



WHATZ-UP OC

MAY / JUNE 2021

ISSUE #14

We have been favoured in abundance over May and June with blossoming partnerships, exciting adventures, and a growing community support. Two of our residents are now the recipients of a sponsorship from **People and Gardens** (www.peopleandgardens.co.uk/) for their supported employment at Oude Molen Eco Village Food Garden.

This was made possible by Kelly Mansfield who secured the sponsorship for us. We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity and the meaning it has brought to the lives of these residents. We have also been getting to know our neighbours, including **Friends Day Centre** (www.friendsdaycentre.org.za/), who are also situated on the premises of Alexandra Hospital. We are looking forward to collaborating with them in future. Open Circle has been a practice learning site, in partnership with the **University of Cape Town**, for two occupational therapy students for several weeks. We enjoy having students who complement our programme and allow our residents additional therapeutic milieu. While maintaining our COVID-19 protocols, we were able to coordinate our second large outing for the year in May. **Saamstaan Boerdery**, in Malmesbury, invited us to spend a morning on their dairy farm, where residents and staff enjoyed a petting zoo, tractor ride, arts and crafts activities and lunch. A special thank you to Elanza Fouche for making this outing possible for us and for networking to gather multiple donations from various sponsors on our behalf. We were also able to celebrate our staff members for **Nurses Day** at Jordan Ways of Cooking, where they accommodated us exclusively. Residents that participate in vocational activities were paid their stipends and rewarded for their hard work with short **shopping trips**; learning to prioritise needs and manage their money practically.



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The fun never ends at Open Circle, as we went 'all out' to celebrate the **birthdays** of five residents over May and June. Our **"adopt a resident"** project is taking flight, as one of

these residents who has little to no contact with her family, was visited by sponsors and spoilt with a gift for her birthday. She reported it was **"her best birthday ever"**.

Kromboom Rotary Club invited us to join their 31st birthday and bridge project celebration at Keurboom Park.



We strive for this kind of community integration, allowing our residents to feel that they are part of society. The rotary subsequently gifted us with protective gear, as did **Constantia Rotary and Robin Trust**. Heading back to lockdown level 4 at the end of June, we were grateful to have the additional resources at hand.

Pure Legacy and several individuals also assisted us generously over the past two months, with funding, clothing, and bedding – making the colder weather seem less daunting. We are still in need of assistance for our **sensory garden**, which has been halted due to a limited budget. Our beds are still



needing to be filled before we can plant and really start gardening with residents. To see more of what we have been up to, please head over to our Facebook page, or to our new **Instagram account** (@opencirclegroupome).

If you or someone you know of would like to assist, please contact us at manager@opencircle.org.za or head over to our **"How to Help"** tab.



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