

RESCOM CHATTER

FEBRUARY 2022



**You might think this was growing in the Cape?
Not a chance, Kiloran on her rambles found
this growing by Crab Crossing!**

Use of the Dear Chairman facility and painting of houses

A box for communication with ResCom through the Chairman is available at the Reception desk in the Clubhouse. If you do wish make use of this facility, please ensure that you provide your contact details in the note so that the Chair can reply to you individually. Recently a note has been received without contact details. This note dealt with the painting of houses. I am therefore responding to this issue in a general sense here as I am sure there is general interest in this topic.

If you do not want to use the Dear Chairman box, you are welcome to send me an email at laurain@iafrica.com on any issue you may wish to raise with ResCom.

The lack of progress on the painting of houses, which we were assured at the AGM would commence last year was raised sharply at the ManCom meeting which was held last week. We requested that Evergreen Property Investments, the owner of the Village and therefore the party responsible for the painting, write a letter to residents explaining the status of the painting contract.

We are expecting this letter in the near future and will communicate with you as soon as we have further information.

Best wishes,

Laurraine Lotter

Also

Leader for Health Portfolio in ResCom

We are calling for nominations for a leader of the Health Portfolio. Please phone Laurraine at Ext 1077 or send me a note to express interest.



Sashni Munnisunker

Audiology

Bachelor of Communication Pathology (Audiology), (UKZN)
Pr. No.: 0349992

Razorite Fourways Medical Centre:
1st Floor Sunset Square
7 Sunset Lane
Fourways, 2194
Telephone: (010) 600 2657
Cell: 0798916637
Fax: 0865412061
Email: sashni@smaudiology.co.za
info@smaudiology.co.za

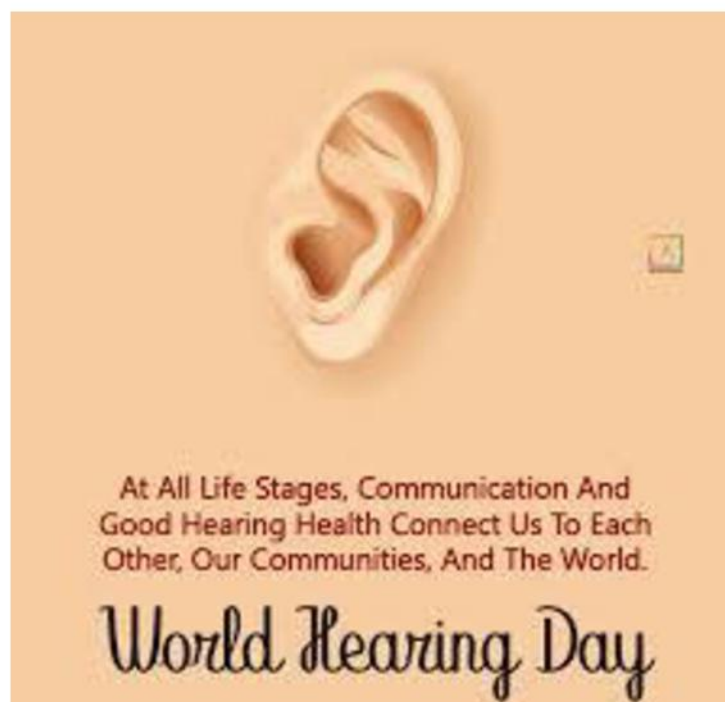
SM Audiology offers free hearing tests once a month at the Evergreen Care Centre. We supply, fit, service and fine tune MOST BRANDS of hearing aids. Stock all consumables such as batteries, domes, drying capsules.

**For your personalised free hearing test at Evergreen,
please contact us for an appointment on:**

010 5971975 / 0798916637

Please Note : Sashni will be at Evergreen on the 8th March 2022

World Hearing Day 3rd March 2022: To hear for life, listen with care



Report on the Book morning outing to JAN SMUTS HOUSE

15 February 2022



The day was warm and bright, perfect for an outdoor excursion. There were six of us that set off in two cars, a small but friendly group.

On arrival I was impressed by the general tidiness and organization of the grounds. Clearly thought and labour had been spent to make this heritage site accessible and attractive to visitors.

We strolled around exploring the grounds, which were lush and green after our good rains this season. We spent a few tranquil moments in the Place of Quiet after which Elsbeth and I took our dogs a short way along Ou Baas' Trail while the others toured Jan Smuts' house. The house and life of Jan Smuts evidently intrigued them and highlighted our discussion during lunch which was held under the oaks in Ouma Isie's Tea Garden. The food was good and fresh, the conversation lively, the company congenial, what more could one wish for – it was a good day, except for one small omission – I forgot to take photos!

