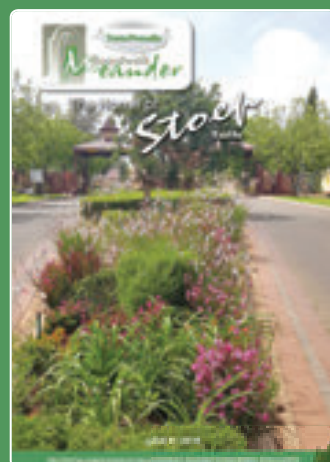
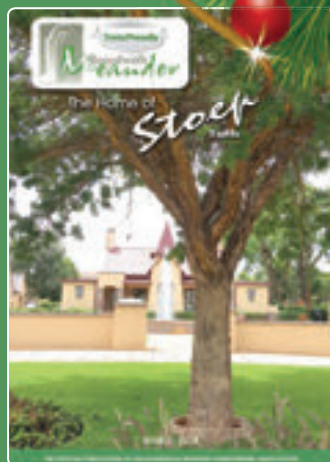
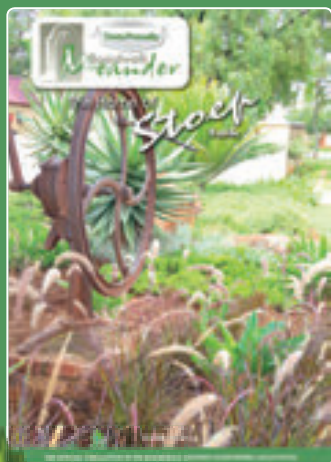




The Home of *Stoer* Talk



ISSUE 5 | 2018

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BOARDWALK MEANDER HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

We SELL Boardwalk Meander Estate



Wishing You and Your Family

Happy Holidays

Thank You for Your Loyal Support
during this Year and Wishing You
Prosperity and the Very Best
for this Coming New Year



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The deadline for advertisements and editorial contributions for issue 1 is 18 January 2019.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Hello aan almal, Hello to all

"The year 2017 is now at its end. I figure that most people will welcome the fact that 2018 is around the corner due to a very challenging year that has now drawn to a close. Politically and financially, we have experienced one of the most interesting and disturbing years of recent times. It will be good to leave it behind, have a proper rest and take the bull by the horns next year."

This was the message I sent out last year for the last issue of our *Stoeptalk*. Little did we know that things would probably be worse than anticipated and these aspects were driven to a pinnacle during 2018. But we as South Africans are a super strong nation and we carry on. We do not have any other option but to continue with what we are doing... and to do it well.

Next year the country will see an election that is anticipated to be the beginning of change and good fortune for SA. Let's hope and pray that it will be the case as soaring costs and instability have become part of our everyday household conversations. Staying positive is imperative, but it is most definitely not the easiest thing to do.

Ek wil graag vir elke Trustee bedank vir 'n baie goeie en suksesvolle jaar. Feitlik al ons doelwitte vir die jaar is bereik en elkeen kan trots voel op 'n uiters goeie jaar wat verby is. In isolasie van wat gebeur in die land poog ons om alles op 'n hoë standaard te hou binne ons mure.

Dankie aan John Moore vir sy uitstekende diens en vir die manier waarop hy binne 'n jaar ongelooflike vordering gemaak het as Landgoed Bestuurder. Hy is trots op sy werk en het 'n uiters goeie werksetiek. Saam met René en die res van die Personeel het hulle 'n baie goeie jaar beleef en ons as Raad kan net dankie sê vir hulle puik diens gedurende die jaar.

Ek wil graag vir elke Inwoner, Personeel en Diensverskaffer en hul gesinne 'n baie Geseënde Kersfees toewens. Mag julle almal 'n spesiale tyd saam met familie en vriende hê en dit altyd koester. Reis veilig en geniet die vakansie wat voorlê en mag die nuwe jaar uiters suksesvol wees.

Diegene wat "Romania" (sounds like) toe gaan... geniet die Landgoed en mag almal 'n wonderlike Kerstyd in Pretoria beleef tuis.

May you all be blessed and may 2019 be the year of change and fortune for our Country.



We arranged a rhino darting at the Pilanesberg Private Lodge. The rhinos are notched to help identify them as well as gathering DNA samples of the animals. This year over 40 rhinos were poached in the Pilanesberg National Park. We continue to help fight these heartless poachers.

Thank you to each and every resident and owner who contributes to make Boardwalk Meander world-class and a fantastic place to live in.

The Board will continue in its efforts to keep up the good work to preserve and maintain the standards that have been set by previous Boards.

