

The Olive Branch

Reaching out to everyone

November 2022
Issue 10/2022

OKTOBERFEST

Thank you, Cally, for hosting the Oktoberfest. It was a fantastic event and we hope you all enjoyed it.

Thank you also to the residents who gave up part of their weekend to help set-up and run stalls.

The event was a hive of activity, with lots of people, stalls, food and fun.

The money raised from the white elephant

stall, R4250, went towards a big flat-screen TV for the residents in Frail Care.

The focal point was the milkshake topped with candy floss. (What can make your milkshake more whimsical than wisps of cotton candy?)

Thanks once again to Cally and her helpers who made it all happen.



The flat-screen TV bought for Frail Care. The residents were so excited when it arrived.



Nicholas is beaming with joy, holding his raffle prize.



Above: Lou and Mike being served the first milk shake of the day.



A visitor enjoying a delicious Eisbein



A resident enjoying her milkshake out on the patio.



Above : Milk shake in the making



Lunch is served. A delicious hamburger.



A big hello to all our residents.

The much awaited rainy season has arrived. Lets welcome the season with joy as it brings much desired relief from the heat.

I am sure you will enjoy our summer issue; it really is packed full of news and interesting articles. The village was fairly bustling in October. I hope you were able to attend some of the festivities. The Oktoberfest, which everyone enjoyed very much, is featured on our front page. I have no doubt you loved reliving the memories.

Look out for our next OB Newsletter due out in December. Note that there will not be a January edition. If you would like to contribute to any edition, kindly send me an email to angeliquemr50@gmail.com or contact me on WhatsApp at 079 888 7521 and please do contact us, the editorial committee, with any feedback you may have. We would love to hear from you. Everything you say will be taken into account so that we may tailor the Olive Branch newsletter to your needs and make it worthwhile for you to read.

Angie 



TAI CHI

Tai Chi has existed and been practiced world-wide for over a thousand years. It has significantly improved my balance.

Angelike is the real deal for anyone who wants to learn the "real" way of Tai Chi. She has a good sense of humour, intelligent and dedicated. The cost of a class is fair and reasonable. Come join us Saturday afternoons at 3pm in the hall.

Here are some comments from some of her ORV students.

Pat Jones; The classes are not overly strenuous, but I can still tell that good things are happening in my body and I am inspired to practice even when I'm not there.

Michelle Lombardo; Very helpful in strengthening myself for much better balance.

Sandy; Tai chi is a gentle, non-impact exercise that is easy on your joints and helps keep your legs strong.

Ivana Blasa; I've found that I've already significantly im-



Above from left. Ivana, Angie, Angelike, Michelle, Pat.

BOOK REVIEW THE SCHOOL GATES FIONA SNYCKERS

Burnt out after years as a professional dancer, Ella Burchell moves to a small town on the KwaZulu Natal north coast hoping to rebuild her life. Things look up when she gets a job teaching dance to children at a for-profit private school.

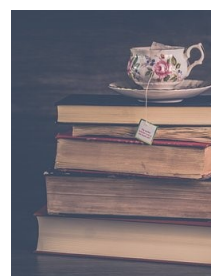
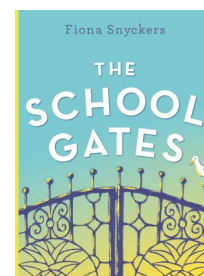
But Ella hasn't reckoned with the cabal of private-school mums who run the Pines Academy as their own personal

fiefdom. Circling into cliques at the school gates every morning, the mums are a force to be reckoned with.

Soon Ella is too busy fielding their demands to concentrate on her own troubles. Distraction arrives in the form of an attractive cricket coach, but Ella hardly has time to pay attention.

Fun, fast-paced and hilarious, this novel

by an award-winning author skewers the world of private-school privilege. The book is available at Exclusive Books.



BILL CRAIG

By Glanville Craig

This is an update of the Bill Craig tales that first appeared in the Olive Branch last year.

As background, I must reiterate that Bill came to South Africa to recover after serving in the South African Air Force in Egypt, where he was injured in an attack by a German Stuka dive bomber. He made the decision to continue serving in the military in Italy after his full recovery.

He had the misfortune to enter a minefield in Italy, and as luck would have it, he stood on a landmine that injured his stomach. He was suffocating as he lay there, but fate intervened, and a black driver from his squad bravely entered the minefield and brought Bill out, saving his life.