Valentine's Day Lunch

13th February 2022

Evergreen Broadacres Valentine luncheon yesterday. Chef Andrew and staff made a wonderful lamb roast and chicken main course and the most calorie laden and decadent dessert selection you could ever hope to see. Many families were joined by their families and progeny and Brenda Brophy had decorated the tables. Thanks to all for making this a lovely festive and happy occasion.



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





Where we can find ST VALENTINE

By Hannah Brockhaus

WHEN MOST PEOPLE think of romantic love, a 3rd-century skull crowned with flowers probably does not spring to mind — nor the story behind it. But a visit to the unassuming Byzantine basilica of Santa Maria in Cosmedin, near the Circus Maximus in Rome, might change that.

“One of the most important relics that you will find in this basilica is that of St Valentine,” said the church’s rector, Fr Chihade Abboud. Known as the patron saint of couples for his defence of Christian marriage, St Valentine was martyred by decapitation on February 14. He is also the inspiration behind the modern-day celebration of

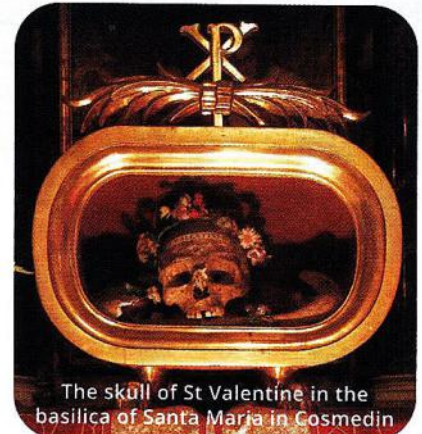
Valentine’s Day.

Construction on Santa Maria in Cosmedin began in the 8th century, in the centre of the Greek community in Rome. The basilica was built on the ruins of an ancient Roman temple. Today, in its front portico, tourists line up to stick their hand inside the gaping mouth of the “La Bocca della Verità” marble mask, made famous by a scene between Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck in the 1953 film *Roman Holiday*. Looking for a photo op, most tourists are unaware that just a few metres from the “Mouth of Truth” lies the skull of the saint of love.

An inconvenient saint

But St Valentine’s reputation as a patron of couples was not won easily. Known to have been either a priest or a bishop, he lived during one of the most difficult periods of Christian persecution in the early Church. According to most accounts, after a time of imprisonment, he was beaten and then beheaded, likely for his defiance of the emperor’s ban on Roman soldiers marrying.

“St Valentine was an inconvenient saint for them,” Fr Abboud said, “because he believed that family life gave support to a person. He continued to administer the sacrament of matrimony.” St Valentine’s relics were reportedly uncovered during an excavation in Rome in the early 1800s, though it is unclear exactly how his skull came to lie in the Byzantine church where it is found today.

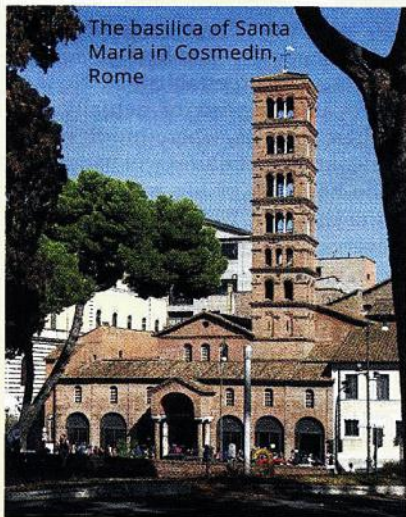


The skull of St Valentine in the basilica of Santa Maria in Cosmedin

In 1964, Pope Paul VI entrusted Santa Maria in Cosmedin to the care of the patriarch of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church, which is part of the Byzantine Rite. The basilica became the seat of the Melkite Greek Church’s representative to the pope, a role now held by Fr Abboud, who offers the Divine Liturgy (or Greek Mass) for the community every Sunday.

After the Divine Liturgy, said in Italian, Greek, and Arabic, Fr Abboud likes to pray in front of St Valentine’s relics. The priest recalled a story about St Valentine, which says that when the saint was in prison, the guard in charge asked him to pray for the healing of his daughter, who was blind. With Valentine’s prayers, the daughter regained her sight. “We say that love is blind — no! Love sees and sees well,” Fr Abboud said. “It does not see as we want to see, because when one is attracted to another person, one sees something no one else is able to see.”

