

APRIL - SEPTEMBER 2023

Since our last Muize News this happy village of ours has been a hive of activity. When I see all that was on offer here – just since our last newsletter – it reminds me once again of why moving here was definitely a good move... (excuse the pun). We feature just a few of the activities as a teaser for all – old and new residents ... to encourage you to make this village your own – there is something here for everyone to enjoy. Not really one for socialising? No problem – there are other activities in which one can quietly partake – monthly talks on a variety of topics; exercise classes; clubs such as photography, bridge, art, knitting, et cetera – just join one of the groups and keep your body and mind active.







Inbetween all the fun and games a wellattended annual general meeting was also held. And on the left some wellness treatments thrown in to sooth the feet.





by Mike Horn (Another in the two-part series on ancient civilisations)

Ever since reading Chariots of the Gods by Erich von Daniken on unsolved mysteries of the past, way back in the 1960s, I have been fascinated by the subject, having accepted that we simply cannot claim to be the only life in this vast universe, and that there could be other beings out there far more technically advanced than us. At the first opportunity way back in the early 1970's, Marisa and I undertook a semi - archaeological tour of Brazil, Peru, Mexico, California and Colorado and were fortunate to experience first-hand some amazing examples straight out of Von Daniken's book.

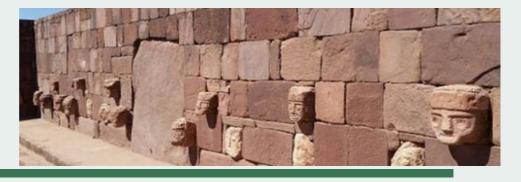
After a long flight from Rio to Lima in Peru, we then had an exciting flight into Cusco, situated at 3354m (11000ft) in a steep valley in the Andes, covered in thick cloud. Before reducing altitude to land, we had magnificent views of the surrounding snow-covered peaks appearing like inselbergs above the clouds, glinting in the sun.

Cusco is at high altitude, so one has to drink coca tea to offset altitude sickness. The city was the original capital of the vast Inca empire that extended from Columbia in the N to Chile in the S, a distance of 4800km, and its cities displayed a high level of archaeological and engineering skills of a highly complex and organised society. Its rich and material culture included beautiful textiles, ornate pottery, precious stones and finely worked objects of gold and silver. Certain buildings in Cusco were once covered in gold foil. In the 16th Century the Spanish conquistadores helped destroy the entire Inca civilization and filched all the gold and silver.

Photos: Middle and bottom: Puma Punku near Lake Titicaca







A further amazing construction we were unable to visit, is the megalithic site at Puma Punku near Lake Titicaca, consisting of massive up to 130 ton granite blocks, machine/lazer cut and interlocking with alloy clamps, all transported from a quarry 100km away in mountainous terrain. Thought to be 17000 years BCE or older, as they align with stars of that age, Puma Punku is one of the most intriguing ancient sites on the planet. Advanced precision technology is in evidence everywhere.

Our next site visit eagerly awaited was the famous Inca Citadel of Machu Picchu (below left), and our route from Cusco took us by train up along the Urubamba River, a tributary of the mighty Amazon, through lush rugged valleys to the Machu Picchu station, and from there a white- knuckle bus ride up a cliff to the citadel at 2438m (8000'). Situated on a mountain top, it is thought to have been an Inca city from where they could control tribes down the lower reaches of the rivers.





Superbly constructed with precision stonework there are palaces, towers, temples, fountains and tombs. Many opinions have been offered as to what Machu Picchu represents – no historical documentation has ever been found to enlighten archaeologists. The citadel is likely one of the most advanced Inca architectural constructions and is encircled by terraces, many of which hang from precipices that surround the city. Other narrower terraces act as retaining walls for stability and water was conveyed by narrow stone canals towards the centre of the city, where there are 16 perfectly tooled fountains distributing water at different levels, permitting easy rationing of water among the population. The whole city and the surrounding canyon is awe inspiring and its remote site, which features astronomical alignments in its construction, indicates that it might be thousands of years older than the Inca civilization that is supposed to have built it. It is possible that the Incas were mere occupants of the existing construction although currently archaeologists believe that it was constructed as an estate for Inca emperor Pachacuti (1438 – 1472).

