

# Ron Smith Care Centre @ Elphin Lodge



APRIL 2026 No. 222

## Irish flair for dining room reopening

The Ron Smith Care Centre dining room renovations are complete, bringing to life a space residents had watched transform over months.

The doors officially opened on March 17 with a lively St Patrick's Day celebration, as the recreation team turned the venue into a green wonderland. Dressed in green, residents clapped along to Irish tunes and embraced the festive atmosphere.

Each guest found an Irish blessing at their seat, with Ruth Greek and care partner Nikki Masuku winning prizes for holding lucky cards. Keith Reid was recognised as the most enthusiastic participant during the morning's activities, which included a St Patrick's Day quiz. The programme concluded with an Irish blessing by resident Charles Power and a themed feast prepared by Reef Caterers, featuring roast beef, pumpkin fritters and green jelly and custard.

From April, RSCC will invite village residents and families to join for Sunday meals, further strengthening community bonds.



## Get to know me

### TERENCE SAVAGE: WOODLANDS RESIDENT

I was born in 1939 in Johannesburg. My twin, Neville, lives in Lanseria, while my older brother, Phillip, lives in Canada. At six, our family moved to Durban, where I completed my schooling at St Henry's Marist College. I developed a love for mathematics and physical science, which would shape my future. After school, I began working at Gilbert-Hammer. At 20, I moved back to Johannesburg. I started working at Anglo American, where I celebrated my 21st birthday. I later moved to KOP, before joining Dorman Long, where I built my career. From early on, my ambition was to become a chief draughtsman, which required dedication, including attending night school for three years. I am proud that I fulfilled this dream, serving as chief draughtsman for six years and overseeing a team of around 500. We played a significant role in building many of SA's power stations. I married Lorraine in 1963, beginning a lifelong partnership that I cherish. Sadly, Lorraine passed away in 2013. She was extraordinary; despite her multiple sclerosis, I only heard her complain once. I miss her dearly. We had two wonderful children: Lawrence, an engineer in Johannesburg, and Louise, a teacher in Australia. I have four grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.



**Favourites:**  
 Quiet reflection, though I enjoy the company of others. Reading (especially Wilbur Smith). Music – chamber pieces. TV – adventure, wildlife and rugby. Gardening – especially roses. Dogs. Travel – to Kruger, Ireland and Israel with the Dead Sea and a night on a kibbutz. Work journeys – Kuwait, Botswana, Namibia, Kenya; driving a Land Rover through the Great Rift Valley, and the remarkable Mai Mahiu Catholic Church.

### WARWICK SILVERTHORNE: WOODLANDS

I was born in 1947 in Johannesburg. My great-grandfather was among the German settlers who came to South Africa in the 1800s. He built a life as a career soldier, serving for more than 20 years. My father lived in Johannesburg but went to England to study, where he met my mother. Together, they were among the first passengers to return to South Africa by ship after the Second World War. I grew up in Johannesburg and completed my schooling at Jeppe High School for Boys. My fondest memories there were of the time spent rowing. I had the privilege of being part of the rowing crew that won the South African championships in 1963 and 1964, an achievement that still fills me with pride. My passion for rowing continued at Wits University, where I studied architecture for six years. I began my career working in private practice before moving into roles with institutional employers, where I eventually took on management positions. Along the way, I also completed a master's degree in business leadership through UNISA. It was at Wits University that I met my wife, Rose. We married in December 1971. Our marriage has been blessed with two wonderful children, Claire and Adrian, and, in time, three cherished grandchildren.



**Favourites:**  
 Lifelong learning. Reading – especially non-fiction. Music – classical works. Sports – tennis and rugby, with rowing as a favourite. Animals – cats and dogs; active involvement in the Collie Club and dog shows. Travel – combining architectural passion with nature; memories of Victoria Falls, Namibia, Augrabies Falls, Egypt, Italy, Jordan, England and Spain. Treasured connections with family and friends, especially my wife.

### PRECIOUS MLIMO: CARE PARTNER AT WOODLANDS

My name is Zinhle, which means Precious. I was born in Nelspruit. When I was four, we moved to Bushbuckridge, where I began preschool and spent most of my childhood. I loved school, especially taking part in community dance competitions. I was proud to win Mpumalanga-level competitions in javelin. Some of my most treasured memories are of my grandmother. I would follow her to church and help her harvest the corn and beans we planted together. She filled my childhood with love. After matric, I began an admin course, but it was interrupted by Covid. I continued building my skills by doing a computer course while working in a shop. During this time, my aunt, who lives in Johannesburg, invited me to come stay with her. I moved to Alexandra, and in June 2022, I found work as a general assistant at Rand Aid. I set a goal for myself to grow, and I completed a six-month care worker course. I am proud to say that at the end of 2023, I became a permanent care partner, a milestone that means a lot to me. I met my partner, Zarele, at the end of my matric year, and we have now been together for six years. We are blessed with our son, Jayden, who was born in March 2025. My greatest joy is being at home with my small family. It is my happy place.



**Favourites:**  
 The stillness of Acornhoek. I value cleanliness and take pride in my space. Music. Horror movies. Soccer – especially Pirates. Spending time on social media. Cooking. My faith and church. My mother and aunt, who were strong role models. I would love to study further or start my own business. I believe in respecting others and helping those in need, because life can change, and one day I might need that same kindness.

## Birthdays

### RESIDENTS

01 Apr – Margaret Wright	89
08 Apr – Desmond Bell	80
08 Apr – Margot Cohen	81
11 Apr – Maria Da Silva	88
12 Apr – Esme Frenkel	97
14 Apr – Helmut Gschnaidtner	88
22 Apr – Patricia Ann Duncan	88
23 Apr – Elaine Cohen	97
24 Apr – Amy Wright	91
24 Apr – Robert Lombard	90
27 Apr – Basil James	92

### STAFF

05 Apr	Pascaline Kamela (LS)
06 Apr	Vulani Nkuna (RL2)
06 Apr	Phyllis Ntimana (LS)
06 Apr	Pinky Tshayisa (RL1)
08 Apr	Maite Zongo (WL)
17 Apr	Nonhlanhla Mabuza (Admin)
17 Apr	Linda Ntuli (Servest)
27 Apr	Thembisile Mthembu (CP)

\* Staff members must please remember to collect their birthday chocolates from reception.

### FONDLY REMEMBERED

Karen Mitchell.....	CP
Mavis Brookes.....	CP
Hu Kai Hong.....	RL2
Esme Trollip.....	WL

### WELCOME TO...

Gillian Ann Lazarus.....	RL2
Kay Stott.....	RL1
Elaine Judes.....	CP



HEARTS in Action



The HEARTS in action winner for this month is Maropeng Mawasha, who is pictured with resident Hillary Stern, Victoria Setlale, Matron Leanie Bessinger, resident Vivien Michler and Selina Shiviri. Thanks to Maropeng for always going the extra mile.



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