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Talk



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ISSUE 4 | 2025

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# FROM THE EDITOR

Hello all residents,

The estate has been buzzing with activity! It's been wonderful to see residents coming together for events like the Braai Day, the Fun Run, and the Volleyball Tournament — all filled with laughter, team spirit, and a great sense of community. A big thank you to everyone who participated and helped make these events such a success.



With the year-end fast approaching, we know many families are juggling school exams, concerts, and festive preparations. To all our learners — good luck with your exams and the last few weeks of school! Your hard work is nearly done, and the holidays are in sight.

In this edition, don't miss the article on looking after yourself — a timely reminder to slow down, recharge, and take care of your well-being after a busy year, especially as we head into the "silly season."

Wishing everyone strength for the final push, and moments of calm amidst the year-end rush.

- Angela



Stoep Talk focuses on Boardwalk Meander Estate. The magazine is compiled and published by Estates in Africa (Pty) Ltd trading as EIA Publishing, on behalf of the Boardwalk Meander Home Owners Association (HOA) Board of Directors. The opinions of personnel of Estates in Africa (Pty) Ltd do not necessarily reflect those of the HOA and Management of Boardwalk Meander Estate. Articles written are edited for grammar; they reflect the authentic styles of the writers. We encourage residents to contribute to the estate magazine. Contributions may be forwarded to office@estatebwm.co.za

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# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

*Hello aan Almal, Hello to All*

Dit is onwerklik om te sien dat die winkels reeds Kersfees adverteer. Die jaar is so te sê verby – maar daar is egter nog baie vleis aan die spreekwoordelike been.

Best of luck to all children and students with the exams – we trust it will go well as planned.

Dankie vir almal wat die Algemene Jaar vergadering bygewoon het. Spesifiek vir oom Willem en tannie Estelle – asook tannie Estelle Scheepers en oom Koos van Wyk. Die Hechters is al 20 jaar deel van die landgoed – ons waardeer julle en dankie vir die verskil wat julle maak.

The meeting went well and positive. Our cash reserves are healthy and things on the estate are looking good.

As always we have plans for the ensuing year and are looking forward to actioning them.

Dankie aan elkeen wat die Braaidag funksie bygewoon het. Kurt Darren het dit gebring en die aand was 'n reuse sukses. Dankie aan elkeen wat help reël het – was 'n groot een!!!

In besonder dankie vir Jacques van Megamaster vir die braai tange en braai skoonmakers en die Megamaster potjies wat geskenk is. Hulle nuwe pot is ongelooflik. Dankie aan BOMA Olympus, Itatio, Vovotelo, Square Time (Jan-nie alreeds lank 'n inwoner) – dankie vir julle bydraes. Ondersteun asseblief die mense in ons gemeenskap.

I hope the last few weeks of 2025 will be good and prosperous. We were blessed with the first rains of the season and the estate is looking fantastic.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to drive between die Pecan nut trees towards the gate.

*-Deon*



## BOARDWALK WEB PAGE

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# FROM YOUR ESTATE MANAGER

## Living in an Estate: Being a Good Neighbour and Building a Better Community

Living in an estate offers a wonderful sense of security, peace, and belonging. But what truly makes estate living special isn't just the gates or the gardens — it's the people who live within them. A strong, considerate community is built on small acts of kindness and respect for one another.

### BE MINDFUL OF NOISE

Everyone values their peace and quiet. Whether it's a weekend braai, a celebration, or a barking dog — keeping noise levels reasonable shows respect for those around you. Remember, what's fun for one household might be disruptive for another.

### RESPECT SHARED SPACES

Common areas like parks, walkways, and recreational facilities belong to everyone. Clean up after yourself, keep these spaces tidy, and encourage your family and visitors to do the same. A neat environment benefits the whole community.

### DRIVE CAREFULLY

Many estates have children, pets, and walkers enjoying the roads. Sticking to the speed limits and being cautious keeps everyone safe. It's a small gesture that can prevent big accidents.  
Be a Responsible Pet Owner

If you have pets, ensure they don't disturb others. Pick up after them, keep them on a leash in public areas, and make sure their barking doesn't become a nuisance. A little responsibility goes a long way in maintaining harmony.

