



THE GREYTON POST

ISSUE 14

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Dear Readers,

As winter's crisp chill begins to wrap around our valley, we look forward to the magical sight of snow dusting our majestic mountains. In the meantime, let's keep warm under the cosy embrace of knitted jerseys and find comfort in the delicious aromas of hot coffee and sweet treats from our wonderful local coffee shops.

Exciting times lie ahead with a calendar full of events to brighten the colder months. Look out for the much-anticipated Wine and Fire event, the elegant Bridgerton High Tea celebrating Women's Day, and the vibrant First Friday Night Market in Genadendal. Greyton is proving that winter need not mean hibernation – with hiking and hacking groups, boot camps, dancing and knitting gatherings all helping to keep our spirits high and bodies moving.

There's a buzz of innovation in the air too, with virtual reality making its debut in the village, offering our younger minds the chance to expand and explore new worlds. A special thank you goes to those involved in organising the screening of Fire Pilots, an incredible film that

offers a glimpse into the heroic efforts of pilots and ground teams who work tirelessly to keep us safe from devastating fires. And congratulations to Vigne Pharmacy on their well-deserved award of Franchise of the Year at the Local Choice conference!

Please also remember our SnapScan QR code on the front page, if you'd like to make a small donation of R50. Your contributions help us to continue sharing positive stories through The Greyton Post and to keep it available for all readers in our valley and beyond. We're so grateful to our generous advertisers, loyal readers, and dedicated contributors who help keep The Greyton Post thriving.

Let's embrace this winter season with warmth, community spirit, and a twinkle of anticipation. Stay warm, keep smiling, and make the most of every day.



With appreciation and warm wishes,

Paula Ansley
Editor, The Greyton Post

A poem by Shani (Instagram: @blondiepoems)

When fine splatters
smile just above the mountain tops –
a release,
a rainfall
enchants those
who thrive off winter times,
unsubtle in their weatherproof coats,
their breathing – a stormy delight of sorts
like a sky swollen to burst
with drops to send shivers –
all cozied in the glare of burning wood
with the clasp of a mug, rather large –
a reckoning towards the sweltering heat –
cheers to its disappearance, for now,
for our desires are pressed against the mountainous bodies
that gather the frost
&
redeem
our sunburn.

Please note: The opinions and views expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not reflect the opinions or views of The Greyton Post.

FRONT PAGE PHOTO: PAULA ANSLEY

THE DOCTOR'S NOTE...



Dr Theunis van der Merwe

A large rectangular advertisement with a dark teal background and a light blue border. On the left is a large version of the clinic's logo. On the right, there is a light blue rounded rectangle containing text about hours and contact information. At the bottom right, there is text about a 24-hour emergency service.

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The House Next Door... and a Perfect Twist!

Some stories are simply meant to be, and for Patrick Murphy and his husband Christopher Garibaldi, their journey to Greyton unfolded like a script from a classic feel-good movie—complete with mountains, music, and a magical coincidence.

Looking for a sunny escape from the grey British winters, the couple began their house-hunting adventure after meeting the ever-helpful Mariza from Agrisell Property Agents. What followed was a 12-month search through Greyton's charming streets, stunning mountain views, and hidden gems.

While renting a cosy cottage on Regent Street, Patrick spent time exploring and capturing videos of the picturesque surroundings to share with Christopher, who was still in the UK. One day, after watching a video

clip, Christopher casually remarked, "I rather like that house next door." A quick word with Agrisell Property Agents, a little village magic, and—would you believe it—the owners were indeed

down the slopes! But the story doesn't end there. While on a speaking tour in Australia, Christopher—a respected art history

Street, no less. John's eyes lit up. "I built a house there over 35 years ago!"

Out came the old photo albums, and with a few page turns, the incredible truth revealed itself: Patrick and Christopher had bought the very house John had built all those years ago!

If that wasn't enough, Sally and John still had the original house plans, carefully filed away. The group met again recently, under the shadow of Table Mountain, where the plans were ceremoniously handed over—adding a perfect final chapter to this heart-warming tale.




Photo: L to R: Dr John Louw, Patrick Murphy, Sally Louw & Christopher Garibaldi with hand drawn plans from 1982.


ready to sell. The house was perfect, needing just a few tweaks to make it their own. Standing in their garden, gazing at the dramatic mountains, they half-expected Julie Andrews to burst into song, twirling

lecturer—gave a talk in the small town of Albury-Wodonga. Their hosts for the evening? Sally and Dr John Louw, originally from South Africa. Over a late-night G&T, Patrick mentioned their excitement about buying a home in Greyton—on Regent

Welcome to the village, Patrick and Christopher—may your Greyton story continue to unfold with joy, sunshine, and just a little more magic!






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Tapping into Greyton's Hidden Water

Have you spotted Aquacore Boreholes' trucks in town every now and again? This is because they've drilled 30 boreholes in Greyton since 2019 – so every time they're approached to drill a minimum of three consecutive boreholes in the area, they load up all their heavy equipment and do the great trek from their base in Cape Town to bring lovely fresh Greyton groundwater to the surface.

Aquacore is a boutique borehole-drilling set-up, with every drilling project overseen personally by owner/director Tammy Rutherford. "After all these projects, we've got a pretty good handle on local drilling conditions! We love finding water – it's a thrill every time. Especially in a gardening-mad village like Greyton." "We've enjoyed considerable

success in Greyton, with most boreholes at a depth of 30 to 50 metres. By now, we have in-depth insight into



the below-ground conditions we can expect here. I'm not a trained geologist, so these observations are informed by my practical experience drilling in Greyton over the past seven years," says Tammy.

He goes on to explain: "We've drilled from Van Schalkwyk Street in the west to Regent Street in the east, and from Park Street in the north to Vlei Street in the south. Underground conditions over the greater floodplain are relatively consistent but can vary significantly from hole to hole. There is an unstable boulder field that begins approximately two metres below the surface. This varies in thickness and depth and requires stabilisation with steel casing before we drill into the underlying formation. The main water flows above the Malmesbury shale. We

always double-case our boreholes to ensure pre-filtered water is brought to the surface."

"Many borehole companies drill a much narrower diameter hole. Ours are a diameter of 250mm, which results in a greater water yield," says Tammy. "Some of our homeowners use their borehole water for irrigation, while others go on to have their water scientifically analysed and then treated/filtered for residential use."

Based in Cape Town, Aquacore Boreholes operates throughout the Western Cape. If you'd like to chat to Tammy about the possibility of drilling your own borehole, or would like an obligation-free quote, please don't hesitate to call or WhatsApp him on +27 (0)83 226 9880 or send an email to tammy@aquacore.co.za.

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Bringing the Future to Our Classrooms

Last month, local children were treated to an extraordinary learning experience—virtual reality (VR) sessions that transported them to new worlds, all without leaving the classroom. We caught up with Lee-Ann Seconna from Lightspeed, who made it all happen, to learn more about this exciting project.

“The idea came from one of my social media student assist pages,” Lee-Ann explained. “As a mum, I’m always looking for ways to help children expand their knowledge and experience new things.” She reached out to Gavin Jones, and after some research, Lightspeed connected with a VR company run by two women based in KwaZulu-Natal. These experts send fully

equipped teams across the country to deliver immersive educational sessions.

The VR company can cater for up to 60 students at a time, with 30-minute sessions at R50 per student. Lee-Ann approached all local schools and the crèche, offering information and support. Lightspeed even sponsored 30 students from the Red Cross, ensuring more children could experience the magic of VR.



For many students—and even some parents—this was their first encounter with virtual reality technology. “Some didn’t know what VR was at all,” Lee-Ann noted. But once the headsets were on, the excitement was contagious. Children explored fascinating educational content, sparking curiosity and wonder.

Lee-Ann emphasised how valuable experiences like this can be for children in small towns like Greyton. “This reminded us of how important it is to bridge the knowledge gap,” she said. “VR brings awareness and knowledge in a fun and engaging way.”

