



## FRIDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

**"Lest we forget" is a phrase commonly used in war remembrance services and commemorative occasions in English speaking countries, specifically those connected to the British Empire. Before the term was used in reference to soldiers and war, it was first used in 1897.**

**The poppy continues to be sold world wide to raise money and to remember those who lost their lives in the First World War and in subsequent conflicts.**



Sunset poppy field 1976



## FINANCIALS

Rescom are pleased to report that year to date Bergvliet village is in surplus by a healthy R289K, and once a number of accounting revisions are posted in the coming months, we forecast this being close to R1 million by year end.

This not only good news for Levy stability but any Surplus at year end will be for the benefit of residents after two years.

## CATERING

Western Province Catering (WPC) have now stopped their R28K management fee, which will help to increase our surplus. Food is being delivered from WPC's Production Kitchen and reports are of an improved quality.

A Survey is underway to determine what residents want. 37 responses indicate, Lamb Shank, Pork Belly, Salmon, Pork Ribs, Sushi, Lamb loin chops, Roast chicken, Cottage pie, Lasagne, Chicken dishes, Burgers, Pizza, Irish stew, Shrimp, Waterblommetjie Bredie, Bobotie, Baked Ham, Turkey, Italian foods like Gnocchi, are among the dishes residents would like to see.

The survey is also indicating that more residents might use the Bistro with "Comfortable surrounds with good ambience and natural light plus interesting choices of food."

## HEALTHCARE

The Evergreen Health Management fee of some R91K per month ceased from September 1<sup>st</sup>, this will also help to increase our surplus. There was a backlash from some residents to the consequential removal of the ENA staff in the clinic, and words like heartless were bandied about.

Under pressure from Rescom, and residents, Evergreen Health (EH) have made a number of concessions and there is a Care Worker in the clinic overnight, a weekly visit by a qualified Nurse and a qualified Dr visit monthly. None of which will be charged to levies, but which residents using these services will pay for per EH tariff. However, if residents don't use these services, and make them commercially viable, they will be withdrawn.

There have been claims that EH tariff is a "rip off", but residents should first consider the convenience of visiting the clinic vs driving to say Dischem, and joining a queue of strangers for treatment. Driving isn't free, petrol, wear and tear, plus parking are factors, unless one may also be doing other things on the trip.

However, it seems that when a thorough comparison is done according to EH, for example, VitB12 (which needs Dr. Scrip) Constantia Pharm R100, Clicks/Dischem R80, Evergreen R90 (who will stock these in the clinic based on residents scrip).

## COMMUNICATIONS

Just over a year ago a Facebook page was created to enable live news to be shared by residents in our Bergvliet village. However only 6 joined indicating that residents have no interest in either Facebook or sharing live news. If there remains no interest in this, we will remove the page. Perhaps our residents would prefer to use something like WhatsApp?

Rescom has created a WhatsApp group to facilitate faster communications between us, and we are considering creating such a Group for residents, we will do so if there is an appetite for such.

## GOLFERS

Please note a chipping mat has been installed on the unused boule court next to the swimming pool.



For further information on any of the above please contact:

Alan Baxter unit 14,  
WhatsApp 0824428690 or  
alan@ajbaxter.com



**TOETIE VAN REENEN 1929-2022**

A long standing Evergreen resident  
A gentle soul who will be sorely missed  
Sincerest condolences to Ronnie and family

**RIP**



A very warm welcome to Lorna and Gordon Collender who have returned from a fourteen month sojourn in England.

