

Ron Smith Care Centre @ Elphin Lodge



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RSCC rocks Las Vegas

Ron Smith Care Centre residents and staff dressed up in party clothes and ‘flew’ to Las Vegas for a casino party and happy hour on 25 March.

“Due to Covid-19, this was the first time in over two years that the residents from all six RSCC wings could attend a function together. They came in their numbers to enjoy the event,” says Rand Aid’s manager of recreational programmes Debbie Christen.

RSCC’s hall and tables were transformed into a Las Vegas casino, with a black, red and gold colour scheme and many casino-themed decorations; while handbills advertised various Las Vegas headliners – from Frank Sinatra to Dean Martin – whose music kept everyone entertained.

RSCC’s Recreation Team kicked off the event with a little dance routine, and residents enjoyed casino-style lucky draws. Prizes were also handed out for the best-dressed staff member and residents.

The lucky lotto draw winners were Maureen Morrow (first prize), Herman Broschk (second prize) and Schalk Grobler (third prize); while Selina Shiviri won best-dressed staff member, Chris Badenhorst took the prize for the most smartly-dressed gentleman, and Sarah Richards was the most glamorous lady.

“The golden voices of the legendary singers brought back treasured memories and everyone left ‘Las Vegas’ with a happy smile and a song in their heart,” says Debbie.



1. The Recreation Team (Salina Mtshali, Debbie Christen, Marlé Gräbe and Evelyn Shilubane).
2. Tinyiko Nkwini, Evelyn Shilubane and Schalk Grobler (lucky lotto third prize winner).
3. Selina Shiviri (best dressed staff prize) with Evelyn Shilubane.
4. Back: Salina Mtshali, Debbie Christen, Selina Shiviri and Evelyn Shilubane. Middle: Chris Badenhorst (most smartly dressed man), Sarah Richards (most glamorous lady). Front: Marlé Gräbe.
5. Herman Broschk (lucky lotto second prize winner) with Evelyn Shilubane and Harold Baker.
6. Karen Mitchell, Hilda Mabaso and Sarah Richards.



Get to know me

MONA KNODELL: RIVER LODGE 2 RESIDENT

I was born in September 1926 in East London, the middle of 5 children. After matriculating, I underwent secretarial training. I met my husband, Jack, in JHB. We got married in 1947 and shortly after, moved to Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia), where Jack worked on the copper mines. We had a daughter, Linda (JHB) and 2 sons: Alan (JHB) and Terence, who sadly passed away in 2018. I have 6 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. I worked as a secretary for African Explosives and Chemical Industries in Modderfontein for over 20 years & was like a mother to the chemical engineers.



My husband and I retired to Doonside in KZN and I enjoyed our life there. I made lots of friends and attended a wonderful church.

Passing thoughts:

My faith is important to me – everyone needs to believe in something! I have always loved to sing and used to know all the words to all the popular songs. I used to enter Eisteddfod singing competitions and some of my proudest moments were when I stood up on a stage and sang to an audience. I loved performing! I love snapdragons & a beautiful rose. I like reading and watching TV, especially murder mysteries. My son Terence excelled in cricket and rugby in school and went on to play provincial rugby, so I have always enjoyed watching big games. I also like tennis & enjoy Wimbledon. My happy place is when my children come and take me out for a nice meal or outing. I am thankful to my Heavenly Father for living such a long, and relatively trouble-free life.

LERATO PEBANE: CARE WORKER RIVER LODGE 2

I was born in 1990 in Bushbuckridge, Mpumalanga. I have 1 sister & 5 brothers. I had a very happy childhood & was very close to my mom. We used to go around the village together on weekends, selling veggies, vetkoek & avocados. She was my hero & I learnt so much from her. She didn't just sit back and wait for my father to provide for the family. After I matriculated, I did a carpentry course but shortly after, my mother became ill and I needed to look after her. Sadly, she passed away in 2013 and I was heartbroken. In 2015, I got a job making sweets and in 2018, I joined RSCC as a domestic worker. When I came to



work on the wings, I was surprised to see that the care workers' job was to take care of elderly people, which is exactly what I had done for my mother. I decided to

save money for training and two years later, I started my course. In August 2021, I qualified as a care worker and in February 2022, I became a permanent care worker on River Lodge 2. I love my work; I have achieved my dream – my mother is smiling now. I have been with my loving partner, Thabang, for 4 years and have 3 beautiful children: Ofentse (12), Thoriso (7) and baby Omphile.