And the good news? The VR team will return later this year, around September or October, to offer more students a chance to step

into this virtual world.

Lightspeed’s initiative shows the power of blending technology with imagination to inspire young minds. It’s a reminder that learning



doesn’t have to be limited by location—and sometimes, a headset is all it takes to open a whole new world.



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Notes from the Sober Side: Navigating Greyton's International Wine Quest

Mike Ash

In the mountainside village of Greyton, nestled deep in the Overberg, I'm the unsung hero of many a wine-fuelled escapade. As a teetotal, non-smoking, gluten-free vegetarian, I'm not exactly the first pick for a drinks party—until my friends and family realise I'm their golden ticket to a seamless day of wine-hopping through the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley. Armed with a notepad, unwavering sobriety, and a mildly amused expression, I'm the designated driver, sommelier scribe, and memory-keeper for their increasingly blurred adventures.

After working their way through Greyton's own oenological gems, including the internationally acclaimed Lismore, known for its elegant Syrahs and Chardonnay (even after a devastating wildfire), and the award-winning boutique winery Delphin, which consistently punches above its weight, my wine-loving companions begin to yearn for an "international" twist. "We've done local," they mutter, "let's go global!"

So, I herd my merry band into the vehicle and point us towards the nearby Hemel-en-Aarde Valley, a slice of vinous paradise tucked between the Babylonstoren and Kleinrivier mountain ranges. Renowned for its Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and Méthode Cap Classique (South Africa's answer to Champagne), this valley offers a heady blend of world-class winemaking and views so divine they could forgive even a slightly scorched palate.

Our first stop: the ever-stylish Creation Wines. The estate is famed for its culinary pairings and immaculate hospitality. A charming sommelier says "Merlot" with

such French finesse it sends my niece into a fit of giggles mid-sip. So far, so civilised.

Next up, the architectural marvel that is Ataraxia Wines, perched like a chapel of calm on the hilltop. While my crew swirl and sip their way through the heavenly tasting line-up, I soak up the views and jot down my sister-in-law's musings: "berry notes," "oaky finish," and, curiously, "smells like triumph." By her third swirl she's trying to order a case, forgetting she tried to do the same at the

consequences of their enthusiasm with lamb tagine and linefish, I quietly assess the group's capacity for post-prandial coherence. Not quite ready to call it a day, we swing by Newton Johnson, where things take a turn toward the transcendental. A flight of ten wines is described as "life-affirming," and several party members visibly slide into blissful somnolence. The winery, known for its Burgundian-style Pinot Noirs, is indeed spectacular, even if my passengers are now communicating mostly in murmurs and clinks.



We make one final stop at Bouchard Finlayson, where cypress trees, Tuscan charm, and a Sangiovese "practically Florentine" await us. My brother-in-law, now sporting a wine-streaked shirt, insists he's "tasting the Medici dynasty" and launches into a rousing, if off-key, "O Sole Mio." I pry him away from a cheese platter he's attempting to wear as a hat and guide him back to the car with quiet dignity.

By the time we reach Hermanus for a breezy beach stroll, my passengers are in glorious disarray. My sister-in-law whispers that she's "found life's meaning" in a glass of Zinfandel. My lovely wife attempts to FaceTime the dog to explain the "oaky, buttery organoleptic complexity of the Chardonnays." I dodge their pleas to "just try a sip," all while documenting their poetic wine-fuelled nonsense.

last stop. I gently intervene before she attempts to purchase the hillside itself.

Feeling the need to balance the grape with some grain, we head to Mogg's Country Cookhouse, a charming family-run eatery nestled among the vines. While they attempt to soak up the

As the sun dips behind the waves and the ocean breeze does its gentle work, I herd them back to Greyton—mission accomplished. Their palates are sated, their memories charmingly fuzzy, and I, the sober scribe of their vinous odyssey, live to drive another day.

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Keeping Greyton Safe

Thanks to the generosity of our village, Greybos Neighbourhood Watch (GNW) successfully continued night-time patrols through the Easter and "Classics for All" weekends. We also extend our thanks to the dedicated APS team, whose support was integral to the success of this campaign.

GNW hopes to maintain patrols, both during weekend events and on an ad hoc basis. The element of surprise that characterises ad hoc patrols is arguably our best weapon against crime. However, GNW only has funds for a few more night patrols. We rely on community support to help fund this vital initiative, including

paying and transporting patrollers. Please consider making a donation, or even regular contributions, to help us keep Greyton safe. Donations can be made via the QR Code on this page.

Secure Your Home

Home security remains the responsibility of homeowners, whether they're in residence or not. Reports of thefts occurring where doors and gates were left open often by visitors to the village. We must remember there are always would-be criminals among us; let's not make it easy for them.



Snap here to pay



Video Surveillance in the Village

Soon, you'll notice GNW/APS signs around Greyton, advising that the village is monitored by 24-hour video surveillance. These signs serve a dual purpose: to warn potential criminals and to inform residents and visitors of monitoring systems in line with privacy laws.

For any queries or concerns, please email us at admin@gnw.co.za. A new dedicated contact number will be coming soon. Until next time, stay safe!

Your GNW Committee

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A Life of Compassion: Nicola Vernon and the Story Behind Greyton Farm Animal Sanctuary

For many, retirement means slowing down, but for Nicola Vernon, it became the start of a journey that would transform not only her life but the lives of hundreds of rescued animals. Nicola's passion for circular economy grew organically—quite literally—on her farm outside Greyton.

"In 2009, we were dreaming of a peaceful rural retirement," Nicola recalls. "But during lambing season, I noticed lambs perishing in the cold fields nearby. One day, I found what I thought was the lifeless body of a lamb by the track. Just as I passed, an ear twitched. That tiny, ice-cold bundle became our first rescue—Cara, who is still with us today, now a dignified 16-year-old lady in good health."

From that small act of kindness, the Greyton Farm Animal Sanctuary was born. As more animals arrived, Nicola faced not only the practical challenges of caring for them but a deeply personal one too—reconciling her identity as an animal lover with the realisation that her diet contributed to animal suffering. "It was painful to confront, but I couldn't stand by and do nothing. If I couldn't save them



all, I could at least change the world for a few."

Nicola's commitment didn't stop at rescue. She also opened the Art of Compassion Gallery, blending her love of art with fundraising for the sanctuary. "It began with art auctions and grew into a beautiful space that now hosts exhibitions and supports animal welfare causes," she explains.

At 71, Nicola is looking to

the future. Her Pigs to Plants programme is helping local farmers transition from pig farming to sustainable market gardening, promoting food security and animal welfare. She dreams of finishing a multi-purpose barn to serve as a resource centre, ensuring the sanctuary's work continues for generations.

As for what keeps her going? "Surrounded by 220 beautiful souls, I find my balance and my hope. Each life saved is a



reminder that compassion can change the world." As Gandhi said, "the greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated"

You can support the sanctuary by visiting their website at www.greytonfarmsanctuary.org, sponsoring an animal, or popping into the Art of Compassion Gallery. Because, as Nicola has shown, even the smallest act of kindness can start a movement.



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Paws and Purpose: How a Village Comes Together to Shelter Its Pets



Earlier this year, GAWS launched the "Honde Huisie" Project, a community-driven initiative providing safe and comfortable dog homes to responsible pet owners. With winter fast approaching we hope to increase our efforts!

To date we have gifted over 70 Honde Huisies but our dream is to roll out to as many families as possible over time.

This project highlights the

generosity of the Greyton community. Local farmers donate large plastic drums, GAWS staff and volunteers prepare them, and public donors contribute blankets and food.

We endeavour to support our community members in need who sterilize their animals and also regularly attend our weekly clinics that we conduct all around our valley. We try and focus on our most needy animals first.