We were able to discuss another fascinating archaeological mystery in Peru – that of the plains of Nazca – a series of geometric & pictorial designs (as big as 48km long) etched into the reddish soils of the desert plains of the Nazca basin, a site that covers 450 sq km and depicts creatures from the natural world (eg scorpion, birds) & numerous geometric designs. The details can only be seen from altitude and space and many believe that they were landing pads for alien spacecraft. This theory is further supported by the existence of a huge carved arrow design on the coastal cliffs in line with the plains of Nazca (navigational aids for incoming spacecraft?).



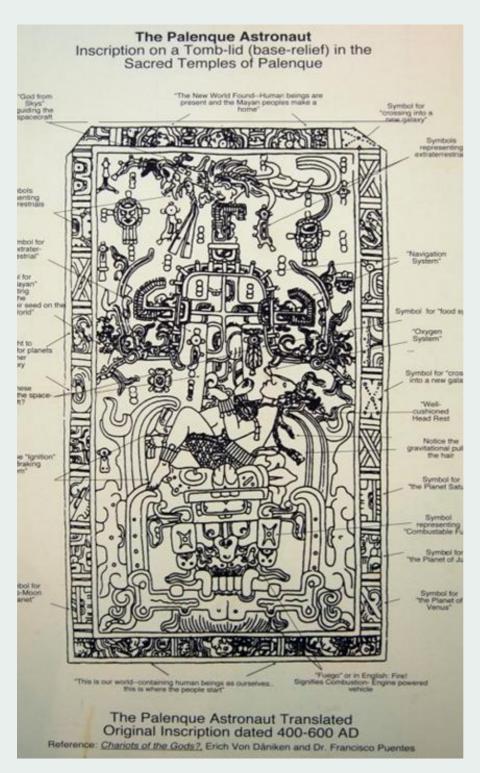


After our return to Lima and a visit to the fascinating historic displays in the National Museum, it was time to depart for the next leg of our tour to Mexico City and the ancient Pyramids of Teotihuacan (below). The site comprises of the large pyramid of the Sun and the smaller pyramids of the Moon. They stand guard over the ruins of an ancient holy city with the remains of many altars or launching platforms? Lining what is known as the street of the dead, the pyramids were old when the Aztecs came to the valley of Mexico. Today one can only guess as to their origin but the generally accepted view is that this was the capital of the Toltecs (900 – 1168 AD).





We were able to take in a special visit to the Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City, a magnificent modern building designed by Pedro Velazques. It houses one of the world's largest collections of archaeological and anthropological artifacts, from Mayan civilizations to the Spanish conquest. Fantastic displays of historical wares beginning with stone age implements and fossils through various periods – introduction, Mesomeric, Pre-classic, Teotihuacan, Toltec, Mexica, Aztec, Zapotec, Oaxaca, Gulf of Mexico, Maya – the Maya section was of special interest with a large stone tomb replica from Palenque, which occurs in von Daniken's book showing, without a doubt, an astronaut in the reclining position complete with space helmet and cabin controls.





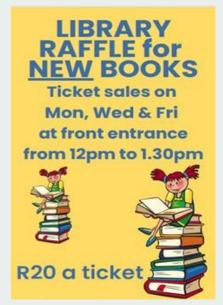


The other leg of the trip took in Los Angeles, with visits to Disneyworld and Universal Studios – then to Las Vegas and a flight in a six seater Cessna over Hoover Dam, Lake Mead and through the amazing Grand Canyon, with a stop-over at Canyon village on the lip for great views of this vast geological wonder. On our return trip to Rio we were able to stop in Acapulco Mexico for a rest, and then went on to Panama, Lima and Rio.

