



# Abbeyfield South Africa Annual Report 2021-2022

*On the move...*





## VISION






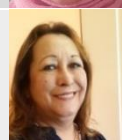


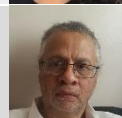
Abbeyfield South Africa provides quality, independent, safe, and affordable homes to older persons, guided by our common international ethos, expanding into all of South Africa.

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Abbeyfield South Africa facilitates opportunities for older people to become self-fulfilled in a caring, loving, and supportive environment within a secure and safe homely home where they co-exist in a supportive, compassionate, and dignified place of self-determination. As a financially viable, sustainable, and transparent NPO, we utilise our available resources effectively.

## OUR CORE VALUES

Caring about people, Support, Compassion, Dignity and Respect, Unity

BOARD MEMBERS		
<b>Chairperson</b>	Cedric Meiring	
<b>Deputy Chair</b>	Visagee (Karen) Pillay	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Augustinus De Voss	
<b>Board Member</b>	Patricia Lindgren	
<b>Board Member</b>	Bahaa Ebrahim	
<b>Board Member</b>	Dr Marcel Londt	
<b>Board Member</b>	Dr Mziwonke Mpfana	
<b>Board Member</b>	Telana Halley	
<b>Co-opted Board Member</b>	Ian Brown	

# Chairperson's Report



The year under review has realised many successes which will be evident in this Annual Report and the corresponding supporting documents. Abbeyfield SA (ASA) has made tremendous strides in this reporting period, and we materialised many of our goals envisioned over the past five years. Many of our successes can be attributed to the sterling efforts of our Executive Director, her team and our volunteer support. We are exceedingly grateful to our Executive Director who has steered the organisation in the right direction at a tremendous pace.

Like all other organisations, we remain affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, but with proactive measures in place and constant communication with residents, we have managed to curtail the number of new cases and have no reported Covid-related deaths. The pandemic has however not deterred us from staying focused and achieving our goals.

ASA is pleased to report that we have received a substantial donation from the Buxton Legacy Fund and we are committed to establish a new Abbeyfield home within the next three years.

Part of our forward planning is to transfer all centrally managed houses to Abbeyfield SA. I am happy to report we have thus far concluded the transfer of one (1) house and initiated the

transfer of another house. We now have a total of six (6) properties owned by Abbeyfield SA. We are confident that all centrally managed houses will be transferred in the new financial year.

We hosted a successful strategic review session in March 2022 and identified the following key focus areas that will significantly contribute to the stability and expansion of the organisation. These will be addressed in the immediate future and are as follows:

- Succession Planning
- Abbeyfield Expansion
- Investment Strategy
- Policy Reviews

Subsequent to the Conference held in Birmingham in October 2019, The Abbeyfield Society (TAS) embarked on major strategic changes to ensure "A One Abbeyfield". An interim Body, the Transitional Members Council was formed to be superseded by the Autonomous Members Council at the TAS AGM in September 2022. The Members Council comprises of the chairpersons of the UK member Societies, Australia, Belgium, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa.

The ASA Board currently comprises of eight Directors and one (1) co-opted member. We accepted three new members to our Board and welcome these members: Mr. Augustinus De Voss (Treasurer), Dr Mziwonke Mpofana, and Mrs. Telana Halley. The new members have a wealth of experience in Finance, Public Administration and Social Housing, Policy, and Litigation. We also co-opted Mr. Ian Brown to our Board, who contributes a wealth of actuarial knowledge and experience to our investment portfolio.

Our financial position has remained stable, but it is imperative that we pursue avenues for fundraising opportunities in the very near



future, otherwise we run the risk of not being able to sustain the organisation indefinitely.

Our major project for this past year was to conduct a compliance audit of eight (8) of our houses, and to initiate urgent repairs and maintenance on these houses. Two of the eight houses are scheduled for urgent repairs and maintenance have been completed.

We are working towards ensuring that all our houses comply with Health and Safety regulations and Quality Standards required by our Regulator. We will be exploring funding options to fund these interventions as these are currently being funded from our operational budget.

An investment strategy workshop was held for all board members. The Investment Consultant presented the Board with comparative investment options. Since investing our funds, we have already seen good results in a short space of time.

As I approach the end of my term with Abbeyfield SA, I look forward in anticipation and excitement to the next phase of the organisation's growth. Looking back, my six years with Abbeyfield was not an easy one. The organisation has been through some challenging times, considering that we had a turnaround of three Executive Directors in a space of three years. My role as Chairman was periodically extended to that of interim

executive director to ensure a continuity of administrative processes. Notwithstanding these and other challenges, the organisation has kept its head above water and maintained organisational stability.

I am deeply grateful having been entrusted to lead an organisation that fulfils such a great need in our country. Far too many elderly people find themselves isolated, neglected, and without provision of their basic needs. I feel privileged to have been afforded this opportunity to contribute to improving their lives, and I have certainly grown as a person through this experience. To the current Board members and those who have shared my time of Chair, I thank you for your support and wise counselling. To the present and past staff of Abbeyfield SA, and especially the current Executive Director, Mrs. Lorna Solomon, my sincere gratitude for your support and for always acting in the best interest of our residents.

I want to end by quoting Khalil Gibran:

*"You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give yourself that you truly give"*

**Mr. Cedric Meiring**  
**ASA Chairperson**



# Executive Director's Report



Notwithstanding the impact of the global pandemic on our country over the past year, the organisation is strengthened by the knowledge that it has prevailed during a time of uncertainty and economic instability.

In the year under review, we provided our Regulator, the Department of Social Development, with weekly reports on the COVID 19 status of our residents. Residents were urged to adhere to COVID protocol; to restrict their movement, wear masks, and sanitise regularly. Through constant surveillance and continuous communication, we managed to curtail the transmission and spread of COVID-19 amongst our residents. Out of an average population of 102 residents, we reported a total of seven (7) COVID-19 cases and one (1) COVID-19 related death. Most of our residents received at least two vaccinations with the exception of a few residents who refused to be vaccinated.

To further limit the risk of exposure to residents, new admissions were deferred until such time that the number of cases were

significantly reduced, and our residents were fully vaccinated. Towards the end of the financial year, we began the process of filling some of the vacant rooms. We ended the year with an occupancy rate of approximately 86%

## **Organisational stability**

As an organisation, we continuously strive to ensure good governance and endeavour to promote transparency.

The organisation has made significant strides in achieving organisational stability and addressed its shortcomings at various levels. Existing policies were reviewed and streamlined and a Board Charter was proposed and accepted by the Board. This Charter complements our constitution and details roles and responsibilities of Board members and ensuring that the board commits fully to the vision and mission of the organisation. Furthermore, the Abbeyfield Social Media and Marketing Policy was developed and approved and it is currently being implemented.

Four (4) Board members resigned during this reporting period, and two (2) new members were accepted, ending the year with a complement of seven (7) Board members and one (1) co-opted member. I am heartily encouraged by the passion and commitment of the current Board and look forward to a fruitful relationship.

An efficient staff performance management system was put in place to ensure that the organisation's goals and objectives are achieved. Performance standards are set aligned to the strategic plan and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are in place to ensure that the strategy is implemented effectively.