### OFFER A FRIENDLY SMILE

A simple "good morning" or wave can make someone's day. Getting to know your neighbours builds trust and creates a friendly atmosphere where people look out for one another.

### CONSIDER PARKING AND DELIVERIES

Avoid blocking driveways, visitor bays, or roads with parked vehicles or delivery vans. Small courtesies like this show thoughtfulness and respect for shared access.

### LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER

Being neighbourly means keeping an eye out for unusual activity, helping when someone needs it, and showing kindness during tough times. When residents care for one another, estates become safer and happier places to live.

In the end, good estate living is about more than just having a beautiful home — it's about creating a community where everyone feels respected, safe, and valued. A little consideration goes a long way in making our estate not just a place to live, but a place to belong.

*-John*

# FROM THE OFFICE PEN

*Good day to all our residents and other readers of our magazine.*

What strange and wonderful weather we have had these last few months. Four seasons in one day – that is amazing. My kids are actually starting to listen to me telling them to always have something warm in the vehicle just in case. We had a good laugh about this fact.

If any of you are interested in getting involved please send me some articles for the magazine - that would be so appreciated. It would surely help to keep the magazine interesting.

Please remember to inform the office if any of your contact details i.e. contact number/s or email addresses change. We appreciated the cooperation in this regard to keep our records updated. Any changes can be sent to [office@estatebwm.co.za](mailto:office@estatebwm.co.za).

We have one more estate function left for the year. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, 22 November for the Christmas function taking place. Remember to bring your wrapped and properly marked gifts to the office on or before 21 November for Santa.

*-René*



***“A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery while on a detour.” – Unknown***

The **metal reversible mechanism** allows you to position the chain on the right or left of your window according to your needs.

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# FAMILY FUN & BRAAI DAY

*A Day to Remember: Family Fun & Volleyball Extravaganza*



What an unforgettable celebration! From the moment the bomas were raised and the stage lit up, the atmosphere was electric.

Residents gathered in full force, soaking up the music, laughter, and festive vibes. Children sang along with the legendary Kurt Darren, their joy lighting up the crowd as much as the bonfires that danced across the evening sky.

The air was rich with the scent of delicious food, the sound of music, and the rhythm of dancing feet. Families laughed, played, and connected — a true showcase of the vibrant spirit of Boardwalk Meander.

*-Jan-Louis*



# FAMILY FUN RUN & VOLLEYBALL



The Fun Run added another layer of excitement, with families jogging, walking, and celebrating wellness together.

Volleyball Day was a smash hit! Teams brought their A-game, and the sidelines were filled with cheers and camaraderie.

A heartfelt thank you to every resident who joined us, and to the incredible staff and volunteers who made this day

flawless. Your energy, creativity, and teamwork turned a simple event into a cherished memory.

Here's to many more moments of joy, unity, and celebration!

*-Jan-Louis*

# VINEYARD VILLAGE

## *Cultivating Community Spirit with a New Garden Committee*

In the heart of Vineyard Village, something beautiful is blooming, and it's not just the seasonal flowers. The management has announced the formation of a dedicated Garden Committee, marking a new chapter in resident-driven environmental stewardship.

The initiative comes as a natural response to the overwhelming appreciation residents have shown for their Village's gardens and green spaces. "The gardens have become the soul of our community," notes one long-time resident.

Management has recognized this deep connection between residents and their gardens, understanding that a specialized committee could transform good intentions into exceptional results. The proposed Garden Committee promises to bring professional horticultural expertise directly to the community level, ensuring that maintenance moves beyond basic upkeep to embrace best practices in landscape management.

where community involvement often takes a backseat to busy lifestyles, Vineyard Village is backing the trend by empowering neighbors to become environmental guardians.

The benefits extend beyond aesthetics. Professional oversight means healthier plants, more sustainable gardening practices, and potentially reduced long-term maintenance costs. It's the kind of forward-thinking approach that transforms residents of Vineyard Village into a thriving community.

