



on Pension

A newsletter for Nedgroup Pensioners

Circulation 5,700

since 1999

On Pension Archive

<https://TinyURL.com/On-Pension-Archive>

He walked from Cape to Cairo



Ewart Scott Grogan

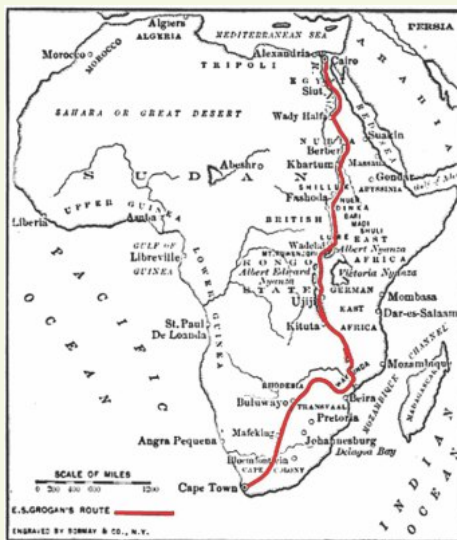
Cecil John Rhodes had a dream of constructing a railway from **Cape** to **Cairo**, but he was unsuccessful. However an even more astounding achievement was by **Ewart Scott Grogan**, (Born 12-12-1874 London – Died 16-8-1967 Cape Town) an English explorer, politician and entrepreneur who was the first person in recorded history to walk the length of Africa, from **Cape Town** to **Cairo**.

Ewart Grogan was educated at **Winchester College** and **Jesus College, Cambridge**, which he left without taking a degree. He was expelled from both school and university. Grogan spent some time at the **Slade School of Art**.

While up at Cambridge, he fell in love with **Gertrude Watt**, the heiress and direct descendant of **James Watt** the **Scottish inventor of the Steam engine**, the sister of a classmate, **Edward James Quadrant Watt**, but her stepfather disapproved of the match. Grogan came from a respectable family, but he had achieved little in his life to recommend it. He proposed becoming the first man to make the Cape-to-Cairo journey; the stepfather agreed this would be a suitable test of his character and seriousness as regards his stepdaughter.

He then commenced his expedition from Cape Town to Cairo at the age of 24 and

reached Cairo in 1900, after two-and-a-half years of travelling. He was in **Bulawayo** and it is claimed, helped defend the town during the 1896-7 **Second Matabele War**. Coincidentally, **Robert Baden-Powell**, [Founder of the Boy Scout Movement] was also there with the army, and later, his brother **Francis Baden-Powell** would marry **Gertrude Watt's** youngest sister, **Florence**.



During his travels, Grogan had been stalked by lions, hippopotamuses and crocodiles; pursued by head hunters and cannibals; and plagued by parasites and fevers. He returned home a popular sensation. He was made a **Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society** and met **Queen Victoria**. Grogan wrote about his journey in **'From the Cape to Cairo; the First Traverse of Africa from South to North (1902)'**. Capping his success, he married **Gertrude Watt**, doubtlessly having gained the approval of her stepfather, at **Christ Church, Lancaster Gate, Paddington, London** on 11 October 1900.

Ewart Grogan and his wife, Gertrude, arrived in **Kenya** in 1904. Making their way inland from **Mombasa** to **Nairobi**, Grogan swiftly

became a leading figure in the Kenyan settler community and a key player in the economic development of the country.

Grogan continued to expand his business interests in Kenya both before and after the **First World War**, as well as completing the railway line to his logging concession. He subsequently sank a large portion of his wealth into building the first deep water harbour in **Mombasa**.

Grogan was involved in politics all his life in Kenya by serving on the **Colonial Association** and the **Legislative Council**. Grogan took an interest in the advancement and education of the indigenous African population. He believed that **'the road of advancement must be open to all Africans'** and only then could his vision of a **'reasonable and decent society in Africa'** be fulfilled. Grogan had intended his **Lake Jipe Estate** to be used as an agricultural college for Africans and offered it to the colonial government but never received a reply. Regrettably today **Lake Jipe** has been over-fished and encroaching papyrus and dwindling water levels have reduced its area from a previous 108 Km² to 27 Km² according to **Dr. Paul Orina** a Kenyan research scientist with the **Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute**.



Grogan's Castle, Taveta, Kenya

After the **Second World War**, Grogan returned to **Taveta**, near the **Tanzanian** border with **Kenya** and lived in **Grogan's Castle**, the large house that he built on a hill overlooking the area. In 1943, **Gertrude Grogan** died from a heart attack in Nairobi.

...continue on page 2

Gertrude's Garden Children's Hospital located in **Nairobi, Kenya**, was founded in 1947, in memory of his wife, **Gertrude Edith**. The hospital now has seven branches spread out in Nairobi's residential areas. Grogan's Castle is now a small boutique Hotel and keeps his memory alive.

Letter from Cecil John Rhodes to Ewart Scott Grogan

You ask me to write you a short introduction for your book but I am sorry to say that literary composition is not one of my gifts, my correspondence and replies being conducted by telegrams.

I must say I envy you, for you have done that which has been for centuries the ambition of every explorer, namely, to walk through Africa from South to North. The amusement of the whole thing is that a youth from Cambridge during his vacation should have succeeded in doing that which the ponderous explorers of the world have failed to accomplish. There is a distinct humour in the whole thing. It makes me the more certain that we shall complete the telegraph and railway, for surely I am not going to be beaten by the legs of a Cambridge undergraduate.

Your success the more confirms one's belief. The schemes described by Sir William Harcourt as "wild cat" you have proved are capable of being completed, even in that excellent gentleman's lifetime.

As to the commercial aspect, everyone supposes that the railway is being built with the only object that a human being may be able to get in at Cairo and get out at Cape Town.

This is, of course, ridiculous. The object is to cut Africa through the centre, and the railway will pick up trade all along the route. The junctions to the East and West coasts which will occur in the future, will be outlets for the traffic obtained along the route of the line as it passes through the centre of Africa. At any rate, up to Bulawayo, where I am now, it has been a payable undertaking, and I still think it will continue to be so as we advance into the far interior. We propose now to go on and cross the Zambesi just below the Victoria Falls, I should like to have the spray of the water over the carriages.

I can but finish by again congratulating you, and by saying that your success has given me great encouragement in the work that I have still to accomplish.

Yours
C.J. RHODES



EDITORIAL COMMENT

John Sparkman



CRIME ALERT

The Editor continues to receive unsolicited e-mails advising that urgent parcels cannot be delivered by a courier before payment of a fee. I also guess that the Editor would be a millionaire if all the notices that SARS has refunded Tax to him were true. The dead giveaway is that he is instructed to confirm Banking details.

The phishing attempts go on and on and again the dead giveaway is that the e-mails are not addressed to a specific person and are vague and often have bad grammar in them, but each one instructs or entices you to click on a link. A further giveaway is the highjacked sender's e-mail address which bears no relationship to the purported organisation sending it.

Please heed Nedbank's warnings received on your Money App and don't fall victim to these types of scammers.

Also, beware of calls from your Cell Phone Service Provider enquiring whether you have initiated a request for a sim card swap and then asking you to repeat the 4 digit pin that they will sent to you. Do NOT respond to unsolicited scare tactics intended to stampede you into a panicked reaction – just hang up and for reassurance phone your Cell Phone Service Provider yourself.

When in doubt contact the organisation directly yourself and DO NOT click any easy links in the e-mails.

onPension A Newsletter for Nedbank Pensioners since 1999

EDITORIAL POLICY

ON PENSION is a newsletter published four times a year in print as well as electronically, for the purpose of keeping:

- retired members informed on important contacts and how to access advice on essential Nedbank services that they may need to access.
- old colleagues in touch with one another and to request help in tracing former colleagues.
- to offer a forum for discussion on issues of mutual interest.

Your comments, photos and contributions are welcome. Please send these to the Editor John Sparkman at onpension@mweb.co.za

While **ON PENSION** endeavours to present an informative and interesting variety of articles, it must be emphasised that the opinions of contributors remain their own and cannot be construed to reflect the views of the Editorial Committee or Nedbank.

ON PENSION will also not publish material which is politically, racially or religiously divisive.

In order to circulate **ON PENSION** it is necessary to maintain a database of contact details such as Membership Number, Title, Full Names and e-mail address or postal address. This information is held securely in a protected database and will not be disclosed to third parties for any reason, unless it is to e-mail or post **ON PENSION** publications to readers.

You have the right to have your personal details removed from the database and to no longer receive future publications by addressing your request to onpension@mweb.co.za

The On Pension newsletter is a free benefit pensioners receive but it is a costly process. From writing and editing, to designing, all costs are sponsored by Nedbank.