We hosted a successful Strategic Planning workshop in March 2022 with a focus on the





following: the Abbeyfield SA vision and mission statement, the Abbeyfield SA model, development of a Risk Management Policy, implementation of the POPI Act, and implementation of a Volunteer Policy. We intend to finalise these aspects in the new financial year as we move towards strengthening governance and administration processes.

### **Socialisation of residents**

As Abbeyfielders, we fully embrace the aim of Richard Carr-Gomm, namely, to combat loneliness amongst elderly people. We acknowledge the diversity of our residents and appreciate the varied need of each resident. Our Social Work services offered to the residents fulfil a vital role in empowering our residents and addressing social problems encountered on a day-by-day basis.

Our full time Social Worker resigned during the first half of the financial year, and we subsequently appointed a highly competent and skilled Social Worker on a contract basis. Through various interventions, the Social Worker has focussed on the development of inter-personal skills and conflict management, thereby capacitating residents to resolve minor conflicts timeously. In collaboration with residents, a “Values Charter” was drawn up at houses where conflict is most prevalent. Our Social Work services is extended to Local Society managed houses to provide necessary support and counselling, as and when needed.

### **Improved communication**

The organisation has successfully launched its Facebook page to market Abbeyfield and potentially raise its profile sufficiently to attract potential donors. The potential of this platform will be explored fully with time and will gain momentum as we continue to populate the page with interesting and meaningful Abbeyfield information.

Our Facebook page not only links Abbeyfield to the outside world but connects Abbeyfield residents across houses and keep them abreast of Abbeyfield activities in general. We regularly post motivational clips and periodically profile individual residents. By showcasing the talents of residents, we acknowledge the contribution of elderly people to society and the value that they bring to our daily lives.

### **Financial stability**

The organisation is proud to say that it has received a clean audit outcome for the past two financial years. Our Finance Committee meet every second month to ensure continuous financial accountability. Management Accounts are produced monthly and reported to the Finance Committee. In consultation with staff, the Finance Committee oversees the preparation of a comprehensive annual budget and subsequently presents it to the Board for approval. In addition, the Finance Committee provides oversight on fundraising, investment and project management.

The Board appointed an Investment Consultant to optimise Abbeyfield's investment potential. The entire Board went through two investment workshops to develop the ASA Investment Policy. As a consequence, funds were moved from Investec to Stanlib.

Towards the end of December 2021, funds earmarked for Abbeyfield South Africa was transferred from the Buxton Legacy fund in the United Kingdom. We have a three-year window period to establish a new Abbeyfield House with this money.

Abbeyfield SA completed a compliance audit for eight (8) houses identifying urgent matters that impact on the health and safety of residents. A progressive project implementation plan was developed to address pertinent issues. Details thereof are outlined in the Project Management Report.

Due to impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the economic climate, rental increases were deferred to the next financial year.

#### **Abbeyfield expansion**

The need for affordable accommodation for elderly persons is evident in the growing list of applicants on the Abbeyfield SA website. It is imperative that we attract the interest of stakeholders and secure donor funding to meet this growing need in our country. We are currently exploring various models to ensure that Abbeyfield expands its footprint throughout South Africa. Our intention is to establish at least one new Abbeyfield home within the next three years.

#### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, I wish to acknowledge the immense contribution of Mr. Cedric Meiring, our Chairperson, and Director, Pat Lindgren, who have selflessly served Abbeyfield for a period of six years. I am humbled by their dedication and willingness to sacrifice their time and expertise to better the lives of the elderly, and Abbeyfield residents in particular. I wish them well and trust that they will always feel part of the Abbeyfield family.

**Mrs. Lorna Solomon**  
**Executive Director Abbeyfield SA**





# Connections Reflections on the essence of Abbeyfield

It's only recently that I heard Paul McCartney talking about some of his songs, their lyrics and their meaning. He explained about the person called 'Eleanor Rigby' (not her actual name). She was an 'older lady' who lived near his childhood home in Allerton, Liverpool. He would visit her to make sure she was ok, chat and offer to do her shopping. Loneliness was encountered. He had inherited some of his mother's gifts as a nurse and midwife 'to be there and meet the need'. The chorus of the song is, 'All the lonely people, where do they all come from?'. All the lonely people, where do they all belong?' This final question 'Where do they all belong?' was the question that our founder Richard Carr-Gomm asked himself on his return from his war-time service. He had been a Churchill tank Commander that had taken him from the beaches of Normandy to the gates of the Belsen concentration camp. After the end of the war, he served as a commissioned officer in the Coldstream Guards for two and a half years in Palestine 'Shoring up the British Mandate.' In the warm summer of 1953 when returning from a posting to the Suez Canal in Egypt, he travelled via Malta and Sicily to Naples where he took the slow train the length of Italy. It was his experience of travelling as a tramp, sleeping rough, surviving on discarded scraps of food and drinking from public water taps and bathing in the sea that prompted his reflections. He found that the worst deprivation was the lack of human company. Because he looked like a tramp, he was treated like one, and never made welcome. He said that in the whole of that journey in Italy he was only met with kindness once. That was when he arrived in Turin. On a whim he had gone to see the 'Turin Shroud'. En route to the cathedral he came across the Little House of Divine Providence, otherwise known as Cottolengo, a community of the distressed,

8,000 strong, run by an order of nuns offering care and companionship. The distressed were of all ages. Children, who had no hearing or speech, and the disabled playing football. It took him time to come to terms with the fact that the mentally ill were mixing with all age groups. The family members of the children explained to him that the fact that their children were mixing with those with mental illness was ok as it 'was not infectious'. Richard's journey home to England was filled with the question, 'What does Britain do with its poor and its unwanted?' 'Soon after his return to the Guards in London he spent a weekend on retreat at the Hillfield Franciscan Friary in Dorset to reflect upon his experiences. He '...felt a clarity of vision and a peace, feelings very rare to me'. So began the formation of the transition from a decorated Coldstream Guard Officer on guard at Buckingham Palace to joining the purposeful work of a 'Home Help' in Bermondsey and the care of people in need of companionship and community again. I have been asked, with others, working and resident with Abbeyfield worldwide to relate my first encounter with the organisation, and even with the man himself Richard Carr-Gomm. 2 My encounters with Richard Carr-Gomm were in the autumn of 1987 in Poole in Dorset. In the summer of that year, I had met with fellow clergy of the borough and different denominations for mutual support. At that time, it soon became clear that we had one common concern. This was that young men and girls were homeless in some numbers and migrating to Bournemouth and Poole from around the country and sleeping rough. We prayed for wisdom and practical action, of course, and very soon out of the blue I received a letter from Poole Social Services asking if I would chair a small group to look at the whole issue