Fr Abboud asked people to pray for the strengthening of the sacrament of marriage in society. “We ask [St Valentine’s] intercession, that we can really live moments of love, of being in love, and to live our faith and the sacraments, and live truly with a deep and strong faith,” he said.—CNA



The basilica of Santa Maria in Cosmedin, Rome

Photos: Wikipedia Commons/CC-BY-SA 3.0

The Southern Cross 21

**HOW TO NAVIGATE THE
MANY TYPES OF**



**SATURDAY
12 MARCH 2022
09.30 FOR 10.00
CLUBHOUSE**

Presentation by
DEBBIE BEECH

Our Fairy somehow got to Japan and wants to
tell you about her experiences in that country.
(How she managed to bath and not get her wings wet is beyond me)
Sayanora, Sukiyaki, and Ahso

Well, it's time that I wrote to you again from my toadstool to tell you what I've been up to. Sometimes you get to hear about something that happened aeons ago or maybe it will be something I still want to do or it could even be something that has just happened. Last night I had a sudden memory of visiting a tiny village in the rural hills of Japan many years ago and thought I'd share my experience with you.

It was evening as we approached the village and a lovely soft rain was falling. The kind that only just manages to make you wet. More of a soft drizzle really. We seldom experience it here on the Highveld but it often falls in the coastal towns where it is sometimes called a sea breeze. Anyway, it was early evening and the Kombi taxi was pattering up the hill with its windscreen wipers slowly swish swishing back and forth, not making much difference to the view thru the oil smeared glass.

With almost an audible sigh, the taxi came to a halt outside the Inn and most of the passengers piled out to claim their belongings that were packed into a small trailer hooked onto the back of the taxi.

Once inside the Inn, we were allocated rooms and after we were given our keys we could depart to freshen up quickly only to regroup a bit later as we had decided to stretch our legs and take a walk to a tiny 'hole in the wall' type of eatery we had spied on the drive up to the Inn. In the Western World we would have likened it to a small coffee bar. It was only a short distance away and the walk would do us good after being cooped up in the taxi for hours as we were driven to the mountains surrounding Tokyo.

There were only two stools (not mushroom inside!! Chris) so we stood around chatting while deciding what we were going to eat. There was no menu and the man behind the counter spoke no English but in the international language of shrugs, raised shoulders, smiles and so on, we managed to convey to him that we were hungry and could he please make us something, anything to eat and drink. It turned out that we were in a Tempura Restaurant. Tempura food is mainly deep fried in a light batter and is utterly delicious. It almost melts on the tongue the batter is so delicate. After consuming many chrysanthemum leaves and other delicacies and quaffing down the warm rice wine served in tiny Japanese drinking vessels which are only slightly bigger than one of our tot measures, it was time to climb up the hill, back to the Inn and our beds.

As I walked along the corridor towards my room, I passed a few doors with signs on them which said BATHROOM. - FEMALES or another door for MALES and still another door proclaiming it was for MIXED. My curiosity was piqued but once I was in my room pulling off my rather sodden shoes, I noticed a note propped up on the desk. It was advertising that Japanese style baths could be taken at no extra cost and gave the location of the baths and warned the public not to take a bath after partaking of alcohol!!! It also gave the temperature of the water which was 45deg C which was pretty hot!

I decided that seeing that I was in Japan, I simply must take a Japanese bath. Following the instructions, I shed all my clothes in my room and put on the rather skimpy kimono that was obviously made for the much smaller frames of the Japanese people. However, it was provided by the Inn together with the slip-on slippers and was obviously meant to be worn as one went to the Japanese bath house from one's room. I set off down the passage to the LADIES BATHROOM. I wasn't brave enough to try the MIXED!!

I tentatively opened the door. Inside the walls were completely tiled to the ceiling with ordinary clinical white tiles. Taps were set into the walls and running around the floor at the bottom of the wall was a little gully to catch the water. There was a small bucket on the floor next to a minute stool no more than six inches high. I couldn't work out what this was for but on looking around, I noticed that the other women in the room were sitting on the stools cleaning themselves vigorously and were working up quite a lather using the soap that was provided. I had shed my kimono by this time and pondered on how I was going to lower myself onto this stool. At first glance it was beyond me but I knew I had to somehow fold my long legs and torso to enable me not to lose face. Losing face in Japan is considered the worst possible thing that could happen to a person but I was really much more worried about falling on my behind at that moment than losing face! While I was there, there was a typhoon and many fields of rice were ruined. There were big headlines in the newspapers stating that a prominent farmer had committed Hari Kari because his crop was ruined and because of that, so was he. He just couldn't face the public knowing that his rice crop was ruined. He wouldn't be able to sell to the people anymore and because of this, they would starve. So he had lost face and so he committed Hari Kari.

