

## TITANIC EVENING - QUEEN OF THE OCEAN.

Those folk who attended the social committee's function on March 22 certainly experienced a 'Titanic' evening!

The event 'All Aboard the Titanic' (which tragically sank after hitting an iceberg shortly before midnight on 15 April 1912) was held in conjunction with a celebration of St. Patrick's Day, 17 March.

Encouraged to dress in their finery, upon arrival and presentation of their boarding tickets, attendees were handed a glass of sherry each and directed to the prop depicting a scene on deck aboard the ship – their tickets were stamped 'RMS Titanic: Passenger aboard: Passage to New York', photographs of passengers were taken standing against the prop.

With soft tunes emanating from a live

string quartet, who also provided music at various times during the evening, people took their reserved seats at very attractively decorated tables.

Resident Lionel Smith, dressed in a dinner suit and wearing a captain's hat similar to the one that would have been worn by the Titanic's captain Edward John Smith (no relation), warmly welcomed all present.

Prior to dinner being served, diners were entertained to performances by skilled groups of Irish dancers. Music at this time was provided by the trio known as the Bedlam Folk. They also gave people, after dinner, the opportunity to participate in several traditional Irish dance routines including the well-known, 'Oh Hokey Pokey.'

Dinner took the form of a specially

prepared Irish stew followed by dessert comprising ice cream and chocolate sauce. As the evening's activities drew to a close, a demonstration was given in a partial prop of a lifeboat for the putting on of a life jacket. Irish coffees were then made available at a nominal cost.

A huge 'well done' to the social committee and others involved for staging such an unforgettable evening.

Various historical references were sourced from 'History through Headlines', published in 2009; 'Titanic: Exploring the discovery of a lifetime.' (A National Geographic Publication in 2020)

Frank Peachy



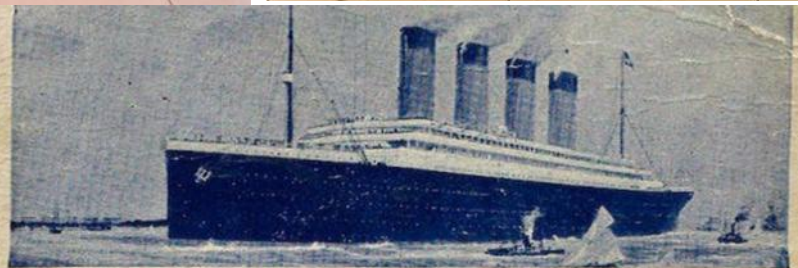
It was a evening of magic and elegance aboard the Grand Titanic  
It was an unforgettable evening filled with music and dancing.



TITANIC EVENING







R.M.S. "TITANIC."

APRIL 14, 1912.

**THIRD CLASS.  
BREAKFAST.**

OATMEAL PORRIDGE & MILK  
SMOKED HERRINGS, JACKET POTATOES  
HAM & EGGS  
FRESH BREAD & BUTTER  
MARMALADE SWEDISH BREAD  
TEA COFFEE

**DINNER.**

RICE SOUP  
FRESH BREAD CABIN BISCUITS  
ROAST BEEF, BROWN GRAVY



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OUR RESIDENTS BORN IN MARCH

**Left to right**

**Yvonne Magic**

94 years old

Living at ORV for 10 years

Interests: card games, gardening, lawn bowls, tennis.

**Connie Commin**

92 years old

Living at ORV for 10 years

Interests: exercising, crafts, church.



Mel Klonarides  
Celebrating her  
88th birthday.

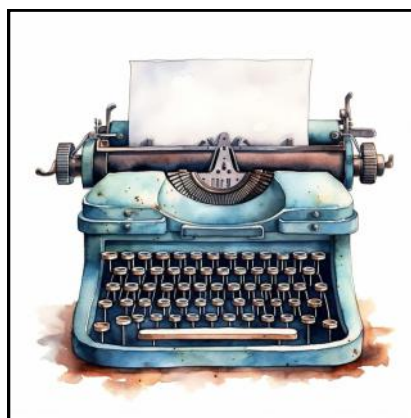


## EDITORIAL

Hello to all my Olive family. A quarter of 2025 has galloped past already. However, there is still some time to enjoy the beautiful sunny days before we have to fluff out those winter woollies .

