

# Ron Smith Care Centre @ Elphin Lodge



Aug 2024 No. 103

## Mandela Day fun & feasting



**Mandela Day** challenges South Africans to make an impact on the lives of others, and this is just what two Rand Aid care centres did this year.

“The recreation team and residents of Ron Smith Care Centre (RSCC) wanted to do something special and meaningful for Mandela Day this year, so we invited some of the residents and staff from our sister care centre, Thembalami, to join us for a morning of fun and delicious treats,” says Debbie Christen, RSCC’s manager of recreational programmes.

After being warmly welcomed, the residents from the two care centres participated in a lively pass-the-parcel type game, in which there were several opportunities to win chocolates. Then those gathered tucked into cheese and asparagus quiche, sausage rolls, homemade carrot cupcakes, and oatmeal and raisin cookies, specially made for the occasion and served with a choice of tea, coffee or hot chocolate.

“After tea, RSCC residents Ria Milburn and Carol Murphy presented gifts to each resident and staff member from Thembalami. These gifts consisted of hand cream and handmade beaded earrings for the ladies, and chocolate for the men,” says Debbie.

**LAKESIDE RESIDENT: NOLA LEESE**

I was born in 1937, an only child, and grew up in Port Elizabeth. After matric, I went to secretarial college. After qualifying, I left PE & travelled around the world, doing admin-type jobs in whichever country I happened to be. I worked my way through the UK, Europe, and South America, fulfilling a cherished dream to travel & experience the world beyond South Africa. I then decided to see what life in Rhodesia was like, so I packed a suitcase & drove my little Anglia to Salisbury (Harare). It was here that I met my husband-to-be, Robert. He was the most wonderful husband I could ever

have hoped for - kind, honest, & moral. Robert worked for Adcock Ingram, producing equipment for hospital operating theatres. We lived in Glendower for 29 years & at Inyoni Creek for 14 years and loved our lives there. We had a wonderful social life and one of my fondest memories is travelling to Kruger Park every year with a group of friends. Robert and I were married for 45 years until his death in 2020, in the middle of Covid. I don't have children or family in South Africa, so it was a difficult time for me. Fortunately, I have a lovely carer, Charity, who is like the daughter I never had.



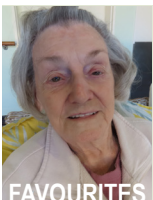
FAVOURITES

Watching cricket, rugby, soccer & tennis & Wimbledon on TV | **All kinds of music, especially all the golden oldies** | The lessons I took in ballroom, ballet, tap, and modern dancing | **Reading, especially historical romances and biographies** | Chocolates and ice cream | **Animals - we always had dogs and cats who became family members** | Sitting in my nice sunny RSCC room and doing crossword puzzles & word searches to keep my brain ticking over | **The philosophy of making the best of what you've got**

**LAKESIDE RESIDENT: AMY WRIGHT**

I was born in JHB in April 1935, the only child of Catholic parents. My father was in the army & fought in Italy during WW2. I attended the Belgravia Convent School in Malvern which I enjoyed, but left school in Grade 8 to go to work to help support our family. My first job was working in the JHB municipality's licensing department, after which I did office work for Hoover (vacuum cleaners) and then an estate agency. My husband-to-be, Peter, and I were friends since childhood. I used to love going to Peter's house, which had a tennis court. Peter was an excellent tennis player & ended up playing for Southern Transvaal. I wasn't as

good, but I enjoyed the game & played tennis all my adult life. Our first home was a little flat in Troyeville. We used to enjoy going ballroom dancing every Sunday night at the Malvern Catholic Church. Peter was a printer, working for Hortors Business Stationery & Supplies. He was eventually transferred to the South Coast in KZN & I enjoyed living in Scottburgh - it was a very friendly community. We had 3 wonderful daughters: Maureen (JHB), Patricia (Canada); Marion (Australia), and 4 grandchildren. I am thrilled to announce that my first great grandchild is on the way & that the baby will be born in JHB!



