

RESCOM
CHATTER
AUGUST 2021



Doom and Gloom the naysayers said,
Heavy Snow being sent from the Cape,
a 5th variant? Lockdown again??
Toilet paper out, Secret chip in our Jabs,

Who do you believe!!!!



The Top Pond has been repaired, and as at 1st Sept (this picture was taken on 22nd August) it is already looking so much better. The sprays are a'running, the fish are gulping down the oxygen. It is surprising how the simple things make life so much better.



Lenny the Leguaan will be happy when the pond is full. He is Carol Robert's nemesis and he only wants to be her friend! Shame, and this lady was brought up in East Africa with all the dudu's and creepy crawly things!!!

The Knit and Natter Group do it again!



During the lock down which has been a trial for many, the Knit and Natter group knitted up a storm. This month, August 2021, approximately 74 items were donated to the Baragwanath Hospital Comfort Committee (BHCC). These included jerseys, beanies and toys for babies, and scarves and fiddlemuffs for adults. BHCC is a charity group run by volunteers. They make up 'comfort' packs that include toiletries and warm clothes. These are given to mothers when they bring their babies into the clinics for vaccinations and health checks.

The group meets on a Monday morning, 10am to noon, in the Clubhouse and all are welcome. While many of us continue to knit at home, it is only during these meetings that we can exchange ideas and learn from each other. Many of us had never knitted for years before coming to Evergreen but the warmth and friendship extended here motivates and stimulates one to explore new avenues.



NEW CHANGES FOR DRIVERS LICENCES

Here are some of the major changes:

- The establishment of more Driving Licence Testing Centres (DLTCs);
- The introduction of mobile centres and kiosks at busy centres
- Extended operating hours for DLTCs
- The ability of DLTCs to accept online payments
- The submission of eye tests by optometrists directly to NaTIS.

It was also announced that the validity of licences that expired between 26 March and 31 August 2021 will now be extended to 31 March 2022.

Improvements for Gauteng

Considering that Gauteng poses the biggest challenge due to the large population of motorists and the fact that it remains the only province that has extensively deployed the online booking system, specific actions have been identified to tackle challenges specific to the province.

"In addition to the interventions the province and the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) are making in arresting the corruption that has bedevilled the system, additional capacity will be added through the opening of two Driving Licence Testing Centres operated by the RTMC at Waterfall Park in Midrand and Eco Park in Centurion.

"These two centres will open their doors on 1 October 2021 and will operate seven days a week, from 07h00 to 21h00. The operationalisation of these centres will add 35,380 renewal slots per month and increase Gauteng capacity for renewal slots by 48%,"

EVERGREEN "GRASSHOPPERS"
OUR STORY CONTINUES



Sitting at the then infamous round table in the temporary clubhouse one Wednesday social dinner, the chat moved to our school days. As it turned out all 3 of us were ex. Glenwood High students.

Dick Shepherd (1941/44);
Barry Forbes (1944/47);
Graham Langmead (1949/52).

See Dick Sheppard's story overleaf

EVERGREEN GRASSHOPPERS-OUR STORY

My Memories of Glenwood High

by Dick Sheppard. Grasshopper #1--1941-1944

My four years at Glenwood were during World War 2, a period of restrictions such as blackouts and rationing of petrol. More importantly on the education front several male teachers who enlisted to serve in the armed forces were replaced by female teachers. I recall Mrs. Newton-Parry who taught geography and another was a Miss Dix. Head master, J.H. (Froggy) Snow, had come out of retirement to fill the gap of a volunteer who had sign up for the war effort.

Tests were regular on a three-weekly basis, the results of which were announced by the Head Master at morning assembly when freshers (first year boys) sat on the floor in the front rows of the assembly hall. On the occasion of the first test's results 'Froggy' called out 'Sheppard stand up'. He then announced I had scored the highest marks ever in a test and ended with the comment 'Well done. Keep up the good work.' And that was the trigger to maintain the top position throughout my four years. After 2 years at the helm 'Froggy' eventually retired and D.H.(Dave) Lang succeeded him.