This initiative embodies the power of community collaboration and compassion. Through collective effort, GAWS helps ensure pets continue to enrich lives, especially in vulnerable



Photo: Hans, Danfred and Cleyton, our GAWS representatives outside a home in Sewefontein in Genadendal.

households. Pets are more than companions; they are catalysts for healthier, happier lives, bringing joy, stability, and comfort to people from

all walks of life.

Thank you to all our supporters who help make all of this possible.



WHAT DO WE DO?

THESE ARE THE WAYS WE FULFIL OUR DUTY TO UPLIFT THE COMMUNITY:

SOCIAL UPLIFTMENT

-  aftercare
-  home-based care
-  feeding scheme
-  upskilling
-  social awareness campaigns
-  patient transport

FAMILY LINKS

-  reconnect families

FIRST AID

-  emergencies
-  home births
-  training
-  awareness campaigns
-  events

DISASTER RESPONSE

-  storms, fires, floods
-  available 24/7
-  provide clothing, food, blankets
-  assess & provide info to TWK muni



at the heart of the community

Why Dogs Should Stay Out of the Greyton Nature Reserve

Helen Smyth
Greyton Conservation Society

We are incredibly fortunate to have the beautiful Greyton Nature Reserve right on our doorstep—a peaceful haven for a wide variety of wildlife and bird species. To help protect this delicate environment, we kindly remind all visitors that dogs are not allowed in the reserve.

While our four-legged companions may seem harmless, dogs are natural predators, and their presence—whether on or off a leash—can have a significant impact on wildlife. Even the scent they leave behind can cause fear and stress for wild animals, often leading to abandoned nests, disrupted habitats, and animals avoiding the area altogether. Off-leash dogs, guided by their sharp sense of smell and hearing, may instinctively chase small mammals such as duiker and



disturb ground-nesting birds. This can result in injury to both wildlife and dogs, as well as long-term population decline.

By keeping dogs out of the clearly

marked reserve area, we help ensure the sanctuary remains undisturbed for the many wild creatures who call it home.

That said, there's plenty of space for everyone to enjoy—with a plethora of beautiful mountain and forest trails throughout the valley where dogs are very welcome to run freely. So let's all do our part to keep the reserve wild and our surroundings joyful. Whether you're exploring by foot or paw, there's something magical waiting just beyond the next bend.



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Welcome to Overstory

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Gelding Greyton's horses is a welfare priority

Toni Younghusband
EARS



Chuck is an orphaned foal being cared for at EARS Donkey Sanctuary. His mother and older sibling were killed—not by a speeding car or a dog, but by another horse. A stallion. Chuck was lucky to survive. During mating season, stallions often fight, injuring or killing each other, mares, foals, and even people caught in the chaos.

Also in EARS' care is a small mare, her body weakened by more than ten pregnancies, leaving her vulnerable to disease. She is one of many horses still roaming our streets.

Last year alone, five young foals died on Greyton's roads after wandering into traffic. Drivers were fortunate to escape with only minor injuries.

Beyond safety, free-roaming horses are placing pressure on the environment, with repeated over-grazing damaging our landscapes.

Much of this could be prevented by gelding. Our valley—home to Greyton, Genadendal, Boschmanskloof, Heuwelkroon, Voorstekraal and Bereaville—hosts an estimated 400–600 mostly free-roaming horses. While they add charm to our villages, they also pose danger to themselves, people, and the land.

From 1 June, EARS is launching a gelding drive, raising funds to sterilise as many stallions as possible. We've partnered with vets offering welfare rates, secured willing owners, and

set up a holding paddock for post-surgery care, managed by an experienced local horse owner with EARS' support.

For R1000, sponsors will be paired with a specific horse, ensuring their contribution has a direct impact.

Gelding isn't cheap, but the payoff is immense: safer roads, fewer accidents, a healthier horse population, and a more sustainable landscape.

To sponsor a gelding, donate R1000 to:
EARS Donkey Sanctuary,
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Email POP, name, and
cell number to: toni@
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Help us protect what makes our valley so special.

Grace Valley Wildlife Rescue Talks Owls, Fledglings, and First Aid

As the Spotted Eagle Owl breeding season begins, The Greyton Post caught up with Shireen from Grace Valley Wildlife Rescue, a frontline wildlife first responder in the Overberg region, to find out what to expect and how residents can help.

"It's such an exciting time! Spotted Eagle Owls nest in late autumn and winter, so you might notice them more often—especially at dawn or dusk as they look for nesting spots and hunt for their growing families," Shireen explains. "Interestingly, they don't build typical nests but use ground scrapes, tree hollows, or even quiet building corners. Because they lay eggs a few days apart, it's normal to see a big fluffy owlet with a smaller sibling. Both parents play a role, so it's natural to see them more during this time."

Seeing young owls on the ground during this period is also common. "Fledglings spend 3-4 days on the ground learning to

fly and hunt. Unless injured or in danger, don't interfere. Keep dogs on leashes and let neighbours know. Watch from a distance—human interference causes stress."

Why are these owls so important? "One owl family can eat up to 3,000 rodents a year! They're natural pest controllers. Please avoid using poison for rodents—it's excruciating for wildlife and can take up to 12 days to kill, affecting owls, raptors, and other predators."

How can people support owls? "Give them space and consider installing an owl box for nesting pairs. Anyone interested can contact me for guidance. And remember, all wildlife needing care must go to a permitted centre—it's illegal to rehabilitate wild animals at home."

For locals who want to help, Shireen encourages them to become trained first responders. "I host regular online workshops, covering first aid and safe

transport for injured or ill wildlife. It's a wonderful way to help on the ground."

Contact Shireen: WhatsApp 072 130 2208 | hello@gracevalleyhaven.co.za | www.gracevalleyhaven.co.za



Knitting with Heart: A Chat with Renè Pienaar

Every week, a warm and wonderful group of women gathers at Ribbons and Roses, their hands busy and hearts full of purpose. Surrounded by laughter and balls of colourful wool, these talented knitters create beautiful blankets to be donated to those in need during the colder months. The Greyton Post dropped by to admire their creations and learn what makes this group so special.

What inspired you to start knitting together as a group, and how did Ribbons and Roses come to be?

Ribbons and Roses was born in 2017 after a career in social work left me dreaming of being surrounded by beautiful things. It started as an antique and vintage shop, but by April 2021, I began stocking wool and haberdashery. Customers asked about a knitting group, and we've been meeting since January 2024.

Can you tell us more about the blanket

project—where the idea came from and how these lovely handmade blankets are distributed?

In January this year, I suggested we knit squares to make blankets for the elderly. The idea was met with great enthusiasm, and by May, we had handed over seven beautiful blankets to the Red Cross for

What do you enjoy most about meeting up each week?

We love the sense of community. It's a place to meet new friends, share patterns, and get help if you get stuck on a project. Plus, we have lots of laughs!

Can anyone join the group? When and where do you meet?

Absolutely! Whether you're an expert knitter or just curious to learn, you're welcome. We meet every Tuesday at 10:30am—no joining fees. In summer, we knit under the trees outside the shop; in winter, we gather inside. You can even order tea or coffee from Pure Café while you



distribution in the Valley of Grace. We're already busy with our next batch—there's no stopping these ladies!

There's clearly a lot of fun and laughter shared while the needles click away!

work.

Thank you Renè, It's a beautiful reminder that when creativity and kindness come together, the results are both heart-warming and hand-warming.

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A Game Changer for Greyton: Dedication to Football and Community

For the last three years one Greytonian has been forsaking his own personal time and bank balance in order to drive to the far corners of the Overberg, attend to copious amounts of laundry and experience the joys of the unending administrative duties.

His name is Trevor Kramer, otherwise known as the lifeblood of Greyton Roses Football Club — a team competing in the fourth division of South African soccer.

Trevor is not only the team's manager, but also its coach, logistics coordinator, financial backer, and moral compass. While many grassroots teams rely on a small committee or community sponsors, Greyton Roses has had just one unwavering constant: Trevor himself.

