



# Fourways Gardens

RESIDENTIAL ESTATE

April 2025



INSIDE

A double billing for our over-60s  
with Evergreen Broadacres

FWG Family  
Campout

Serene spots for  
memorial benches





INDABA

HOTEL, SPA & CONFERENCE CENTRE  
FOURWAYS JOHANNESBURG

epsom

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TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY. OFFER VALID ON SUNDAY, 20 APRIL 2025. SUBJECT TO RESTAURANT AVAILABILITY. BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.





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**Fourways Gardens**  
RESIDENTIAL ESTATE

### IMPORTANT ESTATE NUMBERS

**Fourways Gardens HOA** 011 465 7731

**Security Control Room** 011 465 5465

**Security Mobile Number** 066 261 7671

**24/7 HQ Control Room** 011 444 2237

**The Gardens Bistro** 084 613 5797

**ER24** 084 124

**Netcare 911** 082 911

**Police** 10111

**JMPD** 011 375 5911

**Lonehill Fire Department** 011 465 5792

**Eskom** 0860 037 566

**City of Joburg Municipality** 0860 562 874

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# MESSAGE FROM THE ESTATE MANAGER

Dear Fourways Gardens Residents,

**A**s we turn the page into April, it's hard to believe how quickly the year is flying by. The long summer days are giving way to earlier sunsets and cooler evenings, signalling the arrival of autumn. While I'm certainly not one to complain, I think we can all agree that we've had more than our fair share of rain! Hopefully, as the season shifts, we'll enjoy crisper, clearer days to make the most of our beautiful estate.

April is a special month in many ways, filled with meaningful holidays and opportunities to connect with loved ones. Ramadan 2025 concludes with Eid al-Fitr on Monday, 31 March 2025, and we wish all those who observed it a special celebration. Easter and Passover are just around the corner, bringing a sense of renewal and togetherness.

One of the month's highlights is always our much-anticipated Easter Family Event, which never fails to bring joy to the estate's youngsters and those who are young at heart! I look forward to seeing many of you at the event on Sunday, 13 April, for what promises to be a day of fun, community spirit, and plenty of sugar!

The Fourways Road Runners will be hosting a fun run – open to all Fourways Gardens residents – on the day before we indulge in the yummy Easter treats. With so much fun to be had, make sure you check out the newsletter, notice boards and our social media platforms for details! To improve your chances of seeing yourself in next month's magazine (or perhaps even becoming the cover star), make sure to dress up for the fun run!

Beyond the festivities, April is packed with public holidays, offering well-deserved breaks to spend time with family and



*Charlene Marlin, Estate Manager*

friends. With Family Day, Freedom Day, and Worker's Day on the horizon, let's take advantage of these opportunities to slow down and appreciate the people who matter most to us. May this month be one in which we all take the time to reconnect, recharge, and make lasting memories with those around us.

April also marks the beginning of a new financial year for us at the HOA, and with it comes a renewed focus on enhancing our estate. We have a host of exciting projects in the pipeline to further improve Fourways Gardens Estate and ensure it remains a wonderful place to call home. We look forward to sharing more details and seeing these plans come to life in the months ahead.

Wishing you all a fantastic April filled with warmth, joy, and meaningful moments.

Warm regards,

*Charlene*





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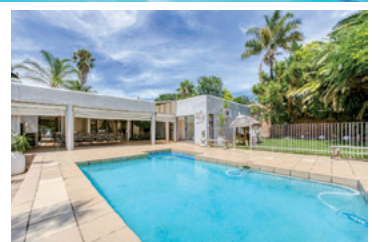


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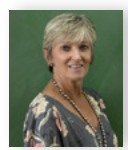
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# SAFETY AND SECURITY ARE EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY

**M**any South Africans choose to live in residential estates, deeming them safer than stand-alone residences. However, this perception can be misleading as crime statistics escalate and criminals become more brazen and innovative.

One of the most common inhibitors of estate security is complacency on the part of homeowners and residents. Often, the high walls and guarded access points create a false sense of security that results in residents neglecting to take basic steps to secure their homes, such as locking doors, closing windows, installing (and arming!) alarm systems, and ensuring that gardens are illuminated to limit concealment. These are all standard measures for stand-alone homes and should be equally so for homes within estates.

24/7 Security Services urge residents to remain alert as each individual plays a part in combatting crime:

- Do not rely on perimeter security alone. While perimeter security measures have successfully driven down crime in estates, residents must take precautions in their homes.
- Be sure to lock doors and windows and ensure vehicles are locked - even when parked in a garage.
- Test alarms and panic buttons regularly.
- Conduct thorough reference checks of domestic workers and gardeners.
- Report suspicious people, vehicles and behaviour.
- Be alert when entering and exiting the estate.

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## Vehicle safety tips in public spaces

Incidents of vehicle theft and theft out of vehicles continue to rise. 24/7 Security Services urges vehicle owners to take the necessary precautions when driving and parking in public spaces.

- Avoid parking your vehicle where no security officers or car guards are present.
- Ensure that the doors, windows, and boot are properly closed and locked before you walk away. Always double-check to avoid remote car jamming.
- Close your windows when driving in busy areas.
- Do not open your windows for hawkers along the road or at an intersection.
- When driving, keep the doors locked and the windows closed at all times.
- Avoid displaying anything valuable, such as a handbag, briefcase, watch, cell phone or laptop, in full view on the seats. Instead, lock your valuables in the boot.
- Familiarise yourself with your route before embarking on your trip.
- Always be vigilant and observe your area. If you notice something suspicious when parking your vehicle at a shopping mall, report it to security or the centre management.

## Cybersecurity safety: Cell phones

Considering how much we rely on our cell phones and how susceptible they are to attack, you'll want to make sure you are protected:

- Lock your device with a PIN or password - and never leave it unprotected in public.

- Only install apps from trusted sources.
- Keep the device's operating system up to date.
- Avoid transmitting or storing personal information on the device.
- Don't click on links or attachments from unsolicited emails or texts.

## SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

Please report all security-related matters immediately, without delay.

A delay in reporting = a delay in resolution.

**On-site Control Contact details:**

**011 465 5466 or 066 261 7671**



# FAMILY CAMPOUT

Saturday, 8 March

Rain, rain go away!

With the near-constant rain this year, we nervously announced the 2025 Family Campout, and what good weather we had! Clear blue skies and a hot afternoon greeted campers setting up tents and campsites on the Campout afternoon, and face painting and crafts at the Lapa kept the young ones entertained while mom and dad battled through the morass of tent poles, ropes, and mattresses!

With the campsites set up, it was time to start the fires, and the braaiing commenced before nightfall, with floodlights ensuring that no dad had an excuse to undercook or overcook the braai meat!

