

WINTER NEWSLETTER

in this issue >>>

***Birthdays
New Residents
In Memoriam
Water Restrictions***

JULY 2017—ISSUE 24



Winter has finally arrived

For a moment there I thought Winter had totally skipped Plett and that we would be going straight into Summer. The last couple of weeks we have experienced very warm and dry conditions and these conditions have lead to a severe drought and the recent fires, **but how wonderful was Sunday's downpour?**

We all are now aware that Winter is finally here, but if you are still unsure look towards Formosa Peak, you might just be lucky enough to see it still covered in a white fluffy blanket just before it disappears in yet **another "summers day" in Plett.**

With this, we would like to remind you that gas heaters are not allowed in cottages. Please refer to the House Rules.

Stay warm.

Sandra



Missing Items

Mrs. Chapman reported that 2 small cream tables disappeared from her veranda during the evening of Friday 14th July. Anyone with information please contact Sandra on #103.

Photo Credit: [Dup van Renen](#)

Blow, blow, thou winter wind,
thou art not so unkind as man's
ingratitude.

- William Shakespeare



PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Please note that the office will be closed during the upcoming Public holidays. No Admin, Domestic, Gardener or Maintenance staff will be available on these weekdays.

Wednesday 9 August: **National Women's Day**

Sunday 24 September: **Heritage Day**

Monday 25 September: Public holiday

Happy Birthday

During the next few months there will be quite a number of our residents who are celebrating milestone birthdays of 80 years and older. Happy Birthday and many blessings to all of you.

JULY 2017

6th	João Gomes	8th	Sheila Brown	11th	Ian Haig
18th	Rita Klein	23rd	Pat Bellingan	25th	Brian Hickey

AUGUST 2017

3rd	Shirley Johnstone	6th	Marina Niven		
9th	Jennifer Hickey	14th	Betty Harris	17th	Ken Dickin
17th	Eunice Walls	17th	Heather Smith	19th	Lyndsey Wright
19th	Paula McLachlan	20th	Nell Meyer	28th	Ray van der Poll

SEPTEMBER 2017

1st	Geoffrey Armitage	4th	Brenda Richardson	6th	Lynn Connell
8th	Ann Armitage	9th	Helga Worthington	10th	John Dreyer
13th	Jean Baker	14th	Nancy Wood	15th	Joan Deane
19th	Joan Moubray	20th	Wouter De Vos	21st	Ruth Gess
22nd	Bill Harrison	26th	Angus MacNair	28th	Gladys Cato
29th	Shireen Batterberry				

OCTOBER 2017

3rd	Ann Swartz	3rd	Liz Mudd	12th	Dennis Smith
17th	Joan Chapman	19th	Val Kritzinger	21st	Dick Schreuder
27th	Peter Stratten	29th	Elizabeth Ayres		

Welcome to our new residents

Since our last Newsletter, we have welcomed George and Nan de Jager to Formosa. We trust that they are settled in and feeling at home in our lovely village.

Dick and Flo Schreuder as well as Pat Bellingan have given up their cottages and taken up permanent residency in the Riley Wing. We also welcome Dr. Klaus Lange & Colleen Kemp to the Riley Wing. Kathleen Petersen will soon be making her own move to Price Jones.

Chappie and Joan Chapman have opted to downsize and moved into cottage 2, so has Ray van der Poll who will be moving to cottage 89 in August.

Ongoing upgrade and renovations on vacant cottages have been completed and we welcome Frances Cope to cottage 100 and Colleen Shuttleworth to cottage 122. João and Judith (van Dyk) Gomes will soon be taking up residency in cottage 123

The building process of the 3 new B2 cottages are on schedule to be completed mid August 2017. We look forward to welcoming Hugh and Joy Stacey to cottage 145, Angus and Jeanette MacNair to cottage 146 and Geoffrey and Ann Armitage to cottage 147.

Other vacant cottages are in the process of being sponsored and upgrades and building will commence soon.



We Remember

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of the following residents. Our sincere condolences to their family and friends.



Jessie Burnell



Marie Meiring



Edna Humprey



Maureen Callow



Riena van Graan



Val Williams



Margaret Plater



Joan Weideman

Stage 1 Water Restrictions



I refer to Bitou Municipality's letter circulated 6 June 2017 regarding Stage 1 water restrictions that allow watering of gardens only twice a week between 18:00 and 20:00.

