



ERINMAIL



Photograph taken by Tanja Els

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It is my first Christmas away from home, and I am far from happy. I am sitting in a dingy apartment overlooking the High in Oxford, hunched over a single bar heater, sharing a bottle of Lamb's Navy Rum with the receptionist at the Eastgate Hotel. Outside, under a grimy sky, red buses grind up towards Carfax from Magdalen Bridge and car tyres hiss on the damp street. Drab pedestrians scurry under spiky black umbrellas. Neither the physical attributes of my companion nor the noble aspect of Magdalen Tower can lift my spirits. I dream of Africa, of long white beaches and Christmas beetles shrilling under a throbbing sun.

A few years later and I am still in the cold, northern hemisphere. But now my circumstances have changed, and I am married. In Vienna's 13th district, on Christmas Eve, my wife and I enjoy a breakfast of sausages and beer at the Gasthaus Gober, before walking in the nearby woods, snow crunching underfoot. Later we eat carp for

lunch at my aunt's home and in the evening there are presents under the Christmas tree and ham and boiled eggs for supper washed down by numerous bottles of white Gumpoldskirchner wine. At midnight, mass in the incomparable cathedral of St Stephen, its facade warmly floodlit and its great southern spire soaring into the dark night sky.

In Munich some years later we drive home from a festive dinner. It is close to midnight on Christmas eve and church bells are pealing all over the city. A fresh fall of snow mantles the pavements and the venerable buildings glow in the reflected light, so symbolic of this joyous season. We travel to St Johann in Tirol for a skiing holiday, revelling in long easy runs through sweet smelling pine forests and marvelling at distant jagged peaks rising proudly to a deep blue sky.

In London, shopping at Fortnums heightens the delicious anticipation of a feast of Edwardian proportions in our beautifully decorated Kensington apartment with a tall Christmas tree in the lounge and friends gathered around a table laden with wild salmon from Scotland, traditional turkey, Christmas pudding and mince pies, South African wines, French champagnes and of course port, that great beverage that ties Britain so amicably to Portugal. On Christmas day itself, visiting friends in the Cotswolds, we attend morning service at St Mary's in Bibury, a lovely

village of honey coloured stone cottages lining Arlington Row, one of Britain's most beautiful thoroughfares.

In Charleston, South Carolina a bitter wind sweeps the sky clear of clouds as Christmas approaches. The gracious homes facing streets lined with palmetto and live oak are decorated, southern style, with sprays of sweetgrass and wreaths of fruit – pineapples, pears and apples. Everywhere we see the crimson splashes of poinsettia.

The Christmas trail takes me back to Africa where it began 60 years ago. I recall how sad I was then and could not comprehend that the first lonely foreign Christmas was a portal that would open and lead me on to happy celebrations around the world and then bring me back home, to southern Christmas festivities in the misty Swazi

hills, on the deep verandah of a colonial era farmhouse near Lusaka, beside the thundering Indian ocean surf at Hermanus and on our hillside in Pretoria on superheated afternoons with distant thunderstorms rumbling and booming below the horizon.

Sadly the passage of time has not improved the lives of so many people at this festive season. Long ago, as Christmas approached, hostages were murdered in Stanleyville and the misery of Biafra deepened. Some things never seem to change. We must celebrate this Christmas with joy and hope and optimism, always remembering why we are celebrating this blessed season and not forgetting others all over the world for whom this December is not a time of happiness, but rather a season of fear, pain, loss and displacement.

Front story by Sam Sterban

CHAIRMAN'S CHIRP



John Arnold

The HOA office welcomes Heather Ferguson as a permanent member of the staff. We wish her many happy years here at Erinvale.

The AGM which was held on Monday 23 November 2015 was very well attended and on behalf of your Trustees I wish to thank you all for attending and showing a keen interest on the running of our Estate. Thank you to all who sent proxies as well.

It is always of great concern to the golf club and the HOA that some homeowners and in particular persons renting property on the Estate are not abiding by the rules pertaining to golf course access by Non-Players.

The rule is that **“non-playing members and their guests, Homeowners and their tenants, guests and invitees are encouraged to use the designated walking trails on Erinvale in preference to walking on the Golf Course - walking trails are safer and conflict with golfers is avoided. However, it is understood, that this is not always practical. Access to the golf course is therefore permitted as a general rule at the following times:**

High Season (November-April) before 07h00 and after 19h00

Low Season (May-October) before 8h00 and after 18h00

Please note that the onus of responsibility lies with Homeowners to inform tenants, invitees, domestic workers and all others associated with their property of the rules pertaining to golf course access. The golf club will not accept any responsibility for injury to person or damage to property when accessing the golf course.”

Wishing all homeowners a blessed and enjoyable Festive Season.



ECHO PARTNERSHIP

It is always a special time when we meet with the ECHO FAMILY to catch up and share some time together. Middelvlei farm welcomed the ECHO graduates with an outstanding braai for our half year gathering.



