

# Ron Smith Care Centre

## @ Elphin Lodge



FEB 2024 No. 97

### At the seaside

Residents and staff recently enjoyed a week of activities with a 'beach holiday' theme, which was designed to bring back memories of summer holidays on the KZN coast.

On January 16, the residents were invited to the recreation centre, which was filled with beach decor. A short video clip of various holiday attractions in Durban was screened, a lucky draw done and a themed quiz enjoyed, before a picnic was enjoyed.

Friday, January 19, was a beautiful, sunny morning – perfect for a beach party at the pool, which was filled with inflatable balls and tubes. Music by Cliff Richards and the Beach Boys played in the background, punch was served on arrival and fruit kebabs and ice cream were enjoyed.

Many of the residents said that their favourite holiday destination was the coast and they were thankful that the week's activities brought back happy memories.



## Get to know me

### WOODLANDS RESIDENT: RUSSEL BEETON

I was born in 1930 in the south of JHB & matriculated from Forest High School in 1948. After school, I studied & did my banker's exams to qualify as a Certified Associate of the Institute of Bankers. I then worked as an auditor for Anglovaal Mining for many years & eventually oversaw the group company accounts. It was at Anglovaal that I met my wife, Joan (see below). She was a machinist there and one day asked me if I spoke Afrikaans. When I replied that I did, she invited me to partner her for a dance! We had a very pleasant time together & got married 3 years later, one month after her 21st birthday. We have now been



married for 66 years & she is more precious to me than the crown jewels! I was a Fellow of the Royal Microscopical Society. I had always been passionately interested in

microscopy & precision scientific instruments & became an expert in the field. Eventually, I became a senior manager at Ernst Leitz, an international corporation based in Germany, which is well known for precision engineering and optical lenses.

#### Passing thoughts:

I inherited a library of books from my father & reading has always given me enormous pleasure. I enjoyed painting & photography, my favourite subjects being landscapes and people. I was quite professional about my photography & made money from it. I have travelled overseas many times, but my favourite trip was when we explored New Zealand from top to bottom. I have always been thankful for my parents, the upbringing they gave me and for Joan, my lovely wife. I'm grateful for the life I've had and for the fact that I'm 93 years old and still going strong!

### WOODLANDS RESIDENT: JOAN BEETON

I was born in Brakpan in 1935 & had a traditional but happy Afrikaans upbringing in Vosloorus. My father was a mining engineer, and my mother was a loving housewife. I went to Monument High School in Krugersdorp & was captain of the first hockey team for 2 years. I am married to Russel & we have 2 children, Arnold (who is now a medical doctor, living with his family in Australia) and Muneen (also living in Australia with her family). It has always been a pleasure & privilege to care for my family & attend to their needs. We now have 4 beautiful grandchildren & a great grandson who is only 4 years



old & so lovely! Russel & I married at the NG Kerk in Westonaria on 15 December 1956. I had always belonged to the Dutch Reformed Church, but when my

husband and I moved to Elphin Lodge, we attended the Methodist & Presbyterian chapel services & enjoyed them very much.

#### Passing thoughts:

I used to enjoy reading magazines, listening to light classical music, and loved dancing! Wherever we lived, we always had a beautiful garden which brought me much joy. Sewing, knitting, & handicrafts – just generally making things with my own hands – gave me such pleasure. Russel and I have very good memories of the times we built our own houses, first in Mondeor, then in Glendower, and finally the beautiful house we built for our son, Arnold, in Marais Steyn Park, Edenvale. It was wonderful to be able to incorporate his tastes into the building of the house & to bless him & his family in this way.

### WOODLANDS CAREWORKER: LERATO MASOGA

I was born in 1992 in JHB. Shortly after my birth, my 20-year-old sister took us to live in our home village in Limpopo. I had a happy Sepedi childhood; my siblings were older than me, so they all looked after me. After matric, I did an office assistant course at Boston College & then studied graphic design. In 2016, I worked for a year as a homework assistant at a primary school in Tembisa. I spent the next year as an admin clerk at Tembisa Hospital. After that contract ended, I helped my sister, who is a private carer at Inyoni, & learnt what it would be like to care for an elderly person.



In 2020, I came to work for Rand Aid as a domestic worker & after a year, decided to go for careworker training. I became a permanent careworker in July 2023. I met

my partner, Sello, when he first noticed me on one of our high school trips and 14 years later, we have 2 beautiful children: Daughter Bokamoso (8) & son Kgoadikgolo (1 year, 8 months). They stay with my mom in Limpopo. My dream is to one day own my own house and live with my children as a family.

#### Passing thoughts:

I find joy in music and dancing. I grew up with Nteba, my best friend to this day. We still have fun together. We like to go eat out in Tembisa to celebrate special occasions, where we will enjoy meat & pap. Sometimes I will go with my sister and niece to eat traditional food. I played netball in school and was voted the best defender. I am thankful for my parents & sisters who raised me, loved me, and supported me through all life's ups and downs.

## Birthdays

### RESIDENTS

03 Feb	Olive Jew	LS	100
04 Feb	Geetha Hiranam	RL3	62
06 Feb	Maria Volschen	LS	87
09 Feb	Dulcie Gribble	RL2	95
13 Feb	Pamela Mintz	WL	93
14 Feb	Emilia Oliveira	RL3	90
15 Feb	Joan Beeton	WL	89
18 Feb	Peter Thompson	RL1	77
20 Feb	Marion Simmonds	RL2	80
23 Feb	Elizabeth Marshall	RL1	78

### STAFF

06 Feb	Mpho Rasidumelo
17 Feb	Motsatsi Moilakgomo

### Welcome to

Mavis Brookes	CP
Marianne Kernes	LS
Valentina Robbertse	RL2
John Cox	RL1
Peter Thompson	RL1
Mervin Miller	RL2

### Fondly remembered

Drienie Horlacher	LS
David Mtshali	RL3
Heather Carsensten	RL2
Hendryk Komar	RL2
Roy Kirby	RL1



**Evelyn Shilubane, Lufuno Nemutanzhela, Esmaralda Rusike, Nolly Mlandu enjoying the fresh fruit kebabs at the poolside 'beach' party held in January.**



**Meet Simoné Botha, Ron Smith Care Centre's new occupational therapist. Read about her passion for improving lives by going to Rand Aid's Facebook page and scrolling down to find her meet-and-greet article.**