Nedbank On Pension Archive Access

Readers, Browse through back issues of **ON PENSION** "In the Cloud" by Clicking or Typing the following link into your internet browser.



ON PENSION ARCHIVE

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tCuWSmGfE7WoTkxKnnWvL5zr8Lhnl2PW?usp=drive_link



Scan the QR Code Above

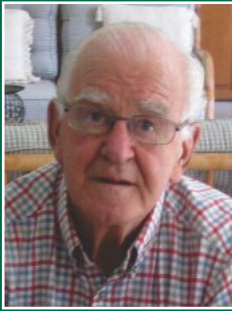


DOREEN SAAYMAN

Celebrated her 100th Birthday on 25 June 2025



Doreen Saayman



Albie Saayman

Doreen 'Ouma Dora' Saayman, widow of Nedbanker **Albie Saayman**, and a resident in a retirement village in **Gordons Bay, Western Cape**, celebrated her 100th Birthday on 25 June 2025 with a group of friends with a lunch at a Western Cape wine farm.

Albie Saayman was instrumental in computerising the **Netherlands Bank** and headed the computer division of Nedbank [**Nedacom**].

Former work colleagues recall with affection how Doreen would prepare home cooked meals for the Nedacom staff when they worked double shifts.

Albie and Doreen did not have any children so she has established the **Albie and Doreen Saayman Foundation** which benefits learners from her former school - **Hoërskool Calvinia** in the **Northern Cape** and many other people and charities.

She is fully aware what goes on around her and still looks after her own financial affairs.

In an interview on **KFM Radio**, Doreen said she met Albie in a Milky Bar when doing a post-school secretarial course in Paarl and as they say, everything else is history. She recalls fondly their travels overseas for work and holiday and has some wonderful memories.

Her secret to her health and amazing age, - she only hung up her car keys at the age of 99 - is no smoking or drinking and eat healthy food and her overarching philosophy is to **Live to Give and not Live to Receive**.

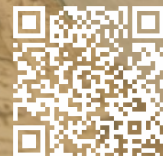
The Radio KFM announcers ended the interview with her favourite song, '**Amazing Grace**', and On Pension extends congratulations and best wishes to her.

Explore the Nedbank Heritage Portal

The History of Nedbank and its absorbed Financial Institutions



Click on the following link or scan the QR Code
<https://group.nedbank.co.za/home/heritage.html>



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with regret that readers of the Paper Hard Copy of "On Pension magazine" will no longer receive a printed copy after this edition.

This has been decided in view of the very few readers who still do not receive an Electronic Copy by e-mail and the escalating costs to produce Paper Editions.

Further for some years, the SA Postal Services cannot guarantee that postal items can be delivered to readers within an acceptable time frame.

To those Paper Edition readers we reluctantly say "Farewell" and urge them to engage a family member with e-mail facilities to receive an electronic copy on their behalf.

We do not wish to lose you.

So for clarity, from the December 2025 Edition, On Pension will only be e-mailed electronically to our readers.



Sextant

What is a Sextant?

In these days of **Global Positioning Systems** (GPS) **Google Maps** and **Google Earth**, not to mention satellite communications from anywhere in the World, let's take a moment to reflect on the **Sextant**, an instrument which enabled early explorers to navigate around the World and to spread Western civilisation to many foreignlands.

Even in modern days, it is a very reliable back up when electronic instruments have failed, although it requires a sound knowledge of procedures and calculations to arrive at a position, not like reading it off a digital display.

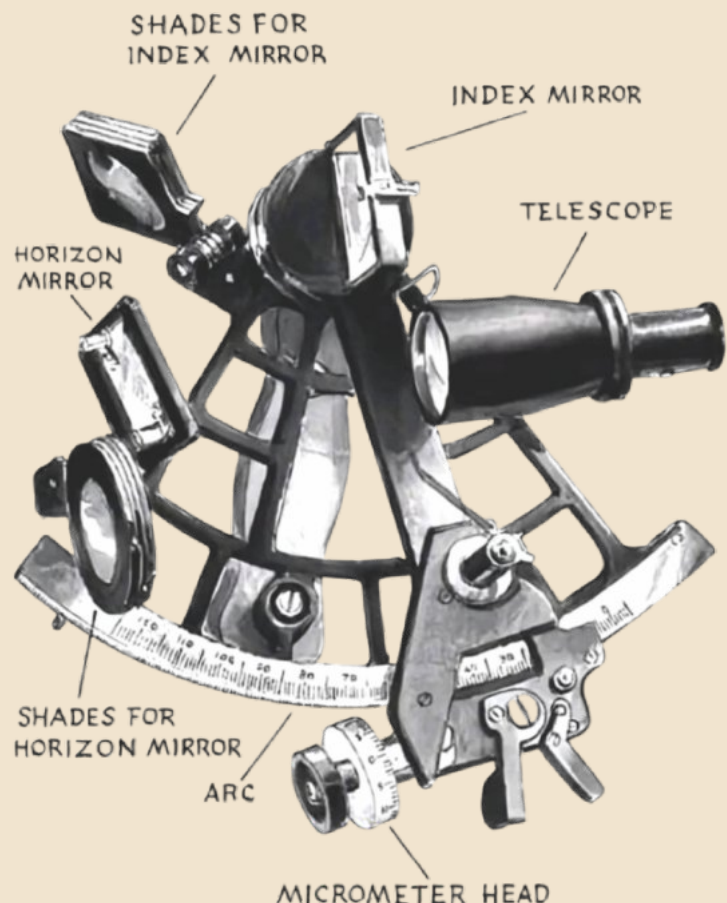
The principle of the instrument was first implemented around 1731 by **John Hadley** (1682–1744) and **Thomas Godfrey** (1704–1749), but it was also found later in the unpublished writings of **Isaac Newton** (1643–1727). In 1922, it was modified for **aeronautical navigation** by **Portuguese** navigator and naval officer **Gago Coutinho**.

So, a sextant is a navigational instrument used to measure the angle between a celestial object (like the sun or stars) and the horizon, allowing sailors to determine their latitude and longitude. It operates based on the principle of double reflection, enabling accurate angle measurements up to 120 degrees. The device consists of a frame, mirrors, a telescope, and a graduated arc, with readings taken through careful alignment of the celestial object and the horizon. This angle helps determine **latitude and longitude**, making the sextant an essential tool for celestial navigation.

A sextant is not used on its own but in conjunction with a chronometer and are used together to navigate. The sextant measures the angle between a celestial object and the horizon while the chronometer provides an accurate time reference in relation to **Greenwich Mean Time** [GMT- Named after the **Royal Observatory in Greenwich, London** and time counted from midnight as a Minus = West and behind in relation to the 0 degree Meridian or Plus = East or ahead of the 0 degree Meridian] or as GMT is referred to now, **Universal Time Coordinated** (UTC) allowing the user to calculate longitude. Combined, these tools efficiently pinpoint the user's position.

It is used to find the height of a celestial body above the horizon. From that one can calculate the distance from the body's terrestrial position. Three sights give a tiny triangle where the three distance circles intersect. This is called a 'cocked hat' and the resultant position is assumed to be at its centre. When three or more bearings are taken from a moving ship, the resulting position lines will not as a rule intersect in a point, but form a triangle. This triangle is known as a cocked hat and probably was derived from the triangular Tricorne hat worn by officers in the days of sail.

It's so much easier to look at Google Maps.



A letter delivered after the crash of Lufthansa Boeing 747 at Nairobi

20 November 1974

A strange coincidence as told by Ben Fourie – Accountant in 1974 at Nedbank Kroonstad.

I was Accountant at **Kroonstad Branch** during 1974.

Our clients Ditberners Floor Tile Industries imported tiles from Germany at the time.

We normally paid the supplier on receipt of the original documents but we never received the original documents and eventually paid the suppliers on receipt of duplicate documents.

After 3 months we received this Registered Airmail envelope in the mail which had survived a horrific **Nairobi crash of Lufthansa Boeing 747-130** Registration G-ABYB with the loss of 59 passengers, and I have kept it since then as it has a rubber stamp **“Retrieved from air crash on 20 November 1974 at Nairobi”** on the face of it to explain the delay in delivery as well as the condition it was in.



