



RESKOM CHATTER

"Together let's make EVERGREEN the village of our dreams"

End July, 2016

Greetings once again all fellow Evergreen Broadacres Residents,

Well it sure is a topsy-turvy world. Now we have heavy rain in the middle of winter. What next?? Ice and snow in summer?

Remember when we had snow in the greater Johannesburg area way back when. My offices were in The Firs in Rosebank. Our home was in Bryanston. Aileen and her ladies tennis group were all wrapped up but playing when they heard of the snow so they downed racquets rushed off to see this amazing event. We loved the snow so much that we became snow skiers and spent many of the next alternate years on the slopes of Switzerland, Austria and the USA. Alas those days are now memories but wonderful memories that will last forever.

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

With the commencement of the building of the permanent clubhouse and the frail-care centre all of the traffic will have to be routed along the one road as the bottom end of the village will be closed to traffic during the construction period. So we appeal to you all to be vigilant; drive with utmost care; remember pedestrians have the right of way; and watch your speed!!!!PLEASE!!!!

FOLKS THE ONLY WAY WE ARE GOING TO SOLVE THIS IS TO COMPLY OURSELVES AND TO ENCOURAGE OTHERS AND VISITORS TO COMPLY. WE ARE THE SOLUTION!!!!!!!

SOCIAL MATTERS

From Jean & Sue.....The weekly activities continue as detailed in What's Happening and more and more residents are participating in the various activities.

We had one outing during July which was a wonderful afternoon at the Linder Auditorium listening to Songs of Praise accompanied by a mass choir and brass instruments. 20 residents then descended on Ciao Baby Cucina for a most enjoyable evening meal.

Reef Caterers organised a Christmas in July special dinner for us which was well attended and which turned out to be Eugene's last evening with us. He and his fiancé flew off to Perth on 25th July.

For a second year, residents were extremely generous in responding to our appeal for dry groceries as part of our Mandela Day support and please see the letter of appreciation received from the poverty outreach centre at All Saints Anglican Church.



1st pick up at Jean's



On to Sue's place



Hand over at the clubhouse



Some of the collection

Please see letter of acknowledgement and appreciation on notice board from from Diana Levinsohn, All Saints Outreach Co-ordinator, 0824411221.



Chirps & Tweets

Nature & Birding Group.

Evergreen “Bird-Walkers” visit to Random Harvest Bird Walk – 23rd July 2016

5 Evergreen “Birders” met at the “Pitstop” at 6.30am on a clear but rather chilly morning. Arriving at Random Harvest well in time for our 7am walk, we were first welcomed with tea/coffee and rusks. At 7am, proudly showing off our Evergreen T-Shirts (well we showed them off as the morning got warmer) we set off for a bird walk with Andre Marx, the guide.

Andre pointed out the many “LBJ’s” (almost looking like dried leaves) gathered at the tops of the almost bare trees in and around the tea garden. These in fact were mainly Red Bishops, females accompanied by males without their red and black colouring, and weavers. We then set off down the road and were not allowed to include the geese, chickens and to our surprise the persistent male turkey, chasing two female turkeys (what a gobbling racket), in our bird count.

Our first exciting sight was the Bar throated Apalis which Andre heard and called it in with his bird caller. Interestingly he mentioned he was happy to call the bird in as it was not breeding season. At this point Andre encouraged us to listen for and try and identify birds by their call and then look for them.

On the way to the dam we passed empty fields where we saw many birds including all three Lapwings, the nocturnal Spotted Thick-knee (Dikkop) sleeping at the base of a shrub, the uncommon Ground scraper Thrush, accompanied by the African Pipit and beautiful orange throated Cape Longclaw. A flock of Red-Faced Mousebirds flew into the trees and Andre explained the way to identify Mousebirds in flight was that the Red-Faced flew together while the Speckled flew in single file. On seeing the Black Headed Heron Andre explained the difference between this Heron which favours open grassland often near but not dependant on wetlands and in flight has two-toned black and white underwing patterns whereas the Grey Heron favours shallow water and in flight entire underwing appears uniform dark grey. Approaching the dam an African Spoonbill flew across (one of which has recently been seen at Evergreen). At the dam we saw a beautiful Malachite Kingfisher as well as a juvenile Reed Cormorant which unlike the adult has white underparts confusing some with the White-breasted Cormorant. We then made our way back to the tea garden going through the nursery listening for and identifying more birds.

The visit ended with a delicious breakfast as we talked about what we had seen and tallied up our score of 45 birds for this walk with the Bar-throated Apalis, Cape Longclaw and Groundscraper Thrush being our special bird sightings.