And just like that, it was time for the S'mores and toasted marshmallows! Eunice from Jawitz helped to assemble the S'mores packs, and as soon as word spread about them, we almost battled to keep up with the demand! With skewer sticks in hand and marshmallows ready, the braais became the place to be, with a buzzing of excited children baking S'mores and roasting marshmallows! While we don't know precisely how many marshmallows were consumed, the ensuing sugar rush was unmistakable!

And then, the debate about bedtime ensued, with the campsite getting quieter and quieter until only the frogs could be heard! Groggy-eyed campers emerged from tents on Sunday morning, ready for a caffeine jolt, and the HasBean coffee tuk-tuk was ready and serving coffees, hot chocolates, smoothies, and baked goodies before 7am!

Our paramedic had plenty of free time, attending to only one bee sting, one small cut, and some grazes – exactly how we like our events to go!

Thank you to all the campers for cleaning up after themselves and for the great community spirit on display at the Campout! We also thank our sponsors, Jawitz Properties, and Eunice, who helped prepare S'mores and hand out glow stick armbands.

Our Campout is a fun adventure for the children and a great advertisement for Fourways Gardens, and we showed our guests what they're missing out on!

By the way, if anyone's asking, there's still a red electric toothbrush at lost-and-found.

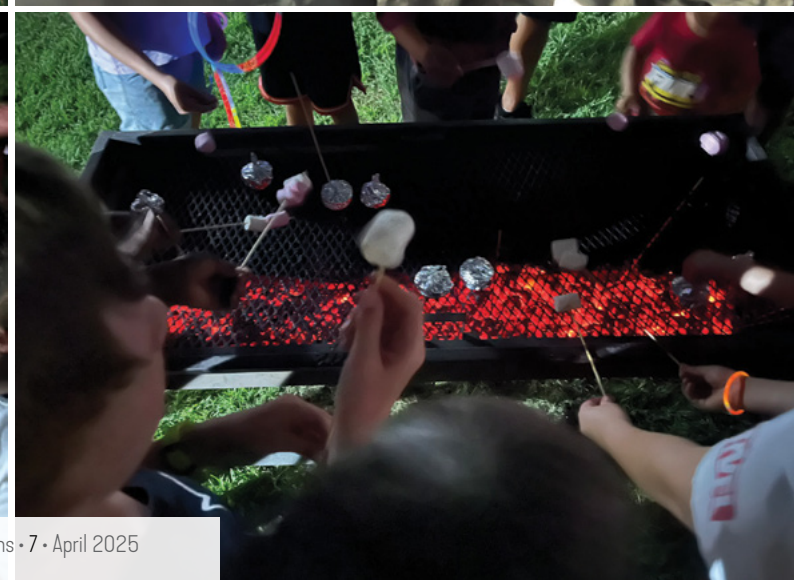


PROPERTIES

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# EVERGREEN COCKTAIL EVENING

Tuesday, 25 February

**Y**ou wouldn't think that a gathering of Classic Club members, their friends, and guests would mean shouting out 'Tequila' to accompany the eponymous song by The Champs, but that's exactly how the evening ended!

Charlene Marlin, our Estate Manager, opened the event and spoke about the importance of the Classics Club and the collaboration between Fourways Gardens and Evergreen Broadacres to promote social opportunities for the over-60s. Lindsay Michaels then provided an overview of the services and types of care available at Evergreen Broadacres, giving guests an informative and brief introduction to their service.

Evergreen Broadacres hosted a Cocktail Evening for anyone interested in their various offerings, whether for themselves or loved ones. Lindsay Michaels, Evergreen Sales Manager, and Annalize Posthumus, Life Rights Consultant at Evergreen Broadacres, warmly welcomed guests while they poured welcome drinks. With the formalities out of the way, our guests were kept entertained by saxophonist Chris Lake.

Evergreen Broadacres has also expressed its continued support for sponsoring Classics Club events, much to the delight of Classics Club organiser Lorna Kurz, who runs this social event with such enthusiasm and care for these members of our community.

The HOA team is excited to see how this collaboration will grow and benefit the over-60s community at Fourways Gardens!









# CLASSICS CLUB EVERGREEN BRUNCH

Friday, 7 February



We had such a special morning, sponsored by Evergreen Lifestyle Retirement Estate. Annelize kindly reminded us about their Wednesday dinner social and sleepover, which is open to anyone wanting to experience the estate and its services.

They sponsored a delicious harvest table brunch, which was a real treat and a perfect way to start the weekend! A big thank you to Evergreen for their very generous donation, and of course, to Belinda and The Gardens Bistro team for preparing such a fantastic feast!

We are also planning an outing to Alettes Rusks on 11 April, leaving the estate at 10am – it's sure to be a fun morning out! Our next meeting will be on 4 April at 10am, and the May meeting will be on 2 May. Everyone is welcome to join.



A reminder about the "Weekly Wiggles & Giggles" movement class, which takes place every Monday and Friday. This is a fun and simple movement class run by our members, featuring great old music. You can participate at your own pace, doing as much or as little as you want. Feel free to contact me for more information.

Our beautiful flowers were kindly sponsored by Taniel from Merci Flowers and were won by Joy Butler - though not before the resident cat decided to check out the packaging for a nap!

We had over 30 members join this month, which was amazing, and I'm thrilled to see our group growing! Thank you so much to everyone for your continued support. Lots of laughs, great food, meeting new people, and trying out new experiences with new friends - that's what life is all about!

Please contact me if you have any queries or would like more information!



Sending you love, until next time!

*Lorna*  
082 659 1048









# ACTIVITIES OFFERED IN OUR ESTATE

Please contact the Activity Provider directly via WhatsApp for information regarding fees, times and other arrangements. We ask that residents respect the activity providers and participants making use of their services at these times.