Here's wishing you a blessed Easter. And to other ORV residents who celebrate different religious festivities during this time, we wish you and your family many blessings.

Angie Moir Editor



### Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,

I hope this message finds you well.

I write this on behalf of the other residents who read your newsletter.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for the outstanding newsletter that you and your team consistently deliver. In an era overwhelmed by information, your newsletter serves as a beacon of clarity and insight, providing readers like myself with a wealth of knowledge and inspiration.

Even with your health problems and the

other activities you have to do during the day, your readers appreciate your unwavering dedication.

Thank you for countless hours you invest in producing such a good newsletter. Your efforts have not only informed but also inspired your readers, encouraging us to think critically and stay engaged with the world around us.

In closing, I look forward to each new edition with eager anticipation, confident that it will provide the same level of excellence that we have come to expect.

**In conclusion**, expressing gratitude to those who inform and engage us is

important. A thank you letter to a newsletter editor is a small but meaningful way to acknowledge the hard work and dedication that goes into producing valuable content. Their efforts enrich our lives, broaden our perspectives, and keep us connected to the world.

Warm regards

The author wishes to remain Anonymous.

### Response from the editor

**Dear Anonymous**

Your feedback isn't just words on a screen. It's fuel that keeps our engine running. It tells us we're on the right track, and makes all the hard work worth it.

Thankyou ,Angie and the team.



## THE ORV RECYCLING INITIATIVE

The Recycling Project in Olivedale Village has been slow to take off properly although a couple of the schemes have been well accepted by residents and the number of people becoming involved has increased. This is encouraging and we hope that knowing about these schemes might entice others to follow suit.

In July last year a most bubbly and enthusiastic woman, Diana Musara, came to speak to us and demonstrated how to make “ecobricks” which are used to build houses, extra classrooms at schools, and various other small structures. Her organisation is called The Earth Touch Foundation. There are several women who have taken on the challenge, among them are Pam Eadie, Joey Milbert, Mirjana Christiane, Moira Berry, Trudi Penfold, Liz Sole plus a few

friends and maids.

In mid-February we were delighted that Olivedale could present Diana with nearly sixty Ecobrick bottles for their buildings. The collection here by a large truck made the project easier as well. Apart from the assistance for the building, this also helps to take some of the plastic waste that we generate out of the usual dumping sites in the veld. Our 60 ecobricks are a drop in the ocean but in her lovely thank you message to us Diana reminded us that ‘even one ecobrick helps their cause’.

To make an ecobrick requires no cost to the person filling the bottle. All that is needed is a 2 litre Coke or Fanta bottle with a lid and as many soft plastic bags, packets and wrapping that one can collect. Rinse and dry the bottle and

the plastic bags and wrapping and poke it into the bottle as tightly as possible, using the handle of a long wooden spoon or a piece of dowel rod. Cutting the plastic into smaller pieces also helps to stuff the filling tightly. When absolutely full the bottle should weigh about 500 g, to make a solid secure wall without collapsing.

The photos show some of the “production team” helping the driver, Michel and his assistant to load our ecobricks on to the truck. We look forward to enquiries so that next time we may have more friends helping to swell the number of bricks.

Liz Sole



Trudy, driver, assistant, Liz.



Trudy, Moira, Lucy, Liz





## "BIRDS IN THE OPEN SPACE"

*Talk by Sean Ryan for the Open Day on 22 February 2025 to celebrate World Wetlands Day.*

It is a privilege to stand before you today as we celebrate the rehabilitation of our village's wetland—a natural gem that not only enhances the beauty of our surroundings but also plays a crucial role in sustaining life.

Wetlands are often described as the "lungs of the landscape," filtering water, preventing floods, and supporting a remarkable diversity of life. Restoring this wetland has taken considerable effort, and in doing so, we have given nature the space to flourish once more. Already, we are seeing encouraging signs of revival, particularly with the return of various bird species. The reeds, grasses, and trees have reclaimed their place, creating a thriving ecosystem where insects, amphibians, and small mammals now find refuge.