NEWS FROM OUR LIBRARY

by Lydia Hirschmann





Ltr: Sue Wood (Rescom chair) with Lydia Hirshman and Meg Wilkinson

Our library is on the hop and to help the volunteer staff in their amazing efforts to upgrade our stock, Rescom sponsored a raffle which brought in just over R2000. It was won by resident Margaret Liebling and with the spoils we were able to purchase six current best sellers which are all now available in the library. With the balance we will be doing a another raffle soon. Thank you to all the residents and visitors for the excellent response.

The Library gals were invited to tea by June Orsmond who chairs the Evergreen Book Club. We listened with interest to the members recounting their views of the books they had read and June handed us an envelope with a substantial amount consisting of members' contributions which will enable us to purchase even more books.

In the interim management has kindly provided a new bookshelf to increase our book display space. A trolley donated by Sue Wood has replaced the basket for returns as books were being damaged in the basket.

A huge thank you to residents Colleen Sinclair, Frances Stafford, Helen Patterson, Tony Joubert and Pam Gunston for their donations of books, and many other residents whose names eluded us, and for which we apologise.

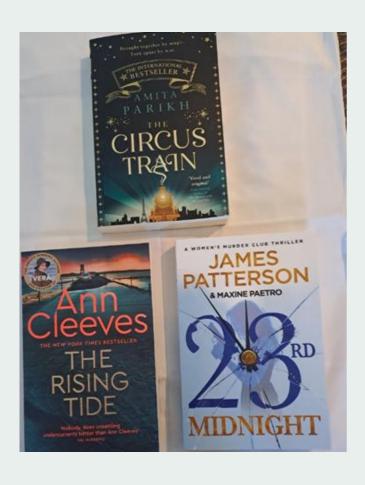
We have the late Carol Smuts to thank for the existence of our library. Carol was a qualified senior librarian having been, amongst others, the head of the Steenberg Library. It was her idea to run the Library as an HONOUR LIBRARY with the responsibility on the residents to take care of the books they borrow and to return them timeously.

NEWS FROM OUR LIBRARY

Go as a river
Someone else's shoes
I will find you
The circus train
23rd Midnight
The rising tide
Horse

The Lincoln Highway
The prince of the skies
Atlas, the story of Pa Salt

Shelley Read
JoJo Moyes
Harlan Coban
Amita Parikh
James Patterson
Ann Cleeves
Geraldine Brooks
Amor Towles and other books by this author
Antonio Iturbe
Lucinda Riley/Harry Whitaker





Please bear in mind that we do not keep tabs on the books as they are taken out. The card system where one enters the titles and authors is simply for the benefit of the users to serve as a reminder of what they have already read. We thus essentially work according to the HONOUR system and appeal to readers to honour this. We therefore appeal to residents who have taken out a number of books, to return some – even ifthey have not yet been read, and rather to take them out again at a later stage. This will ensure that other residents are able to read them. Quite a few very popular titles have not been seen for a long time...

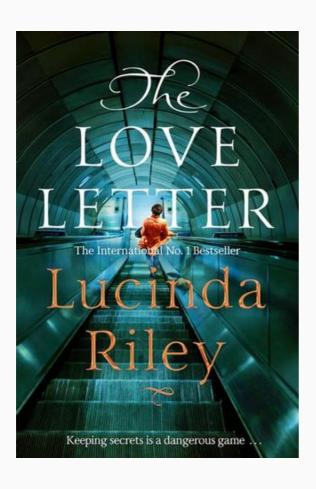
In closing we would like to remind our readers that donations are the backbone of keeping the library as up-to-date as possible and our sincere thanks go to all who help in this regard. Any duplicate books received are donated to Tears who collect.

Many thanks for your continued support.



The love letter by Lucinda Riley

I'm pleased that I read this book till the end. It has a most satisfying finish. At times I found myself wondering if the plot or plots would find a way to combine. The story is about Joanna – a journalist descended from a famous English actor – Sir James Harrison. With 'royalty' involved, the CIA and dangerous liaisons, it is a rollicking love story and more. It is set in London and the English countryside, written in Riley's most descriptive style.



