

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 10

October 2020



Under one roof

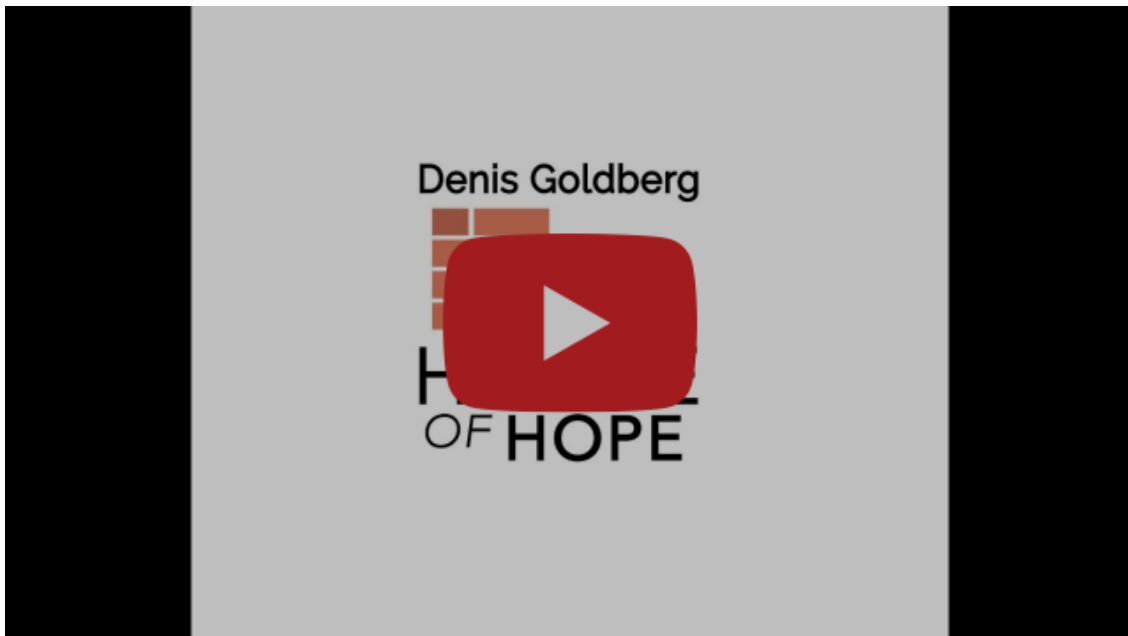
In any construction project, it is comforting and special when the building reaches the roof erection stage. The separate components of the building are suddenly united and there is shelter from rain, wind and hail. Suddenly the dream is reality.

The roof work for the House of Hope is progressing rapidly, and will be completed by the end of the month. That will be a significant milestone. In a matter of weeks thereafter, the plastering and paintwork will be completed, and the builders will then turn their attention to wiring, electrical fittings and the finer details and finishes which make up the last stages of the building project.

It's exciting to think that, within a matter of months, the Denis Goldberg art collection, built up by Denis during his lifetime, will have its own home; that the hip-hop classes, reading workshops and other activities initiated by the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust will be held in the beautiful new venue; and that there will be a building, in the Hout Bay Valley, dedicated to the memory of Denis, and to the promise the future holds.

Construction on the House of Hope is expected to be completed by the end of January 2021. We are deeply indebted to the builders, Abrach Construction, for the amazing and efficient job that they have done.

Watch this space for details.



Denis Goldberg House of Hope building construction

The end of an era

At the end of April this year, **Denis Goldberg** passed away. He had lived a good and full life despite spending more than a quarter of his 87 years in prison. We and many others still miss him.

Less than three months later, **Andrew Mlangeni** passed away, not long after a virtual celebration of his 95th birthday. With Denis and Andrew's death, all eight of those sentenced in to life imprisonment in the 1963/4 Rivonia Trial have left us.

Then, on 9 September, **George Bizos** died. Among his many other contributions, George was a member of the legal team that defended the Rivonia Trialists and helped to avoid the judge imposing the death sentence. George was the last surviving member of the legal team.

None of these deaths was unexpected. All three of these respected stalwarts had reached a good age. Nevertheless, the loss of leaders such as these adds an extra loss to the health, economic, political and other difficulties of 2020.

We hope that the Denis Goldberg House of Hope, including the exhibition it will host on Denis's life and contribution, will serve as a reminder to the strength, courage, ethics and commitment of Denis, Andrew, George and the others with whom they worked for a better South Africa.



