



# *The* Villager

Issue 1 • 2020

**BEST  
WISHES  
FOR A  
HAPPY  
2020!**

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personal  
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Plans for the Year Ahead

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The Villager focuses on Irene Farm Villages. The magazine is delivered to the home of each resident on the Estate. The magazine is co-ordinated and published by Estates in Africa (Pty) Ltd on behalf of the Home Owners' Association of Irene Farm Villages. The opinions of workers and personnel of Estates in Africa (Pty) Ltd do not necessarily reflect those of the HOA of Irene Farm Villages.

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Deadline for advertisements and editorial contributions:  
17 January 2020

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PRINCIPAL SALES AGENT

**Eunice** 071 676 5940  
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Enclosed patio, Pool,  
3 Garages, Borders park

**NINA 082 963 1994**

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TV room, Dining room,  
Kitchen, Scullery,  
Domestic quarters,  
Double garage

**NINA 082 963 1994**

#### BORDERS PARK!!

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Kitchen, Scullery, Lounge,  
TV room x 2,  
Large covered patio, S/Q,  
Double garage

**NINA 082 963 1994**

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R3.1 mill



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patio, Double garage

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# A Selection of Properties Sold in 2019

Irene Farm Village & Centurion Golf Estates

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R4.4 million



R3.2 million



R3.2 million



R2.95 million



R4.5 million



R4.8 million



R3.3 million



R3.2 million



R3.9 million

Pam Golding Properties is the top selling agency in Africa and Peter Varrie is a valued Gold Club Member and a top selling Property Professional in Irene Farm Villages.

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## Message from the Estate Office

### Dear Residents

The third decade of the 21st millennium has kicked off and we can only expect that 2020 will be another year of challenges whilst we remain part of the rat-race. Maybe we should follow the advice of Leonardo da Vinci, who said: "Every now and then go away, have a little relaxation, for when you come back to your work your judgement will be surer". It is our sincere wish that you will have a prosperous year ahead of you.

A special word of thanks to all the residents who contributed towards the Xmas donations for the Security and Garden Service personnel. We



At van Niekerk

were able to hand to each of the 41 personnel an envelope which included your contribution. They asked that we convey their gratitude to all those who contributed.

The 2019 Fun Day was well supported and enjoyed by our residents and many of their visitors. The highlight was once again Santa Claus, who handed out presents to a large group of children.

Residents are reminded to attend to the re-registration of their household workers (domestics, gardeners, au-pairs, drivers, child-sitters, etc.) before Friday, 31 January 2020. If these workers are not reregistered in time, their biometric (fingerprint) access will be suspended until they are registered. The annual registration fee of R50 per worker per stand is charged again. This year, the Estate Management will issue a blue card to each household worker who is registered. This card must always be carried with them when they access or





move around in the estate.

Residents must also update their own personal information by using the "Residents' Update" forms that were circulated to all residents on 22 November 2019. The Homeowners' Association is currently in the process of finalising the development of the web-portal, which will enable members to update their information directly onto the Glo Portal. Further information regarding this development will be shared with our residents later during the year.

At the end of last year, we requested residents who are keen on joining a HOA sub-committee to contact the Estate Manager. We had little response from our residents, however the Community Investment Committee (CIC) and the Environmental Management Committee (EMC) require residents to join. There are important and interesting subjects to be addressed by both these committees.

All the road markings at both the access gates were painted in November 2019. This was a project that the HOA Board of Directors approved, and which was funded from the 2019/2020 Operation Budget. We trust that the 'new' repainted road markings will make our residents more conscious of the extra traffic now using the main gate traffic circle.

During the past Festive Season, we encountered no security breach, although there were many criminal activities in and around our neighbouring suburbs. Our residents are always reminded to be cautious and vigilant. On examining the national crime statistics, it is quite clear that



*New road markings at the traffic circle*



one of the major motives behind many of the crimes, for example theft and burglaries, is due to the poor economic situation and the unemployment rate in South Africa. Hence, we can expect that there will be crime on our front stoep. We will once again hold hands with our local Community Police Forum and the

Joint Operational centre (JOC), which is still running 24/7.