Perhaps the most striking transformation has been the resurgence of birdlife. Wetlands attract an extraordinary variety of birds—some stopping by on their daily journeys, others making this their permanent home. You may have noticed the Weavers and Bishops busily constructing their nests, weaving intricate grass structures with remarkable skill. You may have heard the call of the Little Rush Warblers as they dart through the reeds, well-camouflaged but ever-present.

Occasionally, a Common Moorhen, Yellow-billed Duck, or African Black Duck may be seen gliding across the water. As the ecosystem continues to develop, we can look forward to welcoming even more species—perhaps Herons, Kingfishers, Hamerkops, and Ibises will become regular visitors.

Our village is already blessed with an abundance of bird species. In the past three and a half years, one of our residents, Sean Rayne (Unit 10), has recorded a remarkable 102 different species and heard two more that have yet to be seen. A half-hour walk around the village can easily yield a list of 25 to 30 species, and in about two hours, one could record as many as 50 different birds.

The village is also blessed to be home to some unusual and uncommon species. In the summer months look out for Lesser Striped Swallows, who can easily be confused with the common Greater Striped Swallows. Mountain Wheatears can be seen throughout the year and all three colour variations can be seen, namely black, brown and grey. African Grey Hornbills, a bushveld species, can occasionally be seen or heard calling.

Beyond their ecological value, wetlands offer something deeper. They are places of peace and reflection, where we can reconnect with nature and

appreciate the delicate balance of life. They remind us of our responsibility to protect the world around us—not just for ourselves, but for future generations.

Let us continue to cherish and protect this space. May it remain a sanctuary for wildlife and a source of inspiration for all of us who call this village home.



Baby ducklings with mom.



A quarter of 2025 is already behind us, can you believe ? We have had so much rain and there has been considerable infrastructure damage which will need millions of rand to repair or replace. Such is life. We can control many things, but not the weather.

Last time I wrote about being in the restaurant business and this time I would like to give some insight into what it entails. We go to restaurants and sometimes think how much less it would cost to eat at home. True, and some restaurants are excessively high priced. However most are just trying to make some profit, and it's not easy. One needs to consider all that such businesses have to pay for and buy.

First, there is rent, and if the premises are owned, then there are municipal property taxes, which for a business are far higher. There are other payments to the municipality, like water and electricity.

Next is salaries which can be a considerable amount, as not only are chefs/cooks needed but waiting and

cleaning staff. Food costs are huge these days, but what one seldom considers are the incidental costs for things like serviettes, tomato sauce, Tabasco sauce, after dinner mints, crockery, cutlery,(which is often stolen by both staff and customers), salt and pepper shakers. With so many of these items being broken or stolen, it amounts to many hundreds in a year. (I remember we had a 30cm high pepper mill that was stolen). There is also cleaning that needs to be done, or should be done, so those products add to the overall cost.

An additional cost to restaurants is VAT. Yes the customer pays VAT, but there are not so many items that the restaurateur can claim VAT back on. Potatoes are VAT free, but cook and mash them or make chips, and VAT must be paid. Oil is VAT free, but cook fish in it and you end up paying tax on the fish and the oil in which it was cooked. There are also levies to be paid for workers, such as UIF and another to a fund for training in the hospitality industry. There is another

in case of injury to staff. Business insurance and insurance of premises etc all amount to huge monthly overheads. So next time you eat out you will perhaps have a bit more understanding of what the business actually provides.

We are entering one of my favourite times of the year, autumn. Not too hot, not too cold, not much rain and sunny, bright days. Then winter with incomparable blue skies, cold mornings and nights, but the best days here on the Highveld. We are so fortunate to live here, in warm dry homes with electricity (usually) and running water. Go out if possible, be with friends, laugh and have as much fun as you can. It lifts the spirits and helps one forget all the aches and pains of old age. Till next time, keep well, have fun and take care.

Maureen Lamprecht

## EARTH ANGELS

They live and walk amongst us, yet you would never know for their wings they never show.

They don't come in a misty cloud or flying down from the sky. For they live here on earth walking with you and I.

They are watching over us in more ways than I could count. This is what they do, this is what they're about.

