



# RESCOM CHATTER

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

End March 2019

## FROM OUR CHAIRMAN - HENNIE

*Dear fellow Residents,*

*I start my chat with a report on the mid-term report back meeting held at the end of February, by all accounts an informative and successful meeting, but we were disappointed that only about 80 of our 200 Residents attended. Feed-back is important so it would be good to hear from those folk that didn't attend, why they didn't! Likewise, from those that did attend, any suggestions for improvements in future will be welcomed. Call me on ext. 172, or e-mail to [Hennie@leobeck.co.za](mailto:Hennie@leobeck.co.za) or drop me a note in the Dear Mr Chairman box.*

*On then to the St Patrick's Day dinner. I'm sure you all join me in thanking Judy Stuart and her team for a very well organised and run event It was attended by 96 people and very much enjoyed by all. Thank you also to Judy McLaren, Basil Bold and Chris Edwards for the music and all the electronic wizardry that made the singing so enjoyable. The Irish Whisky and Mist shots provided an inspired (perhaps too inspiring for some) end to a wonderful evening!*

*Sadly, it was marred by the disappearance of a large 100 Club Draw prize and the subsequent bad taste it left in everybody's mouth. Unfortunately, it demonstrates once again that no matter how safe we believe our environment to be, we simply cannot be too careful! The incident is now under investigation by Evergreen Management and I'm sure we'll be informed of the outcome in due course.*

*Ernie Mutch we're missing you! Not only the Park Runners but all of us who were looking forward to your village walk in March. That has been postponed until you are once more able to motivate us all – as only you can do – to get out there and stretch our legs! Get well soon Ernie.*

*I'm not happy that I must end my chat on this note, but what is it with you dog owners? I'm sure not all of you but certainly some!*

*More and more I'm finding dog pooh littering the public spaces and receiving written complaints about it. And it's not from big dogs, but small ones! Is it too much to ask of you to show respect for your fellow Residents and to clean up behind your dogs!?! Or do you simply not care?*

*I'm also noticing that more and more of you are allowing your dogs to run off-the-leash in areas other than the designated leash-free areas. A reminder that is against the house rules and perhaps one of the reasons why there's dog pooh littering our grounds.*

## HOUSEKEEPING

### TeleCare Receiver:

With load shedding and any type of electrical tripping, one of the components giving trouble seems to be the TeleCare unit; it ends up with one or more flashing lights. Try this fix as suggested by Roy.

At the left-hand side of the white box there is a black on / off slider switch. It should be set in the ON position. Just slide it to the OFF position for a few minutes. Slide it back on and the blue light will start flashing. Press the blue light button and voila you have a working unit.

### Main WhatsApp Groups: -

WATERHOLE GROUP	(55 participants) still growing, 5 more this month.
INFO EVERGREEN GROUP	(86 participants) come on, let's try for 100?
MOVIES EVERGREEN GROUP	(62 participants) 3 more.
CHAT EVERGREEN GROUP	(30 participants) getting used more and more

I would like to invite all new Residents with iPhones and Android smart phones to join any group or groups. We try to limit 'chatter', so if your previous group experience had lots of it, rest assured we try to be a little more controlled. **WhatsApp** is really a quick (make that **instant**) and easy way of passing on information between users and of course it is totally **free** (apart from any transport medium used i.e. Wi-Fi, Fibre etc.)

Just contact me (Chris on ext. 1089 or 084 582 9129) and I can add you to any group of your choice or show you how to get WhatsApp.

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## RAINFALL

Report for March 2019 below. March, as usual, brought its almost typical erratic rainfall pattern. As can be seen in the table we have experienced alternate poor and good years, and this March is the lowest yet on record here. We are hopeful that implementation of the borehole irrigation system is imminent. Remember the drive to conserve water remains a national imperative.

Rainfall, in millimetres, for 2018/2019:

Apr '18	42.0
May '18	12.7
Jun '18	6.0
Jul '18	1.0
Aug '18	Nil
Sep '18	3.6
Oct '18	54.7
Nov '18	29.6
Dec '18	84.3
Jan '19	147.5
Feb '19	217.0
Mar '19	14.8
<b>12 Months</b>	<b>613.2</b>

Rainfall for March by year:

2013	28.0
2014	210.3
2015	83.1
2016	251.4
2017	16.8
2018	184.0

The average for March since 2013 is 112.6 mm.

