

ROCKING

THE CRADLE

MAGAZINE

THE BEST OF THE CRADLE

JUNE-AUGUST 2023



STONE HILL

PET FRIENDLY
BOUTIQUE ACCOMMODATION



JAMES
CLARKE
WRITES

MOTHERS
DAY
COMPETITION

Maropeng

A day in the
life of a
Voortrekker
woman



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Download the Stone-hill App here



This icon determines a video link

MOTHERS /
FATHERS DAY
COMPETITION
WIN R2000
WORTH OF TECH
FOR MOM

LOCATION:

Magaliesburg, Gauteng.
Only 1 hours drive from
Johannesburg or Pretoria

UNITS:

9 Cottages sleeping 2
to 6 guests per cottage

BATHROOMS:

All cottages have separate
showers, baths and wash
basins

AIR CONDITIONING:

In all bedrooms

TV/DSTV:

Each cottage has a TV
with 85 DSTV channels as
well as DVD/CD players.
For the full DSTV Bouquet,
please bring own decoder
and card

WALKS:

5km walking trail and a
stream area

DOGGY POOLS:

Two pools in close
proximity to cottages and
1 at the main pool area

DOGGY MEALS:

Doggy meals available
orders 48 hours in
advance

PET SITTING, GROOMING & PHOTO SHOOT:

Arranged on request



Each cottage is private and
fully fenced with private
splash pool and outside
garden. Cottages feature a
large, bricked braai off the
patio, fans & blankets &
indoor fireplaces

STAR GRADING:

4-Star Boutique pet
friendly, self-catering
cottages, private &
secluded

SWIMMING POOLS:

Central pool with lapa.
Private splash pool at
all cottages

DAILY BREAKFASTS IN LAPA:

Cottages are self-catering,
however daily breakfasts
can be arranged in the lapa

MOBILE SPA:

Mobile Spa with treatments
can be arranged in your own
cottage

ROOM SERVICE:

Basic cleaning on request,
enquire for additional
service

WOOD / BRIQUETTES:

Wood, charcoal, firelighters
and kindling for sale

CAKES, BREAD, EGGS & PICNIC BASKETS:

Available on request &
Super Spar can deliver
groceries with 48 hours
notice

PONIES:

Apples & carrots for
sale to feed the ponies

TRAVEL TALK

THE "SHORT" AND WINDING ROAD

James Clarke

The red brick road alone spoke of dedication: kilometres of half bricks, half-a-million of them I'm sure, all neatly laid and still tidy after countless vehicles had ridden over them for many years. Incredibly, the wide, handmade road, was laid mostly by two men – a former brick layer, Petros Mhlanga and an assistant.

The road carried us into the hills, high above Magaliesburg village, into a wonderful landscape of blue and gold – the gold of the winter veld and the blue of the sky. The 360 degree view from the top is of mostly virgin veld, soft contours sparsely dotted with ancient wild olive trees, dark and dense, and the occasional sentinel kiepersol (cabbage tree), scarred survivors of countless veld fires, and several, lonestanding, soetdorings (sweet thorn) with their white needle-like thorns. In the distance, rank upon rank of hills and ridges. And we were just an hour's drive from Fourways.

It was the last day of winter and, at the crest, where our accommodation was in one of the 10 widely spaced timber cottages, a southerly wind threatened to snap-freeze us. The next day, the first day of spring, the temperatures dutifully soared into the mid-20s.

This was Stone Hill – a quiet, rural, selfcatering resort to which the Tourism Grading Council of South Africa has awarded a four-star rating. You bring your own food – or you can have it sent up. Beautifully presented picnics, platters, breads and cakes are supplied by a neighbour or, if you pre-order a day before, the village Super Spar not only delivers everything but packs your fridge ready for your arrival.

Each cottage has a well-equipped and carefully designed kitchen – the work of Caroline de Villiers who, with Mark Morgan, owns Stone Hill. Caroline, a third generation Kenyan who settled here in 1970, designed the cottages, some being double storeyed and all being well out of sight of the others. Each is individually fenced off. Why are they fenced? It's because Stone Hill allows guests to bring their pet dogs.



The place was fully booked yet we rarely heard barking apart, that is, from the occasional happy anticipatory bark dogs give when about to be taken for a walk. The absence of what I call 'suburban barking' was partly because each family's dogs are out of sight of the others and dog lovers (as opposed to dog owners) are, I have found, considerate types.

There's a choice of walking trails either down to the river or following the wide paths through the grass-covered hills with great all-round views, including the blue ridge of the Magaliesberg that stretches towards Hartbeespoort.

I was not surprised to find scattered in the veld hundreds of pieces of Stone Age tools – broken scrapers and discarded cutting tools, left over the past million years and more by the world's first humans. Some scientists now believe our predecessors, the 'man-apes' (*Australopithecus africana*) which abounded in this region, used stone tools.

Not far away are the fossil-rich, world famous caves of 'The Cradle of Humankind' where our ancestors lived and developed their skills and tools.



There's a mysterious group of 10 overgrown mounds near the crest of Stone Hill - unmarked Boer War graves. Mark and Caroline are hoping some knowledgeable visitor will one day work out what happened there.