### Recent Beautification Achievements

The Garden Committee is pleased to report the successful completion of significant landscaping improvements throughout the Village.

The garden bedding adjacent to Unit #80 has undergone a comprehensive transformation through the implementation of a professionally designed Clivia bedding scheme. This carefully curated installation features a sophisticated selection of botani-



Additionally, the bedding surrounding the central circular area adjacent to Unit #94 has been comprehensively redesigned and revitalized, establishing an enhanced focal point that elevates the visual standard of the communal spaces.

### Community Ownership and Environmental Guardianship

But this isn't just about prettier flower beds, though those are certainly welcome. The committee represents something more significant: residents taking active ownership of their living environment. In an age

cal specimens, including Nandina varieties, Nandina pygmaea, seasonal flowering plants, and ornamental tree ferns. The enhanced landscape design has created an aesthetically pleasing environment that contributes to the overall visual appeal of the Village.

### Entrance Enhancement Initiative

The management acknowledges with appreciation the expanding beautification initiatives being undertaken by the Garden Committee at the Vineyard Village entrances. These efforts ensure that all visitors and



residents are welcomed by the distinctive landscaping excellence that characterises the community’s commitment to environmental aesthetics.

**Seasonal Renewal Program**

These enhancement activities are designed to rejuvenate the garden beds, ensuring optimal aesthetic appeal while maintaining the ecological balance and horticultural integrity of the landscaped areas. The systematic approach to seasonal replanting reflects the commitment to preserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the community spaces throughout the changing seasons.

**Looking Forward**

These collective improvements reflect the ongoing dedication to maintaining and enhancing the horticultural standards that define the Vineyard Village residential experience. The Garden Committee represents more than just improved landscapes; it’s an opportunity for residents to nurture relationships alongside roses and ensure their green spaces remain a source of pride for generations to come.

**TOWER OF SONGS CIRCLE: A COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION IN PROGRESS**

**Multi-stakeholder collaboration brings comprehensive revitalization to beloved community space**

The Tower of Songs Circle area is currently undergoing a comprehensive revitalization program designed to enhance both its aesthetic appeal and functional capacity significantly. This landmark initiative represents one of the most ambitious landscape enhancement projects undertaken within the Boardwalk Meander Estate community.

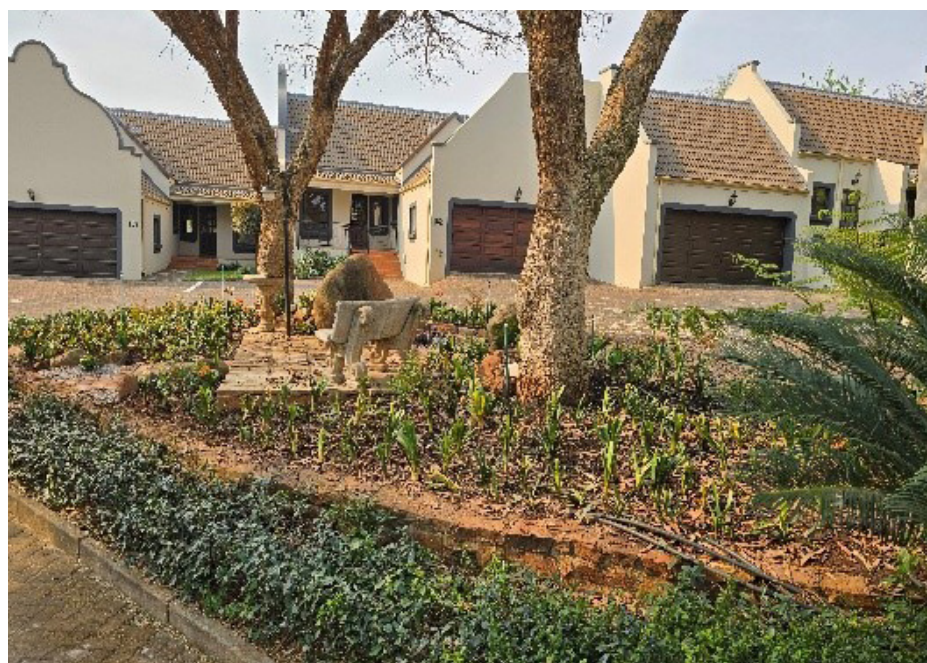
**Collaborative Partnership Model**

This important initiative is being undertaken

through an innovative collaborative partnership that brings together multiple stakeholders:

- **Vineyard Village Garden Committee** - Providing horticultural expertise and community oversight
- **Boardwalk Meander Estate Manager** - Ensuring project alignment with estate-wide standards
- **Rooibul Contracting** - Delivering professional implementation services
- **Individual Residents** - Contributing community knowledge and ongoing support

This multi-faceted approach demonstrates



the significant positive impact and substantial benefits that coordinated efforts can achieve in comprehensive landscape management.

**Beyond Aesthetic Enhancement**

The benefits of this revitalization extend far beyond visual improvements. Professional oversight ensures the implementation of sustainable gardening practices that promote healthier plant communities and ecological balance. The strategic approach also positions the community for potentially reduced long-term maintenance costs through the selection of appropriate plant varieties and improved infrastructure design. This forward-thinking methodology exemplifies the collaborative spirit that transforms Vineyard Village residents into a thriving, environmentally conscious community.

**Commitment to Excellence**

This initiative represents the community’s ongoing commitment to maintaining and enhancing the natural beauty that defines the Vineyard Village residential experience. The enhancement project reflects a continued dedication to improving and maintaining the visual excellence of community spaces while ensuring optimal functionality for the enjoyment and benefit of all residents.

**A Model for Future Development**

The collaborative effort between the Estate Manager, Garden Committee members, Rooibul Contracting, and individual residents establishes a successful model for future landscape management initiatives throughout Boardwalk Meander Estate. This coordinated approach demonstrates how an effective partnership can deliver exceptional results that benefit the entire community. The Tower of Songs Circle revitalization stands as a testament to what can be achieved when community vision meets professional expertise, creating spaces that will be enjoyed by residents for years to come.



## Dibber's Global Presence

Across Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Africa, Dibber develops and manages high quality schools and preschools. Walking into a Dibber International centre, with world-class amenities and facilities, children and adults alike will experience warmth and a sense of belonging.

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# Nurturing Children Who Know Their Worth

Imagine a world where every child grows up knowing, without a doubt, that they matter. That they are seen, heard, and cherished—not for what they achieve, but simply for who they are. As parents, isn't this our deepest hope? That our children grow with a strong sense of self, a heart full of kindness, and the confidence to embrace life with joy? At Dibber, this is the heart of what we do. We call it Heart Culture—a way of nurturing children that cultivates self-worth, deepens relationships, and builds a true sense of belonging.

From the moment a child takes their first steps into our learning spaces, they are encouraged to explore their “I”—their own unique identity. Who am I? What makes me feel happy, safe, and proud? What do I bring to the world? Every smile, every discovery, every shared moment adds to their growing understanding that they are important. Through play, storytelling, and meaningful conversations, they begin to understand their emotions, their strengths, and their heart treasures—their deepest values. They learn that their voice matters and that being true to themselves is something to celebrate. This self-acceptance becomes the foundation for resilience, emotional intelligence, and the courage to face life's challenges.

But self-discovery is just the beginning. As children grow, they step into the “You”—the people around them. They learn that just as they have dreams, fears, and feelings, so do their friends, family, and teachers. Through playful interactions, shared laughter, and small acts of kindness, they begin to see that relationships are built on trust, understanding, and care. They listen, they learn, they grow. They begin to appreciate both the things that make us similar and the beautiful differences that make each of us unique. They ask questions, they engage, and they start to see the world beyond themselves. These experiences shape children into thoughtful, compassionate individuals who not only understand others but care deeply for them.