In line with the decision that was taken by the members at the 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM), the HOA Board received the report from VIP Consulting Engineers, the appointed HOA engineers. The engineers made several recommendations regarding the method of preventative maintenance that should be carried out by the Tshwane Municipal Metro Council (TMC) on its water and sewer infrastructures. The report was submitted to the HOA's attorneys, who will attend to the drafting of a letter of demand to the TMC.

A site meeting was held with the TMC officials on Monday, 18 November 2019. They informed the HOA and the affected owners of properties that the TMC will start with the rehabilitation of the 'old' Queens Way sinkhole in January 2020, which is good news to all.



*Queen's Way sinkhole*



**It is good practice to take stock of the past year's achievements, which include some of the following:**

- The access system was replaced with new equipment, which included the booms and the biometric readers at all the access lanes (eight) and two turnstiles.
- The analog cameras at both the gatehouses were replaced with the IP cameras, which includes the licence plate recognition (LPR) programme.
- The new GloVisitor application (App) was launched. This replaced the old Click On system. The App allows residents to manage the access to the estate of their own visitors, deliveries, collections, etc.
- One hundred and ten (110) new trees were planted in various parks.
- The Garden Creation Team followed an extended winter programme, with major re-landscaping at several parks taking place, especially the North Gate circle.
- Traffic enforcement was focused on after the Constitutional Court's ruling in the Mt Edgecombe case, which allows speed enforcement and penalties for failure to stop at stop signs.



**Looking head into 2020, the Estate Management will be focusing on some of the following challenges:**

- To build the existing security systems to excellence;
- To ensure that the Security Personnel are always focused on their tasks through follow-up training;
- To enforce traffic lawfulness;
- Development of the Glovent web-portal to accommodate the registration of long-term contractors by residents;
- To achieve a cashless office;
- Development of a mountain bike trail for small and big;
- Infrastructure development, which includes the upgrading of the two main gates and at the same time running the estate office effectively;
- To maintain the landscaping of the parks and the areas around the access gates in a beautiful condition throughout the year and at the same time to use water more sparingly;
- To ensure that all service level agreements are executed to their best levels and as favourably as possible for the HOA;
- Building good and lasting relationships with our residents.



Residents who are using the HOA's post office are reminded to renew the annual post office subscription by 31 January 2020. The subscription fee remains at R250,00 for the year. The fee can be paid directly into the HOA's account or at the estate office.

Residents are reminded to ensure that all your pets are registered with the estate office and that the pets are collared with the prescribed tag on the collar. Only two dogs and two cats are allowed per household (stand). Failure to comply could lead to a penalty.

We wish all the children, especially the Grade 1s, a great and successful year of schooling. Also, to all the students, may you be blessed with success during your studies this year, and do not hesitate to burn the candle through the night when necessary.

Our residents, scholars and students are invited to share their life experiences



with us, which we would like to publish in *The Villager*. Short letters or articles will do.

We wish you all a happy 2020!

Regards from the  
*Estate Management*



"Happiness doesn't depend on any external condition; it is governed by our mental attitude."

— DALE CARNEGIE

KAREN WARFEL FROM PIXABAY



# IRENE FARM VILLAGES HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

## Summary Income Statement – November 2019

November 2019      Year to Date      YTD Variance  
Actual      Budget      Actual      Budget      Value      %

