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# InClarens

EN OMGEWING / AND SURROUNDS

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R15-00

April 2012  
[www.inclarens.co.za](http://www.inclarens.co.za)

**Eastern Free State  
Tourist Magazine  
Oos-Vrystaatse  
Toeristetydskrif**



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**Sandstone Edition**

**#14**



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InClarens invites you to tell us how you the reader experienced the Eastern Free State. The last letter we receive before the 15th of the month, will win a gift voucher to the value of R150,00.

InClarens nooi lesers uit om aan ons te skryf en te vertel hoe julle die Oos-Vrystaat, Clarens en InClarens ervaar en wat julle graag meer van sal wil lees en doen. Die laaste brief wat ons voor die 15e van die maand, wen 'n geskenkbewys ter waarde van R150,00.

Readers and Tourists stories:

Love the magazine.....Sue Carstens, Victoria West

We enjoy the magazine and are now subscribed.....  
Danny Noble, Kimberley

Omdat ons ver bly en nie elke uitgawe kan kry nie, het ek ingeteken ..... Esme Venter, Uitenhage

Ons lees die tydskrif aanlyn en die blog is heerlik.....  
Dawid Fourie, Londen, VK

En die wenbrief:

Ons was onlangs by Jannie du Plessis se troue op St Fort en het die artikel oor St Fort so geniet. Ons het die venue ervaar presies soos dit beskryf is in InClarens en het dadelik besluit dat dit ons trou-venue keuse sal wees.

Jannie se troue was baie spesiaal, nie net omdat daar soveel celebs was nie, maar ook omdat hulle aan die voet van die Paddastoelrots gestaan en die Skepping ervaar het.

Clarens is natuurlik 'n wonderlike plekkie met die mooiste natuurskoon en die sagste klip. Dit maak die hart week en die knieë lam.

Dankie Clarens en dankie InClarens. Mag jy nog vele harte oopmaak vir die mooiste deel van die Vrystaat.

Anneke Cordier.

## Ode to Autumn

by John Keats

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness!  
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;  
Conspiring with him how to load and bless  
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves  
run;

To bend with apples the mossed cottage-trees,

And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;  
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells  
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,  
And still more, later flowers for the bees,  
Until they think warm days will never cease,  
For Summer has o'erbrimmed their clammy cells.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?  
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find  
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,  
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;  
Or on a half-reaped furrow sound asleep,  
Drowsed with the fume of poppies, while thy hook  
Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers;  
And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep  
Steady thy laden head across a brook;  
Or by a cider-press, with patient look,  
Thou watchest the last oozings, hours by hours.

Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?

Think not of them, thou hast thy music too, -  
While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day  
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;  
Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn  
Among the river shallows, borne aloft  
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;  
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;  
Hedge-cricket sing, and now with treble soft  
The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft;  
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.



InClarens is.....

Autumn is a wonderful time for family and friends to gather and admire the golden shower of autumn leaves in the Eastern Free State and see the sun go down behind those illustrious sandstone cliffs. The autumn climate in Clarens and surrounds is unsurpassed and InClarens celebrates autumn with sandstone stories, courageous trekking and art of the varied kind.

Sandstone certainly is the backbone of the Eastern Free State and specifically Clarens sandstone.

There has been resurgence in the popularity of dressed sandstone blocks, for use in walls, edging and retaining walls in South Africa and this material is currently being imported from Lesotho. Small quarries were established near Ladybrand and Ficksburg in the eastern Free State in the early 1900s to supply stone for local buildings but the first stone used to build in Clarens, was quarried from nearby hills and sandstone koppies. Buff coloured, fine-grained and well-sorted aeolian sandstone of the Clarens Formation, Karoo Supergroup, forms prominent cliffs and ridges in the Eastern Free State and well-used building material in the 1900s. But there is not much information available about the beautiful sandstone buildings of Clarens. InClarens reports on some of the historic buildings and of the man who knew how to mine and dress sandstone to perfection.

InClarens was ook teenwoordig toe die Ferrari's die dorp binnegedreun het. Bliitsige rooi gevaartes het so bietjie welvaart in Clarens en Kgubetswana kom sprinkel en ons berig oor Clarens se eie avonturiers wat Afrika op 'n fiets aanpak ter bewaring van ons renosters.

Lekker lees

Amanda.

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InClarens is....

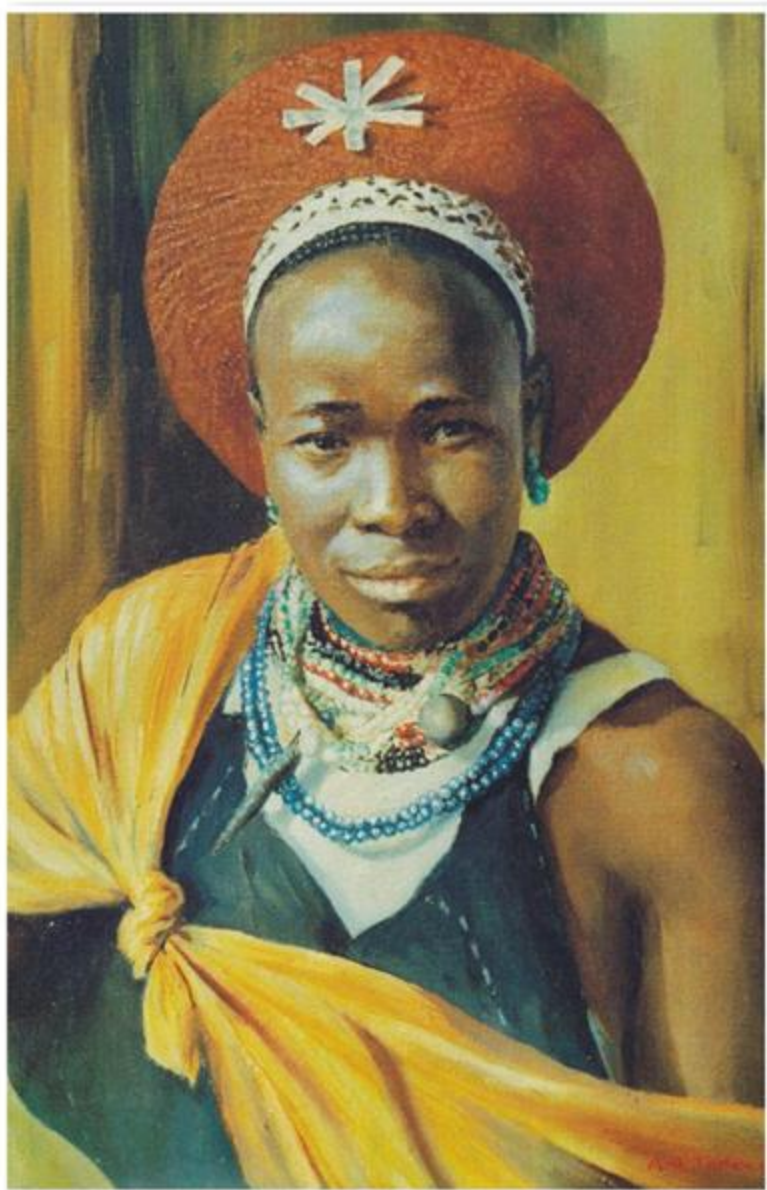
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# Allan Wilberforce Turton

## 1918 ~ 1991

*'To do justice to the distinction and stature of master portrait painter Allan Turton FRSA (Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts) in a short article like this is almost impossible. We may at most obtain a brief but clear glimpse into his noble character and calling.'*

With the consent of his great-niece Ms Lisa Pike of Pretoria, we are privileged to show you a number of prime examples of his portraits and suggest that by looking deeply into the eyes and faces, one may find an uncommon authentic realism - so fascinating one is moved to stare! And when we hear that someone such as he had been so inspired that he devoted his twilight years' time and energy to the Little Caledon River Valley, we are filled with an affectionate respect, writes Peter Howard.



Born at Dundee in Natal Allan grew up among the green hills of the countryside and from an early age possessed an acute artistic perceptiveness. His musical prowess was such that he could have become a concert pianist should he have wished, but he showed promise of becoming an artist of consequence. Driven by his completely natural talent - raw skill might be nearer the truth - superb paintings and sketches appeared on his easel. It was evident, however, that his excellence might one day lie in portraiture.

At university he was encouraged to develop this passion and from 1940-44 he studied at the University of Natal under Professor O.J.P. Oxley and Ms Rosa Hope. In 1949, he held the first of five solo art exhibitions in Pietermaritzburg but an artist's life is seldom filled with merited remuneration and permanent employment followed. From 1955-69 Allan worked as the art master at Durban High School. During this period, he was granted sabbatical leave to undergo private tuition in the UK by Edward Halliday, renowned member of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters. In 1970, Allan was

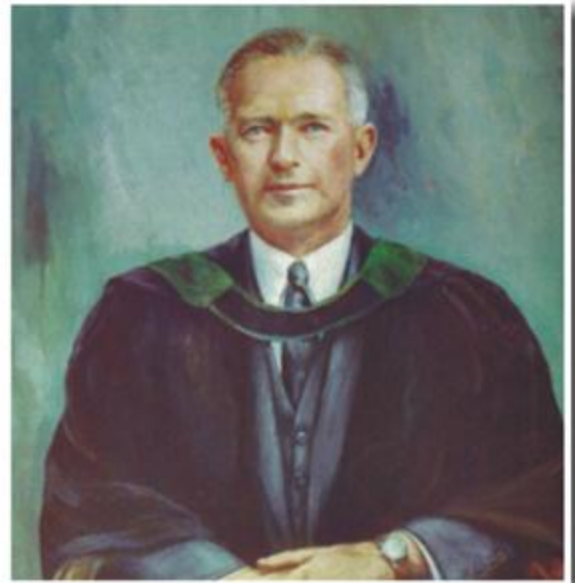
elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and from 1970-74 he was appointed the art lecturer at Edgewood College of Education in Pinetown.

Allan Turton's artistic reputation and expertise now became better known and he was regularly commissioned to paint portraits of dignitaries from Durban High School and the Church of England; chancellors and vice-chancellors of universities such as Natal, Rhodes and Bophuthatswana, as well as a number of large corporations. Not unexpectedly being something of a genius and perhaps eccentric, he was not one for being hassled or hurried and people soon found that the odd official portrait could take months to complete. On the other hand, despite his artistic traits he was quiet and reserved, really a most likeable personality who would willingly do portraits of selected private individuals without being paid for it.

His first of many visits to Sunnyside Guest Farm in the Clarens district took place in 1960 when an immediate lasting attachment was formed. "It is a place of remarkable tranquillity and beauty and has had an important influence on my life," he is quoted as saying. So when fourteen years later, a threatened detached retina in one of his eyes caused premature retirement it was to his own home at Sunnyside that he moved. Life changing it was for him, as he was now able to do the things he loved doing.

For relaxation, he enjoyed playing his Broadwood Grand Piano in his thatched cottage and haunting strains from Beethoven, Bach or Scarlatti would often drift through the stately oaks and poplars, the music regaling the ears of many a fortunate holiday-maker strolling by.