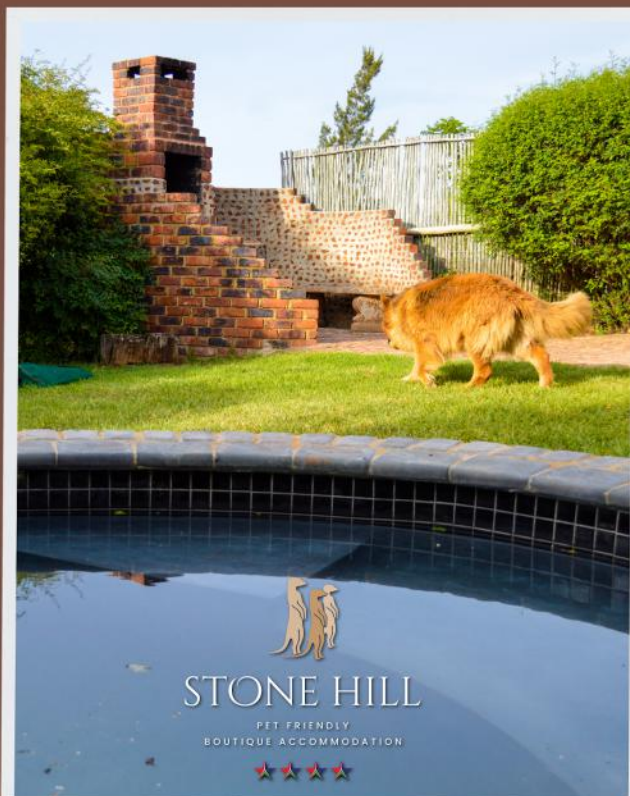
Apart from the exhilarating walks and wayside benches, it was the design of the cottages that intrigued me. Caroline put a lot of thought into it.

Each timber-built cottage has a large, separate braai facility with a sheltered inglenook - and an elaborate outside shower with a facility for washing dogs muddy, perhaps, from rolling in the river which is some distance below the cottages.

Each cottage's amenities include a solar geyser, DSTV, electric blankets, air conditioning and a fireplace. The kitchen has everything one can think of, including many thoughtful little touches - a welcoming sherry and, in a small box, a souvenir piece of quartzite from the hills. Sunken into the kitchen wall is a



All kitchens include a dishwasher



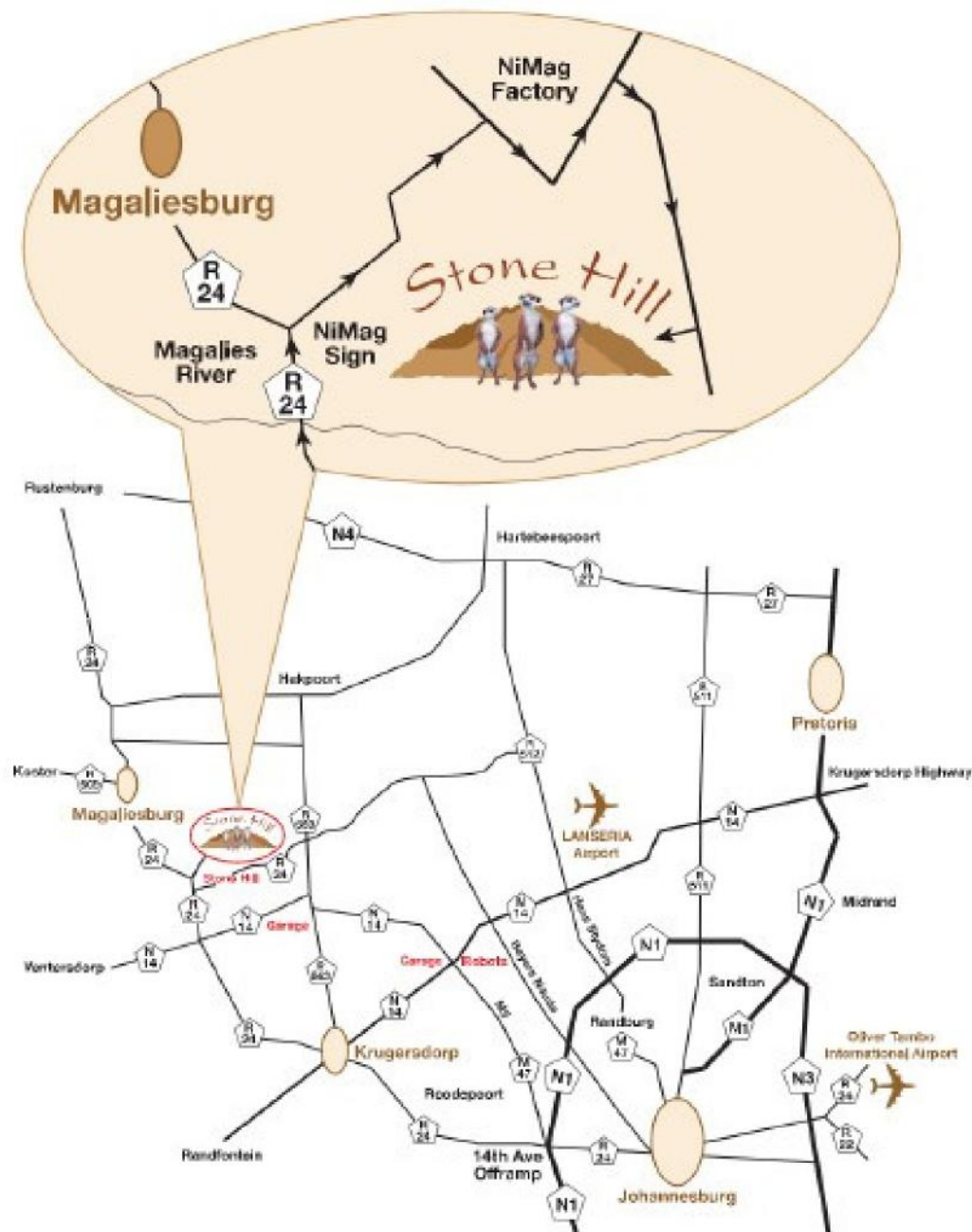
All cottages have a splash pool

brilliant arrangement for waste-disposal - three chutes with covers labelled 'paper', 'plastic and tins' and 'compost'. There's also a powerful rechargeable wall light and another portable light for when Eskom fails. Caroline (who owns several dogs and cats) can arrange a dog-sitter for those who want to go out. There's even a mobile dog spa that will come to one's cottage.

