

THEMBALAMI & MODA CARE CENTRE



Place of hope

JAN 2025

Festive Christmas celebration

Thembalami Care Centre and the Max Ordman Deaf Association (MODA) hosted a joyous Christmas lunch on December 19, filled with festive cheer, delicious food and heartfelt tributes.

A highlight of the event was a captivating performance by tenor Chris Coetzee, accompanied by his son. Chris's beautiful voice and engaging style captivated both residents and staff, creating a memorable atmosphere. A delectable three-course meal, expertly prepared by Steve Burton from Cookchill, was served to all residents. The menu featured a variety of dishes, including two meats, two vegetables, potatoes, and a refreshing peppermint dessert.

To add to the festive spirit, each resident received a thoughtful goodie bag from Thembalami, filled with treats, toiletries and crossword puzzles.

The facility took the opportunity to honour and express gratitude to the dedicated volunteers and generous sponsors who have contributed significantly throughout the year. Special recognition was given to:

- Marie O'Neill and Heidi du Plessis from AVBOB: For sponsoring entertainers at every birthday bash and Christmas party.
- Dawie Brink and Xolani Nhleko from the New Covenant Baptist Church: For conducting Wednesday morning services.
- Minister Jaco van Wyk from the Dutch Reformed Church – Effata Church for the Deaf: For monthly services.
- Pastor William Warmington and Bev: For conducting monthly services with MODA residents.
- Judy Kamaraat: A valued leader in the deaf community.
- Andre Janse van Rensburg and Abrie Lorentzon from the AFM Church in Kempton Park: For conducting Tuesday morning services with Xolani Nhleko.
- Charles Power from Ron Smith: For donating towards the Christmas festivities.

The facility also paid tribute to the memory of residents and staff who have passed away, celebrating their lives and contributions.

The Christmas lunch was a resounding success, fostering a sense of community and joy among residents, staff and volunteers alike.



Caroline Schneider and Aisla Lee enjoy the festivities. ■ **More pics on page 2.**



Thelma and Ben Matthee with Thembalami manager Esme van der Walt (centre).

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JAN BIRTHDAYS

Residents:

04	Theunis de Bruin (68)
08	Kathy Rothfusz (74)
13	Marianne Venter (79)
17	Betty Nieuwoud (82)

Staff:

01	Agnes Ngobeni
02	Glory Ndlovu
03	Pamela Langa
06	Prudence Teme
14	Maria Matlou
18	Lizzie Rateme
21	Fortune Makhuvele
21	Lara Hurwitz
26	Lidia Pitsi
30	Maria Lephala
31	Jane Teffo

WELCOME:

Errol Townsend
Merle Townsend
Maureen Ruckebier

DONATIONS

We would appreciate any donations or fundraising ideas. Should you wish to chat with Thembalami's manager Esme van der Walt about your ideas, contact her at:

Email: evanderwalt@randaid.co.za

Phone: 010 534 8771

Should you wish to make a donation, see details below:

MODA

Standard Bank
Account no: 420279571
Branch code: 051001
Ref number: MODA Supts Fund

Thembalami Care Centre
c/o Rand Aid Association
Standard Bank, Greenstone
Branch code: 051001
Acc no: 001788701
Ref number: TH Supts Fund

HAPPY NEW YEAR

As we bid farewell to 2024 and embrace the promise of 2025, Thembalami and MODA management extend heartfelt gratitude to our residents, their families and our dedicated staff. Your resilience, compassion and unwavering spirit continue to inspire us.

Thembalami and MODA management

Carols by candlelight joy

What is Christmas without carols by candlelight? Thembalami Care Centre and Max Ordman Deaf Association residents and staff members united in song on December 11.

The annual carols event was even more memorable this year, thanks to Thornhill Manor retirement village, which donated 120 gift bags to the care centre residents, bringing smiles and festive cheer to all.

Karen Griessel, Thornhill Manor's social worker, and Vicky Keenan, a Thornhill resident and retired occupational therapist, joined in the fun.

"Our heartfelt thanks go to Thornhill's Chapel Committee for their generous monetary donation and to all Thornhill residents who contributed goods for the gift bags," says Karen.

"The bags were filled with treats that brightened everyone's day and warmed their hearts."

The residents were serenaded by Roy Edwards, whose Christmas carols

brought joy to the gathering. Everyone joined in the singing, fully embracing the festive spirit.

"A special thank you to Roy, who always supports us and holds a special place in his heart for Thembalami," says Elize Raath, the care centre's deputy manager.

Thembalami's occupational therapy (OT) team also added to the festive atmosphere by beautifully decorating the hall, creating a colourful and cheerful setting.

Another touching highlight of the day came when caregivers, OT staff, and Thembalami's nursing services manager, Paulina Namu, danced for the residents. Many residents even joined in, creating a moment of pure joy and connection.

Elize thanked Karen, Vicky and the Thornhill community for their generosity and kindness.

"You are truly our Thornhill Angels," she says. "The residents were delighted by the gift bags and didn't expect such a wonderful surprise. It truly made their day."



Karen Griessel and Regina Ratshosana with her gift bag.



ABOVE: Karen Griessel and Lydia Batchelor get into the festive spirit.



Peggy Kupa, occupational therapy assistant, enjoys a dance with Thembalami resident Nokwazi Mthembu.



LEFT: Vicky Keenan with Thembalami resident Shirley Vorster.

Festive cheer



Babalwa Gadala (green dress) shows her spirit.

Cheers to residents born in December

Thembalami Care Centre's residents' birthday bash on December 18 was a delightful celebration, featuring a special performance by music group Colstan.

The group, made up of Thornhill Manor residents Gavin Standing and Brian Colbert, had everyone singing along as they played a wonderful mix of songs from the 50s to the 80s.

Residents also enjoyed a delicious spread of cake and tea, making the event a truly memorable occasion.



Errol Townsend, Linda Majola, Marianne Venter and Theunis de Bruin jiving to the music.



Chris Coetzee entertains the audience.



Musical group Colstan, comprising Thornhill Manor residents Gavin Standing and Brian Colbert.



A happy smile from Sydney le Suer.



Wim Pieterse and Amanda Diener (Rand Aid exco members) with Andre Janse van Rensburg (AFM Church) and Gert Coetzee (Rand Aid CEO).



Denise Burges and Koen Steenkammer getting into the birthday spirit.



Doris Maphekula.



Jaco van Wyk and William Warmington from the deaf community.



Doris Maphekula posing for a photo at Thembalami Care Centre's birthday bash.