At first appearance, Allan was probably only recognised as an exceptional portrait painter but there was far more to the man than this. An especially well-balanced personality, refinement and artistic skills were accompanied by tremendous humanism, an eye to the future and the need for energetic social and cultural upliftment of those often forgotten people who crossed his path. Allan took upon himself the task of voluntary teaching and financing black youngsters on the farm and in Lesotho.



*Portrait of Miss Rosemary Hall  
Allan Turton's Niece*



*Red, lightening fast,  
expensive and  
charitable*

*SEFAC members believe that  
there is more to life than driving  
a red Ferrari. Sharing is priority  
with them says Mary-Ann Pickers*



*"Our eyes boggle at the beauty of their motorcars," were the opening words from Athol Jennings, reverend and trustee of Tshepong Youth Centre in Clarens, and those words perfectly described the appreciation of all present, be it reporter, assistant or beneficiary. And the beneficiaries, the orphans of Thsepong, chanted with joy and thankfulness as only they can do.*

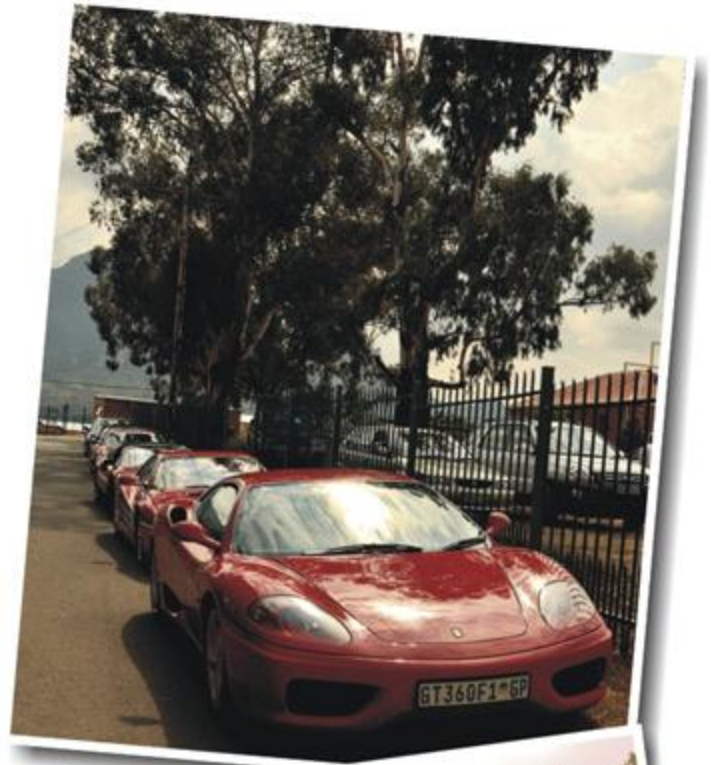
The sound of their engines preceded the sleek, stylish cars long before the streamlined bodies broke the horizon at Naauwpoortsnek. Even Titanic Rock blinked and shivered ever so slightly when they pulled up in front of Mont D'Or, where they were to spend the weekend.

Sefac, the anagram would be understood to mean "Societa Esercizio Fabbriche Automobili e Cors" and the wording can be found in any Ferrari handbook. It refers to the aims of the House of Maranello.

In this case, SEFAC is the official title of the Ferrari Club of South Africa, one of the oldest Ferrari Owners' Clubs in the world that was founded by the late Pierre Bastiaan Kelfkens and stands for Southern Equitorial Ferrari Automobili Club. And no, equitorial is not a misspelling of equatorial; it indicates the equine relationship to the home of the Prancing Horse.

Just as Ferrari today symbolises the ultimate traditions of style and precision in automotive engineering, SEFAC realised the need to organise suitable events where the Maestro's work could be displayed and fully appreciated by all. They became really active in the sense that it is today, when Libero Pardini, Club' Honorary President and Giorgio Cavalieri, the Club's past Chairman and now Life President took control of activities in July 1977.

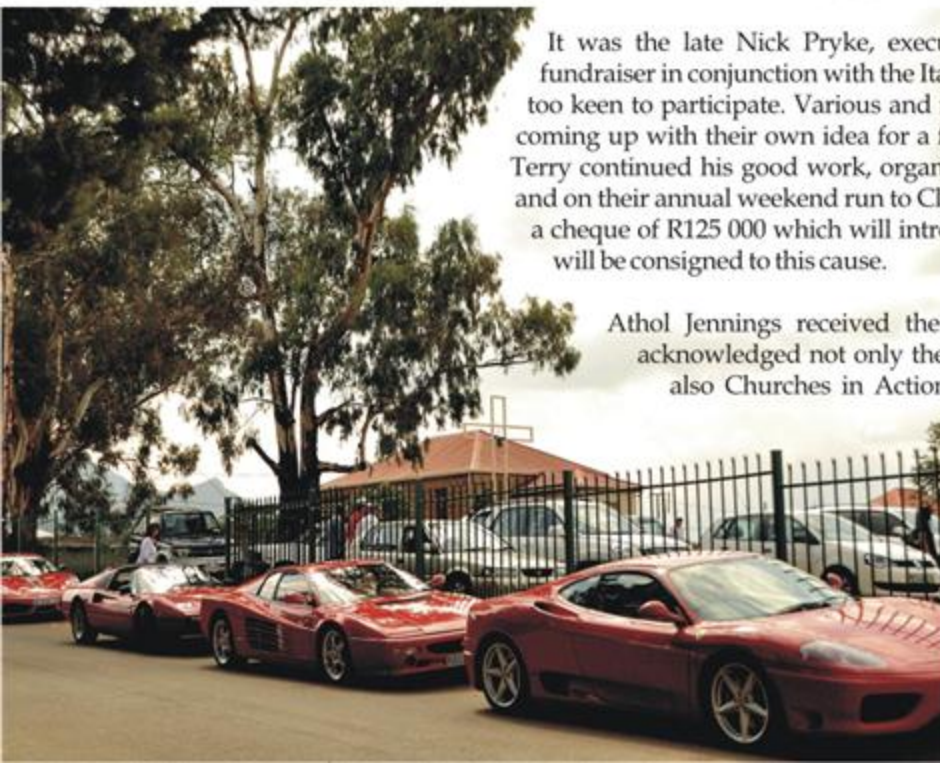
**SEFAC has raised a substantial amount for various charitable organisations, one being Tshepong in Clarens.**



It was the late Nick Pryke, executive member of SEFAC, who initiated the fundraiser in conjunction with the Italian car owners and SEFAC members were all too keen to participate. Various and resourceful ways were applied, each member coming up with their own idea for a fundraising project. When Nick passed away, Terry continued his good work, organising and managing the fundraising projects; and on their annual weekend run to Clarens, this year, Tshepong was presented with a cheque of R125 000 which will introduce a scholarship and any future donations will be consigned to this cause.

Athol Jennings received the huge cheque on behalf of Tshepong and acknowledged not only the Ferrari owners and members of SEFAC, but also Churches in Action who cooperated to set up the orphan care centre in Kgubetswana. He also gave thanks to the volunteers who spend time and effort on a daily basis to improve and develop the living conditions of these unfortunate children, transforming them into immensely contented kids growing up in a stable environment.

And it shows.





## MEMORIES PRAAT MET JOU HART

*Teresa du Plessis vertel hoe haar Clarens-droom bewaarheid is en hoe haar liefde vir die dorp steeds groei.*



Clarens was nog altyd my en my man Pieter se gunstelingplek om naweke heen weg te glip. Ons het al jare lank saam 'n besigheid op Hennenman, Du Plessis Antiques & Décor, en het altyd tydens Paasnaweke ons produkte hier op die plein in Clarens uitgestal. Mense wou altyd weet waar hulle weer van die unieke goed kon aankoop, en dis waar my groot droom van 'n eie winkel op Clarens begin het.

Drome kan waar word! Een Sondagmiddag tydens 'n wandeling deur Clarens se strate was daar sowaar 'n "te huur"-bordjie in die venster van die ideale winkel in die Clarens Country Hub. Vandag is Memories al twee en 'n halfjaar oud, en van die begin af behartig die vriendelike Zahne Greyvenstein die bestuur en verkope van die winkel.

Ons produkte sluit onder andere in, handgemaakte prente, houtrame, esels, kruise, harte, ens. Al die unieke produkte word handgemaak by ons fabriek op Hennenman (so dit bly in die Vrystaat) deur 'n span toegewyde en kreatiewe personeel. 'n Vereiste is natuurlik dat alles met jou hart moet praat.

Ons produkte is ook beskikbaar in Parys, en dan stal ons jaarliks uit by Aardklop, KKNK en die Vryfees in Bloemfontein.

Vandag is ons al amper "locals" op die dorp, aangesien ons deesdae al meer tyd hier deurbring, nadat ons belê het in eiendom hier in Clarens. Dit verskaf ons werklik groot vreugde om die pragtige dorp en omgewing beter te leer ken!

Memories is in die Clarens Hub in die Hoofstraat. Gaan loer gerus daar in.



## Tafereel uit stukkies glas

*Die magnetisme in die lang, smal uitstalruimte is spontaan en die mosaïekware, van muurbehangsel tot skitterlig tot bottermes, is keurig uitgestal. Johann en Elbie Joubert het hier 'n glansperd kom opsaal, vertel Anien Aber vanaf die Post House Corner.*

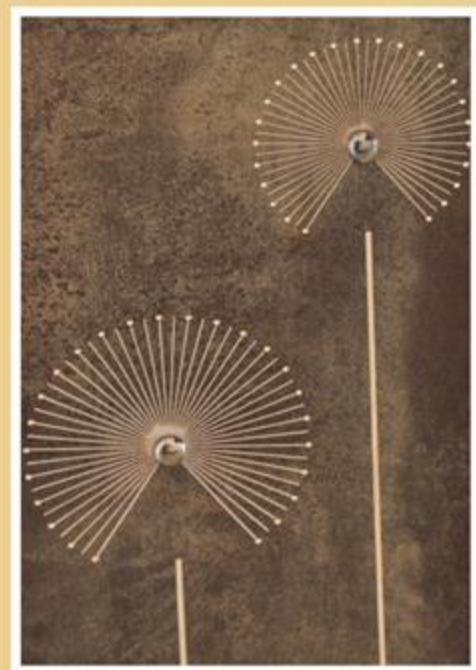
Daar is mos altyd nuwe nuus en berig uit Clarens. Klein nuus, groot nuus, maar altyd is daar nuwe inisiatiewe in Clarens. Artistic Profiles lees die beskeie uithangbord en dit is beslis nie net 'n profiel wat 'n mens hier teëkom nie, maar ware kuns wat blokkie vir blokkie saamgevoeg word tot sieraad van formaat.

Johann en Elbie Joubert se vaardigheid is geslyp deur hulle werkjare in Bronkhorstspuit, waar hulle keramiekteëls en ander bybehore vervaardig het. Toe die besigheid sy kinderskoene ontgroeï het en sonder die gedurige aandag van die baas en sy vrou kon doen, het hulle ingepak, wortels opgetrek en in Clarens kom anker.