<b>Operational Income</b>						
Levy Income	1 108 155	1 108 154	9 973 391	9 973 386	5	0,0%
Other Income	63 678	28 250	731 712	504 710	227 002	45,0%
	1 171 832	1 136 404	10 705 103	10 478 096	227 007	2,2%
<b>Operational Expenditure</b>						
Professional /Administration	75 298	63 690	644 152	636 919	(7 233)	-1,1%
Accounting and Auditing	39 273	39 274	414 059	418 466	4 407	1,1%
Insurance, Legal and Admin	36 025	24 416	230 093	218 453	(11 640)	-5,3%
General Office	12 684	17 811	104 389	114 149	9 760	8,6%
Office Administration	12 684	17 811	104 389	114 149	9 760	8,6%
Operational Expenses	219 849	212 934	1 911 809	1 938 587	26 778	1,4%
Municipal Charges	47 110	49 738	439 717	436 390	(3 327)	-0,8%
General Operations	15 066	16 103	138 705	145 360	6 655	4,6%
Salaries & Wages	157 673	147 093	1 333 387	1 356 837	23 450	1,7%
Security	457 974	501 834	4 217 363	4 374 880	157 517	3,6%
Security Operations	51 498	63 229	532 018	596 929	64 911	10,9%
CCTV Equipment Rental	13 513	20 100	148 675	190 200	41 525	21,8%
Guarding Services	392 963	418 505	3 536 670	3 587 751	51 081	1,4%
Repairs & Maintenance	165 902	179 932	1 546 118	1 561 805	15 687	1,0%
Repairs & Maintenance	29 641	42 374	339 239	369 179	29 940	8,1%
Park Maintenance Contract	136 261	137 558	1 206 880	1 192 626	(14 254)	-1,2%
	931 707	976 201	8 423 831	8 626 340	202 509	2,3%
<b>Operating Profit / (Loss)</b>	<b>240 126</b>	<b>160 203</b>	<b>2 281 272</b>	<b>1 851 756</b>		
Non-Recurring Revenue	14 435	0	91 851	0	91 851	100,0%
Non-Recurring Expenses	107 063	45 500	356 110	1 002 500	646 390	64,5%
Net Positive/ (Negative)	(92 628)	(45 500)	(264 258)	(1 002 500)	(554 539)	
<b>Net Profit / (Loss)</b>	<b>147 498</b>	<b>114 703</b>	<b>2 017 014</b>	<b>849 256</b>		

Irene Farm Villages Home Owners Association - Project Income & Other						
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Value	%
<b>Revenue</b>						
Special Levies	202 731	0	1 824 265	0	1 824 265	100,0%
CSOS Levies	15 275	0	137 471	0	137 471	100,0%

IRENE FARM VILLAGES HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION Summary Levy Statements – November 2019								
	120+ Days	90 Days	60 Days	30 Days	Current	Total		Previous Month
Normal - Self Pay	-	-	522	12 938	-159 653	-146 194		-95 244
Normal - Debit Order	-	-	-	-	-10 144	-10 144		-10 700
	-	-	522	12 938	-169 798	-156 338		-105 944
Debt Collection - AA (30/60 days)	40 018	10 574	30 820	65 155	58 183	204 749	130%	205 084
Debt Collection - JJR (90+ days)	86 815	3 561	3 592	3 580	2 444	99 992	64%	96 726
Debt Collection - KSB (90+ days)	31 279	10 541	5 563	7 452	6 135	60 970	39%	57 990
Sold - Previous Owner Accounts	-	-	-	-	-44 255	-44 255		-38 147
In Transfer	-	-	-	-	-25 226	-25 226		-26 102
Other	5 771	2 923	2 948	2 974	2 942	17 557		29 397
	163 883	27 598	43 445	92 099	-169 575	157 450	-28,1%	219 004
	1 065 893	20 609	20 621	20 775	9 808	1 137 706	1,5%	1 121 184
Debt Collection - Accounts > R200,000	1 229 776	48 207	64 065	112 874	-159 767	1 295 155	-3,4%	1 340 188

Another successful month of collections, with outstanding levies reducing with 28% excluding our 3 major debtors. In total, only 10 members owe the Estate in excess of 90 days. Total owed by the 10 debtors is more than the total of the outstanding debtors as many owners' accounts are in credit. In total, 53 members owe the Estate more than a month's levies. We urge all members to pay their levies monthly in advance, preferably via debit order.