Some of our graduates at work:



Carolyn

Occupational Therapist



Tiana

3rd year medical student
sponsored by THE EAGLES



Fancourt Quinton

Chef



ECHO is proud to be part of the SWVG initiative of growing vegetables for Helderberg Street Peoples' Centre. The project is very much "by the people, for the people" and is situated on the corner of Drama Street and New Street. Young and old have joined Jenny Findlay and Wendy Carter.



Masikhule Top 5 Awards:



ECHO Trophy presented to Ongi's for Best application of Business Principles.

Robin Julies, ECHO grad presented one of the modules as part of her "Giving Back"



MEET ECHO'S PARALYMPIAN

Course: Erinvale Golf Estate

Date: 4th March 2016

Cost: R3000.00 per four ball – Welcome table, Half-way House
and Prize Giving Dinner – R180 for non-playing partner

Sponsorship opportunities available at R500.00

Format: Betterball Stableford

Dinner Theme: 2016 Rio

Meet ECHO'S Paralympian, Hilton Langenhoven

Bookings open on the 1st October 2015 @ the Pro Shop

(021) 847 1906 or pro-shop@erinvale.com

For any queries please contact

Des McLeod on 076 314 6160

MASIKHULE
we are growing



BREAKFAST HIKE

The 2015 annual HOA Breakfast Hike that took place on Sunday 25th October was as usual, a resounding success. The weather was kind to us and we had in excess of 80 residents in attendance, including several young families too — it was particularly nice to see the children getting involved and enjoying the event. The Breakfast Hike is always such a pleasant atmosphere with a chance to meet new faces, as well as a chance to catch up with those people that are already known.

We would like to say a special thank you to Liz Blaiklock, Nanette Booyesen, Carol Downes and Cherry McKenzie for their help with the food and drinks, along with Rikus and helpers from Crown, the Golf Club and Gerald Wright for his wonderfully, informative talk about nature, the surrounding areas and plans for conservation.



ON YOUR DOORSTEP

SOMERSET WEST PLAYHOUSE THEATRE

Edward Albee's
WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?
CARNIVALS OF THE HEART THE PLAYHOUSE THEATRE

IF YOU EXISTED, I'D DIVORCE YOU. A DROWNING MAN TAKES DOWN THOSE NEAREST.

By special arrangement with DALRO. Directed by Darryl Spillars.

21, 22, 23 JAN 19h30
23 JAN 15h00

THE PLAYHOUSE THEATRE **Computicket**



Helderberg Nature Reserve Sunset Concerts

A picnic concert with the SA Navy Band at Admiralty House in Simon's Town, 27 February 2011

Sunday, 06 December	SA Navy Band	Spectacular musical presentations across diverse genres ranging from military music to big band jazz.
Sunday, 20 December	Afro Fiesta	This dynamic Congolese band has recently returned from touring in the US and Europe. Their music is a fusion of styles including Latin, African, Salsa, Reggae and Kwasa-Kwasa.
Sunday, 03 January	Jesse Jordan Band	Jesse returns with his band for another birthday celebration concert of vibrant rock and smooth ballads.
Sunday, 17 January	Blacksmith	The Band makes a welcome return to entertain all ages with Country and Irish, English and Scottish music.
Sunday, 31 January	Shiraz	No introduction needed. We are delighted to welcome back Shiraz for another celebration of great songs from past decades.
Sunday, 14 February	Morning Ms Dednam	Another success from last year's concerts. The band creates smooth rock songs with jazz infusions. Ideal for Valentine's Day!
Sunday, 28 February	Valiant Swart	Valiant is a well-known folk/rock entertainer from Stellenbosch, who sings and writes in both English and Afrikaans with genres described as "alternative rock and sometimes punk rock".

NEW YEAR'S EVE 31ST DECEMBER 2015



**LIVE BAND
'SOUND IMAGE'
5 COURSE MENU**

ERINVALLE GOLF CLUB
20H30

BOOKING CONFIRMED ON RECEIPT OF FULL PAYMENT.
NO REFUNDS FOR CANCELLATIONS
AFTER 15TH DECEMBER 2015

**THE GATSBY PACKAGE
R635.00 PER PERSON
(MEMBER'S DISCOUNTED PRICE)**

Bring a picnic and drinks, chairs or blanket to sit on and enjoy some great music.
All proceeds to towards conservation and environmental education projects.
For on-line information go to: www.facebook.com/helderbergnaturereserve/events

THORBURN
SECURITY SOLUTIONS

Taste Bistro
Bistro : Wine Bar : Cafe

Christmas Menu
7 pm Thursday, 24 December 2015
12.30 pm Friday, 25 December 2015

Pork sausagewrapped in bacon
Home made Boursin cheese and broché
Home made bread with smoked salt butter

Trio of poultry
Chicken liver parfait en crousté,
breast of quail, duck rilette

Grilled watermelon
& home made halloumi salad

Rolled shoulder of pork
Cumin & mustard seed
roast potatoes, honey carrots,
apple pie, white wine jus

Christmas trio
Mince pie, chocolate bomb with
praline filling, cherry and
almond ice cream
R390 per person

Hästens

Discover the benefits of deep, natural sleep in your all-natural Hästens bed.

