

WHAT'S UP

The Rosedale Newsletter

August 2018

THINKING OF YOU Whether it is in celebratory style (birthdays and anniversaries) or maybe you've been poorly (sick or even hospitalised), perhaps there's some consolation in knowing that you're very much in our thoughts.

WELCOME TO Robert Doherty who moved into 204R at the beginning of this month. May you soon find yourself settled and making new friends. Roger Buchanan has moved into #205NR for six months and we wish him a short but happy stay here with us.

GOODBYE to Caroline Bruyns who has left to join her family in their new home bordering on the Kruger National Park; also to Ray Marley who has moved to Robertson.

FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS

Most important of all is a report-back (or, as we used to call it in the corporate world, a SITREP, which also happens to be the (appropriate) name of the Legion's Cape Town branch's monthly magazine) on the Rosedale Service Centre **Annual General Meeting** that took place on **Wednesday 11 July** and was an opportunity to table the effectiveness of the outgoing committee and welcome in the new committee members (their names and contact details are given at the end of this newsletter).

An important aspect of the AGM was the acceptance of the Constitution. Paid-up members were given until 31 July by which to submit any comments or propose any changes. With none forthcoming - and with the approval of the RSC committee - the Constitution as tabled is now active, with one small change i.e. the Code of Conduct has been removed from the main body of the Constitution. The final copy of the Constitution, signed by David Holmes, Rosedale manager, and Stephen Leibbrandt, current chair of the RSC committee, can be read on the file in the RSC office.

David Holmes called on the services of Lynn Brandt, a private social worker who, over two sessions, explained that the **Older Persons Act**, 2006 (Act 13 of 2006) was written to protect the elderly from physical sexual and economic abuse and elaborated on the avenues available to address any of these categories. The protocol on the management of elder abuse of any Rosedale Service Centre resident was also elaborated, which included the principals involved and the responsibilities that befall both staff and members in adhering to the Act. In addition, residents also have the channel of the residents' committee through which they can be protected. Management is applauded for taking this proactive action and one hopes the day never comes that residents need to resort to the Act to protect their well-being.

It is not cost-effective to send each and every member a reminder/invoice so we took the step to explain the procedure for making payment in the March newsletter and, for ease of reference, I am repeating it here:

Rosedale Service Centre subscriptions for non-residents of R48,00 pp are due and payable from 1 April 2018 and can be made by EFT payment to the SA Legion, Standard Bank branch 051001 cheque a/c 070149291 (use your first name and surname as the reference) or at the RSC office – and let them know if your personal details have changed. (Residents are charged via their monthly accounts.)

You might well ask "Why should I become a member?" Well, there are many benefits to be derived from becoming members of the SA Legion (SAL) and Rosedale Service Centre (RSC) but, most of all, there's the joy of being part of a network of like-minded folk and the comfort of knowing they're there to assist when it is needed. The aims of the SAL are, inter alia, to help ex-servicemen in need through the distribution of food parcels. Members work to maintain the memory of the fallen and, in so doing, foster a feeling of comradeship and goodwill and SAL members will receive preferential entry into Rosedale. Being part of the RSC network gives one the opportunity to join in the many activities that take place at Rosedale (e.g. darts, bridge, carpet bowls) as well as preferential rates to participate in their social events. And then there's the dining-room where excellent meals are served weekdays (R28 pp) and Sundays (R42 pp) - non-member guests R46 pp and R58 pp respectively. For that price I wouldn't switch my stove on (if I had one!).



What was lacking in actual numbers (there were 7 in all) who attended the second **arts 'n crafts workshop**, led by Carl Schmidt, on **Friday 13 July** was outweighed by the quality of pieces produced (remember: he taught us how to paint with ear buds back in April). On this occasion he showed the group how to turn the common-or-garden kitchen sponge into a painting tool

← here's an example of his craftsmanship



You guys really rock! Through your generosity we made close to 350 sarmies on **Mandela Day 18 July**.

