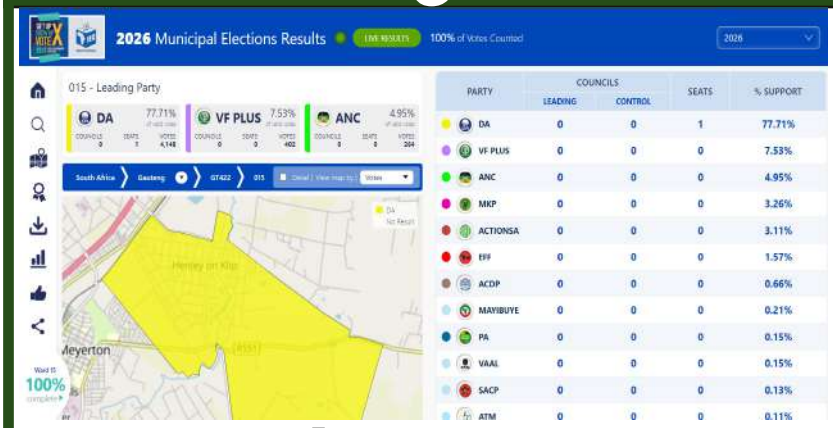
Henley Herald

henleyherald.blog

NOVEMBER 2026



2026 Local Government Elections Results

By Nadia Wolmarans

On the 9th of November the Independent Electoral Commission officially declared Ward 15. **Jane Erasmus of the Democartic Alliance won Ward Councillor with 2093 valid votes, 77.71% of the total votes in Henley on Klip.**

The Independent Electoral Commissions' website shares there are 4 220 registered voters in Henley on Klip, and the voter turnout for the 2026 Local Government Election in Henley on Klip, Midvaal Ward 15, was 2 696.

Compared to the 2021 Local Government Election, there was a massive increase of both registered voters and voter turnout. In 2021 there were 3 719 registered voters, with 1 934 voter turnout.

In Midvaal the overall results are: DA 61.92% support, taking 19 seats, leading the council, the African National Congress 16.07% support, taking 5 seats, the Freedom Front Plus 7.95% support, taking 2 seats, Economic Freedom Fighters 3.8% support, 1 seat, Umkhonto Wesizwe Party 3.16% support, taking 1 seat, ActionSA 2.98% support, taking 1 seat, and Transformative Yes Movement 1.14% support, taking 1 seat.

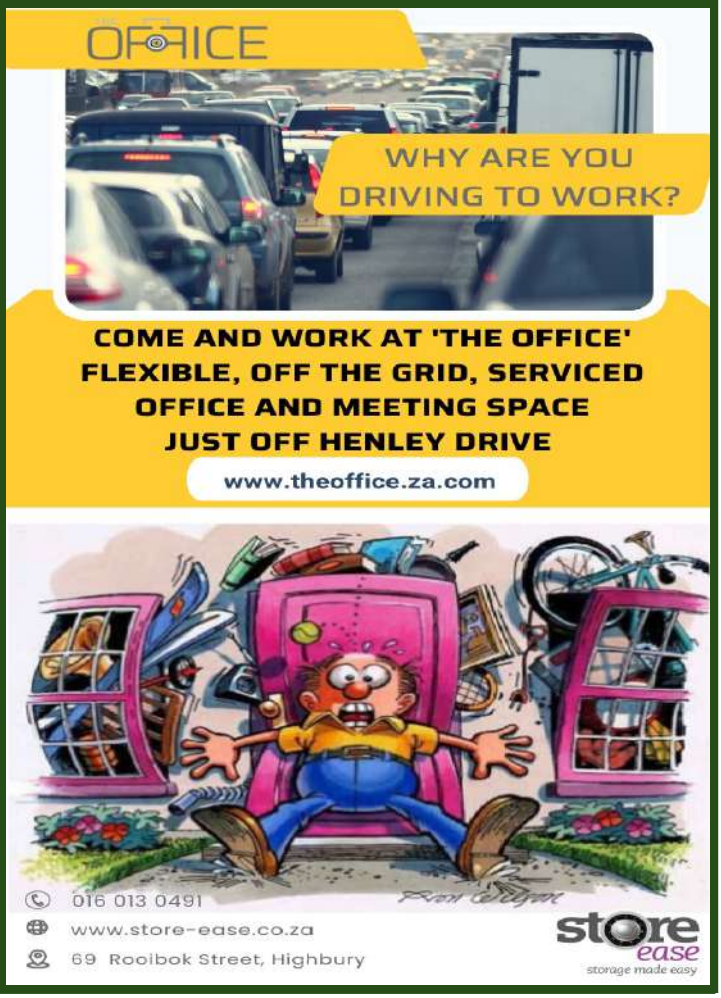
In the broader Gauteng: DA 33.92% support, 348 seats, ANC 21.57% support, 266 seats, ActionSA 16.87% support, 152 seats, EFF 6.4% support, 69 seats, FF Plus 4.72% support, 54 seats, MKP 4.94% support, 53 seats, South African Communist Party 1.1% support, 16 seats, Patriotic Alliance 1.41% support, 14 seats, Inkatha Freedom Party 1.28% support, 12 seats, RISE Mzansi 0.96% support, 9 seats, African Transformation Movement 9 seats, Pan Africanist Congress of Azania 6 seats, and the additional 41 seats taking by assorted smaller parties.