Passing thoughts:

My happy place is home with my precious baby girl. It is magical to see her growing! We like to spend weekends together as a family, sometimes walking to our local park and having a picnic. I enjoy Gospel music, reading poetry and watching TV. I would like to study further & be a professional nurse one day & I know I will get there. My motto: Always be positive and stay true to yourself.

TILLY BRYANT, RIVER LODGE 2 RESIDENT

I was born in 1934 to Afrikaans parents in Breyton, Mpumalanga - the 5th of 6 children. We moved to JHB when I was 3 and I grew up in Bez Valley. After matriculating from Kensington High School, I attended business college. My first job was working for the SABC as a typist. I was fascinated with the TV industry, especially the music & entertainment programmes. I then worked for the Louis Dreyfus Shipping Co. One day, I was told that a manager, Reg Bryant, was transferring from the London branch to JHB & that I was to be his secretary. We were married 2½ years later, on my birthday, on the condition that every year



I would get a birthday and anniversary present! Reg was a real Londoner – very witty & charming. He was a professional drummer and I

played the piano & organ, so we had music in common. We were married for 51 years and had 2 sons, Greg & Colin, who live in JHB.

Passing thoughts:

My husband and I were involved with musical shows. We played for *Oklahoma*, *Desert Song*, *Viva Mexico* & more. I love jazz & golden oldies. One of my favourite singers is Frank Sinatra. I was thrilled to be at his first concert at Sun City – we had 2nd row seats! I enjoy watching games & competitions on BBC and also shows like *Father Brown*. My simple pleasures are to read the *Women's Weekly* magazine & do crosswords and sudoku. My happy place has always been my home. Visitors were always welcome and there was always tea and cake. I am thankful for my wonderful children. I am also grateful for my health, my memory & my speech. Everything in my life is in God's Hands.

Birthdays

RESIDENTS

03 April	Suzanne Bohmke (RL2) 86
11 April	Joan Boule (WL) 84
14 April	Elaine Cohen (WL) 85
14 April	Maria Da Silva (WL) 94
16 April	Francisco Dinis (RL3) 88
16 April	Patricia Duncan (RL3) 82
17 April	Gail Harmer (RL2) 99
17 April	Basil James (RL3) 88
18 April	Hilda Lacy (CP) 93
21 April	Sylvia Lasarov (CP) 82
22 April	Lorraine Lowdon (RL1) 84
23 April	Ellen Quinn (LS) 93
24 April	Myra Serebro (RL2) 84
27 April	Malcolm Shalekoff (CP) 88
28 April	Shulamith Smith (WL) 79

VOLUNTEERS

01 April	Jim Powell
03 April	Yvonne Butts
04 April	Elaine Ho
06 April	Ronnie Cumming
08 April	Maria Moreira
19 April	Claire Bailey
27 April	Fatima De Nobrega

STAFF

02 April	Zanele Luwalala
04 April	Mokgadi Makwaeba
04 April	Machueene Kgatla
04 April	Moferefere Maleka
05 April	Pasclaline Kamela
05 April	Nelly Motshoene
06 April	Phyllis Ntimana
06 April	Vulani Nkuna
07 April	Samkelisiwe Khuzwayo
09 April	Dikeledi Molepo
17 April	Nonhlanhla Mabuza
18 April	Raphahle Tema
27 April	Thembisile Mthembu
27 April	Ethel Matlala
28 April	Mapula Matshaba
28 April	Matshidiso Mfeka
29 April	Notemba Mapekula

Welcome to

Bruce Richardson RL2
Anna Pratt RL2



Evelyn Shilubane (back) with Zuki Nobembe and Maureen Morrow, who was the first prize winner at the recent lucky lotto draw.