Source:

Flight International 28 August 1976 (481)
ICAO Circular 132-AN/93 (181-194)

Details:

Wednesday 20 November 1974 Time: 07:54
Aircraft Type: Boeing 747-130
Owner/operator: Lufthansa
Registration: D-ABYB
Year of manufacture: 1970
Total airframe hrs: 16,781 hours
Engine model: P&W JT9D-7
Fatalities: 59/Occupants: 157
Aircraft damage: Destroyed, written off
Location: Nairobi International Airport (NBO) - Kenya
Accident Phase: Take off
Nature: Passenger – Scheduled flight
Departure airport: Nairobi International Airport (NBO/HKNA)
Destination airport: Johannesburg International Airport (JNB/FAJS)
Confidence Rating: Accident investigation report completed and information captured

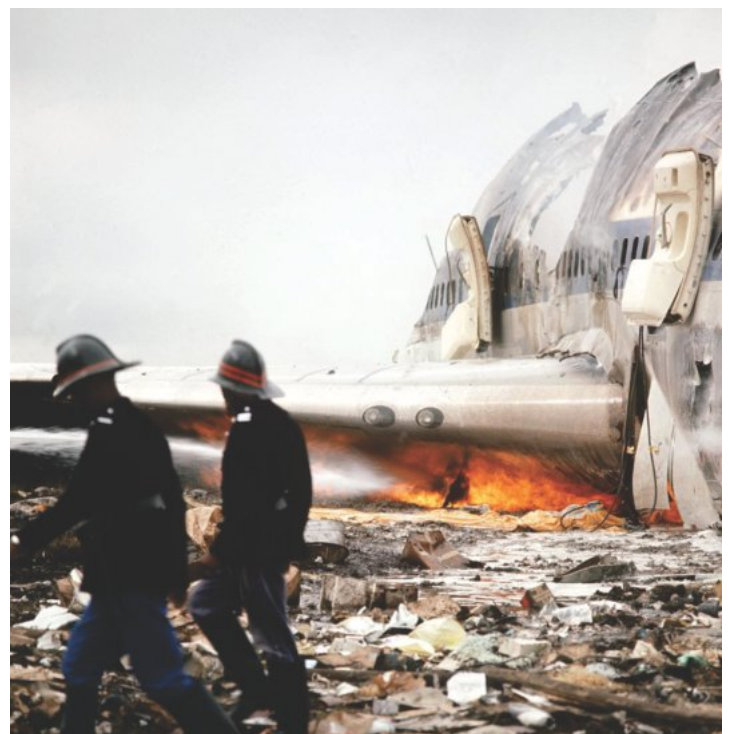


Narrative:

Lufthansa flight 540, a Boeing 747-100, crashed during take off from **Nairobi International Airport**, Kenya, killing 59 occupants; 98 survived the accident. This was the first fatal Boeing 747 accident.

Boeing 747 D-ABYB was taking off for the last leg of the **Frankfurt (FRA) - Nairobi (NBO) - Johannesburg (JNB)** flight when the crew felt vibration or buffeting following lift off. The captain, suspecting wheel imbalance, raised the gear. A lack of acceleration forced the crew to lower the nose in order to maintain airspeed. The Boeing continued to descend however and contacted the ground 1,120 m past the end of runway 24 and struck an elevated road 114 m further on. The aircraft broke up and caught fire before coming to rest 454 m past the initial point of impact.

PROBABLE CAUSE: "The accident was caused by the crew initiating a take-off with the leading edge flaps retracted because the pneumatic system which operates them had not been switched on. This resulted in the aircraft becoming airborne in a partially stalled condition which the pilots did not identify in the short time available to them for recovery. **Major contributory factors were the lack of warning of a critical condition of leading edge flap position and the failure of the crew to complete satisfactorily their checklist items.**"



THE YEAR 1912

by Sparky

In March 2019 ON PENSION started publishing events which occurred way back in history, commencing with Edition 81 and counting back 81 years it featured events in the Year 1938.

Counting back a year for each issue since then, we thus highlight events which occurred in 1912, as this edition is Number 107.



1912 – Significant World Events

- **1 Jan 1912** - Sun Yat-sen forms the Republic of China.
- **1 Jan 1912** – The South African Railways implements the reclassification and renumbering of the rolling stock of its three constituent Colonial railways, the **Cape Government Railways**, the **Natal Government Railways** and the **Central South African Railways**.
- **4 Jan 1912** - The Boy Scout Association is incorporated throughout the **British Commonwealth** by Royal Charter thus expanding the Boy Scouts across the World.
- **6 Jan 1912** - Geophysicist and meteorologist **Alfred Wegener** presents his controversial theory of **continental drift** in a lecture at the Geological Association at the Senckenberg-Museum, Frankfurt.
- **8 Jan 1912** – Traditional Chiefs, representatives of people's and church organizations, and other prominent individuals form the **African National Congress** in **Bloemfontein** and **John Langalibalele Dube** becomes the first president. They declare its aim to bring all Africans together as one people to defend their rights and freedoms.
- **17 Jan 1912** - Captain **Robert Falcon Scott's** expedition arrives at the **South Pole**. The dejection of the team as they explore the tent left by **Norwegian Roald Amundsen**, who reached the South Pole on 14 December 1911, thirty-five days before Scott, is evident in the photograph. There is a Norwegian flag at the top of the tent; inside, Scott found a letter recording Amundsen's achievement, left in case he did not return safely. **29 Mar 1912** Captain **Robert Falcon Scott**, storm-bound in a tent near the South Pole, makes the last entry in his diary "**the end cannot be far**".



Scott's British party reach Amundsen's tent.
L to R: Scott, Oates, Wilson and Evans

- **1 Mar 1912** - U.S. Army Captain **Albert Berry** performs first (attached static line-type) parachute jump from an airplane.
- **7 Mar 1912** - Norwegian explorer **Roald Amundsen** announces his team was the first to reach the **South Pole on 14 December 1911**, 34 days before British explorer **Robert Falcon Scott**.
- **2 Apr 1912** - RMS **Titanic** undergoes sea trials under its own power
- **10 Apr 1912** - RMS **Titanic** sets sail from **Southampton** for her maiden (and final) voyage.
- **14 Apr 1912** - RMS **Titanic**, the world's largest ocean liner, hits an iceberg at 11:40pm off **Newfoundland** and sinks in the early hours of 15 April 1912.



- **16 Apr 1912** - **Harriet Quimby** becomes the 1st female pilot to fly across **English Channel**.
- **28 May 1912** - Australian cricket spin bowler **Jimmy Matthews** takes **2 hat-tricks** on same day in **Triangular Tournament v South Africa at Old Trafford** (3/16, 3/38); only player to achieve the feat.
- **1 Jul 1912** - The **South African Union Defence Forces**, comprising a **Permanent Force** and a **Citizen Force**, were established. **Brig Gen Henry Lukin** appointed **Inspector-General of the Permanent Force** and **Brig Gen Christian Frederick Beyers** appointed **Commandant-General of the Citizen Force**.
- **19 Jul 1912** - A meteorite of estimated 190kg mass explodes over **Holbrook in Navajo County, Arizona**, causing approximately 16,000 pieces of debris to rain down on the town.
- **9 Sep 1912** - French aviator **Jules Védrines** is the first to fly over **100 mph (107 mph/172 kph)**.
- **5 Nov 1912** - Democrat candidate **Woodrow Wilson** is elected **President of the United States**, defeating Republican incumbent **William Howard Taft** and

Progressive candidate **Theodore Roosevelt**.

- **30 Nov 1912** – The **South African Springboks** beat **Ireland 38–0** in Ireland.
- **18 Dec 1912** - **Piltdown Man**, later discovered to be a hoax, is supposedly found in the **Piltdown Gravel Pit**, by **Charles Dawson**. The Piltdown Man was a paleoanthropological fraud in which bone fragments were presented as the fossilised remains of a previously unknown early human. Although there were doubts about its authenticity virtually from its announcement in 1912, the remains were still broadly accepted for many years, and the falsity of the **hoax was only definitively demonstrated in 1953**.
- **23 Dec 1912** - Indian revolutionary underground in **Bengal and Punjab**, headed by **Rash Behari Bose** attempt to assassinate **Viceroy of India Lord Hardinge**, by throwing homemade bomb into the Viceroy's Howdah (elephant carriage) during ceremonial procession in Delhi. Although wounded, the Viceroy survives. Investigations lead to the Delhi conspiracy trial.