Cricket was the dominant sport, Glenwood team being unbeaten in my four years - no wonder with players like John Watkins, the Markham brothers and Mervyn Lang. My sporting contribution was in house teams and I did run the school marathon each year - the course took us past Durban Girls High!! For two years I was an active member of the debating society along with classmate Ray Swart, and we ended with the satisfaction of being the only team to beat Sastri College -the topic War is Inevitable. Cadets was very much part of school activity under the guidance and command of Captain L.W. Dwyer. It must have been my enthusiasm that led to promotion to Corporal, then I completed an officer's course at the Ladysmith infantry camp of the South African Defence Force, returning as Sergeant -Major of Company C.

After leaving Glenwood I continued studies part time, and in 1951 took a job transfer to Johannesburg which led to a near fifty years career with an American-based multinational Company in the metal packaging industry, rising through the ranks to CEO for sub-Saharan Africa.

I retired in 1995.

Two photos are below, the 1942 form 4C and 1944 form 6C.

The class teachers are Max Sandler and 'Zookie' Ellison (Bookkeeping teacher).

(Can anyone spot Dick??)



18th August 2021

Our First Social evening since the latest lockdown. Could we be emerging out of lockdown into normality??







The 18th was also the occasion
of Ron Mackie's 80th.

Well done Ron!



Pauline Mackie arranged
for this cake
on Ron's 80th Birthday

Our very newest residents



Denise Gregor



Carol Curtis - No 22

Carol Roberts - No 83



Our Not So New Residents



My thanks to Kiloran for her dedication to capturing the moment in all the preceding pictures



This was Kiloran's third attempt!!! (Poor Kiloran her pics got lost)

(I should have put this piece earlier in the article but I got waylaid)
(Apologies to you all)

Evergreen Broadacres had their first social on Wednesday night since the third lockdown was lifted.

Personally I am convinced Pauline bribed management and the Bistro to allow her to arrange Ron's 80th birthday celebration.

Judy in her usual talented way decorated the table in all the regalia, balloons, black and white, flowers, flags and mascots of the All Blacks the NZ Rugby team, for those who don't know, (Ron is a New Zealander). It all looked beautiful. Pauline ordered cup cakes, iced in black with a silver fern as décor, all very clever. Only 50 people were allowed and the bistro was booked up by Friday.

I will take this opportunity to wish Ron everything of the best for the coming year
Congratulations !!!

I took photos of all the tables except ours, so Teena that was not deliberate it was just that I was otherwise occupied and forgot to ask someone else to take it for me.

This is the small print about having received your permission
to take your photos in accordance with the Pop Act or
similar.

Bank Fraud Alert

FNB is urging customers to use trusted and secure merchants to avoid being defrauded by merchant fraudsters when shopping online, amid an increase in e-commerce activity brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic the bank has seen a rise in a new fraud modus operandi targeting unsuspecting online shoppers in recent months.

The latest modus operandi involves 'enumeration' and 'account testing', where online merchant fraudsters use automated scripts or software to attempt transactions or payments.

To help minimise the risk of fraud, consumers should use trusted websites for online shopping.

Consumers could identify the security of a website through 'https' or the padlock icon on the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) at the top of the page.

Below FNB shared additional safety tips that consumers should practice to protect themselves and their card details against fraudsters:

- When shopping online, do not click on links in emails or 3rd party websites; rather, type in the website address yourself.
- Never disclose personal information such as passwords and PINs to anyone.
- The bank will never ask you to process a transaction to reverse fraud.
- The bank will never ask you for your OTP or confidential information, such as your banking password.
- Check your bank statement regularly and thoroughly for any unauthorised transactions/withdrawals.
- Use up-to-date software to perform regular anti-virus and malware scans on your personal devices.
- Never send e-mails that contain your account number, card number, and expiry date.
- Use a secure connection and avoid public Wi-Fi.
- Only enter card details when finalising the purchase.