Although we did not have time to visit it, there is an adjacent farm - Happy Acres Old Mill - which has 12km of 'dog-friendly' walking trails and an environmental centre with a fungi house, a butterfly house and an educational zoological exhibit. When we paid for our Stone Hill accommodation, I was pleasantly surprised how affordable it was.

For more information, contact Stone Hill on www.stone-hill.co.za.

Directions



1. **From Johannesburg**, travel west to **N14** Krugersdorp Highway.
2. **From Pretoria**, take **N14** towards Krugersdorp.
3. At **traffic lights** on **Krugersdorp N14**, travel towards Ventersdorp on **N14**.
4. Travel for **10,5 kms** to a T-junction.
5. **Turn right** onto **R563 Hekpoort**.
6. Travel **11 kms**, turn **left** at **R24 Magaliesburg/Maropeng** sign.
7. Drive **11 kms** to a **Stop** sign.
8. **Turn right** on **R24** to Rustenburg.
9. **Drive for 2 kms** until you cross **Magalies River**.
10. **As the R24 bends sharply** to the left, there is a brick **NiMag** sign - turn right (also an **MBH Adventures** sign).
11. Follow the signs on concrete strip road to **Stone Hill** – **2 kms** off **R24**.
12. **GPS co-ordinates**: **Latitude S 26° 0.018, Longitude E 27° 34.030**.

Cell: 082 447 6893
Email: info@stone-hill.co.za



Sticky Pork Ribs

Ingredients

Meat

- 1 5 kg pork, ribs
- 1 liter Stock chicken

Produce

- 1 Bay leaves
- 1 Chillies, fresh
- 1 Coriander, fresh
- 4 Garlic cloves
- 1 Lemon, wedges

• 4 Onion

Canned Goods

- 30 ml Tomato paste

Condiments

- 60 ml Worcestershire sauce

Baking & Spices

- 5 ml Paprika, smoked
- 1 Salt and freshly ground black pepper

- 250 ml Sugar, brown dark

Oils & Vinegars

- 30 ml Vinegar balsamic

Nuts & Seeds

- 5 ml Cumin seeds, toasted

Drinks

- 125 ml Orange juice

THE PERFECT ENDING TO A SUNNY DAY

South Africans love to Braai and here we celebrate those moments with a great braai. Whether in South Africa or the Antartica, we sure know how to braai. Share your recipes with us on recipes@sacommuter.com

Ingredients

Meat

- 12 Bacon streaky

Produce

- 1 Chives, small fresh
- 12 Pickled jalapenos
- 2 Preserved green figs, whole

Baking & Spices

- 1 Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Dairy

- 250 g Blue cheese
- 1 Cream cheese

Other

- 24 Toothpicks

Blue Cheese Bacon rolls



STONE HILL DOGGY MEALS

1 Serving per dog

ORDERS MUST BE MADE AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE

BOILED CHICKEN & RICE - R45



CHICKEN LIVER & RICE - R45



STONE HILL

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JERRY SPRINGER

(February 13, 1944 – April 27, 2023) Tasteless talk shows come and go, but one magazine declared this long-running daytime chatfest "the worst show in the history of television." Loaded with bleeped profanity and guests who aren't afraid to embarrass themselves on national TV, "Jerry Springer" features a host who is the anti-Oprah, aiming his show squarely at viewers who rubberneck at traffic accidents. He died after a bout of pancreatic cancer. He was 79.

IAN MCINTOSH

(24 September 1938 – 5 April 2023)[1] was a Southern Rhodesian-born Zimbabwean rugby union coach. He served as head coach for the Springboks during 1993 and 1994. McIntosh grew up near Bulawayo in Matabeleland, Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). McIntosh never played for his country (Rhodesian rugby team) as a player, but became acquainted with coaching in the 1970s under the tutelage of the then Welsh Rugby Union coaching director Ray Williams.



MARK PILGRIM

(20 September 1969 – 5 March 2023) was a South African media personality who hosted numerous radio and television shows, most notably as a DJ on 5FM, Eastrand-oos Rand stereo, 94.7 Highveld Stereo, 94.5 Kfm, Hot919 and Hot102.7fm.[1] On television, he hosted both seasons of Big Brother South Africa, the first season of Big Brother Africa, and the MNET game show Power of 10.



DAME EDNA

(17 February 1934 - pril 2023) She was character created and performed by Australian comedian Barry Humphries, known for her lilac-coloured ("wisteria hue") hair and cat eye glasses ("face furniture"); her favourite flower, the gladiolus ("gladdies"); and her boisterous greeting "Hello, Possums!" As Dame Edna, Humphries wrote several books, including an autobiography, My Gorgeous Life; appeared in several films; and hosted several television shows (on which Humphries also appeared as himself and other alter-egos).



The Corpse Reviver!

