

WHAT'S UP

The Rosedale Newsletter

March 2018



In last month's newsletter readers were invited to come up with an eye-catching name for the newsletter and no less than 81 submissions were received from 14 entrants. Thank you for this jaw-dropping response. We're delighted to announce that the winner of the R50,000 Pick 'n Pay shopping voucher is Sue Gow with **WHAT'S UP** Read on ... Our heartiest congratulations, Sue; we're holding thumbs for a full recovery from your recent hip surgery. (Thumbs? Hip? You know what I mean.)

The selection was made by Mike Nicol, author of a number of works, including *Mandela*, *The Authorised Portrait*, and the crime novels, *The Revenge Trilogy*, *Power Play*, *Of Cops & Robbers* and *Agents of the State*, which sell outstandingly well, especially in the UK, Germany, Holland, and France, and his (no pun intended) partner-in-crime Jill Gallimore, whose experience on the marketing front at the Wildlife Society and at UCT's Graduate School of Business easily qualify her as a well-identified judge. In between writing best-sellers, Mike tutors on the online PenguinRandomHouse/GetSmarter creative writing and non-fiction short courses and runs his own very successful Masterclass for writers - now in its sixth year.

They had this to say about their selection: "We decided on a double decker: WHAT'S UP as the main head and then beneath that The Rosedale Newsletter. The reasons: WHAT'S UP puns on the contemporary WhatsApp and is also funky and fun, and attention grabbing. The sub-head makes it perfectly clear that this is a newsletter and where its target market is and what sort of news it carries and encourages a sense of community and identification."



THINKING OF YOU Whether it is in celebratory style (birthdays and anniversaries) or maybe you've been poorly (sick or even hospitalised), perhaps there's some consolation in knowing that you're very much in our thoughts. Our condolences to the family of John Ridgway who passed away on 25 February.

WELCOME to Bertie Dreyer who is in the process of moving into #308R. We look forward to getting to know you and hope you enjoy many happy years at Rosedale.

GIFT OF THE GIVERS PAYS US A VISIT



Caroline Bruyns was in the thick of the devastating fires that erupted along the Garden Route, from Great Brak to Port Elizabeth, in April/May last year when nearly 400 houses were destroyed, 99 of which were in Lake Brenton and the Brenton-on-Sea area where she lived. (Thankfully her family home was spared.) Directly as a result of her close shave, she relocated to Cape Town where she chose Rosedale as her home.

"Recalling the amazing work I had seen in Knysna by the Gift of the Givers, I contacted their Johannesburg office on February 8 and a meeting was set up between the organisation's Pravesh, residents' manager Philippa and me.

The very next day, courtesy of Mark Pillai, the gift of the Givers' team offloaded 5 and 7-litre bottles (400 bottles) of water – what a Valentine's Day gift to the residents of Rosedale!

There's a spin-off to this tale: Caroline explains, "In researching Rosedale's background – I would guess, to check its credentials – Mark identified 11 other organisations for the aged that have since benefited from similar donations."

Caroline and Mark have a good understanding and keep in touch on a regular basis. One of his replies to her many questions was, "Our work demands that we be on call 24/7, 365 days of the year; if we can help the most vulnerable, then we must".

By way of explanation, readers: Gift of the Givers is the largest disaster response NGO on the African continent – and indeed serving humanity worldwide. It came into being one Thursday evening – 6 August 1992 to be precise – when a spiritual teacher, a Sufi Sheik, based in Istanbul, sought out Dr Imtiaz Sooliman and instructed (not asked, mind) him to set up an organisation and ‘you shall call it Gift of the Givers’. Thus it came to pass that Dr Soolim and has deemed the donation of this bottled water to Rosedale to be in keeping with their continued efforts to bring relief to bring relief to water-depleted areas in the Western Cape.

We owe Caroline a big round of applause for motivating this activity and have asked her to extend our warmest thanks to Mark Pillai and his team for the very welcome gift.



OUTINGS – ROSEDALE

Stephen Leibbrandt and the RSC committee invite you to a morning of spiritual upliftment at a **Good Friday Service** in the dining-room/lounge on 30 March 09:00 for 09:30 – guest speaker Ian Bernardi (ret'd) This will be followed by hot cross buns and tea/coffee in the Recreation Room. Family and friends are more than welcome to join in this Easter celebration.

The **play-reading** group, led by scriptwriter Ralph Kelly, is hard at work practising for their performance of *Double Exposure* which will be staged in April. It's bound to be another great production so watch this space!

A reminder that the next **Social Dance** evening will be held on Friday 16 March at 19:30 – cost R15 pp. Bring your own XYZ and enquiries to Carmen on 021-6857045 / 079 191 7371.