These were distributed to the homeless (*bottom left*) who "live" just off Philip Kosana Drive (the old De Waal Drive) between Roeland Street and Zonnebloem Estate, as well as a huge contingent who have made their "homes" at the bottom of

Imam Haron Avenue (the old Lansdowne Road) *below right*. As they say, "There but for the grace of God ...". Thanks to every one of you who made a financial contribution but, more so, thanks (*above left*) for knuckling down, rolling your sleeves up to make the sarmies themselves. Newly nominated vice-chair Neville Petiteaud and his wife, Isabella (*top right*), who now also serves on the RSC committee, stand in front of the laden trolley ready to roll!



Madiba would have been very proud of your efforts!



Friday 20 July the Grade 7 School visited Rosedale for a morning Uno, dominos, pick-up-stix and Indian game which is the common up all manner of nibbly bits plus tea Sirkhoth and Sue Cloete and pupil Del Davies, organiser of this delightful repeated next term. Can't wait!



learners from Forres Preparatory of **Fun and Games** - Monopoly, Chaturanga (Sanskrit for the ancient ancestor of chess) – and then served and coffee. Here teachers Yakoub Khiran Makan are ready to wait on event which, we are told, will be



← Mercia Wilson ponders her opening gambit

Carol Venter & Felix Westwood build hotels→



Acting is my way of exploring human nature and having fun at the same time ~ Meryl Streep

... and here's your chance to do the same: Ralph Kelly's group of actors kept us entertained, first with *Drew's Island* and, more recently, with *Double Exposure*. His more recent offerings are a play in two acts entitled *Crisis at Seven Oaks* and *Old Dumbo*, a short sketch. The idea is to stage the three-character sketch as a prelude to the five-character play, with a refreshment break in between, sometime in the third quarter of this year. For now it is a case of identifying who will play whom. In *Old Dumbo* there's: Muriel, a youngish, single woman, her friend Clemmy, and her father Paddy. In *Seven Oaks* the cast is Gertie Weston, a genteel, elderly resident in a retirement home, her younger friend, Cathy Barclay, her rich nephew Ambrose Weston, the Matron Mrs Caroline Cornish, and new resident 60-ish Sam Hunter. Casting has begun but Ralph invites anyone who would like to have a bash at playing the baddie or a go at being the goodie to contact him on 021-6860334 / 073 255 8235 or email him on rkelly@mweb.co.za

Still with Ralph Kelly, there's another **Fun Quiz** to look forward to, not to mention preparing yourself to answer the myriad tricky questions he will put to the teams on **Saturday 15 September** starting at 14:30. Watch the noticeboard for details but, in the meantime, get your thinking caps on as to who you can include in a team of four. And, remember, proceeds from your contributions towards the tea and biscuits go to Toc H – a most worthy cause and one very close to Ralph's heart (he being the chair of the Plumstead chapter) so, although entry is free, a R5,00 donation (or more!) towards the tea/coffee and biscuits would be very welcome. In essence, if you think you can beat him - and the clock - you're invited to enter a team of 4 in the Toc H Fun Quiz in the Wreck Room. Your team could comprise Rosedale residents/SAL members, visitors from Toc H or other organisations. So as to level the playing fields, questions will be posed to all teams and not to individuals and there are prizes for both the participants and the audience. To enter your team, contact Quizmaster Ralph Kelly landline 021-6860334/cellphone 073 255 8235 or email rkelly@mweb.co.za closing date for entries Friday 7 September 2018. Watch the noticeboard!

A reminder that the next Social Dance evening will be held on 14 September at 19:30 – cost R15 pp. Bring your own XYZ and enquiries to Carmen on 021-6857045 / 079 91 7371.

SAVE THE DATE

Monday 24 September is earmarked as National Heritage Day (and Braai Day to boot) and here at Rosedale we will be holding a **Fun 'n Food Fair** from 10:00 to 15:00 to mark both events. Your donation either in cash or of specific items would be hugely appreciated.

In addition to the food stalls, well respected Tarot reader Jade will be in attendance and Joanne Keet will be displaying and selling some of her beautiful pewter pieces. We also have musical entertainment lined up for you.

What follows is a list of the planned stalls and what is required to make them happen.

POTJIES: ingredients for +- 10 already donated, but what is still required is Tastic rice, wood, firelighters and charcoal

HOT CHIPS: oil, vinegar, cash to buy potatoes

BOERIE ROLLS & HOT DOGS: tomato and mustard sauce, hot dog bread rolls, onions, cash to buy boerewors and frankfurters.