55 Somerset Rd, Tel: 021 418 0434

ON YOUR DOORSTEP



ESTATE MATTERS

TELKOM FTTH

Telkom presented a FTTH Open Evening/Information Meeting at the Golf Club on the 2nd November. They are offering residents an opportunity to sign up to a free promotional 2-month trial - if you would like to take them up on the trial, application forms can be found in the passage next to the HOA office. Antony Naude gcs@telkom.co.za/081 363 2104 is the designated point of contact at Telkom for all of our Erinvale Homeowners and residents should you have any queries.

DRONES

A reminder that drones are not permitted on the estate.

PABX

There are still many homes on Erinvale that do not have a PABX, internal phone line system. A reminder that the internal phone lines are imperative for security purposes. If you would like a quote for a PABX line, please contact Heather at reception@erinvalehoa.co.za and in turn, she will contact Telkom to request for a quote.

WATER RESTRICTIONS

Until The City of Cape Town confirm news surrounding the potential water restrictions, our recommendations are as follows: gardens are not watered between 6am and 6pm, filling up the swimming pool is kept to a minimum and washes are only put on when the washing machine/dishwasher is full.

POSTAL MAIL

We have seen a significant increase in the amount of post coming in to Erinvale without a unit box number forming part of the address. When giving your address to companies, friends and family etc, please remember to include your unit box number so that the Post Office can distribute your mail efficiently. Any post without a unit box number will be colour coded and put in to the concertina file in the passage, in alphabetical order, under the first letter of your surname. The post placed in the concertina file will be kept for up to one month before it is returned, unfortunately we are finding that we do not have the capacity to keep it for longer than this.

ANNUAL LEVY

At the AGM held on 23rd November 2015, a new budget was approved and the new levy was confirmed. The annual levy is R20,000, an increase of 6.38% (inclusive of VAT). The monthly levy amount is R1,960. Please be informed that if you pay via Debit Order, our Debit Order Administrators now require us to obtain a new mandate each year.

ESTATE MATTERS

TRUSTEE'S

The Trustees were re-elected at the HOA AGM and will therefore remain the same. The office bearers and portfolios are as follows:

Chairman: John Arnold
Vice Chairman: Stevie Dreyer (Legal and Constitutional)
Treasurer: Gerrie Oberholzer (Finance)
Secretary: Brian Stuart (Secretarial)
Liz Blaiklock (Estate and Grounds Committee)
Steven Mountain (Security, Safety and Fire Management)
Richard Saxby (Civils)

HOA SPORT'S DAY

The ladies Tennis game went ahead as planned on Friday 30th October — it was a well organised event with a great turn-out and we would like to extend our gratitude to Ruth Hart for putting it together. The prize giving will take place along with the Golf and Boules prize giving on the evening of Wednesday 9th December.

As you will already be aware, our Golf and Boules events that were due to take place on Sunday 1st November, were rained off. The event has been rescheduled and is now due to take place on Wednesday 9th December. In many ways, it has worked well for us having had to postpone the event, as we have managed to secure 8 more sponsors. Sponsors for the day will be: Hastens, Taste, Telkom, Blaauwklippen, 95 at Morgenster, Waterford, Thai Sabai, Millhouse Kitchen, Hidden Valley Wines and Woodstock Gin Company. A special thanks to Taste and Hastens who braved the weather on 1st November and set up on their respective holes, only for the event to be adjourned — we are delighted that they are able to join us again on 9th December.

VANDALISM

It has sadly been brought to our attention that the bench, at the Boules park area, has been vandalised (please see photo below). The bench was placed here for the use of our residents and it is a great shame that it has been defaced. Needless to say, that vandalism on the estate of any kind, will not be tolerated. Please contact us if you have any details surrounding this.



HEALTH AND SAFETY

With peak season now upon us, the traffic on the Estate is reaching its greatest. Let us all keep our children safe on our roads and paths by requesting that all Homeowners owning golf carts ensure the safety of their children by observing the rules for drivers of the carts. (Only persons 18 yrs. and older, except 16 & 17 yr. old children who have received permission for the playing of golf.)

Brought to you by Steven Mountain



Paul Jacobs
Security Manager

Emergency Numbers

ER24 Ambulance	084 514 8454
EMO Ambulance	072 996 6337
Fire Emergency	Contact Security—2201/2200
General Emergency (Security)	2200/2201
Paul Jacobs (Security Manager)	082 324 3008
Snakes - Security or Ryan	2200 / 072 456 2194

Trustee: J. Arnold (Communications, Public Relations and Newsletter)