

VOLMOED

BRINGING WHOLENESS TO BROKEN PEOPLE



RETREAT AND
CONFERENCE CENTRE

SELF-CATERING ACCOMMODATION

WEDDING & CONFERENCE VENUE

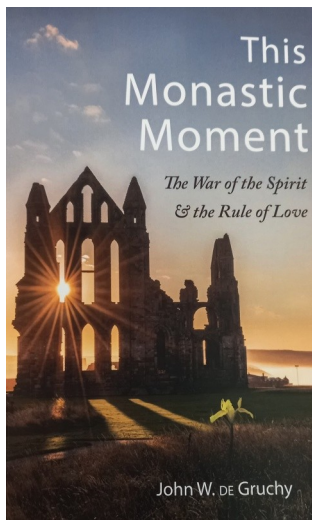
CHAPEL

NOVEMBER 2021

At a recent Thursday morning service one of our regular guest offered that the cuckoo wasn't saying Piet-my-Vrou, but rather 'Ek kry koud' especially seeing it was a rather cold, rainy morning. This got me wondering is there a good English phrase that echoes our cuckoo's song. This morning on my walk I heard it, 'Did you know'/'Do you know'.

This got me thinking about '*do you know*', do you know what hides out there in the dark of night on Volmoed? Well we can now say not only do we know but we have seen. That is thanks to cameras that the Cape Leopard Trust have set up in the kloof going to the waterfall. The picture of the Caracal is lovely and clear as is the buck. The middle picture is most likely a badger and the porcupine is unfortunately not very clear but they all share the space on Volmoed.

November is going to be a busy month with various activities happening other than just having guests. During the Colloquium there will be the launch of




John de Gruchy's latest book, **This Monastic Moment** as well as **The de Gruchy Legacy Centre** where scholars will be able to come and make use of the books in John's library as well as those of the Centre of Spirituality, which is now housed in the Chapel Tea Room. The books in St Benedict's library will also form part of this.


On the 20th of November we are having a fund raiser '**Create and Celebrate**'. There will be a tasting of Bouchard Finlayson wines followed by a time to enjoy your creative side with brush and paint. Alyson Guy will be doing the demonstration. Come and join us for a fun evening at Volmoed.

With Christmas around the corner we will once again be doing our Christmas Carol Picnic at the lake. **So please 'save the date' Saturday 11 December** and come and enjoy an evening picnic at Volmoed. We will be looking at activities for the children as well this year. (See flyer on page 3)






CREATE
AND
CELEBRATE



AT VOLMOED
WITH
BOUCHARD
FINLAYSON



R300pp
20 NOV
17H30 FOR
18H00
Farm 11, Hemel &
Aarde Valley
OFFICE 028 3121 282



PRIORY NEWS



The good news is that Scott is on his way back

from the US and will be back on Volmoed during the first week of November.

We are expecting a visit from Luc once his visa has been approved.

FEEDBACK FROM OUR GUESTS

Two night stay in Oak Cottage.

A beautiful, peaceful setting in Nature. A place of healing! And lots to do for grandchildren: streams, waterfalls, coves and pools, sand and mud, trees to climb, lawns to run and kick balls, cows to admire! We will definitely come again!

Volmoed - Grace Cottage

A wonderful place to do a Solo retreat. Extremely peaceful and I enjoyed the beautiful surroundings and well marked nature walks in the Hemel and Aarde Valley. Grace cottage was perfect for my trip but the other accommodation options look great for groups / family trips.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- John de Gruchy going in for surgery on the 4th.
- Molly Wood is having surgery on the 8th
- Wilma as she spends time in the USA and safe travels home.

OUR NOVEMBER VISITORS

We have a busy start to the month with Craig Groome and Journey South Africa.

This is followed by the Colloquium on the weekend of the 12 –14.

From the 15th we have various individuals arriving.

On the 27th there will be another Taize Day in conjunction with Volmoed Youth Leadership Training Program.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

It is said that timing is everything. With fantastic timing, Deon Alberts and a stellar team of staff and workers completed the bulk of the work on the environs of my new house. The area has been transformed and is amazing. What a wonderful birthday gift! Guests from Cape Town and Volmoed shared in my birthday and streamed in and out on the day and during the weekend. They were delighted to see all of it. The rainy weekend included a sleepover with old friends, and my godson and kids, seven of us all in all, and the fireplace was used for the first time with good effect. Casa Vuyo was thoroughly warmed if not hot! The flowers have started to pop up and we look forward to seeing new colours and new growth. If you are in the area you are welcome to come and see it all.

Sadly, I have to leave it all for three weeks. In a few hours I start the three flight journey to Pasadena, California, to attend diocesan synod, officiate at a wedding, enjoy reunion with friends and former colleagues, and return with my djembe drum, ordination scrap books and the last of my possessions in California, the continuing closure of that era of my USA life. I am sad to miss the launch of John de Gruchy's new book and the de Gruchy legacy centre, and will be with everyone in spirit on the day. I continue to be excited about the future of Volmoed and my role as chaplain, as we together work out how and what God is calling Volmoed to become in these days.

Thank you all for your prayers.

Love,

Wilma



Esther

CHRISTMAS CAROL PICNIC

IN THE MAGICAL PEACE AND BEAUTY OF
VOLMOED, HEMEL-EN-AARDE VALLEY



SAT 11 DECEMBER, 17h00-20h00

arrive from 16h00

(Covid-19 safe, outdoors, wear masks, social distance, sanitise. Safe parking. Sorry, no dogs.)

COST: R50 per car.

Funds raised will be shared between:

Volmoed staff, who have worked at 60% salary since the beginning of lockdown,
and the Manenberg Church band, for sound equipment.



**CHRISTMAS MUSIC,
CHRISTMAS CAROLS SINGALONG**
Music by the Manenberg Church Band

For Covid-19 safety please BRING YOUR OWN EVERYTHING!
PICNIC BLANKET, PICNIC FOOD & DRINKS



**CHILDREN ACTIVITIES
& TRACTOR RIDE**



FANTASTIC RAFFLE PRIZES — TICKETS R10

★ free weekend at Volmoed ★ wine from local wineries ★ free night at local B&B
★ gift cards from local restaurants ... and much more!

**PLEASE BRING AN ITEM OF NON PERISHABLE FOOD
FOR A LOCAL SOUP KITCHEN, IF POSSIBLE**

Volmoed Retreat Centre is 6km up R320, between Die Plaaskombuis and La Vierge Winery
(look for the green sign on the left)