TEAROOM: tea, coffee, sugar, long-life milk, small cakes, sandwiches, fridge tarts, biscuits

PANCAKES: ingredients already donated

CAKE STALL: cakes, loaves (e.g. banana), breads, muffins, rusks, biscuits, cupcakes, quiches, savoury tarts, pies, pickles, jams – preferably homemade - ready-made popcorn, assorted sweets (of the boiled sweets kind)

PUDDINGS: jellies, instant puddings, custard, Ideal milk, baked puddings – would love you to make rather than just donating the packets, but that's also OK

PLANTS: punnets of herbs, cacti, seeds, cuttings, fresh flowers for posies

RUMMAGE: clothing and hangers, table and bed linen, towels etc. Has anyone a couple of dress rails to lend us?

WHITE ELEPHANT: As the saying goes, one man's junk is another man's treasure and we're looking for ornaments, kitchenware, glassware, jewellery, pots and pans, crockery, cutlery, toys, picture frames - anything that is cluttering up your garage

BOOKS: magazines and books, CDs and DVDs

For the little people we will have a Jumping Castle and Face Painting and for the big people a cash bar (club prices) will be open, promising a good time to be had by one and all.

IMPORTANT:

- all donations of dry goods to be received by 31 August
- all fresh food donations to be received by 12 noon on Sunday 23 September
- posies to be delivered by 12 noon on Sunday 23 September

Kindly EFT cash donations to S.A Legion Standard Bank Code 051001 current account # 070149291 and use as your reference FOOD FAIR + YOUR NAME (so we can acknowledge your contribution) and email your proof of payment to deldavies35@gmail.com. Payment can also be made to the Rosedale Service Centre office weekdays between 09:30 and 11:30 am and the receipt should be clearly marked "Food Fair".

CHITTER CHATTER

By way of explanation, from Wikipedia: the **Battle of Delville Wood** (15 July-3 September 1916) was a series of engagements in the 1916 Battle of the Somme in the First World War, between the armies of the German Empire and the British Empire. Delville Wood (*Bois d'Elville*), was a thick tangle of trees, chiefly beech and hornbeam (the wood has been replanted with oak and birch by the South African government), with dense hazel thickets, intersected by grassy rides, to the east of the village of Longueval in France.

South Africa entered WWI, on the side of the Allied Forces, on 8 September 1914. On 15 July 1916, the S.A. Infantry Brigade under Major-General H.T. Lukin was ordered to clear the wood at d'Elville, north-east of the village, France, of enemy soldiers, thereby covering the flanks of the British Brigade. The South Africans occupied the wood on that day, but the problem was not so much to take the wood, then to hold it. Despite fierce counterattacks and artillery bombardments from German divisions, the SA brigade refused to surrender. The brigade was relieved on 20 July after six days and five nights of ferocious fighting. Of the Brigade's 3433 soldiers only 750 soldiers remained the rest had either been killed or wounded. Black people were also involved in this battle as unarmed combatants and non-military personnel.

The Battle of Delville Wood went down in the history of WWI as an example of supreme sacrifice and heroism. It remains the most costly action the South African Brigade fought on the Western Front. A memorial site was erected in remembrance of those who died in the Battle and was unveiled by the widow of General Louis Botha on 10 October 1926.



WO11 Stephen Leibbrandt (r) represented the SA Legion in laying a wreath at the Delville Wood South African National Memorial (l) in the Company's gardens on 22 July, the closest Sunday to the start of the campaign. After the year, Colonel Donald MacLeod asked W.A. Beattie to write a poem about Delville Wood. Beattie had fought in the wood in the 4th SAI as Lance Corporal and was wounded.