The Corpse Reviver was a family of cocktails traditionally consumed as a hair-of-the-dog, a hangover reliever to refresh and enliven after a night of heavy drinking. However, the category was a loose one, with no real shared characteristics save that they tended to be relatively high-proof and served up, rather than over ice.

The Corpse Reviver No. 1's first recorded recipe was in "The Savoy Cocktail Book," originally published in 1930. The recipe book was a collection of the Savoy Hotel London's most popular drinks. In it, bartender and author Harry Cradock writes of the Corpse Reviver No. 1, "To be taken before 11 a.m., or whenever steam and energy are needed." Of course, alcohol is not a stimulant like caffeine, and it is generally ill-advised to be drinking before noon, especially in pursuit of "energy."

Though popular during the late 19th and early 20th century, Corpse Revivers generally faded away after Prohibition. But like other many other pre-Prohibition drinks, they've seen a revival in recent years. Walk into a bar today and scan the drink menu, and you're more likely to find a Corpse Reviver No. 2, or a variation on the No. 2, than any of its fellows. Still, the No. 1 does appear from time to time.

Unlike its more popular sibling — a bright and botanical gin drink misted with absinthe — the Corpse Reviver No. 1 is a rich and vibrant mixture with a brandy base. It is, yes, an odd choice for what is historically served as a morning drink, but it is a lush and lovely evening tippie, leaning towards the Manhattan family with its dark spirits and vermouth.

For those who cannot find a bottle of Calvados, or who want to take a detour, it's acceptable to use another type of apple brandy, though the flavor profile will not be identical. Similarly, a Spanish brandy or other fine brandy can replace the cognac, but again, there will be differences. Try playing around with different kinds of brandies until you find one that is the most revivifying for your Corpse Reviver No

Ingredients

1 ounce Calvados

1 ounce cognac

1/2 ounce sweet vermouth

Steps

Add the Calvados, cognac and sweet vermouth into a mixing glass with ice and stir until well-chilled.

Strain into a cocktail glass.





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2 hours R850 all images included

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on 082 447 6893**



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Credit: Katy Stickland

Kirsten Neuschafer,
the winner of the
2022 Golden Globe
Race and the first
women to win a
solo round the
world yacht race

Kirsten Neuschafer has become the first woman to win a solo, round the world yacht race after winning the 2022 Golden Globe Race

Second-time Golden Globe Race competitor, Abhilash Tomy will be the next boat across the finish line, lying some 100nm astern of Neuschafer. That these three will finish within the space of a couple of days after 235 days at sea speaks to the high level of competition between these front runners.

Tired but jubilant, the focussed 39-year-old, who throughout much of the race had no idea she was leading, celebrated a hard-fought victory. Her Cape George 36 cutter, Minnehaha was then towed up the channel to the pontoon as thousands of people cheered and applauded her incredible achievement.

Among them were 2022 Golden Globe Race skippers Ian Herbert-Jones, who had just arrived from Cape Town, having been rescued from his dismasted boat just weeks before, and French sailor Damien Guillou, whose race ended after windvane steering failure on approach to Cape Town.

'I feel very emotional and honoured,' said Neuschafer after finishing the race. 'I am never going to forget the welcome. I want to thank my fellow skippers as without them, there would have been no race. Simon was very difficult as he was always in front of me and I knew Abhilash was close, and this encouraged me to navigate as quickly as possible.'

STONE HILL BREAKFAST

*Our breakfast starts at 08h30 until 11h00
at the Lapa or via collection / delivery*

THE BREAKFAST CONSISTS OF:

- Fruit juices
- Cereals
- Fruit salad / Fruit
- Yogurts
- Cheeseboard (Brie, Blue, Camembert etc.)
- Cold Meats
- Flapjacks / Croissants / Muffins
- Farm baked bread
- Sausages
- Chicken Livers
- Bacon
- Eggs
- Tomatoes
- Mushrooms
- Hash browns
- Beans
- Kiddies Hot chocolate

WATER BOWL FOR DOGS!

The cost per person for resident guests is R175 and children under 12 years are half price.



SMALLER BREAKFASTS PLATE - R90

2 eggs, bacon, tomato and toast



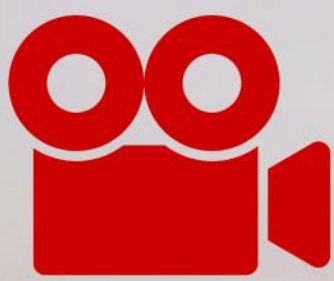
Includes a plunge pot coffee, decaf or tea

*For orders contact Caroline
from Stone Hill on 082 447 6893*



STONE HILL

PER FRIENDLY
BOUTIQUE ACCOMMODATION



**No wind, meant it took hours for Kirsten Neuschafer to sail the Minnehaha over the finish line.
Credit: Katy Stickland**

1997 Vendée Globe veteran Catherine Chabaud, the first female sailor to race solo non stop around the world without assistance, and the winner of the 2018 Golden Globe Race, Jean-Luc van den Heede, were there to greet Neuschafer as she stepped off her boat after nearly 8 months at sea.

Her official finishing time was 233 days, 20 hours, 43 minutes and 47 seconds. This takes into account the 35 hour time compensation and 30 litre fuel allowance given to her following her role in the rescue of fellow race skipper, Tapio Lehtinen,

Neuschafer said she was driven to keep going, even in calms and the doldrums on the way up the Atlantic, where she regularly went swimming to deal with the frustration.

'I never thought I would give up; there was no reason to think this as I had full confidence in the boat. I never doubted I would get to the finish line.'