Evergreen Bird-Walkers Brigade proudly showing off our Evergreen T-Shirts.
Heather Mutch (80)



Black-headed Heron

Thanks to Kiloran and Dick Sheppard’s efforts, we were privileged to have Vincent Carruthers, renown frog specialist, author and environmentalist visit our village. A group of about 20+ enthusiastic residents met him at Crab Crossing, went on a walk through the parkland and were then enlightened on the subject of frogs.



We started at Pond 1. He explained that the slow moving black masses that intrigued us so much in Spring last year (until wiped out by pollution) were tadpoles of the Red toad variety. This identification was confirmed from pictures taken of the toads. Those balls presented a much larger 'creature to' predators than single tadpoles swimming around, so there's safety in numbers! He advised that the fish endemic to this area was the *Tilapia rendalii* and encouraged us to stock the pond with this variety. Fish, and certain aquatic plants will also help reduce the algae problem in that pond.

Vincent was impressed with our wetland. He saw it as an important feature of our village and the fact that it was already inhabited by a number of frog varieties, crabs, Nile monitors and mongoose suggested that it was in good shape and encouraged us to do whatever we could to preserve and develop it.

The walk-a-bout was followed by an enlightening and entertaining talk in the clubhouse. He and a colleague, Louis du Preez had developed an app, 'The complete guide to the frogs of Southern Africa' that covered everything you'd ever want to know about frogs and toads.

Bull frogs were of particular interest. They emerge from their up to 1 m deep burrows once a year after the first rains. They breed on only one day a year, and then only in very shallow pools or ponds! They were endemic to large parts of Gauteng, including the area where we are. Bull frogs are only active for about 1 month a year when, on the appointed day they mate and lay their eggs. During the rest of the month the eggs hatch, the tadpoles develop into baby bull frogs and adults and young feed voraciously, also cannibalistically, before burrowing underground again to hibernate for 11 months until the next rains come – an exciting life! There's a good chance that there are bull frogs present on the vacant lot below our village, and with luck some young ones could migrate here because our attention ponds with their gently sloping sides are ideal breeding grounds.



The pictures are of a male bull frog in full call and a mating pair. The other frog of interest, and we already have many of them in our ponds, is the Platanna, or clawed frog. Not only is this the only fully aquatic species, but up until the mid-'60's they were used world-wide in pregnancy tests and South Africa exported them by the thousand!

Apparently there were previously only 3 known frog enthusiasts in the village, but there's little doubt that after Vincent's talk there're going to be many more and no doubt we'll soon have a 'frog list' next to our 'bird list'!

Kiloran kindly arranged tea, coffee and cake that was served at the end of a very interesting afternoon!

Hello Graham,

While Marion and I flew off to Namibia, Isabella, Ivar and the Four Seasons gardeners worked wonders on the pavement, work for which I've received many undeserved plaudits! Thank you Isabella and Ivar, your efforts are much appreciated by many! The work isn't finished yet, but more about that later.

First some of the wildlife we had the privilege of seeing in Namibia: 2 of the 'small five' desert creatures, a horned viper and a desert chameleon and the some of the big five around the waterhole outside the Halali camp. If you've never visited this fascinating country, then add it to your bucket list - we had the time of our lives!



Back to the pavement. The gardening team - Elske, Emmy, Isabella, Marion and I - have finished the planning and work will start again early in August. So far, the pavement work hasn't cost a cent, but we cannot proceed much further until all the soil that was washed out of large sections of the pavement garden during the floods earlier this year is replaced. A request for funding has been submitted to AMDEC projects and we hope this will be approved in time for this to be done before Arbor Day. Why Arbor Day? We hope that we'll again receive your very positive support when our appeal goes out for Arbor Day funds. Provided we get that response, our signature project this year will be to plant white Iceberg roses next to the picket fence portion of the pavement so that we can have a magnificent display that will be visible from both sides of the fence. This then will be the residents' financial contribution to beautifying the pavement. We also plan to replace all those trees and shrubs that have died, and plant a few additional ones near the new clubhouse, so there'll certainly be some tree planting on that day! Winter has been very mild this year, but following the welcome rains (19 mm), the cold has set in with a vengeance as can be seen from these pictures.



Hello Graham, rainfall report for July 2016:

Winter's icy grip has eventually arrived, bringing with it some most unseasonable but nonetheless welcome rain. Keep warm, and please still use water carefully.

Rainfall, in millimetres, for 2015/16:

Aug '15	0.0	Sep '15	41.0	Oct '15	13.7
Nov '15	77.0	Dec '15	66.1	Jan '16	135.0
Feb '16	64.6	Mar '16	251.4	Apr '16	3.8
May '16	67.8	Jun '16	13.0	Jul '16	12.5
For comparison, the previous year's readings for June are:					
Jul '13	0.0	Jul '14	3.5	Jul '15	6.0

Regards, Cecil

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➤ **LAST WORDS**



Laugh, and the world laughs with you;



Weep, and you weep alone.....