"We advise consumers to familiarise themselves with the new ways that criminals are using to defraud unsuspecting victims. More importantly, we urge consumers always to protect their personal information and to use any of our banking interfaces to report any suspicious transactions on their bank accounts immediately."

Our Fairy popped up from nowhere.

Now we all know that fairies live at the
bottom of the garden,
our one has broken cover and is hovering out
there somewhere



I was driving along Club Street, Linksfield last Friday with a girl friend riding shotgun. My mission? To collect a few paintings I had given to the young in the family. Happily they were no longer needed as the lady of the house has taken up painting and quite rightly, would rather hang her own works of art. They had relocated to Cape Town along with the rest of Gauteng except for thee and me, leaving said paintings behind. As I was rather fond of them, I was more than happy to have them back and as they are rather big, I thought of donating them to the Evergreen Club House.

I am not in the habit of having accidents and in fact, have never had one where I was to blame.....except once when I was but a child of 16.....but we won't go into that if you don't mind! My passenger and I were reflecting on this when KAPOW!!! A lady in a great big bully of a Toyota Fortuner, rear ended me!! She must have been travelling at quite a speed as my little Daihatsu Terios was swung right around and landed facing the other way on the opposite side of the street in the middle of the lane of on-coming traffic.

I was stunned and felt as tho the steering wheel had cut my forehead in half! I was sitting with my head in my hands as I had an awful pain in my head and my poor passenger has whiplash I fear. I was also shaking like a leaf. I don't think I have ever been so shook up in my life!

A wonderful lady travelling in the opposite direction, pulled over onto the pavement and crossed the road to ask if I was alright and if it was possible to drive my car. I was sure I could and while she bravely stood in the path of on-coming big trucks and other vehicles on a very busy road and stopped the traffic, I manoeuvred over to the side of the road out of harms way. I really didn't want a vehicle ploughing into me from the other side!! Luckily, I asked her to write her name and cell number down. She explained that she couldn't be a witness as she hadn't seen the accident happening and then, like that puff of smoke one hears about, she disappeared

Next on the scene was.... yup! You've guessed it! A tow truck driver!! He just appeared at my window out of the blue and asked if I was alright. Now I must tell you about this fellow. He turned out to be the kindest human being. You know how they are called "vultures" and other unkind names? Well this couldn't be further from the truth as far as Malcolm from FIRSHELP is concerned. What an angel he turned out to be.

He was concerned about Jenny's whiplash and wanted her to go to be checked out as Linksfield Hospital was just around the corner. He offered to drive her there but told us that she would be attended to far quicker if he called an ambulance. That was news to me! But as luck would have it, an ambulance drew up shortly afterwards on their way back from saving someone's life probably as Linksfield Hospital was just around the corner. They came across to the car where Jenny & I were sitting somewhat dazed, to see if they could help. Although Jenny was protesting wildly that she was fine all the while clutching her neck, the ambulance people took her off so that they could do their stuff with her. She was pronounced fine but was advised to go to a hospital to be properly checked out as soon as possible. Has she done this? No, she hasn't even though I nagged her non-stop for three days. After that I gave up as she is an adult and must do as she sees fit.

I have worked in Short Term insurance for over 40 years so luckily knew what to do and what questions to ask. I also despatched Jenny to take as many photographs as she could on my cell phone. Licence disc, number plate, damage to the 3rd parties vehicle etc. Also of course damage to my vehicle. The whole of the back window had been pushed out and the rear of the vehicle was caved in. It was very lucky that the spare wheel was attached to the back of the car. I think it must have softened the impact.

And I know what you are thinking "I bet the 3rd party was on her cell phone"! Well she wasn't! Sorry!!! She told me that there was a piece of white paper on the dash board that was dazzling her so she took her eyes off the road to remove it and put it on the passenger seat! Two lessons to be learned here,

(1) Obviously, never take your eyes off the road. We all know that one so well. And (2) even if you are at fault, never admit liability! It might jeopardise your claim.