We do understand that it is difficult for some residents to follow these time schedules; therefore I received written confirmation from Bitou Municipality allowing FGV to amend these times to between 16:00 and 18:00 on Mondays and Thursdays only. No hosing of roofs and driveways and no washing of vehicles with a garden hose will be permitted.

Should the Bitou water situation get worse, Stage 2 will be implemented and the above arrangement will fall away. Please remember to adhere to the restrictions as per the Bitou Municipal Drought Policy.

Speed limit

We have received several complaints regarding drivers not adhering to the 20km/ph speed limit. Please keep to this speed when driving on all roads in the village.



The Perfect Storm—

Photos borrowed from the internet & news articles

On Tuesday, the 6th of June, messages and warnings were sent out about the impending great storm heading our way. The Western Cape Education even went as far as cancelling all schools as a safety precaution, but Wednesday arrived without any sign of this great big storm, but what followed was something no-one expected.

The fires came in the wake of a huge storm which wreaked death and damage across the Western Cape. The fire started in Knysna, was on its way to Plettenberg bay.

By mid-morning, **13 houses had already been evacuated just outside Knysna towards Plettenberg Bay.** The N2 between the two coastal holiday towns were closed due to low visibility as a result of the smoke.

Plettenberg Bay and Knysna were also without power for most of Wednesday, because of the fires and cell phone networks went down. Pushed on by strong winds, the fire found its way to Plettenberg bay. Big areas were evacuated to evacuation points while the fire fighters and volunteers fought the fires throughout the following nights and days.



Our wonderful kitchen staff and volunteers who helped feeding the fire fighters

The old Edgars store in Market Square was opened as an evacuation relief centre where people who lost their homes could find shelter, food and counseling. Our kitchen received many fresh produce and food items from the Relief centre and under the guidance of Gerda, fed many of these fire fighters and volunteers throughout this period. We gave accommodation in our guest rooms to people who were evacuated from their homes. We emptied our thrift shop and donated 8 bags of clothing to the victims. When we were sure our borders

were safe from fire, the manager and Bugs went and extinguished smaller fires down the airport road. We all felt we needed to assist and help.

Many items were donated to Plett for the fire victims. Donations came in from every part of South Africa. Gerda and I assisted throughout the night at the NG Church evacuation point and then I helped out at the Edgars store where I was witness to people arriving with truckloads of donated goods. I met a lady who drove 13hours with a car full of donations.



Donations

I saw friends arrive who lost everything, and still volunteered their time to help others. This experience, although one of the worse disasters I have ever lived through, opened my eyes and my heart to how amazing people can be when faced with such devastation.

THE GREAT FIRE OF 2017 is the way CX Press describes one of the most fearful fires in SA's history. A Fire which left a devastating swathe of destruction in its fiery wake, a Garden Route of unparalleled beauty forever changed. People, places, perceptions changed forever. Thank you St Thomas Methodist Church Minister Tim Rist for urging us never to forget the lessons of the past 2 weeks, urging us to keep reaching out to one another, loving one another, helping one another, just as our Lord reached out to us on the Cross and still reaches out to us today. That God will give his people surefooted confidence and bring us safely over the mountains of danger and despair:

“Even though the fig trees are all destroyed and there is neither blossom left nor fruit and though the olive crops all fail and the fields lie barren...yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be happy in the God of salvation. The Lord God is my strength..”
Hab 3v17



THANK YOU FGV: Thank you to all the unsung heroes—the wonderful, dedicated staff of our beautiful FGV for their loving, tireless dedication to all the destitute people of Plett and surrounding areas, providing shelter, food from the kitchen and even clothing, all while still patiently attending to the, endless, everyday needs of our little village. Love and Blessings from all your grateful residents.

Elma Bergh

We received an email from Patricia and David Rowe who were evacuated and found refuge at FGV on the evening of the fire.

Patricia and I believe it would be most remiss of us if we did not bring to your attention the sterling and unhesitating assistance the Management and Staff of the Village gave us when we arrived on the doorstep of the Village seeking refuge from the now infamous June conflagration. Care is such an inadequate word to describe the assistance we received - from a plate of delicious hot vegetable soup and sandwiches to a spotless suite to helping hands all round.

And all this while Phillip and Gerda were rendering assistance to eight other 'refugees' in the very early hours of the morning. They were magnificent and well deserving of the praise which has been heaped on them in the past.

We are most proud to be members of the organisation ! Thank you !

Yours sincerely

Patricia and David Rowe

AGM 25 July 2017 Committee Results

At the AGM of 25 July 2017 the following nominees have been re-elected or elected to the Executive Committee.