**Fourways Gardens**  
RESIDENTIAL ESTATE

## Adult Yoga and Pilates

Stacey Roberts 082 388 2177  
Staceroberts23@gmail.com

### Tennis Gazebo

Pilates – Monday 08h30 - 09h30

### Hall

Yoga – Monday 17h30 - 18h30

Wednesday 08h30 - 09h30

Pilates – Wednesday 18h15 - 19h15

## Goju-Ryu Karate

Roberta 083 309 5352  
Roberta.biagioni@vodamail.co.za

### Hall

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Beginners 16h30 - 17h15

Immediate 17h30 - 18h15

Advanced 18h15 - 19h00

## Fourways Road Runners

Brittany Halton-Hall  
fourwaysrr@gmail.com  
072 537 8014

### Tennis Gazebo

Tuesday 17h45

Thursday 18h15

Saturday 06h00

## Nanny 'n Me

Joanne Bradley – 083 303 1190  
joanne@nannynme.co.za

### Tennis Gazebo/Hall

Wednesdays

Toddler Class 09h15 - 10h15

Baby Class 10h30 - 11h30

(3 months to 14 months)

## Kids Yopalates

(Yoga+Pilates)

Stacey Roberts 082 388 2177  
Staceroberts23@gmail.com

### Tennis Gazebo

Wednesday 16:00 - 16:30

## Little Kickers

Football classes for boys and girls  
aged 18 months to 8 years old

Rui Da Costa 083 450 0563  
rdacosta@littlekickers.co.za

### Phase 2 Park Soccer Net

Friday

15h00 - 17h00

## Ballet

Nicky 072 238 8063  
nickyridley33@gmail.com

### Hall

Tuesday

14h30 - 16h00

## Helen O'Grady Drama

Kerry 083 410 2940  
kerry@helenogrady.co.za

### Hall

Wednesday 15h00 - 17h30

## WTHP Full Body Resistance Training

Mandy Davis 083 708 3637  
mandy@gracepoint.co.za

### Tennis Gazebo

Mondays and Wednesdays

Group 1 – 06h00

Group 2 – 07h00

Saturday

Group 1 & 2 – 07h00

## HasBean Coffee tuc-tuc

Dave and Lindy Venter  
Dave 072 344 6598  
Lindy 082 8769456  
lindy@mimail.co.za

### Phase 2 Saturday

### Phase 1 Sunday

07h30 - 11h00

## Pulser United Soccer and Netball Training

Prince Peterson 064 541 0201  
pulsarunitedsport@gmail.com

### Phase 1 Park

Tuesdays

16h00 - 17h00

## Pancake Pantry

Kelly Lombaard 083 663 5115  
Kellyjhlombard@gmail.com

### Phase 1 Tuesday

### Phase 2 Thursday

12h00 - 17h00

## Exercise Classes for Seniors

Free, low-intensity movement  
classes

Contact Annie at 082 985 1042 or  
Winnie at 066 101 1041 for more  
information or to join

### Hall

Monday 08h30

Friday 08h30

## Chain Gang MTB Club

Coach Smish 072 435 2751  
info@chaingang.co.za

### Phase 1 Cycle Track





# INTRODUCING PULSAR UNITED SPORT: Exciting Sports Coaching for Children

**M**y name is Prince Peterson, also known as Coach Prince, and I am the founder of Pulsar United Sport. We are excited to introduce our sports coaching services to the estate community.

## About us:

Pulsar United Sport offers soccer, netball, and motor skills coaching for children. Our customised group training sessions provide a fun and safe environment where kids can learn new skills while interacting with peers who share similar interests. Our experienced and passionate coaches give every child personalised attention and guidance.

## Training details:

Our programs cater to children of all abilities, including those with special needs. We aim to create an inclusive environment where kids can develop physical skills, build confidence, and make new friends.

## Benefits:

By joining Pulsar United Sport, parents can expect:

- Convenient, estate-based training sessions
- Experienced coaches passionate about child development
- A safe and supportive environment fostering socialisation and fun

## About our Coaches:

Our coaches bring extensive experience in sports coaching and child development, with a particular focus on supporting children with special needs. They are passionate about creating an inclusive and positive experience for all participants.

## Costs:

We will provide current pricing information upon request.

## Target audience:

Our programs are designed for children aged 5 to 16 and are inclusive of diverse needs.

Thank you for considering Pulsar United Sport! We are eager to become part of the Fourways Gardens Estate community and look forward to sharing our passion for sports with your children.

Best regards,

*Coach Prince*

Pulsar United Sport  
064 541 0201



PULSAR UNITED SPORT



# MONTHLY DRAW

Friday, 28 February

No, you're not imagining it. The months really are flying by this fast! We held our second Monthly Draw of 2025 on Friday, 28 February, and had a lovely evening sitting outdoors at the veranda, terrace, and riverside tables. Jack Atlantic was the musician for the evening, and in addition to keeping us entertained, he brought additional visibility to our estate through his social media presence.

Red décor and napkins were everywhere, compliments of Kymn Grant-Smith of Century 21 Fourways – a nod to Valentine's on the last day of the month of love. An impressive display of prizes to be won was prominently placed. The lucky draw boxes were soon filled with entries, and as 7pm approached, we had plenty of residents walking in, hoping to be the lucky winner of the R8,000 kitty!

The winner of the kids' voucher was Ashleigh Janssen, who was genuinely pleased with this prize. The lucky draw hampers were won by Andrea Antel and Milan Nedic, although Milan's prize was accepted by his wife, Vanessa Nedic, as he'd gone to fetch a jersey on her behalf.

Cash prize hopefuls held their breath as we started the draw for the cash prize, and the would-be winner was not present, meaning another rollover! The March Monthly Draw will be R9,500, so if you want to stand a chance to win, ensure that you are a homeowner who is present at the draw (or your legal spouse) and that you're in good standing with the HOA.

See you at the next Monthly Draw, and perhaps it'll be your chance to win the cash kitty, courtesy of Century 21 Fourways!

**CENTURY 21.**  
Fourways









# QUIZ NIGHT

Friday, 21 February



The Fourways Gardens Quiz League is officially in full swing after another fantastic Quiz Night on Friday, 21 February! The venue buzzed with eager competitors, and the atmosphere was electric as teams put their heads together, hoping to claim the top spot.

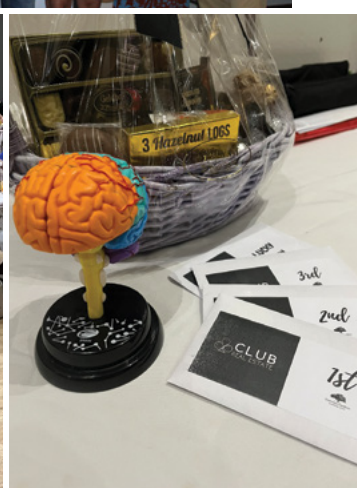
Quiz Master Dayle delivered a challenging yet entertaining set of questions, keeping everyone on their toes. Some rounds sparked intense debates before final answers were locked in, but that's all part of the fun! The competition was fierce, and as always, every point counted.

After meticulous score tallying, the evening's champions emerged. Taking the coveted first place were the ever-impressive *Weinsteins*, proving yet again that their knowledge spans far and wide. Hot on their heels in second place was *Team of the Month*, while *The Horny Rhinos* rounded out the podium in third. A huge congratulations to all our winners!

The night wasn't just about trivia prowess—luck also played its part. Gareth Demmer walked away with the lucky draw prize, much to the envy of the other contestants!

A big thank you to our sponsors, Club Real Estate, for their continued support in making Quiz Night a highlight on the community calendar. And, of course, a round of applause for Dayle, whose passion and energy make every quiz an event to remember.