"It was an easy decision to move to Greyton, knowing the opportunity I had to help grow football in the Overberg," Trevor explained to the Greyton Post.

"I had visited the town on a few occasions, since my brother Adam moved here and established the team in 2020.

"In our first season of competitive league football, our senior team exceeded all expectations by finishing second in the league and earning promotion, and we have been competing for the past two seasons in the HollywoodBets Regional League.

"We have also established a thriving youth structure with kids ranging in age from three to 16 years old."

"But the football is only one side of it," Trevor added. "Playing any sport gives you massive self-belief, it helps grow your confidence, and is a place where friendships are forged, and flourish!

"I have massive belief in the power of sport to inspire, unite, and positively impact individuals and communities."

But belief doesn't pay for fuel or football kits. In recent times Trevor has been funding the team out of his own pocket, covering everything from registration fees and uniforms to travel costs and tournament entries. When match days roll around, he's the one lining the field for home matches or booking the local taxis and shepherding the players to distant away games.

Beyond the pitch, he wrestles with league bureaucracy — alongside organising fixtures, submitting paperwork, and ensuring compliance with often-overwhelming administrative rules. It's a full-time commitment done in spare hours, after work, before dawn, or late at night.

Ask the players, and they'll tell you: Trevor is more than a manager.

"Without Trevor there is no Greyton Roses", says club captain and local law enforcement Sanele Shabane. "The dedication to his job, making sure that before each and every training,

everything is already there. He is very, very important to us as Greyton Players. I learn a lot from him."

Recently the Greyton Roses fielded their first ever girls team in a friendly match against Generation Schools, and one future plan is to help develop a local youth league for both boys and girls, with our neighbouring communities.

In an age where big clubs dominate headlines and grassroots heroes go unnoticed, Trevor Kramer is a reminder of what sport at its purest really means: community, resilience, and selfless passion.

So this month, we salute you, Trevor. You may not chase headlines, but here at the Greyton Post, we think it's time the spotlight found you.

If you're moved to contribute towards helping the Greyton Roses flourish, please email the club at greytonroses@gmail.com.



Escape the Grey: Smarter Ways to Plan Your Next Holiday

When Greyton's winter chill settles in and the grey days stretch on, many of us start dreaming of warm beaches and sunny terraces. But before you spend hours scrolling endless online deals, it's worth asking—could there be a smarter, stress-free way to book your perfect escape?

We spoke to Trish Labuschagne, travel expert at Seascape Travels, about why using a trusted travel agent still makes all the difference.

Why use a travel agent when online deals are everywhere?

It's a question I hear all the time. Many people think booking online saves money, but I have access to the same—and often better—packages through top operators. The best part? I don't charge service fees or mark up rates, so you pay

what you'd pay online but get my advice, personalised suggestions and real support if something goes wrong. Most people don't realise an independent agent's help is free. With me, you're not just clicking 'Book Now'—you're getting someone who knows island holidays inside out and wants your trip to be perfect.

When is booking online fine and when should you call an agent?

A simple overnight stop is easy to book yourself. But for anything more special—like a multi-stop trip, honeymoon or bucket-list island break—it's worth calling an expert. If you're unsure about visas, insurance, connections or logistics, that's the time to reach out.

How does an agent help when plans change?

This is where having an agent

really helps. If flights get cancelled or plans change, you're not stuck waiting on a call centre. I step in and sort it out quickly so your trip stays on track. I stay connected with my clients until they're home safe.

Any favourite "save the day" moments?

Once, a client had a heart attack on the morning of their Mauritius flight. I got the airline to release the seats, arranged a refund and worked with the hotel to hold the booking. When they were well, I rebooked everything—and they didn't lose a cent. You won't get that from a website.

How do you choose a trustworthy agent?

Look for an agent linked to ASATA—this guarantees professionalism. Find someone who really knows

your destination. I personally visit nearly every resort I recommend. Check reviews, see how long they've been doing this, and make sure they communicate well.

How far in advance should you plan?

Earlier is always better. Six to eight months is ideal for peak times, but three months still works. Last-minute trips are possible (I've become a master at them!), but your options are fewer.

Best winter escape?

Mauritius! It's my favourite for South Africans wanting to swap cold weather for sunny days. It's close, has great off-season rates, and perfect warm beaches.

So, if the winter chill has you dreaming of sunshine, remember: with the right help, planning your escape is easy—and so much warmer!



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Stitched with Story: The Art and Heritage of Kantha

In a world driven by fast fashion and disposable trends, there's something deeply moving about clothing that carries history, craftsmanship, and meaning. One such example is the Kantha jacket—a wearable piece of art that embodies centuries of tradition, creativity, and care.

Kantha is an ancient embroidery technique from Bengal in India. Rooted in necessity and born from

stunning, textured patterns, full of depth and personal story."

The origins of kantha are humble: women in rural villages repurposed every scrap of cloth, layering and stitching them during quiet moments—between tending children, animals, and crops, or while sheltering from the monsoon rains. A single piece could take months or even years to complete. In many families, stitching was passed down

by millions of women across South Asia.

Kanthas are not just beautiful—they are sustainable by nature, created from reused materials in a time-honoured tradition. Their designs are shaped by what was available, and their meaning shaped by the women who made them. As Nicolette reflects, "Every kantha is a repository of memory—of its maker, of the cloth's former life, of love and resilience stitched into every thread."



the resourcefulness of rural women, it involved stitching layers of old fabric—often worn-out saris—into quilts, shawls, and garments. The word kantha refers to both the simple running stitch used and the finished textile itself.

As Nicolette Grey from Mulberry explains, "The stitch may be basic, but its beauty lies in how it's used. The arrangements of these tiny stitches create

through generations, with grandmothers, mothers, and daughters all contributing to the same kantha. Each one became a tapestry of shared life and memory.

Although kantha nearly faded into obscurity in the early 20th century, it was revived in the 1940s and again after the Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971. Today, it thrives once more as a celebrated form of textile art, practised

These garments can be admired as handcrafted heirlooms or worn as unique, expressive fashion statements. A small collection of Kantha jackets can be viewed at Mulberry, where their textures and patterns can be appreciated up close.

In each jacket, there's a story waiting to be told—an echo of the past, made present again by the art of the stitch.



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There's a wonderful Norwegian saying – "Det finnes ikke dårlig vær, bare dårlig klær!" which translates to "There is no bad weather, only bad clothes!", and I wholeheartedly agree. This chilly wet weather is the perfect opportunity to invest in a Bateila all weather jacket, now available in Greyton at Mulberry.



When you buy from a small business, an actual person does a little happy dance!

Inheriting Wealth or Starting from Scratch: The Value of Sound Financial Advice

Whether you've just received an inheritance or are beginning your financial journey from the ground up, one thing remains true — sound financial planning can significantly impact your long-term success. For beneficiaries of an estate, the sudden influx of wealth can be both an opportunity and a burden. For younger individuals without such a windfall, building wealth through discipline and education is equally empowering. In both cases, working with a qualified financial planner can be one of the smartest decisions you make.

Advice for Beneficiaries of an Inheritance:

Receiving an inheritance often comes during an emotionally charged time. It's easy to make impulsive decisions or to mismanage funds through inexperience. Here are a few key steps to take:

- 1. Pause Before You Act**
Don't feel pressured to make big financial decisions right away. Take time to process the loss and consult professionals.
- 2. Work With a Qualified Financial Planner**
An experienced financial planner can help you assess your current financial situation, create goals, and implement an investment strategy that aligns with your values and needs.
- 3. Avoid Lifestyle Inflation**
Use the inheritance to build long-term wealth, not just to upgrade your lifestyle. Consider investing in a diversified portfolio, paying off high-interest debt, and contributing to retirement.
- 4. Tax Planning Is Key**
Different assets have different tax implications. A

financial planner can guide you on estate duty, capital gains, and structuring.