Whilst away they welcomed four great-granddaughters



**MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO**

7th Colin Noble  
12th Hannelen Hammel  
15th Cherie Mortimer  
21st Theresa Magnus



**THE MONTHLY MUSIC EVENING WILL BE HELD ON  
TUESDAY 1st NOVEMBER AT 7PM -  
the Grieg Piano Concerto, Arthur Rubinstein Soloist  
and Grieg's Peer Gynt Suite No 1 plus  
Solveigh's Song sung by Sarah Brightman  
Kindly book at reception by the latest 25th October  
Feel free to provide your own liquid refreshments**





**A FLORAL ART  
DEMONSTRATION  
FESTIVE FUN**  
by Jacky Orton

**Date** : FRIDAY, 4 NOVEMBER  
**Venue** : CLUBHOUSE  
**Time** : 3pm  
**Cost** : R60.00 pp

INCLUDING AFTERNOON TEA  
 There will be a raffle for the flowers  
 Kindly book with the bistro by Tuesday , 1 November 2022 on  
 EXT 0200

**WE WILL BE HOLDING OUR MONTHLY CANASTA EVENING  
 ON SATURDAY 5TH NOVEMBER AT 7PM  
 BOOK AT RECEPTION BY NO LATER THAN THE 28TH OCTOBER  
 FEEL FREE TO BRING YOUR OWN LIQUID REFRESHMENTS**



# Line Dancing

**FRIDAY , 11 NOVEMBER AT 11AM**

Join us for a fun Line dancing morning in the Clubhouse with Shereen Bruinders who is a former Occupational Therapist.

Line dancing is fun and entertaining but also focuses on physical, mental, emotional and social wellbeing. Line dancing is an excellent activity for maintaining and enhancing muscles, memory, concentration, attention and coordination.

**Kindly book with Reception on Ext 3200 by Wednesday, 9 November.**



**A BINGO EVENING TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY 11TH NOVEMBER AT 6PM**

**A LIGHT MEAL WILL BE SERVED - R70 pp**

**BOOK AT RECEPTION BY NO LATER THAN THE 4TH NOVEMBER**





# Evergreen Bergvliet

## POTJIEKOS DAY

If you love the smell and social interaction of a braai please join us for a great day outdoors followed by a Potjie Lunch.