More suggestions

Apples never fall by Lianne Moriarty

Where the crawdads sing by Delia Evens

The book of two ways by Jody Picoult

Apples never fall by Lianne Moriarty

This is an entertaining book – an easy read about a family called Delany. Mum Dad and four adult children. It is set in Sydney. A stranger, Savannah who is a young woman appears at the parent's door on a rainy evening and Joy Delany (the mother) befriends her, asks her to stay and then enjoys her company immensely on a continuing basis. The story is about each of the characters – the parents and the four children and their interactions as well as their curiosity about Savannah. Suddenly Joy disappears without a trace and creates mayhem for the entire family. I have always enjoyed Lianne Moriarty and this is one of her latest books.

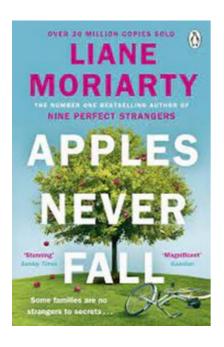
Where the crawdads sing by Delia Evens

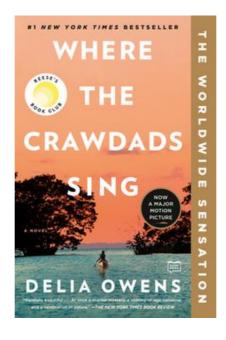
(a crawdad is a freshwater crawfish)

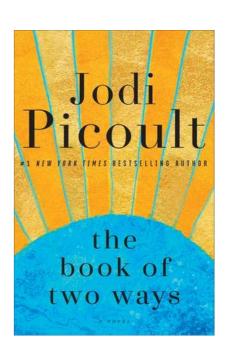
This wonderful book is a love story, a murder, a court case and about a girl of the growing up alone in the marsh. Abanded at 7 years old by the last of her family to leave – her father – she manages to survive and live amongst the birds, fish and sea – teaching herself also to draw and paint. There is a murder and a court case and a love story. This book was made into a film recently to much acclaim.

The book of two ways by Jody Picoult

This is an amazing story which poses many questions. Dawn is a 'death doula' who spends her life helping people with terminal illnesses to make the transition easily. When the plane she is on, crashes, she is forced to think about her life. She had been working in Egypt and had fallen in love there, she had to leave to nurse her mother who was dying of cancer. She has since returned to America and has accepted her new life, eventually marrying and has been married for 15 years. However, she has always longed for the man she loved in Egypt. After the crash her life forks in two directions. She has survived the crash but has to face her husband and daughter whom she loves and has to decide whether to return to Egypt to her one special love. Do we make our own choices or do our choices make us?







BOOK REVIEWS page 12



Non-fiction reviews by Vivienne T'Hart

Maybe it's because I was born under the star sign Pisces, the fishes, but I have an affinity with books about the sea, whether it is about ships or shore-based. So here follow a few from Evergreen's Library.

Around Madagascar on my kayak by Riaan Manser

This young South African adventurer became the first man to circumnavigate Africa on a bicycle during 2004 and 2005, and wrote about his adventures in the book, Around Africa on my bicycle. But that wasn't enough for him, he decided to circumnavigate the island of Madagascar on his kayak, named PaddleYak. This was a fascinating read – a book of 345 pages. Full of hair-raising episodes, meeting all sorts of people, good as well as bad, and having to cope with a very strange language, which does not sound like it is written, with some very long names, such as: Antsiranana, Ambovombe, Antananarivo (the capital), and Lohatanjona. And this just to start with! A venture such as this needs much money, but Riaan was lucky with his sponsors, who helped him in every way. This book is heartily recommended.

Shorelines – a journey along the South African coast by Chris Marais

In the early summer of 2005, Chris Marais and Julienne du Toit set out on a 70-day trip, by car, that would span the 3200km coastline from Alexander Bay on the southern edge of Namibia in the west, to Kosi Bay on the Mozambican border in the east. I quote from his Production Notes: 'Jules and I moved from landscape to landscape, village to village, but mostly from face to face. Along the way, we were often tempted to throw a stick of dynamite at some of the monstrous coastal developments we encountered – bad taste hard at work with its little face-brick fantasies. Wherever we went, we made new friends, and learnt new things.