They lead us on the path of righteousness when we seem to be going astray and show us the light, to live a better way.

How many times have you felt something?

Was it deja vu not realizing the angel was walking alongside of you.

We are all born with a guardian angel which has been given to us by GOD above to show us faith, peace and love.

They work with the earth angels and give them a report, so between the two of them, our lessons can be taught.

Our earth angels are everywhere you go and you will never know which one is yours.

louis rams



Rustig op sy gemakstoel sit Piet in die eetkamer met die koerant. Hy wag net vir Chrissie om die tee te bring, dan kan hy al die koerantstories vir haar vertel. Die sonlig gooi 'n streep vanuit die venster oor die mat. Dan ruk Piet se kop verskrik op van 'n harde slag teen die ruit. Die skaduwee van oopgespreide vlêrke val oor die sonbaan.

'Wat op aarde!' roep Piet. Hy hoor hoe Chrissie agter hom die skinkbord op die tafel neersit. Op die vensterbank spartel 'n groot swart voël om gesit te kry.

'Kyk die kraai! Hy lyk erg verwilderd,' gil Chrissie.

Sy kom staan langs Piet by die venster waar hy versigtig die verskrikte voël probeer intel.

'Ek dink hy het seergekry. Laat ons kyk. Kom nou Kraai, ons wil jou help,' paai Piet.

Chrissie gril gelukkig nie vir vere nie. Sy vou haar moederhande rondom die voëlvlerke en Piet doen sy ondersoek.

'Sy beentjie is gebreek. Kyk dit staan skeef! Kan jy asseblief 'n boks in die garage kry om hom in te sit.' Nadat die kraai veilig in bewaring is, drink hulle tee.

'Ek gaan die beentjie spalk,' maak Piet sy voornemens bekend. Chrissie gaan haal die medisyne tassie. 'Sterkte met jou redding,' moedig sy hom aan met die neersit van die noodhulp.

Piet kry pleister en twee roomysstokkies. Hy roep Chrissie om te kom help en met kraai onder sy arm vasgeknyp, strek hy die kraaipoot reguit. Sy assistent is bekwaam en saam

tree hul soos veeartse op. Piet gaan haal 'n bakkie met neut en rosyne, water vir die dors en Kraai sit rustig in sy boks om te herstel.

Kraai word deel van die huishouding. Hy waggel agter Piet aan en bly in sy boks op die stoep. Toe die been herstel, sien Piet die poot is bietjie agterstevoor geheg, maar dit pla Kraai nie. Hy leer om te sê, 'Hallo Kraai', net soos Piet hom elke keer groet. Hy vlieg saam met Piet se rooi kar na sy kantoor wat net om die hoek van die straat is. Langs die kantoor bly missus Sutherland. Sy leer ook vir Kraai ken en as sy by Chrissie gaan tee drink, voer sy vir Kraai koekies.

Wanneer die familie kom kuier en daar word gebraai, eet Kraai saam van die rooster af. Hy en Tommie, die hond het hul eie speletjie. As Tommie blaf, blaf Kraai terug. Dan hardloop Tommie om die huis om die ander blaffende hond te gaan soek. Kraai vlieg saam. Al blaffende gaan hulle om en om.

Piet werk in die garage en maak dingetjies reg. Kraai sit by die kantspieël van die rooi motor en soek sy kraaimaat wat in die spieël bly. Hy sien ook die blink skroefies en tangetjies waarmee Piet werk. Kort-kort pik hy een in sy bek op en gaan sit dit by missus Sutherland se stoepdeur. Later word ook van Chrissie se oorbelle vir haar aangedra.

Eindelik word Kraai uitgevang en bring missus Sutherland die blinkgoed terug wat Kraai vir haar kom gee het.

Een keer per maand hou Chrissie vir

haar vriendinne 'n teeparty in die tuin. Almal sit gesellig op die draadstoele en geniet die heerlike verversings. Kraai is ook in die rondte en eet graag stukkies lekkernye saam. Tommie hap ook hier en daar van dit wat vir hom uitgedeel word. Later begin hy en Kraai 'n nuwe speletjie. Kraai pik die tannies se boude deur die openinge van die draadstoele. Wanneer een tannie verskrik opspring en uitroep! 'Eina! Wat steek my hier van onder af?', blaf Tommie. Kraai blaf saam en terwyl almal lag, verdwyn die twee om die huis.