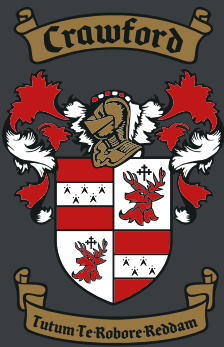
If you missed out this time, don't worry – the league is still young! Gather your team, sharpen your wits, and book your table for the next Quiz Night. Who knows? Maybe your team will be the next to claim bragging rights!











# Crawford

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- Bryanston
- Fourways

- Lonehill
- Ruimsig
- Sandton



# MEMORIAL BENCHES AT THE PHASE 2 PARK

Nestled in the heart of Phase 2 Park, a series of memorial benches now provide serene spots to pause, reflect, and soak in the beauty of nature. Whether it's the gentle rustling of the trees, the soft chirping of birds hidden among the reeds, or the peaceful sound of water flowing nearby. These benches invite you to take a moment to breathe and be present.

Each bench carries a story – placed in loving memory of someone dearly missed. The dedication plaques hold heartfelt messages, beautiful poetry, and cherished words that reflect the lasting love of family and friends. These tributes remind us that while those we love may no longer walk beside us, their presence lingers in the memories we hold and the spaces we create to honour them.

As you stroll along the dam, we ask for your help in keeping these benches looking their best, ensuring they remain a fitting and beautiful tribute for years to come.

These benches are more than just places to rest; they are reminders of love, resilience, and cherished memories. Whether you visit to reflect, to find solace, or simply to enjoy the peaceful surroundings, we hope these spaces bring you the same sense of comfort and connection they were meant to inspire.

## Dedications:



*In memory of our beloved Yorkie, Lula. You will live in our hearts forever.*



*In loving memory of our Grandpa, Melvyn Percy Bichener.  
"When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure."  
1952 - 2022*



*In loving memory of Trevor & Val Long and Thomas Dunk, our beloved Mom, Granny, Dads, and Grandpas.  
"Thank you for the beautiful moments we shared. You were loved deeply, and you are missed profoundly."*



*In loving memory of James Clarke, whose footsteps continue to be heard in our hearts.  
"Forever loved and missed."*





*In loving memory of Damon Rahme.*



*In memory of dear husband and father: GASPARD YAWILI*



*In Loving Memory of Ruth Tuma, Uganda (1946 - 2016)  
Wife. Mother. Grandmother.  
"Marvelous are Your works" - Psalm 139:14*



*"It is here, with the spirit of the wind, that I will find my soul."  
– Horsman Family*



*In loving memory of Milu Fernandes – beloved Wife, Mother, Nanna,  
and friend who brought love and light and is forever missed.  
"How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so  
hard."  
Until we meet again.  
13 March 1957 - 5 February 2021*



*"Her name will be fearless.  
And in all the stories my daughter shall hear,  
it will not be princes that slay the dragons,  
but little girls that believe in magic  
with big, brave hearts and even bigger dreams.  
She will learn to rely on her own sword  
in every battle, in every struggle, in every war,  
because she will learn how to devour  
every single monster from their very core."  
In memory of Georgia Bain (2010 - 2019)*



# PROPERTY PULSE EVENT HELD ON 19 FEBRUARY 2025

## SUSTAINABLE LIVING – BOREHOLES AND SOLAR ENERGY FOR THE HOME

BY FRANCESCA BEATTIE



**J**amie Yaldwyn from WATER 365 and Jon Harris from SOLZA delivered a clear and concise presentation, outlining their services and pricing. Both companies bring valuable experience in serving the residents of Fourways Gardens

**BOREHOLES:** WATER 365 is Johannesburg-based and focused mainly on residential borehole work. They have three specialist teams – drilling, tank and pump installations and filtration. They have invested in innovative technical development with the latest technology, allowing small, powerful drilling rigs into your property, which can fit through a 1.3m space. They have experienced successful drilling in the Fourways Gardens area. No technology can “see” where water is, a good judge is if the area has big trees – there’s likely to be water.

The cost of installing a borehole typically ranges from R99,000 to R139,000, depending on the size of the tanks and filtration systems required for household consumption. This includes a smart controller designed to manage and protect the borehole pumps, tanks, pressure vessel valves, and two outlets. There are various types of filtration systems available, including those using pH balancing and reverse osmosis technology, to ensure the provision of potable drinking water for the household.

### Q. How much storage do I need?

A. This depends on several family members. Typically, a person consumes 400L per day, therefore, a family of four needs a 2000L tank per day.

### Q. How much space do I need for tanks:

A. 1000L tank = 800mm (w) x 2195mm (h): 2500L = 1474mm (w) x 1620mm (h): 5000L = 1840mm (w) x 2022mm (h)

### Q: How deep is a borehole on average in JHB?

A: 40 – 60m

### Q: What are the chances of not hitting water?

A: 1.8% (our experience)

### Q: What is considered a good yield?

A: 5000L – 10 000L per day (24hrs) is considered a good yield (anything above 200L per hour) – Remember boreholes mature over time and generally increase their yield.

**SOLAR POWER:** SOLZA is based in Northriding and exclusively uses VICTRON energy products.

Their service covers programming and set-up, fault finding and troubleshooting, optimal system performance, on-site repair and ongoing supply and maintenance.

### WHY THEY BELIEVE IN TRANSFORMER-BASED INVERTERS:

**Superior quality power output:** It is stable, clean and protects your appliances.

**High surge capability:** It can handle higher surge currents – ideal for powering equipment requiring high start-up power.

**Durability:** It can handle high-temperature fluctuations, humidity and other factors that reduce the life of an inverter.





**Lower Electromagnetic Interference (EMI):** These inverters produce less radio frequency noise that interferes with other equipment or sensitive electronic devices nearby.

**Longevity and minimal maintenance:** They have a longer lifespan than other types of inverters. Robust construction and design, less prone to wear and tear. Minimal maintenance and more reliable.

**Prices including installation:**

5kva combo R105 000.00 INCLUDING 6 PANELS

8kva combo R145 000.00 INCLUDING 8 PANELS

15kva combo R195 000.00 INCLUDING 12 PANELS

In terms of energy savings (30% - 40%), it's key to run your geyser off the second AC input on a Victron inverter so that it uses excess solar to warm during the day or from Eskom to heat from 4am - 5:30am for the morning shower. It will never draw from your battery to heat unless you wish to use some battery power, which can be set up. The other obvious key to saving energy is to use your battery during peak periods and charge from solar the next day.