*By ruined homes in Montauban, by trench and sunken road.
All resolute and strong the living stream of khaki flowed.
Through land laid waste and seared and torn by ruthless giant guns
And so that stream South Africa had lent her sturdy sons.*

*Of Boer and British stock were they, and lean and lithe and tanned.
Yet mingling there as brothers fighting for one Motherland;
For kith and kindred o'er the sea, for King and Country now
Their hands they joined in fellowship, and took the filial vow.*

*And thus they entered Bernafay through fire and fit'd fume,
While every tree atrembling stood, as if it sensed its doom;
And in that avenue of woe they paused to count their dead.
Then grimly on to Delville, where their path of glory led.*

*Within that wood of epic fame for days and nights they fought.
And backward thrust the stubborn foe, through every step was bought
With tragic toll of vivid youth, that had but life to give.
And gladly gave that precious gift that you and I might live.*

*From hour to hour the battle raged and fearful tumult reigned.
And still they fought as men inspired and still their ground maintained;
And as their stricken comrades fell, the shattered boughs dropped down
In pity on their mangled forms – and made their laurel crown.*

*So year by year we think of them and humble homage pay
To those who trod with courage high that Gethsemane.
Now Delville is South Africa blood-drenched with manhood's bloom.*

Days of Our Lives

International Cat Day was celebrated on **August 8** which got me thinking about our own two moggies here at Rosedale, Olivia (*l*) and Splodge (*r*) and, believe me, if I had my life over again it would be to come back as one of 'em wot is loved by so many. I'm highly allergic to creatures four-footed and furry and I'm a bird-watcher to boot, but that doesn't stop me enjoying seeing them around and deriving pleasure from other people's happiness. Remember last newsletter I brought the Clerihew *** form of verse to your attention. Here's a perfect example and ties in nicely with National Cat Day:

No need to introduce the cat;
You've got one lying on your mat.
Ailurophobes, of course, do not.
They'd rather see cats hanged or shot.

The cat detractors can't abide
The creatures overweening pride
Admirers of the feline praise
His occult, incandescent gaze.

Both sides have merit – and the view
Endorsed by mice is also true.



Photo provided by Carol Venter

Thanks to management who fund the veterinary visits and some of the cats' food, which is supplemented by caring-and-loving folk.

The benefits of having an animal around are numerous: for one, their very presence helps to reduce stress i.e. lowers blood pressure. Besides the companionship, there's the routine associated with seeing to their well-being as well as the resultant exercise of getting out and about. By taking care of animals you're investing in life itself and each day becomes more important because there's something to love and look after.

So, Splodge and Olivia, our thanks to you two spoiled moggies for bringing joy to our hearts. I'd say take the day off on the 8th, but you're already doing that every day!



Still on the subject of national holidays, here's one for chair Stephen Leibbrandt who, as we all know, is an aficionado of some repute, that is, of **lemon meringue pies** and, believe it or not, **August 15** is earmarked as the international day of ... yes, you've guessed it!

We also celebrate **Senior Citizens' Day** on **August 21** so give yourselves a pat on the back, put your feet up and revel in the recognition and rewards that surely will come your way.

*** There were no submissions for this mini-competition; the small prize will be held in abeyance for another occasion.

**Share your copy of the newsletter with a friend or table-mate
and if you remove the newsletter from the noticeboard in order to read it
please put it back for the benefit of others.**

Till next time - keep smiling



The Rosedale Service Centre Committee

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Villet, Glen		021-6857054 / 082 258 5882	-

Sales and Services ~ offered and required

This section provides RSC residents and members with a means of advertising absolutely anything of worth to other readers at no cost. For example, your son may be a car mechanic who services vehicles. Then there might be a granddaughter who brings in pocket money by baby-sitting or a daughter who makes/decorates celebratory cakes. These are all services that have wide appeal so call Lucille Byrnes on 021-6854375 / 083 558 4900 or email her at lucillebyrnes@gmail.com and the details will be included in the next newsletter.

TLC Express operator
*Reliable airport transfers at
reasonable rates – simply the best*

Stephen 082 959 5911

Military medals and memorabilia

Capt Gordon Hildyard 082 685 0099



Rosedale Service Centre office requires the services of someone for 1 or, if willing and able, 2 mornings a week from 09:00 to 11:45. The incumbent must be:

- computer-literate
- capable of working with money and operate a receipt book
- skilled in general office work
- able to deal with the public, outside members and residents

If you feel ready and able to offer your services on a voluntary basis, then contact Rosedale Service Centre chair Stephen Leibbrandt on 082 959 5911.