To the Board, I can only say a huge thanks for a fantastic year. A big thanks also to

our families for sharing us with the Estate. Each one plays an integral part and it is a pleasure to serve with you. May we continue to strive to be successful and I am looking forward to 2019.

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FROM THE ESTATE MANAGER

"We also need to thank you, the residents for your continuous support and patience while work is in progress".

To all security personnel – thank you for a job well done – no breach of security incidents were experienced or reported for the whole year. You guys are the best in keeping our residents safe.

A very special thank you goes to my wife for her full support and attending Estate functions with me.

Please note that the office is closing down on 21 December 2018 and will open again on 7 January 2019.

I will however be on leave from 18 December 2018 to 7 January 2019. I will be on standby should there be any crisis.

Please feel free to report any problems to Security to enable them to contact me.

Interesting note – I have been with you guys for one year now.

Regards,

John Moore

Estate Manager

Dear Residents

This past year has been very busy, productive and exciting. Thank you for all the compliments we received for work well done.

We also need to thank you, the residents for your continuous support and patience while work is in progress.

This time no complaints or Rules and Regulations from me. I only want to say, relax, have a joyful Christmas and holiday with your loved ones, family and friends.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Directors for their full support during the year.

A special thanks to Marlène for her dedication, time and effort with the revamping of the gardens and the establishment of the gabions. Without her this project would not have been a success.

I would also like to thank Don and his Team for the extra work done by them especially with cleaning up while the Contractors were busy "creating havoc".

Also, David and George – thank you for their hard work this year as I put a lot of pressure on them to finish certain jobs.

A big thank you to René and Theorine for their patience with me and for running the Office successfully while I'm permanently busy outside.

"Why people don't succeed?"

- 1. They don't know what they want.*
- 2. They don't want it badly enough.*
- 3. Low self-esteem.*
- 4. No purposeful action.*
- 5. Not Setting goals.*
- 6. Not doing their best in the moment.*
- 7. Vision is important. If you don't take time for the SET-UP you'll never have the conditions for the Result".*



*Happy
Holidays and
a Prosperous
New Year!*

"It seems to me that the natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty, the greatest source of intellectual interest. It is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living."

- Sir David Attenborough



Owl House Gets New Residents



We installed the owl houses on the Estate a few years back and nothing happened until last week. Wonderful news! The owls hatched and there are two chicks!

PLEASE DON'T KILL US WITH BREAD!



Bread is actually a danger to ducks and water birds. It causes Angel Wing which can make our feathers grow too quickly. This strains our muscles and can stop us flying.

Our friends the swans develop fatal gut and heart disease.



Bread is bad for our water environment. It rots, and pollutes the water. This allows bacteria to grow and encourages rats. It causes algal bloom which gets into our lungs and kills us birds.

If you want to feed us we like lettuce, peas and sweetcorn.

GARDENING

Good day Residents,

Herewith an explanation of what is currently underway in the Estate. Also, what to look forward to when we have finished.

There are proportional excavations in the river beds that Powergate (appointed contractors) are working on. A big machine is on-site doing this work. This is due to the fact that a normal TLB can't do the work. It gets stuck in the mud and tumbles over.

Obviously, we can't do these excavations by hand, as it will take forever. The silt build-up has become such a problem that flooding and damage is of a regular occurrence.

Now, there is a lot of wet mud heaped onto either side of the river bed. It is like sludge. This has to dry out first in order for the people to return to work on this area again. Thus, they move on towards another section to excavate.

We realise it looks terrible. Please be patient. As the soil dries out, workers move back to these areas. Most of the soil will be taken away, the soil then gets worked down/smoothed out, to a suitable gradient, all rubble is removed and the rocks are rolled back into the river bed to act as water breakers.

Rock gabions are then installed across the river bed. These gabions slow down water flow and act as silt catchers. As Powergate finish off an area, the Engineer comes in and does his inspection before he signs off on that area. We then have to do the rehabilitation of that specific area.

A hessian-like fabric called Geojute is cut into sections specific to that area. This fabric is bio-degradable, thus will degrade over time. The reason we use this fabric is to hold down the soil till plant roots have established and so control soil erosion better.

This fabric is nailed down over these gradient slopes on either side of the river beds. We then cut cross sections into this fabric where suitable plants will be planted.

These plants have to be low maintenance, like muddy conditions, have a fairly strong side root system and grow fairly quickly.

Some examples of plants we will use:

1. *Zantedeschia* – Arum lily
2. *Chondropetalum* – Cape thatch grass
3. *Salvia* – Sage
4. *Plumbago* – Leadworts
5. *Dietes* – Wild iris
6. *Leucospermum* – Pincushions
7. Different tree spp.

