

'THE OLIVE CRESTER'

NEWSLETTER NO. 27

AUGUST 2014

INTRODUCTION:

Dear Friends in Olive Crest – sorry that these newsletters are pushed out so sporadically, (indolence does not always respond to treatment), but at least there is one benefit. The big durations between editions helps hide one's awareness of how quickly the seasons are cycling and the months are flying by! It seems like only yesterday that the Bulls were playing good rugby. How time flies. Yippee, winter is almost over and we can now look forward to the blooming buds, the nesting birds, the raucous frogs, the jiminy crickets, the algaed pools, the thigh high lawns, the Highveld thunderclaps, the Kentucky Fried lightning strikes, the blown electrics, etc. In fact, all that is special about summer in this place. Bring it on!

SOCIAL NEWS:

A Happy "Hello" to the new arrivals ...

#99 – **Claudia Basile and Michelle Branco** – purchased their house from Alida and Jose Gomes
#104- **Tanya Rae** and young daughter **Courtney** – purchased their house from Jacu and Dina Muller

And also to those brave pioneers whose constructions are near complete (nearly there, hang in, it will all be worth it when you've finished, you'll look back and laugh, etc) ...

#38 - **Carlos de Gouviea** and daughter **Micaela**
#39 - **Alex and James de Bruyn**
#71 - **Helio and Carmen Leal**
#111- **Danie and Voli Maree**

Welcome awaits

Constructions in progress ...

X 7 – Stands 26, 47, 56, 75, 96, 103 and 105. The last of the Developer's stands has been sold. So the ongoing construction work at OC is no longer resembling Man's first intimations of eternity. (God gave us Test Match cricket to do that).

NEWS FROM SUZANNE'S OFFICE:

TELKOM:

Works have started, albeit not as soon, nor as fast as anticipated, it is all coming together slowly, and we are steadily working through the problematic areas. For those who have already had conduiting installed in their stands in anticipation of the Telkom services, the cables will be pulled through to the end point. **Let Suzanne know of any of your issues or queries**, so she may pass on to the contractor currently on site.

Telkom manholes have a blue **T** spray painted on them in order for residents to identify which is their closest manhole, so now is a good time to call in your electricians to have you linked ['conducted'] to the manhole. Remembering too that draw wires must also be available in the cabling for when you do

your residential installation. Costs of the conduiting to private homes are obviously for the owner's account.

It seems that applications for the Telkom service will only be accepted once the restoration project of the existing infrastructure is signed off.

STREET HARDWARE:

You may have noticed that all the street hardware has been revamped by the Estate gardeners. The newly painted light poles, street names, stop signs and the Clubhouse path lights are looking great, Nkandla here we come. The new entrance gates and pool area signage are in the process, and will be sorted out soon. Thanks to everyone involved on these street hardware upgrades. (The street software will only be upgraded to Windows 8 at some future however)

The Clubhouse has now been repainted in **darker earthy shades** ... as per the rules and is looking terrific! Double plug points have been installed above the patio serveries, which will be a bonus for when we have clubhouse functions, as well as for teenagers needing plugs for their iPods, iPads, iLiners, iBrows, etc.

CLUBHOUSE ADDITIONS:

Obtaining the Town Planning approval for a Consent Use for the Clubhouse is finally in motion. Without this approval, the additions of the outside toilets, storeroom and staff showers as proposed some years back, can not be started. Application has been formally submitted to the Council, and the process will take anything up to 12 months or the next newsletter, whichever happens first.

POST/LETTERS/MAGAZINES/LITERATURE:

Please, please and again *please* come and plough your way through the ever mounting pile of post at Suzanne's lair. If the Clubhouse is locked you are welcome to fetch the key from the gatehouse. There are all sorts of important missives and stuff lying there with your name on them. Don't blame us if you are sued by SANRAL, SARS or Cosmopolitan. (Sorry, Suzanne, that last sentence is not correct, Cosmopolitan is always the first to be fetched).

SEWER STATION:

Thanks be to our two weekly service maintenance man who keeps the pumps and impellers free from all the wrong things that are being sent down the system by the residents, (such as the SANRAL, SARS and Cosmopolitan letters of demand). There have been no major problems of late. However, the service man does ask that residents served by this OC infrastructure, (maintained and paid for by us all), **kindly dispose of nappy liners elsewhere**, as these are more than bountiful each time he services the pits!

SPEEDING:

Please all remember that the **maximum speed limit is 30km** ... not 100 and plenty! **And remind children too that speeding around corners, on the wrong side of the road, or shooting out of driveways on scooters at a rate of knots is not a good idea at all.** It seems as if we have a few would-be Lewis Hamiltons in OC – old and young alike! Kyalami will apparently soon be available again, so just be patient

REQUEST FROM SUZANNE:

If anyone is replacing or throwing out a smallish TV or a decent radio, please let Suzanne know. She has an on-going personal 'community project' for Lyn, a 75 year old pensioner and cancer patient, living in Cosmo City RDP. Some residents may have already met her in the office when she pops in en route from her hospital visits. Such a donation will be much appreciated.

Apropos all of the above – may we say a BIG THANKYOU to the Directors, Committee, Volunteers and Suzanne for all the dedication and hard work put into the Estate. Even though we are coming out of winter, everything is looking splendid and we appreciate the effort of all concerned.

You are an awesome team!