Then, their world expands even further into the “We”—the understanding that they are part of something much greater than themselves. The community, the country, the world—they all become places where a child knows they

belong. They learn that their actions matter, that kindness ripples outward, and that even small hands can make a big difference. Through inclusive experiences, they explore different traditions, customs, and ways of living, realising that diversity is not something to fear but something to embrace. They don't just learn about the world; they become active participants in making it better. A child who has been nurtured in Heart Culture doesn't just grow up with knowledge; they grow up with a heart for the world.

At Dibber, we don't just teach children—we nurture them. We create spaces where they feel safe, seen, and celebrated. We guide them as they develop the social, emotional, and cognitive skills that will serve them for a lifetime. We empower them to be their truest selves while teaching them the joy of connection and community. Our learning environments act as a third teacher, inspiring curiosity, exploration, and discovery.

As parents, we want our children to be happy, kind, and confident. We want them to wake up each morning knowing they are loved and go to bed each night knowing they have made a difference. Heart Culture is the bridge between those hopes and reality. When children experience their own intrinsic value and recognise the worth of others, they step into life with empathy, confidence, and a desire to make the world better—not just for themselves, but for everyone around them.

This is what it means to raise children who are the heart of the world. And it starts with knowing, deep down, that they are already enough. Because a child who knows their worth today will change the world tomorrow.



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# PHOTOS BY OUR RESIDENTS

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Thank you to David Doubell for the beautiful photos taken on one of his regular walks on our lovely estate.

Thank you so much for sharing your photos with all of us, David. How fortunate are we to live in such a beautiful place!

# LOOKING AFTER YOURSELF AND YOUR HEALTH

## Stronger with Age: The Power of Weight Training After 60

**A**t 60, many people expect to slow down. But for those who embrace weight training, life is just getting stronger — literally. Wellness isn't just about feeling good; it's about thriving. And resistance training is one of the most powerful tools to help older adults do just that.

### Why Weight Training Works Wonders After 60

- Preserves Muscle Mass: After 30, we naturally lose muscle each decade. Weight training helps reverse that trend, keeping you strong and mobile.
- Boosts Bone Density: Lifting weights stimulates bone growth, reducing the risk of osteoporosis and fractures.
- Improves Balance and Coordination: Stronger muscles mean better sta-



**AGE IS NOT  
A BARRIER —  
IT'S A BADGE  
OF HONOR.**

bility, which helps prevent falls — a major concern as we age.

- Enhances Metabolism: Muscle burns more calories than fat, even at rest. That means more energy

and easier weight management.

- Supports Mental Health: Exercise releases endorphins, reduces stress, and improves sleep — all crucial for emotional wellness.



### Mindset Matters: Your Story Is the Proof

You're 60, thriving, and lifting weights — and you feel amazing. That's not just inspiring, it's empowering. You've shown that age is not a barrier, it's a badge of honor. If you can do it, anyone can.

Starting doesn't require perfection — just persistence. Whether it's bodyweight squats, resistance bands, or dumbbells, the key is consistency and listening to your body.

### Getting Started Safely

- Consult a professional: A trainer or physiotherapist can tailor a plan to your needs.
- Start light: Focus on form before increasing weight.
- Warm up and cool down: Protect your joints and muscles.
- Rest and recover: Muscles grow during rest — don't skip it.

### Wellness Is a Lifestyle

Weight training is just one piece of the puzzle. Pair it with balanced nutrition, hydration, social connection, and joyful movement. The goal isn't just to live longer — it's to live better.

*-Jolanda*



**'The dog ate my homework.'**  
Excuses happen, but progress doesn't stop.



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# ADVENTURE-FOCUSED DEFENDER TROPHY EDITION

## READY FOR SOUTH AFRICA



**D**efender has been the vehicle of choice for explorers and expedition leaders for decades. Now a new global initiative – Defender Trophy Challenge – will allow adventure seekers from more than 50 countries to experience the type of events that have etched Defender in the hearts of minds of fans around the world.

Inspired by Trophy and Challenge events of the past, participants will face obstacles and a selection of mental and physical challenges in a unique test of wit, willpower and teamwork. National finals in South Africa will determine who makes it to the global final in 2026. Only those who embrace the impossible, with a passion for global conservation will make it.

