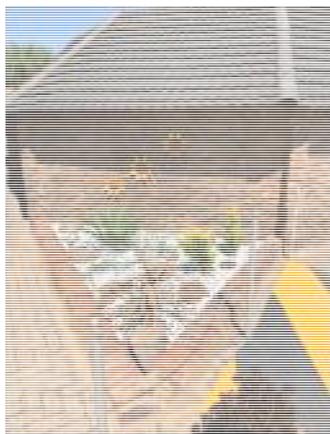


Cottages Chronicles

THAT WAS THE YEAR 2020...



Despite the many challenges that we as a community have faced in the past year we have much to be grateful for.

Many retirement villages were very seriously affected by the virus. We were very fortunate that while a number of residents did have to be hospitalised the only fatality that we suffered was a resident who returned to the cottages after the single quarters lockdown.

We were very fortunate and extremely grateful to **Eris Botha** and her team of volunteers who kept the single quarters and kitchen operational during the period when the permanent staff were all in quarantine.

A very special thank you is also due to the overwhelming majority who complied, without too many complaints, with the very invasive restrictions that we were forced to impose on you, especially not seeing your family or friends for five months. A very special thank you to Oom Piet Ueckermann who steadfastly manned the gate to ensure that no visitors entered the premises and residents only left in emergencies.

As we are accustomed to our staff went way beyond the call of duty to make life a bit more pleasant for everyone.

At the start of this new year we have much to be grateful for, everyone is in good health, our complex remains financially stable and if you look around the gardens and surroundings they are aesthetically pleasing.

Hopefully 2021 will have less challenges and be more pleasant for all of us.



The official newsletter
of Sound Memory
Cottages Witbank

Editor:

Clive Hatch
082 601 9376
cliveh@yebo.co.za

**WISHING EVERYONE A VERY HAPPY AND
HEALTHY 2021.**

**MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU AND YOUR
FAMILY**

***IF YOU WOULD PREFER TO RECEIVE YOUR
COTTAGES CHRONICLES ELECTRONICALLY
PLEASE FORWARD ME YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS.***



Remember!

Please diarise the following events open for all residents:

Regular events:

Tuesday 07:00 Hairdresser

Daily Tea:

10:00 & 15:00 **All residents are welcome for a cup of tea or coffee in the lounge.**

Wednesdays : 09:00 combi takes residents to **Family Pick 'n Pay** for shopping.



Church services:

Currently there are no regular Church Services held for the residents. These will resume once the Covid 19 pandemic clears up

CONDOLENCES



It was with shock and dismay that on 6 July, during the Covid lockdown we heard of the untimely passing of Willie Steynberg of Flat 8.

Willie and Magda have been residents in the complex since February 2015 where they have participated in all activities in our community.

Willie is survived by his wife Magda, two sons Christie and Pieter as well as a grandson Jonathon.

Our deepest sympathy to Magda, her children and grandson and the entire Steynberg family.

May Willie's soul Rest in Peace.



Sick Report

We are happy to report that at the time of publication there are no residents or staff who are unwell.



Nurses rounds

THE NURSE HAS TO VISIT EVERY RESIDENT DAILY TO CHECK ON YOUR HEALTH, AND RECORD YOUR TEMPERATURE.

YOUR COOPERATION IN THIS REGARD IS MOST IMPORTANT.

Welcome

We wish our new residents a long, happy and healthy stay with us



Frank & Rose Grech



Elise Deysel



Heleen Hatting



Kitty Willemse

Rallie Rogers

Whitey & Heleen Coetzer

Nadine Voicht



Best wishes to the following people who have celebrated their birthdays recently and those who will be celebrating their birthdays in the next month.