Irene Farm Villages Home Owners Association - Capital/ Development Projects					
	Current stage	Current Status	Approved Budget	Actual Spend To Date	Available Budget
<b>Infrastructure Development</b>	Planning		8 797 910	687 101	8 110 809
<b>Power Solution Project</b>	Completed		2 010 879	2 010 879	-
<b>CCTV Project</b>	Completed		697 451	697 451	-
<b>Land Purchase Project</b>	Completed		2 282 850	2 282 850	-
<b>Security Upgrade Project</b>	Define		1 700 000	1 298 555	401 445
<b>Total</b>			15 489 090	6 976 836	8 512 254

*"Life is a sum of all your choices"*

– Albert Camus

## Account Ability

Office Address:  
Sovereign Drive,  
Route 21  
Corporate Park

Accounting  
Office Hours  
8:00 to 13:00  
Monday to Friday

Office Tel: 082 780 0059

Accounts Email:  
accounts@aams.co.za

IFV Accounts:  
Winnie Boshoff

Summary Income  
Statement by  
Account Ability





## Irene Village Care

Tel: 012 662 0302/012 662 0305

Emergency dental services:  
079 069 4607

[www.irenecare.co.za](http://www.irenecare.co.za)

21 Via Latina Ring,  
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# FAMILY FUN DAY – 30 November 2019









## CHESS BY



Improving your chess takes many long hours of study and practice in order to be able to recognise different patterns that occur. A game of chess has three distinctive phases, the opening, middle game and end game. In each phase, there are a number of principles that determine the way good players play. In the second article, I examined some of the opening principles

a player must adhere to, to do well in chess.

Let us look at some common checkmating patterns which are linked to the aim of the game. To win a game of chess, you need to checkmate the opposing King. These common checkmating patterns help the player to plan his moves in order to achieve his goal of checkmating his opponent.



#### Checkmate with two pawns

This is a very common endgame, where one side has two pawns and the other side has none. On the positions below, Black has nowhere to move: d7 and f7 are guarded by the White's King; d8 and f8 are guarded by the e7 pawn which obviously cannot be captured.



#### Checkmate with two rooks

This is the simplest possible mate in the game of chess, which usually occurs in the late stages of the game (end game). The stronger side cuts the opponent's King from 7th rank with one major piece and delivers a mate with the other one. On the diagram above White mates with 1. Ra8#. This mate is very common and thus important to know and to be aware of.



#### Back rank checkmate

This is a classic example of the back-rank checkmate which is a powerful weapon used by all players as a serious threat. In the position above, Black's King is blocked by his own pawns on the 8th rank and any check by a major piece on the back rank would turn out to be deadly.



#### Diagonal checkmate

The setup Queen + Bishop lined up on the same diagonal proved to be very powerful. In this case, the setup is even more powerful since Black dominates the so-called long (a1-h8) diagonal.

White mates with 1. Qxg7#. The diagonal checkmate should be in the arsenal of every practical chess player.



**Note:** You should always be aware of the back-rank threats even when no immediate checkmate is available. The position can change very rapidly and therefore it is a good practice to create an escape window in the end game where major pieces are present.

**Smothered checkmate:** This is a

mate given by the Knight alone when an opponent's King is unable to move because it's blocked by its own pieces or pawns. This mate is quite hard to see sometimes because players usually don't expect the Knight to be a mating piece.

A Queen and Knight combine for 'Smothered Mate'. You need a Queen

on the a2-g8 diagonal and a Knight within range of f7. Black's King must be restricted and there must not be any piece guarding f7. 1.Nf7+ Kg8 2.Nh6! Kh8 3. Qg8+!! R(N)xg8 4. Nf7#. Smothered mates do not have to occur in the corner, but they are easiest, and most common, there.



