

Ron Smith Care Centre

@ Elphin Lodge



July 2025 No. 113

CHEERS TO RSCC'S

Father Figures

Ron Smith Care Centre (RSCC) pulled out all the stops to honour the father figures in its care during the week of 9 to 13 June.

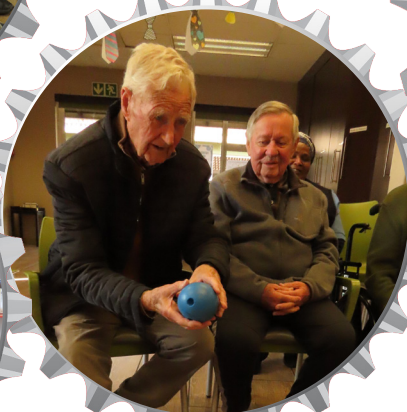
On Tuesday, June 11, the gentlemen were treated to a relaxing spa day, lovingly arranged by the recreation team. The pampering included nail care, soothing hand massages, and time to unwind with massaging cushions on recliner chairs – all accompanied by a warm cup of hot chocolate.

The celebrations continued on Thursday, with an exciting afternoon at the 'REC bowling alley', followed by refreshments at the 'REC Pub'. The men were divided into two teams and competed to see which team could knock down the most pins. After two nail-biting rounds, a winning team was declared, and each winning team member walked away with a chocolate prize.

The winning group members: Gianfranco Piccini, Mike O'Toole, Irving Aremband, Roy Emmertin, Terence Savage, Frank Kantor and Kingsley Fuller.

"All competitiveness was soon forgotten as everyone gathered to enjoy a cold non-alcoholic Heineken or Coca-Cola, paired perfectly with plates of biltong and other salty snacks," says Simoné Botha, RSCC's manager: occupational therapy and recreation. She says conversation and laughter continued into the afternoon as

stories were shared and friendships formed. "The event concluded with a small gift of appreciation – a hazelnut-filled chocolate for each man, thanking them for their care and wisdom. "After all, the true spirit of our Father's Day celebration was to honour every man who has guided, supported and inspired others – whether as a father, grandfather, or a father figure."



Have you LIKED Rand Aid's Facebook page?

Go to your Facebook page and search for RandAidAssociation, then LIKE the page!

WILLIAM CRONNING: LAKESIDE RESIDENT

I was born in 1935 as the eldest of seven children. I grew up in Mayfair, Johannesburg. My father was from Ireland, and we follow the Roman Catholic faith, while my mother was of German descent. I grew up speaking both English and Afrikaans. I mostly enjoyed sports – I did some boxing and enjoyed playing cricket, which I continued playing after school. After matric, I completed a 5-year apprenticeship as an electrician at Rand Water Zwartkoppies. I worked on the mines in Carletonville. It was a tough environment, often working underground in dangerous situations with

water dripping down, but I excelled in my role and take pride in the work I have done over the years. I met my wife, Livinia, through my brother-in-law. She was living in Pietermaritzburg and we started out as pen pals. I eventually convinced her to move to Johannesburg, and we got married. We were blessed with 60 years of marriage before she sadly passed away. We had three children: Audrey, our eldest, who now lives in America, Donovan who lives in Johannesburg and Brenda, who lives in Cape Town. I am also blessed with five granddaughters and two grandsons.



My vegetable garden | Rock and roll, especially Elvis Presley | **Playing cricket and snooker at the Carletonville mine club** | Livinia's bread, soetkoekies and vetkoek | **Favourite pet memory: My tumbler and homing pigeons; I would take them to the countryside and see how long it would take them to get back home** | Natal Coast family holidays | **Sitting outside and feeling the sun on my back** | I am most grateful for my wife and the life I could build with her | **Philosophy: Always try your best with whatever you do.**

FAVOURITES

MARGOT COHEN: LAKESIDE RESIDENT

I was born in 1945 at the Florence Nightingale Hospital in Johannesburg. Shortly after, my parents moved to Port Elizabeth, where we lived for a few years until they opened a branch of ABC Shoes in Durban. Most of my childhood was spent in Durban. I'm fortunate to have made friendships during those years that continue to this day. After high school, I attended Wits University to study history, politics, English and Italian. It was there that I met my husband, Clive, who was studying economics. Although we shared a few classes, it wasn't until about two years after I graduated that he called to ask me out on a date. He proposed before he had even met my parents,

and we were married in December 1968. After my studies, I worked as a high school history teacher, but I never fully enjoyed teaching. I was then approached by a local free newspaper, the *Bedfordview and Edenvale News*, and began working for them. I really enjoyed journalism and went on to write for several major Sunday newspapers. Clive and I started our life together in Hyde Park before moving to Forest Town, which is still the place I call home. Our marriage brought us two wonderful sons who have both married lovely women. Stuart lives nearby with his wife and two daughters and Douglas is based in the UK with his wife and two children.