Throughout the 2022 Golden Globe Race, Kirsten Neuschafer has fought to be at the front of the fleet, her ambition to win driving her more than many of the other entrants. She deliberately chose a boat that she believed could win the race and survive the Southern Ocean.

Speaking to Yachting Monthly from Prince Edward Island, where she was refitting the boat, she said: 'From the outset it wasn't a question of taking any boat that was available and in my price range; it was to choose a boat that I believe can win and can survive the Southern Ocean, and then get that boat at any cost, no matter how much work.'





Kirsten Neuschafer/ rounded Cape Horn on Day 164 of the race. Credit: Kirsten Neuschafer/GGR 2022

Her choice of the Cape George 36 paid off. Minnehaha has the longest LWL in the fleet, and with a generous cutter rigged 806sq ft sail plan, the boat achieved slightly higher speeds than her counterparts.

As a result, she holds the 2022 Golden Globe Race records for the best 4 hour speed average (9.80 knots), best 24 hour distance (218.9nm) and best 7 day distance (1,216.2nm).

The boat's performance was evident after her average start in the race, but she constantly pushed, choosing to hand steer the boat rather than just rely on her Hydrovane windvane steering to make up for lost ground. Her disappointment coming 6th through the first race gate at Lanzarote was evident, but her motivation was stronger.

Having exited the Bay of Biscay in 10th place, she was soon climbing the leader board. Coming down the Atlantic, she chose a more coastal route to keep the island of Trinidad to port; a strategy to make the most of the current and receive weather information via her weather fax so she could identify the location of the South Atlantic High.

She took the longer, southern route with a more comfortable point of sail to reach the race's second gate at Cape Town; a strategy that paid off when she was second through the gate behind the then race leader Simon Curwen.

At the time she said: 'I read up in Ocean Passages for the World what is the best route for this time of year and the route is to pass 80 miles south of the Falklands and make for a point to the east of 35°S and 30°W at this time of year, and this is what I've been doing. I don't know if it was a good idea to follow the suggestions or not.'

Doubting her easterly route, she took a more northerly route; it was a decision which would prove incredibly frustrating for Kirsten Neuschafer, who sailed through more light winds than any other 2022 Golden Globe Race sailor while sailing up the Atlantic, and meant she crossed a very wide doldrums.

This allowed both Tomy and Curwen to make gains on her position before Curwen in his Biscay 36, Clara, took the lead and become the first of the 2022 Golden Globe Race fleet to cross the finish line.

Katy Stickland April 27, 2023

<https://www.yachtingmonthly.com/boat-events/golden-globe-race/kirsten-neuschafer-wins-2022-golden-globe-race-and-makes-history-93838>

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You should wear comfortable clothing and closed-toe footwear. Slip-slops are not suitable as they will simply fall off during your zip line. Shorts or long pants are fine but mini-skirts are not due to the harness worn. Running shoes, takkies, and 'veldskoene' are perfect and strap-on sandals will do. Don't forget to bring your camera as there are many excellent photo opportunities along the way and if you submit a photo to our "Photo of the Month" Competition on our website you could win a free Canopy Tour®.

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- **SAFETY BRIEFING**
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- **FULLY GUIDED 2½ HOUR TOUR (10 SLIDES, 11 PLATFORMS)**





LILLIBILLI MENU

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Please advise on day and time for delivery

LILLIBILLI'S DINNER - R375 (FOR 2 PEOPLE)

- Lemon cream chicken with seasonal salad
- Mexican beef burrito bake with traditional sides
- Thai green curry and fragrant rice
- Moroccan chicken and couscous
- Chicken pie and seasonal salad
- Spicy beef pie and seasonal salad
- Sesame chicken salad with flatbread
- Seasonal vegetarian meal with flatbread



SLOWFOOD HOMEBAKE

- Farmhouse loaf (white or wholegrain)
- Focaccia (garlic & herb or rosemary & olive)
- 12 Buns (white or wholegrain)

R60
R70
R65



CAKES

- Chocolate ganache cake
- Berry cheesecake
- Lemon meringue
- Pineapple upsidedown cake
- Grenadilla cake
- 12 Muffins (bran, lemon poppy, choc chip, cappuccino)
- 6 Cinnabuns

medium
large

R350
R450
R80
R70



PLATTERS - R700 (SERVES 2-4 PEOPLE)

• Lillibilli's Platter

Selection of cold meat, cheese, crackers, dips, pickles, fruit
platter includes 2 x 250ml JC Le Roux Sparkling Wine

• Country Platter

Homemade buns, cold meat, cheese, pickles, fruit, eggs,
relish platter includes 2 x 250ml JC Le Roux Sparkling Wine

• Mexican Platter

Wraps, spicy beef, salsa, guacamole, cheese,
beans platter includes 2 x margaritas

• Poke Platter

Sesame chicken, rice, seasonal veg, wasabi mayo, pickled
ginger platter includes 2 x 250ml JC Le Roux Sparkling Wine



For orders contact Caroline
from Stone Hill on 082 447 6893

MATERNAL INSTINCTS IN THE ANIMAL KINGDOM



Humans may be the only ones that have a dedicated holiday for it, but in the animal kingdom, every day is Mother's Day. The fierce and protective maternal instinct in different species is at least equal to, and in some cases maybe even stronger, than ours.



Biologically programmed to preserve their species by protecting and caring for their young, some species go to incredible lengths to do so.... even without incentive to one day earn a World's Best Mom mug.

Elephants

Elephants may be the most protective moms on the planet. Herds of females and children usually travel together in a circle with the youngest member on the inside, protected from predators. If one child becomes an orphan, the rest of the herd will adopt him.