## Summary of ResCom expenses for February 2019:

It is of necessity a month in arrears as the current month is still open by publication date.

For the record:

## Summary of ResCom transactions for February 2019

	Income	Expense	Balance
<b>Cash on hand at 31 January 2019</b>			<b>13 638</b>
Donation from Waterhole	2000		
Collection & Prizes for 100+ Club	10 500	5000	
Social functions & decorations		607	
Gifts & Presentations		1 125	
Admin & Library costs	17	65	
<b>Total for the month</b>	<b>12 517</b>	<b>6 797</b>	
<b>Cash on hand at 28 February 2019</b>			<b>19 358</b>
<b>Reserved funds:</b>			
Activity Portfolio Float	(1 000)		
Library Expenses Float	(200)		
Lyn Huddy Memorial Fund	(3 887)		
White Elephant Sale	(1 734)		
Top Pond Pump Cost Recovery	1 668		
<b>Total Reserved</b>	<b>(5 153)</b>		
<b>Cash available at month end</b>			<b>14 205</b>

By the way, I send 'Chatter' to over 30 people, local and overseas, just to make them jealous of what we get up to in Evergreen! If you want me to include any friends or relatives of yours, just drop me a line, and I can add them on to my email list.

Chris

## SOCIAL HAPPENINGS (Kiloran, many thanks for the lovely pictures.

It was St Patricks Social on the 20<sup>th</sup> March plus Angela McMurray's birthday and the 100+ Club Draw all on the same night. Thanks to Judy Stuart and her team, everything was brilliantly organised and decorated and ran very smoothly.



Ivar O'Skanke (He was Scottish last month) donned yet another hat to call out the lucky winners assisted by Judy and Sue Stirton.

### **The following were the lucky winners:**

- **R100 each:** Joe Rebelo, Elsbeth Hallbauer, Kay Olie, Sandra de Villiers and Charles Carroll
- **R200 each:** Rosalin Messerschmidt and Caroline Brickett
- **R300 each:** David Powell and John Schulkins
- **R500 each:** Beryl Sletcher and Traudi Zauner
- **R1000:** Robin Davey
- **R1500:** Maureen Springorum

Congratulations to the winners. The next draw will take place at the Lifestyle Centre at the end of May 2019.





Angela very quietly let us know it was her birthday, congratulations to you.



Noreen giving it a full tonk, and inviting anybody to kiss her because she is Irish!









**PICTURE COMPETITION:**

We are having a photo competition of Evergreen Broadacres studies. This month Chairman Hennie was again out and about when he caught this rainbow.



Try your luck, prizes could include a bottle of Porcupine Ridge wine. Remember, these are mostly taken with cameras attached to phones, so give it a go!

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## SANPARK's Marakele National Park by Hennie du Preez

Marion's sister Jean and husband Barry had one more park to visit to complete their bucket list objective of visiting every one of SANPARK's National Parks – Marakele near Thabazimbi in Limpopo. We booked ourselves into the Motswere guest cottage, attracted by SANPARK's description that you needed a 4x4 or high clearance vehicle to get there and we weren't disappointed! It is situated in a remote corner of the Big-5 section of the park, in an area reserved for the exclusive use of the residents of the cottage.



The cottage is an old farmhouse converted by SANPARKS into a comfortably furnished fully equipped home with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and an enormous living room, set in an approx. 2 hectare, securely fenced enclosure. There are two other lots of accommodation in the park: a camp with permanent tents sited on the edge of a lake, also in the Big-5 section. This is a very attractive and comfortable alternative to the Marakele cottage and a camp site in the other section. We soon discovered that Marakele's main attractions are its scenery and vegetation.



Set on the edge of the Waterberg the Park is dominated by the magnificent red cliffs and deep valleys of the Waterberg.