Soos dinge maar werk, is Camelot toe beskikbaar om in te trek en dié replika-kasteel vul daardie gaatjie in hul harte soos net 'n tuiste kan. Jare se ondervinding vind uiting in die lang winkeltjie met Elbie se handewerk wat as keramiek-mosaïekborde teen die mure pryk. 'n Bietjie juweliersware en kandelare, kunswerke en silwerbottermessies, alles handgemaak, uniek en begeerlik.

Die natuurlike uitvloeisel van haar aanklank by klein stukkies glas, was natuurlik om dit vir ander ook te leer en Camelot se ruim vertrekke bied aan Elbie die geleentheid om enigeen wat wil, die vaardighede aan te leer. In die winkeltjie by Post House Corner, is alles wat nodig is, te koop om hierdie stokperdjie te begin.

Johann is heerlik geesdriftig oor sy vrou se inisiatief en staan vir haar in agter die toonbank waar hy hom ingerig het om sommer so tussendeur gesels en kuier, webtuistes te ontwerp. Die nuwe aankomelinge in Clarens het gou in die klein dorp se kunsstroom beland en is hard besig om 'n nuwe aantrekkingskrag hier te word.



*Artistic Profiles is in Markstraat in die Post House Corner of skakel Johann by 083 701 4727*

# The evidence remained

*Different reasons are given for the disappearance of dinosaurs from the planet, but if you believe the latest research, which postulates that birds are evolved dinosaurs, then they've never actually left the planet. The interesting question remains as to what happened aeons again the Clarens region, an area that is so rich in the remains of plant and animal fossils?*

*Wim Wybenga, investigated.*



An unusual turn of events about 200 million years past led to a change in the supply of water to this area, but it was not related to climate change. The nearest coast was 3 000km away, and for a period of about 80 million years, the region rarely received any rain, although it had a seasonal supply of water.



Massive mountain ranges occurred at present-day East London, due to the collision of the Antarctic sub-continent with the African section of Gondwanaland. It had an altitude in excess of 12km (4km higher than Everest), covered with glaciers and ice.

During the summer months, melting ice gave rise to big rivers that fed lakes, marshes and deltas inland, similar in nature to the present-day Okavango Delta in Botswana. The mud deposits from these wetland areas are what we refer to today as the Elliot Formation, brittle red layers, not to be confused, however, with the more sturdy red sandstones, which lie just on top of it - as can be seen in the mushroom rocks at Golden Gate (red and yellowish sandstone layers).



The eventual erosion of these mountain ranges at East-London, led to the absence of precipitation and ice, hence the supply of water to the dry inland region was minimised. Sand from the Kalahari basin blew in and accumulated over millennia, sometimes catching animals off guard. One of the many fossilised dinosaur eggs unearthed at Rooidraai in Golden Gate shows an infant beginning to hatch with the unfortunate surprise of being caught in a sand storm.

During the Spring Fair in Fouriesburg end of last year, a few fortunate visitors made the decision to visit Mafube Mountain Retreat 8km from the town as part of the advertised programme. Apparently a

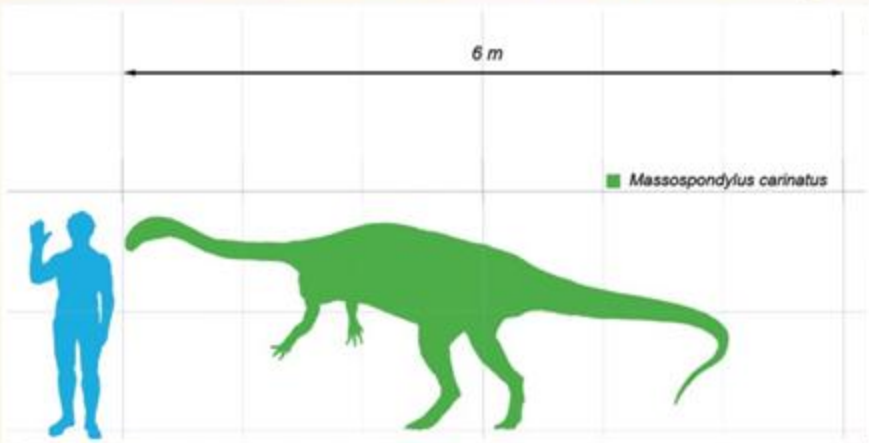


young visitor discovered a dinosaur track site on the farm in 2010 that turned out to become quite an attraction to this secluded sanctuary. There are about 12 distinct tracks on a sandstone platform, some of them easily 30cm in length. In correspondence with local specialist in the field, Dr Groenewald, the first guess is that they belong to *Massospondylus*, but closer inspection will be needed to confirm. *Massospondylus carinatus* was a herbivore that stood up to 3m tall, its fossilised remains are quite common in the eastern Free State and Lesotho.

Golden Gate Highlands National Park has been in the news recently for the discovery of another set of fossilised *Massospondylus* eggs at Rooidraai, the first discovery was made by Dr James Kitching in 1977. These eggs are considered to be the oldest fossilised embryos on the planet at an estimated 190 million years old.

Ten nests have been unearthed so far, each with approximately 34 eggs in tightly clustered clutches. They are about 7-8cm in diameter. Canadian palaeontologist Prof Robert Reisz (of the University of Toronto), who is heading the team, says there are likely to be many more nests buried in the cliff, overlaid by tons of rock. Prof Bruce Rubidge of the Bernard Price Institute at Wits University, notes that the distribution of the eggs suggests that the dinosaurs probably revisited the same nests over a long period of time to lay their eggs and assembled in groups - referred to as colonial nesting.

*In close proximity to the dinosaur track site at Mafube, visitors may also be fortunate to come across the remains of a later-stone age San rock art site. These sites may be visited by appointment only. Book in advance at their retreat (Hillary Monson 084 668 4499).*



*GNU Safaris in Clarens offers game safaris to an impressive dinosaur track site in Golden Gate (Veronica 082 774 8814).*

*For Dino Tours in Clarens and for a display of fossils, contact David or Patricia Groenewald (083 469 4703).*



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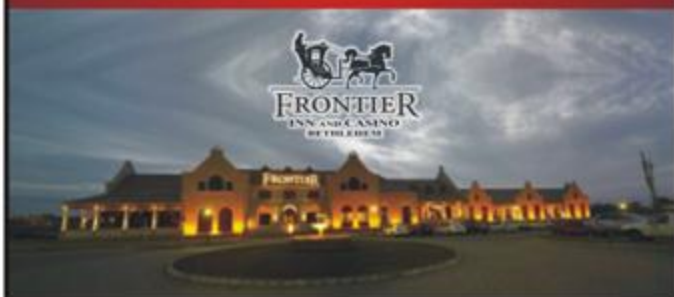
## WINNER WINNER WINNER WINNER

Name: Mnr W Lötter

Address: Volkstrust



**The winner of the weekend for 2 at  
The Frontier Inn and Casino  
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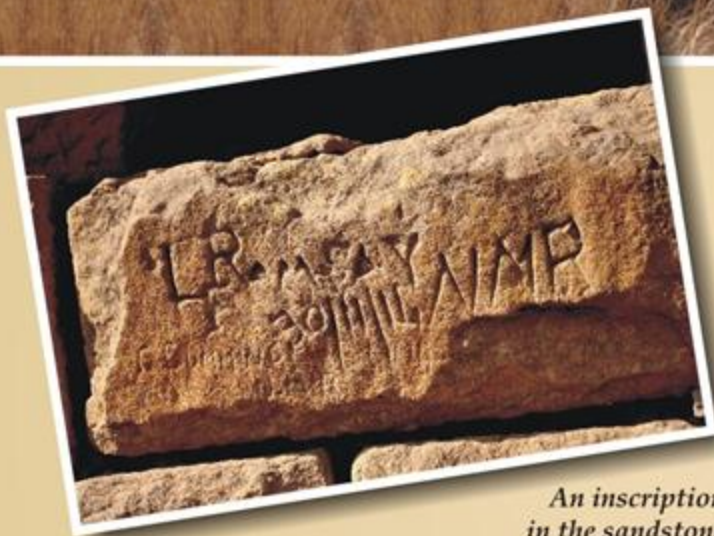
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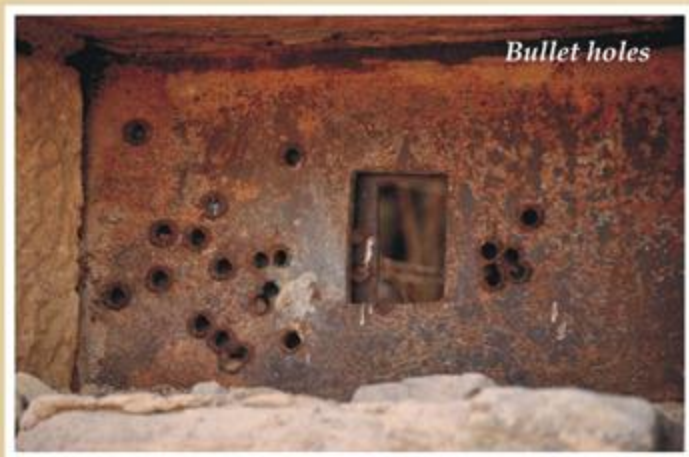
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# Blockhouse peculiarities



*An inscription  
in the sandstone*

*Leon Strachan, a regular contributor to InClarens, reveals some astounding facts and mysteries about the blockhouses of the Anglo Boer War.*



*Bullet holes*

One is fascinated by the beautiful sandstone blockhouse guarding the waterworks on the foothills of Platberg, near Harrismith. How could an army at war find the time and put in the effort to build such a magnificent structure? Why weren't those soldier-masons chasing the Boers instead?

Masonry blockhouses were erected at key points during the Anglo Boer War and the Harrismith railway link was without a doubt the most valuable military asset in the whole of the Eastern Free State. The main Durban–Johannesburg line ran through Ladysmith, Newcastle and Volksrust at the time, and still does. A line was branched off to Harrismith in the 1880s, but was never extended until after the war. It stopped dead at Harrismith.



**This meant that all troop movements, tens of thousands of horses, and all supplies for the greater Eastern Free State region had to be channelled through Harrismith station. As well as everything going out, naturally: prisoners-of-war to Durban harbour, returning regiments, etc. Troops moving in or out were encamped right around the town, up to 20 000 at times, and all were dependent**

During the war, 441 masonry blockhouses were built, and it took 30 engineers 30 days, on average, to cut the stone and construct one at a cost of £900. Although such structures were rather rare, another three were built around Harrismith to protect that precious rail link. One guarded the Oliviershoek road, another the Bethlehem road, and the last the Majorsdrift road (the only one since completely demolished). These access roads were regarded as the most vulnerable avenues of Boer attack, and were thus rewarded with fortress like sandstone blockhouses. Neither Harrismith, flooded with all those troops, nor the intimidating structures around it, were ever threatened.