They are:

- Mr. D Ayres
- Mr. D Milton
- Mrs. M Niven
- Mrs. A Hrabar



The newly appointed Executive Committee consists of the following members.

Mr. P Gaylard (Exco Chairman), Mr. D Ayres, Mrs. D Faragher-Thomas, Mr. T Grieve, Mrs. A Holmes, Mrs. A Hrabar, Mr. T Jager (House Committee Chairman), Mr. A Millerd, Mr. D Milton (Finance Chairman) and Mrs. M Niven

The House Committee members

Messrs: Jager (Chairman), Ayres and Mesdames: Faragher-Thomas, Holmes, Mrs. Hrabar and Niven

Finance and Administration Committee members

Messrs: Milton (Chairman), Gaylard, Grieve and Millerd

Cottages under Construction

With so many new people moving into our village, it is of utmost importance as a safety precaution, that residents and new residents refrain from entering any cottage that is under construction. Even if you do not see any barrier, do not walk onto any part of the construction site.

Anyone entering the job site has to wear hardhats, boots and safety vests and be accompanied by the subcontractor.



When all management are required in a meeting, Audrey is all too willing to help.



Fire 7 June 2017

Weekly Events at Formosa Garden village

Formosa offers a variety of entertainment during the month for our residents and members.

- U3A: Mondays and Wednesdays at 10h00 (Lounge)
Contact: Michael Lond - 044 533 0018
- U3A Film Club: Last Monday of the month at 19h00 (Lounge)
Contact: Brenda Hardy - 044 533 5489
- Bridge: Mondays at 13h45 (Dining Room)
Contact: Mrs. Jean Korck - 044 533 0340
- Digitone (Hearing aids): **Every 2nd Tuesday at 09h30 (Riley Wing Dr's Room)**
Contact: Stephen - 079 337 0839
- Fellowship: Every Tuesday at 10h00 (Lounge)
Contact: Lisa Ritchie - 044 533 3032
- Fun and Fitness: Thursday at 10h00 (Lounge)
Contact: Marlaine Coetzee - 044 533 1889
- Bingo: Every 2nd Tuesday at 18h00 (Dining Room)
Contact: Rosemary Davies—Cottage 78 (4078)
- FGV Movie: Every 2nd Wednesday at 14h30 (Lounge)
Contact: Lizette at Reception (Ext: 100)
- Bowls: Thursday at 09h00 on the Greens
Contact: Lizette at Reception for more information
- Make & Bake: Every Friday at 08h30 to 09h30 (Lounge / Foyer)
Contact: Mrs. P Denman - Cottage 85 (4085)
- Music Appreciation: Every 3rd Friday of the month at 15h30 (Lounge)
Contact: Mrs. Pamela de vos Bonthuys- Cottage 80 (Ext: 4080)
- Anglican Church Service: Every 2nd & 4th Friday of the month at 09h30(Lounge)
Contact: Mrs. Lynn Connell - Cottage 114 (Ext: 4114) or
Rev. Erik Andersen—Cottage 93 (Ext: 4093)
- Mah Jong : Every Friday of the month at 13h30(SDRM)
Contact: Mrs. Wright - Cottage 96 (Ext:4096)
- Library : Open everyday from 07:00 to 19:00
Contact: Mrs. Pamela de vos Bonthuys- Cottage 80 (Ext: 4080)
- Scrabble : Saturday mornings in the Riley Wing dining room at 09:30
Contact: Joan Moubray (Ext: 5027)
- Happy Hour : Last Friday of each month at 17:30 in the lounge
Contact: Jen Mitchell (Ext: 4128)

Please see the weekly and monthly calendar in the foyer for more info.

Gratuity Box Staff Donations

If you wish to give a staff member a financial gift or “tip”, we request that you DO NOT give to individuals as this causes unhappiness between members of staff. Instead place your donation in the locked gratuity box in the foyer.

This will ensure that all staff have a share in this “bonus” which is divided out in mid January when cash is usually in short supply.

Beneficiaries are our gardeners, drivers, maintenance staff, domestics, laundry and kitchen ladies, carers and domestics in Riley Wing who all look forward to receiving this wonderful bonsella.

There are small white envelopes at the reception (ask Lizette) to assist you in this regard. We would like to thank each and every one who contributes towards the staff gratuity fund during the year.



Operating Office Hours

We would like to remind residents of our office hours.