Crows are quite similar to humans and visit their aging parents many years after they have left the nest.





## YOUR ROYAL CATNESS SKABENGA

Skabenga, the resident cat at The Oyster Box, has made Umhlanga's 'grand old dame' his permanent home, for over 10 years after wandering onto the grounds as a stray a few years prior.

"The staff treated him like a king, and diners fed him delicious, pricey titbits." Who can blame him for never wanting to go when life is so good?

"The Oyster Box has been dominated by Skabenga for more years than anyone can recall. Ironically, a cat whose name in isiZulu means "hooligan or vagabond" was a VIP guest at one of the most prestigious hotels in the world. Skabenga was a legend in his own right.



I'd love to join you with that salmon



Hi handsome

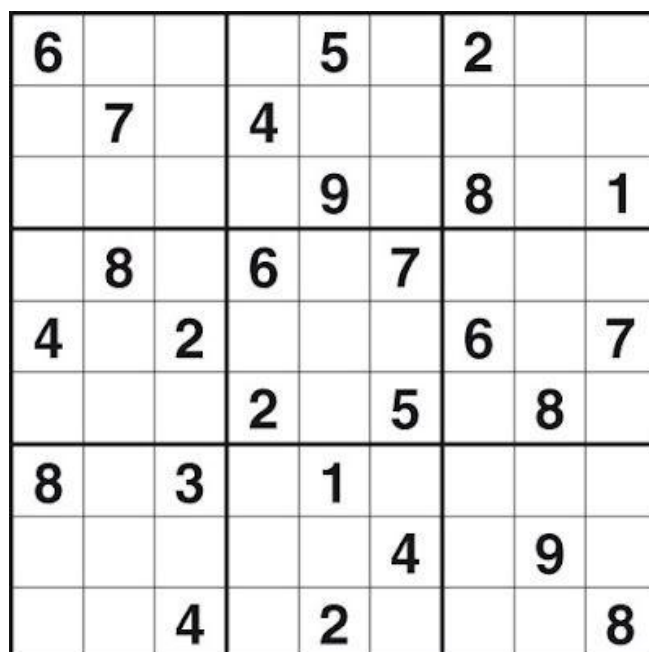
## Word Search

Heart Health



ACTIVE	EXERCISE	LEADER	SMOKING
ALCOHOL	FACIAL	MEALS	STRESS
BREATHING	HEALTHY	MEDITATION	STRESSFUL
CARDIO	HEART	RELAXATION	SURVIVAL
VASCULAR	HYDRATED	RELIEF	VEGETABLES
DISCIPLINE	KILLER	RISK	WOMEN

## SUDOKU



At our age, we can hide our own Easter Eggs, wait half hour, and have no clue where we put them



## **PATHS OF TIME**

*(Chronicle created and written by José Luiz Ricchetti)*

There is a silence that comes with the years, and it is not made only of the absence of noise, but of the smooth transition between what we were and what we become. At 60, you begin to feel the subtlety of distancing. The room that once pulsed with your ideas now seems full of voices that no longer ask for your opinion. It is not a rejection, it is the rhythm of life. It is when we learn that our contribution is not in the immediate present, but in the traces we leave in hearts and minds along the way.

At 65, you realize that the corporate world, once so vital, is a ceaseless flow. It continues, indifferent to what you did or did not do. It is not a defeat, it is liberation. This is the time to look at yourself, to strip away the ego and put on serenity. It is no longer about proving, but about teaching, about sharing, about mentoring. True achievement is not that which is