After witnessing the *ubuntu* of a black comrade-in-arms, he made the audacious choice to give up his work as a chef and baker and look for a means to repay the compassion of the black community. He joined the City Council as a manager in the South-Western Townships, later known as Soweto, in search of a job that would enable him to do so.

Given that this role was intended to strengthen the Apartheid laws, it seemed like a curious choice on his side. However, as will be seen further on, it was undoubtedly a part of his plan.

Bill had just wed Bunny, a seamstress, at the time. Bunny had hired a black woman named Lilly Diphoko to help her with her home business. Lilly learned everything there was to know about sewing from Bunny. At that time, Bunny gave birth to a daughter in 1947 and a son in 1952. In addition to her work in the company, Lilly played a crucial role in raising the two kids. It was an honour for both kids to ride on Lilly's back. Lilly also had a daughter, Martha.

Until I received a call from a woman who phoned me in September 2022, I was mainly unaware of this period in Bill's life. She identified herself as Lynette, saying that she was Lilly's granddaughter and Martha's daughter.

She explained that there is a group of people in Dube Village in Soweto who are chronicling the history of Dube. Her question to me initially was whether I knew that Lilly, Martha and herself lived in Dube. My answer was in the affirmative. She then asked me whether I knew how they got to live there. I did not know this.

During Apartheid a black woman could only live in a home in Soweto if she was married or if she was staying with her father, son or uncle, according to the laws of the day, which were in effect from 1947. So a black woman was forced to share a home with a man. Since neither Lynette's

grandmother nor her mother Martha were married, there was no prospect that they would own a home in Dube.

Enter Bill. He coordinated the construction of a house in Dube that was registered in the name of a Mr. L. Diphoko. He made sure that all conditions were satisfied and that the necessary cash was paid, and lo and behold, Lilly Diphoko, Martha, and finally Lynette moved into the house. Mr. Diphoko, who does not exist, is still included on the property's registration.

It is unknown how many of these allegedly unlawful transactions he engaged in to guarantee that at least some single women had places to stay. He undoubtedly would have served a significant amount of time in prison had he been caught.

In the townships, he was well-liked. Many women whose sons were *tsotsis*, or rebellious male children, who were alone or whose husbands were absent, would get in touch with Bill, who would then visit them and, in Lynette's words, *skop and donder*. However, he would then seek employment for those miscreants and issue a threat that if they did not report to work, he would return and *skop and donder* once more.

It is unknown how many young men he helped to get work in that way, but it is thought to be a sizable number.

As a small recognition, a street is named after Bill, that is Craig Street in Dube

The people who are compiling the story of Dube intend to approach the Gauteng Government to acknowledge Bill and his activism. Sad that he is not around to help now, and sad that he may not receive the recognition due to him.



Above: Left to right. Ma, Lilly, granddaughter Lynette and daughter Martha.



Above : Left to right Bill Craig, son Glanville, and wife Bunny.



BLINDCO

SUPERIOR BLINDS AND SHUTTERS

INDOOR BLINDS - ALL TYPES APPROVED OUTDOOR PATIO BLINDS

Venetian Aluminium blinds - Venetian Basswood blinds
Roller blinds - Wooden Shutters - Aluminium Shutters
Outdoor Awnings - Outdoor Blinds
Fitting of Curtain rails – Handyman Services

[Call Cason for a free quotation](#)

WORD SEARCH

This months theme is wine tasting.

This puzzle consists of 60 words, 3 of which are not listed which you will have to find. The solution is on page 10.



New Pick up line..



I have Electricity

- | | |
|------------------|---------|
| Access | Oak |
| Aging | Peak |
| Aroma | Pour |
| Bar | Praise |
| Blend | Press |
| Brisk | Primary |
| Case | Renown |
| Cask | Reveal |
| Cave | Ripe |
| Corkage | Ritual |
| Dry | Sip |
| Error | Skin |
| Flavor | Smooth |
| Foil | Snob |
| Fruity | Soil |
| Generic | Stomp |
| Inhale | Store |
| Joy | Study |
| Keen | Syrah |
| Knack | Tart |
| Label | Tasting |
| Liter | Theme |
| Market | Tier |
| Rack | Value |
| Master Sommelier | Wages |
| Merlot | Zest |
| Name | Zing |
| Native | Zip |

RECENT EVENTS

ASSISTANCE WITH RATES AND TAXES REBATE



Sergeant Mokwena

On Thursday, October 13, the Johannesburg City Council and the SAPS worked extremely well together to help the homeowners in the village submit applications for rates and tax rebates.