- 5. Think Generationally**
Consider how this inheritance could support future generations. Trust structures, offshore diversification, or intergenerational planning may be worth exploring.

Advice for Parents Teaching Children to create and grow their own Wealth:

- 1. Start With Education**
Teach children the power of compound interest, risk and return, and the value of saving consistently. Use simple examples to make it relatable.
- 2. Encourage a Habit of Saving Early**
Even R200 a month into a tax-free savings account can teach discipline and reap rewards over time.

- 3. Introduce Investing, Not Just Saving**

Explain the difference between keeping money in a bank and investing in shares, ETFs, or unit trusts.

- 4. Set Financial Goals Together**

Help them set realistic short- and long-term financial goals and guide them through the steps to get there.

- 5. Lead by Example**

Talk openly about money. Let them see your budgeting, investing, and even financial mistakes.

Conclusion

Whether you inherit wealth or build it slowly, the key to success is the same: start with a plan, seek expert guidance, and remain disciplined. A financial planner can help turn financial uncertainty into confidence — for you and future generations.



Claire Moorhouse

WEALTH MANAGER, CAPE TOWN

With over two decades' experience in the financial services industry, both locally and globally, Claire's experience as a Wealth Manager is invaluable. She is dedicated to building lasting relationships with her clients and assisting them in achieving their long-term financial goals. By working for companies including HSBC, Citadel, and Investec, being based in London, New York, and Hong Kong, she gained an impressive knowledge of Capital Markets, Wealth- and Asset Management, Investment- and Private Banking, and Financial- and Estate Planning.

In addition to her extensive industry knowledge, Claire holds a B-Comm in Economics (UCT) and advanced her international studies while abroad earning CISI Board Certification in Capital Markets, which includes UK Financial Regulation, Securities and Derivatives. In an ongoing demonstration of her commitment to ethical and compliant practices, she successfully passed the FAIS Regulatory Exam for Representatives (RE5).

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asset management

Big-City Tech, Small-Town Care: Greyton Optometrists

Monique Jones

At Greyton Optometrists, we may be a small country practice — but when it comes to technology, we believe our patients deserve nothing less than the best.

We're excited to announce the arrival of our new Essilor SL650+ Slit Lamp, a top-tier diagnostic instrument that enhances both patient comfort and clinical precision. Although we already had an excellent slit lamp, this upgrade allows us to detect eye conditions with even greater clarity — particularly when it comes to cataracts, dry eyes, and other anterior eye conditions.

The slit lamp is one of the most important tools in eye care. It provides a magnified, illuminated view of the cornea (the transparent surface of the eye), allowing us to detect subtle issues like scratches, ulcers, infections, keratoconus, and contact lens complications. It also helps us assess tear film quality in dry eye patients and pick up early signs of inflammation or trauma that might otherwise be missed.

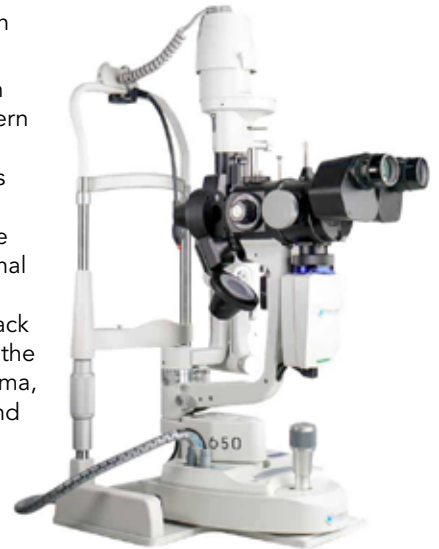
Why upgrade? Because good isn't good enough when it comes to your vision. The SL650+ gives us sharper detail, improved lighting, and smoother functionality — ultimately leading to faster, more accurate diagnosis and better care. It also features

high-quality photographic capabilities, allowing us to capture detailed images of the eye for better record-keeping, patient education, and streamlined referral to ophthalmologists when needed.

This investment builds on our commitment to modern technology, joining our fundus camera, which has been a vital part of our practice for the past three years. This advanced retinal imaging tool allows us to pick up changes in the back of the eye — essential in the early detection of glaucoma, macular degeneration, and diabetic eye disease.

These are tools you'd expect to find in a large city practice

— but they're right here in Greyton. It's all part of our promise to deliver state-of-the-art eye care with a small-town heart.



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The Greyton Cliffhanger *Part 3*

Shani De Villiers



We've arrived at the heart of the sun, where the beat of light that we've all experienced lives light-heartedly.

At the start of Winter, we may not have longed for this little flickering rush so much, as some of us may

have rushed away from the trudge under the heat. However, we'll be ever glad, when in the midst of the wintriest of months – the sun peeks out twice a week.

Our traveller with his hands cupped in soil, held a bit of heart – twice divided by the sun's light and the farmer's hands. Feeling a sort of happiness for the seeds that had already popped into lustrous green wands on the cusp of Winter. Life always bloomed a slight bit differently nearer to Winter's incoming.

For the last of the leaves that now carried the season's tone, would carry his feet forth into the cold, but he had enough sun inside the beat of his heart – to not mind one bit of

Winter's tenderest aches. The sun's tether had a strong grip on him, and he believed, ever so – that the sun's heart was such as his – pure and unminding.

As Winter, unwinded its tentacles – human creatures swam to the fire & swarmed to all their cosy nooks about town. The traveller watched, in peace, with heat in his heart – how each branch turned bare, how even streets were bare, and he noticed the cold bones of

others...

He held the sun-lady's voice within and felt Jahah's relief of a crop turning up to the sky before Winter made its preach over the land.

Now, he took his hands in awe-awakening prayer, so that each soul, he'd yet to meet could feel the buzz of the sun right through Winter just as he has – during every day of his earth-sprawling life. He merely had to close his eyes, salute the sun and feel his heart spread the light like the sun – in any of its forms. Kindness was just light that brought sun to all the shivery days.

Keep an eye out for the next cliffhanger – all new!



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Sip Smart: Tips for Enjoying the Greyton Fire + Wine Weekend

Attending the Greyton Fire + Wine event on 25–26 July 2025 is a delicious way to explore some of South Africa's finest wines in the charming, fireside setting of our village. With over 20 producers participating, a little preparation goes a long way in making the most of your experience.

Here are a few insider tips from Hilary du Toit of Lismore Wines to help you sip, swirl, and savour with confidence:

1. Plan Ahead

- **Check the Venue Map:** Familiarise yourself with the layout of tasting venues so you can plan a smart and scenic route.

2. Dress Comfortably

- **Be Weather-Wise:** July in Greyton can bring wintery rain and cold. Dress in layers, wear a raincoat, and pop on some wellies.
- **Go Dark:** Accidents happen—dark clothing can hide the odd wine splash!

3. Taste Responsibly

- **Pace Yourself:** Take your time to truly appreciate

each wine.

- **Stay Hydrated & Well-Fed:** Sip water between tastings and have a good meal beforehand.
- **Use Spittoons:** It's perfectly acceptable to spit—it lets you taste more without overdoing it.

4. Engage with Winemakers

- **Ask Questions:** Winemakers love to share their stories. Ask about grape varieties, vineyard practices, and what makes each wine unique.

5. Practice Good Etiquette

- **Skip the Scents:** Avoid wearing

strong perfumes or aftershave—they interfere with the wine's aromas.

- **Respect the Pours:** Stick to the standard tasting sizes to ensure there's enough wine to go around.

By following these simple tips, you'll enjoy a rich, rewarding Fire + Wine experience. Visiting these wineries isn't just about tasting—it's about connecting with passionate producers, discovering the stories behind the labels, and gaining insight into the Overberg's unique terroir.

Whether you're a casual sipper or an enthusiastic collector, the Greyton Fire + Wine weekend is your chance to explore, learn, and raise a glass to local excellence.