So, at the end of the day we will have bigger channels for the flow of water, worked down embankments planted with flowering shrubs, grasses and trees.



Worked down embankments planted with flowering shrubs, grasses and trees



Bigger channels for the flow of water



Pincushions



Wild iris

I have to mention that this project will not be finished as the contractors are closing for December.

However, it will be finished early next year with the minimum disruption and mess. Some heavy excavations will have to be done as this is not finished yet.

We are busy doing an overall clean-up before closing of Office on 21 December 2018.

A big thank you to Don and his team for all their extra work in establishing the new gardens and assisting with the clean-up where construction took place. We had to take them off their normal gardening schedule.

I would like to thank my fellow Board members for all their patience and support in these projects.

Thanks to John for his constant support and assistance throughout this year.

Wishing everybody a wonderful Christmas and holiday.

Kind Regards,

Marlene Huyser

Garden Director



Rock gabions/wire baskets



Terrafix glass blocks



Arum lily



Plumbago



Geojute fabric



GARDEN PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Dear Residents,

It's hard to believe that Christmas is almost here already – where did this year go? Each year that passes seems to have its own character – there are always challenges, and maybe a low point here and there, but more often than not they are liberally sprinkled with many highlights which bring joy and happiness.

As we look back over these past twelve months, we know that it has been about as full a year as we can remember. In this busy time of year, we encourage you to take a few minutes to count your blessings.

We all have so much to be thankful for, including our Village, community, family and friends, to name a few. We are lucky to be a part of this great Estate.

Now is a time for reflection and a rejuvenation of hope for the future. May we always be ever mindful of the spirit of caring, sharing, love and generosity of the festive season, and do our best at all times as we seek to develop as a Community, improve the prosperity of our Village and grow as individuals, contributing in whatever capacity for the benefit of the Village community.

The Committee has been hard at work this year and we are excited to now look back at the developments and progress made.



"The Tower of Song" gardens were revamped by the Estate in keeping with the master plan theme of Fynbos and Aloes.

Entrance 1 has been the main focus this year and if you have not already done so, take a walk and see for yourself the amazing progress made throughout the year. Walls have been built, pathways and paving laid and garden beds established.

Beginning of 2018



The End of 2018



The pathways leading up to the unit's entrance were also revamped and the gardeners were busy removing the old paving and laying new paving. The end result is truly amazing!



Pergolas were erected throughout the Village in line with the Cape Vineyard look and feel.



The Committee would like to thank the following residents who have kindly donated plants and garden furniture to enhance the gardens and have financially saved us a lot of money. Riaan Goddard donated a table and benches that have now been placed at Entrance 1. Talie Smit, Josef Venter, Ann and Koos van Wyk, Rina Laas, Elaine du Toit and Amelia Goddard for the plants that they donated and which are now planted in the gardens around the Village.

Our thanks once again go to our gardeners who are the key players in making this project successful. Without the hard work and dedication from this team of gardeners we would not have accomplished as much so fast!

Our thanks also go to Reg Botha for his support of this project and for all the directions, advice and ideas that he has contributed to the project.

A special word of acknowledgment and appreciation needs to go out to Oom Willem and Tannie Estelle Hechter. Between the two of them they tirelessly oversee the implementation of the plans, strategies and projects of the Garden Committee and their efforts are key to the success of the project as a whole.



Thank you!

Poinsettias at Christmas



There is an old Mexican legend about how Poinsettias and Christmas came together, it goes like this:

There was once a poor Mexican girl called Pepita who had no present to give to baby Jesus at the Christmas Eve Services. As Pepita walked to the chapel, sadly, her cousin Pedro tried to cheer her up.

'Pepita', he said "I'm sure that even the smallest gift, given by someone who loves him will make Jesus Happy."

Pepita didn't know what she could give, so she picked a small handful of weeds from the roadside and made them into a small bouquet. She felt embarrassed because she could only give this small present to Jesus. As she walked through the chapel to the altar, she remembered what Pedro had said. She began to feel better, knelt down and put the bouquet at the bottom of the nativity scene. Suddenly, the bouquet of weeds burst into bright red flowers, and everyone who saw them were sure they had seen a miracle. From that day on, the bright red flowers were known as the 'Flores de Noche Buena', or 'Flowers of the Holy Night'.

The shape of the poinsettia flower and leaves are sometimes thought as a symbol of the Star of Bethlehem which led the Wise Men to Jesus. The red coloured leaves symbolize the blood of Christ. The white leaves represent his purity.