This one from Kathy.....



And one from Ernie.....



William Golding
British Novelist, Playwright & Poet
1911 --1993

I think women are foolish to pretend they are equal to men. They are far superior and always have been. Whatever you give a woman, she will make greater. If you give her sperm, she will give you a baby. If you give her a house, she will give you a home. If you give her groceries, she will give you a meal. If you give her a smile, she will give you her heart. She multiplies and enlarges what is given to her.

Mama taught her well! You've got to love this little girl. What a woman she'll make.

A teacher asked her class, "What do you want out of life?" A little girl in the back row raised her hand and said, "All I want out of life is four little animals, just like my Mom always says".

The teacher asked, "Really and what four little animals would that be?"

The little girl said, "A mink on my back, a jaguar in the garage, a tiger in the bed and a jackass to pay for all of it." The teacher got a coughing fit and had to leave the room.

My thanks as ever to all the contributors this month.....

And I ask...have you got something to share? E-mail to graleen@icon.co.za

Cheers for now. Best wishes and warm regards to you all.

Graham Langmead

➤ **HAVE I GOT WHAT YOU WANT????**

This is a new section requested by a few of the residents. So have you got something you no longer want, or a contact you want to recommend, whatever.....send to Graham and it will go into the next Chatter.

Introduction by Judy Stuart (Unit 87) to FRESH CHOICE KAROO LAMB

Situated in the Karoo, is the farm Hillmoor (near Steynsburg.E.Cape), owned by Ivan and Brenda Dell, who are dedicated to producing choice lamb. The animals are raised under natural veld conditions, thereby enhancing the quality of the meat, resulting in genuine 'Karoo lamb' flavour, i.e. totally organically produced. Only lambs conforming to top-grade standards are selected, and these animals are processed in their registered abattoir (on the farm) with the meat being expertly packed under stringent hygienic conditions, thereby maintaining freshness, quality and taste.

All cuts are individually wrapped (& labelled). Pricing is extremely competitive and the meat is supplied to individuals in a chilled box (not frozen) consisting of the following options: -

PRICE: - R102.00 /kg. (Whole Lambs) R103.00 /kg (Half Lambs)

Whole lamb Options - weight between 16 & 20 kg

OPTION 1 All chops	OPTION 2 2 leg roasts 2 shoulder roasts Chops	OPTION 3 2 leg roasts 2 loin rolls Chops	OPTION 4 2 leg roasts Chops
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Half lamb Options (some from larger Lambs)-weight between 9 and 11 kgs

OPTION 1 All chops	OPTION 2 1 leg roast 1 shoulder roast Chops	OPTION 3 1 leg roast 1 loin roll Chops	OPTION 4 1 leg roast Chops
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If you want a **Small half (under 10kgs)** i.e. Price **under R1030.00**, please state this when ordering

All options have the ribs in the following cuts: (R) –Ribs (long ribs separated) (S) - Rib stew (cut up) (R/R)-Rack of Ribs (long ribs joined) (Choose one of these)	Common to all options is the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Neck2. Shin3. Stewing meat Small amount of pet meat (off cut)
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These extras are also available:

Lamb KIDNEYS (R50 for pack of 10) **Lamb LIVERS (R50** each),

Lamb SKILPADS (R50 for pack of 12)- Skilpads consist of lamb liver rolled in the stomach fat of the animal

Whole LAMB SHANKS R120/kg

DRIED SAUSAGE(beef) – R150 (500gm pack)

BILTONG(beef) – R180 (500gm pack) **BILTONG(game) R180** (500gm pack)

BOEREWORS –R60 (500gm pack)

MINCE(lean beef) R50 (500gm pack) **BURGER PATTIES(beef)- R120** per pack of 10

FILLET (beef)- R200 per kg

HOW TO ORDER: - Choose Whole or Half lamb, Option and one of the rib cuts (+ extras if interested)

*Examples of orders: - * Whole lamb, Option 3 with R * Half lamb, Option 2 with R/R * Small half lamb, Option 4 with S + 2 livers and 2 pks Kidneys etc*

CONTACT: BRENDA GREENWAY (011) 802-4912 or 083 266 5759 or Email:-greenway@global.co.za

N.B.Please place orders early, to avoid disappointment. Final orders will be sent to the farmer on

Friday 5th August. The lamb will be delivered to my home in Gallo Manor, Sandton on

Wednesday 17th August and stored in my cool house for collection that day- **(afternoon & evening)**

or **Thursday 18th (morning & afternoon).** You'll be notified of your order price, address details

& other info, a day or two before collection day. (payment:-EFT or cash, when you collect your order).