It was rather the 'tin' blockhouses, as Kitchener called them, that played a much more significant role in the war – his solution for a huge headache. As the war dragged on, pressure for the successful conclusion of the war from London became unbearable. Kitchener feared dismissal as Boer guerrillas showed no sign of letting up. He resorted to even more desperate measures – expensive and time consuming. The plan now was not only to 'starve them into submission,' but to 'block off their free movement' as well.

The ruthlessly applied 'scorched earth' policy went quite a way towards the starving bit. He now needed to immobilise them, and barbed wire fences would have to do the job. The problem with a fixed military obstacle is that it is useless if not effectively covered by fire. A barbed wire fence had no use at all, if not defended – it could be cut at will. Then Kitchener got an idea. He would use corrugated iron blockhouses to protect the fences. Such blockhouses, designed by Major Rice of the Royal Engineers, had earlier been put to good effect to protect vulnerable railway lines in the Transvaal. Relatively cheap, at £16 each, and around £60 to erect, he ordered thousands.

The trick would be to place them within rifle range of each other, which meant an average 750 yards apart. While accurate fire was impossible at that range, lead could be thrown quite effectively from both ends.

Hard to believe (the man must have driven his engineers ruthlessly) but in a mere fifteen months (January 1901 to March 1902) all of 6 883 of the Rice-type structures were procured, imported and erected, as well as barbed wire fences covering all of a staggering 6 000 kilometres (8 000 blockhouses in all, if the 441 masonry and 555 fixed shelters are counted in).

Continuous lines stretched from Vredenburg on the West Coast to Gaberone in Botswana, another from Queenstown right to Nylstroom; Nelspruit to Pretoria; Newcastle to Mafikeng and from Harrismith (Oliviershoek pass) to Vryburg where it joined up with the Vredenburg-Gaberone line. In between and interconnecting were several shorter lines.

Although quite thick, the corrugated iron did not effectively stop bullet penetration. Dirt or stone, whatever was available, was stacked breast high against the structures to protect the soldiers within. The fence allowed soldiers to set out accurate fields of fire, empty bully beef tins were fastened to it for early warning, and uniforms stuffed with straw used as dummy-guards.

Besides the dummies Kitchener deployed 50 000 troops and 16 000 armed black recruits to man these structures. It was a huge operation, and massively expensive. And a logistic nightmare to feed and supply them – the lines were so long that supply columns weren't properly protected at all times.

The drives Kitchener used to trap the remaining Boers between these guerrilla-catching blockhouse/barbed wire lines were not spectacularly successful.

Did these lines contribute to the wearing down of the Bittereinders? The lines had an undeniably tiring effect on those already discouraged and despondent, but committed Boer Bittereinders like De Wet and Wessels who operated in the Eastern Free State, broke through at will. De Wet dismissed them scornfully as 'blockhead' lines.

Contrary to Kitchener's objective, the blockhouse lines actually prolonged the war. Boers poached on supply convoys to the soldiers who manned the blockhouses for food and ammunition. These were increasingly difficult to come by as Kitchener had effectively dried up their traditional sources of supply.

Kitchener's use of surprise night-attacks in the last stages of the war, and improved British intelligence gathering using black spies, were far more demoralising and effective. Why on earth did he spend so much money and commit so many men on such a useless venture?

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6. Brambleberry on the Golf Course
7. Artzone and InClarens
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9. Helen Claassen Gallery
10. Clarens Interiors
11. Clarens Breweries
12. Lilliput
13. Street Caffè
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15. Yoga in Clarens
  
41. Mont D'Or
42. La Casa
43. The Gallery
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45. The Post House
  
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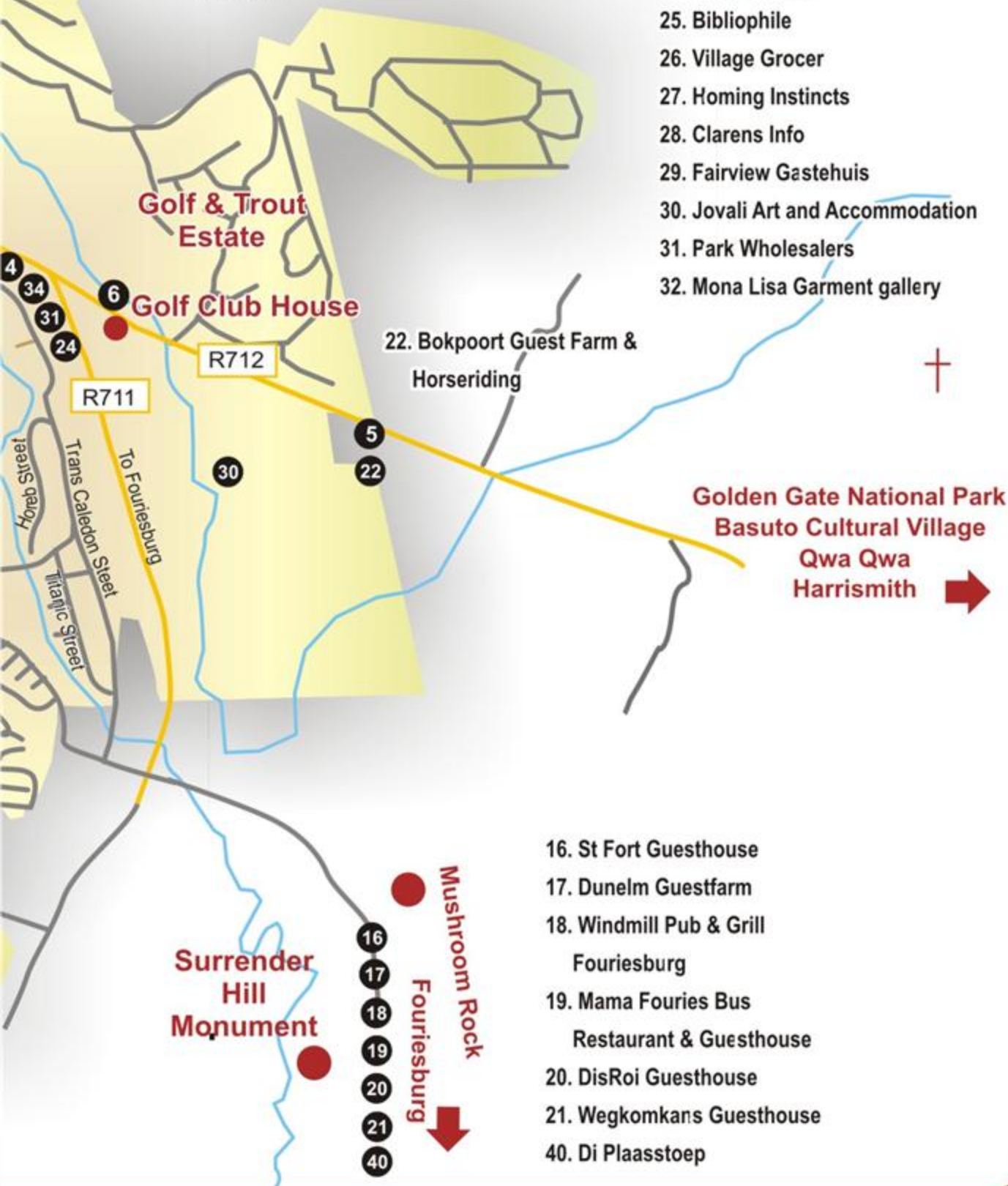
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- 32. Mona Lisa Garment gallery

- 16. St Fort Guesthouse
- 17. Dunelm Guestfarm
- 18. Windmill Pub & Grill  
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- 21. Wegkomkans Guesthouse
- 40. Di Plaasstoep



Oom Stephanus

Tannie Hannie  
Tannie Sarie

Oom Hans  
Oupa Gert

Pa Pieter  
Ouma Sarie

Oom Gert  
Oom Danie

Oom Paul Bester  
Tannie Bettie met Lena

# Op sandsteen se spoor

*Amanda van Blerk spoor die spoor van Clarens-sandsteen na, en besef dat daar bitter min feitelike inligting is oor die monument-geboue wat van Clarens-sandsteen gebou is.*

Toe Gert van Zyl van Rayton in Pretoria, my kontak om 'n graf te gaan soek in die Naauwpoort-begraafplaas buite Clarens, het die naam vaagweg bekend gelyk en hoe verder ek aan die brief lees, hoe meer het ek onder die indruk gekom dat Clarens talle ongeëerde helde opgelewer het. Die ou Gert van Zyl was so 'n ongeëerde held, maar sy nalatenskap sal geslagte bly voortbestaan.

Gert vertel dat hy as kind, seker so sestig of meer jaar gelede, skoolvakansies by sy oupa Gert van Zyl, op Clarens kom kuier het. Sy oupa het in Van der Merwestraat gebly en die kinders het hulle dae in die holkrans, nie ver van van der Merwestraat nie, deurgebring.

Die van Zyls het van Ladismith in die Kaap na die Oos-Vrystaat getrek. Iza(a)k Petrus van Zyl en Helena Susanna van Wyk en vier kinders het hulle in die Oos-Vrystaat gevestig.

Hul vierde kind Gert Johannes, getroud met Magdalena du Plessis, gaan boer op 'n plaas aan Bethlehem se kant van die Asrivier, maar na sy gade se dood, laat hy die plaas in die hande van sy seun in ruil vir 'n huis in Clarens. Soos sy kleinseun Gert dit beskryf, was dit baie jare die enigste huis in Van der Merwestraat en die ou Gert het daar gewoon tot met sy dood op 23 Junie 1942 – haas ondenkbaar wanneer 'n mens na die hedendaagse Clarens kyk. Hy word in die Naauwpoort-begraafplaas begrawe.

In al die geskrifte oor die sandsteengeboue, word daar na 'Dowe' Gert verwys. Hy was inderdaad doof nadat die Engelse sy kommando gedurende die Anglo-Boereoorlog oorlog onder kartets gestee het. Blykbaar is Gert se perd uitmekaar geruk en hoewel hy met sy lewe daarvan afgekome het, het dit hom heeltemal doof gelaat.

Generaal de Wet het hom huis toe gestuur, maar Gert wou tot elke prys iets vir die oorlog beteken. Hy het nie huis toe gegaan nie, maar in die veld gebly en ammunisie gemaak wat hy op plekke in die veld begrawe het en hy het met vuur en rookseine vir sy makkers laat weet waar om dit te kry.

Gert van Zyl sou egter nie onthou word vir sy ammunisievervaardiging tydens die oorlog nie. Sy ware vernuf was klip-kap-en-bouwerk. En hiervoor sal hy onthou word omdat sandsteen rooi in die oggendson gloei. Ware klipmonumente van Gert van Zyl.