of homelessness. It turned out that Richard Carr-Gomm was looking to see if his society could sponsor and support a project in the borough. That is how I met him and became Chair of the Carr-Gomm Society in Poole when he visited us there. He had come down from his home in Bath. I remember his six foot two stature, size twelve shoes and his Rabbi type beard and encouraging presence. At the end of our meeting with him he wished us well with our project to fund a CarrGomm house in Poole (with the assistance of the then Housing Corporation). He took me to one side and said that I should never forget, 'Edward, loneliness is no respecter of persons'. Never one to miss an opportunity he then handed me a signed copy of his autobiography 'Push on the Door' (1982) with the words, 'With best wishes and welcome.' In 1990 the house for seven young people was officially opened near to Poole Park and its work continues to this day. That encounter with Carr-Gomm never left me and when in 2014 I read out the advert for a Chaplain with Abbeyfield, (I was newly 'retired' from NHS Chaplaincy), I was informed by my wife Jane: 'That sounds like you!' I reread my gifted book and then fully realized that Carr-Gomm was born just five miles down the road from us at Mancetter, North Warwickshire. 'Eleanor Rigby' was no doubt pleased by her visits from the young Paul McCartney. Out of them came music and lyric 'All the lonely people, where do they all belong?' The question keeps being asked and the values of Abbeyfield give us some of the essence in our reflections upon our Caring, Openness, Honesty and Respect. To be continued... Canon Edward Pogmore Notes: 1. Some detail from the Guardian obituary of Richard Carr-Gomm, 6th November 2008 2. 'Revolution in the Head – The Beatles records and the sixties' by Ian Macdonald, published by Pimlico, 1995 3. 'Push on the Door' – an Autobiography, published by the Carr-Gomm Society, 1982 4. '60 Facts about our Founder' – broadsheet published by The Abbeyfield Society its 60th Anniversary - 2016

**By Canon Edward Pogmore**





# Project Manager's Report

## Health and Safety Audits

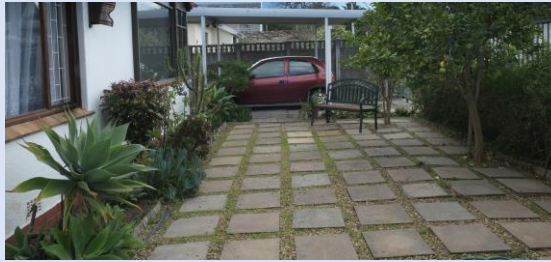
Abbeyfield South Africa commissioned Compliance Audits for completion in August and September 2021 for the following nine (9) houses:

- Ebenezer House (Strandfontein)
- Ethembeni House (Gugulethu)
- Happy Hearts House (Macassar)
- Mercia Goliath House (Atlantis)
- Mias House (Pinelands)
- Bethany House (Plumstead)
- Rose Stolze House (Pelican Park)
- Wyndover Manor (Claremont)
- York Road (Hout Bay)

## Objective of Compliance Audit

The objective of the Compliance Audit was to identify areas that needed to be rectified in each of the above houses to ensure that the relevant Legislation/Codes are complied with. Each Compliance Audit was completed at a cost of R16,400.00 per house. The Compliance Audit in particular follows the requirements as detailed below:

- ✓ OHS Act 85 of 1993
- ✓ Electrical Installation Regulation
- ✓ Fire Bylaws
- ✓ Construction Regulations 2014
- ✓ General Safety Regulations
- ✓ Pressure Equipment Regulations
- ✓ Facilities Regulations
- ✓ General Administrative Regulations
- ✓ Ergonomics Regulations 2019



## Work completed

In the year ending 31 March 2022, all work identified at Gugulethu and Pelican Park was completed at a cost of R300,000.00. In addition, one room in York Road was renovated. Subsequent to commencement of works, the Board approved the painting internally and externally of the houses as part of the project.

## Houses scheduled for audits

Eight houses are scheduled for audits commencing on 1 October 2022 at a cost of R20,000.00 per house. The audits identified work in the following areas:

Roof	Building structure	Windows	Doors	Internal Finishes	Plumbing	Electrical	External	Signage and equipment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waterproofing (tiles, ridges, valleys, flat roofs)</li> <li>• Gutters</li> <li>• Cleaning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cure damp</li> <li>• Structural and cracks</li> <li>• Loose plaster</li> <li>• Stairs</li> <li>• Mould</li> <li>• Floor level changes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of frames, hinges, catches and panes</li> <li>• Size</li> <li>• Placement</li> <li>• Burglar bars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance</li> <li>• Security</li> <li>• Push bars on emergency exits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cupboard doors</li> <li>• Door handles and locks</li> <li>• Broken tiles</li> <li>• Flooring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensured that house complies with current building regulations</li> <li>• Maintenance</li> <li>• Gullies</li> <li>• Maintenance on solar geysers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All working, so new Electrical Compliance Certificate can be issued</li> <li>• Timer on geyser</li> <li>• Light bulbs with built-in battery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paving</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency signage</li> <li>• Fire extinguishers</li> <li>• Security systems</li> <li>• Handrails in bathrooms</li> </ul>





# Social Worker Insights



I have had the privilege of working for Abbeyfield South Africa as a social worker for the past 10 months. It has been a delight to work alongside a team of dedicated Abbeyfield staff, and local committee and Board members who sacrificially give more than what is required of them in their service of the organisation. The Abbeyfield homes are beautiful and well maintained. The residents are delightful to work with, and each of them are special in their own way.

I am excited about the vision and values of Abbeyfield in combating loneliness and in providing low cost housing for the elderly, while maintaining the dignity of the elderly. In my social work experience we know that elderly care and accommodation is in a crisis in the Western Cape: costs are high and there are long waiting lists for accommodation.

Abbeyfield is one of the few organisations that I know of, that takes less than the cost an old age pension for accommodation, and still leaving some money for residents to live on. The majority of our residents rely on an old age pension and do not have families to financially support them. Abbeyfield provides these residents with dignity in affording them to pay for their own place, and an opportunity for

companionship and to build community. I am looking forward to continuing my work with the staff and residents and making Abbeyfield a place that builds loving community where everyone is respected and cared for, and their dignity, value and self-worth is honoured.

I love what actress Cameron Diaz said about the elderly. She said, “they are our storytellers - our elderly is meant to be those who share the secrets of wisdom and knowledge and life with our youth.”

They also have many gifts and skills that can still be used to positively contribute to the good of society. We look forward to working together and building community partnerships to achieve this.

**Venessa Padayachee**  
**Social Worker**

*“they are our storytellers - our elderly is meant to be those who share the secrets of wisdom and knowledge and life with our youth.”*

Cameron Diaz



# Abbeyfield Ethembeni House, Gugulethu



Ethembeni House (Place of Hope) opened to residents in 2009 and embraces the fact that each person will at some point reach old age and will require cared at home or at an elderly home. It is situated at Klipfontein Road or commonly known as NY 108 in Gugulethu. The acronym NY stands for Native Yard, the South African apartheid government's designation and naming of African township streets.

It is common cause that aging and associated progression to elderhood is a natural and inevitable process of human development and growth. The older persons have for the longest of time been regarded as fountains of wisdom and sources of blessings. Currently, in some instances, they are subjected to physical, emotional abuse and economic exploitation. In some communities, and especially amongst households that have several unemployed members, the older person's old age grant is seen as a source of income and livelihood but when the grant is depleted, they are seen as a nuisance and begin to suffer abuse from the young adult members of the family and grandchildren.