An adventure of such epic proportions needs a similarly epic vehicle – the new Defender 110 Trophy Edition, with only 60 examples of the expedition-ready Defender destined for South Africa.

Available exclusively in either Deep Sandglow yellow or Keswick green, the new Trophy Edition features a striking contrasting gloss black finish on the bonnet, lower bodyside, brake calipers, and rear recovery eyes.

Both colours can be finished with an optional Matte Protective Film, which provides an added layer of protection to the bodywork, offering reassurance and enhanced durability for venturing off the beaten track.

The adventure-ready specification is further enhanced by new unique to Defender Trophy Edition gloss black 20-inch alloy wheels wearing rugged all-terrain tyres for reliable grip on all surfaces. Trophy decals on the bonnet and C-pillar graphic, along with Trophy rear badging, distinctly set the special edition model apart on the outside. Inside, Trophy illuminated tread plates reinforce its provenance, while Ebony Windsor leather seats provide a blend of toughness and luxury. The exposed

cross-car beam is finished in the same distinctive colour as the exterior and features unique laser-etched endcaps with Trophy branding.

For the ultimate off-road capability, the Trophy Edition comes standard with a selection of accessories that include a dark rear scuff plate, gloss black wheel arch protection and a black front under shield. Also included is an expedition roof rack providing additional stowage space for gear-laden journeys, while a black deployable roof ladder makes it easier to access objects stored overhead. A gloss black side-mounted gear carrier providing extra space for muddy, wet, or sandy items; front and rear classic mud flaps; and a raised air intake for dust filtration are also included.

Priced at R 2,227,800 the Defender 110 Trophy Edition represents a unique opportunity for South African adventurers to own a piece of Defender history.

Orders are open now at <https://www.landrover.co.za/defender/defender-110/defender-trophy-edition.html>

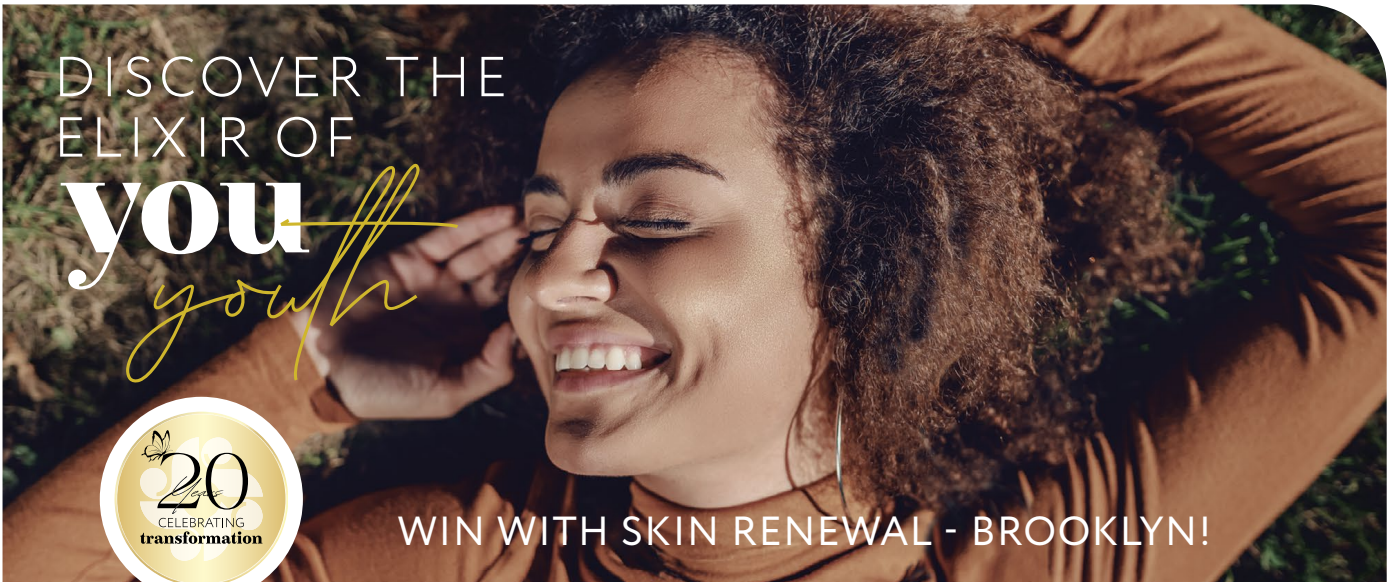


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## DÉCOR & ISSUE 2 • 2025 LIFESTYLE