French Yoghurt Pudding for Christmas (Recipe by Estelle Hechter)

Serves 5



Ingredients

- Assorted Berries e.g. Blueberries, Blackberries, Strawberries etc.
- 250ml Full Cream
- 250ml Yoghurt
- Brown Sugar—Muscovado (Creepy Crawly)

Prepare the night before

Place mixed berries on the bottom of a glass bowl.

Beat yoghurt and cream together until thick. Pour yoghurt mixture over the berries.

Sprinkle the brown sugar over the cream layer.

For more than 5 people, repeat as above, and pack layers on top of each other until required amount.

Let us use the festive break to relax and recharge our batteries so that when we come back in the New Year we are better individuals with the necessary energy to do better than we did this year.

To those of our Village residents who will be hitting the road to various destinations, either to visit family or to go on holiday, we wish you a safe journey. Remember that speed and fatigue kill. Adhere to the rules of the road and be patient with other road users.

Let us all come back in 2019 oozing with confidence and energy to continue making Vineyard Village an even better place to stay, work and play.

We wish you an incredible Festive Season and a happy New Year

Yours Sincerely

*The Vineyard Village
Garden Committee*



Bill and Val Geere

Long-time residents Bill and Val Geere wish to thank everyone involved in helping them in a very bad situation.

Firstly, a huge thank you to the security personnel for their prompt response and in calling the ambulance as quick as they did. You guys are the best anyone could asked for to look after us.

To Ilse de Beer who was first on-site to help Val – we do so much appreciate your help and assistance.

Also, to all other residents involved – the way you all helped and assisted without us having to ask is exactly the reason why we love living in this Estate. This is a family!

I was in hospital undergoing some tests when one of the hospital personnel told me my wife was also admitted and was lying in the room next to me – this was the first I heard of what happened.

Val broke her ankle very badly but promised to never climb on a ladder again.

Bill and Val Geere – Victoria residents



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YOU GO. LET NO ONE EVER
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LEAVING HAPPIER."

Mother Teresa





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FROM THE OFFICE

To all our Residents,

It really is that time of year again. Time to say thank you for the past year. Thank you to residents who became friends. Thank you for all your help and support throughout the year. Thank you for remembering special days. Thank you for co-operating to help us make this the best Estate to work for and live in. I appreciate each and every phone call, email and visit. You are what makes it great to be part of this environment.

Welkom aan al ons "nuwe" intrekkers – weet verseker dat hierdie die beste Landgoed is waar jy in totale veiligheid kan woon. Ons het 7.4 km geplaveide wandelpaaie waar jy kan stap om die natuur en "wild life" te geniet. Ons het drie Venues, tafels, stoele, braaiers en sambrele wat gehuur kan word vir 'n funksies groter as wat jou huis kan akkommodeer. Ons het 'n tennis- en squashbane waar jy sweet en geniet. Ons het een swembad vir almal se gebruik. Heerlike plek om te bly en te geniet! Kontak my gerus indien jy enige navrae het.

Should you have any queries regarding the Estate, feel free to contact us – 012 991 2770 or email: office@estatebwm.co.za or visit me from Monday to Friday from 07h30 to 16h00.

Hope you have a wonderful, restful, safe journey if you going away on holiday and come back safe.

Have a blessed Christmas filled with joy.

Take care,

Ren  Koeleman



"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away." – Maya Angelou

Christmas and Carols by Candlelight Events



Dear Residents,

Once again, we had a wonderful time arranging all the activities for our kids for our last event of the year.

Like always the pony rides were enjoyed to the fullest. Clamber Club's personnel laid out a very interesting obstacle course and they seemed to have enjoyed some of the games more than the children. The jumping castle and water slide (both with water) were great fun for the young ones.

The face painter did a fantastic job and even the older "kids" enjoyed it as well.

This year we had a horse and carriage for Santa to arrive on. The horse was magnificent – the carriage looked great and Santa and his Elf arrived in all their splendour to hand out gifts to the children. Santa and helper also posed with some of the Board Members before they were taken away.

The carols were unfortunately rained out and that put a damper on the rest of the evening but we had such a fun day and all in all a great time was had by everyone.

We will give out next year's event dates early so please make a note in your diaries.

Jan-Louis Fischer





John and René having a ball playing with the sound equipment!



Pony Rides, Jumping Castles, Slides and Face Painting







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For more information visit www.travelvision.co.za; email: reservations@travelvision.co.za or contact them on 011 408 8000.

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For more information visit www.thompsons.co.za; email: travel@thompsons.co.za or contact them on 011 770 7583.



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For more information visit www.topdeck.travel/destinations/africa or contact them on 0800 982 308.