### Menu

**Beef or Chicken  
Potjie  
Mielie Pap with  
"Smoortjie",  
Rice & Roasted  
Butternut**



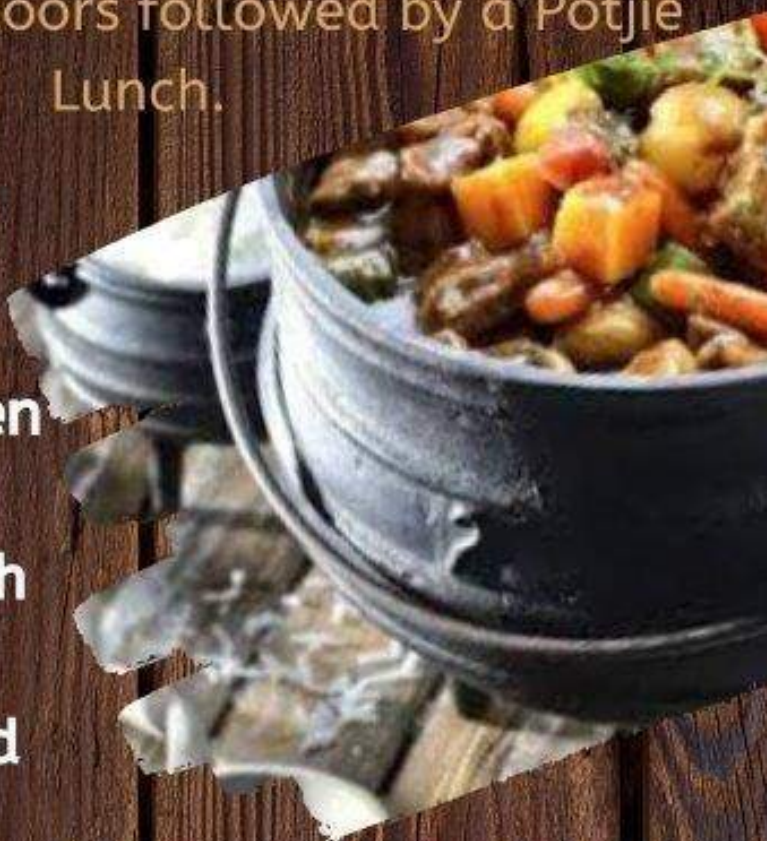
Western Province Caterers

**Date: 18 November 2022**

**Time: 10am - 2pm**

**RSVP: 15 November 2022**

**Price: R155 per person**







**DO YOU LOVE COOKING OR COOKING OVER AN OPEN FIRE? DO YOU WANT TO CLAIM THE TITLE OF EVERGREEN'S POTJIEKOS MASTER? IF SO, OUR POTJIEKOS COMPETITION IS JUST FOR YOU!**

And if you love the smell and social interaction of a braai, please join us for a great day outdoors followed by a Potjie lunch. All side dishes will be prepared by Western Province Caterers.

R155 per person | Booking is essential

### **POTJIEKOS COMPETITION DETAILS**

- Residents can enter a Team of 4 for a "chicken or beef" Potjiekos Challenge.
- Ingredient baskets will be supplied and will be handed out to the teams from 09h30.
- Any special ingredients to be supplied by contestants.
- Fires to be lit at 10h00.
- Judging will take place at 14h00 and lunch served thereafter.
- Gazebos and umbrellas for cooking teams be supplied by contestants.
- Each team must have a Captain.
- Each team will be judged on:
  - Team name and theme
  - Team 'gees' (spirit)
  - Aroma, taste & technique
  - 1 Secret side dish for 4 judges

To enter or for more information contact  
Christina on ext. 0200





## EVERGREEN BERGVLIET SUNDOWNERS BOWLS



Come and enjoy the afternoon. Try your hand at bowling or just come and have fun and listen to music. Meadowridge Club will have qualified coaches available for anyone who has not played before, so they can show them how to get the most out of this event. Dress is casual with flat-soled shoes.

It will cost R60pp if you are not playing bowls or R90 if you are. Both include a hamburger and salad. Full bar and bowls available and people to help you. There will be a small prize for the winning teams, so this promises to be a terrific afternoon for learning more about bowls, meeting other villages and socialising after the game.

Come and join in the fun.

Meet at Meadowridge Bowls Club on Friday 25th November at 4pm.

Please RSVP by the 18th November for catering purposes - Myrle Mawman on Ext 3053 or John Coetzee on Ext 3065.

All bookings and payments to be made with Myrle or John.



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**An optimist is the human personification of Spring**

***Susan J. Bissonette***

A RESCOM SUGGESTION IS TO INCLUDE FUTURE FUNCTION DATES SO RESIDENTS CAN PLAN ACCORDINGLY

**A PUB EVENING IS TO BE HELD ON  
FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER AT 6PM**

**Books of tickets at R100 each can be purchased  
from reception**

**Please book by no later than the 25th November  
for catering purposes**



**WE WILL BE HOLDING CHRISTMAS CAROLS ON THE  
LAWN ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 4TH AT 6PM**

**A CHOIR FROM EVERGREEN MUIZENBERG  
WILL BE JOINING US**

**BRING ALONG A CHAIR, PICNIC AND DRINKS**

**ALL WELCOME INCLUDING FAMILY**



**OUR END OF YEAR FUNCTION IS TO BE HELD AT SONNENHOF ON  
FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2022 AT 6pm - R195pp**

**EACH RESIDENT TO BRING A WRAPPED GIFT TO THE VALUE OF NO MORE THAN R100 -  
(the gift is optional) and marked female/male**