In Fourways Gardens, you must first complete a Solar Registration Form available from the HOA Offices. You will also need:

- A site plan showing the proposed position of panels on the roof and proximity to neighbours.
- Section through panels indicating the angle of panels relative to the roof.
- Electrical layout showing connections to the system.
- Certificate of Compliance from a Registered Electrician.
- Letter from a Government Registered Structural Engineer (Pr.Eng.) confirming the roof is structurally able to take extra load.
- An application fee of R1,375.00.

**JOIN US FOR THE NEXT PROPERTY PULSE EVENT ON  
2 APRIL 2025, at 17:30pm IN THE VINE ROOM AT THE  
CLUBHOUSE**

**SUBJECT: SUSTAINABLE/WATER-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING  
AND KURB APPEAL**





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# INDIGENOUS GARDENING: CREATING ECOLOGICAL CORRIDORS AND SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES

**G**auteng, South Africa's economic heartland, is often associated with urban sprawl, highways and high-rise buildings. However, amidst the development lies a unique and diverse ecological landscape, home to remnants of the Highveld grasslands, rivers and wetlands. As urbanisation continues to expand, the importance of indigenous gardening has never been greater. By cultivating native plants and creating ecological corridors, we can enhance biodiversity, reduce water consumption and promote sustainable, low-maintenance gardens.

## The importance of indigenous gardening

Indigenous plants are naturally adapted to Gauteng's climate, soil conditions and seasonal rainfall patterns. Unlike exotic species, which often require additional watering and fertilisation, indigenous plants thrive with minimal intervention. This makes them ideal for home gardens, parks and public spaces, particularly in a water-scarce country like South Africa.

## Creating ecological corridors

One of the most powerful benefits of indigenous gardening is the creation of ecological corridors – connected green spaces that allow wildlife to move freely between habitats. Gauteng's rapid urban expansion has fragmented natural landscapes, making it difficult for birds, insects and small mammals to find food, shelter and breeding grounds. By incorporating indigenous plants into our gardens, we can create a network of green spaces that supports local wildlife and promotes ecological resilience.

## Working with natural features

Understanding and using Gauteng's natural features can significantly enhance the effectiveness of an indigenous garden.

The province's landscape is characterised by:

- **Highveld grasslands:** These open, grassy areas support a rich diversity of wildflowers, birds and pollinators. Planting species such as red hot pokers (*Kniphofia uvaria*), wild iris (*Dietes*







*grandiflora*), and African daisies (*Arctotis* spp.) can help restore these ecosystems.

- **Rocky outcrops and ridges:** Gauteng has many rocky areas that are home to resilient plant species like aloes (*Aloe* spp.), wild olives (*Olea europaea* subsp. *africana*), and spekboom (*Portulacaria afra*). These plants are not only drought-tolerant but also provide food and shelter for wildlife.
- **Wetlands and rivers:** Natural water sources attract birds, amphibians and aquatic insects. Indigenous reeds, bulrushes (*Typha capensis*), and wild figs (*Ficus sur*) help to stabilise wetland areas and improve water quality.

### Boosting biodiversity

Indigenous gardens serve as mini-ecosystems, supporting a diverse range of species. By planting a variety of native flora, you can attract pollinators such as bees and butterflies, insect-eating birds like wagtails and sunbirds, and small mammals such as hedgehogs.

Key ways to boost biodiversity include:

- **Planting layered vegetation:** Using a mix of groundcovers, shrubs and trees mimics natural habitats and provides shelter and food for different species.
- **Leaving natural mulch and deadwood:**

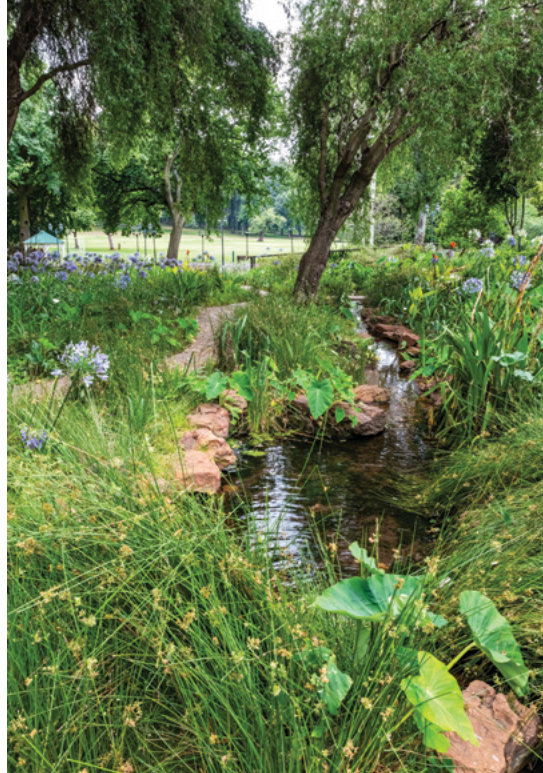
Fallen leaves, twigs and logs create micro-habitats for insects and fungi, which are crucial for healthy soil.

- **Avoiding pesticides and herbicides:** These chemicals harm beneficial insects and disrupt the food chain. Instead, encourage natural predators like ladybugs and praying mantises to control pests.

### Reduced watering and maintenance

One of the greatest advantages of indigenous gardening is its low water and maintenance requirements. Since these plants have evolved to survive in Gauteng's climate, they require far less water than exotic species.





Some key strategies for a water-wise garden include:

- **Using drought-resistant plants:** Species like wild garlic (*Tulbaghia violacea*), silver trees (*Leucadendron argenteum*), and agapanthus (*Agapanthus* spp.) thrive with minimal watering.
- **Mulching:** Applying a thick layer of organic mulch around plants reduces water evaporation, suppresses weeds and enriches the soil.
- **Rainwater harvesting:** Collecting rainwater in tanks or using permeable paving helps reduce reliance on municipal water supplies.

## Conclusion

Indigenous gardening in Gauteng is more than just a landscaping trend – it's a commitment to sustainability, conservation and biodiversity. By embracing local plants, working with natural features and creating ecological corridors, we can transform our urban spaces into thriving natural sanctuaries.

Whether you have a small balcony or a large garden, every indigenous plant contributes to a greener, more resilient future for Gauteng's environment and its inhabitants.

Ready to start your indigenous garden? Begin by researching local plant nurseries that specialise in indigenous species and take small steps towards creating your own ecological oasis.

# LIFE

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## LANDSCAPE INDUSTRY NEWS | SOUTH AFRICA

# landscape

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# IS YOUR PET EXPERIENCING SILENT PAIN?

**H**opefully, in today's world, people recognise that animals are sentient beings. They experience emotions, just like us, and although they do not possess the same cognitive abilities, they are able to feel (amongst others) happiness, playfulness, sadness, fear, grief, pain and terror. Although they cannot speak, we often can tell from the animal's body language as to what emotion the animal is feeling and how they interact with others.

