



SA SEEN IN A DIFFERENT LIGHT

The Huffington Post

SOUTH AFRICA ROLLS OUT THE UBUNTU IN ABUNDANCE

Article by Shari Cohen, International development worker in the public health section

I went on a rant the other day regarding the cost of the 2010 World Cup versus all the critical needs South Africa is facing and whether or not the most vulnerable of this country would gain anything from having the World Cup hosted in their country. At that time, I also had some very positive things to say about our hosts for the 2010 World Cup and I wanted to share that side of the coin as well, because it is equally important.

To say that I have been blown away at the hospitality South Africa has shown the rest of the world would be an understatement. I think back on recent Olympics and struggle to remember much reporting in the USA of athletes from other countries. I remember when a Togolese guy won a bronze medal in kayaking and NBC reported it and I thought to myself, "where are all the other fascinating stories like this one...like the Jamaican bobsledding team." In today's America, sadly, we have drifted so far towards being so US-centric that we only seem to root for the Americans.

Not so here in South Africa. I've been here since early May and each week I have become more and more impressed with the global embrace that South Africans have offered up to the world. On the way to the airport a couple of weeks ago, I heard a radio program that said each day they would focus on one country that would be coming to South Africa for the World Cup, and they would explore not only that sport's history in soccer, but also their politics, religion, and socio-cultural practices. On the television, I've seen numerous programs that focus on a particular country and its history of soccer and how the history of that country is intertwined with their soccer history. I've seen programs on India, exploring why India enjoys soccer but hasn't really excelled at the global level... yet. And I've seen shows on soccer in Muslim countries. Maybe it's planned, maybe it's unplanned, maybe it's by chance, but it is happening. It's not just about South Africans showing off their varied and multifaceted culture to their global guests, it's also about using this opportunity to educate South Africa on the rest of Planet Earth's inhabitants.

As I moved through my work here in the provinces over the last six weeks, I had a pivotal meeting with the Board members of a rural NGO. They were explaining their guiding program philosophy of *Ubuntu*. No, not the Linux program. I'm talking about the traditional African philosophy of *Ubuntu* that essentially says, "No man is an island."

I found a better explanation from Wikipedia:

Archbishop Desmond Tutu further explained Ubuntu in 2008:

One of the sayings in our country is Ubuntu - the essence of being human. Ubuntu speaks particularly about the fact that you can't exist as a human being in isolation. It speaks about our interconnectedness. You can't be human all by yourself, and when you have this quality -- Ubuntu -- you are known for your generosity.

We think of ourselves far too frequently as just individuals, separated from one another, whereas you are connected and what you do affects the whole world. When you do well, it spreads out; it is for the whole of humanity.

To me, *Ubuntu* is the acceptance of others as parts of the sum total of each of us. And that is exactly what I have experienced during the lead up to, and the initial days of this World Cup. There is nary a South African citizen that I've met on the street, or in shops or restaurants or hotels, that hasn't gone out of their way to greet me and make me feel like I am home. And I don't mean that in the trivial, "Oh, aren't they nice, homey people here..." sort of way. I mean real, genuine interest and questions. People seriously want to know where I come from. What it's like where I live. How does it compare to where I am now. What do I think of South Africa. Oh yes, and what do I think of Bafana Bafana... The questions and conversations are in earnest. They are honest. And they are had with enthusiasm and a thirst to know more. South Africans are drinking deeply from the cup of humanity that has been brought to their doorstep. I would never imagine that an American World Cup or Olympics would ever be this welcoming to the rest of the world. And that saddens me for the state of my home country, but it also makes me feel the pride of the South African people.



Continuance.....

I have been truly humbled on this trip. And while I have my gripes regarding development here, I cannot say one negative thing about how South Africa has handled its duties as host and hostess to the world. If I could say one thing to sum up being here during this once-in-a-lifetime experience, it would be that I've learned the value of *Ubuntu*, and that when found and offered in abundance, the world is indeed a better place to live in.

So, if South Africa accomplishes nothing more on the playing field, it will still have won as a host country. I am a cynic, no doubt about that. And yet I have to admit, I'm a little teary just writing this because I leave for home next weekend and I will be leaving a little piece of myself here in South Africa. I just hope I have learned enough to bring back a little piece of *Ubuntu* to my homeland, where perhaps with a little caring and a little water, it will take root as naturally as it does here, in the cradle of civilization. It's funny, many people in America still ask me, "are the people in Africa very primitive?" Yes, I know, amazing someone could ask that but they do. And when they do, I usually explain that living in a mud hut does not make one primitive, however, allowing kids to sell drugs to other kids and engage in drive-by killings -- isn't that primitive behavior? I think it is. When I think of *Ubuntu* and my recent experiences here, I think America has much to learn from Africa in general, in terms of living as a larger village; and as human beings who are all interconnected with each other, each of us having an affect on our brothers and sisters.