Sergeant Mokwena, who is in charge of the Douglasdale police station's Social Crime Prevention team, spoke to those in attendance about the Older

Persons Act, which attempts to prevent elder abuse. His presentation was interesting, demonstrating a deep knowledge of the subject.



Birthdays and welcoming of new residents



Above Left : Phyliss with her mom Jeanette



Above : Vivienne, Teresa, Cynthia



Above : entertainment committee



Above: Connie and Ivana



Above: Susan Loots cutting the birthday cake

TENORS IN CHURCH

Liewe vriende.

U word hartlik uitgenooi na die Afrikaanse Kerssangdiens wat op 27 November 2022 om 17h00, onder leiding van Ds. Kosie Loots, in die saal gehou sal word. Die baie bekende tenoor, Chris Coetzer, en Martin Lane sal tydens die diens as gaskunstenaars optree.

Bespreking kan by ontvangs gedoen word.



Dear friends

You are heartily invited to an Afrikaans church service on the 27th November 2022 at 17h00, under the guidance of Ds. Kosie Loots in the hall.

The well-known tenors Chris Coetzer and Martin Lane will perform as guest singers.

MAX MAXIMILIAN PIANO MAN



On the 15th of October Max Maximilian honoured our village by offering his precious time and sharing his amazing talents with a live piano and song concert.

It brought back many happy memories and nostalgia to the audience with music from the past.

Max gives 50 free concerts a year to senior communities.



Residents enjoying the music

Coming Events November

5TH	AFRIKAANS DANCE EVENING (VOLKSPELE) 6pm R50 per person includes light refreshments.
10th	HIGH TEA R80.00 per person. 16h00
14th	BIRTHDAY TEA
25th	South African born tenor, Pierre van der Westhuizen 6pm. R 60 per person includes light refreshments
27th	Tenors in church 17h00

	FRIDAYS MOVIE NIGHTS
4TH	Crazy Rich Asians (2018)
11th	Roepman (2011) (Afrikaans with English subtitles)
18th	South Pacific (1958)
25th	Jailhouse Rock (1958)

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

NORMA ACUTT

Norma Acutt is one of the best known personalities at Olivedale Retirement Village. She was one of the first to move into the apartments in 2014. During her time here she has left an indelible mark on the lives of many residents.

Every Tuesday afternoon she and friends meet in the dining room to crochet and knit blankets for charity. These are distributed by Pastor Gwynn to the needy in Johannesburg and surrounds. To date around 2000 blankets have been donated. Of course, this is not done by the crafters alone. A number of people over the years have generously donated both cash and wool. Norma then buys the wool, and whoever is willing to make a blanket can contact her, receive the necessary raw material, and start crocheting. Many beautiful blankets have been created over the years. For some time before Covid 19, Norma would arrange a bus from Chamdor Factory Shop to collect a group of women who spent an enjoyable morning, browsing, buying and having a cup of tea or coffee and tasty eats, courtesy of Chamdor. That has been stopped but may return some time. How Covid has changed the world.

Norma was born in England and has vivid memories of WW2. When the air raid sirens sounded everyone would rush to the shelters and her father would entertain them on the piano with all the lovely old songs of the time. There they would be having a sing-along while bombs were falling. Typical stiff British upper lip fortitude. She has so many amusing anecdotes to tell of that time.

Norma was 12 when the family emigrated to South Africa, and even after all these years she still has an accent. On the day she started school in South Africa, she asked the teacher what a "tickey" was and he sent her out of the class for impertinence. Like most non-South Africans she had never heard the term. Some years later, on a visit back to England, her mother, forgetting for a minute where she was, asked for "Six tickey stamps." She was told "Ma'am, all our stamps are sticky."

Norma is known as a seamstress and crafter of note. She does dressmaking and alterations, makes curtains and does loose covers for chairs, in fact can turn her hand to almost anything. Perhaps her most outstanding achievement in this field is the beautiful dolls she made at one time. She made the entire doll, even the porcelain body parts. She painted the most realistic faces and dressed them exquisitely. You can see by the photo's just how beautiful they are. She also used to teach doll making but sadly has had to give up that. All her life she has helped others, and even today, if she can roll a stone out of your way she will do it.

Her faith, belief and trust in Christ has been part of her life for many years, and He has been with her through many trials and tribulations. She has not had an easy life, but a very full one, and we trust she will be with us for many years to come.