Born in 1912

- **2 Feb 1912** - **Millvina Dean**, British civil servant who was the **last living survivor of the RMS Titanic** and also the youngest aboard, born in **Branscombe, Devon, England** (d.2009).
- **6 Feb 1912** - **Eva Braun**, German mistress and wife of **Adolf Hitler**, born in **Munich, Germany** (d.1945).
- **2 Mar 1912** - **Arthur Langton**, South African cricket medium pace bowler (**15 Tests, 40 wickets**), born in **Pietermaritzburg, Natal, South Africa** (d.1942).
- **16 Mar 1912** - **Thelma Catherine "Pat" Nixon [née Ryan]**, **American First Lady** (1969–74), born in **Ely, Nevada** (d.1993).
- **19 Mar 1912** - **Adolf Galland**, German WWII flying ace and general (**104 aerial victories, for the Luftwaffe**), born in **Westerholt, Germany** (d.1996).
- **22 Mar 1912** - **Wilfrid Brambell**, Irish actor (starred in the **Beatles 'Hard Day's Night'**, and the **Sitcom Comedy series 'Steptoe and Son'**), born in **Dublin, Ireland** (d.1985).
- **23 Mar 1912** - **Wernher Magnus Maximilian Freiherr von Braun** - **German-American rocket scientist** (**German V1 and V2 rockets**). Von Braun

...continue on page 7

was an opportunist who joined the Nazi Party to continue his work on rockets for Nazi Germany. He applied for membership in the Party on 12 November 1937, and was issued membership number 5,738,692. After Hitler was defeated, he was secretly moved to the United States, along with about 1,600 other German scientists, engineers, and technicians, as part of **Operation Paperclip**. He worked for the **United States Army** on an intermediate-range ballistic missile program, and he developed the rockets that launched the **United States' first space satellite Explorer 1** in 1958. Also he developed the **Saturn V, for NASA**, and was a Disney space consultant, born in Wirsitz, Kingdom of Prussia (now Wyrzysk, Poland).

- **27 Mar 1912 - James Callaghan - British Prime Minister** (Labour: 1976-79), born in Portsmouth, England.
- **15 Apr 1912 - Kim Il-sung** - Founder, dictator and **Supreme Leader of North Korea** (1948-94), born in Mangyongdae, Japanese Korea (1912-1994).
- **25 Apr 1912 - Gladys Presley**, mother of **Elvis Aaron Presley**, born in Memphis, Tennessee (d.1958).
- **18 May 1912 - Walter Max Ulyate Sisulu** a **South African anti-apartheid activist** and member of the African National Congress (ANC). Between terms as **ANC Secretary-General** (1949-1954) and **ANC Deputy President** (1991-1994), he was **Accused No.2 in the Rivonia Trial**.
- **18 May 1912 - Pierino 'Perry' Como**, American singer ("Catch A Falling Star") and TV personality ('The Perry Como Show'), born in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania (d.2001).
- **5 Jun 1912 - Eric Hollies**, **English cricket spin bowler** (13 Tests, 44 wickets; **dismissed Donald Bradman for 0 in his final Test innings**), born in Old Hill, Staffordshire, England (d. 1981) **Bradman, Australian international cricketer**, was widely acknowledged as the greatest batsman of all time and Bradman's career **Test batting average of 99.94** is considered by some to be the greatest achievement by any sportsman in any major sport.
- **16 Jun 1912 - Enoch Powell** - British Conservative MP and shadow cabinet member infamous for his "*Rivers of Blood*" speech, [a turning point from biological racist discourses to cultural racist discourses], born in Birmingham, England (1912-1998.)
- **23 Jun 1912 - Alan Turing** - **English mathematician, computer scientist, logician, cryptanalyst, philosopher and theoretical biologist.** (Turing Machine), born in London (1912-1954) Turing worked for the **Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park**, Britain's codebreaking centre that produced Ultra intelligence. He led **Hut 8**, the section responsible for German naval

cryptanalysis. **Turing devised techniques for speeding the breaking of German ciphers.**

- **14 Jul 1912 - Woody Guthrie** - American folk singer-songwriter born in Okemah, Oklahoma (1912-1967) "This Land Is Your Land", peace activist, and father of **Arlo Guthrie** who followed in his father's footsteps with his debut piece, "**Alice's Restaurant Massacre**", a satirical talking blues song of about 18 minutes in length.
- **17 Jul 1912 - Art Linkletter** - Canadian-American radio and TV host ('People are Funny'), born in Saskatchewan, Canada (d.2010).
- **23 Aug 1912 - Gene Kelly** - American stage and screen dancer, singer, actor, choreographer, and director ('An American in Paris'; 'On The Town'; 'Singin' in the Rain'), born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (1912-1996).
- **7 Sep 1912 - David Packard** - American electronics engineer, businessman and co-founder of **Hewlett-Packard**, born in Pueblo, Colorado (1912-1996).
- **21 Sep 1912 - Charles "Chuck" Jones**, American animator and cartoonist best known for his work with **Warner Bros.** (**Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Wile E. Coyote, Road Runner, Porky Pig**), born in Spokane, Washington (d.2002).
- **20 Nov 1912 - Otto von Habsburg**, last crown prince of **Austria-Hungary** and MEP (1979-1999), born in Wartholz Castle, Reichenau an der Rax, Lower Austria, Austria-Hungary (d.2011).
- **22 Dec 1912 - Claudia A. "Lady Bird" Taylor Johnson**, wife of **President Lyndon B. Johnson** - American first lady (1963-1969), born in Karnack, Texas (d.2007).



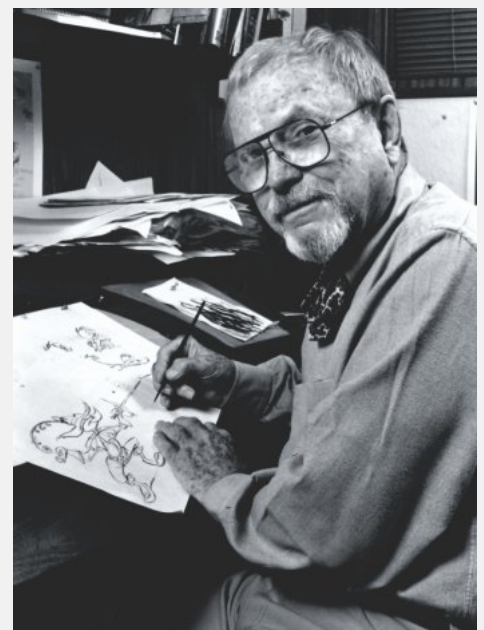
Werner von Braun



Wilfred Brambell



Harriet Quimby



Charles "Chuck" Jones



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

 **E-mail Address: OnPension@Mweb.co.za**

Please share your news, hobby or experiences with fellow readers. Readers are invited to submit suggestions, stories, photographs and articles to the Editor ON PENSION at the above email address.



Carlos da Silva compliments all involved with producing the On Pension magazine quarterly.

Dear Editor,

I trust you and family are well.

Just a short note to thank you and the rest of the staff involved in the production of our fantastic magazine.

You guys have been doing such a great job and should be rewarded for it.

Every article published is so interesting and to see some of our great Pensioners still out there after so many years is rewarding indeed.

Just by the way I was part of the fantastic Nedbank family for 38 years.

Please pass on my gratitude to everyone involved.

Kind regards
Carlos da Silva
CDSMF55@GMAIL.COM

The Editor replies: Thanks for your kind words and I am sure that everyone involved with the On Pension Magazine appreciates you writing in to say “Thanks”.

Dave Peckham has remarked on the relentless attempts of scammers and spammers that he has experienced.

Dear Editor,

Thank you again John for the latest On Pension, you work hard at it.

Referring to the last of the “Battle of Britain Pilots” - interesting that the last of the pilots admits he flew a Hurricane. The Hurricane won the Battle of Britain and the Spitfire got the credit because it was “prettier”. Many pilots claimed to have flown Spitfires when in fact they only flew Hurricanes.

I looked up, Britannica, Google and Wikipedia and thought you might like to include these statistics in my letter (see below).

As to scams, I have had yet another one. “Debt collectors” claiming to represent the municipality are demanding that I pay them for arrear rates. This together with the one that “represented” SARS makes one wonder if insiders could be releasing

our details to these scammers so don't think you are safe.

Go well.

Kind regards
Dave Peckham
dpeckham@global.co.za

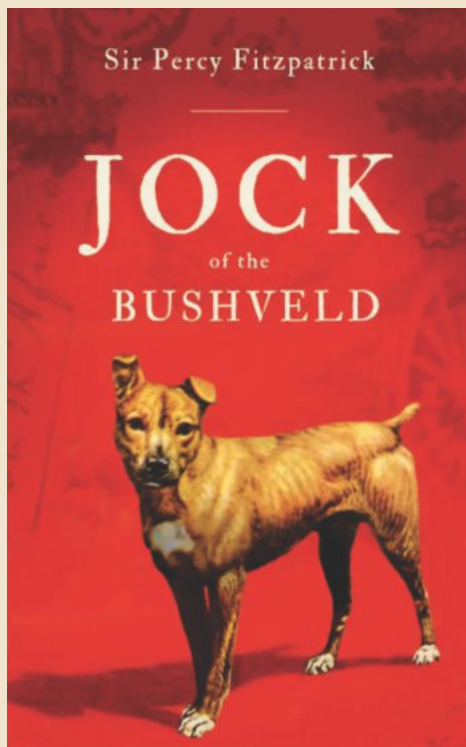
The Editor replies: Thanks Dave – it is worrying that these faceless scammers gain access to one's personal information – one cannot be too careful.