Meanwhile Malcolm had hardly left my side. I had phoned my loving spouse and before I said anything I told him not to worry as I was alright. If there are any words guaranteed to strike fear into one's heart, those are they! Between the two of us, we had gotten hold of the Roadside Assist & the insurance company to report the accident and to ask if Malcolm and FIRSHELP were on their panel and were allowed to tow me. Sadly they were not but another towing company were on their way! No, no, I yelled. If Malcolm couldn't tow my vehicle I would drive it myself to the Assessment Centre in Selby! I told Malcolm very sadly that I couldn't use him but that wonderful guy said I was not to worry but that he would stay with me until the other tow truck arrived! Wasn't that good of him? A few minutes later, they phoned back to tell me that I could use FIRSHELP after all. Here is another lesson coming up! Never let anyone tow your vehicle even if they tell you they are certified to do so. As Buckingham Palace said recently, "facts vary" or words to that effect! Get proof from your insurance company first.

The next thing to do was to work out how Jenny & I were going to get from Linksfield to Kengies/Fourways. Uber was the obvious answer. But no! Wonderful Malcolm said he would take us!! And just how would he do that when he didn't have a twin cab truck I asked?!!! In the end, it was decided that I drive myself home and he would follow me. Apparently he was concerned about the exhaust being bent and glass flying and causing damage. I did keep telling him how great the distance was but it didn't seem to deter him.

Meanwhile, what about my paintings?? As luck would have it, Shingi, the retrenched maid of my son and daughter in-law happened to be walking past. She no longer lives in the area but was on her way to visit friends. What a coincidence! We fell into each other's arms and I asked if she would go up to the house and bring the paintings to me. They are rather large and it was lucky that she had a friend with her to help carry them.

Dear Malcolm followed us all the way home even when we stopped to buy Jenny some much needed cigarettes! He must have wondered what on earth I was up to when I turned into Lonehill Shopping Centre. Doing my grocery shopping perhaps?! Into Evergreen we came and right up and to my door! All this time he had had his twin brother in the cab of the truck. We thought him a rather taciturn type of a character and were amazed that he didn't even help couple the car to the truck. I Whatsapped Malcolm to thank him for all he had done and when he replied, he sent me the obituary notice & told me that his brother had lost his beautiful daughter to COVID 5 days previously and not only that, her husband plus her mother-in-law and father-in-law had all died of this vicious disease leaving only a tiny 5 month old baby alive! Malcolm himself had lost his pretty daughter last year. So sad that a family has had so many deaths of young people in a relatively short period.

But life goes on and remember, if you are planning an accident in future, do have it in the Linksfield area! Malcolm and his towtruck will be waiting for you!

NB. Apart from a couple of dents on her wings and a bruised ego, the Fairy will be able to enthrall us with all her doings and goings next month.

Our new ResCom

Laurraine Lotter - Chair
Colin Grenfell - Vice Chair
Chris Edwards - Communications
Judy Stuart - Health
Brenda Brophy - Hospitality
Colin Grenfell - Infrastructure and Development
Graham Brickett - Safety and Security
Cecil Faan - Treasurer

Hennie du Preez - Past Chair

Emergency Numbers

Other than the Telecare unit which is to be used for personal emergencies whilst in the unit.

Reception desk -	087 809 3366
Guardhouse - (Thorburn Security) -	071 173 2406
Care Centre - (Unique Health) -	011 568 4307

It is advisable for the residents to store these telephone numbers in their cellphones in case of need.

It will help if you enter these and your local relatives as ICE (In Case of Emergency). This is the first place emergency response personnel look for when trying to contact your carers etc.

So for an example the entry : 'ICE Daughter 084 123 4567' would be found very quickly if you are not able to tell them.

Remember to wear your Buddy Band at all times and your emergency button (it is waterproof)

Can we help ??... Have we got what you want??.

Longing to get away but don't like to drive?
Magalies Park Resort is the answer.
Only 45 minutes from Evergreen.

Nestled at the foot of the Magaliesberg Mountains, Magalies Park is a relaxing country escape that features an acclaimed 18-hole golf course, restaurant and all facilities. Buy a Time Share Flexi-Week and enjoy a holiday every year in a fully appointed 6-sleeper chalet featuring 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms and spacious deck, OR exchange your unit for an equal unit in another time share resort.