The Park's altitude ranges from 1100 m on the plain to 2100 m at the Lenong look-out point. This results in vegetation ranging from dense bushveld savannah on the plane through dense mountain forests in the valleys and mountain savannah and grassland on the foothills. Game isn't plentiful but we had good sightings of Impala, zebra, lion and elephant.



We found this lioness with her 3 sub-adult cubs, with mouths and paws covered in blood, slaking their thirst in a roadside puddle. We followed them along this road for about 30 minutes (without another vehicle appearing) until they eventually collapsed for a mid-morning nap.





This elephant forced us to reverse up this narrow road for more than a kilometre until we could turn and get well out of his way! Note the vegetation and mountains in the background. The birding throughout the park was good, but particularly so around the cottage where we could follow the birds on foot. Unfortunately, I do not have camera equipment good enough to do justice to the many sightings, we had so you'll have to take my word for it! Marakele is an easy 3 hour drive from our village. We drove there via Hartebeepoort Dam and Brits, and returned via Bela Bela (Warmbaths), and Pretoria, a longer but much better route.

(Thanks Hennie. If anybody has a tale of unfulfilled bucket lists, let me know, Chris)

### RESTAURANT CHOICE

Been to any good restaurants lately? Let us know your favourites.

Thanks, Kiloran for last month's recommendation. The 'Cescos' Restaurant in the German Country Club.

I called in with two reprobates to have lunch there on a Friday. We called for the pensioners menu and I had Fish and Chips for R45.00, which can't be bad. We sat on the terrace overlooking the tennis courts and could see views forever across Kyalami and Blue Hills. I missed out on the Erdinger Beer 'cos we were not told what was available!

This month we also visited a Mexican restaurant in the Hobart Centre, Bryanston called 'Perron'. It was very different and we asked the waiter to help us with a selection as I don't know my Tacos from my Quesadillas! You can make up a 'tapas like' selection of tuna, chicken, pork and steak in various wraps and shells. Very tasty and filling.

By the way, our waiter was called Hamish, a little touch of Scotland via Venda, in a Cantina! Their number is 011 706 7841.

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### HAVE YOU GOT WHAT WE WANT? ADVERTISE HERE

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## HELPING HANDS

I met Elaine Gladstone the other day and she is looking for a companion to join her on the last 100km of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela. It is known in English as the Way of St James. All Camino pilgrimage routes lead to Santiago de Compostela in north western Spain, as this is where the remains of St James, (Sant Iago), were discovered in the ninth century. The pilgrimage was popular in the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Century and then slowly declined in popularity. But nowadays it has become very popular. Some routes from France are nearly 800km long and you can walk, cycle or run from any point along the route. Please give Elaine a call on ext. 127 or 082 391 8518 or WhatsApp, she is looking at going in about May / June this year.

### Noddy in Toyland or Poor Penny Forsaken

On Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, light rain started at about 12.30pm after our art lesson but I thought I could get home on 'Noddy', my mobile scooter. In the short time it took me to get to the guard house, it was pouring and I was soaked but I thought that seeing as I was wet, I might as well continue. Just as I reached the guardhouse, one of the guards, Petrus, ran out with an umbrella. So very nice of him. Off I trundled until I got to the path that I take as a short cut past the ponds when Noddy cut out! I thought it better not to try that steep path so I tried reversing down onto the road. I would have to wait a while before I could attempt to start it again. All this time the rain was pelting down but thanks to Petrus's kindness I hadn't drowned as yet. I eventually got as far as Heron. I hadn't gone very far when my "vehicle" stopped for good. There I sat, dripping wet in the middle of the road on my scooter with an umbrella 🌂 over my head, I couldn't call Cyril as I didn't think I had my cell phone.



In the time I was there (about 20 minutes), 4 cars drove down Heron coming from the top, three were driven by men and went straight past me without slowing down let alone stopping. The 4<sup>th</sup> car driven by a lady, stopped. She asked if she could help in any way. What an angel but for some unknown reason, I refused her help. I would like to use this medium to thank her most sincerely. I would also like Management to thank Petrus. I do wish I could name and shame those 3 men who drove past without offering to help. How did I get home? I looked in my bag again for the cell phone and there it was! Phoned the wonderful husband who drove down but had to push Noddy up the hill to our home. He was none too happy as you can imagine.