PERFORMANCE	SPITFIRE	HURRICANE	COMMENT
CEILING	34,000 Feet	36,000 Feet	
TOP SPEED	528 kph	550 kph	They both improved toward the end of the war, spitfire reaching 580 kph
TOTAL PRODUCED	20,351	14,500	This is distorted as the Hurricane stopped production in 1945 whereas the Spitfire continued until 1954 as many countries continued to buy the “prettier” Spitfire, also see “handling” below.
SUCCESS RATE	40%	60%	of enemy planes shot down.
HANDLING	Easier but the plane was fragile	More difficult but far more robust	Because the Hurricane could keep fighting even when damaged they were used more against bombers when where they had to face a whole crew armed with machine guns. The Spitfire was used against fighter planes as they were more agile.
ARMAMENTS	4 Canon or 8 Machine Guns	4 Canon or 12 Machine Guns	The Hurricane could also carry small bombs.

Sir Percy FitzPatrick

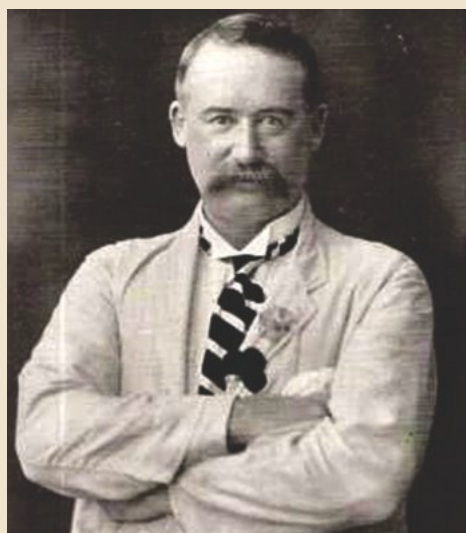
and Jock of the Bushveld – courtesy of Siyabona Africa



A timeline of the life of Sir Percy FitzPatrick

FitzPatrick was born in **King William's Town** 24 July 1862 and died at **Uitenhage** on 24 January 1931. He was the eldest son of **James Coleman FitzPatrick**, judge of the **Supreme Court of the Cape Colony**, and **Jenny Fitzgerald**, both from **Ireland**.

On his father's death in 1880, he left college in order to support his mother and family. In 1884, he went to the **Eastern Transvaal goldfields** where he worked as store man, prospector's hand and journalist, and as transport-rider from **Lourenço Marques** [present day Maputo] by ox-wagon to **Lydenburg** and **Barberton**. In Barberton, he became **editor of the Gold Fields News**.



Sir Percy FitzPatrick worked on a supply route through the Lowveld, along the **Old Delagoa Road**, which was used between May and September (the dry disease-free winter months) by transport riders from the **Lydenburg Goldfields** (Spitzkop, Macmac, Pilgrim's Rest and Lydenburg) to **Lourenço Marques**. This route served as the setting for many of Jock's adventures.

This road, known as "*The Old Transport Road*" dated back to 1844 when **Andries Potgieter** and a party of horsemen were tasked with finding a practical route between the **Ohrigstad** area and the port city of **Lourenço Marques**.

The route would eventually link **Ohrigstad**, the **Blyde-Treur convergence**, **Graskop**, **Sabie**, **Spitzkop**, **Pretorius Kop**, **Godleni poort** (north of Komatipoort) and **Lourenço Marques**. A Portuguese businessman, **Joao Albasini**, later improved the route in 1847.

He established a more direct and better-watered route between Pretorius Kop and Lourenço Marques through drifts on the **Crocodile and Komati Rivers**. When Ohrigstad was abandoned and **Lydenburg** established in 1850, the Voortrekkers linked, by means of a mountain pass over the Drakensberg, this new town to the original Spitzkop road.

In 1873 the road was extended from Macmac over the **Burgers Pass** (named after the president following his visit to and naming of Macmac) down the Blyde valley through seven drifts to **Pilgrim's Rest** and then linked to Lydenburg via **Robbers Pass** and **Kruger's Post**.

In 1875, the route between **Pilgrim's Rest** and **Lourenço Marques** was reserved for the use of the **Hungarian, Alois Nelmapius**, a successful Pilgrim's Rest digger and his **Lourenço Marques and South African Transport Service** by the **Transvaal Volksraad**, which donated a number of farms to him for use as resting stations for his carriers.

The transport service collapsed after trouble with **Sekukhuni** carriers during May 1876. The road was not used because of the Sekukhuni wars, won by the British in 1879 after annexing the Transvaal in 1877, and the first Anglo-Boer War in 1881.

Only in 1883 did transport riders use it again, until 1892 when the eastern railway line between **Lourenço Marques** and **Pretoria** reached **Nelspruit** in June of that year. After this, the road became redundant and was only ever used on isolated occasions.

FitzPatrick's adventures during this time of

his life, when he was pioneering in the Bushveld, are vividly described in his book '**Jock of the Bushveld**', which is generally accepted as a South African classic.

In the early 1900's he used to recount the adventures of his dog '**Jock**' (a Staffordshire Bullterrier cross), in the form of bedtime stories to his four children, **Nugent, Alan, Oliver, and Cecily**, to whom the book was dedicated.

Rudyard Kipling, an intimate friend, used to take part in these story-telling evenings and it was he who persuaded FitzPatrick to put the stories together in book form.

Having done this, FitzPatrick searched for a suitable artist to illustrate the book and eventually came across **Edmund Caldwell** in London and brought him to South Africa to visit the Bushveld and make the drawings on the spot.

The book, which appeared in 1907 for the first time, was an immediate and overwhelming success, being reprinted four times in that year.

FitzPatrick's first wagon journey to Lourenço Marques started on 8 May 1885. He was the least experienced of a party of transport riders, arranged by **Hugh Lanion Hall**, to transport supplies purchased at the Port of Lourenço Marques. One of this group was **Ted Sievwright**, the owner of '**Jess**', 'Jock's' mother.

The **Samarhole spruit** or **Ship Mountain Camp** is a focal point of some of the major events in story of 'Jock'. It was here that the group he was travelling with, nearly lost their wagons and equipment in a self-inflicted veld fire. It was also here that '**Jess**' had her litter. She gave birth at the Samarhole campsite, under a big tree standing near the edge of the spruit.

Her timing had been bad, as it happened to be on the same day that the party had decided to resume their journey to Lourenço Marques. While the wagons were being in-spanned, Jess aggressively prevented any approach towards the party's rifles resting against the trunk of the tree. It was soon discovered why 'Jess' had been acting in such a peculiar manner. In the soft long grass beneath the tree, the cry of a puppy could be heard.

Ted Sievwright was sent for to entice 'Jess' onto his wagon. She and her six puppies were given a special nest near the tailboard of Ted's wagon. Of the six, 5 resembled their father, an imported dog, with only one looking like 'Jess'.

...continue on page 10

FitzPatrick was to take an interest in the runt because the other five had been booked by Ted's friends. In **'Jock of the Bushveld'**, FitzPatrick tells the story of how this runt would eventually become the champion of the litter, 'Jock'.



The party's route along the **Delagoa Road** has been marked, with one 'Jock of the Bushveld' way mark south of **Afsaal** on the main **Malelane-Skukuza** tarred road. A second way mark is an original placed, near **Fihlmanzi**, by the then **Transvaal Provincial Administration** in 1951 to preserve the route of the Old Road.

There is a way mark at a parking spot overlooking the **Crocodile drift** on the **Malelane-Crocodile Bridge** road where 'Jock', FitzPatrick and **Jim Makokel** had their famous fight with the old crocodile.

The book also contains a number of anecdotes, which take place in the **White River** district. These include the chapters on **"Jock's schooldays"**, his first hunt, FitzPatrick's story of being lost in the veld with Jock, the **"Impala Stampede"**, and **"Jock's Night Out."**

Today Jock of the Bushveld way marks have been placed wherever this old road crosses or departs from the modern roads, or along the original road where it is still wholly or partly in use. These way marks were inspired by **Mrs. Cecily Niven, daughter of FitzPatrick**. Jock's birthplace (he was born in 1885) is marked along the **Voortrekker Road**, which runs southeast of **Pretoriuskop**.



Found at **Jock Safari Lodge**, there is a bronze statue that commemorates the bravery and loyalty of Jock.

In 1889 FitzPatrick went to the

Witwatersrand and in 1891 led **Lord Randolph Churchill's** expedition through **Rhodesia**, (immortalised in *'Through Mashonaland with Pick and Pen'*) and prepared the way for **Alfred Beit's** journey to **Lo Bengula's** land.