## Vision and Mission

Research has shown that the way the elderly people are treated has changed considerably over time. This change in the way they are treated ranged from high level of respect, compassion, and care to utter disrespect, neglect, and abuse. Facilitating provision of

secure and affordable housing for the older persons in companionship, friendship, and a caring environment in their later years been at the heart of Abbeyfield SA mission.

The vision and mission of Ethembeni House is aligned to Abbeyfield SA.

## Volunteers and Partners

We believe it is through the collective effort of the Abbeyfield Board, staff, and volunteers that we can continue to provide our model of housing. These are extremely challenging times, and as an NPO, funding remains the single most important challenge to sustaining the organisation as it functions almost entirely on subsidies and funding.



## Activities

In majority of African communities in South Africa the placing of the elderly houses of care is still being seen as taboo, distasteful and unacceptable. It is seen as a shameful act that brings about the feelings and perceptions of



neglect and “dumping” of the elderly. Similarly, the living conditions of the contemporary societies and work demands are limiting the younger members of society to look after their elderly properly and thus require adaptation and embracing of new ways of looking after the elderly or new ways of enabling the elderly to look after themselves in safe, secure environment in the company of their contemporaries and peers. Therefore, providing safe, affordable, and dignified accommodation to older persons has increasingly become critically necessary.

Ethembeni House, provides a space for the elderly to engage in a range of activities with people their own age. Residents cook, tend to the garden at their leisure and enjoy leisure activities like knitting.

Explaining the reason why they preferred to stay at Ethembeni House after their retirement, Ms Nomalizo Gwentsha said: “I am a retired General Nursing Assistant and I opted to place myself here in Ethembeni because of the potentially dangerous environment, lack of safety, security and loneliness in Khayelitsha where I used to live. I find staying here safe and peaceful and in company of other older persons. Expressing similar sentiments Ms Miriam Dyalashe said: “I find staying here in Ethembeni House secured and in the past eleven years since staying here there has never been a single incident that threatened our safety.”

The two residents that we found time to interact with seemed content with their stay Ethembeni House more especially in so far as their safety, security and companionship is concerned.

In this period under review, Ethembeni underwent a facelift after ASA’s audit of structural integrity and physical environment of the Houses that are under its wings.

### **Moving forward**

Different societies throughout the world will continue to approach, embrace and engage differently with aging. These different approaches are by and large associated with prevailing socio-economic factors and cultural

beliefs in different societies. Some other factors that contribute to the way the older persons are treated these days are firstly, the ongoing high levels of industrialisation and associated technological advancements that uproot people from their family homes to go and seek employment elsewhere. Secondly, high levels of educational attainment, independence, emigration of young adults and their children in search of better job opportunities. Thirdly and finally, formation of new families where the newly-weds generally leave their older parents to establish their own families. Having said this, the older persons are often left on their own to look after themselves, lonely and vulnerable. The fortunate, educated, and affluent elderly can find themselves accommodation in retirement villages where they can be safe and in the company of their peers. Unfortunately, the less educated and affluent find themselves alone, lonely in their homes and vulnerable to abuse, violent crimes and more specially the prevailing scourge of gender-based violence.

At Ethembeni House we will continue to strive for safe and affordable accommodation for older persons through caring for our residents with compassion, dignity and respect.

**Dr. Mziwonke Mpofana (PhD)**  
**Non-Executive Board of Trustees**

**Ms. Lorna Solomon**  
**Director of ASA Executive Director**





# Walkerville Abbeyfield

The first Abbeyfield Walkerville House, Stoneacres, opened in July 1994. It was the brainchild of Charles and Penny Whyte. Gwen de Villiers and Jenny Wilbourne were the other two members of the original committee. After obtaining additional financial support from the Midvaal Municipality, a second house, Khutsong, was built on the same five acre property. The land is still on lease from the Midvaal Municipality.

## Current Committee

The current committee comprises of Penny Whyte, Ann Clarke, Gill Rowley and Daphne Bernhardt.

## Volunteers and Partners

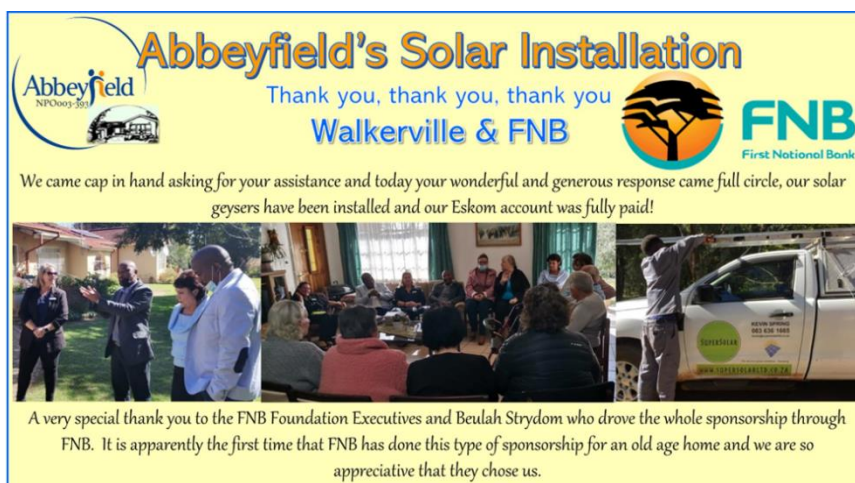
Abbeyfield Walkerville receives wonderful support from our local Spar and St Francis Church. The facility is further supported by local businesses and the community. This support was evident particularly when electricity tariffs spiked in September 2021. When we asked for assistance, we received the financial support:

- ✓ A local restaurateur ran a successful fund-raising lunch which encouraged several companies to make significant donations.
- ✓ A group of businessmen offered

year, and numerous individuals supported this endeavour.

- ✓ Two local ladies supplied dinner for the residents and for the committee.
- ✓ Another restaurant provided dinner - and delivered it to the residents - once a month.
- ✓ Other donations received was in the form of gifts and goodies to the residents like the donation of woollen beanies.

This partner-initiative around the electricity campaign, attracted the support of First National Bank whose Elderly Support Care Division recently agreed to sponsor the replacement of our existing geyser with a solar geyser.



**Abbeyfield's Solar Installation**  
Thank you, thank you, thank you  
Walkerville & FNB

We came cap in hand asking for your assistance and today your wonderful and generous response came full circle, our solar geysers have been installed and our Eskom account was fully paid!

A very special thank you to the FNB Foundation Executives and Beulah Strydom who drove the whole sponsorship through FNB. It is apparently the first time that FNB has done this type of sponsorship for an old age home and we are so appreciative that they chose us.

## Elaine Potgieter-Meals on Wheels Walkerville

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So today we started on the big job of sorting and packing for our beanie project. [Daphne Bernhardt](#) popped in with another donation so we took the opportunity to hand over the beanies for Abbeyfield even though it is a bit early.

Almost forgot to say, thanks to the awesome response we have been able to increase the number of organisations we can assist.