### Bishop and Knight fianchetto checkmate

This is a common checkmate which exploits the 3 weak dark squares around the Black King's Castle: f6, g7, and h6 can be occupied by the White's pieces. It is dangerous to exchange the fianchetto Bishop, which would be the Black's dark square Bishop (not present on this diagram below), it will create many weak squares, especially if your opponent has dark squared Bishop. Do not exchange the Bishop if there is no extreme necessity of doing so.



White mates with 1. Nh6#, since Black's King already couldn't move due to White Bishop controlling h8 and g7 and f8 is blocked by Black's own Rook.

### Anastasia's checkmate

This checkmate is another great example of how the Knight can be used in mating schemes. In Anastasia's mate Knight and Rook work together to lock an opponent's King on the h – file (it works as well on a – file too, in the case of a long side Castle) and to checkmate thereafter.



The Knight controls g6 and g8 squares, while Rook will take care of entire h-file and deliver a checkmate: 1. Rh5#.





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# AutoTrader South African CAR OF THE YEAR finalists announced for 2020

The top 14 finalists for the 2020 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year have been announced – one of these cars will win the sought-after crown!

The finalists for the 2020 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year awards can win in one of seven categories: Family, Leisure, Lifestyle, Premium Car, Premium SUV, Sport/Performance or Urban. The most hotly contested category is Leisure, with four finalists: the Peugeot 5008, Toyota RAV4, Citroën C3 Aircross and Volkswagen T-Cross. The Premium SUV category is also well populated, with three finalists: the BMW X5, Jaguar I-PACE and Mercedes-Benz GLE. There are two finalists in the Urban and Family categories. The Hyundai Atos and Suzuki Swift Sport are fighting it out for laurels in the Urban category, while the Mazda3 and Toyota Corolla Hatch are going tooth and nail for top honours in the Family category.

There is one finalist in each of the remaining three categories: the BMW 3 Series is the finalist in the Premium Car category, the Sports/Performance category has the Toyota GR Supra as its finalist, and the Ford Ranger Raptor is the sole finalist in the Lifestyle category.

A win in the prestigious 2020 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year competition will be significant for all of the brands involved in the contest. For some of the finalists, to win would really be one for the history books. Citroën, for instance, has yet to win South Africa's most sought-after motoring accolade – and the timing could not be better, given the fact that the French manufacturer has just re-entered the South African market. Suzuki did exceptionally well in the 2019 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year, with its Swift and Jimny winning their categories (Urban Compact and Lifestyle Utility respectively). However, Suzuki has never notched up an overall win. An electric car and a bakkie have never won the competition either, meaning an I-PACE or Raptor victory will be truly momentous.

According to Vivien Natasen, Chairman of the 2020 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year competition and Honorary Secretary of the South African Guild of Motoring Journalists (which

organises the competition), there are some really strong contenders in this year's contest. "Right now, there is no clear front runner, it's anyone's guess as to which car will win," he notes.

AutoTrader CEO, George Mienie, reveals that members of the public would like to see a win by the Mazda3. "It triumphed in the consumer vote, where we had hundreds of thousands of votes. The consumer votes act as the 28th Juror in the competition. Mazda's last win was back in 2008, with the Mazda2 1.5 Individual – so it will be interesting to see if this Japanese company can take top honours," he comments.

Mienie adds that fellow Japanese automaker, Toyota, has good odds for a possible win. "Toyota is the only company with three finalists in the 2020 competition," he points out. Toyota notched up two overall wins in the 1980s – the Toyota Corolla Twin Cam won in 1986 and the Toyota Corolla GLi Executive took the title in 1989.