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The banner features a dark red background with a stylized orange flame logo above a wine glass. Text is in white and orange. A QR code is located in the top right corner.



Watch the Galloping Gazelles Over Pondoland

Or ... How Eleven Slightly Clueless but Highly Determined Humans From Greyton Took on the Wild Coast

Dee De Kock

On the 25-05-25, I found myself standing bleary-eyed outside Mays Lane at 3am, waiting for my lift to the airport. Greyton clearly hadn't gone to bed—if the thumping music from the Township was anything to go by, it was still very much the night before!

Our ragtag group met at Bootleggers for an essential hit of early morning coffee. Minnie and I, being complete rookies to the whole “trail thing”, packed our suitcases with more “just in case” items than actual clothes. Our 26kg bags caused several eye-roll injuries to our fellow walkers, who clearly knew better.

Fast forward to East London, and we were squashed into a taxi with a trailer that looked like it had swallowed a camping store. Minnie, now in full hiking mode, tucked into her entire snack ration for the day before we'd even left the airport parking lot.

After three hours of bumpy travel, we stopped at the local TOPS (because, priorities) to stock up on some much-needed adult hydration for the five-day trek. And then — drama! The taxi had a flat tyre. The spare was useless without the right-sized spanner, which we didn't have. Enter Claire: young, blonde, and armed with charm and clear instructions. She went off into the car park, batted her lashes, and came back victorious with a size 17 spanner and a team of helpers. Mensch move, Claire. Total mensch.

Eight hours (and about eleven toilet stops) later, we finally arrived. We had been told it was a *four-hour drive* — someone clearly measures time in *Transkei minutes*.

The real shock came when we realised there was no one to help us lug our over-packed suitcases across the rough terrain. No porters. No wheelbarrows. Just the sheer force of will and our gym sessions from earlier that month — thank heavens we did squats.

Our nightly ritual became a hilarious unpack-repack dance, shouting across the hut things like, “Have you seen my

snack bag?” and “Do I need two buffs for tomorrow?” Minnie and I might have invented suitcase charades by day three.

That first evening we hiked a full kilometre (yes, after the 8-hour drive) to the local restaurant, dodging car washes, roadside feasts, and music that sounded like a wedding and a nightclub had a lovechild.

From there, the walk began. Pondoland is a place of cinematic beauty — think *Little House on the Prairie* meets *Indiana Jones*. Sweeping grasslands, dramatic rocky cliffs, sunrises that could cure sadness, and selfie stick moments galore. I practically had mine surgically attached.

Highlights included cattle standing serenely in the surf (a spa day for cows?), two waterfalls crashing directly into the sea (two of only 16 in the world), and Pondo — our honorary 12th member. This dog snuck into our hut each night, lovingly smuggled in by Michelle. We all fell in love... only to discover he's not homeless. Nope. He's been starring in guest reviews for years. Played us all. Total con-artist. Still a mensch.

Ria, our designated sick-leave queen, was missed on the hills, but came back strong with surprise cold bubbles after a brutal day. The squeals of joy were heard all the way to the next village. Rod, our Shabeen Scout, accompanied by Estelle, our best trip organiser eva, located alcohol at every stop, and now has official Greyton support to open *Rod's*

Roadside Remedies from his garage in main road.

Nicia, our pace-setting queen, walked like she was late for a fire. She only slowed for Vaseline-ing our feet or dragging Rod — who ignored all blister advice and paid the price (beer goggles don't prevent chafing).

Nights were a roar of laughter, Les's snappy new designer underwear, Paula's long-drop hacks, and Sita — our lone non-Greytonian — who fitted in so well we might just adopt her.

Sakkie, our patient guide, was brilliant... until we arrived at *his* village. Suddenly, all rest breaks disappeared and we were virtually frog-marched up and over the hills. We now know why: he's newly married. Say no more.

In the end, we walked for miles, laughed till we cried, and forged friendships from once acquaintances through every muddy river and steep hill. If you've ever doubted whether you could do a trail — just remember, I went, and I don't like exercise. I own Deezil the husky, a walking machine, and still prefer to admire fitness from a comfy chair.

But Pondoland? It changed something. It filled my soul, toned my calves (a bit), and left me with a heart full of memories and a lot of new friends!

To the brave, the blistered, and the beautifully mad — here's to the next adventure!



The Spy Who Came to Town

Kevin Jacobs

It was a cool autumn evening in Greyton when a spy came in from the cold, without a cloak and no visible dagger.

Armed instead with a disarming smile and a mental vault of fascinating memories and experiences, David Africa came to town early in May to promote his tell-all book. It finally lifts the covers off his years as an underground state intelligence operative during South Africa's turbulent infancy as a newly democratised country.

Lives On The Line, is a 320-page recollection of his dogged (and successful) underground operation that undermined and brought down a serious criminal and ideological threat to the security of the new government.

Many in the audience at the function organised by Greyton Books at Maanskyn still remembered the events at the heart of the story (or, at least, the news publicity at the time): the activities of the Cape Flats-based organisation that called itself People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad) in the 1990s. Pagad, parading itself as a concerned civilian-driven movement tackling criminal gangs and their illegal drugs industry, initially secured considerable public empathy and support. But that changed, suddenly and violently, on Sunday 4 August 1996.

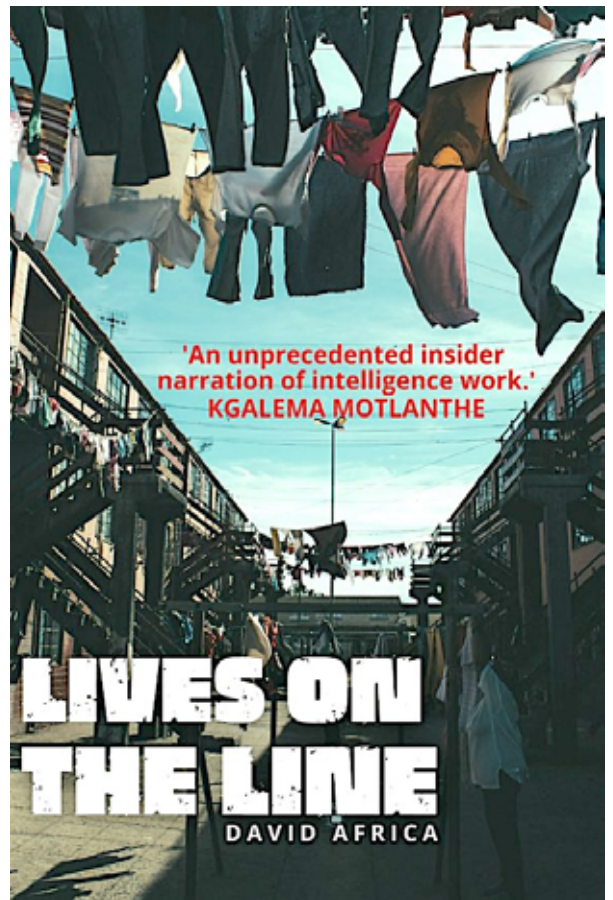
The public mob-murder by Pagad supporters of prominent gangster Rashied Staggie outside his house in Salt River, Cape Town, marked the start of a grim new chapter of urban terrorism, backed by anti-state ideology, and a new focus for covert crime intelligence agent David Africa.

Cape Flats-reared David, a veteran of underground anti-apartheid political activism and now a relative newcomer to crime intelligence work in the new police structure, found himself deeply immersed in what became a six-year mission that initially foundered but ultimately succeeded by 2001 in stifling Pagad, its violent enforcers known as the G-Force, and its ideological instigators, then known as Qibla.

During the evening at Greyton Books David, now an independent security consultant and analyst with international connections (he and his wife and two children live in Germany), recalled those underground years, bringing the events and characters to life again in his retelling of insider knowledge that until now has not been known to most South Africans.