After four weeks on coastal roads, Jules and I collapsed into the world of the Arniston Hotel. Just after lunch, we met the hotel manager, Derek Drew.' Yes, you read it correctly, THAT ONE! (I checked with our Derek, it was him, ha ha!)

We fell in very briefly with diamond divers, surfers, skippers home from the sea, fishermen, and even renewed our acquaintance with the legendary Robinson Crusoe of South Africa, Ben Dekker. We went where crocodiles walk the beach, leopards stalk the shores, and ghosts of castaways stumble into the mist.' Greatly recommended.

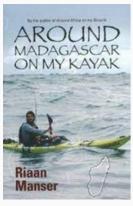


Skeleton Coast – the dramatic rescue operation of the Dunedin Star by John Marsch

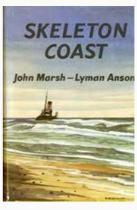
On the night of November 29th, 1942, the British liner, Dunedin Star, with more than 100 people aboard, including 21 passengers, and a military cargo for the Allies, ran aground on the Coast of Death, the uninhabited coast of Kaokoveld, of the then South West Africa. This is the gripping tale of the rescue of the castaways, and also the rescue of the two parties of rescuers, airmen, and police patrol. Only two lives were lost in the saga.

South African Beachcomber by Lawrence G. Green

I have been a reader of Lawrence Green since my teenage years, but never read this title, published in 1958. His first book, The Coast of Treasure, was published in 1933. Each chapter of this title, involves a different type of beachcomber, of castaways, fishermen, also various fish and birds, a great book for a relaxing read. This is my own copy. All his other books are to be found in Evergreen's library, on the TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE SHELF.







On the lighter side

Since 1982 the Bulwer Lytton Fiction Contest has challenged participants to write an atrocious opening sentence to the worst novel never written. Our whimsical literary competition honors Sir Edward George Bulwer-Lytton, whose 1830 novel Paul Clifford begins with: 'It was a dark and stormy night.' The contest receives thousands of entries each year, and every summer our Panel of Undistinguished Judges convenes to select winners and dishonorable mentions announced in August.

2023 Grand Prize Winner

'She was a beautiful woman; more specifically she was the kind of beautiful woman who had an hour-long skincare routine that made her look either ethereal or like a glazed donut, depending on how attracted to her you were.'

We're laughing and hungry! Chosen from over 6,000 entries, the winner of the 41st(!) Annual Lyttoniad is Maya Pasic of New York, New York.

When our champion isn't busy working at Penguin Random House, you'll find her knitting, listening to Balkan folk music, and, of course, prowling local bookstores. A true noble Bulwerier. Congratulations, Maya!

(bulwer-lytton.com,(Luinda Lilley from City of Cape Town Library and Information Service)



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In conclusion, another link with the sea... Sea Fever by – John Masefield

I must go down to the sea again, To the lonely sea and the sky, And all I ask is a tall ship And a star to steer her by; And the wheel's kick And the wind's song, And the white sails shaking And the grey mist on the sea's face, And a grey dawn breaking. I must go down to the sea again, For the call of the running tide, Is a wild call and a clear call, That may not be denied; And all I ask is a windy day With the white clouds flying, And the flung spray and the blown spume, And the seagulls crying. I must go down to the seas again, To the vagrant gypsy life, To the gulls' way and the whale's way, Where the wind's like a whetted knife; And all I ask is a merry yarn From a laughing fellow rover, And a quiet sleep and a sweet dream, When the long trip's over.



OUTYDSE BOERERAAT... HOESSTROOP WAT WERK!

2X BOTTELTJIES TURLINGTON

2X BOTTELTJIES BORSDRUPPELS

IX BOTTELTJIE PEPPERMENTDRUPPELS

500G HEUNING

500ML GEMMERBRANDEWYN

2 EETLEPELS KANEEL

MENG ALLES GOED SAAM, EN NEEM 'N

EETLEPEL VOL 4 KEER PER DAG.