(Source: Walkerville Facebook Page)





**Abbeyfield will be at Car Boot Sale on Sunday**  
**5<sup>th</sup> June at the Walkerville Showgrounds 9am to 2pm**  
 Come along and support our stall of lovely white elephant, household items, and other bric-a-brac to raise funds for Abbeyfield

We identified the need to expand our committee as most of us are as old, if not older, than most of our residents.

In the next reporting period, we look forward to instal a water tank to harvest rainwater instead of using our borehole pump because electricity costs are escalating. We will also explore alternate ways to reduce our electricity costs, for example, by

cooking more with gas.

**Activities**

The activities we had during this reporting period had a positive and uplifting impact on our residents. Many of the activities also had a fund-raising angle to ensure the future sustainability of Abbeyfield Walkerville.

**We thank all our supporters.  
 Walkerville Abbeyfield**

**Moving forward**

The last two years have been challenging, especially with regard to our normal fund-raising initiatives. However, with relaxed Covid restrictions, we hope that the annual Walkerville Show will once again get underway, together with the annual Tour de Walkerville, auctions, book sales and boot sales to augment our residents’ rentals.



Christmas function, Walkerville



# Wellington Abbeyfield

Wellington Abbeyfield was constituted on 28 February 2000. The beautiful old house called, the Golden Calf, was given to Wellington Bejaardesorg by the Town Council on 31 August 1999. The house officially opened on 13 October 2001 and is now known as the Kroneberg House. It was the thirteenth Abbeyfield home which opened its doors in South Africa. (Taken from: "The Abbeyfield Circle of Friends" No.29: June 2001)

As a result of the great need for affordable housing for seniors, Ms. L Kroneberg and six community members embarked on opening this house for seniors. Since its inception the house was fully occupied, with nine members, until today.

## Vision and Mission

In line with the simple Abbeyfield philosophy: *The Abbeyfield Way*

"Let us keep older folk independent.

Let us keep them active.

Let us keep them in our midst,

As valued members of their own familiar communities."

(Taken from: *Abbeyfield – Gazette (Vol, Education 2: 03:09)*)

In line with the Abbeyfield philosophy - and guided by our values of courtesy and friendliness, honesty and integrity, compassion, positive attitude, and loyalty toward each other - our vision and mission at Kroneberg Abbey House is to strive to:

- ✓ Build and work on God's strength
- ✓ Create a healthy and constructive atmosphere with those around us
- ✓ Be helpful and considerate towards others
- ✓ Care and give hope to others

## Current Members

Our current Local Society consists of: Mr. L. Moses, Mr. J.C Le Cordeur, Ms. L Paulse, Mr. J. Bandjies. Members of the Kroneberg House: Ms. J. Pretorius, Mr. M. van Wyk

## Volunteers and Partners

Our work at Kroneberg House is ameliorated by working in tandem with the local Gemoedsrus Bejaarde Klub. Kroneberg House also benefits from the partnerships and volunteers that deliver services. These volunteers and partners include:

- ✓ Local community volunteers
- ✓ Wellington Museum (EPW)
- ✓ Wellington School of Skills
- ✓ Woolworths, Wellington
- ✓ Wellington Lions Club
- ✓ Community donations - local businesses and individuals
- ✓ St Albans Primary School
- ✓ Hugenote High School

## Activities

To be effective, Kroneberg House applies a model of partnership with our local seniors' club, Gemoedsrus Bejaarde Klub. Nine (9) of our residents meet on Thursdays with the 50-odd members of the Gemoedsrus Bejaarde Klub for structured programme and activities. In this period under review our residents joined in activities ranging from Mother's Day celebrations, outings, and games.

We have a group of volunteers, including Jean Bantjes, Connie Abrahams and Jerome Julies, and these individuals form part of a team that meets quarterly to discuss and plan the events for the upcoming quarter. This program is presented to the Management Team, who in turn approves the events calendar.

### • Mother Day Celebration





The hall was beautifully decorated, and those present were served an amazing plate of food. A local Pastor officiated the event and had words of motivation for all the mothers and grandmothers. The day was filled with much love, laughter, and there was a photo booth where the ladies took photos in their beautiful attire.

- **Golden Games**



The annual Golden Games was a memorable occasion. Our members participated in the activities whilst others cheered from the grandstands. Kroneberg won a gold medal for the

100m sprint for over 80s and a bronze medal for the 100m sprint for the 70-plus category. Our team for the ring-throw event won a bronze medal. It was a day filled loads of love, fun and lots of food!

- **Bingo & Soup - Wellington School of Skills**



The morning started off with a couple of rounds of Bingo presented by Rheta from Wellington Lions Club. The competition was all-consuming: It was a race to see who could shout Bingo! first. The atmosphere was electrifying – yes, old-aged rivalry and competition is

something else, but filled with laughter and exceeding joy.

Afterwards, our members were spoiled with a variety of soups and bread made and sponsored by Wellington School of Skills.

- **A day of motivation**

We had a beautiful day of motivation! On this day, one of our members, Mrs. Connie Abrahams, inspired our residents with pearls of wisdom geared towards creating a better version of oneself. Yes, it is never too old to change, to learn, to unlearn, to develop and to

achieve one’s dreams. Delicious cakes and teas were served on this heavenly day.

- **Valentines Breakfast**

In this reporting period, we had a lovely Valentines Breakfast. Our members travelled to the Spice Route, where they were spoiled with scrumptious food and great entertainment.

- **West Coast Trip**



We took the residents on a road trip to the West Coast. The bus was filled with chattering and excitement on the way to our first stop in Velddrif. Here we were welcomed by the eagerly awaiting staff of the Harbor Hut Restaurant. We had an awesome breakfast at this restaurant before we continued our road trip Saldanha Bay. Here our residents were spoiled with a huge plate of succulent seafood.

### **Moving forward**

Over the next period, Kroneberg House will continue to live up to *The Abbeyfield Way*. We will stive to fulfill the goals as set out by Abbeyfield South Africa. We are already consolidating a calendar of events for the upcoming period which includes, a spa-day in association with Wellington School of Arts, a High Tea, attending a live show with Emo Adams, and our annual *Big Braai*, to mention but a few.

We thank everyone for making this year a memorable one, for us all.

**Mr. L. Moses**  
**Chairman**

# Stein House, Hout Bay



Ken and Daphne Stein arrived in Hout Bay after World War 2. They purchased a 7-acre piece of land and called it, Spinney. Between Christmas and Easter, the couple allowed students and scholars to camp on the field next door to the main homestead. They later got involved in a creche, and a clinic in the harbour which serviced anti- and post-natal working mothers. The couple also supported the local dentistry and library, and after their death their home became an Abbeyfield Home. And so, the Daphne Stein House opened its doors on 29 November 2002 to seven residents – an event officiated by Rose Stolze. The founding members of Stein House were: Robin Harper (Chairman), Jenny Frye, Lynette Lockie, Paul McCreadie, Rose du Preez, and Matilda Jantjes.

## **Vision and mission**

Stein House vision and mission is to keep Daphne Stein's dream alive by providing a home for the elderly.

## **Current committee**

The current committee includes: Ralph Tobergte (Chairman), Inge Meyer, Val Pothier, Bruce Alexander, and Elizabeth Bisschop. The committee is strong and able to continue running our Abbeyfield Home.