At the time of printing, the election was yet to be settled with many areas still not declared and contested. This election stands as a historic moment, with seemingly many changes and new developments in the political landscape of South Africa. We will have to wait and see the full impact as it unfolds.

Wishing everyone involved in the campaigns good luck and good fortune in their upcoming public service.

Data and screenshot taken from the IEC Website.







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The System Won't Protect You—You Have to Fight It: What 2 Years Fighting for Justice Taught Me



From Teens for Teens_
With gender-based violence (GBV) on everyone's mind, I am sharing the reality of what happens after the courtroom doors close.
We spent two agonizing years fighting for a conviction. We thought getting a guilty verdict meant the story was over and the system would take over to protect others.
Here is the truth: there is no enforcement.
No one comes behind the verdict to check that the rules and laws are actually being followed. Convicted offenders slip through the cracks of a broken network every single day because no government official or investigator is assigned to monitor them after sentencing. In the last few months alone, I have heard every excuse in the book: **"It's not our department," "He was convicted elsewhere," or my personal favorite, "We will look into it."**
Countless meetings and endless questions brought us to one realization: You cannot fear the system; you have to look at it and take it head-on. You must be your own voice—or have someone strong stand in your corner—because on your darkest days, you will face the battle alone. It is not for the faint of heart.

What to Expect When You Fight the System
If you are standing up against GBV or defending someone you love, you need to prepare for the reality of the process:
* **You Will Be Scrutinized and Interrogated:** Because of the system's flaws and desensitization, you won't always be taken seriously at first. You will face intrusive questions, bureaucratic delays, and rude people along the way.
* **You Will Feel Defeated, But Options Exist:** When doors slam shut, do not stop. Escalate to higher officials, engage independent legal representation, contact social development departments, and force accountability.
* **Keep Your Eyes on the Finish Line:** Remember what you are fighting for. You are not just fighting for yourself or your child—you are fighting to prevent the next innocent person from becoming a victim.
* **Do Not Carry It Alone:** The emotional weight is heavy. Build a core support team, seek trauma counseling, and find someone you can lean on when you are ready to give up.

Critical Lessons & Red Flags Every Parent and Woman Must Know
Through this painful journey, we learned crucial lessons about how predators operate and how to protect the people we love:
1. Watch for "Kindness" Used as a Weapon
Predators rarely start with overt violence; they groom their targets. They build trust, become a friend, and act like a safe figure before making a move. Every act of kindness isn't malicious, but keep your guard up. If a situation or interaction feels off, it is off. Trust your instincts above everything else.
2. Boundaries Are Non-Negotiable
Teach yourself and your children that it is perfectly fine to stand your ground.
* **No to uninvited hugs.**
* **No to unexpected photos.**
* **No to forced private conversations.**
Predators test boundaries little by little—stepping across small lines to see if you will stay silent before taking a larger step. "No" is a complete sentence. You do not have to be rude, but you must be firm.
3. Teach Children That Adults Aren't Always Safe
We must change how we teach child safety:
* **No Secrets:** Teach children that no adult should ever ask them to keep a secret from their parents.
* **Personal Space:** Define clear physical boundaries early so children recognize when a boundary is crossed.
* **Position Does Not Equal Safety:** An adult's title, age, or position of authority does not automatically make them safe.

