

Ron Smith Care Centre

@ Elphin Lodge



March 2024 No. 98

*A life worth
loving*

South African tenor Chris Coetzer mesmerised guests at the Valentine's party on February 16. From his opening song to the last notes of the morning, he captivated residents and staff alike with his beautiful voice and charming personality. When he called the staff to the front and sang the *Clap-Clap* song to acknowledge their hard work, there were smiles all around. Tea with yummy eats was served.



LAKESIDE RESIDENT: ANN RAATS

I was born in Boksburg in 1933, at the end of the depression. My dad was out of work for a long time. When I was 6, WW2 broke out & my father volunteered for the army. I relocated to KZN with my mother & brother & went to school in Pietersburg (now Polokwane). I was a tearaway tomboy in my youth: Always jumping off roofs, barefoot & untidy. After matriculating from Germiston high school, I met my future husband, Arnold, at Germiston Athletics Club. All the girls used to go to the sports ground every weekend to meet boys! Arnold was a champion runner. We hit it off straight away & were married for 50 happy years, until his death in 2005. We had 4 children: Lesa (deceased), Jan (Cape Town), Mark (Australia) & Jenny (JHB). I have 8 wonderful grandchildren & 10 great grandchildren. My 90th birthday celebration was weird but wonderful! I had a fall & ended up on River Lodge 1 in recuperative care. Many of my friends & family gathered in my room to visit & wish me well, & the staff kept dancing in and out to sing happy birthday, whilst another party in my honour was taking place at my home in Thornhill Manor! I was well & truly celebrated that day, even though I was missing at my own house party!



Walking in nature | Bakubung reserve near Sun City | **Coast holidays** Overseas travel: Switzerland, Germany, England, Scotland | **Music** | Plants **Quiz & wildlife programmes** | Watching tennis, cricket, rugby | **TV show: All Creatures Great and Small** | Dogs and cats | **Pizza parties with family** Milestones: Helping build St Margaret's Anglican Church in Bedfordview; counting votes in the 1994 elections; serving on the Rand Aid board (8) years and Thornhill Manor residents' committee (20 years)

FAVOURITES

LAKESIDE RESIDENT: DAWN SMITH

I was born in 1938 in Mutare, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) & grew up in the small town of Nyazura, surrounded by family and friends. We would often go across the border to Beira in Mozambique for family holidays. I attended Mutare High School where I played hockey and tennis. As a young woman, I worked in Salisbury (now Harare) as a travel agent. Travelling became my passion – for work and pleasure. It was before computers, which meant I had to be knowledgeable about various destinations to properly advise clients. It was even better if I had already been to their the destination, so they could benefit from first-hand knowledge. Everything was done manually & writing out tickets by hand was time consuming. I met my husband, David, in the building where I worked. Our travel agency was downstairs, and his engineering company was upstairs. He used to come downstairs to flirt with me and my boss really had to keep an eye on us! I am so grateful that my work as a travel agent gave me such wonderful opportunities to visit and explore different countries and, as a family, we loved to travel. David and I were married for 55 years. I am proud of and thankful for my wonderful sons, Craig & Andrew, and my happy marriage to David. Being with family has always been my happy place.



The white azalea bush outside my door | Classical music | **Jigsaws** | Travel and wildlife shows | **Art: I did watercolour paintings** | Reading about different countries | **Travel: The UK, Portugal, India, Egypt, Zanzibar and others** Meeting interesting people in interesting destinations | **Sampling different culture's foods: Portuguese food, fresh seafood in Mozambique** | Finding my own way in life | **The philosophy of taking one day at a time** | About me: I am a reserved person who loves new experiences

FAVOURITES

LAKESIDE CAREWORKER: JOHANNA SEBATA

I was born in 1960 in Limpopo. I attended Bakenburg High School & enjoyed biology & English (reading novels to learn words & speak properly). When you are the eldest in a poor family, you must work to support your family, so I left school after Std 9. I went to night school & completed matric at the age of 26! My mother was my inspiration because she put food on our table by working many jobs as a domestic worker, petrol attendant & for different companies. She taught me to be independent, hardworking, and strong. After school, I got married & my husband & I moved to JHB. I studied fashion design, learnt how to draw my own patterns, and began making clothes to sell. This was not a stable income source. I also started cooking & selling food. Business was slow, so I thought, "what must I do now?". I decided to do careworker training and have now been working for Rand Aid for 36 years! I have 3 sons: Samuel (44) is a policeman, Elias (38) works in hospitality, and Jack (28) is a journalist. Thabo is my grandson (18). I am proud of all my sons. They have achieved so much & made something good of their lives. I am also proud of my 95-year-old father, a priest, who still reads the Bible to people in his community and still cooks for himself!



Swimming | **Singing in church** | Gospel music | **Reading novels (mainly love stories)** | Cricket: I was starting batter in school because if could hit the ball and am tall | **Home-cooked food: Mogodu & pap or beef stew** | Taking my kids to Spur on their birthdays and hearing the staff & customers sing **Happy Birthday** | **Helping our residents** | Learning about residents' lives | **Talking and sharing with my colleagues** | Lakeside: It is my happy place | **I am grateful for: Surviving a heart attack in 2021**

FAVOURITES

RESIDENTS

02 Mar	Rhona Burnham, LS	93
02 Mar	Marianne Kernes, LS	75
06 Mar	Mervyn Miller, RL2	84
09 Mar	Ursula Northern, CP	95
09 Mar	Maureen Ruckebier, RL3	72
10 Mar	Herman Broschk, RL3	87
11 Mar	Sylvia Kree, RL1	98
20 Mar	Lynette Honigman, RL3	73
21 Mar	Anna Veltman, RL3	82
24 Mar	Salome Chinman, RL2	84
29 Mar	Gunda Schutte, RL2	81
31 Mar	Clement Lilley, CP	79
31 Mar	Anne Mackinnon, RL2	88

STAFF

02 Mar	Litsietsi Tshonisa
03 Mar	Julia Molotsi
03 Mar	Kedibone Shongoane
06 Mar	Moipone Mothogoane
06 Mar	Siphokazi Mzana
06 Mar	Nosipho Nzama (Elphin)
08 Mar	Raesibe Baloyi
14 Mar	Thembi Kekana
15 Mar	Mmakosha Matsane
15 Mar	Tinyiko Nkwinka
16 Mar	Thibambane Thabang
20 Mar	Portia Ngobeni
24 Mar	Randy Matsaung
29 Mar	Thabisile Ndobe

Staff members must please remember to collect their birthday chocolate from reception.

Welcome to

Lancelot Schmidt RL3

Fondly remembered

Russel Beeton WL
John Stuart Thompson RL2



Supervisor Portia Ngobeni (centre) with Thabisile Ndobe (left) and Lebo Matloga (right).

Best housekeeping team for January

Thabisile Ndobe and Lebo Matloga won the award for the Best Housekeeping Team for January 2024.

Their supervisor, Portia Ngobeni, says that when she returned from her leave in December, she checked all six wings thoroughly to see if the housekeeping standards were kept over the festive season. When she entered the Cedar Park wing, she immediately saw that the whole place was shining and completely dust-free.