

Dear Friends,

We are 3 weeks away for the shortest day in our part of the world. The weather is cool to warm with no wind. Coldest being 10 degrees Celsius going up to 26. The coldest day this year was the wedding day of Prince Harry and Meghan, so we snuggled up in front of the heater with cucumber sandwiches, scones and brownies to celebrate with them.

While talking about the wedding, it was certainly a world changing event and as Bishop Michael said, the world would be filled with LOVE! What a sermon - so fitting for this very special occasion? We are proud to have our very own silver MEG(H)AN range of beautiful long and short necklaces with matching earrings, we must have been forewarned she was on her way? May the new Duke and Duchess pick up where Princess Diana left off and change the world and in particular: AFRICA?

Orders around the world are very slow to our dismay, particular in South Africa, where land expropriation without compensation is on every one's tongues! Government needs to distribute land to the landless in an orderly fashion with a Title Deed. The masses are losing hope after 24 years of very little service delivery with incompetent cronies in top positions, taking top dollars and not capable for a day's hard work! The "New Dawn" must follow the "darkness of noon" of the presidency of Jacob Zuma. Therefore the "New Dawn" dare not be a false dawn. There are too many South Africans ravaged by the wild dogs of inequality, poverty and unemployment. We are truly in God's hands and this too will come to an end?

Our new President needs our support to return us to the path we South Africans deserve, and the late Nelson Mandela promised.

We have been shocked by the rising costs of delivery to you through the service of the POST OFFICES. EMS service quoting R8000.00 for 13.1 kg to Canada. We then went to LOGISTICS 365 and the same order to the door was half that price. The only problem I can see is maybe the customs due? Remember Europe has an EUR 1 certificate which removes the customs and then the USA has an ALGOA agreement with South Africa and all invoices less than \$ 2000.00 are customs free. So, in short, we are going to use Logistics 365 from now on and will keep you up dated.

Minimum wages were introduced, and our fuel prices rocket from next week on! Government blames the oil price but strangely we supply our neighbours and their fuel prices are substantially lower than ours? My pet subject, because fuel here and fuel elsewhere in SA can be cheaper - so reason to gripe? I wait with baited breath to see how the undisciplined taxi operators will react to this hike?

Next month we have applied for space at the SAITEX show at Gallagher in Johannesburg and will hopefully send Inge to represent us. We are waiting to hear whether we are accepted as this is a sponsored show.

We have placed a "small" in a magazine called ASHTONS INTO THE WILD! Please look us up in: ASHTON IN TRANSIT MAGAZINE. We are hoping that we will reach more tourists to our part of the world and our studios are certainly rated as a great destination for an hour or 2.

June represents the middle of the year as well as celebrating all the FATHERS out there. We do hope you all get spoilt on the 17th and what would be wrong with a nice pair of Cuff Links (shirt earrings) or a Heart Money Clip? Let us know.

We have wonderful people coming through our doors and this month we had:

Peddy and Helen all the way from Southbroom

Joyce from Irene,

Jen from Mossel Bay

Christine from Gravelotte

CJ and Sydney from Michigan in the USA.

Blessings from us all,

MICHAEL