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JUST LIKE THAT (these are not attributed to anyone in particular but thank you so much, Graham L, Cyril (Not Ramaphosa), Penny R and John Schulkins.

After their 11<sup>th</sup> child, a Kentucky couple decided that was enough, as they could not afford a larger bed. So, the husband went to his veterinarian and told him that he and his cousin didn't want to have any more children. The doctor told him that there was a procedure called a vasectomy that could fix the problem but that it was expensive. 'A less costly alternative,' said the doctor, 'is to go home, get a cherry bomb firework, (fireworks are legal in Kentucky), light it, put it in a beer can, then hold the can up to your ear and count to 10. The Kentuckian said to the doctor, 'I may not be the smartest tool in the shed, but I don't see how putting a cherry bomb in a beer can next to my ear is going to help me. "Trust me,' said the doctor. So, the man went home, lit a cherry bomb and put it in a beer can. He held the can up to his ear and began to count! "1" "2" "3" "4" "5," at which point he paused, placed the beer can between his legs and continued counting on his other hand.

This procedure also works in Tennessee, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Parts of Georgia, Missouri, West Virginia, and all of Washington DC plus the UK Westminster.

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I went to the local liquor store Monday afternoon on my bicycle, bought a bottle of single malt scotch whisky and put it in the bicycle basket. As I was about to leave, I thought to myself that if I fell off the bicycle, the bottle would break. So, I drank all the very nice whisky before I cycled home. It turned out to be a very good decision, because I fell off my bicycle seven times on the way home.

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I have a little Satnav,  
It sits there in my car  
A Satnav is a driver's friend,  
it tells you where you are.  
I have a little Satnav,  
I've had it all my life  
It's better than the normal ones,  
My Satnav is my wife!

It gives me full instructions,  
Especially how to drive  
"Its sixty miles an hour", it says,  
"You're doing sixty five".  
It tells me when to stop and start,  
And when to use the brake  
And tells me that it's never ever,  
Safe to overtake.  
It tells me when a light is red,  
And when it goes to green  
It seems to know instinctively,  
Just when to intervene.  
It lists the vehicles just in front,  
And all those to the rear  
And taking this into account,  
It specifies my gear.  
I'm sure no other driver,  
Has so helpful a device!

For when we leave and lock the car,  
It still gives its advice.  
It fills me up with counselling,  
Each journey's pretty fraught  
So why don't I exchange it,  
And get a quieter sort?  
Ah well, you see, it cleans the house,  
Makes sure I'm properly fed  
It washes all my shirts and things,  
And keeps me warm in bed!  
Despite all these advantages,  
And my tendency to scoff,  
I only wish that now and then,  
I could turn the bugger off!

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My Chinese neighbour told me today that he's opened a crows shop. Speaking slowly and clearly, I said  
"don't you mean a clothes shop?"

"No," he replied, "a crows shop. Why don't you come over and take a rook?"

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### **Men Are Just Happier People!**

What do you expect from such simple creatures? Your last name stays put. The garage is all yours. Wedding plans take care of themselves. Chocolate is just another snack. You can never be pregnant. You can wear a white T-shirt to a water park. You can wear NO shirt to a water park.

Car mechanics tell you the truth. The world is your urinal. You never have to drive to another gas station restroom because this one is just too icky. You don't have to stop and think of which way to turn a nut on a bolt. Wrinkles add character. Wedding dress -£5,000. Moss Bros Dress suit rental - £100. People never stare at your chest when you're talking to them New shoes don't cut, blister, or mangle your feet. One mood all the time. Phone conversations are over in 30 seconds flat.



A five-day holiday requires only one suitcase. You can open all your own jars. You get extra credit for the slightest act of thoughtfulness. If someone forgets to invite you, he or she can still be your friend. Your underwear is £8.95 for a three-pack. Two pairs of shoes are more than enough. You almost never have strap problems in public. You are unable to see wrinkles in your clothes. Everything on your face stays its original color. The same hairstyle lasts for years, maybe decades. You only have to shave your face and neck.