Mazda3



Toyota Corolla Hatch



Citroën C3 Aircross





### 2020 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year Finalists

	BMW 3 Series		Mercedes-Benz GLE
	BMW X5		Peugeot 5008
	Citroën C3 Aircross		Suzuki Swift Sport
	Ford Ranger Raptor		Toyota Corolla Hatch
	Hyundai Atos		Toyota Supra
	Jaguar I-PACE		Toyota RAV4
	Mazda Mazda3		Volkswagen T-Cross

However, an overall win has proven elusive for the company since then.

The finalists were named at an event in Johannesburg on 4 December 2019. The next step in the 2020 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year journey is the track and road testing of the finalists in March 2020 by 27 of South

Africa's top motoring journalists. The category and overall winners will be announced at an event hosted by AutoTrader in April 2020.

For more information visit: [www.autotradercoty.co.za](http://www.autotradercoty.co.za)



Peugeot 5008



Volkswagen T-Cross



Toyota RAV4



*Ford Ranger Raptor*



*BMW 3 Series*



*BMW X5*



*Jaguar I-PACE*

## 2020 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year Finalists

BMW 3 Series  
BMW X5  
Citroën C3 Aircross  
Ford Ranger Raptor  
Hyundai Atos  
Jaguar I-PACE  
Mazda3  
Mercedes-Benz GLE  
Peugeot 5008  
Suzuki Swift Sport  
Toyota Corolla Hatch  
Toyota GR Supra  
Toyota RAV4  
Volkswagen T-Cross

## 2020 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year Finalists by Category

### Family

Mazda3  
Toyota Corolla Hatch

### Leisure

Citroën C3 Aircross  
Peugeot 5008  
Toyota RAV4  
Volkswagen T-Cross

### Lifestyle

Ford Ranger Raptor

### Premium Car

BMW 3 Series

### Premium SUV

BMW X5  
Jaguar I-PACE  
Mercedes-Benz GLE

### Sports/Performance

Toyota GR Supra

### Urban

Hyundai Atos  
Suzuki Swift Sport



*Mercedes-Benz GLE*



*Toyota GR Supra*



*Hyundai Atos*



*Suzuki Swift Sport*







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# STREAMLINING YOUR HOME

For most of us, it's impossible to imagine life without all the materialism, the baggage that weighs us down constantly. Well, there's no better time to re-evaluate what's truly essential than the arrival of a new year.

BY BEV HERMANSON

**D**ecluttering one's home and one's life has a number of advantages – this includes time-saving, cost savings and, amazingly, simply being able to feel happier.

## PLANNING

As with any worthwhile exercise, it all starts with planning. We're all aware to some extent of the need to sit down and re-examine such things as insurance policies, retirement plans and medical aids at least once a year. 'Spring cleaning' and de-cluttering the home is just as important, but how many of us really get round to doing it?

The best way to tackle these challenges is to start with a complete overview, written down and mapped out. Then add a time frame to each aspect that you've identified as needing attention.

## SETTING A ROUTINE

Clutter in the home can be annoying as often it leads to essential everyday items getting lost in the chaos. Some homes have become so overwhelmingly disorganised that there are actually professionals who have built their

businesses around helping people who are too busy, too disorganised, or simply downsizing. It's often easier to get an objective third party skilled and practised in the art of streamlining a home and if you don't have the energy or the inclination to do it yourself, it may be worthwhile calling one of them in.

Should you prefer the DIY approach, decide on the time of day and how much time you are willing to take out of your schedule – you may be a morning person and it may suit you to get going early eg. from 5am to 7am every morning; or you may prefer to get stuck in after lunch or in the evening. Remember, most sorting will require physical activity and light – be aware of when load-shedding will be taking place at night, and make sure you have battery-powered lights available for those times.

## WHERE TO START?

Two of the most neglected areas in most homes are the kitchen and the wardrobes. If you have the time and you're not concerned about flagging energy levels, planning two hours sorting through one of your wardrobes and two hours in a specific area of your

kitchen could be a good way to vary your activities. The experts advise you to start small, tackle the tasks in bite-sized chunks and finish them before you move on to the next area.