In 1921 het eerwaarde Roux van Bethlehem diens gehou in 'n swak gebou in Kgubetswana wat al gevaarlik begin bars het. Die een muur was volgens oogmaat, oor die drie duim uit skietlood. Daar is aanbeveel dat die gebou afgebreek en oorgebou word. Na verskeie kerkraadsvergaderings en baie wik en weeg of die sendingkerk eerste gebou moet word of eers Clarens s'n, word daar besluit dat die behoefte in Kgubetswana dringender is. Eers in Februarie 1936 word P. Steyl se tender aanvaar en die hulp van Gert van Zyl ingeroep om as opsigter waar te neem oor die bouery waarvoor hy, soos dit in die notules aangeteken is, "n ietsie vergoed sou word."

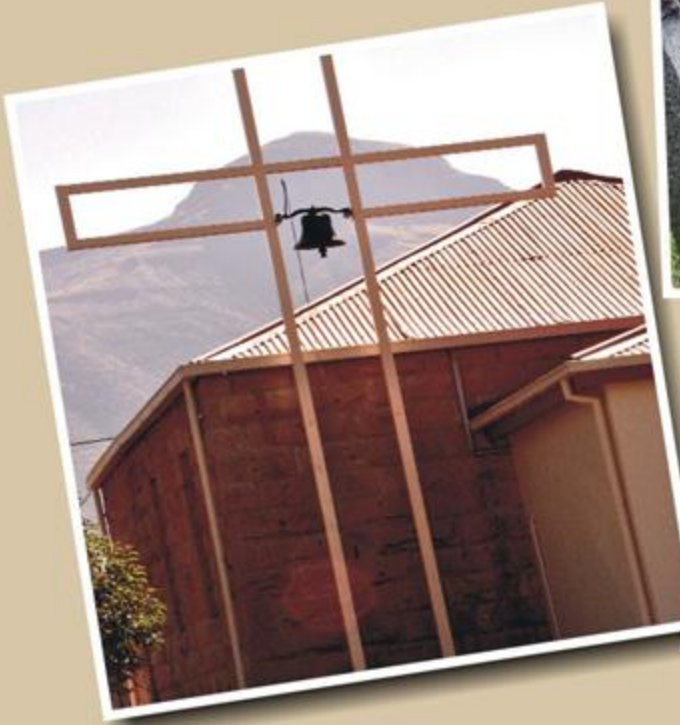
Die datum, 1936, kom uit ds. Piet Grobler se boek oor Clarens en ek glo hy het die inligting uit die ou kerkraad-notules verkry en kerkraad-notules is 'n helder nagmerrie wanneer na inligting gesoek word en daar kon moontlik 'n fout gemaak gewees het met die datum. Die hoeksteen van die kerk in Kgubetswana lees 1926. 'n Verskil van tien jaar! Of dit nou 'n nuwe hoeksteen vir die nuwe kerk was en of dit die ou kerk se hoeksteen is wat weer gebruik is, kon ek nie uitvind nie. Wat ek wel

uitgevind het, is dat daar maar min bekend is oor Clarens se sandsteen geboue.

Net na die Sendingkerk voltooi is, besluit die Engelssprekende lede van die Clarens-gemeenskap dat hulle 'n eie kerk wil bou. Dienste is tot toe op die plase St Fort en Dunblane in die distrik gehou, maar die Liddell-broers het inisiatief geneem, materiaal, arbeid en vervoer verskaf en Gert van Zyl het begin om die klip te breek.

Ná voltooiing van die Metodistekerk en ná fondsinsamelings en basaars, begin Gert van Zyl tydens die uitbreek van die Tweede Wêreldoorlog met die kap van die Clarens NG Kerk se klippe. Die klip is met osse nader gesleep en elkeen in sy eie plekkie ingesink.

Geen sement is gebruik vir die bouwerk nie, maar 'n moddernessie het elke perfek gekapte klip met die ander saamgevoeg tot pragtige eenheid. Bull Face en al! Vandag word masjiene ingespan om klip ewe groot en glad te sny en die ambag word nie meer aangeleer nie - die kuns het helaas uitgesterf.



# Your Body's secrets revealed

*Gradually this incredible technology has been introduced into South Africa and in the past year it has become a wonderful alternative to the old forms of scanning for the detection of breast disease.*

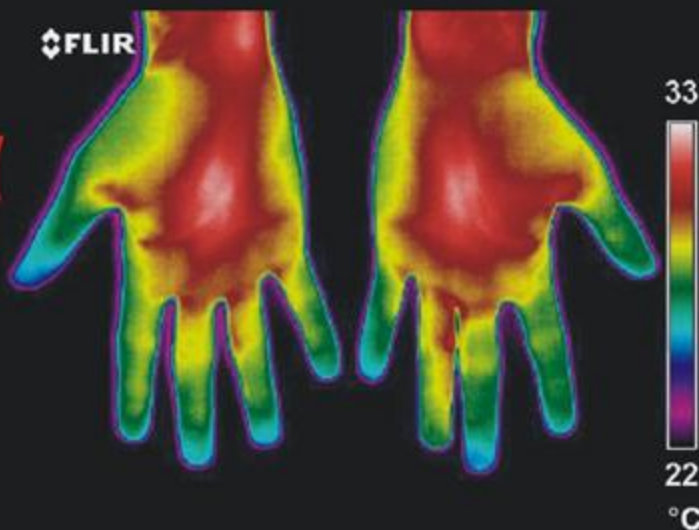
There is no radiation, no trauma to patient and breast, and it can be done in the comfort of your own home. With the camera being able to detect, in the very early stages, any musculoskeletal and neurological problem, this type of scanning for ladies is a huge step forward.

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It is well known that mammography detects structural change in the breast, and is able to detect this more easily in woman over the age of 40. Prior to this age, the density of the tissue is too high for the mammography to detect structural change. However, thermal scanning can pick up early signs of potential pathology by detecting vascular, lymphatic and structural change in women from the age of 18. This means an early detection of any change and this can be treated quite simply to avoid further trauma and disease. With early detection, there are considerably more treatment choices available, with a far more positive result.

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The scanning of sportsmen has huge advantages too, for early damage to tendons and ligaments can be detected and treated before the patient become aware of it – the best preventative measure one can find.

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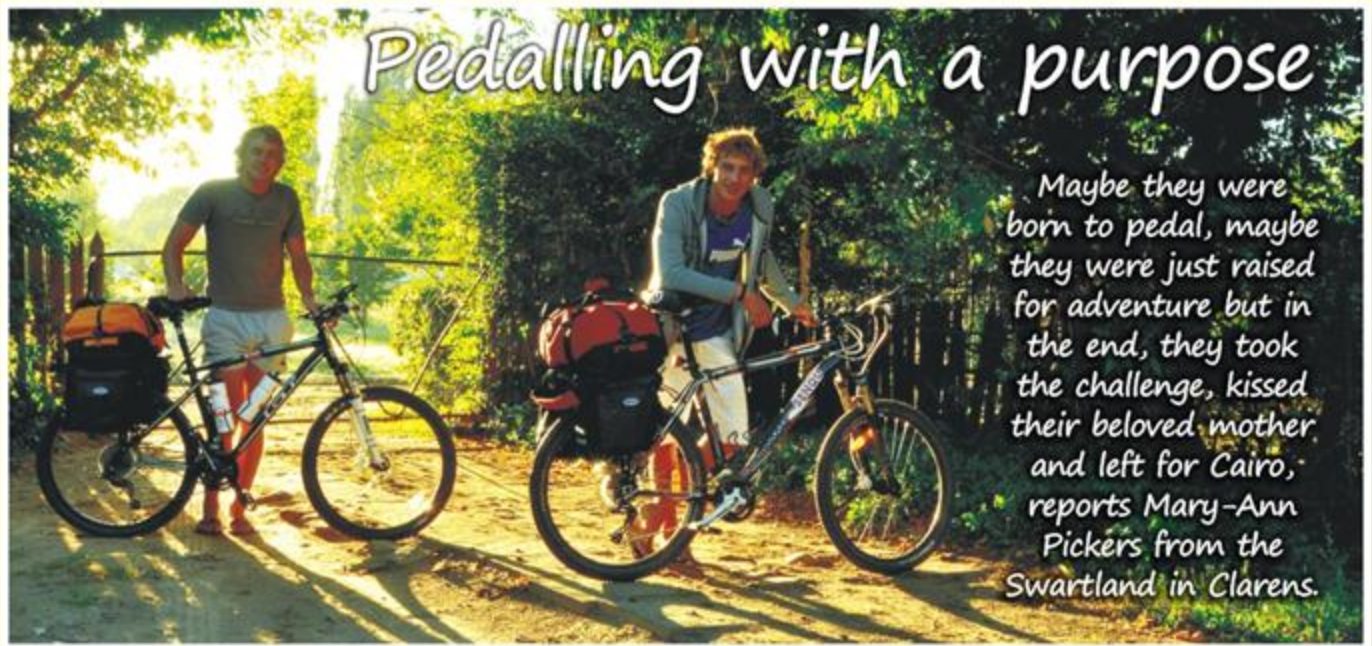
*Nin Breet 082 7516366 or*

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*Di Armour practises primarily on the Equine scanning side, but is also qualified in meditherm scans. Nin Breet is a meditherm practitioner.*



# Peddalling with a purpose



*Maybe they were born to pedal, maybe they were just raised for adventure but in the end, they took the challenge, kissed their beloved mother and left for Cairo, reports Mary-Ann Pickers from the Swartland in Clarens.*

Everything had fallen into place; all that was needed still, was to say their good-byes. They did not rise early because it was the last morning before the plane left and they would be on their own. The sun was peeping through the undergrowth and they checked their bikes, as they had done numerous times the past week.

Senqu in Clarens equipped them with bicycles, gear and clothing. The trust account for the cause was all set, plane tickets bought and the fluttering deep down, was hard to contain.

Charles and Quinton Beukes are pedalling to raise funds for the protection of rhinos in Africa. They left on Sunday 4 March and will be cycling from Cairo, 17

000 kilometres back to South Africa. The brothers have enthusiasm and bicycles with only the bare essentials and with that they have to get on for the next nine or ten months. Planning on travelling about 75 kilometres per day, it will take them that long to cover the distance.

The excitement was clearly visible and they explained that their parents immediately gave permission when asked, they too being adventurers. Mom had reservations, but kept them to herself; they are after all her only boys! But she was just as excited and she ran little errands and made appointments and fretted all by herself. As the time for their departure neared, she grew quieter and supported them every step of the way.

The old bicycle in the front garden that carried her father to work and back for forty years, bore quiet witness to their exit of the Berg Street driveway. And when they left, not even Mom's childhood tricycle which guards the front gate could console her. She sighed and shed a quiet tear.

Yes, maybe cycling is in their blood.