We all recognise when animals play and get the zoomies. What we are not good at, however, is noticing when our companion animal is in pain. Sure, we can pick up on the obvious: the active dog no longer wants to go for a walk and is limping, and the once ravenous cat is no longer interested in food or play. We can observe these types of behavioural changes, which are clues as to what the animal may be feeling. We can see something is wrong, so we schedule an appointment with the veterinarian.

Again, what we are not good at is recognising when our animals are in pain. Statistics have shown that nearly half the world's dogs and cats (450 million dogs and 300 million cats) are suffering in silent pain. That's an awful lot of animals. Our pets may still wag their tails and come running up to greet us on arrival home whilst experiencing silent pain.

A veterinarian who gave an extensive talk on this subject mentioned that he was playing with his dog, Mitzi, when he felt his dog's muscles tighten when his hand went near the neck area. When he discussed this



observation with his wife, she mentioned that four weeks previously she had seen Mitzi lose his step and fall down the stairs. She assumed that the dog was fine as he just shook himself and carried on, business as usual. No one had realised that Mitzi had injured himself as the behaviour of the dog had not changed. The veterinarian had been practising for over two decades and had not noticed that Mitzi was suffering in silence.

Often, when pets go to groomers, we drop them off and pick them up. We don't know what happens during their time there, behind the scenes. The calm dog or cat that went off in the morning may come home more reactive and "not themselves". If this goes on for a while, then they may be experiencing silent pain without us ever realising it. Even if the animal looks physically fine, there is a good chance that he is suffering in silent pain. Feel your pet's body gently but firmly, section by section if you suspect this may be the case. He will let you know when you hit the spot. Therapeutic touch works wonders.



*Jeanette Furstenburg is a certified animal behaviourist. She holds a diploma in Companion Animal Behaviour (DipCABT) with distinction. She is a member of the COAPE Endorsed Association of Applied Pet Behaviourists and Trainers International (CABTi), which is a member of the UK Dog Behaviour & Training Charter 2024. She is part of the International Companion Animal Network (ICAN). In addition, she is a member of the South African Board for Companion Animal Professionals (SABCAP).*

For more information, call 082 445 8422,  
email: [jeanette@animalsmatter.co.za](mailto:jeanette@animalsmatter.co.za) or visit: [www.animalsmatter.co.za](http://www.animalsmatter.co.za)



# ST PETER'S PREP SCHOOLS, NURTURING FUTURE ECO-CONSCIOUS LEADERS

**A**s an Anglican school with strong values rooted in responsibility, compassion and respect, becoming an Eco-School was a natural extension of our mission. Our journey began in 2015, when we joined the WESSA Eco-Schools Programme, part of the international Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) network spanning 70 countries and over 56,000 schools. The programme is focused on greening our campus, as well as empowering our students to become conservation champions and connecting classroom learning with hands-on environmental action. Through the dedication of our Eco-Committee, we now proudly hold Diamond Decade status as an Eco-School for over 10 years.

Click here to view more:

St Peter's Prep Schools Eco-Schools Portfolio  
<https://sites.google.com/stpeters.co.za/stpeters-ecoschools>

## **Sustainability at St Peter's is seen and felt in the following initiatives:**

- **Eco-friendly practices:** We've replaced all cleaning products with 100% organic, eco-friendly alternatives. Waste is separated into recyclable categories on-site and recycling bins are available everywhere.
- **Water-wise systems:** Borehole water nourishes our gardens and fields, while JoJo tanks collect rainwater for toilet flushing. We are excited to soon convert our borehole water into potable water for the entire campus, dramatically reducing our reliance on municipal water while showcasing practical sustainability in action.
- **Beehives:** We have several beehives which serve to support the campus eco-system and to produce our own honey with unique flavours from our campus's indigenous plants.
- **Energy management:** Solar panels power certain buildings and a sophisticated monitoring system tracks water and electricity usage, helping us reduce our footprint.
- **Plastic reduction:** We've made bold moves — banning balloons and glow sticks. These single-use plastics, harmful to marine life and the environment, no longer have a place in our celebrations.



## **The Impact Challenge – Children leading the way**

We believe that children learn best when they are part of the solution. Our annual Impact Challenges provide powerful, hands-on experiences that spark curiosity, critical thinking and action.





### A prickly but precious visitor

The most beautiful sign of our environmental success came quietly or rather scuttled in under cover of night. A baby Cape porcupine (porcupette) has been spotted roaming our school grounds.

This young visitor is a living testament to our efforts to create a welcoming habitat for wildlife. Years of planting indigenous species, removing invasive plants, introducing beehives and nurturing natural spaces have paid off.



### The children collaborated on various projects:

- Deep diving into ocean plastic pollution, building models, repurposing waste and designing solutions to protect marine life.
- Exploring the future of food, imagining farms of tomorrow designed to feed a growing population while preserving the environment.
- Tackling environmental politics, forming governing parties, writing manifestos and running a real election, complete with voting stations, to understand the power of advocacy and environmental governance.
- Creating recyclable board games themed around waste management in South Africa. From sawdust-covered counters in our Innovation & Design Lab to bright splashes of colour in the Art Room, every game told a story of sustainability.

### A green mindset

For St Peter's, becoming an Eco-School is not about ticking boxes. It's about living our values, equipping our students with the knowledge and skills to face an uncertain future and playing our part in healing the planet.

**Our message is simple:** We don't inherit the Earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children. And we are determined to give it back, better than we found it.

To find out more, visit our website:  
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## RESTAURANT COMPETITION FOR APRIL

Don't forget to enter our monthly restaurant competition and stand a chance to win a R500 meal voucher from one of our participating restaurants.

The question for this month's competition:  
**Who generously sponsored the double events for the FWG over-60 community?**

Please email your answer along with your full name, cell number, estate name and stand number, detailing **'Fourways Gardens Wine and Dine Competition'** in the subject line, to: [competitions@eiapublishing.co.za](mailto:competitions@eiapublishing.co.za). and like our Facebook page to enter the competition. The winner will be notified by email.

Scan the QR code or visit our Facebook page EIA Estate Magazines

### Terms and Conditions:

1. Vouchers cannot be exchanged for cash.
2. Portions of the monetary value of the voucher cannot be refunded as "change".
3. Bookings need to be made in advance with the restaurant detailed on the voucher.
4. Service charges/gratuities are not included, regardless of any balance left over after the meal.
5. Vouchers will be numbered. Please provide your voucher number when you make your reservation.
6. The competition is open to readers over the age of 18.
7. Indemnity: The publishers, Fourways Gardens Estate and any other associated parties are not responsible for the fulfilment of the service from the restaurant once the prize has been awarded.