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**Shuttleworth  
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environmentally  
conscious**

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# INTERIOR DÉCOR

Compiled by Stienie Greyling

## *Styles & Trends*

NOVEMBER 2025

**Wedding Trends**  
**Wedding Décor Trends**

# Wedding Trends

Wedding trends focus on personalisation, relaxed atmospheres and unique aesthetics.

**K**ey trends include bold colour palettes and nature-inspired décor, a move towards intimate gatherings, creative experiences like live tattooing, personalised fashion with multiple outfit changes and a shift to relaxed wedding formats with non-traditional attire and seating. Cinematic and retro photography styles are gaining

popularity, alongside efforts towards sustainable and smart spending through rented or second hand attire.

Bows will continue to reign in 2025 in all manner of forms. We are talking big ones, little ones and everything in between. Whether they adorn the wedding dress, hair accessories, shoes, stationary, signage, table settings of cake tables.

## The Wedding Wardrobe

With all the pre and post wedding events being celebrated more than ever it is not just the wedding dress that has become the main fashion focus, but, rather, the outfits for the wedding's ancillary events. Extending the wedding fashion moment beyond the wedding dress is bigger than ever with wedding wardrobe looks for the engagement party, rehearsal dinner and hen party, right down to wedding dress shopping looks and the honeymoon airport outfit.

With more and more couples wanting to keep the party going longer, and the after-party is also bigger and bolder than ever; both brides and grooms are now adding a wardrobe change into a 'second look'. Whether it's to feel more comfortable for dancing the night way, or to create a wow moment on the dance floor.

We are noticing more and more couples choosing to have their wedding ceremony in the round or in winding or curved formats. Switching up the set-up is just another way to create a more personalised experience for guests, making everyone feel included in the ceremony. A circle symbolises unity and eternity, which make it a perfect fit for a wedding ceremony.

## Cherry Coded

One of the biggest trends to watch out for in 2025, Cherry Coded details are already on the rise in the world of weddings. Modern couples look for ways to infuse the tart tone and berry detail into their wedding wardrobe, make-up, wedding menus and mood boards this year.

From dramatic floral arrangements to subtle pops of colour in candlesticks, stationery and bridal party attire, as well as the theme of the party – this is one trend that's expected to increase in 2025.



**Berry-Tipped Cakes: A Fresh New Trend**

And it's not just the wedding wardrobe and décor getting the fruity treatment! Cherry and berry-covered cakes will be everywhere at wedding, bringing an array of fresh strawberries, blueberries and cherries. However, these aren't your classic fruit topped cakes: we are seeing berry-filled cake tops, which not only create a stunning visual impact, but add a huge dollop of romance to the celebration.

**Wedding Content Creators**

Content creators are becoming an essential wedding supplier for many couples. If you are all about getting the perfect image for the social media pages or video, then this wedding service that's gaining momentum is one for you. As well as a great professional photographer and videographer, couples are now adding in a wedding content creator to their day for more casual in the moments footage.

Unlike a photographer or a videographers (which are two crucial wedding supplies to include on your team of professionals), a wedding content creator is booked to show up on the wedding day and shoot behind the scenes images and videos on a phone, creating social-media worth content to post in real time and after, so you and your wedding party can relax and be present on the day, rather than spending time on phones posting footage and image from the wedding.



**Wedding Entertainment**

If there is one thing that really separates a good wedding from an unforgettable one, it's the music. It doesn't just fill the air; it sets the tone, ignites emotions and creates memories that last a lifetime. In 2025, wedding trends see couples prioritising creating truly personalised memories. From intimate acoustic sets to high-energy party bands, this year's trends are all about creativity and connection.