OUTINGS – OTHER

The M.O.T.H. Admiral Halifax Shellhole, situated at Rosedale, will hold a family braai in the Wreck Room on Saturday 21 April at 17:30 (when the fires will be lit) for 18:00. Boerewors rolls will be on sale at R30,00 each and a cash bar will be available. The Cape Welsh Choir will entertain us during the evening and we invite Rosedale residents and their family and friends – in fact, anyone is welcome - to join us at this happy event. Hope to see you all.

TWO VERY IMPORTANT DATES

Rosedale Service Centre subscriptions for non-residents of R48,00 pp are due and payable from 1 April 2018 and can be made by EFT payment to the SA Legion, Standard Bank branch (universal code) 025009 cheque a/c 070149291 (use your first name and surname as the reference) or at the RSC office – and let them know if your personal details have changed. (Residents will be charged via their monthly accounts.)

The second date to diarise is the **Rosedale Service Centre Annual General Meeting** which will be held on Wednesday 11 July 2018 at 16:00. A formal notice convening the meeting will be issued in due course.

Chitter Chatter

“Gardening is a way that humans and nature come together with the intent of creating beauty.” - Tina James

A small team with big hearts make up the gardening group that keeps us proud of the glorious grounds in which we live – even under the drought circumstances. David Holmes carries the responsibility of managing the labour, with Sue Gow having the ‘garden mandate’ and being the ‘guiding hand’ who consults with him over major issues. The group now comprises Kevin Newton, Wendy Perkins, Caroline Bruyns, and Mervyn Berowsky, who help to nourish and nurture the flower beds in different areas, as well as Tosca Coetzee and Louise Smith who tenderly tend the pots in the front and around the stoep. Shelmerdene de Gersigny looks after the ‘indigenous’ area near Pillans Place. All are doing a great and enthusiastic job in spite of the heat and lack of water. Thanks to Beryl Lategan, a keen and interested resident, who has made a very generous donation which will be used to purchase indigenous plants. More about ‘the gardening groupies’ in a future edition but, for now, it’s about the unsung but very much appreciated two other gardeners: in the recess of New Rosedale lawn courtyard are the orchids and planters that Daphne Roux has been quietly tending for many years; she is also a ‘babysitter’ for new plants which is very helpful. Kathy Ellis is an ‘old’ - or shall we say longstanding - hand and has the responsibility for the pretty ‘English’ garden round the corner approaching New Rosedale plus that area a tad further on and she also pops punnets of petunias into the front reception area from time to time. Thank you, Daphne and Kathy. What you do does not go unnoticed.



No wonder it's been dubbed the Wreck Room! From the looks of it, Pamela Poole and Doug Clark have been practicing their arm wrestling – or were their injuries simply a case of pulling one too many pints?



Days of Our Lives

St Patrick's Day celebrates the Roman Catholic feast day of the patron saint of Ireland who died on March 17, 461. But did you know that he wasn't even Irish? Patrick's birth name was Maewyn. He was born in Roman Britain, kidnapped into slavery and brought to Ireland. He escaped to a monastery in Gaul (France) and converted to Christianity, returning to Ireland in 432 as a missionary. While Christianity had already taken hold in the country, tradition has it that Patrick confronted the Druids at Tara and abolished their pagan rites, making Christianity more widespread. According to legend St. Patrick used the three leaf clover (or shamrock) to explain the Trinity. The practice of dyeing the river green started in Chicago in 1962, when city officials decided to dye a portion of the Chicago River green. Irish Americans were so poor they could not afford certain meals. On St. Patrick's Day, the best meal they could afford was corn beef and cabbage which has become a staple for the holiday.

An international day to celebrate freshwater was recommended at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The UN General Assembly responded by designating 22 March 1993 as the first **World Water Day**. I don't have to tell you how important water as a resource is to each one of us – Glen Villet does that superbly through his constant updating of the water board that he's set up in the foyer – and the Northern Cape, Western Cape and Eastern Cape have already been declared provincial disaster areas.



ARE YOU AWARE THAT 1 BATHFUL CONSUMES ALL THE WATER FOR 3 PEOPLE? RESIDENTS AT ROSEDALE: YOU ARE URGED TO ONLY BATH ONCE A WEEK. ON THE OTHER DAYS, PLACE A BASIN OF WATER IN THE BATH AND WASH YOURSELVES DOWN THAT WAY.

Till next time - keep smiling



The Rosedale Service Centre Committee

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the SA Legion or Rosedale Service Centre and/or its members. Ideas for future articles can be relayed to Lucille Byrnes flat 211 Rosedale tel. 021-6854375 / 083 558 4900 email lucillebyrnes@gmail.com

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