Photo by Shourav Sheikh unsplash

**CONGRATULATIONS TO: Rosemary Glover, our March winner of a R500 voucher.**

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**AU PAIR – FUR NANNY:** Contact the fur kid nanny, Dee Van Heerden, on 083 319 2220 or [dee.vanheerden@gmail.com](mailto:dee.vanheerden@gmail.com), regular sitter in FWG, reasonable rates, daily walks and feeds or stay-in, references available.

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**PAWSITTERS:** Our commitment goes beyond routine care; it is a dedication to the well-being of your cherished pets and the security of your home. Our experienced team delivers meticulous attention to detail, offering personalised services such as stay-in care, precise feeding schedules, regular walks, and thorough home check-ins. Expect not only professional excellence but also daily updates with the best snapshots of the fur children, providing you with a glimpse into your pets' happy moments. Entrust Pawsitters for a seamless, reliable, and caring solution to your pet and house-sitting needs. Call 082 929 7203.

**PEST CONTROL AND HYGIENE:** With over 46 years of experience in the industry, we specialise in providing solutions tailored to meet the unique needs of both individuals and businesses. For pest control call 011 804 3454 or for cleaning call 011 675 5956.

**PILATES AND YOGA SESSIONS - Just B Movement:** Traveling Pilates and Yoga instructor. Home visits in JHB North. Take the hassle out of travelling to be part of a Pilates or Yoga class. Let me offer you group or private one-on-one sessions to fulfil your fitness journey ahead. Call Jessica Snyman on 082 258 9880, email: [info@justbmovement.co.za](mailto:info@justbmovement.co.za), or visit: [www.justbmovement.co.za](http://www.justbmovement.co.za)

**POOL SERVICES:** Maintenance, repairs, re-marblelite, pumps, sand changes etc. For all pool requirements, call Jackie or Martin on 072 132 5703.

**PHYSIOTHERAPY:** Kerusha Pillay Physiotherapy is located at the Fourways Gardens Shopping Centre. Visit: [www.kerushapillayphysio.co.za](http://www.kerushapillayphysio.co.za). For appointments call 084 012 2590.

**PROFESSIONAL GARAGE DOORS:** Services including installations, automation, repairs and maintenance for residential and commercial properties. Call Tammy @ Nahla Garage Doors on 064 558 5068 or email: [sales@nahlagaragedoors.co.za](mailto:sales@nahlagaragedoors.co.za)

**WiFiMyHome:** WIFI MY HOME: Boots Wi-Fi signal and speed, secure internet for kids to use, turn your lights, pool pump, garage door, gate motor and geyser into smart devices. For all your connectivity and home IT needs, contact WiFiMyHome.co.za or call 078 181 6046.

### BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

**ALTERATIONS, ADDITIONS AND NEW BUILDS:** (NHBC reg) Established business in 1981, FWG resident for 34 years. Numerous building work done in the estate. References from residents are available. Contact Gerry on 082 444 8868 or email: [gdbconst@icon.co.za](mailto:gdbconst@icon.co.za)

**BERRY KING WATERPROOFING SA:** Scientific and engineered waterproofing specialist, slab roofs, tiled roofs, balconies, basements and rising damp concerns and mould remediation technologies. Contact John on 071 123 0212, visit: [www.berryking.co.za](http://www.berryking.co.za), follow us on TikTok - kingofwater333.



**CARE CONSTRUCTION AND PAVING:** We specialise in new houses, additions and alterations, paving, painting and all your building requirements, no matter how big or small. Over 30 years' experience. Call Ian on 011 469 4300 / 083 250 3736, email: [ian@careconstruction.co.za](mailto:ian@careconstruction.co.za) or visit: [www.careconstruction.co.za](http://www.careconstruction.co.za)

**CLEMENT ULTIMATE PAINTING:** Painting, damp-proofing, waterproofing, Rhinolite, wallpaper hanging, plastering and woodwork. References available within the estate. Call Clement on 078 717 8732 for a quote.

**FOURWAYS CONSTRUCTION AND PROJECTS:** We do property renovations and property maintenance. Contact us on 081 262 2925, email: [info@4wayscon.com](mailto:info@4wayscon.com) or visit: [www.4wayscon.com](http://www.4wayscon.com)

**HANDYMAN:** Battling to hang pictures? Lackson is an expert and a great general handyman. Call him on 078 556 2280 or call 082 339 8949 for a reference.

**HANDYMAN:** For all your building requirements done to your satisfaction. Professional, honest and reasonable. Specialising in painting, waterproofing, damp-proofing, rising damp, rhinoliting, tiling, paving, roof leaks, building, plastering, pool repairs, welding and house renovations. Call Alex on 073 836 5049 / 071 836 2601 / 076 108 6912. References are available in FWG.

**HANDYMAN:** British tradesman for all the jobs you hate!!! Building, total house renovations, wooden flooring, painting, cupboards, damp-proofing, tiling, plumbing, roofing, ceilings, kitchen and bathroom renovations and electrical work, plastering, paving and alterations. No job is too small. Offers a friendly and reliable service. Contact Stewart on 084 506 9094.

**IRRIGATION – SOFT RAIN:** I have gone solo after six years and I have partners, each with over 12 years' experience. All sorts of irrigation from maintenance and repairs to new installations. Call Isaac on 078 658 4371, Thabiso on 079 946 2906, or email: [softirrigation@gmail.com](mailto:softirrigation@gmail.com)

**NICK'S WATERPROOFING/PAINTING:** Torch - on waterproofing. Cement house waterproofing/acrylic type waterproofing. Please Contact Nick on 076 696 5583 or email: [nickcampbell31@yahoo.com](mailto:nickcampbell31@yahoo.com)

**PAINTING:** – Tex Paint Projects is based in Fourways and can assist you with painting (interior/exterior), waterproofing, damp treatment and basic pre-painting maintenance. Contact us today. Call Tiago on 073 163 9386, email: [info@texpaintprojects.co.za](mailto:info@texpaintprojects.co.za), visit: [www.texpaintprojects.co.za](http://www.texpaintprojects.co.za), FB@TexPaintProjects

**PATSONS PAVING:** For all your paving and tiling requirements – no job too big or small. Everyone is welcome. There are a variety of various designs available to suit your individual taste. Call Patson on 082 676 2668 or 084 288 6149.

**PLUMB-AVID PROJECTS:** The leading name in plumbing and maintenance, now offering municipal water backup and rainwater harvesting solutions. Call 012 654 2513 / 071 875 0218.