Final Thought
When you get a conviction, the fight shifts from legal proof to public safety. The system is flawed, but you are not powerless. Speak up, speak out, stand your ground, and never let them force you into silence.

Ben's Bee Business

By Kate Touche
It's been quite a few months since our last article and it's been an eventful time for sure.
Ben has been working hard rescuing bees in the Henley area and he is so thankful and grateful for all your kind referrals and recommendations. He is getting a good reputation for removing bees efficiently, kindly and as reasonably as possible.
This brings me to the point of why Ben has to charge for Bee removals and there are many reasons for the fees. There has been a lot of chatter on Facebook and threads about removing bees for free.

Bees are difficult to remove and it's a process. There are risks involved, especially working on rooftops, pillars and chimneys. If the bees have been there a couple of months or years they become entrenched in their home. The process involves capturing the queen, no easy feat, the worker bees protect her with their lives and hide her amongst themselves.
A hive is not just a couple of hundred bees, there could be thousands, all willing to sacrifice themselves for their monarch.

There are considerable costs and risks involved in a bee rescue. To remove bees is very expensive and dangerous. It involves a bee-suit which gets damaged and snagged and has to be replaced often, the price including netted headgear, gloves, ankle covers to keep the legs closed etc around R1500 and that locally sourced,it's much more expensive elsewhere. A special smoker to smoke the bees out is R300. This also has to be replaced often because they burn out. Tools to open up areas etc, ladders, rope and wire to tie up the box for lowering to the ground**. A bee catch box, cost R500, also frames to put some of their food on so they bees can still get fed after capture.**
Then there is the cost of petrol to travel up and down. Sometimes the rescue can take a couple of days if the bees are stubborn.
The time for a removal can vary, often Ben only arrives home late into the night after many hours of rescuing a hive.

People say the Beekeeper gets the honey from the rescue and that should be payment enough. First of all if the honey is trapped under roof tiles, in a dusty chimney or under a wooden Wendy house the honey is normally too dirty for human consumption and it is not neatly arranged on frames which can be spun in a honey spinner which goes R8000 to R10000**.**

__Continued on page 4.

Anything & All Things: A Family Business That Goes the Extra Mile



From Anything & All Things
"Got what you want & Need!"

In a world where customers are often limited to what is available on store shelves, Anything & All Things aims to offer something different — a personal approach, friendly service, and a commitment to helping customers find exactly what they need.

Based in Henley-on-Klip, Meyerton, Anything & All Things is a family-oriented business built on the vision of meeting the unique needs of customers by sourcing products and services that may not be readily available in ordinary retail stores.

The philosophy behind the business is simple: **every customer has different needs, and finding the right solution should not have to be a challenge.** Whether customers are looking for a particular tool, specialised equipment, a vehicle accessory or an item that is difficult to find elsewhere, **Anything & All Things strives to go the extra mile to assist.**

The shop offers a growing variety of products, **including tools, trolley jacks, cordless power tools, chainsaws, outdoor and security products, lighting, 4x4 and vehicle accessories, toys, self-defence products, tactical equipment and much more.**

What truly sets Anything & All Things apart is its willingness to look beyond what is already available in-store. **The business is committed to listening to customers, understanding their requirements and helping source specific products to suit their individual needs.**

As a family-oriented business, building lasting relationships with customers and becoming a trusted part of the local community are at the heart of its vision. The focus is not only on selling products, but also on providing helpful service, practical solutions and a shopping experience where every customer feels valued.

Anything & All Things believes that a successful business grows alongside the community it serves. By continually expanding its product range and putting customers first, the business hopes to become a trusted destination for both everyday essentials and those harder-to-find items.

Residents of Henley-on-Klip and surrounding areas are warmly invited to visit the shop and experience a business where customer needs matter.

Anything & All Things — Got what you want & Need!
Address: 304/5 Henley Drive, Henley-on-Klip, Meyerton
Contact: 071 937 3330
If we don't have it, let us try to find it for you.