Elephants also mourn their dead. A bereaved mother will behave in a depressed manner for days while the herd creates a burial of the dead. Cows collect leaves and twigs to cover the body of the deceased. Even years later, elephants have been observed revisiting the site where one of their own had died.

Kangaroos

Kangaroos are only pregnant for 21 to 38 days before giving birth to a joey that can be as small as a grain of rice, or as big as a bee. They care for their remarkably vulnerable babies by carrying them in their pouches for months, maintaining constant, skin-to-skin contact, while the joey gestates for another 120 to 450 days. Kangaroos only emerge permanently from their mother's pouch at 10 months old, but for the next 8-11 months, continue to periodically suckle from their mother.





Pandas

Newborn pandas are incredibly vulnerable, blind and tiny, weighing in at just three to five ounces, almost as small as newborn kangaroos. Panda Moms, at an average of 300 pounds, have to take a lot of care in protecting their tiny, helpless infants, which is why they cradle them almost constantly until it is big enough to move around on its own, at about three months old. Between the ages of 12 months and 18 months, a panda cub will have a major growth spurt, gaining nearly 100 pounds and growing the strong teeth it needs to eat bamboo. When a panda is about 18 months old, it is ready to venture out on its own, having learned the survival skills it needs from its mother.

Octopuses

After female octopuses lay huge amounts of eggs—sometimes in the thousands—they keep the developing babies oxygenated and free of bacteria by fanning them with muscular organs called siphons. During this process, octopus moms stop eating, and will not leave the area while guarding their offspring, no matter how long it takes for them to hatch. The longest such period ever observed by scientists was four and a half years. After the eggs hatch, the mother uses her siphon to blow them out into the open ocean. Once the little ones are safely out in the wild, the mother passes away of starvation. Though some humans might read this as a bittersweet fulfillment of destiny, science has proven that it's actually biological. Secretions from an optic gland drives the maturation of the reproductive organs and inactivate the digestive and salivary glands, which leads to the octopus starving to death.



Dolphins

About six hours after dolphin calves are born, the mothers will begin to nurse their young for at least four times each hour for the first four to eight days, and mothers continue to nurse their calves for up to 18 months. Calves start swimming alongside their mothers right from birth. To help the little ones keep up, bottlenose dolphin moms create a wake, called a slip stream, that draws the youngsters alongside them. Mothers and the calves typically develop an extremely strong bond, and calves stay with their mothers for up to six years before going out on their own.



Maternal instinct in the animal kingdom
Polar bears, lions, cheetahs, tigers, gorillas, and even spiders also have a remarkable maternal instinct. This Mother's Day, we celebrate all of the moms who hel...

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mom and submit by 30 June 2023.

or

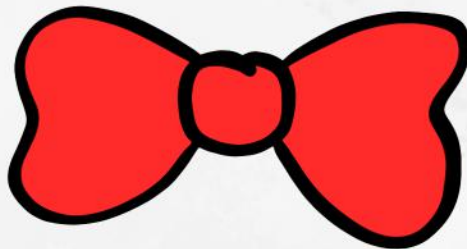
Write a 200 word short story on a blended
family (whether yours or someone elses)

Submit your entries before 30 June
2023 by visiting the website or
downloading the app
www.mainlinetechology.co.za


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WITH
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WONDER AND THINK!"**

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THERE IS NO ONE ALIVE WHO IS YOUNGER THAN YOU." -
DR SEUSS**

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**R165 per person for members of the public
R130 if you are a member of the Peoples Theatre
Kids Club**

**R140 for public accompanying members
For School group rates, please contact the
theatre directly**



**TUESDAY, 13 JUNE -
SUNDAY, 30 JULY 2023**

Jill Girard and Keith Smith are delighted to present Peoples Theatre's 2nd production of this year, as always bringing children, parents and all those with a love of joy and laughter, together for a rollicking theatre experience with the fabulous Broadway show *Seussical the Musical Jr.*

Previews begin on Tuesday, 13th June with the official opening on Youth Day, Friday 16th June at Peoples Theatre. *Seussical the Musical Jr.* runs through the winter school holidays, with the final performance on Sunday, 30th July 2023.

Based on the much-loved Dr Seuss books, *Seussical Jr* draws its characters from a number of books. It is filled with non-stop music, laughter and feel-good fun.

Dr Seuss has been a children's favourite author for over 60 years and is loved for his use of language, rhyme and humor. The Cat in the Hat, Horton Hears a Who, Green Eggs and Ham and many more have been the stepping stones to reading for many children and introduced them to a wonderful range of characters and positive concepts.

These are just a few of the wonderful quotes from Dr Seuss, illustrating the importance of reading and gaining knowledge to equip the younger generations with the skills to fulfill their dreams and aspirations in life.

The show's directors Jill and Keith say; "The Peoples Theatre strives to educate younger minds in order to create a stronger generation through the medium of theatre. All while having loads of fun in the process, and enjoying the magic that comes alive on the theatre stage."

Designer Grant Knottenbelt will be bringing Dr Seuss's unmistakable, quirky pages to stage with his set design. Costumes done by Merry Whillier, Sean McGrath and additional costumes by Luciano Zuppa. Ian Mills is the Choreographer and Coenraad Rall is Musical Director.

PLEASE BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

Call 011 877 6841 or email

info@peoplestheatre.co.za for bookings or enquiries.

