

Ron Smith Care Centre

@ Elphin Lodge



June 2024 No. 101



Renowned SA tenor Chris Coetzer made a return visit to RSCC on May 10, much to the delight of the residents gathered for the Mother's Day tea. Earlier this year, Chris performed as part of the Valentine's Day celebrations and captivated the audience with his beautiful voice and charming personality. He paid tribute to the care centre and its residents and staff and said that returning to RSCC was like 'coming home'. His Mother's Day performance exceeded expectations, says RSCC's manager of recreational programmes, Debbie Christen. She says he raised goosebumps when he asked everyone to join hands for *You Raise Me Up*. After a morning of beautiful music, residents and staff were treated to yummy strawberry cheese-cake.

Moms magic

RIVER LODGE 3 RESIDENT: BARBS TASKER

I like to be called Barbs. I was born in 1947 near Manchester, England. My family moved to SA when I was 18 months old & I grew up in Springs. I became a registered nurse in 1971, got a diploma in midwifery in 1972, & became a trained ICU nursing sister in 1973, specialising in cardio care. I worked in many hospitals, including Joburg Gen, Rand Clinic & Groote Schuur (with Chris Barnard). For the last 12 years of my nursing career, I was clinic sister at Dischem. I retired at the age of 66. I met my wonderful husband, Andy, at the SASBO Tennis Club in JHB. At one point, we decided

to travel to Cape Town in our 2 VW Beetles & ended up living there for 10 months before getting married at the Methodist Church in Fish Hoek in 1981. We eventually moved back to JHB for better job opportunities (Andy was a mechanical engineer) and to raise our family. We have 3 daughters, all happily married with kids of their own: Victoria (JHB), Michelle & Natalie (England) and 6 grandchildren. Andy & I have been married for 43 very happy years & we like to think that we have been good role models for having a successful marriage and family life with lots of love & laughter!



Memories of caravanning on the South Coast & in the Pilanesberg Game Reserve | **Former annual extended family gatherings in the Drakensberg** | A trip to Egypt in 2017 | **Going to Mauritius with Andy for our 25th wedding anniversary** | **Cooking & baking delicious cakes and rusks** | **Physical activity** | Daily walks | **Being with people** | Pop music | **Pansies** | I liked reading romantic novels and watching romance & light comedy | **Receiving flowers from my husband** | Dogs | **My wonderful family** | Hugging my grandchildren

FAVOURITES

RIVER LODGE 3 RESIDENT: VALDA STRAUSS

I was born in 1951 in JHB. My father was a Jewish medical doctor who introduced blood transfusion services to the JHB medical community. My mother was an artist & a Christian who later converted to Judaism. It was confusing growing up in a family of 2 religions, so to this day, I am not a follower of either faith. I went to school in Parkview. After matric, I qualified as a remedial teacher & taught children with learning disabilities. I then studied English at Wits & was awarded a BA degree in Honours English. Whilst studying at Wits, I was offered a scholarship to Oxford University but did not take it up. I later worked as a pro-

duction manager at a publishing company, but resigned from this job when I became pregnant with my first & only child, Eve. We were the greatest of friends & very close and I always made myself available to help & encourage her. We lived in a massive old house at the base of Linksfield Ridge. This house was my happy place, where I could contentedly work away as a freelance editor, editing mainly political, educational, & art books, often for local publisher, Jonathan Ball. I was fortunate to have worked with some well-known SA literary figures, including Antony Albekker, Charles van Onselen, & Mandy Weiner.



Books & reading for pleasure; some of my favourite writers were Vladimir Nabokov, DH Lawrence, and Carson McCullers | **I used to love cooking & enjoyed making special sauces for all kinds of pasta dishes** | **Chocolate** | **I loved fixing other people's books** | The pride I felt in providing for my family after my husband & I divorced when my daughter was very young | **Eve & her husband, Rolf, & my beautiful granddaughters, Ava & Juliette** | The colour turquoise | **Visits from my family.**

FAVOURITES

RL3 CARE WORKER: LUFUNO NEMUTANZHELA

I was born in 1981 & grew up & went to school in the village of Mavhode in Limpopo. As the first born of 7 children, it was my job to help my mother to look after & care for my siblings & help with the cooking, cleaning, & washing. When my granny became old & sick, I went to stay with her, so that I could give her the special care she needed. Life in the quiet village was good. I enjoyed school, especially mathematics & agriculture & loved to work in our gardens, growing flowers & planting mielies, pumpkin, & other vegetables. After leaving school, I attended night school to complete my education & my first job was cleaning of-

fices for a company called Super Care. In the meantime, I heard that careworker jobs were available, so I decided to go for training. In 2017, I joined Rand Aid as a relief worker on Lakeside & then was assigned to River Lodge 3. Since the days of caring for my own granny, I have always loved to help people, especially frail elders who cannot help themselves. I have been married to Azwindini for 27 years. He was my neighbour in Limpopo & he used to visit my uncle, which is where I met him. We had a traditional wedding in 1997. We have 5 beautiful children: Lydia (26), Khathutshela (24), Pfarelo (21), Rofhiwa (15), & Dakalo (6).



Dancing | Listening to Gospel & Amapiano music on the radio | **Cooking and baking scones** | Spending time with my family at home | **Celebrating birthdays at home while enjoying cakes, snacks, & cool drinks** | My children - I hope that they will do better in life than I did | **Seeing my eldest daughter, Lydia, in her cap & gown when she graduated from college** | Knowing my 3rd born, Pfarelo, studied electrical engineering & aims to study medicine | **Being friendly and happy** | The colour white.

FAVOURITES

RESIDENTS

03 June:	Berenice Jawitz (WL)	87
04 June:	Ada Lieberman (RL 3)	88
08 June:	Darrel Melinda Marks (RL 3)	86
08 June:	Alison Whittaker (RL 1)	80
11 June:	Lancelot Schmidt (RL 3)	80
19 June:	Adrienne Rumboll (RL 3)	87
20 June:	Vittorio Linda (RL 1)	84
23 June:	Aletta Britz (WL)	80
29 June:	Sarah Leah Goldberg (WL)	95

STAFF

04 June	Ramaisela Ngobeni
05 June	Pertunia Moleoa
05 June	Rudzani Muthakhi
05 June	Lufuno Nemutanzhela
06 June	Dipuo Ledwaba
07 June	Nomusa Shabangu
09 June	Kgadi Mabapa
11 June	Rirhandzu Pebane
12 June	Talifhani Marageni
13 June	Nomantsele Nonjiko
15 June	Mpipo More
15 June	Mosima Mojela
16 June	Nombuso Ndlela
26 June	Matsobane Mojela
30 June	Noluthando Tshayisa

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

Fondly remembered

Joyce Royal	CP
Herman Brosck	RL3
Carol Jean Beadle	RL1
Una Joy Davidson	RL2

Three of the best praised for diligence

The Best Housekeeping Team for April consists of Nandipha Ngesi and Pinky Tshayisa of Woodlands, and the Best Domestic Reliever is Portia Tshayisa.

Sr Leanie Bessinger says the old floor in Woodlands has recently been replaced with flooring that is very light in colour and easily shows the dirt, so Pinky and Nandipha are forever busy cleaning that floor to keep it looking brand new. They are doing a brilliant job!

"Having Portia in the care centre is just a pleasure. She is always smiling and friendly and is an excellent housekeeper wherever she works."



Portia Tshayisa, Nandipha Ngesi, Pinky Tshayisa.