A Fresh Chapter for a Familiar Henley Shop

From Roots Hair
A familiar little corner of Henley-on-Klip has been given a new lease of life, with the former Boutique Hospice Shop at Vasco Centre now home to Roots Hair and a range of professional beauty services.

The premises have been transformed into a welcoming hair and beauty space, bringing together hairdresser Maryke, beauty therapist Ruth and aspiring makeup artist Owami.

At Roots Hair, Maryke offers haircuts, colouring and styling, along with a Blow Dry Club for clients who enjoy regular salon visits. But it's not just about the hair. Clients are treated to a complimentary scalp massage at the basin, with an added touch of relaxation provided by Owami through a hand or foot massage as part of the salon experience.

Ruth brings her own expertise to the premises, **offering a range of professional skincare and beauty treatments, including facials, dermaplaning, microneedling and chemical peels.**

Owami is also expanding her skills through further training in makeup and ethnic hair services, with plans to introduce these services once her training and assessments are complete.

The idea behind the new space is simple: **to offer Henley residents somewhere to escape the everyday rush, enjoy a little personal attention and leave feeling refreshed.**

"We're excited to give this familiar space a new chapter and look forward to welcoming both familiar faces and new clients," says Maryke.

All services are by appointment only.

For hair appointments, WhatsApp Maryke on 066 430 5413. For beauty appointments, contact Ruth on 072 341 4306.

Roots Hair and Ruth's beauty services can be found at Vasco Centre, Henley-on-Klip, in the former Boutique Hospice Shop.











A huge thank you to all the Henley on Klip ladies that turned up in support of the ILoveBoobies Initiative

From Bass Lake
The ILoveBoobies Initiative is the gathering of women to promote awareness of breast cancer and to support one another is always a powerful presence!

Our village certainly showed up and offered their support.
Thank you to ILoveBoobies for allowing Bass Lake to join their team.

Almost 100 ladies braved the morning chill and plunged into Bass Lake.
We asked the ladies to paint a stone in support of someone fighting cancer or having fought a brave fight. We will be placing them along our hiking trail, so look out for them when you're next doing a walk.
Thank you to the team that pulled it all together, lots of behind the scenes organising and learning the rules that ILoveBoobies have in place to protect the women participating. **Thank you Bianca Willson for your time and dedication in learning and implementing and to our team Nicole, Reine, Bianca, Debbie, and Ella.**
Thank you Henley
Photos Courtesy Ruth Du Toit Photography.



Henley on Klip Lions Club

Firstly, we would like to thank Henley WAM for the generous donation of R30 000!
It is thanks to everyone who contributed by attending the event and to all who assisted on the day to make this possible.
We have some amazing projects lined up and can't wait to make a difference within the Midvaal community.
We will be sure to share these projects as we go along.

We recently hosted a fun walk/ run at Bass Lake to raise funds for our monthly Eye Clinic refreshments. These refreshments are for the patients on the day, who often arrive from 6am and only leave after 2pm.
Thank you to everyone that participated and donated, we managed to raise R4000!

Our famous Lions Christmas cakes have arrived!
Cakes are on sale at the Lions Little Library located at The Village Corner. **The book shop is open Tuesday-Saturday, 9am-3pm or you can contact Kerry to purchase a cake: 084 800 0396 The cakes will also be on sale at the Christmas Market being held on the 21st November at The Village Corner.**

With the year drawing to a close, we would like to thank everyone who has supported us.
We have had a very successful year, from hosting our 3rd annual CHOC walk, monthly pensioners bingo, hosting 7 eye clinics and opening our book store.

We have also helped with supplying benches to a local school for their feeding scheme, supplying food parcels to those in need, offering counselling services to minors in need, sponsoring of spectacles to minors as well as hosting blood drives throughout the year.
Our next blood drive and the last blood drive for the year will be on the 4th December at the O'Connor hall between 4-8pm.

We wish you all a wonderful festive season and look forward to an exciting 2027!
Best wishes
Lion Chelsea.
Photo Courtesy Henley on Klip Lions Club

Ben's Bee Business

Continued from Page 2__
Ben has just purchased one. Sometimes some of the honey can be salvaged but Ben would definitely give most of it to the client. **Bees often abscond after removing them to another location, the queen decides she doesn't like her new home and off they go.**

Ben is an entrepreneur, he has chosen this occupation to make a living. He is qualified, has certification and is registered with the Government and the local bee association. The head of the local bee association has been recommending Ben for his professional approach and kindness and care of the bees.