You can play with toys all your life. One wallet and one pair of shoes - one colour for all seasons. You can wear shorts no matter how your legs look. You can 'do' your nails with a pocket knife. You have freedom of choice concerning growing a moustache... You can do Christmas shopping for 25 relatives on December 24 in 25 minutes.

No wonder men are happier!

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### **NICKNAMES**

If Laura, Kate and Sarah go out for lunch, they will call each other Laura, Kate and Sarah. If Mike, Dave and John go out, they will affectionately refer to each other as Fat Boy, Bubba and Wildman.

### **EATING OUT**

When the bill arrives, Mike, Dave and John will each throw in R50, even though it's only for R132.50. None of them will have anything smaller and none will actually admit they want change back. When the girls get their bill, out come the pocket calculators.

### **MONEY**

A man will pay R20 for a R10 item he needs. A woman will pay R10 for a R20 item that she doesn't need, but it's on sale.

### **BATHROOMS**

A man has six items in his bathroom: toothbrush and toothpaste, shaving cream, razor, a bar of soap, and a towel. The average number of items in the typical woman's bathroom is 337, a man would not be able to identify more than 20 of these.

### **ARGUMENTS**

A woman has the last word in any argument. Anything a man says after that is the beginning of a new argument.

### **FUTURE**

A woman worries about the future until she gets a husband. A man never worries about the future until he gets a wife.

### **WALKING ON THE GRASS**

The room was full of pregnant women with their husbands. The instructor said, "Ladies, remember that exercise is good for you. Walking is especially beneficial. It strengthens the pelvic muscles and will make delivery that much easier. Just pace yourself, make plenty of stops and try to stay on a soft surface like grass."

"Gentlemen, remember - you're in this together. It wouldn't hurt you to go walking with her. In fact, that shared experience would be good for you both."

The room suddenly became very quiet as the men absorbed this information. After a few moments a man, name unknown, at the back of the room, slowly raised his hand.

"Yes?" said the Instructor. "I was just wondering if it would be all right if she carries a golf bag while we walk?"

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- 4<sup>th</sup> Brian & Pat Morgan (#11)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Dave & Patti Bromfield (#22)
- 11<sup>th</sup> Taffy & Elizabeth Davies (#62)
- 11<sup>th</sup> Graham & Caroline Brickett (#126)
- 13<sup>th</sup> Dick & Kiloran Townsend (#63)
- 19<sup>th</sup> Vince & Gloria Boswell (#19)
- 25<sup>th</sup> Tom & Jenny Hammond (#64)
- 29<sup>th</sup> James & Margo Goodwin (#129)
- 30<sup>th</sup> Robin & Maurzen Slogrove (#73)



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- 2<sup>nd</sup> André Oosthuizen
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sheila Schulkins
- 5<sup>th</sup> Vincent Boswell
- 6<sup>th</sup> Maurzen Slogrove
- 7<sup>th</sup> Chris Brennan
- 9<sup>th</sup> Catherine Plaskett
- 11<sup>th</sup> Maurzen Privett
- 13<sup>th</sup> Sally Branson
- 14<sup>th</sup> Kiloran Townsend
- 15<sup>th</sup> Heather Morgan
- 16<sup>th</sup> Henry Dobrowolski
- 19<sup>th</sup> Ernie Muteh
- 20<sup>th</sup> Robin Slogrove
- 21<sup>st</sup> Dick Townsend
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Tom Hammond
- 24<sup>th</sup> Cyril Rabinowitz
- 27<sup>th</sup> Viv Pike
- 30<sup>th</sup> Gunther Wrogemann

Many thanks as always. Keep those articles coming and e-mail to me at [chrisandsue291@gmail.com](mailto:chrisandsue291@gmail.com).

You know this is a team effort, not only from you, the team of contributors, but also my lovely assistant / sub editor, Sue Edwards and then there is René and Roy who bash it around to get it into Adobe format for publishing and posting to you.

Thanks to all of you,

Cheers for now. Chris