NOTA: 'N MENS KAN MAAR DIE BRANDEWYN

UITLOS, DIS JOU KEUSE



Local history...

The St James Cannonball

In 2014 Derek Stuart-Findlay of the Kalk Bay Historical Society gave a cannonball to the Muizenberg Historical Conservation Society, knowing that the Battle of Muizenberg is a special focus of ours. The ball was dug up by Naseegh Jaffer in his garden in Ley Road, St James, and it tells a story.





HMS America is the big ship flying the red and white flag.

Because we have excellent detail on the actions and participants of the Battle of Muizenberg, we can work out a great deal of information on the cannonball. It was found between Ley Road in St James and Boyes Drive, high above sea level.

An enduring belief amongst non-gunners is that when you apply the burning fuze to the touch-hole of a cannon, it goes off. This is not always true. Sometimes the powder in the touch-hole fizzes and splutters before the flame reaches the charge, and only then does the gun go BANG. On a sailing ship this is a problem because you cannot aim a ship's gun, you have to wait until the roll of the ship brings your gun on target, so effectively you aim the ship, not the gun. If you apply your fuze at the exact right moment and are rewarded with fizzing and spluttering, followed later by the bang, this is called a misfire. The ball could go anywhere except the target.

The painting of the Battle of Muizenberg now hangs in Parliament. Apart from being a skilled artist, Johann Federici was also present on the Dutch side at the Battle of Muizenberg, so he qualifies as a direct observer and a war artist. His painting can be considered broadly accurate. Other paintings of the occasion were the result of the artist being told the story by someone who might or might not have been there, so those pictures were based on a second or third hand imagination and bear little resemblance to reality.

Between about 1815 and 1840, what is now KwaZulu-Natal erupted into bloody mayhem, the Terror. Shaka Zulu set about building himself an empire by exterminating the local tribes and stealing their land, their cattle, their children and young women. It is a large and dark subject, avoided by our politicians even now.

For now, I give you this from the journal of Andrew Smith (who I presume gave his name to Smith Street in Durban, now changed but still commonly used) who travelled through Natal and Zululand in 1832. Andrew Smith visited Dingane and stayed at his kraal, writing copious notes of what he saw. It was Dingane who had Shaka killed in 1829, only three years earlier.

'The country through which we had passed was a very fine one and had been very populous from the number of places where kraals had been and which were more conspicuous from the number of skulls lying near each (Chaka having killed all the inhabitants) ... The whole country about these kraals was strewed with bones of those who I suppose had tried to escape up the mountains.'

What disturbs me more than the telling of bleached skulls and bones is that they were intact, indicating that they had not been set about by hyenas or jackals or vultures. That in turn indicates that those scavengers, which were common throughout the land at the time, had more corpses available than they could consume. How many died? The number will never be accurately fixed, but estimates range from 500,000 to 2 million. It was a desperate time, and it changed South Africa. (Reference: Andrew Smith and Natal, The Van Riebeeck Society, Cape Town 1955.) From: Milestones 35 newsletter, produced by Chris Taylor for the Muizenberg Historical Conservation Society

Corruption in high places

There has always been corruption, as long as there has been human society. The only variables are the extent of its practice and the values involved. Here from about 1820 is the story of Sir John Truter, President of the Orphan Chamber, a body with considerable funds at its disposal. In this capacity he agreed to lend himself and his family some 51,000 Rix-dollars although he must have known that he never could – and indeed, never did – repay the money. Any anxiety which Sir John might have felt in this regard was no doubt considerably alleviated by the knowledge that he was also President of the Court of Justice and empowered to deliver the final judgement in any case that might be brought against himself.

So, neatly wrapped up then. Does it sound familiar? (Source: Cape Town the Making of a City; Worden, van Heyningen, Bickford-Smith. David Philip Publishers, Cape Town 1998, From: Milestones 33).