It is a story, he says, "of six intense and dangerous years spent at the coalface of the struggle to neutralise Pagad, bring its terrorist campaign to a swift end, and bring its perpetrators of murder and mayhem to justice".

* David and his wife found Greyton "by accident" during a road trip and have happily returned several times. He assured his audience it would not be their last visit.



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Gravel, Grit and Greyton: The Canola Roller is Back!

Kyall Goodman

Mark your calendars for Saturday, 20th September 2025 – the Canola Roller Gravel Grind is back after a sold-out debut, and this year promises to be even more spectacular!

Set against the backdrop of Greyton's breathtaking springtime scenery, the event offers three gravel routes to suit all levels. There's a family-friendly 30km ride perfect for casual riders or those new to gravel, a fast and flat 80km for those looking to push the pace, and a challenging 130km route that includes epic climbs and sweeping views for riders craving adventure.

E-bike options are available for the 30km and 80km

distances, making the event even more accessible. Whether you're in it for the challenge, the views, or simply the joy of riding, the Canola Roller delivers an unforgettable experience.

More than just a great day out, your participation supports worthy causes. All profits go directly to Greyton Juniors, which promotes mountain biking among disadvantaged youth, as well as to the ongoing maintenance and expansion of Greyton's mountain bike trail network.

There will be podium prizes for all non-e-bike categories, with awards in each age group that has ten or more participants. There will also be a number of amazing lucky draw prizes. So, whether you're racing to win or riding

for fun, there's plenty of reason to join in.

Entries are now open on Entry Ninja, where you'll find all the details and registration options. With accommodation in Greyton limited, we highly recommend booking early if you'd like to stay the weekend and soak up everything the area has to offer. Check us out on Instagram, the [canola_roller](#).

We look forward to welcoming you to another fabulous Canola Roller – see you on the gravel!



Greyton Mountain Marathon 2025: A Coming Together of Running, Community and Education

Johan Moolman

We proved again this year that the Greyton Mountain Marathon and our other trail events are more than just races. They are a testament to what's possible when we work together, and how much people value contributing to the greater cause of education.

This year saw a surge in first-time participants, many of whom shared glowing praise for Greyton's charm, its welcoming community, superb accommodation and fantastic local restaurants. Our school was a frequent talking point, with visitors impressed by the ethos and energy of Greyton House. The event has laid strong foundations for future growth, benefitting both our bursary programme and the town itself.

A record 27 runners braved the 42km route through the Greyton Nature Reserve, climbing over 1600m, passing through Genadendal and back into the village, before merging with the 21km race along the Bakenskop MTB trail. Greyton House alumnus Jono Goodale made history by winning our first ever single day 42km marathon. "It felt a little like cheating," he laughed. "I know these trails so well." Reflecting on his upbringing in Greyton, Jono shared heartfelt words about the freedom, connection and formative experiences he had at Greyton House. "Being able to contribute to a child's education at Greyton House, even in a small way, is deeply meaningful," he said.

The 21km race was clinched by 19-year-old Elrich Davids, a rising local talent who recently claimed victories in Franschhoek and Cape Town.

Sponsored by a member of the Greyton Trail Society, Elrich described the route as "one of the toughest yet" but said that the support of friends and locals helped carry him through. He hopes to inspire other young runners from the community to pursue their dreams through trail running.

Huge thanks go to the parents of Greyton House, Toad Hall, OK Greyton, Agrisell, Vigne Pharmacy, Spirits of Greyton, Josh Ramsey, Greyton Conservation Society and Greyton MTB for their generous support. Their contributions helped make this year's event such a triumph.

Next up: the Brew Run on 23 August. A fun family race with 6km, 13km and 21km options. Tickets will be available soon via the Greyton Trail Society website and Entry Ninja.



SPORTING CORNER



A Historic First Kick: Greyton Roses Ladies Make Their Debut

Trevor Kramer

May 28 2025 - The Greyton Roses Football Club celebrated a historic milestone as their Ladies team took to the field for the first ever time in a competitive 5-a-side friendly match with Generation Schools Hermanus this past month.

Despite a narrow 6-4 loss against the more experienced side, it was "fantastic opportunity for the girls to have their own space" explained proud father Neil Montgomery, after watching daughter Zoe steal the show with a stunning hat-trick.

Adene Fredericks added a fourth goal - showcasing technique and composure beyond her years; and although the Roses fell short on the scoreboard, the energy, teamwork, and determination were positive indicators of a bright future for the team.

"All of our kids have been playing soccer for the past two years", Montgomery added. "For us it has been great for the girls to also have an alternative sport that they can participate in. "In Greyton there are not a lot of

different sport opportunities and I think for them to be able to learn a new sport and be able to play in a team and build relationships and friendships has been great.

"It was really also exciting to be able to see the girls play their first game. Zoe and the other girls really lit up."



Nationally, women's soccer has witnessed remarkable growth. The Sasol Women's League, with 144 teams across nine provinces, and the recent success of Banyana Banyana on the international stage has inspired countless young girls to take up the sport. Soccer in the

Overberg continues to go from strength to strength, and Lethuthando Mthembu stands as a proud example of what is possible, with a dream and a lot of hard work.

Having started her soccer playing for Helderstroom boys under 13 team, she was quickly snapped up by Commodores

Ladies, and after a brief spell with Lucky Girls FC, Lethu joined Sasol League side Stellenbosch in 2024 where she has continued to shine. She has since represented South Africa at both under 15 and under 17 level.

A delighted Zoe told the Greyton Post: "My first game was so much fun. I really like the opportunity to learn and to grow with the team and I think if we practice and try hard we will turn it into something really unique and amazing."

Sister Chevonte added: "When I first started

soccer, I was not sure if it was going to be fun for me but now I really enjoy it and look forward to practice every week."

For more information on the Greyton Roses Ladies, please contact Coach Trevor on WhatsApp: 066 115 4684

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Music, Magic and Memories: Classics for All Festival 2025

Greyton and Genadendal came alive with the sound of music once again as the Classics for All Festival 2025 delivered a weekend of pure magic and community spirit. From intimate recitals to the sensational Gala Concert, this much-loved festival proved once more why it holds a special place in the hearts of both locals and visitors.

The highlight of the weekend was undoubtedly the Gala Concert at the historic Moravian Church in Genadendal — sold out, with barely room for a mouse, so organisers say! The atmosphere was electric, and many attendees agreed that the Chopin performance alone was worth the ticket. With a rich menu of music on offer, there was truly something for everyone, from first-time concertgoers to seasoned classical music devotees.

Ticket sales remained strong, matching last year's success, with an estimated 70% of attendees travelling to the valley for the event — a wonderful boost for local restaurants and guesthouses, all bustling with happy patrons. Special thanks must go to the generous residents who offered accommodation for visiting artists, and to the local restaurants who provided meal vouchers. Bravo and Encore indeed to Coenie Visser and Leone Rouillard, whose passion and dedication made this festival such a triumph once again.

This year, the festival also delivered something very special to our local schools. On Thursday, 9 May, the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra visited

Greyton Primary School, sharing a magical musical morning with learners from Greyton Primary, Greyton House and Uitkyk Primary. The school hall buzzed with excitement as the orchestra



performed an engaging selection of pieces.

The conductor captivated the young audience by introducing the different

instruments, from the sweet sound of flutes to the rumble of the drums, and explained his own role in bringing it all together. A beautiful highlight was when the Greyton Primary Choir performed This Is Me alongside the orchestra. Without any prior rehearsal, the children sang with passion and confidence — an unforgettable moment of courage and talent.

As the morning drew to a close, the conductor playfully tested the learners' newfound knowledge by asking them to identify instruments. No one recognised the oboe at first — a fact they will surely never forget again! Little Elouise Khumalo from Uitkyk Primary won the second round and, to her delight, got to conduct the orchestra for the final piece. Her beaming smile lit up the room as she took the baton and led the musicians beautifully.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Mr. Coenie Visser, the driving force behind this incredible festival and its outreach to our schools. As Coenie steps down, we salute his dedication and the joy he has shared with our valley's children and music lovers alike. Leone Rouillard has kindly offered to remain the festival's "silver thread" but hopes new champions will step forward to keep this celebration of music alive.