You can also book online at

www.joburgtheatre.com

PEOPLES PRODUCTIONS
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH DALRO (PTY) LTD
production of

The Cat in the Hat is on the left side of the poster, wearing his signature red and white striped hat and a red bow tie. He is pointing his right hand towards the title. The background features a large red spiral and a purple, spiky shape on the right.

Seussical JR.

Music by
STEPHEN FLAHERTY

Lyrics by
LYNN AHRENS

Book by
**LYNN AHRENS &
STEPHEN FLAHERTY**

Co-Conceived by Lynn Ahrens, Stephen Flaherty and Eric Idle

Based on the works of Dr. Seuss

Music Supervised, Adapted and Produced by Bryan Louiselle

Directors - Jill Girard and Keith Smith
Musical Director - Coenraad Rall
Musical Staging - Ian Mills
Set design - Grant Knottenbelt

13 June - 30 July

Bookings Essential: 011 877 6841 or info@peoplestheatre.co.za

**JOBURG
THEATRE**



THE Voortrekker w o m a n

By Geniene Preston



n this day in 1837, Piet Retief completed the manifesto that set out the reasons why the Voortrekkers would be leaving the Cape Colony and embarking on the Great Trek.

It is 6 February 1837. It is 5am and the dawn shimmers over the Drakensburg. It is silent except for the birds. As the sun rises, those in the laager start to stir and make fire so that the women can begin to cook an early meal. Flat breads on an open cast iron plate is not a difficult meal to put together as long as there is flour and we are running short of many of the ingredients we miss since leaving our homes on the coast.

I know it is said that we have to follow our husband and find a better life inland with our children, but I have an uneasy feeling about today. The men are preparing to leave to sign a treaty with Dingaan, a local Zulu King. He is said to be arrogant and has a dislike for the boers. I am quietly glad that my husband is remaining behind in the laager to be with the women and children.

February
1837

A CAST IRON POT WITH 3 LEGS IS USED TO COOK A MEAL



It has been a difficult journey and the oxen have struggled over the mountains. Every step has been difficult as the oxwagon creaked and each wheel turn threatened to break off and spin down the mountain. The mountains are full of rocks and the mountain ranges sometimes look like giants. As one of the few English women on the journey, I am excluded from the general gossip and chatter among the boer women. They laugh and share moments and they point in the direction of my hat or my dress. I hold tightly onto our box of valuable items. My mothers ring from England, my fathers union bonds and some of the delft china that makes drinking tea less barbaric. This morning is the same as it is every morning except for Piet Retief and the commando's who are leaving to see Dingaan. As I start the tea over the fire, I watch as they saddle up the horses and leave in a long line. I hope they will be back before dark. The stars shine brightly but sometimes the enemy hides where the shadows fall.

It is time to wake the children. Abigail with her long braids and Gilbert who loves to tease her by pulling them, slumber with their pink cheeks as the morning dew settles on their blanket inside the oxwagon. I smile as I pull back the covers and shake them gently to rise and get ready to attend to morning chores. Once the chores are done, its time for learning. I want them to continue their education, even when we are soon to run out of paper and pencils. I will write to mother and father in England and ask them to send more supplies once we have a place where they can deliver it.





It still feels unsettled and John, my husband, tries to reassure me. But I see the fear in his eyes and I feel the shiver in his hands as he puts the cooked maize meal into his bowl. He talks quietly to the children and they share a moment. I try and remember moments like this to store in my mind when the guns shout loudly from under the oxwagons in battles with the enemy.

The children are ready for lessons and we open the Bible to read a passage so that they can memorise it and write it down. Their scribbles sometimes make them laugh. We change to doing sums in the sand and Gilbert has a serious frown as he tries to work out the answers. Abigail wants to marry a soldier and settle nearby but Gilbert wants to sing and play the piano. One of the oxwagons has a piano and sometimes it is brought down by the men and we dance and sing and laugh, forgetting our hardships.

But as it's Sunday and there is always time for a church service before lunch. We pray and sing and as always, I listen and just talk to God in my thoughts and pray for safe passage. I know He is with me always.

Soon it's time for lunch and the men are coming into the laager from standing guard nearby. I stoke the fire that has been simmering since early morning and

Next to grilling the meat over an open fire, we cook a stew of venison and leftover vegetables, in a three-legged cast iron pot, hence the name "potjiekos" (potfood). As each animal is shot, it is cut up and added to the pot.

The men settle around the fire and the children help myself and other women to serve the meal. After they retire back to their duties, we then sit quietly and eat. The children can't go outside the laager to play so they find ways to amuse themselves by playing with each other and games they have invented.

I settle in the shade and try and finish embroidering a hat for Abigail. I know she loves to dress up and this will make her happy. I watch for John's return. Soon he returns and the worried frown on his brow has not left. He comes over and puts his hand on my shoulder. He rests it there for a while before sighing and moving off to where the other men are sitting. They talk amongst themselves. The sun sets and the evening meal is very sombre. Piet and the commandos as well as the children and servants that went with him, have not returned. That is not a good sign. In the morning some of the men will set out to look for them. I hope John is not with them. The stars are bright and the children are in bed in the oxwagon under a colourful crocheted blanket. I lie with John beneath the oxwagon, listening to his even breathing for hours. The sun rises and the men set out to find the commando's. It is Monday. The men return. The laager is tightened as we await our fate. I fear for our lives. I hold the children close in the oxwagon, The men stretched holding their guns. The enemy streams over the hill and the battle begins.....