There were three women in the room and as I entered, they all turned around and 'didn't look' at me. The Japanese are very good at this. They are longing to stare but that would be considered very rude so they look past you so aren't really looking at you! It sounds complicated but isn't really. After they had had a good look at the differences between their bodies and mine, they tittered behind their hands which were held up to cover their mouths before going back to dousing their bodies with water which had been collected in the small buckets. After a while I was thankful to be left alone to finish cleaning my body while they went off thru the other door in the room, presumably to have their baths.

It was now time to open the other door in the room marked "BATH". With great trepidation, I pushed it open. There in front of me was a large square 'swimming pool' that had steam rising off it, only of course it wasn't a swimming pool. This was the communal bath! This time I didn't only have 3 pairs of eyes taking in every detail of my naked body, I had at least 50 pairs of eyes! The twittering behind the hands sounded like a flock of tiny birds as it ebbed and flowed around me. I would have given anything to know what they were saying but perhaps it was better that I didn't know!! I entered the pool gingerly and almost jumped back in shock! The water was scalding hot! Remember the sign in my room that said the temperature was 45deg C?! This gave rise to another wave of twittering which floated around the room. I slowly lowered myself into the pool and gave myself up to the wonderful healing powers of the waters.

I lay back in the water and contemplated on what a good idea it was to clean oneself thoroughly outside the pool and only then, get into the tub to soak the cares of the day or week away. I had heard that the coal miners in England do this sort of thing. They'd get home from the coal face with every inch of skin that was visible absolutely black from the coal dust. They didn't enter the house in this state but went to an outhouse round the back where they scrubbed the dirt and grime off until they were clean.

Meanwhile a large tin tub would be dragged into the house and placed in front of the fire to be filled with hot water so that the man of the house, who was by now scrubbed clean, could get into the bath to soak while the wife is kept busy filling the tub with more and more hot water. This gives rise to the expression 'don't throw the baby out with the bath water'. First the father of the house would bath, then all the older boys, then the older girls and the wife and lastly the baby would be thrown into the water which was very murky by this stage as you can well imagine.....hence, when throwing out the bathwater, frequently the baby would be thrown out with it!! So don't throw the baby out with the bath water, in other words, don't throw out a good idea when throwing around other ideas.

After a good long soak during which I smiled at a few of the women and received a few smiles back, always with the hand raised to cover their mouths, I decided it was time to return to my room. I slowly climbed the steps out of the hot pool feeling quite dizzy. I was lobster red by this stage but was feeling so relaxed I almost forgot to collect my gossamer wings that I had brought into the Cleansing Room with me! , I returned to my room barely able to keep my eyes open and had the best sleep I had had in years.

Our Broadacres ResCom

Laurraine Lotter - Chair
Colin Grenfell - Vice Chair
Chris Edwards - Communications (incl Chatter)
Judy Stuart - Health
Brenda Brophy - Hospitality
Colin Grenfell - Infrastructure and Development
Graham Brickett - Safety and Security
Cecil Fann - 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 - (Evergreen Health) - Sipho	079 579 4297
Sister Marius -	082 218 4206

(Please note changes to previous Care Centre numbers)

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 carry your emergency button (it is waterproof) on its halyard.

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

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.

They Call It God's Garage

Tucked away in a tiny suburb off of the Witkopp Road, you will find a lady called Luane.

Her double garage is packed from floor to ceiling with what may be confused with a house clearance. It is only when you look closer you see Luane's helpers sorting and packing ready for various destinations.

Backed by the Bryanston Catholic Church, she can distribute to the various satellite charities.. Even underwear and those little hotel shampoos/soap/lotions .. they are for Rape Centre operations.

She is looking for donations. Eg. Clothes. Non perishable food. Bedding, towels, Shoes, Furniture. Actually any thing... Collections can be arranged or you can leave stuff at No 89.

Thanks for reading, and thanks to all who have contributed. I will leave this appeal here for a couple of months.
Chris

My son Roger and his wife Eurita recently emigrated to the UK. Prior to their departure they employed a painter, a Zimbabwean FREEDOM. They recommend his work as excellent and meticulously tidy. He is now struggling to find work. Maybe some residents (and friends) may wish to employ him for indoor painting.