## **Volunteers and Partners**

The committee delivers all the necessary services when required. The relationship with The Spinney Retirement Village is very supportive, especially engaging the residents of Stein House. In addition, the Rotary Club of Hout Bay (RCHB) is always available if some specific need (for example the replacement of the TV or the Video/CD Player) arises. The residents of Stein House are also included in the personal

Christmas gift distribution of the RCHB.

## **Activities**

Stein House is positioned in the middle of The Spinney Retirement complex and surrounded by individual houses of other senior citizens. The Spinney management and residents have a close relationship with the ladies residing in Stein House. They offer to all our residents art classes, religious instruction, gym classes and are also invited to social events during the year.

## **Moving forward**

While we have a strong committee at the moment, we are able to continue running our Abbeyfield House. To keep up a healthy and trustful relationship between all residents, we listen to their individual needs and try to accommodate those is an ongoing task.

Beside the well-being of the residents the maintenance of house and equipment needs attention.

## **Ralph Tobergte Chairperson**

# Abbeyfield, Wyndover Manor

Wyndover Manor is housed in a fine old (Heritage) building at No. 5 Wyndover Road, Claremont. It is the proud flagship of Abbeyfield South Africa. The Manor was officially open for residents in the late seventies. One of the founding members, Ms. Rose Stoltz, brought the concept of Abbeyfield Homes from Abbeyfield, United Kingdom to South Africa. Ms. Stoltz established Abbeyfield SA and initially managed the Head Office from her home in Mowbray, Cape Town.

## Vision and Mission

Abbeyfield South Africa's ethos of comfortable, affordable homes for independent older people and this is entrenched in both the vision and mission of Wyndover House.

The objectives are to:

- establish communal homes in ordinary neighbourhoods
- convene a House Committee, drawn from local people, to manage the home
- offer affordable living to the older person
- retain and support that person's independence.
- combat loneliness

## Current Members

It is interesting to note that when I joined Wyndover House Committee around 1987, the Chairperson of the Wyndover House Committee was the Rector of the local Anglican parish, literally around the corner. This changed to an elected Chairperson round about 1998.

## Volunteers and Partners

Over the years, Wyndover facilitated its own fund raising, which included numerous street



collections and the selling of Christmas Cards. Later the Committee hosted annual bridge drives for about twenty years together with the well-known 'Lamb and Trimmings' raffle. Profits were usually between R12,000.00 – R18,000.00. This was a great boost for the Wyndover financial stability. Past fund raising initiatives also included a High Tea hosted at Rustenburg Girls High School, where some Committee members parading the latest fashions. Prizes were awarded for the best table setting, and fun prizes for lucky numbers hidden on a chair or under a side plate. The profit of this event was R25,000.00 after expenses. A member of that same Committee gave the Manor a brand new washing machine (the monetary gifts received for her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday). The Committee always had very thrifty Treasurers and the monies were carefully invested and used from time to time as the need arose.

From about 2014, Support Groups were introduced with the objective to give residents an opportunity to have their say in a safe environment. These groups worked well in establishing a healthy communication platform, albeit there will always be matters



arising with members moving in and out of the facility.

### **Activities**

From time to time residents were involved in community projects and currently “beenies” are being knitted for the less fortunate.

We also had a successful workshop on “Feelings before and after Covid 19”. Everyone attending the workshop made their own poster, with coloured cardboard indicating a feeling.

Recently, with the guidance of the ASA Social Worker, the residents completed their “Values” for Wyndover. This will now be printed and displayed in the Manor.

### **Moving forward**

We look forward to the year ahead. In the pipeline we have scheduled a picnic at Kirstenbosch and perhaps the red holiday bus tour around Cape Town. Our members are also learning to do calligraphy.

**Merle O’Ryan**  
**Chairperson Wyndover Manor**



# Historical synopsis of the Abbeyfield society and Mias House

## **PINELANDS (OCTOBER 1991-September 2022)**

Written by resident Mr Roger Ellick from old minute books found in the house. The inaugural meeting of The Abbeyfield Society : Pinelands was held on the 8 October 1991 at the residence of Mrs Katie Finch. The Affiliation Agreement with the National Society was adopted, as well as the Guiding Principles of the Abbeyfield Society of South Africa. Mrs Pat Jones of the National Office chaired the meeting and presented a cheque of R100.00 to the new branch on behalf of the National Office.

The first committee consisting of 12 people agreed to serve on the Management Committee are:

Mr Tony Illman - Chairperson

Mr Chris Schultz - Vice-Chairperson

Miss Mia Ennenga – Secretary and Treasurer, residing at 14 Eikendal Road.

Mrs Katie Finch

Mrs Mona Illman

Mr Tony Lotter

Mr Norman Prophet

Rev. Stan Russell

Mrs Barbara Schultz

Mr Dan Smith

Mrs Carolyn Tito

Mrs Kay Altman

It was agreed that the committee meet once a month to advance the aims and objectives of the Society.

## **FUND RAISING**

The committee wasted no time in discussing how to raise funds. A one-day seminar on fund-raising was presented by Downes Murray Institute. Mr Graham Wood, a professional fund-raising organizer was invited to join the committee. A think tank on fund-raising was held where all committee members were asked to make suggestions. The following fund-raising efforts were considered, Beerfest,

Twilight golf, Twilight Walks, Buy-a-brick, street collections, Trust funds, book sales, Film/Theatre premiers, Debentures, approach Rotary and Lions in Pinelands, donations from Pick 'n Pay, Old Mutual, Banks, Service stations, car boot/elephant sale, cake sales, raffles, craft market.

## **PUBLICITY AND PROMOTIONS**

A press liaison was appointed to promote Abbeyfield Society in Pinelands. Pinelands Post carried many articles on the aims of Abbeyfield Society and Die Burger, Cape Times and Argus was approached for promoting the Society. Radio Good Hope and churches was approached. Adverts were displayed at Howard Shopping Centre, Beehive, the Library, Old Mutual, doctors waiting rooms, municipal offices. Much effort was made to publicize The Abbeyfield Society and the community was made aware of the Society.

## **FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS AND ACQUISITION OF A HOME**

The committee worked tirelessly to find a home in Pinelands. Mrs Pat Jones announced that the Lions Club of Pinelands adopted the local Abbeyfield Society as it's project for 1992.

At the meeting of the 27 January 1992 the committee spent some time on discussing requirements for an Abbeyfield house in Pinelands. Accommodation for 6 – 8 persons/lounge/ dining room/ large kitchen with several cooking points, plug points and sufficient cupboards/ rooms with own shower and toilet.

Building requirements: secure parking/walls to continue into roof to minimise noise spills/ space for wheelchairs/space for fridges in rooms. Consideration was given to acquire two



homes in Pinelands, one as a 'luxury' home and the other of a lesser standard? The idea of a 'luxury' house was abandoned.

### **MIA ENNENGA**

Miss Ennenga served the Society faithfully until her illness and death in January 1998. A large bequest from Miss Ennenga added substantially to the Society's funds.

On the 6 February 1999 it was agreed to make an offer of R420 000.00 to purchase 15 Howard Drive, Pinelands. A further 75 000.00 to R100 000.00 was needed to do alterations.

