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Denis Goldberg House of Hope Newsletter no. 12 May 2021



ACKNOWLEDGING AND CONGRATULATING LAVINIA

With the building activities at the Denis Goldberg House of Hope nearing completion, we're immensely pleased to announce that Lavinia Staddon has been appointed as the Co-ordinator of the House of Hope. Her duties will be many and varied, ranging from day-to-day supervisory and management activities, to participating in formulating long-term strategies and objectives.

We take this opportunity of extending congratulations and best wishes to Lavinia, and also of acknowledging her role as an unsung heroine who has contributed massively to turning Denis's dream into a reality.

Prior to being recruited by the Denis Goldberg Trust in 2018, Lavinia had acquired extensive experience in hospitality, travel, retail and general business administration. But it is not her experience alone which makes her such an invaluable asset to the House of Hope project. Lavinia has, over the past three years, carried out her duties with quiet but spectacular efficiency. Events are planned, deadlines are met, decisions are implemented, when Lavinia is in charge.

Very few of us realise how challenging this has been. Lavinia has had to ensure that the House of Hope project, and the other Denis Goldberg Trust activities, remain vibrant, active and publicity-generating. Given that until completion of the House of Hope building, we've operated without headquarters, without other support staff, with a limited budget (most of the Denis Goldberg Trust's income went into financing the construction of the House of Hope), Lavinia has faced and overcome at times truly mountainous obstacles. Probably the most important was to ensure that we offer programmes, activities and initiatives for the children and youth of our local communities, in order to keep the flag of the Denis Goldberg Trust flying high.

In addition to this, there have been dozens of administrative tasks and functions, meetings, co-ordinating with other community-based programmes, and providing logistic support for events.

We therefore say a massive THANK YOU LAVINIA, and know that the Denis Goldberg House of Hope is in good hands.

**A FORETASTE FOR CHILDREN OF THE
DENIS GOLDBERG HOUSE OF HOPE**

From 27 to 29 April, 24 local primary school children attended our first holiday programme on the Hout Bay Museum site. The Museum kindly agreed that we could use their hall, which meant we were right next to our nearly finished building. We used several of the sessions to introduce our young participants to what will soon be on offer in our new building.



Architects of the future

On the Wednesday morning Jo Noero, our architect and trustee, joined us. He first explained to the children what an architect does. By the end of his explanation, at least a quarter of the children wanted to be architects when they grew up. A tour of the new building followed, during which Jo pointed out the different features.

The children then worked in groups of two or three. They first drew, and then built, their own models of the Denis Goldberg House of Hope. Their raw materials consisted of cardboard boxes of different shapes and sizes, masking tape, plasticine, containers, tongue depressors, toothpicks, plastic bottle tops, and a range of other discarded objects. One group even used balloons, and several added plants using small pieces of vegetation.

The children could choose to build what they had seen. But they could also add their own embellishments.

As the images show, they did just that!



Introduction to Denis's art collection

On Thursday morning the children were given a handout showing all Denis's paintings relating to fishing. Each child then drew, coloured in, and cut out five fish – and attached a paper clip to each fish's mouth. They also made fishing rods out of dowel sticks, string, and small sticky magnets. The latter served as the bait.

The most exciting part of this activity was the competition. Three children competed at a time, standing behind a chalked line on the floor, and trying to be the first to catch all five of their fish from the chalked circle in front of them. Normal fishing is generally seen as a quiet and restful activity. In contrast, our fisher-people put all their concentration into catching their prey as quickly as possible while their peers cheered them on from the sidelines.



We are all multi-faceted

In another session we tested one of the activities we have developed for the planned exhibition on Denis's life. This particular activity relates to the different aspects of Denis's larger-than-life personality.

For this activity, we divided the children into groups of two with different home languages – typically Afrikaans and isiXhosa. Each child was asked to teach their partner how to say the sentences describing aspects of Denis in the language they did not know. The children's patience in teaching each other was wonderful to behold, as was their bashful pride in showing off their new language skills.

The children then drew themselves, depicting their own multiple facets.



REMEMBERING DENIS

On 29 April, the first anniversary of Denis's death, you will have received a short newsletter with three tributes exemplifying what Denis meant to so many people. Thank you to all those who recognised the anniversary through a donation. All donations will help us ensure that Denis's House of Hope becomes all that he hoped it would be.

On 30 April we remembered Denis by installing the first plants in the memorial garden behind the new building. A few weeks later the grass and first plants are already thriving. We are now turning our attention to the rest of the site's landscape.



With the Denis Goldberg House of Hope physically in place, we will have some new expenses, including utilities, security, maintenance and the like, alongside expenses to cover the cost of activities for children and youth. We hope that you will continue to support us as we move into the next stage of taking forward Denis's dream.

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

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 send your name, the amount, and date to dglftrust@gmail.com. Please let us know if you would like us to send a section 18A tax certificate.

German donors can donate through Community HEART e.V. using the account details below:

Sparkasse Essen – IBAN: DE60 3605 0105 0001 8002 00

BICC: SPESDE3EXXX

Stichwort: Denis Goldberg House of Hope



SUPPORT US THROUGH WOOLWORTHS MYSCHOOL BEFORE 24 JUNE AND YOU AND WE CAN WIN R10 000.

MySchool will be giving 10 supporters R10 000 in cash, and a further R10 000 to their beneficiary organisation.

If you already have the Denis Goldberg House of Hope as a beneficiary on your MySchool card, click on <https://www.myschool.co.za/heres-to-the-people-swipe-to-win/> to join the competition. If you have a card, but do not have us as one of your three beneficiaries, please do add us. If you do not yet have a MySchool card, go to [myschool.co.za](https://www.myschool.co.za), and select the Denis Goldberg House of Hope as your beneficiary. Then join the competition!



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Our mailing addresses are:

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