FAVOURITES

**Socialising** | Happy memories of hosting Christmas lunches for our extended family on our wrap-around veranda | **Bright colours** | Light classical music | **News & travel shows** | Roses & carnations | **I used to knit all my own jerseys & sew all my own clothes** | Trying out different restaurants | **Roast chicken, potatoes & veggies with fruit salad & ice cream** | My 3 lovely children, especially Maureen who is at my beck and call | **My marriage of 50 happy years to my wonderful husband.**

**RELIEF DOMESTIC WORKER: AMANDA NDLOVU**

I was born in 1990 in Dundee (KZN) & was the second born of 8 girls & 1 boy. My baby brother was the last born & our parents were so happy to finally have a boy, they cried & named him "Amen!" After matric, I worked at a few piece jobs and then my Aunty Jabu, who works on River Lodge 2, encouraged me to send my CV to Rand Aid. I was hired as a domestic in 2012 & worked at many places, including Inyoni Creek. Presently, I am working on all the wings at RSCC as a relief domestic worker. RSCC is my happy place! I am always learning about our residents and how they like to be treated and cared for. When I was

young, I wanted to be a nurse, & insisted that everyone in my family call me "nurse". I didn't study nursing because I lacked finances, but it is still my dream to become a nurse one day. I have 3 beautiful children: Ayabonga (10) & Bayanda (7) live in KZN with their granny and Bandile (5) lives with me in Germiston. My last born has too much energy & sometimes plays so roughly that he hurts himself. But he's also very clever! He's only in creche, but his English is better than mine! I met my boyfriend going back & forth to work every day on the same taxi. We've been together for about 8 years now & hope to get married one day.



FAVOURITES

**Maskandi (Zulu songs)** | R&B | **Dancing** | Cooking - I did a 3-month cooking course | **Baking - my mom taught me to make queens cakes, scones & vetkoek** | Pap & meat, custard & jelly, and strawberry milkshakes | **Ribs, spinach & butternut at Spur** | A favourite memory of doing a Vaal Dam cruise & then braaiing with friends | **Receiving red roses from my boyfriend on Valentine's Day** | Giving my house a good clean | **Window shopping at East Rand Mall** | My faith & prayer | My job

**RESIDENTS**

01 Aug	Anastasia Issaias (LS)	80
03 Aug	Thelma Levitan (RL3)	91
03 Aug	Ethelwynne van Eck (WL)	88
03 Aug	Yvonne Yardley (RL1)	94
11 Aug	Ann Raats (LS)	91
20 Aug	Irvine Sinnet (WL)	91
27 Aug	Maria Roberts (RL1)	102

**STAFF**

03 Aug	Simoné Botha
05 Aug	Portia Mantome
08 Aug	Nthabiseng Sebata
15 Aug	Jennifer Sigida
16 Aug	Neliswa Khoza
16 Aug	Mamphokeng Mottloutsi
17 Aug	Nomasonto Malevu
20 Aug	Precious Mlimo
20 Aug	Mapula Molepo
21 Aug	Nkhensani Shibiti
23 Aug	Avril Maltman
25 Aug	Tanya Switala
28 Aug	Nomathemba Mbulawa

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

**Fondly remembered**

Clement Lilley	CP
Vittorio Linda	RL1
Alison Whittaker	RL1

**Welcome to**

Norman Turner	RL1
Pamela Percy	CP
Charles Power	WL
Elizabeth Reed	RL2
Jewel Gold	RL3

**SPECIAL AWARD  
FOR THE WHOLE  
Housekeeping Team  
JUNE 2024**



**Our care centre is looking amazing right now! All six wings are shining, spotless, and super clean! Every single member of the housekeeping team is to be congratulated for maintaining a high standard of cleanliness, a good attitude, and consistent hard work and dedication.**