Venice Carnival with United Europe



Venice

Rates from R13 750 per person sharing. Offer includes Port fees, four nights' accommodation onboard Croisi Europe Ms Michelangelo, all meals and onboard activities. Offer excludes flights and taxes. Set dates 27 February - 3 March 2019 and 3 - 7 March 2019.

For more information visit www.unitedeurope.co.za; email: info@unitedeurope.co.za or contact them on 011 462 0962.

Traditional Cambodia Tour from Azure Travel



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Rates from R15 187 per person sharing. Offer includes transfers, eight nights' accommodation with breakfast daily, one dinner and more. Visit Siem Reap, Battambang, Phnom Penh and more. Offer excludes flights and taxes. Valid until 31 March 2019.

For more information visit www.azuretravel.co.za; email: info@azuretravel.co.za or contact them on 011 678 1146.

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What is the purpose of Geojute fabric?

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The restaurants featured in this competition have been carefully chosen and, even if you aren't a winner, we hope that you'll enjoy visiting them whenever you are looking for a memorable culinary experience!

Terms and Conditions:

1. Vouchers cannot be exchanged for cash.
2. Portions of the monetary value of the voucher cannot be refunded as "change".
3. Bookings need to be made in advance with the restaurant detailed on the voucher.
4. Service charges/gratuities are not included, regardless of any balance left over after the meal.
5. Vouchers will be numbered. Please provide your voucher number when you make your reservation.
6. The competition is open to readers over the age of 18.
7. Indemnity: The publishers, BOARDWALK MEANDER ESTATE and other associated parties are not responsible for the fulfilment of the service from the restaurant once the prize has been awarded.

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The benefits of humour

By Michèle Britz

Laugh and the world laughs with you, cry, and you cry alone...

Laugh and the world laughs with you, cry, and you cry alone...

In the Bible, in Proverbs we read that: "A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."

Audrey Hepburn once said: "I love people who make me laugh. I honestly think it's the thing I like most, to laugh. It cures all ills. It's probably the most important thing in a person."

It is proven that laughing stimulates your blood circulation and stabilises your blood pressure. Laughing relieves pain.

Have you ever felt how quickly you get tired when you are depressed?

Well....I have personally felt how alive and cheerful I feel when I laugh.

Humour has far more pros than cons! We need humour in our lives so that we can laugh and be healthy.

On the internet www.helpguide.org we read that humour is infectious. The sound of laughter is far more contagious than any cough, snuffle, or sneeze.

Think about a joke that makes you laugh, and when it is shared, everyone laughs...

Q: So, why can't you say a joke while standing on ice?

A: Because, it might just crack you up!

When laughter is shared, it can bind people together and increases happiness and intimacy.

Dr Paul McGee says: "Your sense of humour is one of the most powerful tools you have so that your daily mood supports good health."

- Laughter relaxes your body.
- Laughter boosts your immune system and decreases stress.
- Laughter protects the heart as it increases blood flow.
- Best of all, this priceless medicine is fun, free, and easy to use.

"I love people who make me laugh. I honestly think it's the thing I like most, to laugh. It cures all ills. It's probably the most important thing in a person."

On the web page www.pbs.org, I found tips on finding ways to laugh more and bring more humour in your life:

A few of these tips include:

- Laugh at yourself.
- Laugh at situations rather than bemoan them.
- Surround yourself with reminders to lighten up.
- Keep things in perspective.
- Deal with your stress.

Not all of us are born with a great sense of humour, but it is worth it to see the humour all around us as it can benefit us all.

Humour takes you to a higher place where you can view the world from a more relaxed, positive, creative, joyful, and balanced perspective. Some events are clearly sad and not occasions for laughter. But most events in life don't carry an overwhelming sense of either sadness or delight. They fall into the grey zone, giving you the choice to laugh or not.

I would like to end by a quote from Veronica Roth: "Sometimes crying or laughing are the only options left, and laughing feels much better right now."

So, let's start laughing more and remember that laughter is the best medicine!



"Well, here we go again... Did anyone here not eat his or her homework on the way to school?"

A young girl dressed as Santa Claus, wearing a red suit, hat, and a large red sack, is riding a green tricycle with red wheels. She is holding a red megaphone to her mouth and shouting. To her left is a decorated Christmas tree with gold and red ornaments, lights, and several wrapped gifts at its base. The background is a solid blue color with decorative gold stars and a red ornament hanging from the top right.

LET'S CELEBRATE

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A stylized graphic element consisting of a central leaf-like shape with two curved lines extending outwards, positioned below the brand name.



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