Wedding entertainment trends include hybrid music experiences (bands and DJs), cinematic and documentary style films, multi-sensory engagement beyond visuals, and wellness activities like mini-tournaments. Many couples are prioritizing unplugged ceremonies for a more present experience, incorporating local cultural elements like gumboot dances and seeking innovative ways to include sustainability in their celebrations.



# Wedding Décor Trends

What differentials a good wedding from a spectacular one?

While many elements come together to make it special, one factor often stands out – the décor.

**W**edding décor trends for 2025 include luxe minimalism with clean lines, dramatic hanging florals, and bold, vibrant colour palettes like jewel tones or bright citrus.

There are also a strong resurgence of retro and vintage elements, such as 80s-esque details and antique pieces, combine with modern curves in furniture and table layouts. Sustainable options like local produce centrepieces and artistic, avant-garde designs are also prominent.

The choice of décor should reflect the couple's personalities. It is essential to know what decor items are included in the venue rental.

Much of the stress can be avoided by calling in the assistance or an experienced and professional decor and rental company.

Some venues do supply items such as a red carpet, tablecloths and chair covers. If you need to pay extra for these items, one could save quite a tidy sum, which would of course be handy for the honeymoon.

A good décor specialist will make sure that the décor ideas do not draw attention away from the wedding couple.

According to professional wedding planners and designers a number of these wedding décor trend like lighting and linens will continue to make an appearance at 2025 weddings, but with an upgrade. In the coming month's one can expect weddings to be robust, innovative, and individualised events with statement making elements that blow expectations out of the water, leading to an unmatched yet incredibly welcoming experience for all the wedding guests.



### Custom – Built Structures

In keeping with the highly personalised nature of weddings, this year weddings will include custom-built structures that push boundaries. Instead of renting a plain white tent for an al fresco celebration, many couples will host their affairs in architectural, one-of-a-kind builds. Colourful truss structures and unconventionally shaped greenhouses will be some of the trends to look out for. Meanwhile, innovative flooring in an array of colours and prints, whether it's covering a venue's pre-existing woodwork or incorporated into an outdoor structure will also pop up in the coming months.

### Layered Linens

The table tops at wedding receptions will be brimming in depth and dimension, thank to layered fabrics in various colours, prints and materials. Couples will wrap their reception tables in table tops topped with linen runners and napkins. 2025 weddings will continue layering different complementary patterns and texture to create a more visually dynamic table scape. For instance, a baby blue satin tablecloth that's stacked with a striped white runner and ultra-fine beige napkins will look unified and intentional yet visually striking at a wedding reception.

### Immersive Lighting

Weddings in the foreseeable future will emphasize lighting. With candlelit pathways, lamp-lined tables and crystal chandeliers, the light fixtures that a couple chooses will help them produce the ambiance they are going for, from romantic to moody. When paired with an exclusive designed dinner reception with orchestrated dinner service an incredible musical soundtrack, it truly elevates the overall guest experience.

### DIY Décor

One of the biggest shifts in wedding décor for 2025 is the move towards eco-conscious and nature-inspired setups. Couples are starting to ditch artificial decorations and favour more into lush greenery, wooden elements and impressive outdoor venues. Moreover, minimalist elegance and DIY (Do-It-Yourself) décor are gaining popularity, allowing the personalisation while keeping the budget in check.

DIY décor is all about adding personal and heartfelt touch to wedding celebrations. While employing DIY décor for the celebrations, couples are getting the chance to embrace creativity by designing and crafting their wedding decorations. By adding a personal touch to the wedding decorations, one is getting the chance to make it more meaningful and unique.



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This trend is part of a global movement, but it is especially notable in South Africa, given the country's history with women's rights.

Other facts about the market include that the value of residential property is estimated to have reached R6.9 trillion in 2024, and the total value of the South African real estate market is a significant contributor to the country's GDP, with estimates up to R191 billion



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