A bequest : Estate Late M Ennenga of R200 000.00 was placed in a 32 day Call account at Absa Bank. The official opening of Mia's House took place on the 9 October 1999. Mr Bert van der Meulen a lifelong friend of Miss Ennenga was asked to open the house. Dr Heyns blessed the house. 50 guests attended the opening. A house committee was formed to take care of the day-to-day operations.

The Annual General meeting was held in September 1999 and reported an operating profit of R9 637.78.

The committee vigorously carried-out fund raising efforts. Drs. Kotze and van Rensburg made themselves available to care for the residents of the home.

The house currently has 7 residents.





# A glance at the Abbeyfield Homes and the history of Abbeyfield South Africa.

Abbeyfield South Africa (ASA) was registered as a non-profit organisation in 1985 which led to the opening of the first SA Abbeyfield home (in Cape Town) in February 1987.

By 1991 there were 8 societies affiliated to ASA, with more on the way.

To date we have 20 wonderful family-style homes that house between 6-10 residents each. Our homes combine independence with support, companionship and security at a price people can afford.



- Abbeyfield Homes, Western Cape
- 1987 - Wyndover Manor, Claremont [Capacity = 8]
- 1994 - Sutherland House, Rondebosch [Capacity = 6]
- 1995 - Ons Huisie, Ocean View [Capacity = 7]
- 1995 - Sank House, Sea Point [Capacity = 7]
- 1996 - House of Grace, Paarl [Capacity = 9]
- 1999 - Mercia Goliath House, Atlantis [Capacity = 8]
- 1999 - Mia's House, Pinelands [Capacity = 6]
- 1999 - Milwood House, Milnerton [Capacity = 7]
- 2000 - Bethany Lodge, Plumstead [Capacity = 6]
- 2001 - Kroneberg House, Wellington [Capacity = 9]
- 2002 - Stein House, Hout Bay [Capacity = 7]
- 2003 - York House, Hout Bay [Capacity = 8]
- 2009 - Ebenezer House, Strandfontein [Capacity = 7]
- 2009 - Ethembeni House, Gugulethu [Capacity = 10]
- 2011 - Happy Heart Manor, Macassar [Capacity = 8]
- 2016 - Pelican Park [Capacity = 12]

## Abbeyfield Homes, Kwa-Zulu Natal

- 2002 - Victor Daitz Lodge, Durban [Capacity = 6]

## Abbeyfield Homes, Gauteng

- 1994 - Stoneacres, Walkerville [Capacity = 8]
- 2003 - Khutsong, Walkerville [Capacity = 10]

*Dear Abbeyfield Friends – THANK YOU for your support this year!  
May you experience the joy that the Festive Season brings,  
and may there be peace, health and love in your life throughout 2003*

### CELEBRATING OUR 16<sup>TH</sup> ABBEYFIELD HOME IN HOUT BAY, CAPE TOWN



**Warmest Congratulations** to the Abbeyfielders of Hout Bay, who formally opened “Stein House” (home to 7 residents) on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2002 in true festive season spirit.

It is named after the late *Mrs Daphne Stein*, whose dearest wish was that it should become an Abbeyfield home. We honour her memory, and thank the members of the Hout Bay & Llandudno Association for making her wish a reality.

# An Abbeyfield Bethany Lodge story: Grace Mendes



69-Year-Old Grace has been an Abbeyfield resident for the past five and a half years. She is currently employed at the Deaf Association where she has worked for the past 30 years. Grace is an extremely active lady and enjoys a range of activities. She loves to walk, read, restore furniture, cook, knit, embroider, and cross-stitch. Grace was introduced to beading when she saw a beautiful picture of a swan. She has since completed many beading projects. Her pride and joy displayed on the walls of Bethany Lodge include a swan, the Big 5, and a tranquil landscape. The time it takes to complete each of these projects can range from one to two weeks. Knowing Grace, she will certainly produce many more masterpieces like these. Amongst her many accomplishments, Grace also worked as a hairdresser. She is no doubt, a woman of many talents.

Grace is a gentle soul and her talents have not been wasted. She volunteers at the Uyinene Mrwetyana Foundation, a cause she holds close to her heart. She supports the

organisation through counselling and prayers and annually places flowers at the Clareinch Post Office where the young murder victim, Uyinene Mrwetyana, lost her life. When I met with Grace, she had prepared several parcels to hand over to the Foundation. Grace leans on fellow residents to support her ventures.

Grace is currently lending her voice to petition the President so that rape or gender-based violence perpetrators will not be granted bail. A true woman of conviction

When I asked Grace what living at an Abbeyfield Home means to her, her response was overwhelmingly positive. Living with other people meant that she never feels lonely. She enjoys the companionship the house offers and how residents can do things together and share their stories with each other. Mostly, Grace enjoys the idea of maintaining her independence.

The convenient location of the Abbeyfield house is integral to her happiness. According to Grace, "The house is very central, and we don't need transport to go to the shops. Even the doctor is close by".

Storage space has been allocated in the kitchen for each resident's groceries, and a roster displayed in the kitchen that determines when each person can do their laundry.

We as the Abbeyfield Society of South Africa team are delighted to have Grace as one of our residents at the Abbeyfield Bethany Lodge in Plumstead.

# Robert hopes to find his brother



It's been 17 years since Robert Whiteley saw his brother. It's been 17 years since Robert Whiteley, of Pelican Park, last saw his younger brother, Alan, and he's hoping to be reunited with him before he dies.

An emotional Mr Whiteley, 68, holds up old black-and-white photographs of himself and Alan when they were boys. He hopes someone will be able to put him in touch with Alan, whom he last saw in 2005, when they both left their sister's Nerina Crescent home in Fish Hoek after it was sold.

Mr Whiteley says his brother worked on fishing vessels that departed from Cape Town and Hout Bay and is either 65 or 66 years old, but he couldn't give more details about who he was employed by or if he had changed jobs.

Robert and Alan Whiteley when they were children.

After leaving his sister's house, Mr Whiteley lived in his bakkie and on the streets for a number of years, and he lost all contact with his brother and other siblings.

It was only a few years ago when social services stepped in and helped him get into Abbeyfield Rose Stoltz House for seniors in Pelican Park.

"When I was on the streets, I was struggling to survive and was living each day as it came, but I always longed to find my brother," he says.

"If he is still alive, I would like to meet up with him again. I miss him terribly and want to reconnect because I may not be around for much longer, so I am desperate to find him or find out what happened to him.

"Before I close my eyes, I want to have at least spoken to him or know where he is in the world."

Neither of the brothers was married or had children – at least not up until they last spoke to each other.

The childhood pictures he has of his brother are the only ones he was able to hang onto while living on the streets. "I lost everything when I was homeless, including family heirlooms and pictures so I don't have an updated picture."

Mr Whiteley is also not computer literate and doesn't have social media to ask for assistance, but he hopes someone will be able help after reading this article.

Robert Whiteley longs to see his brother who he lost contact with over 17 years ago.

"I don't have much money; I can't pay for a private investigator, so I'm hoping that this article will yield some results."