Crossword

Solution on page 10

Solution on page 11

Across

- Across
 1. British royal house
 7. Roar
 12. "Hamlet" has five
 16. Closet contrivance
 17. Brits' floor coverings
 18. Quaker's "you"
 19. Daniel of Nicaragua
 20. Santa's reindeer, e.g.
 21. In perfect condition
 22. Excessive or affected modesty
 24. Place
 25. Clinton, e.g.: Abbr.
 26. Abandon
 27. Language of Afghanistan
 28. Adroit
 30. To distribute anew
 34. Aggravate
 36. Calf meats
 37. It may be ingrown

41. Benzene derivative
 42. Aforementioned
 46. BEE for instance
 49. Ices
 50. Semiprecious stone
 51. Egg-laying mammal
 52. Accustom
 53. Barbie's beau
 54. Amoebas have these
 60. Carve in stone
 63. Is repentant
 64. Data holder
 66. Propel, in a way
 68. Empty spaces
 69. That which can b73. "___ only"
 74. About
 75. Hot
 76. Ancient alphabetic character
 77. Of an arm bone
 78. Eastern Catholic
 79. Didn't dillydally
 80. Amalgam
 81. A collective of a vegetable

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11		12	13	14	15
16							17						18			
19							20						21			
22							23					24				
25				26								27				
	28		29			30		31	32	33						
			34		35			36								
37	38	39				40		41					42	43	44	45
46							47					48				
49					50					51						
				52							53					
54	55	56	57						58	59		60		61	62	
63								64		65			66		67	
68						69	70	71					72			
73						74						75				
76						77						78				
79						80						81				

Down

- Down
 1. Mall units
 2. Blackened
 3. Deliberately disharmonize
 4. Ancient
 5. Record holder
 6. Garbage
 7. Gentleman's preference?
 8. Vermin
 9. Aardvark fare
 10. Some deer
 11. "C'___ la vie!"
 12. Maximally
 13. Affected
 14. Held to its full time, in music
 15. Attacks
 23. "___ Town Too" (1981 hit)
 24. 1968 Chemistry Nobel
 27. "Out of Africa" director
 29. Conclusion
 31. Helped
 32. Certain deviant, casually
 33. Check casher
 35. "The Mikado" garb
 37. Chinese "way"
 38. Amiss

39. Dismal grade
 40. Drink from a bowl
 42. Restrict
 43. A hand
 44. Carbonium, e.g.
 45. ___ lab
 47. Hawaiian tuber
 48. Facial structure
 52. "I had no ___!"
 54. Road workers
 55. Burn the midnight oil
 56. Epoch characterized by the rise of mammals
 57. Available
 58. Bouncer's check
 59. Balloon filler
 61. Fearsome snakes
 62. Ice-melting aid
 65. Ab strengthener
 67. Advises, old style
 69. Pickle flavoring
 70. Coastal raptor
 71. Computer picture
 72. "Mi chiamano Mimi," e.g.
 74. Apprentice

Sudoku

Solution on page 11

1		9				3		
6	2						5	
5						8		
			3	2				
		1		5			6	
				9			2	
4	6				2			5
					4			1
					5			9

MARGARET MATTHEWS GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

Our Garden of Remembrance was officially opened on 30th June 2018.

This area was originally a small graveyard on the farm that was on this site. A baby boy, 8 months old, was buried in the graveyard in 1892 and the original grave site had a headstone with a dedication in Dutch. The Garden Committee had a plaque made with the original wording on it, which was affixed to this headstone. This was to enable people to read what had been written on the headstone. In more recent times, the Matthews family owned the land on which our Village now stands.

Mr. & Mrs. Matthews (senior) had four sons. One of their sons, Neven Matthews, now lives in Orlando in the USA. While still living in South Africa, Neven's eldest daughter, Clare, tragically died and was buried in the small graveyard in 1976 - she was barely 5 years old. Subsequently, Neven's mother passed away and was buried near her granddaughter in 1992. She was Margaret Matthews, after whom the Garden of Remembrance is named.

When the Garden Committee at the time started a project of developing a Garden of Remembrance, the area was walled off (much as it is now) but was only accessible via a locked gate, located in Lima Street. The area was not maintained, full of weeds and rocks and had been used by vagrants as a place to stay. The previous access to the area from Lima Street is now a pathway which has a mirror on the wall, where the access gate used to be and is lined with small gardens.