FREEDOM can be contacted directly on 073 881 3446. Any enquiries can be directed to me.

Thanks

Judy McLaren Unit No 32 or cell 073 689 3629

Print it and pin it on your fridge
The people and companies below come recommended
Any changes/additions? please let me know - Chris 084 582 9129

Directory of Services

Fridge Repair

Richard - 079 082 2681

Bergen Appliance Repair - 011 467 9474

Reglazing on site mirrors etc.

Glass King and Mirror - 082 441 0896

Shuttle

Peter Rafferty - 082 876 1380

Ward of Corporate Cabs - 082 453 3632

Airport Link - 086 137 8883

Buzz Wilson - 079 895 5738

Mike Ashcroft - 072 284 0340

TV repairs

Adam - 073 162 4048

Johan - 082 744 0208

Gas Supplies

BP Garage Fourways Gardens

Ziaad - 078 021 2442

LPG Country View - 011 318 1614

Computer Assistance

Andy Scott - 078 017 6045

Shaun Brogan -

Willam Keegan - 082 783 0288

Laptop Batteries

Akita - 011 704 2429

Dog Boarding

City Paws - 082 922 8093

Blinds and Awnings

Effective - 082 852 2339

Nursery

Farm Nursery - (Joan)082 654 7223

Medical Care 24hours

Fourways Urgent Care (7 Sunset Square) - 010 900 2224

Vet

Fourways Vet - 011 465 9120

Lonehill Vet - 011 705 3071

Animania -

Motor Bikes

Harley Davison Jhb - 011 884 0454

Sell Your Car

We Buy Cars (Henry)- 084 757 9165

Directory of Services

Inkjet Cartridges

Inky - 011 467 4108

Landscaper and Garden Designer

Jackie -083 458 7779

Jaco @ Heuers - 083 251 2697

Laundry Services

Brenda (Broadacres) Loads of Laundry - 011 465 9589

Woodwork

Louis Webber - 082 825 4345

Car Make Over and Small Dings

Metal Cross - 011 704 1802

Pet and Bird Food

Milmac Foods - 086 100 1182

Hearing Aids

Sashni - 079 891 6637

Carpet Cleaning

Swiss Clean - 082 445 3213

Plumber

Electrician

Geyserservice and repair

Garth - 086 104 3973



Rainfall Report for February 2022

February's rainfall has not disappointed and exceeds the average for the past nine years.

If past trends continue our monthly rainfall will now start reducing in the months ahead.

Total dam levels across the country, although marginally down on since last month's report, continue to show an appreciable improvement over the same week last year (93% vs 85%).

This data as at 22 February 2022. Feel free to visit the website sawx.co.za/state-of-dams for this and much more weather-related information.

Nonetheless the drive to conserve water remains a national imperative. Remember we remain subject to water use restrictions in Johannesburg.

Rainfall in mm for 2021/2022

Mar 2021	64.9
Apr 2021	28.1
May 2021	29.5
Jun 2021	0.8
Jul 2021	0.0
Aug 2021	0.5
Sep 2021	0.0
Oct 2021	87.1
Nov 2021	72.5
Dec 2021	154.1
Jan 2022	119.5
Feb 2022	174.0

12 Months 731.0 mm

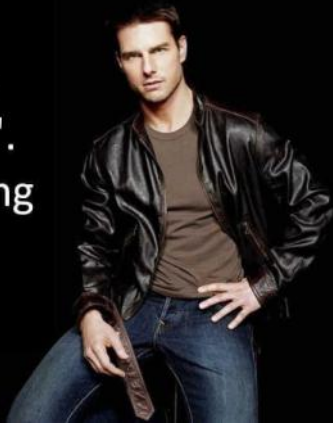
Rainfall for February over the years

2013	115.2
2014	251.9
2015	91.0
2016	64.6
2017	205.6
2018	58.0
2019	217.0
2020	145.2
2021	165.6
2022	174.0

Average for Feb since 2013 is 148.8 mm

Just Like That.....

Tom Cruise is in South Africa to shoot "Mission Impossible 9". The movie is about trying to renew his driver's licence..



Someone threw a bottle of omega 3 pills at me!!
Luckily my injuries were only super fish oil.



Repeat after me, "Retinal." One more time, "Retinal."



"If it doesn't itch, don't worry about it."



**Everyone Wants to Park in
Shade, but No One Wants to
Plant a Tree.**

Spare a thought and a prayer for those poor souls trapped in Ukraine, and subjected to all manner of horrors by so called leaders who try to satisfy their own egos without a thought to the suffering caused to the innocents.