Anyone with any information about Alan Whiteley can contact Robert at 081 789 4527 or 021 396 7022.

**Article by Lillian Amos, July 13, 2022**

*(This Abbeyfield story touched our hearts. On life's journey, we meet so many people and faces. There is so much that we all experience in life. There are so many ideologies and thoughts that undermines what family truly means, and many individuals in their latter days, yearn for this. Abbeyfield creates a space of companionship and care. We are a family; the Abbeyfield Family.)*



# What residents have to say.



*'I am happy to live at Abbeyfield. York House, in Hout Bay, provides companionship and yet also privacy when one needs to be alone. I have made a good friend; she calls me to come watch a soapy with her in the evening. I take her a cup of tea, and when the soapy is done and the tea finished, we head off to bed.'*

*It is so good having her around. I would hate to be on my own... Abbeyfield provides not only company but security. Abbeyfield is what I need.'*

**Norma, York House in Hout Bay**

*"The Abbeyfield home is like a manor, gracious and majestic. The architecture is more than 130 years old. Yes, Wyndover Mansion is a national heritage site. The manor is enveloped in luscious green trees, shrubs and plants. It is a place of contemplation and serenity, in a safe and pleasant neighbourhood, close to amenities. Having others around combats loneliness."*

**Monique, Wyndover Mansion**

*"Living in Abbeyfield has allowed me to be part of a communal home, independent living and a warm environment. I am most grateful."*

**Claudia, York House in Hout Bay**

*"I am truly blessed to be an Abbeyfielder. I believe God was looking out for me when He placed me here. I always tell people it's like having a home without paying for a bond. We also have our Head office who is so kind to the residents. I am so grateful to them. My prayer is that Abbeyfield grows from strength to strength."*

**Jocelyn, Strandfontein**

*"I like living here, because the people are nice, I like the atmosphere, and the Lord told me to come here. I love it here. I feel at home here, and I am very happy here."*

**Meryl, Milnerton**

# Treasurer's Report

During the reporting period, Abbeyfield SA faced various financial challenges. Cash flow pressure and the management thereof, high maintenance and repair costs, compliances with Covid 19, and compliance with the Department of Social Development regulations are some of the matters which Abbeyfield SA head office had to deal with.

The 2021/2022 financial year was another difficult year for the South African economy and in particular for Abbeyfield SA. The inflationary effect on living costs, municipality rates, electricity and water all placed undue pressure on the operational cash flows of the Abbeyfield houses and that of Abbeyfield SA.

Abbeyfield SA ended the financial year with an operational loss. The losses were funded through accessing Abbeyfield's investments and through interest income. We realised that this is not sustainable and measures have been put in place to secure the sustainability of Abbeyfield SA. These measures include:

- 1) Operational expenses are judiciously managed and costs cut to the bone. All accounts with Investec Bank were closed due to high bank charges. Standard Bank is now Abbeyfield SA's main transactional bank.
- 2) Investments are now managed through a portfolio with Asset Managers. An independent Investment Consultant monitors the growth of the investment portfolio.
- 3) Donations, as mentioned before, decreased significantly during the financial year. Subsequent to the 2021/2022 financial year end we entered into an agreement with a Fundraising Consultant to increase focus on fundraising. Results of this initiative will be included in the 2022/2023 review.

Abbeyfield SA is a living and growing NGO. There is a maintenance and repairs program in

place to ensure that our houses are compliant. Funding for maintenance and repairs mainly comes out of the capital of the investment portfolio. We would like to see donor funding assist with some of the projects.

It is important to mention the rental income from our house residents. These rentals are there to sustain the operations of the houses. Should residents default on their monthly rentals, services to the houses are affected. A deeper focus on rent collections is required and arrear rentals must be collected. Residents have a duty to meet their financial obligations to the houses and to Abbeyfield SA.

Lastly, Abbeyfield SA received a grant from the Buxton Trust. The purpose of the grant is to acquire an Abbeyfield house in South Africa. The grant is not to be used for any other purpose than to acquire the said house. We thank the Buxton Trust and in particular Ms Johanna Buxton for the grant.

I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to the Abbeyfield Accounting Team for their dedicated work during this financial year. Also, to our Executive Director for her leadership and hands on management.

A huge thank you to our donors, sponsors, advisors and our other stakeholders. Your support is what makes Abbeyfield SA materialise her vision and mission.

**Mr. Augustinus De Voss**  
**Treasurer**

# Abbeyfield South Africa – Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2022

<b>Figures in R</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	
500 Club	7,500
Buxton Legacy Fund	4,153,848
Department of Social Department	537,855
Donations & Bequest	10,350
Rent income	257,145
Sundry Income	31,345
	<b>4,998,043</b>
<b>Other income</b>	
Recoupment of expenses	98,638
Recovery repairs and maintenance	154,019
Reversal of conversion budget	134,707
	<b>387,364</b>
<b>Administrative expenses</b>	
Auditors remuneration - Fees	(23,270)
Bank charges	(65,195)
Computer expenses	(9,700)
Telecommunication	(33,621)
	<b>(131,786)</b>
<b>Other expenses</b>	
Advertising & Promotions	(20,750)
Bad debt	(7,607)
Consulting fees	(561,704)
Covid 19 Outreaches	(14,536)
Depreciation - property, plant and equipment	(183,310)
Electricity & Water	(8,161)
Employee costs - salaries	(820,438)
Fines and penalties	(64)
Insurance	(109,435)
Lease rental on operating lease	(20,672)
Local societies and subsidies	(401,192)
Membership Fees	(30,772)
Motor vehicle expense	(16,001)
Printing and stationery	(7,243)
Rates and refuse	(22,054)
Rent	(26,827)
Repairs and maintenance	(23,110)
Security	(4,949)
Staff welfare	(446)
Travel - Local	(2,343)
Workman compensation	(6,292)
	<b>(2,287,906)</b>
<b>Other gains and losses</b>	
Gain or loss on investments	359,708
Gain or loss on sale – property, plant and equip	1,936
	<b>361,644</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) from operating activities</b>	<b>3,327,359</b>
<b>Finance income</b>	
Interest received	366,094
<b>(Deficit) / surplus for the year</b>	<b>3,693,453</b>



# TRIBUTE TO MR. CEDRIC MEIRING OUTGOING CHAIRPERSON OF ASA

Thank you from everyone at Abbeyfield South Africa



*“Yet the timeless in you is aware of life’s timelessness,*

*And knows that yesterday is but today’s memory and tomorrow is today’s dream.*

*And that that which sings and contemplates in you is still dwelling within the bounds of  
that first moment which scattered the stars into space.*

*Who among you does not feel that his power to love is boundless?*

*And yet who does not feel that very love, though boundless, encompassed within the centre of  
his being, and moving not from love thought to love thought, nor from love deeds to other  
love deeds?*

*And is not time even as love is, undivided and spaceless?*

*But if in your thought you must measure time into seasons, let each season encircle all the  
other seasons,*

*And let today embrace the past with remembrance and the future with longing.”*

**KAHLIL GIBRAN**



***Providing quality, independent,  
safe, and affordable homes to  
older persons.***



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