**Book at the Bistro by no later than the 2nd December**

**Feel free to provide your own liquid refreshments**

**Please note seating is limited**





**BOULE FUN EVENING 16TH DECEMBER AT 4PM - R60pp**

Lessons for beginners, all others welcome

Bring and braai, supply your own chair, meat and drinks

Salads, garlic bread and magnums to be supplied by Committee

Book no later than the 9th December



**WE WILL BE WELCOMING IN THE NEW YEAR ON**

**SATURDAY 31ST DECEMBER AT 21.00**

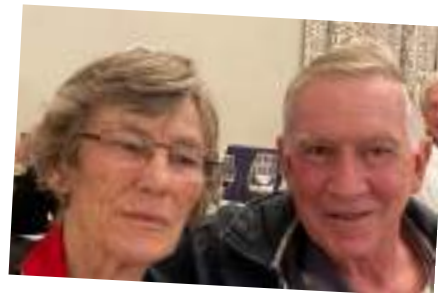
**THE COMMITTEE HAS ORGANISED THE HIRE OF A JUKEBOX AND WILL SUPPLY A  
CHEESE BOARD. KINDLY PROVIDE YOUR OWN DRINKS**

**Book at reception by no later than Friday 23rd December for catering purposes**



**A SWIGS (Sonnenhof Wine Imbibers Group) EVENING ON THURSDAY 6TH OCTOBER WAS MET WITH GREAT DELIGHT BY 30 TASTERS. OUR 'COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF' JOHN COETZEE INTRODUCED DEBBIE REPRESENTING WINE-IN-THE-HOUSE/WINE-ON-TIME AND JOHN COLLINS WITH WENDY SHOWCASING JORDAN AND DIEMERSFONTEIN WINES**

**THE SIX WINES TASTED WERE INTERESTING, ENJOYABLE AND AFFORDABLE**



**Many thanks to Myrle for organising the hot soup and delicious homemade bread**

**and to Lauren for the photographs**



## WRITING SLOPES - A BIT OF HISTORY



[www.definingfrance.com](http://www.definingfrance.com)



A fine example of a ladies rosewood and mahogany pearl inlaid writing slope

*Image credit: TinkerTaylorSoldier*

From the end of the 18th to the end of the 19th century, the writing box or *slope* was featured prominently on military expeditions, travels, libraries and in drawing rooms. Great literature as well as dispatches, contracts, letters and postcards were written on its sloping surface. Through it both business and personal activity were transacted. Unlike the writing desk or table it was a personal and not a household possession.

The increased popularity of the writing box can be attributed to two main reasons. The onset of the Napoleonic wars and the popularity of traveling. Officers in the army had their own boxes, using them both for army business and for writing home.



Beautiful military writing slope belonging to Carol Dalton with a provenance second to none - overleaf

## RESTORING ANTIQUE WRITING SLOPES by CAROL DALTON

Carol loves collecting antique boxes and this piqued her interest in writing slopes, particularly ones which needed restoration. She has a beautiful collection, and one with an exceptional provenance -

The photograph on the previous page shows the military writing slope which looks like a small chest when folded closed, and then can open up to serve as a writing place. It also have niches for pens and ink. The ink wells were missing but luckily Carol found a vintage glass one with a sterling silver top in a shop in Kalk Bay.

One of the brass strips which cover the corner was missing and Carol went to great lengths to source a piece of brass which she hand cut to replace. Old glue, I don't know how many folk are familiar with it but back in the day comprised of animal bones, hides, horns, hooves also brains and blood boiled together in a cauldron. Carol was offered some by an antiques restorer but couldn't take the smell. Needless to say contact adhesive did the trick. The old glue had first to be chipped out of the groove before the new piece could be aligned.

This slope belonged to the Voortrekker Leader, Sarel Cilliers and was first owned by a Mrs. Lenie Harding. She had lived in Bothavilla on the family farm Wilgepoort in the district of Bethlehem, and inherited the writing slope from her parents-in-law. The slope was in her possession for fifty years. An article on this slope was featured in Die Volksbad dd 17th February 1989.