My question is why should Ben work for free or drastically reduced fees?
He is offering an excellent service at personal risk and costs. If we take that approach then why should we pay a mechanic, a plumber or an electrician. Do we argue with the Pick n Pay cashier about the price of groceries and demand a massive reduction. It's the same with any small business owner, why do we always ask for discounts and reduced prices when they have already priced their goods or services at the best rates they can afford to make a small profit and survive. Ben is always willing to negotiate a price but he has to make a living!

So to save money many people poison the bees. First of all we need bees so we can grow food and also enjoy flowers and fruit from our trees. **Although bees are not endangered in South Africa there are laws about deliberately poisoning bees especially on a commercial level, there are huge fines and possibly a jail sentence.** Normally poisoning or spraying bees with water doesn't help, it just makes the bees more aggressive and the risk of being stung and hospitalized increases dramatically. Even if you think you have poisoned all the bees, many survive and establish themselves again.

As regards keeping bees yourself whether as a hobby or commercially, it is mandatory to register with the Department of Agriculture to obtain a license and registration number. This license has to be renewed every 24 months and your registration number has to be on each hive that you have, even if it is just one. There are bylaws governing the keeping of bees including the hive must be at least 5 meters from the boundary wall and in very built up areas with commercial public buildings at least 20 meters away from your boundaries. Honey and honey products should also have the registration number on the product and inspectors can arrive to check on the quality, authenticity and safety of the products.

As we know we are entering one of the hottest summers on record in the next month or so. Temperatures are expected to be over 40° Celsius. Bees hate being very hot and become extremely aggressive. Beekeepers are advising the public everywhere to make sure you do not have bees close to windows, doors and ceilings etc. If so then it is better to get a professional like Ben to remove them safely.
Well that's all folks, stay safe and respect the bees!



Naturally Debbie: The 10-Minute Daily Health Habit

By Debbie Firbank
Small changes today, a healthier tomorrow
We live in a world where everything seems to demand more of our time. More work, more responsibilities, more commitments, and somewhere at the bottom of that endless list, we're supposed to find time to look after ourselves! We promise to start exercising on Monday, eat healthier next week or finally make time to relax when life becomes a little less hectic. But somehow, that magical quiet moment never seems to arrive.

What if improving your health didn't require a complete lifestyle overhaul? What if just ten minutes a day could be the beginning of something wonderful?
We often underestimate the power of small, consistent habits. We think that unless we're spending an hour at the gym, following a perfect diet or making dramatic changes, our efforts don't really count. Yet our bodies respond to what we do regularly, not just to the occasional burst of enthusiasm. Ten minutes may not sound like much, but ten minutes repeated every day can become a powerful foundation for better health.

Consider something as simple as a ten-minute walk. Walking helps support circulation, cardiovascular health, joint mobility and emotional wellbeing. A short walk after a meal can also help moderate the rise in blood sugar that follows eating. You don't need expensive equipment or special clothing. Walk around the garden, down the road or even around your home. The important thing is to move. And if ten minutes feels too much initially, start with five. Something is always better than nothing.

Another wonderful habit is spending a little time outdoors in natural daylight, particularly in the morning. Our bodies have an internal clock, known as the circadian rhythm, which helps regulate sleep, alertness and many other biological processes. Natural morning light helps keep this rhythm in balance, making it easier to feel awake during the day and sleepy at night. You could enjoy your morning cup of tea outside, take a gentle stroll through the garden or simply sit quietly and listen to the birds. Sometimes the simplest pleasures offer the greatest rewards.

And what about stretching? Many of us spend hours sitting at desks, driving or looking down at our phones. Over time, our muscles become stiff and uncomfortable. Just ten minutes of gentle stretching can help maintain flexibility, ease tension and improve mobility. Pay particular attention to your shoulders, neck, back and hips. Stretch comfortably, without forcing movements or pushing through pain. Our bodies were designed to move, and they appreciate being reminded!