As the 2010 Cup slogan goes, "*Feel it. It is here.*" Well, I have *felt* it, because I am *here*. Thank you South Africa, for giving me this unexpected gift. I am humbled.





THE WORLD CUP IN MIDRAND

Here's to our new friends...

WORLD CUP MEMORIES

Article by Evelyn Osmond, Hostess of A Little Paradise Guest House

It was said "be careful of the soccer hooligans and mainly The English that are coming". Many guest house owners had their minds made up that they would rather remain closed during the world-cup to avoid their homes being destroyed, but this was so far from the truth here at A Little Paradise. We had absolutely stunning, respectable and amazingly wonderful guests coming from England, Germany, Slovenia, Finland, Ireland, America, to name but a few. My English group, Adam and the pack that stayed for three weeks became like family, and yes, the family misses you all. Then, to all the ladies in their lives, you ought to be proud of them - they were well behaved in every possible way.

To Ernesto, Daniel Bakke, Georg Leppart, Niclas Liljenfeldt, Vikash, Pete and Sinutti, William, Richard and party, William Barry, Jeff Epler, Andrew Mercer, Carl Bourne and group and Raquel Martinez and the Ozzies and Barry Maclure and wife, amongst others - it was wonderful having you all here! The times of laughs, jokes and sharing were magical and will be remembered for a very long time...

Lastly, thanks to the company that organised all the 14 seater shuttles for the visitors here at the guest house. Thank you for the stunning service we received, the promptness and professionalism during the Soccer games and thanks to Brian of **Time To Travel** in Bryanston.



2010 WÊRELDBEKER SOKKER

Artikel deur Sonja le Roux van Big Tree B&B

Wat 'n ongelooflike paar weke by Big Tree B&B. In sewe jaar het ons nog nie soveel opwinding ervaar nie!! Vir 'n volle ses weke was Big Tree B&B gasheer gewees vir gaste van regoor die wêreld. Kanada, Nederland, USA, Australia, Brasil, Mexico, Duitsland, om maar net 'n paar te noem. Ons was ook so bevoreg om die basis stasie vir die Japanse Media groep te wees en het baie gedurende die tyd van en by hul geleer. Ons glo hul het 'n paar Suid-Afrikaanse gebruike aangeneem want na hul eerste braai in ons beroemde "Big Tree B&B bos braai", was die tweede een vinnig oppad. Laat nagte se kuier om die braai en kamp vuur was duidelik 'n gunsteling.

Maande se voorbereiding en opgraderings het vrugte afgewerk om gelukkige en tevrede gaste te verseker. Ekstra dienste aan gaste soos reël van hul vervoer, uitstappies en 'n groot skerm vir die sokker geesdriftiges het ons van die normale B&B onderskei. Te oordeel aan al ons boodskappies van goeie diens in ons gasteboek, het ons besef dit is ook hierdie tipe dienste wat ons in die toekoms aan ons gaste sal lewer en so op ons 2010 'legacy' voortbou. Gedurende die Wêreldbeker het Big Tree B&B ook ekstra werks geleenthede geskep en kon so 'n bydrae lewer tot Suid Afrika.

Dankie aan die Suid Afrikaanse regering, asook FIFA vir die geleentheid wat ons gehad het om deel te wees van 'n onvergeetlike Sokker Wêreldbeker 2010. Weet net Big Tree B&B is reg vir enige 'event' wat weer na Suid-Afrika kom!!



14th August

Woman's Day Tea

Annette Deppe's House

10h00

R50-00 per person

Guest speakers: Shirley Downie from Rotary
Jeff Osborn CEO of RMI Group

Any female friends welcome

RSVP by 7th August



Please Contact:

Annette Deppe,

Councillor for Ward 93

City of Johannesburg

Member of Transport, Development

Planning, Urban Management and 2010 Portfolios

011 - 468 2177

082 886 8519

Annette@deppe.co.za

18th August

Member-meet-member Networking Evening

Surrey Common

152 Surrey Road, Carlswald, Midrand

16h00 - 18h00

Free for members

R65 for non-members

Guest speakers: Dr Sandy Evans on "Science vs. Health Myths"

Please contact:

Carol Hibbert

Chamber of Commerce and

Industry - Johannesburg

Midrand Region

011 - 315 1063



7th September

Gautrain Information Update

Details to follow

Please Contact:

Wendy Sandilands

Secretary

Midrand Tourism

011 - 205 7151

083 6000 898





THE WORLD CUP IN MIDRAND

Ayoba time!!