OCTO-

- 2nd Myrtle van Jaarsveld
- 25th Maryalia Vermaak
- 26th Piet Human
- 26th Nellie Buys
- 4th Yvonne Mampa (Staff)

NOVEMBER:

- 5th Norma Malherbe
- 7th Francis Peens
- 8th Theo van Aarde
- 19th Maraai Steynberg
- 19th Piet Ueckermann

BER:

- 5th Marius Blom (Committee)
- 6th Jumaimé Mnisi (Staff)

DECEMBER:

- 1st Alf Boast
- 1st Maritz Pretorius
- 6th Mike Scheepers
- 27th Macy Steynberg
- 30th Enslè Wright
- 15th Barries Barnard (Committee)
- 3rd Sharon Mampa (Staff)

JANUARY:

- 4th Eddie Myburgh
- 6th Ramona Delpont
- 7th Rita Burger
- 17th Piet van Wyngaard
- 24th Annatjie Oosthuizen
- 29th Trudie Venter
- 30th Mariam Groenewalt
- 8th Given Malaza (Staff)

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Covid 19 prevented us from having the annual residents Christmas Party, the committee therefore decided to hold a Christmas Braai where social distancing could be enforced. The weather however conspired against us and with little notice Bettie and Staff changed the menu and served cold meat and salads which was served in the lounge and dining with full social distancing enforced. An enjoyable afternoon was had by all.



During the course of the afternoon everyone was treated to the residents and the staff to displays of the line dance



Heritage Day—24 September 2020



Everyone joined in the end of the severe lockdown and celebrated Heritage Day. The staff and residents heeded President Ramaphosa's call by performing the Jerusalem. A video which was produced and posted on Facebook



Now that the vegetable garden is established after receiving a lot of tender loving care from **Chris Steynberg** it provides a welcome supply of fresh vegetables for the kitchen.

There have been tomatoes, beans, carrots and sweet potatoes.



THANK YOU FOR CARING



Penny van Blerk, Ben Bierman, Dina Bierman, Henin Bierman and Annie Lynn from the Highveld Caravan Club treated the residents to Wors Rolls on Saturday 12 December and each resident received a gift.



A very sincere thanks to Susan Jooste who arranged to take a group of residents from the single quarters to Steve's place on Sunday 13 December where they were kept entertained including a boat ride and a variety of potjiekos.



Coping with Covid 19

The Staff and committee are very aware of the safety of residents and have implemented various health and safety procedures for their well being.

PHOTOS: (left to right)

Sanitizers at entrances to the lounge, dining room and office.

All residents temperatures taken and recorded daily. Whitey Coetzer in photo.

Jeanette (all staff) wearing masks at all times.



PHOTOS: (left to right)

Hettie du Toit assisting with the daily sanitizing of the tables in the dining rooms.

Bettie assisting in the kitchen during the lockdown

IMPORTANT

- ♦ Wash your hands often with soap & water for 20 seconds;
- ♦ Use hand sanitiser if soap and water is not available;
- ♦ Avoid touching your mouth, nose or eyes;
- ♦ Avoid contact with other people; **NO KISSING AND HUGGING!**
- ♦ Use a face mask when in contact with other people;



The Spirit of Christmas

Be blessed at Christmas time dear friends, may it always be a celebration of Jesus' birth and a time of thanksgiving and praise.

May we all have a special time with our families and friends, but may we at all times be aware of the magnitude of what we are celebrating—not just another public holiday, *but the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Enslè Wright

WHEELBARROW OF BOOZE



Dries Marx Jnr and Snr collecting the *Barrel of Booze*

The draw for the **Wheelbarrow of Booze** was held in the Lounge at the cottages during morning tea on Wednesday 17 December.

The winner was **Dries Marx**, from the Saveways Wimpy, and the Christmas Hamper was won by **Sumarius Swart** from Rattel Shellhole.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the competition and who sold tickets. The cottages made a profit of R21 000.



Susan Jooste doing the draw with **Bettie Grovè** and **Clive Hatch**



A very heartfelt thanks to the Witbank Solisariteit Helpende Hand for the regular supply of fruit and vegetables to the complex especially during the lockdown.



Club 111

Winners of 2020 Christmas Draw



Congratulations to the following members who won in the Christmas Draw:

1st Prize - R5000 - Myrtle van Jaarsveld

2nd Prize - R2000 - Koos Grovè

3rd Prize - R1000 - Mary Neuville

CLUB 111 - 2021 - Membership is now open.