Let's cook

Another recipe in the series of famous authors and their favourite foods...John Steinbeck

'John Steinbeck was a locavore before it was cool. No matter where he was writing from, his letters always mention the local produce. In California, he bought a cow so he could make his own butter and cheese. In England, he foraged for dandelion greens ("cook them slowly and for a long time with pieces of bacon"). In Sag Harbor (village in Long Island), he revelled in the local seafood. 'I figure I can always catch my dinner,' he once said. But sometimes you come home after a long day, and you don't want to knead your own bread, dry your own pasta, butcher your own goat. You just want to buy a whole baguette, put some brie on it, eat it all while watching The Wire on Netflix and call that dinner. "I like good food and good clothes, but faced with getting them I can't round myself into a procuring unit", Steinbeck wrote in a particularly lethargic mood. I imagine he said it on the sofa in sweatpants.

Often it's the presence of other people that keeps me from nights of cheese sandwiches in front of the TV; cooking for company is just more fun! But when Steinbeck was alone on the road, he would forget the butter-churning and revert to the life of a single guy. Hence his recipe for posole, borrowed from his friend (and famed screenwriter) Jack Wagner: "a can of chili and a can of hominy". Hello, bachelorville.' (https://paperandsalt.org/2012/04/05/johnsteinbeck-pork-posole/)





Pork Pozole pressure cooker recipe)

Ingredients

11/4 pounds boneless pork shoulder, trimmed of fat and cut into 4-inch pieces

Kosher salt and fresh cracked pepper

1 tbsp olive oil

1 medium white onion, chopped

4 garlic cloves, minced

2 tablespoons chili powder

4 cups low sodium chicken broth

2 cups water

2 15 oz cans hominy (samp), drained and rinsed

4 oz diced avocado and lime wedges, for serving

Cilantro for garnish

Method

Season the pork with salt.

Heat half of the oil.

Add the pork and cook until pieces are browned on all sides, about 8 minutes; transfer to a plate.

Add remaining oil, onion, garlic, and chili powder and sauté until soft, 4 minutes.

Add broth and water, cook, stirring and scraping up browned bits with a wooden spoon.

Return pork to the pressure cooker. Secure lid.

Cook on high pressure until meat is tender, about 45 minutes.

Remove from heat, vent pressure, then remove lid.

Skim fat if any.

Using two forks, shred pork; then stir in hominy and heat through.

Serve with avocado and lime and garnish with cilantro.

Enjoy

A LITTLE HUMOUR

· Will glass coffins be a success?

Remains to be seen.

What's the difference between a hippo and a zippo?

One is really heavy and the other is a little lighter.

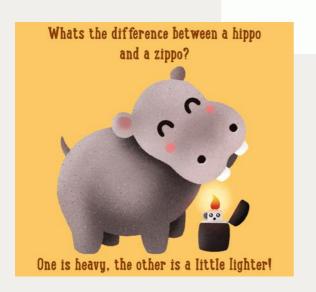
 Hear about the new restaurant called Karma?

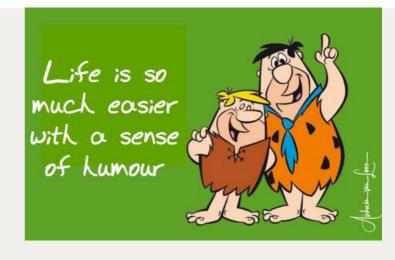
There's no menu - you get what you deserve.

- I went to buy some camouflage trousers yesterday but couldn't find any.
- What do you call a bee that can't make up its mind? A maybe.
- I tried to sue the airline for losing my luggage. I lost my case.
- Is it ignorance or apathy that's destroying the world today?

I don't know and don't really care.

 I wasn't originally going to get a brain transplant, but then I changed my mind.