Here's to more music, magic and memories — and to ensuring the Classics for All Festival remains a treasured part of Greyton and Genadendal for many years to come!



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The Post Mortem



Blisters, Bridgerton & the Beat of Village Life

Dearest Readers,

As I pen these words from my favourite perch overlooking our lively little village, it is my pleasure to share the latest murmurs and musings from the leafy corners of Greyton.

With great anticipation, the upcoming wine tasting event is already stirring excitement throughout the village. If last year is any indication, we can expect a delightful assortment of wineglasses to make their appearance, particularly as evening falls and the jolly locals join the fun.

A gentle reminder, dear friends – if you happen upon lost property, kindly hand it in to a local restaurant or shop, or pop a note on one of the many WhatsApp groups or Facebook pages. Greyton thrives on its neighbourly

spirit, and social media works wonders to reunite owners with their belongings. If it's a phone, don't delay – nothing is more mortifying than an owner using 'find my phone' to locate it on your sofa after you kindly picked it up and kept it safe! A quick post or word ensures your good intentions are clear and will be much appreciated by locals and visitors alike.

Fitness seems to be the latest village obsession, as several intrepid teams of Greyton hikers have ventured further afield to explore our magnificent country. I hear that a group of eleven brave souls recently descended upon Pondoland, leaving a noticeable hush over the village in their absence. A calm serenity settled upon the streets, only to be joyfully disrupted upon their

return, bringing with them their unique fizz and energy. Rumour has it that only one blister emerged from this adventurous troupe – and it was on a gentleman's foot! Proof, perhaps, that our local hills and valleys provide excellent training ground for even the most ambitious hikers.

Word on the street suggests we should mark our diaries for an event sure to dazzle. A Bridgerton High Tea is being planned for the ladies of the valley in celebration of Women's Day this August. Expect an intriguing talk involving nipple caps and g-strings (my mind boggles), wine flowing freely, and cake served in abundance. There will be competitions for the best-dressed woman and most fabulous table display – a sparkling celebration

of women with a twinkle in their eye. One to watch, dear readers!

And so, as we return to our glorious valley – where horses roam freely, pigs snuffle in contentment, and music beats into the night just long enough to inspire a flurry of social media indignation – let's remember that these charming quirks make Greyton the lively and loving community we cherish.

Until next time, dear friends, keep your eyes open, your wineglasses polished, and your humour intact.



Yours,
Lady Grey
xoxo

CALEDON VET

**CLINIC/
DIEREKLINIEK**

Greyton Branch:
Mon - Fri 9am-4pm Sat 10am-12pm
40 Main Road, Greyton

Caledon Branch:
Mon-Fri: 8am-5:30pm Sat: 8am-12pm
7 Nuwe Street, Caledon

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BLUEBELLE COTTAGE

Relax with the whole family at this peaceful place to stay and enjoy the endless view over the garden and paddock to the mountains.

Bookings can be made through the Greyton Tourism office, Airbnb, Booking.com or Lekkeslaap

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The new and improved, most up-to-date edition of The Greyton A-Z is scheduled for release in August 2025.

As before, there'll be 2000 free copies of this handy little town directory printed and distributed, plus the terrific Hello Greyton website.

Please let us have updates of your personal details, and any additions, suggestions or advertising materials by Friday 25 July 2025.

Rohan Millson
083 231 3728 | greyton@iafrica.com

Greyton Rotary Steps Into a New Era of Community Impact

After years of careful planning, perseverance, and extensive community consultation, Greyton Rotary is finally ready to step into a new era of meaningful action. The start of the new Rotary Year in July marks a major milestone for the organisation as it shifts from long-term visioning to visible, tangible impact. The groundwork has been laid, relationships built, and now the team is poised to bring several exciting initiatives to life.

A symbolic and celebratory moment will take place on 4 June, when new President Keith Radmore will be officially inducted, along with six dynamic new members. This leadership transition injects new energy, fresh perspectives, and a deepened commitment to the mission of sustainable development and community upliftment.

Kicking off the action phase is a full-day planning workshop, scheduled for either 20 or 21 June. This session will bring together stakeholders—community leaders, agricultural experts, educators, and residents—for collaborative planning around the Food Forest/Food Garden project in Genadendal. The generous land allocated for this project is fertile and full of potential. More than just a garden, the vision is to create a thriving Food Forest that embodies sustainability, biodiversity, and education. Designed with permaculture principles, the project will provide food security for local families and serve

as a hands-on learning environment. Community involvement at every stage—from design to planting to maintenance—will foster ownership,



resilience, and environmental stewardship.

Another inspiring initiative in Genadendal is the construction of a

materials and methods, this build not only reduces environmental impact but also reintroduces valuable ancestral knowledge. This small home will serve as a prototype, showcasing affordable,

climate-appropriate housing that meets community needs while honouring cultural roots.

Meanwhile, the Early Childhood Development (ECD) project continues to gain momentum. Recognising that early education is critical to a child's future, Greyton Rotary is committed to supporting ECD centres that offer nurturing, safe, and stimulating environments. This initiative plays a vital role in addressing long-term inequality, helping ensure that every child, regardless of background, has the opportunity to thrive.

With revitalised leadership, an engaged and growing membership, and a compelling slate of impactful projects, Greyton Rotary is entering

a transformative chapter. The year ahead promises not only action and collaboration but also real, lasting change in the lives of the communities it serves.



pilot natural build home using traditional wattle and daub techniques. An erf has been allocated for this purpose, and the project will be developed collaboratively with local residents. By using indigenous

2025

GREYTON EVENT DIARY

JULY

- 04 Gendadendal First Friday Market (6-9pm)**
Gendadendal Historical Square
- 04 Christmas in July Dance! DJ Guss on the decks 5pm-12am) BYOB**
DRC Hall, Greyton
- 25 Bubbles, Brunch & Bingo**
Vanilla Cafe | 078 391 6325
- 25-26 Greyton Fire & Wine**
028 254 9414
www.greytontourism.com

AUGUST

- 29 Coffee, Code & Canvas Collective Meetup**
Pure Cafe | 066 216 9667
- 01 Gendadendal First Friday Market (6-9pm)**
Gendadendal Historical Square
- 09 Bridgerton High Tea (proceeds to Red Cross)**
Venue TBC
- 23 Greyton Brew Run**
Greyton Nature Reserve
www.greytontrail.co.za and EntryNinja
- 26 Coffee, Code & Canvas Collective Meetup**
Pure Cafe | 066 216 9667
- 29 Bubbles, Brunch & Bingo**
Vanilla Cafe | 078 391 6325

SEPTEMBER

HOSTING AN EVENT?
We'd love to feature it in our next issue.
Send the details to:
greetings@greytonpost.co.za

The Lighter Side

I cook with wine — sometimes I even add it to the food!



Where it counts



DELIGHTFUL VIGNE LANE COTTAGE

On 961 m² this cute original cottage has a cosy living room with wood-burning stove - opening to a fitted kitchen and separate dining room. Downstairs is an en-suite bedroom and an additional bathroom. Cosy loft en-suite bedroom opens to a small balcony. Double garage, laundry, plenty of storage, aircon and security. Established garden with swimming pool.

R3.99 mil



LIGHT & LUXURY IN THE COUNTRY VILLAGE

... for the over 50s. This immaculate home has an open plan lounge/dining room that flows to a large glass-enclosed sunroom, with a small garden. Well fitted kitchen, separate laundry and scullery. Two bedrooms, two bathrooms, study, remote controlled garage, airconditioning, large easy loft storage and full solar. The clubhouse offers bowling, boules, and croquet.

R4.3 mil