**PLUMBER AT YOUR SERVICE:** A complete plumbing business that offers efficient professional service to the domestic and commercial sectors. Blocked drains, burst pipes, geyser installations and maintenance, leaking toilets and taps, subsoil drainage, bathroom & kitchen renovations. Please contact Paul Stonley, PIRB and IOPSA registered on 082 798 3643 or email: [paul@plumberatyourservice.co.za](mailto:paul@plumberatyourservice.co.za)

**RUBBLE REMOVAL:** Building rubble and garden refuse removal, building material deliveries, compost/manure deliveries. Call Ozzy on 073 058 0464.

**SAMMY MAINTENANCE:** For all your maintenance tasks such as paving, painting, tree felling, electrical/fencing and alterations. No job is too small. I am reliable and offer a friendly service. Please call Samuel on 072 414 7585.

## EXTRAMURALS, LESSONS AND OTHER

**HIP HOP:** Private Fitness Training! Unlock your inner dancer with professional choreography tailored to your fitness goals. All levels are welcome from beginner to advanced. Whether you've always wanted to dance or you're returning to it, now's your chance! Enjoy private lessons right in your community. Kids, adults, and seniors - everyone can join the fun! Get fit while grooving! Contact us today via WhatsApp Coach Murphy on 062 943 4527. References are readily available.

**TENNIS COACHING:** Tennis lessons in Fourways at Fourways Gardens Residential Estate. All levels of players from beginners to advanced are welcome. Private or semi-private lessons are available. We also provide one-on-one coaching at your own court. Call Mike on 078 345 1620 or email: [mikekirkwood99@gmail.com](mailto:mikekirkwood99@gmail.com)

**TENNIS FOR LIFE:** Professional tennis coaching, from beginners to advanced players, adults and children, individual and group lessons. BOOK A FREE GROUP LESSON - USE PROMO CODE FWG032. Contact Alette on 082 859 8565/ email: [info@tennisforlife.co.za](mailto:info@tennisforlife.co.za) or visit: [www.tennisforlife.co.za](http://www.tennisforlife.co.za) [www.berryking.co.za](http://www.berryking.co.za)

## DOMESTIC WORKERS

**Sarah:** Is an honest, caring, reliable lady who has worked for the family for 19 years. She is seeking extra employment on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She has assisted us with taking care of our children since birth. She is also good with our animals and a welcome addition to any home. Call Sarah on 073 768 1608, or for a reference call Robert on 082 842 1631.

**Rose:** I can recommend Rose, she is diligent, reliable and always friendly. She is great with kids, and she is a pleasure to have in your home. She is available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. For more details call 082 930 7954, or for a reference call Nicola on 071 552 3587.

**Sithobekile:** Is looking for domestic work or elderly caregiving. She has 8 years' working experience in domestic work and 4 years' experience in taking care of the elderly. She has traceable references. Please call her on 078 707 8293, or for a reference call Amanda on 082 657 2536.

**Elsie:** Looking for three days part-time work as a domestic. She is good with children and pets. She is very good at ironing and cleaning. Call Elsie on 073 031 5889, or for a reference call Mark on 083 657 5603.

**Selep:** Is looking for work as a domestic on Tuesdays and Fridays. She is hardworking and has been working in FWG for 7 years. Please call her on 083 616 1707, or for a reference call 060 663 8937.

**Eunice:** Is looking for extra work. She is available on Mondays and Fridays. She is also prepared to work over weekends. Call Eunice on 082 665 0984, for a reference call Bernie on 082 551 8482. She is highly recommended.

**Debra:** Experienced and reliable housekeeper available Tuesday to Friday. She is my trusted housekeeper who has been with me for 9 years and is looking for additional work due to us downsizing. She is hardworking, reliable and excellent at cleaning, laundry and general household management. If you need a dedicated and efficient housekeeper, please contact her on 064 061 5219, or for a reference call Clara on 082 787 9860.

**Shylet:** Is looking for part-time work as a domestic on Tuesdays and Fridays. She is also available for childminding on weekends. Call her on 084 590 2746.

**Nomsa:** My wonderful domestic worker Nomsa is looking for an extra day's work on Wednesdays in the estate, she is a phenomenal cleaner. Please contact Nomsa on 078 821 3208, or for a reference WhatsApp Tonya Delamere on 082 359 6970.

**Thembi:** Is looking for full/ part-time domestic work, Monday to Friday. She is a hard worker and is good at cleaning and ironing. Please call Thembi on 078 500 2463.

## GARDENERS

**Julias:** An older gentleman, has worked for me as a gardener since 1991. He has also worked in other gardens in our estate. Julias is a lovely man, gentle and kind. He has a wealth of gardening experience. He is seeking employment on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Saturdays. Please call him on 076 715 9575, or for a reference call me, Terryl Louw on 082 825 9035.

**Petrus:** Is a reliable, hardworking gardener. He is seeking work on Saturdays. Call Petrus on 079 488 6907, or for a reference call on Mark 083 657 5603.

**Duncan:** Malawian seeks part-time garden work, Monday to Saturday. Call Duncan on 060 186 0746 or Brother on 074 028 2806.

**Weston:** Is a great gardener who seeks work on Wednesdays. Call him on 061 877 9820 or call 082 339 8949 for a reference.

**Lyford:** Looking for work on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. He is hardworking with 20 years of experience in gardening, irrigation, painting and swimming pool maintenance. Contact Lyford on 078 143 0954, or for a reference call 082 990 7169.

**Simon:** My lovely gardener is looking for work from Monday to Thursday. He is neat, and he takes the initiative. Not only does he know the garden, he also looks after our pool and has cleaned the gutters and various snags around the house. Please contact Simon on 071 499 0002, or for a reference call Terri on 082 789 3951.

**Patrick:** Are you looking for an experienced and reliable part-time gardener? Patrick is your person, he has been my gardener for 6 years and due to downsizing, he is now available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. He is hardworking and skilled in all aspects of gardening; he has a talent for maintaining beautiful outdoor spaces. If you are interested call him on 065 659 1656, or for a reference call Clare on 082 787 9860.

**Hendreson:** Is looking for gardening work. He is also a handyman and is good at electronics (repairing fridges, stoves, laptops etc). Please call 060 336 5028 or for a reference call 076 169 9310.

**Anton:** Malawian looking for gardening work on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. He is reliable and hardworking. Call him on 064 402 1704, or for a reference call Jacqueline on 079 160 6222.

**Melody:** Our reliable, hardworking gardener is looking for work on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. He also has his own transport and can remove garden refuse/rubbish during the week. Please contact Melody on 073 430 5849, or for a reference call Helen on 083 632 1107.

**Desmond:** A Zimbabwean with a valid work permit is looking for work on Wednesdays and Saturdays. He has worked in FWG for 10 Years. He does general garden work and keeps the pool spotlessly clean. He is polite, pleasant and always willing to learn. Call Desmond on 063 009 0285, or for a reference call Verena on 082 817 1978.





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