Tennis (watching and playing) | Classical music (I used to play the piano) | **Reading (thrillers and biographies)** | Working in the garden, watching the news, and playing bridge | **Clive and I both enjoy cooking. I especially love Italian food** | I'm grateful for the many adventurous years Clive and I shared travelling, to France, Germany, Namibia, Egypt, India, and my favorite, Italy | **I'm proud of raising strong sons** | I remind myself that family comes first and try not to let challenges get me down.

FAVOURITES

VICTORIA SETLALE: LAKESIDE CARE WORKER

I was born in 1984 in Mpumalanga and grew up in Bushbuckridge. My home language is Sepulana, as my father was of MaPulana heritage, while my mother was Tsonga. My father worked as a diesel mechanic in Vereeniging and would visit us every two months. Sadly, he passed away when I was 16, and I lost my mother five years later, in 2005. After that, I had to step into the role of a mother for my siblings. After school, I completed a computer course and a food service management course. I worked at Bongani Rainmakers in Nelspruit before moving to Johannesburg, where I found a job at Rand Aid. I became

a permanent member of the housekeeping team at Inyoni in 2020. I completed my carer course in June 2023 and worked as a relief staff member at RSCC until January 2025, when I became a permanent carer at Lakeside. I met my husband, Kgauta, when I was visiting my grandmother. We had two beautiful daughters: Kgatliso, now 22, and Phetego, who is turning 17. Tragically, Kgauta passed away in a car accident when Phetego was about five years old. It was a very difficult time, but I've found strength in our daughters and the life we built together. My children and my siblings are everything to me.



I enjoy being around people but find comfort in being alone | Music (I often sing along) | **Gardening, especially planting vegetables** | Cooking and eating traditional African food, especially pap and meat | **Some of my fondest memories are of Christmas in Bushbuckridge, cooking outdoors and sharing meals and laughter with family** | I am thankful for life and my children | I admire my mother's strength in raising us after my father passed away | **I'm proud of what I've achieved, raising my children and helping my younger brother go to college** | My dream is to one day build a home for my children.

FAVOURITES

RESIDENTS

01 July	Michael O'Toole (RL1)	86
07 July	Robert Miller (CP)	86
08 July	Karen Mitchell (CP)	78
13 July	Neville Branthwaite (RL2)	88
13 July	Eyong Lo (RL2)	100
14 July	Irving Aremband (RL 1)	83
17 July	Florence Ramsay (RL1)	85
17 July	Willem Meyer (RL 2)	94
24 July	Evelyn Krupke (RL3)	65
30 July	Dawn Smith (LS)	87
30 July	Neil Garden (CP)	88

STAFF

05 July	Khodani Khuthe
09 July	Mokgaetji Mashaba
13 July	Bongeka Zwane
16 July	Lilly Mathebula
18 July	Nkone Bonoko
22 July	Mary Kekana
23 July	Meltah Molefe
25 July	Mathebela Letsoalo
26 July	Dinah Molamu
27 July	Lebo Matloga

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

Fondly remembered

Gavin Brister	RL2	Anna Veltman	RL3
George Lai	RL2	William Cronning	LS
Lorna Topp	LS	Jacobus Sosef	LS
Rhona Burnham	LS		

Welcome to

Margaret Wright	RL2	Thelma Borril	WL
Denise Poulos	RL2	Hans Fikkert	CP
Hon Son May	RL2	Robert Lombard	LS



Elphin Lodge resident Gerald Mills and RSCC resident Pam Mills celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Thursday, June 19.



Resident Esther Mayo and care-worker Nobuhle Ncube add the finishing touches to their biscuits during the Friday morning baking session.