### Sarel Cilliers - Voortrekker Leader

Born on 7th September 1801 on the farm Schoongezicht, Klein Drakenstein in Paarl, Cape Province, the fourth son of seven children of Carel Cilliers and his wife Elizabeth Catherine Louw. When he was six, his parents sold the farm and moved to Graaf-Reinet where he grew up. Her married in 1823 and had eleven children.

In 1829 the Cilliers family moved to New Hantam, today's Colesberg. A severe drought hit the area in 1835 and this prompted him to join the Great Trek in the party of Andries Potgieter in 1837 at the age of 35. Due to his religious convictions, he was made the unofficial pastor of the trek and eventually became a distinguished spiritual leader of the trek and the community.

He would, during the many battles he fought in, often inspire troops through his recital of the Lord's Prayer. His skills of fortifying the troops were best displayed at the Battle of Blood River, where he spoke the famous vow to God on the battlefield, and held a thanksgiving service after the decisive victory over the Zulus. Cilliers' vow is celebrated as a national holiday in South Africa (the Day of the Vow) on the 16th December.

After the victory at the Battle of Blood River, the Voortrekkers moved to Pietermaritzburg and Sarel moved to a farm in Welgevonden (now Colbourne). By selling timber from the trees on his farm he was able to make a good income.

Cilliers served in the Natalia Republic's first House of Assembly. As a member of the Council, he played a large part in the creation of the Covenant Church in 1839. In 1843, after the British annexation of Natal, Sarel withdrew from political life, maintaining an important role as a church elder.

In 1847 he sold his farm and moved to the Orange Free State. Here he settled on the farm Doornkloof where he allegedly built his homestead single-handedly. His wife was buried in 1852. On 15th May 1854 he remarried.

During the final years of his life, he was often ill. He died on the 4th October 1871 and was buried in the Cilliers family cemetery in a grave marked by a simple tombstone and later a monument.





The Cilliers writing slope open. The inside is covered in fine leather.



Yet another antique slope - note the gold tooling

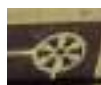


Exquisite tea caddy with mother-of-pearl and pewter strip decoration - Carol had to replace one of the strips, again cut by hand, measures +- 1mm wide !



The key to this slope was missing but a locksmith cleverly cut another using an antique key

This antique slope required a new leather lining as well as a replacement medallion which again, Carol hand cut, the brass being paper thin !



**“ A few of the major jobs in restoring the slopes were:**

- **The sanding down of old, caked-on varnish, smoothing or in some instances replacing the veneer and then re-varnishing the finished restoration.**
- **The re-fashioning of hinges. Many of the slopes had broken hinges which had to be researched, sourced and fashioned to fit the boxes. This entailed cutting the replacement hinge to fit the space available on the panel and ensure that the lid closed with no gap.**
- **One of them had a broken lock. I had to search for a replacement and this was impossible. I then got one which was too big for the recess of the old lock, so I had to chisel out the recess carefully as the front facing panel was already thin, to fit the lock into the recess and then ensure that the lid would close tightly on the new, bigger lock.**
- **Modern hardware such as screws and panel pins are much larger than what was used in the original manufacture of the slopes. I resorted to watch making screws which I had to re-fashion to fit where needed to make the replacement look authentic. I also got supplies from Model Rail Specialists in Plumstead. “**

**Fabulous artifacts, what an interesting hobby, thanks for sharing Carol.**

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## **INTERESTING FOR ENGLISH LOVERS**

**Once Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, Bengali poet and scholar, jokingly asked Michael Madhusudan Dutta, an Anglophile poet of great repute; “As you are a Master in English, can you make a sentence without using a single ‘E’?”**

**Dutta, the genius, wrote this:**

**“I doubt I can. It’s a major part of many words. Omitting it is as hard as making muffins without flour. It’s as hard a spitting without saliva, napping without a pillow, driving a train without tracks, sailing to Russia without a boat, washing your hands without soap. And, anyway, what would I gain? An award? A cash bonus?, Bragging rights? Why should I strain my brain? It’s not worth it.”**



***Contribution: Mike Smith***

**BUY A CHRISTMAS GIFT  
FOR AN  
UNDER-PRIVILEGED  
CHILD AGE 6-12  
HOPE HOUSE 2022**

Wrap the gift and clearly mark on a label whether it's for a boy or a girl and identify age. Place it in the gift box provided at reception.