Monday to Thursday the office is open from 08h00 to 17h00.

Fridays we are open from 08h00 to 16h00. Staff are on lunch between 13h00 and 14h00.

Office is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and all Public Holidays.

The internal phone number for the Frail care is 102 and the direct phone number is 044 533 2718.



Future Newsletters & New updated Website

Do you have an interesting story to share? Then we would like to hear about it. I'm inviting residents to submit interesting stories or suggest a story that I can add to future newsletters. Drop off your story at the office, fax to 044 533 4209 or email it for Sandra's attention to



Staff Matters

Since our last newsletter, a few more faces have joined our staff. The maintenance department welcomed 2 new painters, Bandile Tsomo and Eric Plaatjies. Eric is married to Gairo from the laundry and is also Jackie from the kitchen's brother. On the gardening side, we welcomed Nico Mqwazi and Darrion Botha.

Sister Ingrid Baker will be retiring at the end of November and we wish her well in the last few months with us and we would like to thank her for her many years of loving care to our frail residents.

Our condolences goes out Riley Wing Carer, Gwen Kasayna on the passing of her baby girl after a very short illness. We pray that you find strength during this difficult time.

Handy things to remember

- ◆ Sandra van Zyl - Maintenance Department: Ext 103
- *Account queries & Maintenance* - Please do not instruct the maintenance staff directly as all maintenance queries need to be issued with a job number and this can only be done by Sandra. **Only jobs issued with a "job number"** will be tended to.
- *Gardener schedules* - Garden Schedules are set and cannot be changed or amended.
- *Kitchen orders* - no orders to be given to the Kitchen staff directly. Only orders received on a order form from Sandra will be accepted by the kitchen.
- ◆ Lizette Mills - Receptionist: Ext 100
- Account payments - we accepts credit card and cash payments
- Can assist you with faxing, emailing and copies. Your account will be charged accordingly.
- Guestroom bookings and Domestic schedules
- ◆ Other important things to remember
- CATERING : All catering needs to be booked at least one day in advance. The same applies to any cancellations.
- GARDENS: Gardener schedules are set and can not be changed. Please use your allocated gardening times with your gardeners to do jobs like, trimming shrubs, sweeping up leaves and removing leaves from your gutters and drains.
- BLOCKED DRAINS: Please refrain from flushing any foreign objects down the toilets. We have had several blocked drains over the past few weeks. Our maintenance staff are constantly having to remove items other than toilet paper from these drains.
- MISSING ITEMS: We are still having situations where plants, pot plants and garden ornaments are being removed from occupied and vacant cottages. We earnestly request that no items be removed from any cottage -vacant or occupied - without the permission of the Manager or the resident living there. Your assistance in this matter will be appreciated.
- TV CHANNELS: The DSTV channels that FGV offer, is under the control and management of DSTV and changes to programs and channels is out of our control. Maybe consider getting your own private system as DSTV has different packages on offer that might suit your pocket. Contact Megasat in town for more information on 044 533 3948.
- PRIVATE ISSUES: Private TV Systems (DSTV) and Private computers and printers issues does not fall under maintenance. If you require a referral for assistance, please contact Sandra.
- ADMIN CHARGES: Should you make use of the office to fax, email & make copies, charges will apply.
- PETS: Dogs are not allowed in the Admin, Dining room or Frailcare area. Hooks for leashes are provided outside the areas.
- WINDOW CLEANING: Cottage windows are washed on a 6-8 week rotation, dependant on the weather. The domestics are scheduled accordingly during their available hours.
- MEDICAL AID: You are liable to settle any Frailcare invoices and submit the claim to your Medical Aid. We are not contracted to any Medical Aid.

Formosa Garden Village Policies

FGV Emergency Policy

The Frail Care sister on duty will respond to a medical emergency, if reported, but may not transport or medicate a resident in need of medical attention which is more than first aid. Upon arrival the sister will assess and stabilize the person, do basic first aid, and refer the resident to a hospital via ambulance. The above policy is in line with the Older Persons Act and other retirement villages to prevent negligence litigation.



Riley Wing Charges

Please remember that should someone from the Riley Wing be called out to your cottage for Bed/Bath assistance, bed making, blood pressure or any other visit that you require from them, there will be a charge applicable. Should you wish to confirm these charges, please contact the office or the Riley Wing.

Administration of residents prescribed medication

Various Legislation prohibits Frail Care staff to “de-cant” prescribed medicine for residents. They are also not allowed to stock or administer any emergency medication without it being prescribed by a Medical practitioner.