Ten minutes can also make a difference to the way we eat. Instead of grabbing something convenient because we're rushing, use those few minutes to prepare a nourishing snack or add something fresh to your meal. Wash some berries, slice an avocado, prepare a colourful salad or add a handful of leafy greens to your lunch. A little planning can help us make healthier choices without feeling that we're following yet another restrictive diet. **Good nutrition doesn't have to be complicated, and it certainly doesn't have to be perfect.**
One habit we often overlook is simply slowing down. Chronic stress can affect sleep, digestion, blood pressure and emotional wellbeing. When we're constantly rushing, our bodies rarely have an opportunity to settle. **Ten minutes of quiet breathing, prayer, meditation, reading or sitting peacefully outdoors can help us step away from the demands of the day.** We cannot always remove the things causing stress, but we can create small moments of calm within them.

Perhaps one of the most valuable ten-minute habits is connecting with someone we care about. Phone an old friend, sit with your spouse without the television on, play with your grandchildren or spend a few minutes genuinely listening to someone. Strong social connections are associated with better emotional wellbeing and long-term health. Sometimes the most nourishing thing we can give ourselves isn't something we eat or drink, but a little laughter, companionship and love.

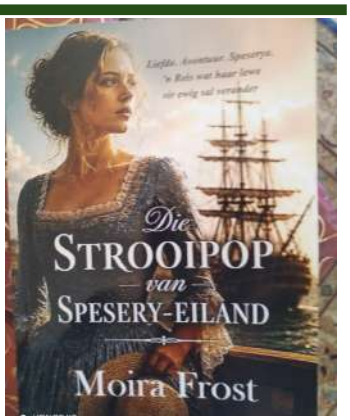
Of course, ten minutes cannot replace adequate sleep, balanced nutrition, regular physical activity or appropriate medical care. And it isn't a magic solution to every health problem. But it can be a beginning, and beginnings matter.
The secret is not to attempt everything at once. **Choose one small habit that fits comfortably into your day. Once it becomes part of your routine, perhaps introduce another.** Before long, those little choices begin to add up, and what once felt like an effort becomes something you genuinely look forward to.
Good health isn't built in a single day. It's built through the small choices we make, day after day. You don't have to change your whole life tomorrow. You simply have to begin somewhere.
And perhaps the most encouraging thought of all, is you don't need to find an extra hour in your day to start caring for yourself. Sometimes, all you need is ten minutes.

Health Tip of the Month
Make a ten-minute appointment with yourself. Choose one simple activity that supports your wellbeing and give it a regular place in your day. Whether it's a morning walk, a few gentle stretches, preparing something nourishing or simply enjoying a quiet moment outdoors, consistency matters more than perfection. Start small, enjoy the process and allow your healthy habits to grow naturally.

Lots to do at local Randvaal Library

1. Reading Circle: Every second Wednesday of the month at 9.30 am. Everyone welcome to join.
2. Senior Knitting & Crochet Circle: Once a month on a Tuesday at 10am, as announced on the online group. Everyone welcome to join. Our star project: articles made annually for Mandela Day, items such as scarves, beanies, blankets, bed socks, teddies, etc. distributed among the less fortunate. Donations are also welcome
3. Junior Knitting & Crochet Circle: Group A and Group B. Always on a Friday afternoon at 15pm , alternating on every second Friday of the month,. The class is full now, but girls between 8 to 18 can give me their names for a new intake of members next year in July.
4. Monthly visits to the Randvaal Old Aged Home once a month by appointment.
5. Story Hour at Lesedi Nursery School: Once a month by appointment.
6. Kid's monthly library activity: According to monthly schedule. All are welcome. People can get details at the beginning of the new month by sending me a WhatsApp.
7. Adult Games Group: This group is in the pipeline for next year as a surprise to the community. Everyone welcome. IT will be launched in January. Games such as scrabble, dominoes and cards will be played for relaxation and mental stimulation.
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Phone: 016 365 5093
Operating Hours
Monday – Thursday: 09:00 – 17:00
Friday: 09:00 – 17:00
Saturday: 09:00 – 12:00
Sunday: Closed

Holiday book recommendation"Die Strooipop van Spesery



Eiland" by Randvaal Library's own Moira Frost, available at all Midvaal Libraries.