The Committee appointed contractors to do the major construction work required to change this area into what is now the Garden of Remembrance. This included cutting an entranceway from the inside of the Village, cutting the walls where the steel windows have been mounted, constructing a wall to close off the original entrance and laying the brick pathways. Neven Matthews kindly made a substantial donation towards the development of the Garden and also paid for the arched metal

windows to be made, delivered, and fitted.

During all of this construction work, the members of the garden committee started planning the layout of the Garden. After the construction work had been completed, the work of implementing what had been planned began. The seven women and one man making up the garden committee, spent many a hard working but happy hour over the following few weeks, buying plants and seedlings, a water feature and so on, bringing their plans to fruition. Currently, three residents in the Village make up the team responsible for caring for the Garden – Sandy Stofberg (unit 128), Val Meier (unit 14) and Doreen Dennehy (unit 41).

Our objective when planning the Garden was to create a quiet, peaceful garden, where people could reflect and remember. To this end, it was decided to have standardised plaques made available to commemorate the loss of a loved one. These plaques can be ordered from us and will be mounted on the wall inside the Garden. Any resident is very welcome to order a plaque – these can be for any loved one who has passed away, regardless of whether they resided in the Village or not. They could be for a member of your family, or simply someone who was dear to you.

Please contact Sandy Stofberg on telephone number 5438 and she will assist you with the procedure to have your plaque made. The wording on the plaque is entirely your choice. The total cost of having a plaque made is currently R250, which includes mounting the plaque on the wall in the Garden (courtesy of Johann Tait). Proceeds from plaque sales go towards the maintenance of this very special spot in our Village.

The Garden of Remembrance Team



GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE NOW

PREVIOUSLY

WELCOME TO MY LAPWING FAMILY

Chica Ventura

It's been difficult for me to photograph the lapwing chicks. Even though they can't fly, they never stop moving.

They spend most of the day in our garden, which is hilarious because mom and dad always alert the babies whenever a dog goes by. If we go outside, they also make a noise, but they simply look at us.

They have been stopping outside my office and staring at me since they started visiting our garden last year. I then feed them a tiny amount of food. Although they appear to enjoy the crumbs, they are meant to eat worms and insects. They chase away all the other birds while they are eating.

They also had 2 babies the previous year and brought them to our garden.

We observed 3 of them in our garden before the current batch of eggs hatched (not sure if it was their baby from last year).

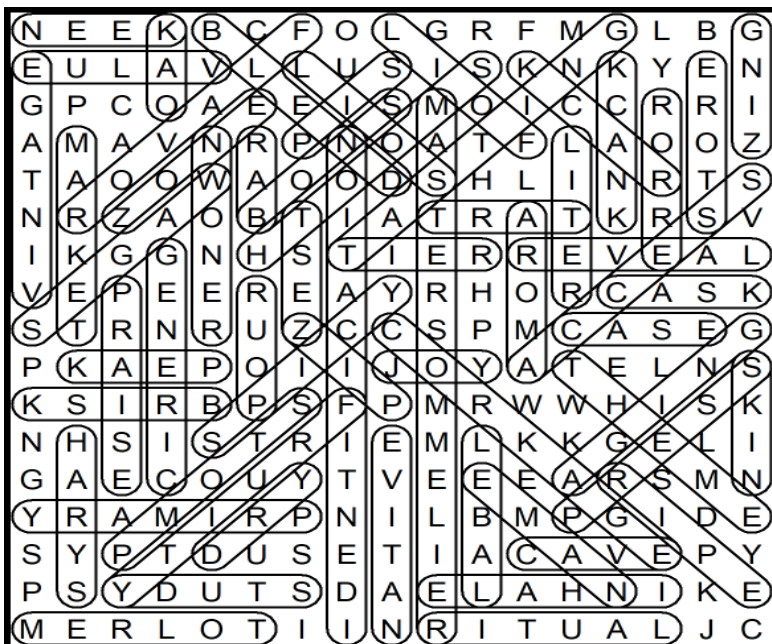
Did you know?

As well as : "Lapwing" and "Kiewiet", this bird is also known locally as the "Green Plover". Its Latin name Vanellus, means 'little fan' and actually refers to its floppy, flapping flight. The name Lapwing is thought to derive from an Old English term meaning 'leap with a flicker in it' because the dense winter flocks appear to flicker between white and black when the birds flap their wings.



Word Search Solution

The missing words : identification, vintage, spicy.



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TO
Summer

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