Developing a children's art gallery

The gallery at the centre of the Denis Goldberg House of Hope will have three components:

- the permanent exhibition on Denis's life and contribution.
- a central carpeted area that can be used for art-making, music-making and dance alongside other forms of teaching and learning.
- an area displaying Denis's art collection.

Denis's vibrant and colourful "Life is Wonderful" art collection consists of about 200 paintings, drawings and art works alongside a collection of artefacts and ceramics. The gallery is not big enough to display all of it at the same time even if – as was the case in Denis's Hout Bay house – the art works are hung three-deep on all available walls.

We have therefore divided the art works into eight themes, and will have about three themes on display at any time. Art educator Ruth Sack of Imbali Art Project has coordinated the development of a handbook for use with classes and other groups of children.

The handbook suggests how facilitators can guide children in engaging with and discussing the art work, and then creating their own art work, dance and/or music based on what they have seen, learnt and felt. It includes Denis's own observations on what some of the art works meant to him, and encourages children to compare their own reactions to the art work.

We are also preparing a catalogue – for use by adults and children – that records Denis's observations on each painting, drawing and etching.

We are excited about creating an art gallery that shares Denis's enjoyment of all life offers.

Masked pottery

In the last week before all grades returned to school, we collaborated with Earthworx Pottery to run the pottery course that was COVID-cancelled at the last minute in March.

The need for social distancing meant that we had only five young people participating. However, the sanitiser, masks and other precautions did not dampen the enthusiasm of the facilitators and learners.

After the course ended, Earthworx fired the products that learners had created. Some Hout Bay families will now be drinking and eating from attractive self-made mugs and bowls.

In December, after schools close, we will have a second pottery course, for a new group of secondary school learners.

THANK YOU Earthworx



Pottery workshop

Hipping and Hopping

At the beginning of September, we restarted the Saturday hip-hop classes which we had to stop when the COVID-19 lockdown was imposed. Every week we have two classes – one for children in grades 1-4, and the second for older children. As before, Jazzart provides the teachers.

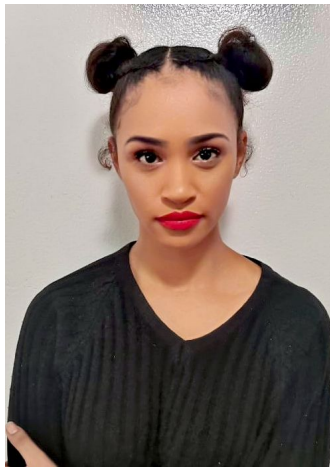
We have been using Mainstream Mall's open-air auditorium as the venue. The venue is ideal at this time as it reduces the risk of infection. The children also wear masks, and we have armed ourselves with a thermometer and sanitiser to reduce risk further.

Unfortunately, September's weather was not kind to us, with many Saturdays being cold, windy or even rainy. But this did not deter the young dancers, although it did mean that some danced in their anoraks!

THANK YOU Mainstream Mall. THANK YOU Jazzart.

THANK YOU to Anglogold Ashanti who are the sponsors of both the pottery courses and hip-hop.

THANK YOU to all the young dancers who have braved the weather.



Head dance teacher Gabriela Dirkse

Last but not least, we are delighted that Noni Mashologu has agreed to join us as our newest trustee. Welcome Noni!

Donate to the Denis Goldberg House of Hope

If you are donating from **outside South Africa** you may find it convenient to send your donation by credit card to our **UK website GoFundMe**.

GoFundMe

If you wish to donate directly:

Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust

Nedbank

Account Number: 1146197411

Branch Code/Sort Code: 167609

SWIFT Code: NEDSZAJJ

If donations are paid into our bank account in cash or via EFT, please email your name, the amount, and date to dglftrust@gmail.com. Please also give us your address if you would like to receive a Section 18(a) tax certificate in respect of the donation.

If you are in **Germany** you can support us via **Community Heart e.V.**

Details:

Community HEART e.V.

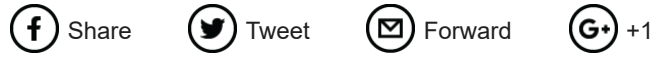
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Stichwort: Denis Goldberg Stiftung

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#lifeiswonderful



Our mailing address is:

dghoh@goldberghouseofhope.co.za

dglftrust@gmail.com

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Denis Goldberg House of Hope · c/o 20 Alfred Street · Observatory · Cape Town, Western Cape 7925 · South Africa