## IN THE KITCHEN

The first task would be to unpack that grocery cupboard and throw out all food items that are beyond their best before/expiry dates. Then repack your cupboard with similar ingredients grouped together – after you've wiped the dust off all the shelves, of course.

Spices and herbs would be your next stop – and keep a pen and paper handy to note down any essentials that you've had to throw out, that will need replacing. Then move on to your refrigerator – condiments, mayonnaise, salad dressing are the main culprits here. The remnants of almost finished bottles often lurk at the back of the shelves – be kind to them, wash out the contents and add the containers to your recycling.

Pack away all appliances that you seldom use in easily-accessible places under the counters. Re-evaluate whether your pots, pans, trays, crockery





and glasses are stored in the right cupboards – and don't forget to clear out, clean and re-pack your cutlery drawers.

### IN THE BEDROOM

A lot of people who live in colder climates actually pack away their winter clothes in summer and swap their clothes over when the days get colder again. One should never have too much clothing jammed in the cupboards, as this will lead to unnecessary creasing.

Recycling of clothing is also a good way to reduce your carbon footprint, so decide on a charity or find a charity shop near you where you can drop off all your unwanted clothes. Knowing that you will be benefitting someone else will help to make the decision of what to keep and what to discard easier – and the rule here is, if it doesn't fit you and/or you haven't worn it for six months or more, throw it out!

### THE BATHROOM

Medicines are another area where checking the expiry dates is very important. It's amazing how quickly time flies – and how often the anti-

inflammatory capsules, pain tablets and cough mixtures are way past their expiry dates at the very time that you need them the most. When it comes to generic, off the counter medicines, it's best to buy smaller packs more often rather than go for a bulk buy or three-for-two special offer.

Shampoos, conditioners, creams, sun screens and the like are a bit like those condiments in the fridge – remnants left at the bottom of bottles, pushed to the back of the shelves and forgotten are merely collecting dust. Throw out the contents and recycle the containers.

By the way, old medicines should never be flushed down the toilet or down the drain – or thrown into the municipal refuse bin. Most pharmacies will accept expired medicines and have arrangements to dispose of them responsibly.

### E-WASTE

The next area that you should tackle is your store of old cell phones, laptops, tablets, chargers and cables. Cell phones that are positively pre-historic are not worth keeping as most often their technology is obsolete and if the

hardware breaks, it can't be repaired. Find an e-waste disposal depot and clear away anything that you can't use anymore.

The same goes for old appliances that you may have replaced. There are service providers who are willing to collect old appliances if you need to dispose of them, so keep their numbers handy and give them a call. Remember, too, that older models of appliances are most likely also energy-guzzlers, so replacing them with newer, more eco-friendly models, if your budget will allow it, could save your electricity consumption in the long run.

With the fast pace of life that we find ourselves leading, time is of the essence – why not take the 'do it now' approach and get started today? You'll be glad that you took the plunge when you're done.

Some useful contacts:

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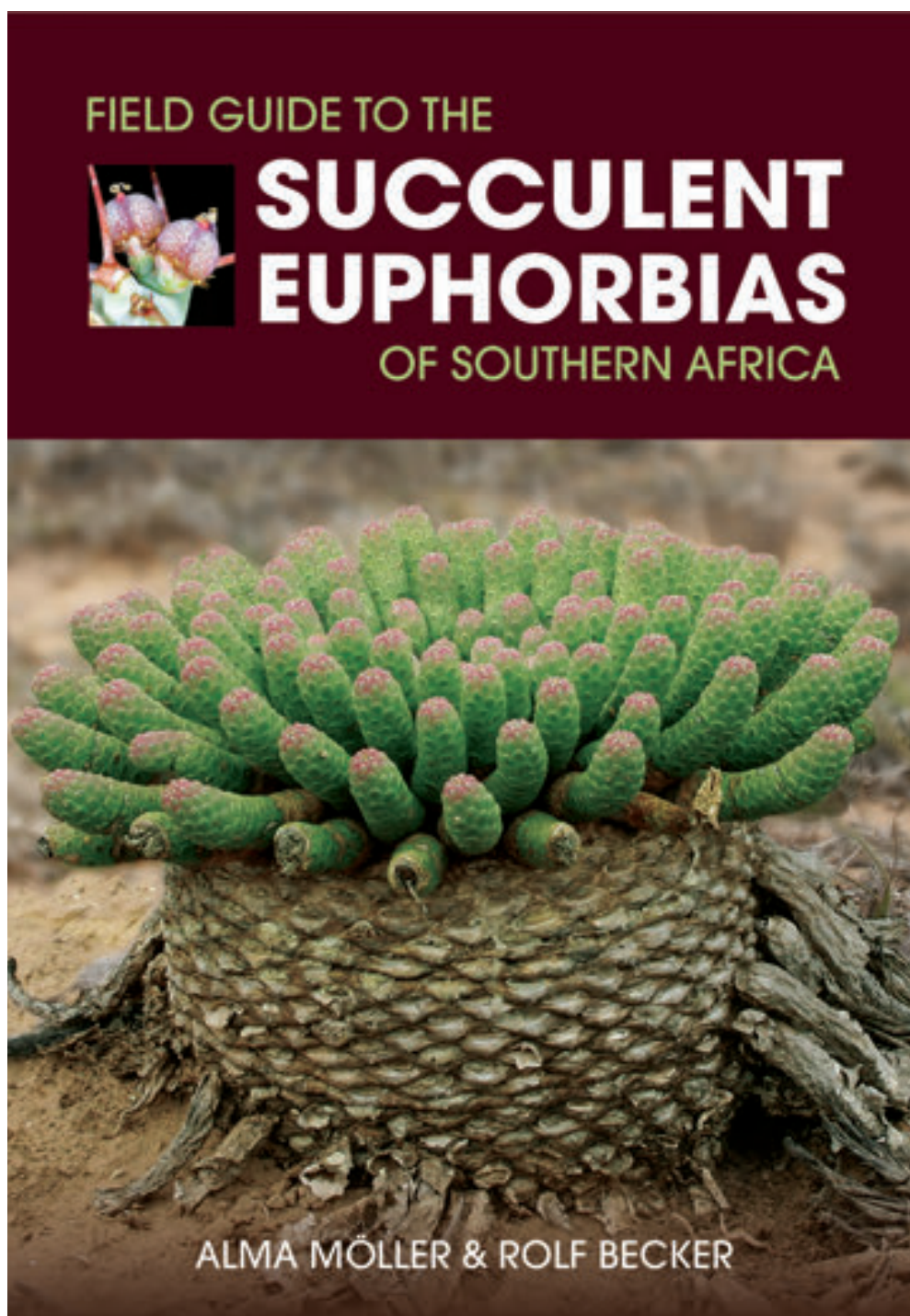


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**ABOUT THE AUTHORS**



Alma Möller graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Botany and Genetics, and a Master of Science in Entomology, after obtaining a postgraduate certificate in Electron Microscopy. She worked at the University of Limpopo as Electron Microscopist for 20 years. In 2008, she retired to become a very enthusiastic Miniaturist and devoted Euphorbiophile.

Rolf Becker graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and Biochemistry, as well as a Master of Science and PhD in Biochemistry. He was Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Limpopo for 20 years, while also furthering his career in university administration, focusing on change management. Currently he is Dean of the Faculty of Natural Resources and Spatial Sciences at the Namibia University of Science and Technology.

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Lindiwe currently works with us in the estate, but will be available for alternative employment on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays going forward. She has been working for us for many years and we have found her to be friendly, reliable and honest. If you are interested in her services, you can contact me on 082 450 4659 for a reference, or Lindiwe directly on 072 823 1248.

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