*Their journey through Africa can be followed on their Facebook page Afrika Toer Beukes Brothers and donations for the cause can be deposited at:*

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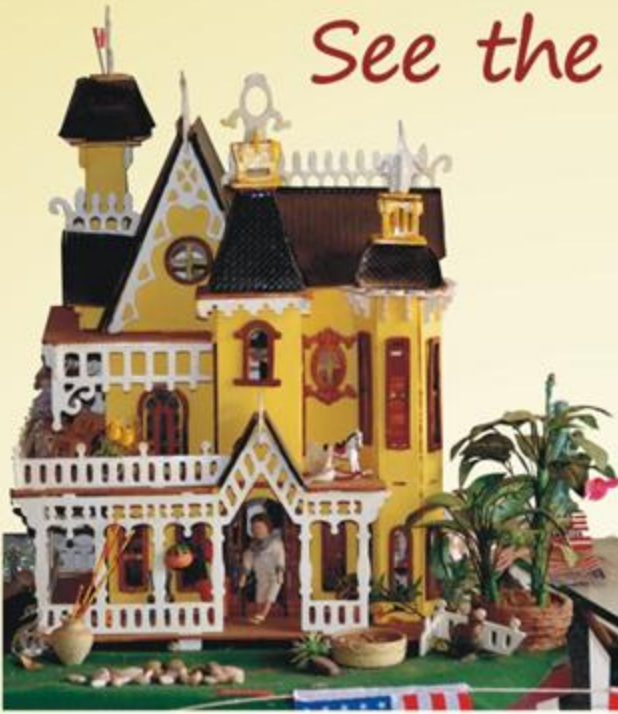
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# See the world at a glance



"I don't know how to denote to Doris's assemblage of toys," explains Kieta. And from the hundred or so photographs one could clearly recognise the dilemma she finds herself in. Doris Jacobz is a well-travelled lady and a squirrel of note. She really doesn't know how or where this passion to collect originated but every time she returns home from her one of her numerous trips, the collection expands.

She was born in the Rhine Valley, Germany and with her parents immigrated in 1954 to Ladysmith where they settled. The children were allowed to bring only one toy and this must have been a very tough choice for the young Doris and her brother. Her choice was a porcelain doll and her brother brought his Mecki teddy, part of the Steiff collection and now part of the Doris-collection.

Margarete Steiff was born in 1847 and suffered poliomyelitis when she was 18 months old. This left her paralysed in both legs and she had a painful right arm, but she still qualified as seamstress. In 1874 she bought her own sewing machine and taught herself to operate it with her left hand by turning the machine around and operating the flywheel with her left hand.

In 1879 she stumbled upon a pattern of an elephant-shaped pincushion which she sewed and the "Elefäntle" became popular as a toy. Her brother, Fritz assisted and after a series of soft-toy successes, the bear was designed. A firm in the USA ordered 3 000 and the market grew. The name was changed from Mecki to Teddy, after Theodore Roosevelt.

Doris's parents bought one of these teddy bears while on one of their numerous travels as a gift for Doris's brother in celebration of the teddy's 50th birthday in 1953. The brother chose that particular bear to accompany him to South Africa in 1954.

She got married in 1963 to Robin Jacobz and they settled on a farm near Harrismith. Doris has since moved to

*The chronicle on Doris Jacobz's dolls and other toys is long overdue. The collection is copious and detailed. The assortment of dolls, doll's houses and other toys has its own featured presence and a tale strong enough to be told in more than a page. Kieta Weyer writes that she keeps on returning to the Jacobz house for more enthralling stories and photographs.*



Clarens and she still travels a lot. When she returns, she adds something to the collection.

A delightful Victorian doll's house in her collection, Doris assembled by herself with a kit she had bought in Mauritius. She flees the cold Clarens winters and spends three to four months at her holiday home in Mauritius. Needless to say, she knows where to find little treasures such as this beautifully crafted doll's house.

Doris's brother was magistrate and he introduced her to the little houses made of matches by inmates at Groenkop penitentiary. It never would be a best seller but Doris realised the potential and added it to her compendium.

In the next edition, we will look at Doris's beloved and most favourite item, as well as the 'Oktoberfest' selection.

If you want to travel around the world in less than 80 days and at a cost of a mere R5, Doris can be contacted at 083 412 4087

# Inspiration from afar



There is no doubt that Clarens has become the building-cosmopolite of the Free State and that the various influences all are a wonderful attribute to the sandstone backdrop, writes Joe Dolan. Joe paid a visit to Castello Catharina one of the most interesting architectural designs in Clarens.



When he had to design a luxury Tuscany-style hotel, architect Bennie Cilliers of Bethlehem, took his inspiration from Castello Estense, a castle dating back to 1385, when the Marquis at the time instructed architect Da Novara to design a fortress. The Marquis's desire for a safe haven stemmed from an incident when high official Tommaso da Tortona was literally torn apart by an angry mob. The marquis realised that nobles was no longer safe. Architect Da Novara smartly used an existing tower as starting point and structured the fortress from there.

The original owners of Castello Catharina could not pull the mammoth task off en the new owners ordered Richard de Koker of Carolus Business Enterprises to finish their dream of an Italian boutique hotel.

Castello Catharina is a spectacular example of holiday accommodation and conference venue, built along old architecture lines with a very modern twist. This state-of-the-art boutique hotel is an integrated convergence of Ferraro and Tuscany styles, which ensued in extravagant and indulgent accommodation with a fresh interpretation of the tranquil getaway concept. Ten stylishly decorated bedrooms offer comfort and sophistication.

Seemingly suspended on the highest point on Hill Street, the setting contributes to unrivalled views of Clarens. The vantage point poses blue hazed vistas towards Golden Gate and the Maluti

Mountains, the solidness of the Titanic Rock and the entrance to the village and the ever towering bulk of Horeb standing guard over the tranquil town. All these can be seen from the top floor balconies.

As the building progressed, Rina and husband Johan Schulz, made changes to the original plan and in the end it vaguely resembles the fortress that was the inspiration in the first place.

Three executive suites are donned in exquisite Italian style and fitted with gas fireplaces for Clarens's notorious winters. Clarens after all is not situated in the sun-drenched Italian province of Ferraro and the designers paid attention to every detail. Air conditioning, fire-places, electric blankets, self-catering unit, family room, Castello Catharina caters for every need. Be it for a quiet break or a conference or small wedding, you will feel at home amidst spectacular surrounds.

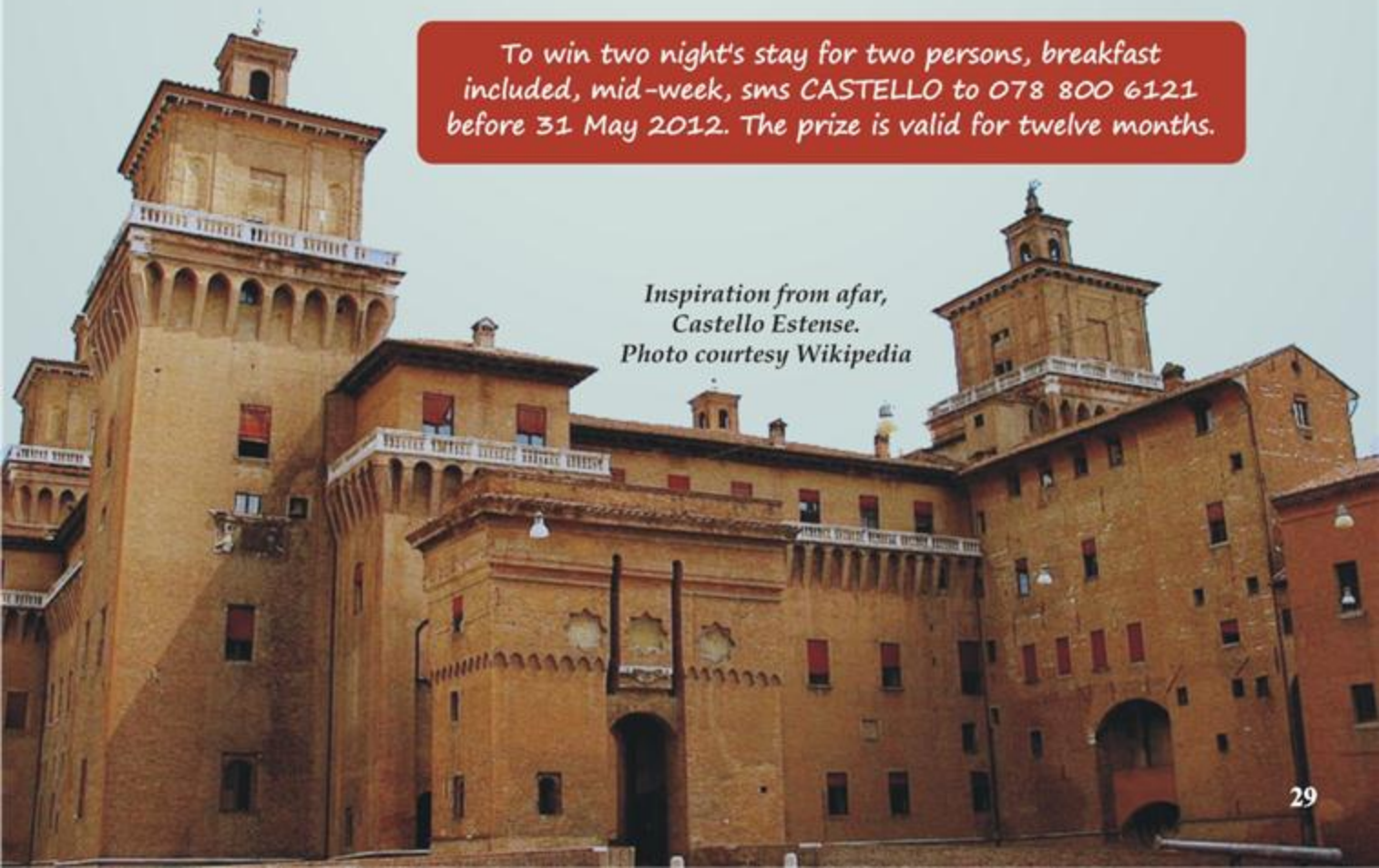
Scrumptious breakfasts are served and restaurants are within walking distance. Safe undercover parking is available and friendly staff to answer to your beck and call completes your stay of a lifetime.