For only R14,000 and payment of the annual levy (approx R8 000), it's yours.

Phone Grace or Derek at Evergreen 120 - Ext 1120 or 083 302 3981



Remember that Rentia, the manager of Agora BP Garage at Fourways Gardens will renew your car licence as well as arranging drivers licence renewals.
I took in my last years license papers, and a copy of my ID.
Two days later I got a call to come and fetch the new disc and pay R150.



Rainfall/Snowfall Report for August 2021

A stray early morning shower this last week, but isolated falls are forecast until the end of the month.

Hopefully September will bring more.

Fortunately, total dam levels across the country continue to show an appreciable improvement over the same week last year (81% vs 67%), although the Eastern and Northern Cape continue to experience extreme difficulties.

This data as at 24 August 2021.

Feel free to peruse the website sawx.co.za/state-of-dams for this and much more weather related info.

The drive to conserve water remains a national imperative however as the low-rainfall months are with us.

N.B. Please be aware of the recent 20% reduction in water supplies announced by Joburg Water which has resulted in restrictions on hosepipe usage temporarily.

Contrary to local rumour, no snow has been seen yet!

Rainfall in mm for 2020/2021

Sep 2020	5.0
Oct 2020	21.8
Nov 2020	211.9
Dec 2020	107.5
Jan 2021	153.5
Feb 2021	165.6
Mar 2021	64.9
Apr 2021	28.1
May 2021	29.5
Jun 2021	0.8
Jul 2021	0.0
Aug 2021	0.5

12 Months 789.1 mm

Rainfall for August over the years

2013	7.0
2014	20.5
2015	0.0
2016	3.9
2017	0.0
2018	0.0
2019	0.0
2020	0.0
2021	0.5

Average for August since 2013 is 3.5 mm

Just Like That.....



There are huge amounts of material available on Sir Winston Churchill
But maybe not so much about his wife.
I think the piece below makes
up for the paucity of writings about her.

Lady Clementine, Sir Winston's wife, was talking to a street sweeper for a while.

"What did you talk about for so long?" asked Sir Winston.

She smiled, "Many years ago he was madly in love with me."

Churchill smiled ironically, "So you could have been the wife of a street sweeper today."

"Oh no, my love", Clementine replied,

"If I had married him, he would have been the Prime Minister today"



In speaking to Ivar the other day, I had always considered Norwegians to be law abiding etc.

However this new sign would suggest something different!

A new sign posted at Norway's river border with Russia reminds tourists feeling nature's call that it's against the law to pee in the direction of Russia - on pain of a hefty fine.

The sign posted on the banks of the Jakobselva river that separates Norway from Russia reads:

'No Peeing Towards Russia'.

It is placed next to an official signpost informing people that the area is under video surveillance by Norwegian border guards.

Those caught face a fine of 3,000 kroner (290 euros, \$340).

The area is popular with tourists on the Norwegian side, where you can easily see Russia just a few metres away across the river.

A Norwegian law prohibits 'offensive behaviour at the border intended for the neighbouring state or its authorities.'

Norway's 197.7-kilometre land border with Russia is NATO's northern border in the Arctic.

Oslo and Moscow have traditionally enjoyed good relations, though tensions have risen since Russia's 2014 invasion of the Crimean peninsula.

Ivar will be investigating?

GANG VIOLENCE HAS TO STOP 😂😂



A Senior's Version of FACEBOOK

For those of my generation who do not, and cannot, comprehend why Facebook exists: I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook while applying the same principles. Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later and with whom. I give them pictures of my family, my dog and of me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch, and doing what anybody and everybody does every day. I also listen to their conversations, give them "thumbs up" and tell them I "like" them. And it works just like Facebook. I already have 4 people following me: 2 police officers, a private investigator and a psychiatrist.

Me: I hit an animal and my car is totalled. Am I covered?

Insurance: Yes. What did you hit?

Me: A fish.



Hey Squirell,
it could have
been worse??