**DEADLINE:  
30 NOVEMBER**



**Provide a gift and make them happy this Christmas**

Every year Hope Households Christmas Parties for children from very disadvantaged backgrounds. Over the last 18 months, many of these children's parents have lost whatever income they had. We would love to bring some joy to these children at Christmas time, which otherwise they would not have. It is through the generosity of the Evergreen residents, that we are able to bring joy to these children.

The ages are as follow: 6-7yrs; 8-9yrs; 9-10yrs & 11-12yrs for both boys and girls. Anything suitable that doesn't need batteries for the above ages (R200 price range), toiletries, clothing and/or underwear.

Be sure to identify your present with a small label, to include information on whether it's for a boy or girl and the age group. Please drop your gift in the designated box at reception.



### PONDORISMS

Why do peanuts float in a regular coke and sink in a diet coke. Go ahead and try it.....

I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?

Why do you have to "put your two cents in"... but it's only a "penny for your thoughts?" Where's that extra penny going? (taxes)

Once you're in heaven, do you get stuck wearing the clothes you were buried in for eternity?

What disease did cured ham actually have?





MAKE A DIFFERENCE. LET'S MAKE  
CHRISTMAS MEMORABLE!

*Evergreen Bergvliet*

# Christmas Douglas Murray Food Drive



We are looking to the generosity of  
our residents to take part in  
donating non-perishable food items  
for the elderly residents at Douglas  
Murray Home for the Aged.

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS MAY BE  
DROPPED OFF AT RECEPTION BY NO  
LATER THAN MONDAY, 3 DECEMBER.

## Shut-down of fishing around African penguin breeding colonies is ‘too little, too late’ for this year



Dassen Island Nature Reserve, South Africa, An island in the Atlantic Ocean, 10km west of Yzerfontein, north of Cape Town (Photo by Hoberman Collection/Universal Images Group via Getty Images)

The announcement by the government that commercial sardine and anchovy fishing will be temporarily closed around South Africa’s six remaining large African penguin colonies, to improve the availability of food for them, has “come too late” this year for the imperilled seabirds.

Katta Ludynia, research manager at the Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds (Sanccob), said the interim closures would have very little benefit for the endangered species.

“The breeding season for African penguins is coming to an end, so the closures are coming too late for the majority of breeding penguins this year,” she said. “There have been no other closures this year and closures in 2021 were limited to two islands, Dassen Island and St Croix Island, and these were only seasonal.”

But the decision to stop fishing affects fishers badly. There are concerns that it will affect more than 1 000 sea and land-based fishers, who depend on fishing and fish processing.

The closures, which came into effect on 1 September, will run until 23 January 2023, and will be in a “defined area” around the key colonies of Dassen Island, Robben Island, Stony Point and Dyer Island, in the Western Cape, and St Croix and Bird Island in the Eastern Cape. These islands are home to about 88% of breeding pairs along the coastline.

The sardine stock in local waters continues to be at historically low levels. Competition for food is thought to be one among a set of pressures that are contributing to the decline of the African penguin population.

Other pressures include shipping traffic and the associated noise and vibrations, pollution and degradation of suitable nesting habitats through historical removal of guano and coastal commercial and residential developments.

*Sheree Bega is an environment reporter at the Mail & Guardian.*

**HAFFIE STRAUSS, CUSTODIAN OF ROOIBOS AND ROCK ART IN THE AGTER PAKHUIS VALLEY***On the family farm, in a rock-hard place, she carries on the legacy of generations*

“The rain came late to Clanwilliam this spring, like a bride keeping a groom waiting at the altar.

