

Update from Tshwaranang, the HIV/Aids hospice in South Africa led by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart



Newsletter 9, October 2011

What's NEW at Tshwaranang

The hospice has struck lucky in appointing Rueben Mohulatsi as their new General Manager, following the retirement of Fr Herman MSC from this post. The multi-talented Rueben is not new to the hospice or charity organisations, in fact, he has been involved with the hospice and been chair of the Orphans & Vulnerable Children Care Centre and of Pastoral Councils.

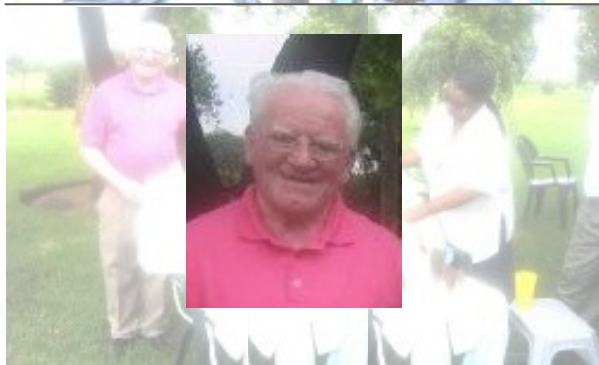


As a former teacher and financial manager of a utility company, Rueben has much needed experience in running the hospice, which has received recognition and accreditation in the Gauteng province.

He wrote to us, *"The Board of Tshwaranang roped me in I suppose, inter alia; because of my vast experience and most importantly that I know the culture of the Hospice as the former Chairperson of the Board."* In response to our donation of R63 840 (£6K) on the 12th July, he said, *"We have already started using the money, it came handy. ...Greetings to all and once more thank you so much."* RM

A few thanks

Depending on your hemisphere, the busy-ness of autumn harvest, or spring planting leave little time for sentiment. Words of thanks and recognition, however, are in order for two special people: Fr Herman Van Dijck MSC (*top*), founder (2006) and



out-going manager, and Fr Pat Courtney MSC (*bottom*) under whose watch the hospice was opened, expanded and developed. But for their great courage, personal sacrifice and trust, many hundreds would not have received the care they needed in this unique home-from-home.

WOULD YOU LIKE to sign the card at the back of church this weekend, which Fr. Nick is taking with him to the hospice next month?

Horizon scanning Horizon scanning Horizon scanning

Entering the fifth year of our parish community’s sponsorship of Tshwaranang hospice seems an opportune time for horizon-scanning: our southerly horizon, their future and perhaps even our shared perspectives. While surely our northern-hemisphere horizons look quite different from theirs, how about our hopes and fears, our goals for growth, the reality of our harvest, the inevitable nature of our futures. For some in both our communities facing difficulties, illness and uncertain ways forward, horizons might reflect our wishes to be with family, to have a break, the scene from a window, a distant voice, even.

On the walls of an early desert church that sprung up near the monastery of St. Antony in the desert, the kohl-rimmed eyes of the Egyptian Christians are said to be firmly fixed on a heavenly horizon. Surely, something to aspire to and admire. Still, wouldn’t we miss the down-to-earth happenings in our own lives, and those around us?

Thank you for all your donations throughout the year, large or small, from special events, memorable occasions, professional fees, standing orders, Alpha Soup money or tea-towel sales.



£2.3 K (28K Rand) has just been sent, but another £2,000 is needed to reach our goal of £10K for 2011! Cheques made out to 'Missionaries of the Sacred Heart', can be put into the black box at back of church. Donations can be gift-aided. Forms or envelopes will be on the black box.

We wish Fr. Nick well on his visit to South Africa during November and send our love and good wishes to all at the hospice. While he listens to their stories and shares the compassionate love of Christ’s heart with those he meets, let us hope he has a chance to gaze at some of their beautiful and sunny spring-time horizons!

Why not buy an exclusive tea-towel at a great price - £3 after Mass on the 12th or 13th Nov?

All the proceeds go directly to the hospice.



PARISH RAFFLE
TICKETS ON SALE IN NOVEMBER
 IN AID OF TSHWARANANG.
 WATCH THE BULLETIN FOR DETAILS.

All together now!
 A grand total of £1,740 was raised.