In 1892 he returned to the Rand as head of the **Intelligence Department of Herman Eckstein and Company** (a branch of Wernher, Beit of London), afterwards famous as the Corner House.

Under the **President Paul Kruger** regime, FitzPatrick became a vital force behind the demand for franchise rights and citizen status for the "Uitlanders" (outlanders), becoming secretary of the **Reform Committee** in 1895.

On the collapse of the **Jameson Raid** at **Doornkop**, FitzPatrick (who declared that Jameson's precipitate action was absolutely against the wishes of the Reform Committee) was arrested with many others, imprisoned and tried for High Treason. (Imprisonment under bad conditions permanently affected his health).

He was an unofficial member of the **Transvaal Legislative Council** and served on the **Inter-Colonial Council**, which was responsible for the **S.A. Railways**. He was knighted for these services in 1902. He later became **President of the Chamber of Mines**. FitzPatrick played a great part in the creation of the **Union of South Africa** as a delegate from the Transvaal to the National Convention. He acted as liaison between **Generals Botha** and **Smuts** and the Transvaal; and he and **General Hertzog**, in private, worked out the agreement for full language equality.

During his parliamentary career, he successfully fought two memorable elections in defence of his Pretoria seat - first in 1906 against **Sir Richard Solomon**, and again in 1910 against **General Botha**, the Prime Minister of the first Union Parliament. He was created K.C.M.G. in 1910. [**Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George**. It is a British order of chivalry, recognizing service in a foreign country or in relation to foreign and Commonwealth affairs. It is one of the ranks within the **Order of St. Michael and St. George**, which was founded in 1818.]

During the 1914/18 War FitzPatrick was sent by General Smuts on a countrywide tour, lecturing on the reasons and causes of the war. When it ended, he conceived the idea of the **"two minutes silence on Armistice Day"**, and the suggestion was adopted and acknowledged by **King George V**.

The idea of the **National South African War Memorial at Delville Wood** was his and he was Chairman of that committee. FitzPatrick had a most engaging personality and a sunny and optimistic nature, but his later life was clouded by a series of personal tragedies. His wife died in 1923.

His eldest son, **Nugent**, had been killed in France in 1917 and his other two sons died within a week of each other at Christmas 1927: **Alan** from an accident in Johannesburg and **Oliver** from typhoid fever in Mexico. This left him only his daughter **Cecily** who married in 1923 to Jack Niven.

These blows, though borne with great courage, shortened his life and he died at **Amanzi, Uitenhage** in January 1931 at the age of sixty-nine. He is buried on **The Outlook** overlooking the **Sundays River Valley**. His burial place has been declared a National Monument.

His name lives on through **'Jock of the Bushveld'**.



<https://tinyurl.com/Jock-of-Bushveld>

Click the above link or scan the QR Code for the Full 1986 Movie of "Jock of the Bushveld" with Jonathan Rands as Percy Fitzpatrick and Umfubu as Jock.





Mike's smile Corner

By Mike Massmann – in Vancouver, Canada - massmann@shaw.ca



Reflect on these:

- I did some financial planning and it looks like I can retire at 97 and then live comfortably for 11 minutes.
- I did not realise how bad my driving was until my GPS said **"In 400 yards do a slight right, stop and let me out"**
- I changed my password to **"incorrect"** so that whenever I forget what it is, the computer will say **"Your password is incorrect"**
- The longest drum solo I know of was 10 hours and 20 minutes long and was performed on the back of my seat by the child sitting behind me on Delta flight DL211 from Cape Town to Atlanta.
- The Doctor assured me that after my vasectomy I would not have kids anymore, but when I got home they were still all there.
- As I was getting into bed a voice said **"You're drunk"**. I said **"How do you know that?"** and the voice said **"Because you live next door"**.
- It's a good day. The bulb of my **'Check Engine'** light on my dashboard finally burned out.
- **"Dad, I've got a part in my school play – I play a man who has been married for 25 years"**. **"That's great son, next time you may get a speaking part"**

- There are 3 things that cannot be easily hidden: **The Sun, the Moon, and the Truth.**
- What would you do if you saw a spaceman? Park man of course.

The following are 5 Rules of Life, and 2 Bonus Rules:

RULES:

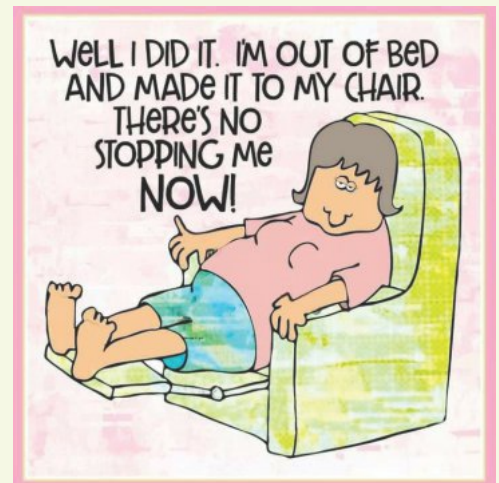
1. Money can't buy happiness - **but it's far more comfortable to cry in a Porsche than on a bicycle.**
2. Forgive your enemy - **but remember the guy's name.**
3. If you help someone when they're in trouble - **they will remember you when they're in trouble again.**
4. Alcohol does not solve any problems - **but then, neither does milk.**
5. Many people are alive only because **it's illegal to shoot them.**

BONUS RULES:

1. I think all politicians should wear uniforms like Formula 1 Racing drivers, **so we could identify their corporate sponsors.**
2. Also, all politicians should serve only two terms - **one in office and one in prison.**



"Folks, the main reason you're not getting a good picture is because you bought yourselves a microwave oven."



Holsboer Vacations – Great Escapes

Click the picture below or scan the QR Code to explore your Holsboer Holiday Destinations and Pensioner offers.



HOLSBOER
Vacations
Great Escapes



<https://holsboervacations.everlytic.net/public/landing-pages/nedbank-pensioners-rates-2025-6Gs0ueUthJ5HfuZf>



Johannesburg Annual Self-funded Pensioners' Brunch

21 January 2026 – Final arrangements available in October.

Please diarise the Self-funded Pensioners' Brunch to be held on

Wednesday 21st January 2026 – at the Bryanston Country Club

The anticipated cost will be **R240 per head**.

Please **RSVP** to NOBS-Team@outlook.com to be placed on the NOBS Mailing list in order to receive further updates.

We look forward to seeing you.

Patrick, Frank, Dawn and Pieter



A Big Thank You!

May we thank all those generous donors who have helped us over the last years.

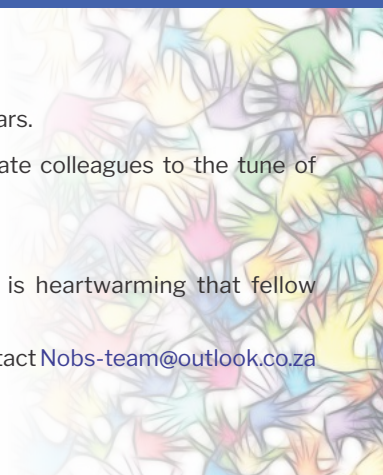
We have over that period managed to give vouchers to our less fortunate colleagues to the tune of R750,000

Quite a milestone.

The thanks and gratitude from the recipients are phenomenal and it is heartwarming that fellow Pensioners are so generous in assisting those less fortunate.

As we are sure that there are others also in despair, we ask that they can contact Nobs-team@outlook.co.za so we can plan for the future.

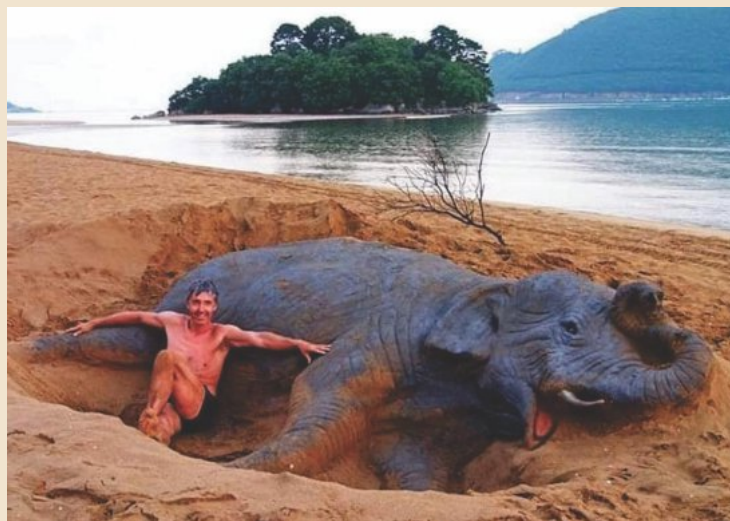
Sincerely
Pieter Schild



Sand Sculptures

When we think of sand sculptures, castles likely first come to mind. But you can do a lot more with sand than construct tiny buildings; artist **Andoni Bastarrika** is proof of it. He creates realistic animal portraits that are so lifelike you'll do a double-take when you see them.

