

# VOLMOED

BRINGING WHOLENESS TO BROKEN PEOPLE



## RETREAT AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

SELF-CATERING ACCOMMODATION

WEDDING & CONFERENCE VENUE

CHAPEL

JUNE 2022

May has been a busy month. We started with the group Heartlines being here. Thankfully load shedding was suspended so they were able to run their program without any interruptions. The same could unfortunately not be said for our Paint & Sip event, which went off very well. Painting with coffee, by candlelight, next to the fire gave the event a very special ambiance.



We were happy to welcome Eduard Conradie and his team, with his portable sawmill, back to continue with the job of clearing the felled trees. Some flitches, for tables, and more planks have been added to our stock for future projects. Replacing Keurboom's deck and putting up a pergola at Old Farm House as well as some seating and tables for the Boma are some of the options we are considering.

Some belated news that didn't get into the April prayer letter is that Mathilda and Serghay attended a snake handling course. This will be a great help in the summer months for those times we do encounter snakes in the proximity of the houses.



When next you visit the Chapel you will be able to sit at the pond on a bench donated by the Woodward family in memory of Barbara. The inscription on the plaque: 'Barbara Woodward loved this place. I will lift my eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help' Ps 121





## PRIORY NEWS



Br Roger went on leave during May,

enjoying some time with family, friends and on his own.

The Brs will be going to New York in June for Chapter. Before they depart Br Roger will be facilitating a retreat. Br Scott & Roger will be back after 2 weeks, accompanied by Br Luc, who will be on Volmoed for another extended stay.

Br Daniel will be returning at the end of June.

## SAM & JANALENE'S RENEWAL OF VOWS

A first for VYLTP was a renewal of wedding vows between Janalene Gengan and Sam White, who were members of the first VYLTP cohort. This turned into a glorious event and a VYLTP 2016 reunion!



## PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVING

- Thank you for the safe return of John & Isobel
- Molly as she visits her children in the UK
- For a replacement bookkeeper
- Safety of our visitors, staff and residents as they negotiate the road works. Especially after hours.
- Increase in bookings and financial stability

## JUNE VISITORS

3-5 Jubilee Church

9 -19 Fine Arts Exhibition in Conference Room

20—22 The Message Trust

24—30 VYLTP

Individuals staying.

## GUEST REVIEW

ALL staff were helpful, friendly and well informed. Guests needs were very well pre-empted.

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Warm greetings as the season of Pentecost begins. This year, Pentecost Sunday falls on the same day as World Environment Day, with the theme 'Only One Earth.' We pray with fervent longing, "*Come Holy Spirit, Renew the Whole Creation*". May we each play our part to protect our fragile world, as climate change continues its devastating effects.



I am grateful for a full and rich month. The weekend retreat with Cape Town diocese Fellowship of Vocation, was a deeply beautiful time with nine retreatants, learning about discernment, contemplative prayer and action, and trying out different ways to pray. Thank you for your prayers.

**Coventry Cathedral and the Community of the Cross of Nails (CCN)** celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the last week of May. Volmoed is one of their two hundred partners worldwide. Together with Mpho Tutu, I spoke at the international online gathering on 'Reconciliation, Justice and the Legacy of Archbishop Desmond Tutu'. If you are interested in receiving links or transcripts for any of the sessions, please let me know.

Our **Wednesday 10.30am Community Prayers** continue, and staff also lead the prayer sessions. At the last one, I told the story of Coventry Cathedral and CCN, and their focus on reconciliation after the Cathedral was bombed in 1940. We prayed the Litany of Reconciliation together, and many of the staff took it with them to use in their churches and home groups. I hope that Volmoed's connection with CCN will be strengthened.

## **VYLTP (Volmoed Youth Leadership Training Program)**

Our good news is that Siyabonga (Siya) Vonco began working part-time for VYLTP a few weeks ago. Siya was one of the founding members of the first VYLTP in 2016. He is a Volmoed trustee and hosts a local Whale Coast Radio morning show. He previously worked for The Rainbow Trust. Siya is working towards our goal to develop a core group of young leaders in greater Hermanus, who will connect more strongly with Volmoed, attend Thursday church services, and volunteer at our VYLTP events. He is working hard to recruit and plan for our next Taizé day event on 25 June. We are also recruiting for a five day workshop on 'Building Beloved Community', with Seth Naicker, in the last week of June. This was usually the first week of the ten week VYLTP program. Siya and I are visiting local clergy to inform them about VYLTP, hoping they will send one or two of their young leaders with most potential. This development is very exciting.

Please keep all of us at Volmoed, along with VYLTP, Siya and our work with young leaders, in your prayers.

Love,

*Wilma*