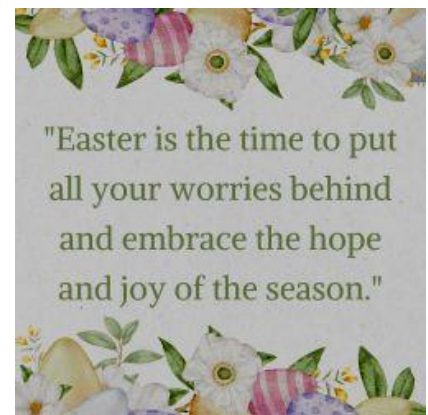
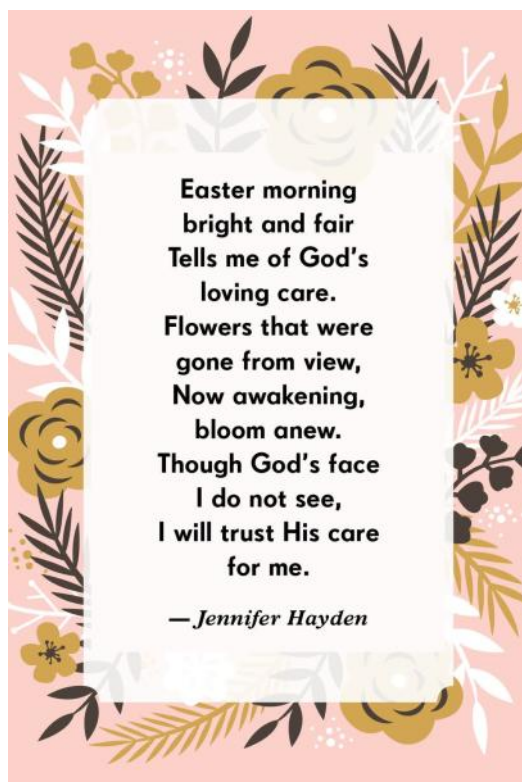
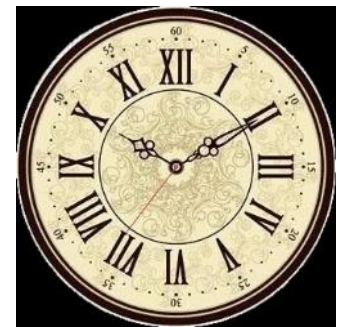
displayed, but that which inspires.

At 70, society seems to forget this, but really? Maybe it is just an invitation to re-evaluate what really matters. Young people will not recognize you for what you were, and that is a blessing in disguise: now you can be just who you are. No masks, no titles, just the essence. Old friends, those who do not ask "who you were" but "how are you," become precious jewels, diamonds that shine in the twilight of life.

And then, at 80 or 90, it is the family that, in its haste, moves a little further away. But that is where wisdom embraces us tightly. We understand that love is not possession; it is freedom. Your children, your grandchildren, go on with their lives, as you go on with yours. Physical distance does not diminish affection, but teaches that true love is generous, not demanding.

When the Earth finally calls you, there is no reason to fear. It is the last dance of a natural cycle, the closing of a chapter written with sweat, tears, laughter and memories. But what remains, what will never really be erased, are the marks we leave on the souls we touch.

Therefore, as long as there is breath, energy, as long as the heart beats, live intensely. Embrace encounters, laugh out loud, enjoy the simple and complex pleasures of life. Cultivate your friendships as one who cares for a garden. Because, in the end, what remains are not the achievements, nor the titles, nor the applause. What remains are the bonds, the moments





<b>ORV April Bus:</b>			<b>Time:</b>	<b>Rate:</b>
2 April	Wed	Northgate	08:30 - 11:30	R20.00
7 April	Mon	Bel Air	08:30 - 10:30	R20.00
9 April	Wed	Cresta	08:30 - 11:30	R35.00
14 April	Mon	Spar	09:30 - 10:30	R20.00
16 April	Wed	Northgate	08:30 - 11:30	R20.00
21 April	Mon	<b>NO BUS - PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>		
23 April	Wed	Northgate	08:30 - 11:30	R20.00
25 April	Fri	Lifestyle	08:30 - 11:30	R35.00
28 April	Mon	<b>NO BUS - PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>		
30 April	Wed	Northgate	08:30 - 11:30	R20.00
<b>BUS TICKETS SOLD AT RECEPTION:</b> * R255,00 - Ticket includes all trips: Spar, Bel Air, Northgate, Cresta & Lifestyle * R180,00 - Ticket includes: Spar, Bel Air & Nothgate only * You also have the option to pay per trip at reception Card payments only, reception does not accept cash.				