To create the illusion, Bastarrika tightly packs the sand to create a blank canvas for textures like fur and wrinkles. He adds to the realism with stone powders that colour the sand as well as other materials as necessary.



When used carefully and correctly, rare words can elevate your writing. However, the best rare words are ones you can use in daily life. The key to using words that make you sound smarter is understanding how to use these terms properly and when to add them to your speech and writing.

Accismus (noun)

Accismus is a useful term for pretending to be disinterested in something when you actually want it. Pull this word out when you see someone acting like he doesn't want the last donut.

Acumen (noun)

If you can easily make decisions or learn important things, you are displaying acumen. This positive word is a great term to use when paying someone a compliment.

Anachronistic (adjective)

When something doesn't fit with its historical context, it's anachronistic. This is a great word to use when writing history papers or talking about your favourite historical dramas. Pull it out when you point out the motor car in the background of a period movie.

Anthropomorphize (verb)

When someone gives human characteristics to something inanimate, that person is anthropomorphizing that thing. From personification in literature to your brother making his stuffed animals talk, this is a useful and unusual word to know.

Bastion (noun)

A bastion is a place that is well-defended, but it can also be used to describe an institution or person who holds firm to principles. Use it when talking or writing about social institutions, politics, news organizations, and more.

Burgeon (verb)

When you're talking about something that is growing noticeably, you might say that it is burgeoning. You can use this term literally or figuratively.

Convivial (adjective)

Use this great adjective to describe someone or something that is great company. You can use convivial to pay a compliment to a group of people or use it to describe a gathering you enjoyed.

Conundrum (noun)

If you run into a problem that doesn't have a clear solution or an obvious correct answer, you can call it a conundrum.

Credulity (noun)

Do you know someone who is gullible or willing to believe things without proof? Use the word credulity to describe this character trait.

Crepuscular (adjectives)

You know how some animals are nocturnal and some are diurnal, but what about animals like deer that are active during dawn and dusk? These animals are crepuscular.

Effete (adjective)

Sometimes you meet someone or encounter something that is overly refined - even to the point of uselessness. That thing is effete.

Egregious (adjective)

Use egregious to describe something that is really extraordinary but negative at the same time. It comes in handy for writing or talking about people breaking important laws or rules.

Eschew (verb)

If you're trying to stay away from something on purpose, you are eschewing that thing. This is useful when talking about intentional choices in personal essays.

Fatuous (adjective)

Sometimes you need to describe someone or something that is foolish or silly. That's a great time to use the word fatuous.

Fractious (adjective)

If something is difficult to control and generally bad-tempered, you can describe it as fractious. This is useful when talking about cranky children or animals.

Imperious (adjective)

If you need to describe a person or thing that is bossy and domineering for no good reason, use the word imperious. It's ideal for personal essays about siblings.

Insouciant (adjective)

Someone who is very calm and doesn't seem bothered by the concerns of daily life can be described as insouciant. This is a great positive word to use in a variety of situations.

Interlocutor (noun)

When you're describing the participants of a conversation, you're talking about the interlocutors.

Melange (noun)

Anything that is a mixture of seemingly unrelated things is a melange. You can use this in the abstract to talk about apparently unrelated qualities or ideas.

Noisome (adjective)

If you need to describe something that is harmful or really annoying to the point of near harm, use the word noisome. It's also ideal for describing something that smells bad.

Obfuscate (verb)

Have you ever seen someone make something more confusing than it needs to be? That person is obfuscating a concept.

Paucity (noun)

When something is scarce, there is a paucity of it. This is a good and uncommon word that is extremely useful when talking about a lack of evidence for a claim.

Pernicious (adjective)

Some habits or actions are especially destructive, even to the point of being deadly. These things are described as pernicious.

Perspicacious (adjective)

If you need to pay someone a compliment for their good judgement and clear thinking, you can describe that person as perspicacious. It's a great word that is as rare as it is positive.

Philistine (noun)

Calling someone a philistine is less of a compliment. It means a person who is closed-minded and doesn't care about the culture and values around him or her.

Prevaricate (verb)

Ever need to describe someone who won't give a straight answer to a question or who tends to dance around a topic without directly addressing it? That person is prevaricating.

Sagacious (adjective)

Know someone who is wise and always uses great judgement? That person is sagacious.

Sanguine (adjective)

Another great adjective to use to describe someone is sanguine. It refers to a person who is cheerful and confident.

Timorous (adjective)

Someone who is scared, fearful, or simply shy may be described as timorous. This is useful term when writing narratives and describing characters.

Ubiquitous (adjective)

Another really useful word that isn't common is ubiquitous. It means something that is everywhere at the same time.

Ultracrepidarian (noun)

If a person offers opinions that extend beyond his or her knowledge, that person is an ultracrepidarian. This is a useful word for narratives and character descriptions.

Verisimilitude (noun)

When something looks like the real thing, it has verisimilitude. A great example of this would be vinyl flooring that looks like stone.

Visceral (adjective)

Have you ever felt something so deeply that it affected you on an emotional level? You had a visceral reaction to that thing.

Zeugma (noun)

A figure of speech in which one word has a double meaning within a sentence, zeugma is a useful term for language arts papers. An example of this would be, "He stole my heart and my car."



An unusual tilting bridge

The **Gateshead Millennium Bridge** is a pedestrian and cyclist tilting bridge in **England** spanning the **River Tyne** between **Gateshead arts quarter** on the south bank and **Newcastle upon Tyne's Quayside** area on the north bank. It was the first tilting bridge ever to be constructed and it opened for public use in 2001.

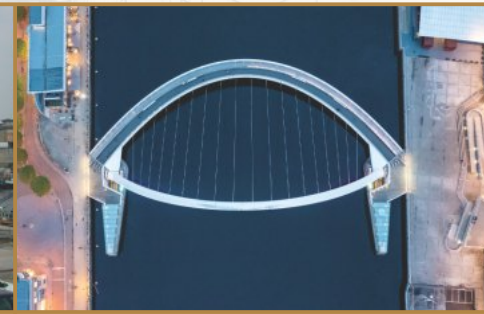
The bridge is sometimes called the '**Blinking Eye Bridge**' or the '**Winking Eye Bridge**' due to its shape and its tilting method to open to allow shipping to pass beneath it on the River Tyne.



Bridge down in use



Bridge open for shipping



Bridge from the top

The Real Life LEGO Bridge Wuppertal, Germany



View underneath the unique Lego Bridge

At a time when Lego building blocks are more popular than ever, this bridge in the **North Rhine-Westphalian** area of **Germany** seems like it came straight out of **Legoland**.

While the structure looks like it required advanced Lego construction methods to build, it's really just a common concrete beam bridge that an artist camouflaged by painting it to look like it was made of Lego blocks.

This creative update to the bridge transformed it from an eyesore into a local landmark and has the approval of Lego.



The Slauerhoffbrug bascule bridge resembles a spatula flipping pancakes

Dragon Bridge - Da Nang, Vietnam



The Dragon Bridge breathes fire on weekend nights

Dragons are a symbol of power, nobility and prosperity throughout Asia. They're used as a decorative element in art and architecture across the continent.

This bridge is unique because it integrates the dragon symbol into the structure.

At just over 2,000 feet, the six lane viaduct provides the shortest route between the airport and central **Da Nang**. It is a critical connector in this Vietnamese city.

Every Saturday and Sunday night, the dragon breathes fire as part of a spectacular show. This is in addition to the more than 2,500 LED lights that illuminate the bridge every evening.

Twin Sails Bridge Dorset, England

This double bascule bridge spans the **Backwater Channel**, a popular boating area in **Dorset**.

It features two 75 foot long leaves powered by hydraulic rams that open the bridge so ships can pass. When these two sections are in the raised position, they resemble sails.

It only takes two minutes to open the **Twin Sails Bridge**, which helps limit inconvenience to drivers.



Twin Sails Bridge in its open position while under construction

Slauerhoffbrug – Leeuwarden, The Netherlands

Every time the bridge opens for ships to pass, it looks like that common kitchen utensil being lifted into the air.

As prominent as the bascule is in its raised position, it becomes invisible when lowered into the roadbed.

The **Slauerhoffbrug** is quickly raised and lowered to let ships pass ten times a day, on average.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with deep regret that we announce the names of recently deceased pensioners and offer our heartfelt sympathies to families and friends.