CHRISTMAS IN HENLEY

By Dee's Kitchen
This Christmas in Henley-on-Klip, we are doing something a little extraordinary. After years of turkey, and years of chicken and duck on our Sunday tables, we thought — why choose? This festive season Dee's Kitchen brings you the showstopper that stops every table talk: the Turducken.

Why Turducken? Because Christmas in Henley is about family, abundance, and a table so full no one leaves hungry.
It's one roast, three birds, and a day of leftovers that actually taste better the next day. It's festive, it's fun, and it's perfect for our big South African Christmas tables.

THE HISTORY OF THE TURDUCKEN

It may sound new, but the idea is very old. Chefs have been stuffing birds inside birds since Roman times.
The modern Turducken we know today was made famous in Louisiana, USA in the 1970s and 80s by Cajun chef Paul Prudhomme. **A deboned chicken stuffed inside a deboned duck, stuffed inside a deboned turkey, with layers of Cajun sausage and cornbread stuffing between.** American football commentator John Madden made it legendary when he would carve one live on air every Thanksgiving.

It's the ultimate celebration roast — born in Cajun country, perfect for a Highveld Christmas.

DEE'S KITCHEN TURDUCKEN - Serves 10-12

You will need:
1 x 4-5kg Turkey, fully deboned, skin kept intact
1 x 1.8kg Duck, fully deboned
1 x 1.2kg Chicken, fully deboned
Butchers string
For the Sausage Stuffing:
500g pork sausage meat, 1 large onion finely diced, 2 cloves garlic, 1 cup breadcrumbs, 1 tsp sage, 1 tsp thyme, 1 tsp Cajun spice, salt & pepper, 50ml chicken stock
Method:
Make the stuffing - fry onion and garlic, add sausage meat and brown, add herbs, breadcrumbs and stock. Cool completely.
Lay turkey flat, skin-side down. Season well with salt, pepper and Cajun spice. Spread a thin 1cm layer of stuffing.
Lay duck flat on top, season, add another layer of stuffing.
Lay chicken flat on top, season, add final layer of stuffing.
Roll tightly from one side, tucking as you go to avoid air pockets. Tie very tightly with butchers string every 3cm.
Roast at 160C - cover with foil for 3 hours, remove foil, baste with pan juices, roast another 1.5 - 2 hours until internal temp is 74C in the centre.
REST for 45 minutes — very important! Slice into 2cm rounds to show the three rings.

IF YOU PREFER ONE BIRD - OUR THREE FESTIVE ROASTS

1. Dee's Christmas Turkey (4kg)
Butter under the skin with garlic, lemon zest and sage. Roast 20 mins per 500g at 180C. Baste with butter. Rest 30 mins.

2. Crispy Christmas Duck (2kg)
Score the skin, season with five-spice, orange zest and salt. Roast on a rack at 180C for 2 hours. Pour off fat halfway. Glaze last 20 mins with orange marmalade + soy.

3. Henley Lemon & Herb Chicken (1.5kg)
Rub with olive oil, lemon, rosemary and garlic. Roast at 200C for 1 hr 15 mins. Perfect for a smaller table.

WINE PAIRING - PROUDLY SOUTH AFRICAN

To Start - The Sparkling:
Graham Beck Brut NV, Robertson — *Serve ice cold with canapés.*
With the Turducken / Turkey & Chicken:
De Grendel Koetshuis Sauvignon Blanc / Chenin Blanc, Durbanville Hills
You need a white with backbone. Chenin's honey and acidity stands up to turkey and stuffing.
With the Duck & Turducken:
Tokara Pinot Noir, Stellenbosch or Hamilton Russell Pinot Noir, Hemel-en-Aarde
Pinot Noir is the classic duck wine — light enough not to overpower turkey, earthy enough for duck.
For the Red Lovers:
Kanonkop Kadette Pinotage or Boekenhoutskloof Porcupine Ridge Syrah
Syrah's pepper and dark fruit loves Cajun spice and pork sausage stuffing.

From Dee's Kitchen table to yours — A blessed, full, and very merry Christmas in Henley.