Club 111 is a fund raising project of the Sound Memory Cottages Witbank and operates as follows:

Membership is open to any person who applies for membership and pays the Club's fees;

Membership is limited to 111 members current target is 50 members;

Membership fees are R100 per month for eleven months. Members may make a once off payment in January of R1000 to cover the fees for the full year;

Monthly payments can be paid either in cash or by EFT. Payments must be received by the 1st of every month;

11 monthly draws will be held on the first Sunday of every month for three prizes:

First Prize: R 2 500

Second Prize: 500

Third Prize: 250

A FREE Christmas Draw will take place in December for the following three prizes:

First Prize: R 5 000

Second Prize: 2 000

Third Prize: 1 000

A member must have participated in at least 9 monthly draws to qualify for the Christmas Draw;

In the event of the target membership of 50 members of Club 111 not being attained the prize money will have to be adjusted accordingly.

Application for membership forms are available from Bettie in the office.

Provided we get 50 members the cottages will make a profit of R13 000 in 2021



THE LIGHTER SIDE OF 2020

Not even in my wildest dreams could I imagine myself entering a Bank, wearing a mask and asking for money.

Never thought my hands will one day consume more alcohol than my liver...ever!

Quarantine seems like a Netflix series...just when you think that it is over, they release the next season.

I'm starting to like this mask thing...went to the supermarket and two people that I owe money to didn't recognize me.

I need to social distance myself from my fridge; I tested positive in excess weight!

Can someone tell me if the 2nd quarantine will be with the same family... or can we change families ?

COVID 19 REMAINS A DANGER!

Wash your hands often with soap & water;

Maintain at least 1.5 meters distance from other people;

Wear a mask when in contact with other people;

IMPORTANT

Please cooperate by complying with the following rules:

- ◆ Office hours: Monday to Friday 08:00 to 13:00
- ◆ Electricity Purchases: Monday to Friday 09:00 to 11:00
- ◆ Do not remove ornaments or plants from the gardens or stoeps
- ◆ Do not pick flowers from resident's gardens
- ◆ Obey the speed limit in the cottages grounds
- ◆ Do not drive off before the main gate is closed
- ◆ Do not feed the birds

DURING THE LOCKDOWN PERIOD CHRIS AND HIS TEAM WERE ABLE TO UPGRADE THE GARDENS IN THE COMPLEX. THERE ARE NOW A NUMBER OF PLEASANT AND SERENE AREAS WHERE RESIDENTS CAN SIT AND RELAX IN THE FRESH AIR AND MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:



*Please note that as result of the Covid 19 lockdown the formal **Help Desk** is no longer operational but all residents are welcome to contact the office to arrange for me to assist with any problems.*

JIGSAW PUZZLES:



We were very fortunate to receive a donation of a number of puzzles from **Peter and Laverne Rogers** from the Witbank Probus Club during the lockdown.

These puzzles have proved to be popular with residents who make them either individually or with other residents assisting.

Frank Grech is pictured working on a puzzle in the lapa.



MOTH News

True comradeship * mutual help * sound memory

ARMISTICE DAY TAKES A LOW PROFILE

The annual Armistice Day ceremony took a very low profile this year as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Instead of the annual parade by army veterans a private wreath laying ceremony was held at the Cenotaph where full Covid-19 protocols were enforced. This enabled the members of the MOTH to pay their respects to those laid down their lives for their country during conflict

The service was led by the Old Bills of Crater Shellhole Moth Chris Sonnekus and Dion Slabbert of Ratel Shellhole.



Moths and friends of the MOTH in attendance at the Armistice Day Service all Covid 19 compliant.

Service led by Old Bills Dion Slabbert and Chris Sonnekus



Friend of the Moth Phyllis Scruton, Ratel Shellhole Old Bill Dion Slabbert, Sergeant Major Steve Whitmore, Piper Ken Faduk, Councillor Lizelle Steyn and Crater Old Bill Chris Sonnekus



Moth Ed Rochester



Piper Ken Faduk