Mike Lester Attridge • Daneline Bekker • Una Bester • Mary Cameron • Diederick Coetzee • Sheila Cohen • **Rosalind Fish**
 Andrew James Gardiner • **Dudley Melville Godfrey** • Rose Marie Goodinson • Clive Leonard Hodgkinson • George Jacobus Kersop
 Michael Knox • Johanna Kruger • Johan Christoffel Landman • **Jean Langeveldt** • Catherine Malette • **Anita Marshall**
 Patrick Anthony Martin • Hlophogile Masango • William Adam McFarlane • Christina McGrath • Yvonne Jeanette Millar
 Jacoba Marthina Minnaar • **Christopher John Mountford** • June Munnik • Veronica Mwandla • Nontsokolo Peter
 Magdalena Pretorius • Pradeep Ram • Yvonne Ryan • **Dawn Scheferman** • Louisann Smith • **Margaret Gertrude Freda Trehair**
John Truscott • Elaine Compton Urry • **Christiaan Dewet Beyers van Vreden** • **Lucille van Wyk** • Cornelius Vermaak
Neville Versfeld • Cherry Carol White • Francis Williams • **Bryan Alastair Yeoman** • Camelia Zentelis • Nontobeko Zenzile

AMEX / NEDTRAVEL	BLOEMBOARD	BoE / BOLAND	CoGH BANK	CREDCOR	FIDELITY BANK
IMPERIAL	NBS	NEDBANK	NEDFIN / NEFIC	PERM	SYFRETS / UAL

On Pension frequently receives the question from concerned relatives or friends asking why the name of their loved one did not appear in the **In Memoriam**. We can well appreciate that this may look like an oversight, but it is not deliberate. At On Pension we depend on the records as held by our Administrators AlexForbes. However, if someone "retired" from Nedbank from one of the DC Funds, they would have severed all ties. Likewise when retiring from the Nedgroup Pension Fund, they opted to take the Actuarial Proceeds and purchase an Annuity from an insurer outside the Fund, then AlexForbes would not be aware of this and there would be no feedback to the NRF Team when they passed away.

On Pension is sympathetic and will certainly publish names of all loved ones and colleagues who have passed away provided NRF has received the information from the family supported by the Death Certificate.

Gone, but not Forgotten



Margaret Gertrude Freda Trehair

24 March 1925 – 7 May 2025
 100 Years

It is with sadness that we advise of the passing of one of our **Centenarians** who On Pension celebrated in the March 2025 Edition.

During an interview, Freda revealed that she had joined the **South African Permanent Building Society** when she finished school at age 18. It was her first job and she worked for the Perm until retirement in March 1985. She was very proud of the gold watch she received for 30 years' service.

She will be missed by her two children, four grandchildren and five great grandchildren as well as her friends at Pioneer Homes.

Rest in Peace Freda.



GUIDELINES IN THE EVENT OF A PENSIONER'S DEATH.

Advise the Nedgroup Retirement Fund Department by e-mail at:
PensionerQueries@Nedbank.co.za

Guidance will be given by the NRF Department on what to supply and to what e-mail address to direct specific queries.

(To assist please quote the Pensioner Number or ID Number as well as from where the Pension is received.)

Obtain the following documents as the relevant Pension/Annuity Administrator and Executor will require them.

- Certified copy of the death certificate (bearing the Home Affairs stamp)
- Copy of the identity document of the deceased
- Copy of the marriage certificate
- Copy of Surviving Spouse's identity document
- Copy of children's identity documents (only required if in terms of the rules of the fund, a child's pension is paid on the death of a pensioner)
- Surviving Spouse's bank details - **one of the following (not older than 3 months)**
 - Copy of Surviving Spouse's latest bank statement or
 - Copy of a letter from Surviving Spouse's bank, on the bank's letterhead, confirming the banking details.

**"Also please advise the Editor Nedbank ON PENSION at:-
 OnPension@Mweb.co.za
 in order to update the mailing list"**

NOTE

A spouse's pension CANNOT be paid into the deceased's former banking account.

Also advise the NRF Dept. should the deceased Pensioner have been a member of Group Life.

KEEP THESE GUIDELINES WITH YOUR WILL.

The Last Word

Ponder on these

- "All Together" is written Separately while "Separately" is written All Together.
- A dentist and a manicurist got married – they fought tooth and nail.
- There was the man addicted to drinking brake fluid – he says he can stop at any time.
- The haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.
- A thief stole a calendar and got 12 months.
- I changed my cell phone's name to Titanic – it's syncing now.
- I got some batteries – they were being given away free of charge.
- A will is a dead giveaway.
- After she married she got a new name and a dress.
- I didn't like my beard at first, but then it grew on me.
- I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, but then it dawned on me.

Handy Advice

- Don't use your GPS to find the way to the Cemetery. It's not nice to hear the voice say **"You have reached your destination"**

NEDGROUP PENSION FUND



Principal Officer:
Nedgroup Pension Fund
Tebogo Tlatsana
Tel: 010 234 3642
TebogoTl@Nedbank.co.za

NEDGROUP RETIREMENT FUND DEPARTMENT

PEOPLE SHARED SERVICES

PensionerQueries@Nedbank.co.za



MANAGER
Carmen Sauls
Tel: 010 234 4424
CarmenSa@Nedbank.co.za



TEAM LEADER
Deshnee Naidoo
Tel: 010 216 7915
DeshneeNa@Nedbank.co.za



ADMINISTRATOR
Rochelle van der Byl
Tel: 010 234 5727
RochelleV@Nedbank.co.za



ADMINISTRATOR
Khawulani Mbatha
Tel: 010 224 9092
KhawulaniM@Nedbank.co.za

SERVICE PROVIDER CONTACT DETAILS

Nedgroup Pension Fund Administrators

Alexforbes:

Client Interactive Centre:

0800 122 992 / 0800 112 157 / 011 269 0974 or at NedgroupPensionQueries@Alexforbes.com

Nedbank Contact Details



Should any Pensioner wish to find out what the Pensioner Rates are for Nedbank Products, contact PensionerQueries@Nedbank.co.za or contact the Nedgroup Retirement Fund Department.

Service Request or Queries 0860 555 111
Compliments 0860 444 000
Insurance Claims and Complaints 0860 333 111

Chat to us via the Nedbank Money App.

Use the 'Talk to us' link on

nedbank.co.za/contents/forms/af/nedbank/TalkToUs.html

Contact Details for Nedgroup Trust (Pty) Ltd.

Pensioners who have their wills with Nedbank or any of the former Group Company Wills Administrators, please note and advise your next of kin that there is now a central Wills Drafting Department in Nedbank.

Request for copies of / original Wills / canceling of will - WillsCopies@Nedbank.co.za

Should you need a new Will or amendments to an existing Will, please click on our link below to guide you through the process.

<https://www.nedbank.co.za/content/nedbank/desktop/gt/en/supplementary/formintroduction/formintroductionWillsOnline.html>



Wills Department Second Floor, Block H
Nedbank 135 Rivonia Campus,
135 Rivonia Road,
Sandton, 2196

All Regions:

WillsCentre@Nedbank.co.za

Call Centre 0800 220 290

StaffFinancialPlanning@Nedbank.co.za

Pensioners can book Out of Season all the year round



HOLSBOER
Vacations
Great Escapes

<https://www.holsboervacations.mobi/>

For tariffs and bookings at Holsboer resorts contact:
HolsboerVacations@Nedbank.co.za or
send your postal address to them by
fax at 010 251 3350
or tel 010 234 4900

or visit us on
social media:



Gerry Muller Benefit Committee
Medical Financial Assistance



SECRETARY

Ashley Apies

Email: gerrymuller@Nedbank.co.za

Cell: 068 128 7129 (office hours Mon-Fri)

FUNERAL COVER



Pensioners who have funeral cover with **Safrican** are reminded to direct their queries to **Safrican**.

Tel: 011 778 8000 | Fax: 011 778 8189 | E-Mail: Service@S african.co.za

MEDICAL AID



Healthcare

For Medical Scheme escalations there is a dedicated service for assistance.
Iqbal Wahab (Principal Consultant - Healthcare) | Tel: 011 269 0268
Wilma Fourie (Service Consultant - Healthcare) | Tel: 011 269 0593
E-mail: NedbankMedicalAid@Alexforbes.com



Tel: 086 000 2108 | E-mail: Claims@Bonitas.co.za | E-mail: Queries@Bonitas.co.za
<https://admin.medscheme.co.za/2013/Bonitas/>



Tel: 086 000 2378 | E-mail: Claims@Bestmed.co.za | E-mail: Service@Bestmed.co.za



Tel: 086 099 8877 | E-mail: Claims@Discovery.co.za | E-mail: HealthInfo@Discovery.co.za



Tel: 010 599 1163 | E-mail: Info@Sirago.co.za | Medical Gap Cover | <https://sirago.co.za>