For English Language Lovers. What is the difference between 'Completed' and 'Finished'? No dictionary has been able to define the difference between 'Complete' and 'Finished.' But in a linguistic conference in England, Sun Sherman an Indian American, was the clever winner. His response: When you marry the right woman, you are 'Complete.' If you marry the wrong woman, you are 'Finished.' And when the right woman catches you with the wrong woman, you are 'Completely Finished.' His answer received a five minute standing ovation.

VILLAGE INFO



Gardens and our gardeners

This is what our gardeners may do for you? The general regulation introduced some years ago, is that the gardeners may spend 20 minutes at a time in our gardens. This includes moving pots, basic weeding, planting, et cetera. However, this is sometimes abused by some residents and there is an appeal to everyone to please adhere to the regulations.

Gardeners should under no circumstance be given a cash tip, food or a gift for work done in residents' gardens. A service provider is employed by Evergreen to do the landscaping in the village, who is paid and who, in turn, pays his staff. Gardeners should not be working during their lunch hours, as by law anyone working more than five hours should have a lunch break.

We all realise that it is always nice to give someone a 'tip', but that just leads to favouritism for some residents, whilst others get ignored unless there is something in it for the gardener and by doing so he gets compromised. This has in the past (and fairly recently as well) led to 'popular' gardeners having to be transferred or dismissed. For all garden services, including the '20 minutes' please make a booking with reception who will then allocate a gardener. Anything more than the magical '20 minutes' will be charged for at R65.00 an hour or R40.00 per 30 minutes.

This is an appeal to all to adhere to these rules in order to avoid unnecessary unpleasantness.

MARKET NEWS





On 30 September a wonderfully successful Spring Fair Craft market was held in our village. And a truly spring fair it was — what with stallholders sporting delightfully decorated hats sourced by Patrick and covered in flowers by enthusiastic residents, walls bedecked with ribbons and flowers, all accompanied by music enthusiastically provided free of charge by resident Janice Behr's grandson and two friends — all in all a festive atmosphere filled with fun, laughter and joy. Soz Christie added to the magic by intermingling the tables for both eating and displays in the general area, providing lots of comfortable seating and a lovely restaurant atmosphere. There were over 27 stalls with homemade goods ranging from delicious bakes, preserves, pickles, beautiful handmade quilts, tablecloths, handbags, amazing artwork by our two resident art groups, great photography and a white elephant stall packed with bargains — the list is endless...you name it — and you could find it.

And from the look of it people were not shy to put their hands in their pockets — I know of a few people (myself included) who broke the bank... where are we going to go with it all? We are, after all, retired and should be getting rid of stuff — well, when faced with such lovely and tantalising goods as well as bargains as we were on Saturday — all one's good intentions tend to fly out the window.

A huge thank you to the organisers and participants under chairmanship of Lydia Hirshman who took part in this yearly event — it takes so much time and dedication and without everyone's input this market simply could not be held. Lydia was supported by a team consisting of Sue Wood (also our Rescom chair), Patsy Curtis, Maureen Seegers, Gay Goodwin, Glenda Williams, Meg Wilkinson, Michelle Jones-Phillipson and others...forgive us if anyone is left off this list. A fantastic baker's table was run by Margarete and Elaine Simons and Glenda Williams who were supported by several accomplished bakers in the village — all who donated their bakes to the cause.

Nikki and her Bistro team really provided excellent service with typical 'market food', and endless teas, coffees and drinks.

Assistant manager Kim Whitworth's endless energy, creating limitless posters, calming ruffled feathers and amazing support went a long way to make this project the success it turned out to be.

Our duty managers also joined in and assisted with moving furniture, and simply helping wherever help was needed.

Simply put, this was a team, and everyone on the team made a special effort to make it work. In the words of Sue: 'As a team we are confident that we achieved a positive happy village spirit embued with great gratitude. From what we can gather this year's Spring Fair has raised the most money ever! I cannot thank and praise the generosity of spirit, time, expertise and talent of all who participated (including the buyers) enough.'

A whopping R20722 was raised - all of which is to be donated to Ithemba Primary School. We understand that this is the highest amount ever raised and the most successful charity event

ever at Muizenberg.