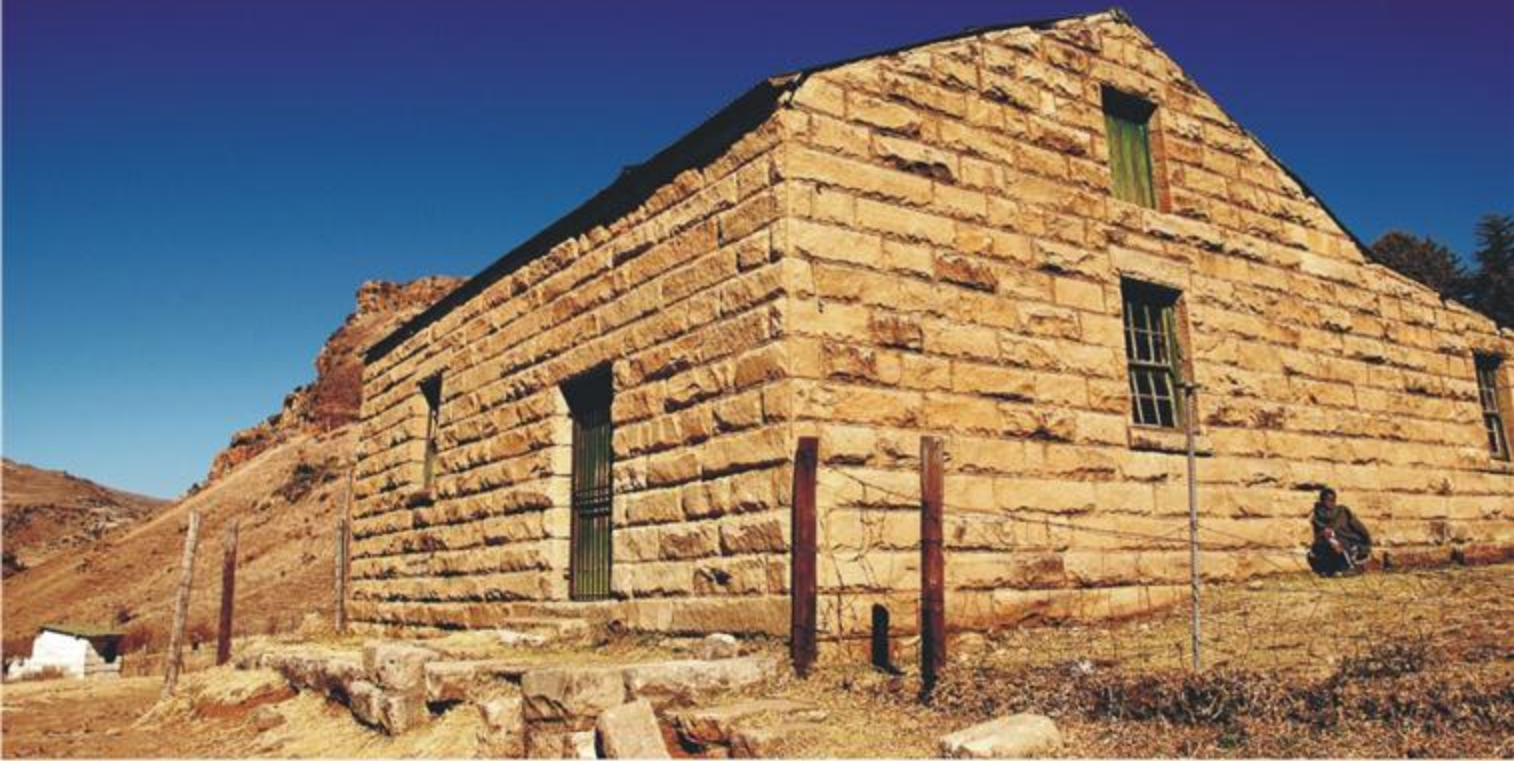
Style and comfort, beautiful architecture and sandstone cliffs combine to make this a happy place for tourists to kick back and relax.

To reserve your stay, contact Castello Catharina on 058 256 1543 or 082 417 3621

*To win two night's stay for two persons, breakfast included, mid-week, sms CASTELLO to 078 800 6121 before 31 May 2012. The prize is valid for twelve months.*

*Inspiration from afar,  
Castello Estense.  
Photo courtesy Wikipedia*





## Haas het nog nie hier geland nie

*Oral in Suid-Afrika maar veral in die Oos-Vrystaat, is daar nog mieliemeulens wat die plaaslike bevolking, maar veral ook die bergkoninkryk van Lesotho se mense, van hulle stapelvoedsel voorsien het. Die meulens is weliswaar nie in gebruik nie, maar hulle staan nog.*



Wanneer jy voor so 'n gebou te staan kom en na die hoekig gekapte klip kyk, is die verwondering groot oor wat ons voorgeslagte vermag het. Elke klip is gekap om presies in sy opening te pas. En wanneer daardie klip in sy holtetjie insink, het dit gepas.

Hierdie bouery het natuurlik nie oornag gebeur nie maar is oor jare aangepak. Tyd en haas was nie 'n faktor nie. Die bouwerk aan die meule op Beginsel (17 km oos van Clarens) het byvoorbeeld jare geduur. Nadat John Hull se eerste watermeule in die rivier weggespoel het, hier in 1920 rond, is die gebou wat vandag nog staan, opgerig en dit is om en by 1929 voltooi.

Die meulemasjinerie wat nog in die gebou gesien kan word, is eers in 1953 deur MacDonald & Forsan Milling Engineers van Johannesburg, ingevoer. Hoe die meule-binnegoed voor 1953

gelyk het, is nie seker nie, maar die bestaande ou meule is voorwaar 'n asembenemende gesig – twee verdiepings hoog en van hout gemaak. Al die glygangetjies van bo na onder is nog daar, asof dit sommer gister nog gewerk het. Daar lê nog meel op die relings, nou gemeng met 'n bietjie stof. Dis die ougoed van die tyd, en ons sal altyd wonder oor hoe dit was.

Hierdie meule het tot betreklik onlangs nog 'n volle dag se werk verrig. In die laat tagtigs is daar oorgeskakel na 'n moderner meule wat vandag nog langsaan diens doen.

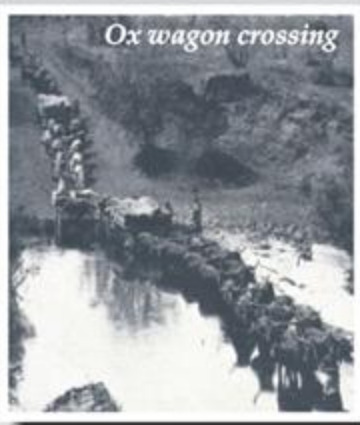
So amper op die oewer van die Caledonrivier staan hierdie historiese gebou met langsaan 'n klein meuletjie wat in die behoeftes van die Lesotho-bevolking voorsien. Met dra-donkies kom hulle vanuit die berge in Lesotho oor die brug, of as die rivier nie in vloed is nie, sommer teen die sandwalle op. Dan verwyd hulle die dag by die meule in die son of skadu, na gelang van die temperatuur, en elkeen wag dat sy emmer vol gemaal word. So doen hulle dit al vir meer jare as wat enige een van ons kan onthou. Op plat klippe is blokke getrek vir Marabaraba (oftewel meul, 'n Sotho-spel wat baie soos dambord is) en daar word gespeel terwyl daar gewag word. Wanneer die geselskap lekker is en van die meulekliënte ontmoet hier mense wat hulle lanklaas gesien het, laai hulle die meel op die donkie se rug en gee hom 'n klap op die boud. Die donkie weet waar sy huis is en hy stap tydszaam daarheen. Sy baas gaan voort met gesels en kuier welwetende dat, wanneer hy by die grasdak-hut in die berge aankom, of dit nou laatmiddag of die volgende oggend is, meel en donkie daar sal wees.

*Aanwysings na die meule: 17 km vanaf Clarens op die Fouriesburg R711 teerpad, draai links en hou aan met hierdie teerpad. Dit gaan oor in 'n grondpad tot by die meule.*

*Om 'n stukkie ou wêreld te beleef, skakel InClarens by 058 223 0464 en gaan besigtig die ou meule.*



*Old Mill Drift,  
of soos dit in die  
tyd van J.Hull  
bekend gestaan  
het, Beginsel.*



Ox wagon crossing



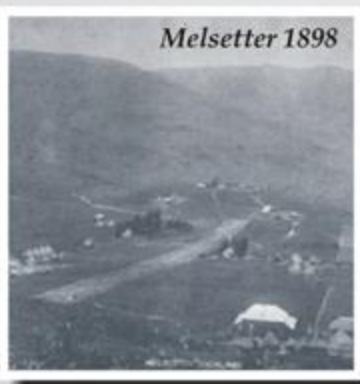
Chimanimani Mountains



Map of the trek



Outspan



Melsetter 1898

# They once were pioneers

Constance Parry wrote an article on the interesting and rather unknown trek to the then Rhodesia. This article was published in the June 1967 edition of *Lantern*. Recently, the article was sent to InClarens by Awie Viljoen, businessman of Vereeniging who is a regular visitor to the Eastern Free State. This is an abbreviated version of Constance Parry's story of Marthinus Martin who trekked from Naudeslust, in the heart of the Brand Water Basin, Fouriesburg to Melsetter, Chimanimani, Zimbabwe.

Fame has shone its golden aura upon the names of many of Southern Africa's pioneers, yet there are some who deserve a brighter place in history than the public memory has given them.

Marthinus Martin and others tamed and civilized one of the finest areas of the continent. They suffered great hardships but never fired a shot in battle. Perhaps in the peacefulness of their stories lies the reason for their comparative obscurity.

They answered the challenge of the horizons because they loved the soil and believed that Gazaland held Earth's nearest approach to the paradisiacal stream of milk and honey.

It began with an advertisement which appeared in the *Friend* newspaper of Bloemfontein in January 1893. It said that Mr Joseph Bobbert, agent for the Mozambique Company, was willing to make available to Free State farmers an area of land in Portuguese East Africa near Macequece; each farm would be 3 000 morgen.

Marthinus Martin lived on Naudeslust, Fouriesburg and he and three other men formed a commission to go to Portuguese East Africa to inspect the land. They found the country of their dreams. Magnificent mountains, good grazing and clear streams. Martin and his companions, Casper Badenhorst, Cornelius du Preez and Michael A Heyns were completely won over. They applied for the permission to settle in the range of mountains popularly known as Chimanimani Mountains, watershed between Mozambique and Rhodesia. Melsetter, where they eventually settled, is on the Rhodesian side of the mountain.

Martin visited Cecil Rhodes who told Martin that he would welcome none more than a number of Dutch trekkers, for they always took their families with them. 'A woman,' said Rhodes, 'is necessary to civilize a country because - in addition to many other attributes - she influences the moral climate of any country.'



This interview ended with Rhodes assuring Martin that the rights of the trekkers, including their language, would be respected and that they had nothing to fear.

Martin was born in the Cradock district in 1851 and moved to Fauresmith. After fighting in the Basuto War he married and settled on the farm Naudelust in the Fouriesburg district. He was elected to represent Bethlehem in the Volksraad and he built up a reputation as a tireless worker in the interests of the Afrikaner. They were puzzled by his decision to leave so much behind and face hardship, danger and a lifelong struggle.

A hundred and four people moved out of Fouriesburg on 19 April 1894. They included eight heads of families and some young bachelors, house servants, Zulu men and other families joined later.

Martin kept a diary which gives glimpses of the hardships and joys of the trek. At Kranskop, cattle disease struck and just beyond they suffered their first bereavement and left behind a child's grave bearing the name Cornelia du Preez. Near the Limpopo River, men and animals suffered the torment of thirst, but spirits were renewed in the water of the river.

Here they were joined by another family from Fouriesburg, Jan Frost and it is where one of the Frost children, aged three, disappeared. Days of search revealed a small shoe.