These are;

1. Older Persons Act
2. Department of Social Development set protocols (Norms and Standards)
3. Nursing and Medicine Acts (scope of practice)

In order for the Frail Care staff to assist residents in the future with the dispensing of their prescribed medication, it must be pre-packed by your Pharmacy in the form of Blister Packaging.

Laundry Protocol

Due to the requirements laid out by Social Development, it is necessary to ensure that all laundry received from residents is not soiled ^u as to avoid cross contamination, which can lead to dangerous and costly infections within the village. All soiled clothing items, should firstly be rinsed at your cottage before it can be considered safe to be washed at our laundry. These items should then be separately sent in a sealed plastic with clear indication that this is a soiled item that was rinsed.



^u Soiled - Any linen which has minimal spotting of visible blood, faeces or any other body fluids on it.

Emergency

Number ****2102**

In case of an emergency at your cottage, knock the phone off its cradle. The Riley Wing phone will ring and will alert the Sister to your need for assistance. Should there be no answer, the sisters will investigate. She will then arrange for an ambulance for transfer to the hospital should it be required.



IN CASE OF AN EXTREME MEDICAL EMERGENCY OR A LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION, you may dial ****2102** from your internal phone for assistance.

PANIC BUTTONS

A panic button can be ordered through the main office. The once off cost is R198.00 and will be charged to your account. This panic button should be carried by you at all times and will provide the same service as knocking off the internal phone handset.



The current FGV cottage maintenance policy states:

FGV's Responsibility - External maintenance and upkeep of cottages. These include:

- The painting, waterproofing and varnishing thereof
- Cottage doors, window frames, windows, gutters, external door locks and structural defects
- Water, Sewerage, geyser and legal electricity connection up to and including the outlets
- Bulbs for internal and external fixed light fittings only
- Weed spraying restricted to the common roads / paved areas and communal gardens.



Resident's Responsibility - Internal maintenance and upkeep of a cottage, while being occupied by the resident.

These include:

- General maintenance of the inside of cottages which includes varnishing and painting of the cottages.
- Normal wear and tear items – cottage keys, cupboards, handles, toilet seats, carpets, tiles, shower doors, garage motors, remotes, sink and basin plugs within the cottage. Weed spray of the cottage garden and surrounding paving area.
- Breakages caused by the resident.

Our Maintenance team can assist with minor repairs inside cottages if reported to the office, but only when their busy schedule allows them. Charges for the residents account may be applicable and will be discussed prior to any internal repair work.

All maintenance requests will be investigated and handled accordingly.

Vehicle Policy

Formosa Garden Village is a Non Profit Public Benefit Organisation and therefore we need to adhere to the National Road Traffic act 93 of 1996. All vehicles **on FGV's premises or entering the village, must be registered and the driver must be in possession of a legal drivers licence.** Please check your licence on your car.



Going Away Policy

We remind residents to PLEASE fill in a Going Away form at reception **even if it's only for 1 night.** Supply all the information requested on the form. Missing information will cause confusion with Riley Wing's morning checks as well as Domestic and Gardener schedules.



Back Page Giggle

This was written by a young student, who apparently has their own take on what it is like for 'retired' grandparents. Enjoy looking at this through the eyes of a child.

RETARDED GRANDPARENTS

After a winter vacation, a teacher asked her young pupils how they spent their holiday away from school.

One child wrote the following:

We always used to spend the holidays with Grandma and Grandpa. They used to live in a big brick house but Grandpa got retarded and they moved to Stay Young Bay in Florida where everyone lives in nice little houses, and so they don't have to mow the grass anymore!

They ride around on their bicycles and scooters and wear name tags because they don't know who they are anymore. They go to a building called a wreck centre, but they must have got it fixed because it is all okay now. They do exercises there, but they don't do them very well.

There is a swimming pool too, but they all jump up and down in it with hats on.

At their gate, there is a doll house with a little old man sitting in it. He watches all day so nobody can escape. Sometimes they sneak out, and go cruising in their golf carts!

Nobody there cooks, they just eat out. And, they eat the same thing every night - early birds specials or tow-for-ones.

My Grandma says that Grandpa worked all his life to earn his retardment and says I should work hard so I can be retarded someday too.

When I earn my retardment, I want to be the man in the doll house. Then I will let people out, so they can visit their grandchildren. PRICE-LESS!

Author Unknown

