call Sarah on 079 791 4099 or Godfrey on 061 019 9750.

**Joseph:** Malawian seeks part time work on Sat & Sun, he is very honest and reliable, works well without supervision, highly recommended, for a reference call Lara on 072 673 3714 or call Joseph on 078 819 4813.

**Sandton:** Our reliable gardener is looking for work on Fri, Sat & Sun, call Gillian on 083 414 0869 or Sandton on 081 823 9168.



APPROVED ESTATE AGENTS FOR 2016/2017
Please remember that only Fourways Gardens Approved Estate Agents are allowed to list and sell houses in Fourways Gardens.
You may contact any of the following agencies to sell or let your home:

Agency	Agent	Cell Number	E-mail	Website
Century 21	Faith Stanbridge Trish Walton		faith.stanbridge@century21.co.za trish.walton@century21.co.za	www.century21.co.za
ENGEL&VÖLKERS	James Le Bihan	082 777 3543	James.LeBihan@engelvoelkers.com	www.engelvoelkers.com
FINE COUNTRY	Geoff Mander	073 251 1206	geoff.m@fineandcountry.com	www.fineandcountry.com/sa
Fourways Gardens Realty	Ingrid Manni	083 601 5521	info@fourwaysgardensrealty.co.za	www.fourwaysgardensrealty.co.za
FRANCESCA Beattie properties	Francesca Beattie	083 678 8001	info@fbproperties.co.za	www.fbproperties.co.za
Frankie Bell's	Denalee Drotskie	082 874 5828	denalee@frankiebells.co.za	www.frankiebells.co.za
Gaye Cawood	Gaye Cawood Susan de Boer	083 601 1593 082 452 0086	gaye@gcr.co.za sue@gcr.co.za	www.gcr.co.za
Lew Geffen Sotheby's	Philip Myburgh	079 241 1245	philipm@sothebysrealty.co.za	www.sothebysrealty.co.za
PAM GOLDING	Natalia Atanassov Tracey-Lee Savage (rentals)	084 783 3010 083 654 2729	natalia.atanassov@pamgolding.co.za traceylee.savage@pamgolding.co.za	www.pamgolding.co.za
REMAN	Lee Peterkin	082 832 6585	lee@remaxexec.co.za	www.remaxexecutivegroup.co.za
Seeff	Michele Succollo Sharon Caradoc Davies	082 850 8356 082 560 7042	michele.z@seeff.com sharoncaradoc.davies@seeff.com	www.seeff.com
HIGH S <sup>2</sup>	Bri-Anne Powell	082 896 4362	bri-anne@highstreetauctions.co.za	www.highstreetauctions.com
TUSON PROPERTIES	Grant Raw Mark McGowan Dee Thomas (rentals) Sally d'Hotman	079 495 9357 083 358 5652 083 375 5646 082 442 7693	grant.raw@tysonprop.co.za mark.mcgowan@tysonprop.co.za dee.thomas@tysonprop.co.za sally.dhotman@tysonprop.co.za	www.tysonprop.co.za
<u>UNI</u> VEST	Keri-Ann Hart	083 844 3150	keri@univestre.co.za	www.univestrealestate.co.za

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Poor Henry is back in town

It had been some time since I'd heard of Henry. But the other day I saw that he was back in the headlines. The headline was over a story about road accidents. It read: MAN KNOCKED DOWN EVERY 34 MINUTES.

That had to be Henry. He was back in town.

I had in fact written him off assuming some vehicle had at last managed to nail him – a tarmac ripper for instance or a 20-ton road roller. But no, he's still around and still being knocked down.

Being a good newspaperman I leapt aboard my bicycle and pedalled furiously to the General Hospital where I knew he would eventually have to appear.

I had settled down to read The Examination into the Effectiveness of the Constructive Programme of Abating, Controlling and Preventing Water Pollution and had just got to the exciting bit when they wheeled him in – Henry Bender, now aged 57.

He told me with some satisfaction how he had just been hit by the latest Jaguar while running across Main Road to retrieve his glass eye that had popped out when he sneezed.

It was, he said, the first time he'd been hit by a Jag for at least a year. His best hit this year was when he ended up against the windscreen of a Ferrari.

He dismissed his new injury with contempt and was more interested in telling me how the hospital's boiled fish had improved over the years. They fixed him up – he was on first name terms with everybody – and off he limped, anxious to keep up his average.



having been hit by a municipal bus. After treatment he walked out of the hospital only to be hit by an ambulance right outside the door.

Thus throughout the day we were able to keep up a long though interrupted conversation. Henry's ambition is to get into the Guinness Book of Records as the most knocked-down man in the world but he has a long way to go because in Ghana a man is knocked down every 15 minutes.

He spoke highly of South Africa's paramedics. He knew them all by name.

"Not that I go for treatment each time I'm knocked down," he said. "If I did I would spend too much time in hospital and not enough time on the road, so to speak.

"Sometimes I set the bones myself."

I asked him how he stood the pain. He explained he had almost perfected being hit on his left side because he had an artificial left leg (a taxi on the Pretoria Road in 1981); an artificial left arm (Volvo in 1999); a silver plate in his skull (combi taxi in Jan Smuts Avenue 2001).

Apart from his artificial eye he had false teeth and a wig – the wig being necessary after he was scalped by an emergency helicopter that had been sent to rescue him following an incident involving a cement lorry in Midrand.

I asked him if he was married.