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS:

Recycling Your Waste - Recycling is a responsible way of taking us all into a future of climate change and carbon build up. ECO-MONKEY is a company that is already collecting glass, cans, paper, plastics, polystyrene, etc, from some homes in Olive Crest. Simon Thom, the owner, has sent a proposal to the HOA to service the entire Estate. As this document needs consideration from the Committee, we will hold it over to the next AGM for discussion. In the meantime, if anyone is interested in trying out this service, they can contact Simon at simon@ECOMonkey.co.za

Owls AWOL Ahoy - There are reports that people are hearing our Spotted Eagle Owls, but we have not heard whether they are breeding or not. Any sightings? Pity if they have gone to greener pastures because of the activities



(Cape Robin Chat bathing in the nude!)

Bird List – The current Bird List for Olive Crest is now sitting at just short of 80 birds. Anyone wanting to scrutinize/query the list please contact Suzanne and it can be passed on to you. We have an amazing diversity, and a Brown-hooded Kingfisher is a recent addition, now seen regularly. It seems the Green Wood-hoopoes have had successful breeding



Aloes and Beautiful Things – Weren't the Aloes stunning this year? And now they are being replaced by the Clivias, which give us a gorgeous month of flowers in Spring. Also watch out for the Wild Pear, Dombeyas, which will give a bridal gown blossom display in the next few weeks. Check the beautiful old tree on the pavement of #69 if you want to know what a Dombeya looks like.

Coral Trees – and lastly, the Coral Trees, Erythrina Lysistemon, are blazing their orange/crimson flowers all over the Estate. Check the magnificent one at the Clubhouse! These trees put out their blossoms before they put out their leaves for some unknown reason. Probably just to stand out from the crowd.



OLIVE CREST ACCOLADES:

In our last Newsletter we gave praise to Magali Malherbe when she was awarded the Trophy of the French Living Overseas for her social and humanitarian work in SA. Very proud to say that when I purchased the July 'Fair Lady' there on Page 15 is an article all about Magali (and a great picture taken on the balcony of their house # 93 Olive Crest). She tells us about the rewards and challenges of living in the service of others. Super work Magali – we salute you and your on-going commitment to the Children of the Dawn organization. (www.childrenofthedawn.org.za)

ARTISTS AT THE CLUBHOUSE : SUNDAY MORNING 14 SEPTEMBER 2014

Apparently there are many more artistic people in this Estate than one would expect when talking to them. So, to herald in the Spring and give the numerous Olive Crest Artists, Wannabe Artists and Sparetime Tretchikoffs a chance for their place in the sun, we are going to hold an **Artists At The Clubhouse** event on SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER between 10h00 and 12h00.

You are all invited to view or exhibit, including outside friends and guests, so PLEASE come along. All we ask from the budding artists is that you bring anything you have ever sculpted, painted, drawn, photographed, spat on, whatever, and bring it to the clubhouse lawn. Of course you can sell it if someone takes a hankering to your output, or you can just prop up your paintings, (bring props), and have a cup of tea. Exhibitors and viewers should maybe bring deck chairs, umbrella, snacks, the kids, mother-in-laws (who knows what you may be able to sell if the price is right), friends from outside, etc. This little informal 'get together for the residents' event is open to OC residents, families, guests,

friends, whatever, whether you are an exhibitor, art critic, viewer, buyer or someone who just wants to walk over to the clubhouse on a Sunday morning for a cup of tea to see what's cooking.

The Ladies Committee will provide the tea. No charge for anything, so if you happen to know a Pierneef, Boonzaaier or Michelangelo, and he/she wants to show their efforts, invite him/her to the Clubhouse with his/her works of art, bric a brac or whatever.

NB LADIES MEETING : 18.15 MONDAY 25 AUG. IN THE CLUBHOUSE

ADVERTS

DERMALOGICA PRODUCTS

Kirsty Sayers is offering Olive Cresters 10% off Dermalogica products. Contact 082 878 3905 or kirstysayers@hotmail.com and have your order delivered to your house.

STUNNING FLORAL ARRANGMENTS

Come and see the beautiful flowers gracing our Clubhouse every week. Resident Mel can do the same for your home. Contact: Melinda@melsflowers.co.za

APPLIANCE REPAIR MAN

Professional/Reliable/Reasonable

Fridges/Stoves/washing Machines/Dishwashers/Tumble Dryers

DAN'S APPLIANCES

072 977 8163/073 728

2304

Email:

dans-appliances@gmail.com

CAREER ASSESSMENTS & GROUP STUDY SKILLS WORKSHOPS

Please phone Jean Clarke, to book : 082 330 1443 or email jean@educationalassessments.co.za, for your child's future development

The Saint John's

SPRING FAIR

IS BACK

7 SEPTEMBER

Beer Garden, Authentic Mediterranean, Portuguese, Indian, South African, Cameroonian, and other Cuisine, Music, Children's Games and Entertainment, Face Painting, Photo Booth, Book Fair, Bird Feeders, Farm Stall, Cakes, Knitted Goods, Handbags, Candles, Popcorn, Ice Cream, Pancakes.

Secure Parking Available

(but walking from Olive Crest will be much more fun !)

St. John's
Cnr Northumberland & Olievenhout Rd. North Riding
Phone: 010 222 0631 / or 010 500 0631
Email: ppc@st-johns.org.za/northriding.stjohn@catholicjhb.org

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY (Specially for the Olive Crest Retirees)!!

It's the tortoise life for me!!

If walking/cycling is good for your health, the postman would be immortal.

A whale swims all day, eats raw fish and drinks only water, and yet is quite obese.

A rabbit runs, hops and eats lots of carrots, and yet only lives 15 years.

A tortoise never runs, sleeps for days and never gets on a scale, yet lives for 450 years.

And you tell me to exercise?? I don't think so.

I'm retired.

Go around me!!