But when the heavens opened, they painted the thirsty veld in all the colours of the rainbow: red for the Red-Hot Poker; orange for the Terracotta Gazania; yellow for the Clanwilliam Daisy; green for the Lanternblom; blue for the Blue Bobbejaantjie; indigo for the Indigofera Jucunda; violet for the Cape Forget-Me-Not.

The floral kingdom of the wild West Coast, wearing its crowns anew, in the rugged sprawl of the Agter Pakhuis valley between the Cederberg and the Great Karoo.”

Asking Haffie Strauss to pick a favourite flower from the bunch is like asking a musician to pick a favourite note, or a poet, a favourite letter of the alphabet. But after a moment’s thought, Haffie confesses that she is very fond of the Kalkoentjie.

The blazing blossoms of orange, yellow, and green, shaped like the wattle of a turkey, that in English we call the Gladioli.

Haffie is 78 now, and she has seen the seasons come and go in this hardscrabble land, where the spiny shrubs cling defiantly to the cracks in the rock.

“I often blame my people for landing us up here.” That means the farm of Traveller’s Rest, just over 30 km outside Clanwilliam, across the majestic Pakhuis Pass, and on the banks of the Brandewyn River.

The summers are harsh here, and the east wind on the tail of winter can be fierce.” And yet she finds comfort in the stillness of the mountains, in the gift of the flowers that bloom in a lull in the drought.

Skoonheidstroos, as the poet Louis Leipoldt called it: the soothing balm of nature’s beauty. But a farmer cannot afford to get too sentimental about the land, and Haffie is a farmer, of sheep and cattle, and an aromatic, needle-leaved bush-plant that, when brewed over fire, tastes sweet and strong and reminiscent of the earth. *Aspalathus linearis*, better known as rooibos.

The Khoisan people, who lived in the Cederberg centuries ago, were the first to harvest the bush, chopping, fermenting, and drying its leaves for use as a herbal remedy. But it was only in the 1930s that a medical doctor and amateur naturalist by the name of Pieter le Fras Nortier, who lived in Clanwilliam, and who was good friends with Louis Leipoldt, found a way to germinate the rooibos seed for agricultural and commercial use.

Today, he is known as ‘the father of rooibos tea’, but to Haffie, he will always simply be ‘oupa’. “I was very little and don’t have much recollection about my oupa,” says Haffie. “But I know that he was the only doctor in the area, and that he believed in hard work and sacrifice, not just working for money. All those old-fashioned things.”

She has carried on her oupa’s legacy as a rooibos farmer, although she doesn’t have much taste for the brew itself - “I’m not a tea-drinker,” she says. She remembers, as a child, the simple joys of running in the veld, and sitting by the water with only the ancient, brooding rocks for company. The travellers would come to outspan on the riverbank, and water their horses and oxen before venturing across the steep mountain pass or trekking deep into the thirst land of the Karoo.

A lot has changed since then — the roads have been tarred, the pylons have brought power across the valley, and today, the visitors come from all around the country and the world, some to rest, some to see the flowers, some to rub powder on their hands and clamber up the rocks in a sport known as bouldering.



And, still, Haffie walks the land, because that is what farmers are destined to do, to test the land as the land tests them. And when she stops now and then to rub the leaf of a shrub between her fingers, it is as if she is acknowledging that she too clings to the soil that she has roots in. But she is not the first to call it home. On the walls of rocks, there are the ghosts of those who lived here before, their memories and rituals daubed in ochre, the colour of the red bush that still grows amidst the mountains. There are eland and springbok on the farm, just as there were running wild, in the days when the bowmen of the Khoisan would set off on their sacred hunt.

Once, Haffie fancied that she could see an old sailing ship, with masts and rigging, painted on the rock. "But the people who know these paintings told me that I was completely wrong," she laughs. "So, I haven't given any more opinions about the other pieces of art."