"Used to be," he said. "But our marriage was doomed to failure. On the few occasions I slept at home instead of in hospital I used to put my leg and arm in a drawer. I'd put my eye and teeth in there too after putting them into a receptacle. Then I'd chuck my wig in.

"My wife never knew whether to get into bed or climb in the drawer."

One day I came home and found a note saying she had run off with my best friend, Fred, an ambulance driver.

You could have knocked me down with a feather.

For more James Clarke, visit Blogsite: http://stoeptalk.worldpress.com or www.jamesclarke.co.za



## Kyalami Store

Specials valid until 7th June 2017



### **Johnnie Walker Seven Strides**

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Gold Label Reserve in gift box with 2 glasses

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R 599.00 R 279.90 per unit per unit

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per unit



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Moederkerk Chardonnay, Ou Hoofgebou Cabernet Sauvignon and the Kweool Merlot

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R279.00 per 750ml unit R599.00 per I,5L unit

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### whatever makes an impression on the heart, seems lovely to the eye





### Think like a buyer. Never forget that even the smallest detail can make or break a sale. First impressions always count and often the smallest, seemingly unimportant detail can remain uppermost in a potential buyers' mind.

That's the advice from Chris Tyson. As head of Tyson Properties, he says years of experience have taught him that a little investment in fixing the obvious and a good helping of common sense can make can make a big difference. This is particularly important for those selling in today's tough climate. With fewer buyers looking at a wider range of properties, homeowners need to work a little harder to make sure that theirs is best and offers good value.

Kerbside appeal is crucial, according to Tyson. This is the 'real' first impression, so make sure buyers can see there is good security (but not overwhelming as they might suspect this is a crime hot spot), make sure that gates, bells and intercoms are working and that perimeter walls are in good condition.

Keep the garden neat and tidy – mow lawns, weed flowerbeds, trim edges, cut back shrubs and clip hedges. If you have a water feature, switch it on and add a few annuals or pots of

Tyson points out that, as every homeowner knows, maintenance is both expensive and hard work. Painting the outside of your home will automatically add value and could be a small price to pay for a good sale. Fix broken gutters, down pipes and fascia boards.

Replace cracked and broken window panes, wash windows and check outside fittings and lights. Just as with the inside of your home, pack away odds and ends such as bicycles and tools, roll hosepipes and stow the braai out of the way.

If you have a pool, make sure it is sparkling and in good working order, ensure that the pool area is inviting and that any garden furniture is in good repair.

"When it comes to the finer details, what would you notice?" Tyson asks. Make sure that curtains, upholstery and carpets are clean. Steam clean them, if possible. Also, make sure that

curtains are not sagging and that blinds are clean and neatly rolled or folded

A golden rule is 'steer clear of clutter' so pack away the family heirlooms if they are likely to distract. Polish wood and brass fittings. If possible, invest a little in painting the interior and take a leaf out of the decorators' books – light colours make rooms look bigger while bright or unusual colours can be off putting and could clash with a potential buyers' furnishings, meaning a repaint before moving in.

Kitchens and bathrooms sell homes, Tyson reminds sellers. The stove, refrigerator and sink should be spotless. If basins and bath tubs cannot be cleaned, consider re-enameling them. Replace broken tiles and wipe out any mildew. Fix noisy and leaky toilets, repair dripping taps and broken putty around baths, basins and showers. Pack away the dirty laundry and even go as far as adding a new set of colourful towels, pretty soaps or even a plant.

Tyson adds that, in his experience, sellers tend to focus on the bigger issues and forget the smaller but very practical things that make all the difference when you're buying. So, replace globes, make sure that cupboard doors close (and make sure they are tidy in case anyone peeks inside), see to it that garages and garden sheds are tidy and that laundries are clean and neat and that the ironing is done. Don't leave clothes on the line and empty dustbins.

Tyson says show houses remain the most effective means of selling properties. He recommends that sellers are away from home during show days. Potential buyers need to feel relaxed, comfortable and free to explore all the nooks and crannies – something that can be awkward with a homeowner hovering in the background. If possible, take your children (whether teens or toddlers) out but make sure that you pack away toys and wipe away sticky finger marks first.

The same goes for pets – not all people are comfortable with animals, especially big dogs. Either take Rover along with you or find a comfortable place for him to while away the afternoon. A howling or whining puppy can be as off putting as one that immos up and slobbers all over visitors!

From the outset, walk in a potential buyer's footsteps when you prepare your home for its special day. Pretend that you are house hunting and note features that would attract you and those that might be off putting. Then return, emphasizing the good qualities and playing down the negatives.

Make sure your home is as light and airy as possible – draw back curtains and open windows, minimize odours. Scatter cushions on easy chairs and place fresh flowers in empty corners. Make sure that pictures are straight and add more to fill blank walls (even if you have to borrow some!).

Most importantly of all, if you are at home during a show day or when someone visits with one of our agents, be polite and welcoming but leave the job up to the experts. Never apologize for appearances or try to make excuses for shortcomings as this only accentuates them.

"Remember, many a potential buyer has turned down a property because he didn't like the look of it – despite the fact that the house itself, position and price would have been perfect!" Tyson warns.

For more information, visit www.tysonprop.co.za Tel: 011 467 0145 | fourways@tysonprop.co.za Mark 083 358 5652 | Grant 079 495 9357 Dee 083 375 5646 | Sally 082 422 7693

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