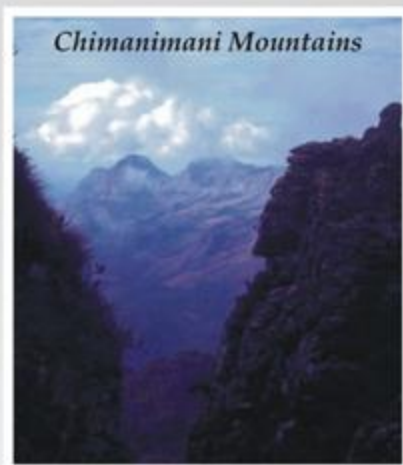
At Nuanetsi malaria struck and they lost Lettie Scholtz, but Johanna van Zyl recovered. Tante Hannie van Zyl was still very ill when they reached Fort Victoria, the first settlement in Rhodesia.

It was a great day for Fort Victoria when the trekkers arrived. They received them with a reception, a dance and a bisley shooting competition. The Free Staters' spirits soared when their marksmen outclassed the hosts' by more than twenty points. The happiest social was the marriage of two young members of the trek, Petronella du Preez and Johan Heyns, by the Reverend A. A. Louw, of the new Dutch Reformed Church Mission at Morgenster.

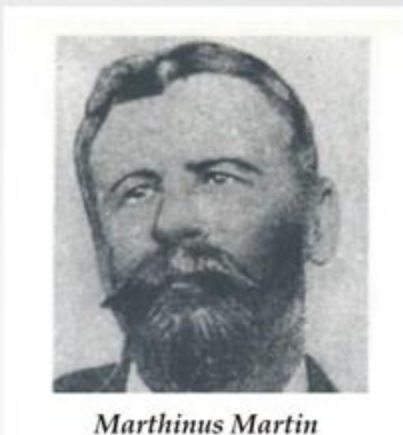
In October they reached Buffelsnek and because Martin's heart was filled with thankfulness, he decided to build a memorial there and hold a day of thanksgiving. Martin and his people outspanned finally under the great peaks of Chimanimani in the Melssetter district and braced themselves for the hardships and drudgery of pioneering.

'I have never had a moment's regret that I did not stay in the Free State and am completely satisfied - although a Pioneer's life is no easy one.' He stated

This splendid leader did not live long enough to enjoy the full fruits of his labours. He died of fever in September 1904.



*Chimanimani Mountains*



*Marthinus Martin*



*Ebenhaezer Memorial*



*Thomas Moodi*

Adél Steyn skilder hierdie maand vir ons  
'n prentjie van sandsteen

# Hart van klip

Jy is op reis deur die Vrystaat en mik in 'n oostelike rigting. Die einder gly in 'n onverstoorde blou lyn in die niet verby; jou uitsig is wyd en ver. Maar iewers op die N5 naby Senekal of op die N3 naby Warden begin die gelyktes en grasvlaktes hier ruis en daar ineengly, en raak jy meteens bewus van 'n andersheid – 'n beweeglikheid in die aardkors. En, onaangekondig, begin hulle voor jou opdoem – sommige plat soos tafelberge en ander grof en sonder vaste fatsoen: die sandsteenberge van die Oos-Vrystaat. En jy voel 'n roering in jou hart.

Die sandsteen van hierdie gebergtes het ongeveer 255 miljoen jaar gelede gevorm toe Afrika en Suid-Amerika nog teen mekaar genestel het en sand van die aanliggende lande oor ons gebied gewaai het. Sandsteen bestaan dus, soos die naam eenvoudig sê, uit sand. Sand, wat deur wind of water afgeset is, saamgepers is en deur baie jare heen verhard het en uiteindelik bymekaar gehou word deur 'n natuurlike element soos silika. Die neerleggings kom in verskillende lae voor, soos wat die afsettings op verskillende tye plaasgevind het. Hierdie lae, wat beddings genoem word, kan soms met die blote oog gesien word. Die nate wat so gevorm is, vergemaklik die mynwerk, alhoewel dit uitsonderlike vaardigheid verg om dié brose klip uit die aarde te haal en te verwerk.



## *Met dank aan Tony Marshall en Leon Strachan vir hulle insette*

Sandsteen word al vir baie jare gebruik as boumateriaal. Die Uniegebou is een van die bekendste voorbeelde hiervan. Sandsteenmonumente en -gedenkstene kom algemeen voor. En alhoewel die Oos-Vrystaat allermens kan aanspraak maak op sandsteen en sandsteengeboue – sandsteen kom immers oral in Suid-Afrika voor – pryk van die mooiste natuurlike en mensgemaakte sandsteenstrukture, veral kerke, beslis in ons gebied. Kunswerke en allerlei gebruiksartikels – selfs soutpotjies – word deesdae uit sandsteen geskep.

Iets wat sonder twyfel eie aan die Oos-Vrystaat en 'n baie bekende gesig hier is, is sandsteenhoekpale. Toe plase vroeg in die 20ste eeu omhein is, het die boere, naas Wag-'n-Bietjie-hout, sandsteenpale hiervoor gebruik omdat dit so stadig verweer. En gewis, meer as 100 jaar later staan hierdie mooi bakens steeds onverstoord in wind en weer, en is hulle vir ons soos ou bekendes, 'n vastigheid, wat jou na 'n lang reis laat weet: jy's tuis.

As jy jou dus weer, op pad see toe, in die land van sandsteen bevind, stel jou aankomstyd vir 'n paar uur, selfs vir 'n dag of wat uit. Ry die Oos-Vrystaatse dorpie binne. Soek die sandsteenkerk en die oudste huise. Ry deur Golden Gate. Speel "Wie sien die eerste hoekpaal?" met jou kinders. Stop by 'n straatkunstenaar en koop 'n voëlbak van klip. Verken die pad tussen Clarens en Ficksburg. Gaan klim Harrismith se Platberg.

Of stop net vir 'n paar minute langs die pad, klim uit jou kar, verkyk jou aan die landskap. Luister vir 'n oomblik na die roering in jou binneste. En as jy jou oë toemaak, sal jy in die stilte die pols hoor van 'n hart van sagte klip.



# Doen gerus by Janki aan

*Fouriesburg, Clarens se buurdorpie aan die natuurskone Maloti-roete, huisves verskeie ondernemings wat onverwags op die toeris se pad kom lê. Janki is so 'n onderneming berig Anien Aber uit Fouriesburg*



Die twee jongmense se wortels gaan ver terug in Fouriesburg se geskiedenis. David se voorouers het diep spore in dié geweste getrap en hy het hier grootgeword, skoolgegaan en getrou. Mariska is 'n (tong-in-die-kies) gemaakte Fouriesburger, wat nou al een is met die landelike vloei van sake.

Toe die oorpak-fabriek op die mark kom, het hulle dadelik belanggestel en hoewel David eintlik boer, pas hierdie besigheid so in hulle kraal en was dit nie moeilik om die leisels by die stigters van Janki oor te neem nie.

Hulle verskaf werk aan sowat 30 voltydse naaldwerksters, strykers en knippers. Elke masjien word beman en die operateur weet wat van hom of haar verwag word. Dit is meestal vroue wat ingespan word omdat werkloosheid onder vroue in die Mashaing-buurt hoogty vier.

Daar word natuurlik nie net oorpakke gemaak nie, maar ook voorskote, pette en enige ontwerp wat aan hulle voorgelê word, is beskikbaar vir waar dit ook al nodig is. Agterop 'n baadjie, op 'n sak, of dalk 'n embleem op 'n pet; gee die ontwerp en hulle sal sorg dat dit aangebring word.

Mariska laat haar lei deur haar werkers se insette. Net na Kersfees was dit baie stil en het die vrouens besluit om van die afvallappies, skouersakke te maak. Elkeen het na eie smaak sy sak ontwerp en gemaak. Mariska het knippe en knope voorsien en siedaar, die werkers bly besig en hierdie nuwe vertakking blyk boonop baie gewild te wees.

'n Ander baie gewilde item, veral onder stedelinge wat die Oos-Vrystaat aandoen, is kinder- en kleuter-oorpakkies - 'n heerlike toemaak vir hitte en beskerming noudat die winter wag. Janki is beslis 'n moet wanneer die Oos-Vrystaat op jou padkaart is.

Kontak vir David of Mariska by 058 223 0418 of 082 820 0403 en gaan maak die draai in Fouriesburg, bestel 'n hemp of kry 'n klein oorpakke of bring daardie lekker-sê embleem op jou mooiste T-hemp aan.



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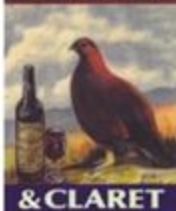
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# Fouriesburg trek sy feesbaadjie aan



As daar een plek in die land is wat die moeite werd is om met 'n viertrek voertuig aan te durf, dan is dit Ventersberg naby Fouriesburg. Nie alleen is dit 'n goeie toets vir bestuursvernuf sonder om die voertuig te beskadig nie, die uitsig van bo af is van die mooiste in die Oos-Vrystaat en deur en deur die moeite werd om te ervaar.

Fouriesburg nestel in die Brandwaterkom en is eintlik nog die hoofstad van die Vrystaat, maar dit is nie wat mense lok nie. Die natuurskoon, sandsteengeboue en Ventersberg. Dit is 'n moet wanneer daar feesgevier word. En vanjaar se

vier-by-vier-fees gaan 'n fees wees wat in almal se koppe sal bly draai.

Alle vier-by-vier-geesdriftiges, kom geniet 'n gesinsdag gevul met pret, avontuur; en uitdagings soos die toets van die wonderlike vier-by-vier-, vier-by-twee- en ook motorfiets-roetes. Kom maak sommer ook nuwe vriende en kuier saam met die oues.

Francois Rossouw die ghoeroe van RSG se vier-by-vier-klub is eregas vir die dag en daar gaan nuwe vonk gesit word in boeresport.

Boeresportiteme word langs die roete gehou en die dag sluit af met 'n "regte-egte" bring-en-braai-opskop! Die soort waarvan julle nog net in die argiewe gelees het. Sweepklap en bierdrink, kennetjie en alies, jukskei met 'n twist, blindemol en vroteier. Wie onthou nog sulke lawwigheid?

Onthou hierdie datum: 14 April. En kom hang uit saam met ander geesdriftige pretmakers.

*Vir verdere navrae kontak:  
Mariska (058 223 0418) of  
David Exley (082 820 0403).*

Tel: ±27 (058) 307-6000

Fax: ±27 (058) 307-6001

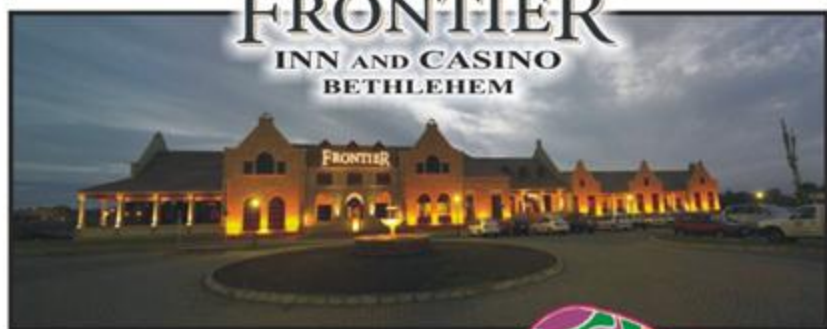
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