## EVENTS FOR APRIL

**Monday ... 14th April Birthday/New Residents welcome tea In the dining room at 15h00.**

**Guests pay R40.00 pp. NO payment for residents celebrating their birthday or for new residents.**

**New residents for March and April do not pay.**

**Easter Saturday 19 April. Bring and braai on the patio. Pap and gravy will be provided.**

## JAN'S ART CLASSES



About a year ago our "Art Group" started. Barbara Hadden and Norma King asked Jan Barrett to show them water colour techniques, so Jan started teaching them in the dining room. Others watched and wanted to join and learn to paint. The result is a lovely group of ladies who get

together once a week to chat and paint. Men are welcome!

The group meets every Tuesday at 14:00 in the dining room and spends the next two hours being creative and painting with water colours.

Jan is always present to guide members of the group. Some of us joined with no experience of painting and have kept coming back because we enjoy this form of relaxation.

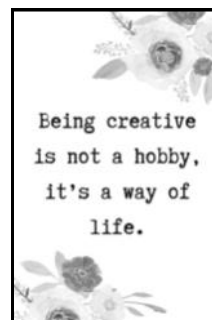
Just as we all have different personalities, so we all have different styles when it comes to applying paint to paper with a brush.

Drawing is part of the process and we have

recently started sending the picture that we will be painting the following week to cellphones of the group so that folk can sketch at home.

Should you want to try your hand at painting, you are welcome to join us.

Monica de Kock



## Articles for Submission

Hand written submissions for inclusion into Olive Branch can be handed in at reception for Liezel Nel's attention or emailed to: angel-iquemr50@gmail.com

## EDITORIAL CONTACTS

**Angelique Moir Editor**

**Anine Chapatte**

**Maureen Lamprecht**

**Elma van den Berg**

## ADVERTISING

Liezel Nel

## VILLAGE MANAGEMENT

Chris Heyneke

### Disclaimer

The articles and ideas published in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessary reflect the views of the Olive Branch editorial committee or the Olivedale Home associations. NPC Images without credits are published under creative commons.

## SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES

**Roman Catholic Church 09H30, LONG ROOM**

**English service 09H30, Hall**

**Afrikaans service 17H00, Hall**

## Advertising Rates for 2024

- Published monthly - format is A4 portrait.
- Circulation: 120 black-and-white printed copies. 300 emailed
- Full page: R800
- Half page, *landscape only*: R400-00
- Quarter page, portrait: R200-00
- Strip Ads across bottom of page: R100-00 (3cm high)
- Small advertisements and notices R15 - 00 (size subject to space availability. Size generally is about 6,5 X 4.5cm)
- Submissions by 20th of each month or preceding business day.

## HEALTH

### VILLAGE CLINIC HOURS - SISTER'S OFFICE /

**DR'S ROOM Monday to Friday :**

**09h00 till 09h30 & 12h00 till 12h30**

### DRAWING OF BLOOD SPECIMENS

**Repeat Fasting bloods:**

**Monday to Friday at Sister's office / Dr's Room  
07h30 till 08h00**

**Drawing of blood in Unit/House.**

**Book an appointment one day ahead. Please contact ext no 5462 or 5011 and leave a message for the Village Sister.**

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS 24/7

**Security guard room : 010 596 5400 / 5183**

**Security cell number : 064 131 8274 (when landlines are not working)**

<b>Frail care office Matron</b>	<b>5010</b>
<b>Frail care reception</b>	<b>5011 / 5462</b>
<b>Kitchen office</b>	<b>5493</b>
<b>Kitchen orders</b>	<b>5494</b>
<b>Tuck shop</b>	<b>5492</b>
<b>Hair salon</b>	<b>5496</b>
<b>Clinic sister</b>	<b>5495</b>
<b>Reception</b>	<b>5499 / 5500 / 9</b>
<b>Security</b>	<b>5400 / 5183</b>
<b>Beauty salon</b>	<b>5192</b>



# OLIVEDALE

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TO LET



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**Apartment**

**R 7000 p/m**

TO LET



1 Bed, 1 Bath Second Floor  
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