She sees her role now as a custodian, dedicated to preserving the area for future generations, so that others can come here and find comfort in the beauty, and solace in knowing that the hard, dry summer will one day give way to the bounty of rain from the heavens.

<https://changeexchange.co.za/change-stories/article/haffie-strauss-custodian-of-rooibos-and-rock-art-in-the-agter-pakhuis-valley>



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## MRS. HARRIS GOES TO PARIS

### IS A PIECE OF DELIGHTFULLY OLD-FASHIONED ESCAPISM

Paul Gallico's intergenerational novel about his most famous character, the down-to-earth, old-fashioned, working-class cockney charwoman Mrs. 'Arris, and her trip to Paris in the 1950's to buy her dream frock from the House of Dior may seem an oddly dated choice for a film adaptation in 2022, but its brilliant

ON AT STER KINEKOR, Blue Route and Cavendish



## POSITANO by ALAN BAXTER

The Amalfi Coast is 50-kilometers along the southern edge of Italy's Sorrentine Peninsula, in Campania. It's now a popular holiday destination, with a rugged shoreline dotted with small beaches and pastel-coloured villages. This road passes villas, terraced vineyards, lemon groves and the picturesque town of Positano.



The ancient Romans lived here, the ruins of their villas can be seen near the Church dell 'Assunta, the majolica-tiled dome of which dominates the centre of Positano.

The fortunes of Positano, have continually risen and fallen:

- buried in 79 ad when Vesuvius erupted (likewise nearby Pompei and Herculaneum)
  - pillaged by Pisa in 1268
  - in 1343 it was destroyed by a tsunami
- in the 15th century, continual attacks by Ottoman pirates, led to still evident defence towers (many of which offer luxury accommodation)



In 1850 a new road united the town with Sorrento and Naples encouraging the first tourists to arrive. An elite group of celebrities, Escher, Steinbeck, Picasso, Klee, Zeffirelli, Rudolf Nureyev, Liz Taylor - to name a few, put Positano on the map. Today they also arrive on super yachts, like Microsoft founder Paul Allen's Octopus, on the right below.



St. Vito is the patron saint of Positano and on 15th June annually this saints' day is full of parades, church services, fireworks and "Canon fire". On this visit a priest born in Positano has become a Bishop, massive cakes served locals and us alike. No one is ignored in the Italian Villaggio







Visitors take away great memories, and some of the wonderful local produce;

- Limoncello liqueur from Amalfi Coast lemons.
- Beautiful made to measure sandals from artisan workshops near Church dell 'Assunta
- Men's and ladies, cotton, linen, and silk shirts, dresses and suits. Light and colourful (a glimpse in one pic above)





We have recently purchased 3 compost bins for the village! Instead of throwing away your household organic waste, including fruit and vegetable waste, eggshells, tea bags, leaves, etc. we can use them to generate compost for our Evergreen Bergvliet gardens. Good compost feeds nutrients back into the soil, retains moisture and can help establish a healthy garden. Collection will be every Wednesday with recycling. Please place in a separate bag for collection.





In Flanders Fields was first published in England's Punch magazine in December 1915. Within months, this poem came to symbolize the sacrifices of all who were fighting in the First World War. Today, the poem continues to be a part of Remembrance Day ceremonies in countries throughout the world.

- In Flanders fields the poppies blow. Between the crosses, row on row, That mark Our place; and in the sky, ...
- We are the Dead. Short days ago. We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, ...
- Take up our quarrel with the foe: To you from failing hands we throw. The torch; be yours to hold it high.



Homestead Avenue September 2022

Thank you to everyone for their contributions - keep them coming to

[davidwal@iafrica.com](mailto:davidwal@iafrica.com)

Articles not published in this newsletter will be used in the December edition

Cut off date for submissions is Monday 14th November

FW