IBOLA-BOLA BASH

Article by Marlene Haig, Bytes Conference Centre

In celebration of the 2010 World Cup mania in South Africa, and as a Midrand Tourism initiative, the respective members were invited to host a soccer game of their choice.

Constantia Hotel handled a wonderful event on the opening match day, followed by Surrey Common on 20 June, who organised a family function which coincided with Father's Day – all in all a super event with lots of activity. Bytes Conference Centre hosted the ever popular game of Portugal versus Brazil on 25 June. A nice touch to all the events was the Midrand Tourism sponsored Diski Dancers who provided huge fun and entertainment.



Ellis Park Currie Cup Packages

14th August / 3rd & 25th September

R780.00 per person per game

Includes:

- Transport throughout the day in a luxury vehicle from your groups' preferred location in Johannesburg or Pretoria
- Cooler box of beers on the vehicle
- Delicious pub lunch/dinner at The Guildhall Pub and Restaurant in Marshall Street – The Oldest Pub in Joburg! Located 10 minutes drive from Ellis Park
- 3 x Draft beers (or Cider or Soft) at The Guildhall Pub
- Tour facilitator accompanying the group
- Pre-booked parking
- VAT

Please contact:

Maryna Esterhuyse
maryna@midrand.net
082 448 6680



Cooking Classes

BMC Collins – 30 years catering experience. Chief Cook and Manager of a 4 Start Establishment for the last 13 years

I offer cooking courses for domestic workers and individuals wanting to better their cooking skills. I come to your home, making this a convenient working way for you to learn in a comfortable environment.

The basic courses that I offer take between 2 to 3 hours, where I will teach you the following:

- * Basic hygiene in the kitchen
- * How to organise your work place
- * Food preparation
- * Menu planning and preparation of a shopping list
- * How to read a recipe and measure ingredients accurately

How to cook:	Extras:	Cost:
Breakfast (3 courses)	Suggestions for other breakfasts	R300
Light Lunches (3 cooked)	More ideas	R300
Dinner (3 course)	4 course dinner	R400

The courses include:

- * All ingredients for the course selected
- * Printed leaflet of some tried and tested recipes
- * Hints, ideas
- * Professional assistance by Cook

Please Contact:

Barbara Collins
078 037 0606





MIDRAND TOURISM

Member Information

MANCO 2010

Midrand Tourism – Management Committee



Back : (left to right) Teboho Semmelink (Moya Events), Rebonwe Mafolo (Asst. Manager JCCI), Wendy Sandilands (MT Secretary), Evelyn Osmond (A little Paradise Guest House), Carol Hibbert (Manager JCCI),
Front : (left to right) Brigitte Bell. (Bells Place), Hillary Henderson (The Celtis Manor), Marlene Haig (Bytes Conference Centre / MT Chair person), Jenny Howard (Create-a-Tour), Maranda Pieterse (Surrey Common)
 (Insert Photo) : Maryna Esterhuysen (Midrand.net)



Villa Sardinia Guest House

Alison Williams

011 – 312 1355

083 732 6240

Williams@wizz.co.za

Randjesfontein Equestrian Estate



Siesta Gardens Bed & Breakfast / Self Catering

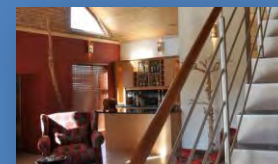
Mareli Louw

082 268 2040

mareli@siestagardens.co.za

Randjesfontein Equestrian Estate

www.siestagardens.co.za



MANCO 2010 Portfolios

JCCI – Midrand Region	Carol Hibbert	011 - 315 1063	carol@jcci.co.za
	Rebonwe Mafolo		management@midrandchamber.co.za
Conferencing	Marlene Haig	011 - 205 7151	marlene.haig@bytes.co.za
Marketing & Communication	Maryna Esterhuysen	082 448 6680	maryna@midrand.net
	Teboho Semmelink	011 - 021 2449	Teboho@moyaevents.co.za
Transportation	Jenny Howard	083 459 7738	info@createatour.co.za
Small Accommodation & Hotels	Hillary Henderson	011 - 468 1355	info@theceltismanor.co.za
	Evelyn Osmond	082 443 0432	info@alittleparadise.co.za
Web Liaison			
Brigitte Bell	Admin	011 224 0050	christavin@iburst.co.za
New Members Introduction, Graphic Design & Newsletter	Maranda Pieterse	072 368 1296	surreycommon@expovent.co.za

Chair Person:

Marlene Haig

Vice Chair Person:

Hillary Henderson

Secretary:

Wendy Sandilands

Midrand Tourism Contact Details:

Wendy Sandilands

Tel: 011 – 205 7153

Cell: 083 6000 898

Fax: 011 – 205 7009 or

Fax: 086 5100 579

admin@midrandtourism.co.za