534 men, women and children were slaughtered that day. To learn more visit the Voortrekker Museum in Pretoria. [www.https://vtm.org.za/](https://vtm.org.za/)



The Voortrekker Monument is more than just a heritage conservation site. It is a cultural home for the Afrikaner. It is a beacon of hope that you can see from any direction in Pretoria. The Voortrekker Monument provides an opportunity for the public to learn more about the Afrikaner's story, from the Great Trek to the Anglo-Boer War and more. The monument tells a story of heroism, perseverance, and a vision for the future so that we can be where we are today.

Apart from history, the Voortrekker Monument is also a place of relaxation. It is the ideal place to have a picnic, walk, drink coffee, and take part in adventure activities – in Afrikaans. The Voortrekker Monument welcomes families, friends, and groups to enjoy an excursion on the monument's grounds.

The Voortrekker Monument is your place, your people, your heritage, your future, your home.

www.vtm.org.za





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DEFINING HUMANITY AT THE CRADLE OF HUMANKIND

The blackness swallowed us as we descended down into the earth. We carried lights, but the darkness encroached on us from all sides. The gentle scuffling of feet on the gravel, an occasional soft trickle of water in the abyss and our own breathing were the only sounds. These are the Sterkfontein Caves inside the Cradle of Humankind.



The Cradle of Humankind is a large complex of caves, valleys and rivers that have produced some of the oldest and most informative hominid (ape-man or human ancestral) fossils in the world. The Sterkfontein alone has produced more than third of all the hominid fossils ever discovered in the world. The archaeological site is anchored by the Sterkfontein Caves and the Maropeng Visitors Center.



WORKING TO SUPPORT OUR HABIT

By Author **Lance Longwell**



Located just outside of Johannesburg, it made for an easy trip from the airport after landing during our big South Africa trip. I'm always interested in UNESCO World Heritage Sites and this one seemed like a great fit, especially with my background in biology. At least that's how it seemed to me while doing my research.

Most visitors start their experience at the Maropeng Visitors Center. A conical, grass-roofed building, the Maropeng Visitors Center provides context for human evolution through a number of informative exhibits. The exhibit begins with an EPCOT-like boat ride, that shows the four elements.

In the main exhibit halls, you can see information about the discoveries of the "Taung Child" skull in 1924 as well as the "Mrs. Ples" skeleton found in 1947. There are also numerous other hands-on exhibits that are designed to provide hands-on learning about evolution for children. The Maropeng is a hit with children and families!



From the Maropeng Visitors Center, guests strike out to the Sterkfontein Caves for a more authentic experience. Here we picked up our hair nets and hard hats before descending down several hundred steps into the darkness.

This cave is where the remains of “Little Foot” were discovered – probably the most intact hominid or human ancestral skeleton ever found. It is still being excavated to this day. In other places in the cave, you can see where other archaeological digs are taking place.

The caves and the entire archaeological area are a window into what our human ancestors from the Pleistocene era were really like. As I said, I was biology student and I completely geeked out on this.

However, even more insightful than the biological evolution is the cultural one. The Cradle of Humankind caves are where we have the first evidence of human ancestral domestication of fire over a million years ago. Like I said, I geek out on this.

www.maropeng.co.za



Defining Humanity at the Cradle of Humankind

Guide to the Cradle of Humankind, including a site overview and important information. See the



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RUGBY

JACO PEYPER WILL MAKE HISTORY BY BECOMING THE FIRST SOUTH AFRICAN TO REFEREE A CHAMPIONS CUP FINAL.



JACO PEYPER
DAVID ROGERS/GALLO IMAGES

- **Jaco Peyper becomes the first South African to referee a Champions Cup final.**
- **Peyper takes charge of the Champions Cup decider between Leinster and La Rochelle on 20 May in Ireland.**
- **Meanwhile, Scotsman Mike Adamson will officiate the United Rugby Championship semi-final at Cape Town Stadium.**

Peyper, who was born in Bloemfontein, will be assisted by three England officials in Karl Dickson, Christophe Ridley and Tom Foley, who will be serving as television match official (TMO).

The Champions Cup sees Leinster take on holders Stade Rochelais (La Rochelle) at Dublin's Aviva Stadium on 20 May. Peyper made his Champions Cup official debut last month when he took charge of the recent semi-final in Bordeaux featuring La Rochelle and Exeter.

It will be Peyper's first match at Aviva Stadium in Dublin since he red-carded English fullback Freddie Steward - a send-off which was later rescinded - in the Six Nations finale against Ireland in March. "South Africa's Jaco Peyper and Wayne Barnes of England will referee this season's Heineken Champions Cup and EPCR Challenge Cup finals, respectively, following the announcement of the match officials for the showpiece games who have been appointed by a selection committee chaired by the EPCR head of match officials, Tony Spreadbury," a statement read.

Meanwhile, Mike Adamson will referee the United Rugby Championship (URC) semi-final at Cape Town Stadium.

Adamson, who will officiate in his 72nd game, will referee the URC knockout between the Stormers and Connacht on Saturday.

The Scot will be assisted by an all-Scottish team: Sam Grove-White and Hollie Davidson, with Ben Blain serving as TMO.

Kick-off at Cape Town Stadium on Saturday is at 16:00.

Ireland's Frank Murphy will referee the second URC semi-final between Leinster and Munster at Aviva Stadium (18:30 SA time).



SATURDAY 8 JULY 2023 KICK OFF 17H05
Loftus Versveld Stadium, Pretoria

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Ticket Only - Selected Loftus Versveld stand match ticket. Reserved seated match tickets on the East Stand in Blocks DD / FF on the halfway line area with a perfect view of the field. **From only R1990** incl VAT per person (limited availability).

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