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Henley on Klip Bowling Club Celebrates Lauren Coetzee's Historic Appointment

From Henley on Klip Bowling Club
A proud moment for Henley on Klip, Sedibeng Bowls and Gauteng Bowls
Henley on Klip Bowling Club is proud to celebrate **Lauren Coetzee's appointment as the first female President of Sedibeng Bowls and her recent election as President of Gauteng Bowls.**
These appointments mark significant milestones for bowls in the region and are a source of great pride for Henley on Klip Bowling Club, where Lauren has been an active and dedicated member of the bowls community.

Lauren's journey in the sport has seen her serve in several leadership roles, including Club Captain, Vice President and President at club level. **Her contributions to Sedibeng Bowls include serving as Competition Secretary, District Selector and involvement in inter-district bowls.** These experiences have given her a sound understanding of the administration, development and competitive aspects of the sport.

Her dedication extends beyond leadership and administration. **Lauren has managed both Sedibeng's Under-30 teams and the Colts and Fillies teams, demonstrating her passion for developing young players and creating opportunities for the next generation of bowlers.** She recognises that the future of bowls depends on attracting young people, nurturing their talent and ensuring that the sport continues to grow and thrive.

As President of Sedibeng Bowls, Lauren has focused on strengthening the district, encouraging participation and promoting transparency, accountability and collaboration. **Her appointment as the first woman to lead Sedibeng Bowls represents an important moment in the district's history and highlights the growing contribution of women to leadership in the sport.**

Her election as President of Gauteng Bowls provides an opportunity to build on this experience and contribute to the future of bowls across the province's five districts. **Her priorities include working collaboratively, developing players, attracting new members and strengthening relationships between clubs and districts.**

Outside of bowls, Lauren brings extensive professional experience to her leadership roles. With a career spanning more than 27 years in the commercial property industry, particularly in marketing and business development, she understands the importance of strategic planning, building relationships and creating opportunities for sustainable growth.

For Henley on Klip Bowling Club, Lauren's achievements reflect what dedication, commitment and a genuine passion for the sport can accomplish. The club is delighted to see one of its own take on these important leadership positions and represent the wider bowls community at district and provincial level.
Henley on Klip Bowling Club extends its heartfelt congratulations to Lauren on both appointments and wishes her every success in the responsibilities ahead.

The club is proud to stand behind Lauren as she begins this next chapter and looks forward to seeing her contribute to a stronger, more inclusive and thriving future for bowls in Sedibeng and throughout Gauteng.

Season's Greetings from Henley on Klip Bowling Club

As 2026 draws to a close, we would like to thank all our members, friends and the Henley community for being part of another wonderful year filled with good bowling, friendship, laughter and great memories.

May you and your loved ones enjoy a Merry Christmas, a joyful festive season and safe travels wherever your holidays may take you.

May 2027 bring you good health, happiness, peace and countless blessings. We look forward to another fantastic year of friendship, fellowship and bowls!

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Warmest wishes,
Henley on Klip Bowling Club.

153 BAGS IN JUST 2½ HOURS: PIELS FARM COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP GAINS MOMENTUM

From Blue Saddle Ranches
A community initiative bringing residents, children, animal welfare organisations and local businesses together is making a tangible difference at Piels Farm. What started as an effort to tackle the growing litter problem at Piels Farm is developing into something much bigger: a community-driven initiative focused on environmental responsibility, animal welfare and creating a healthier living environment.
Rainbow Nation Animals (RNA), working alongside Helen, Thoko and Nomsa, recently held its second community clean-up at Piels Farm. Despite temperatures exceeding 30°C, enthusiastic children, returning volunteers and new faces turned out to make a difference.
With the extreme heat limiting the collection period to just two and a half hours, an incredible **153 bags of rubbish were collected:**
10 bags of dirty nappies.
6 bags of tins.
34 bags of plastic.
103 bags of general rubbish.

MORE THAN JUST A CLEAN-UP
The initiative addresses challenges that go beyond litter. With refuse collection problems resulting in rubbish accumulating, rats have become a concern for residents. Some resort to using highly toxic rat poison, which creates a serious danger for domestic animals. Dogs and cats can eat either the poisoned rats or the poison itself, sometimes with fatal consequences. Young children can also be exposed to these dangerous substances.
By providing refuse bags and encouraging responsible waste disposal, the initiative aims to reduce the conditions attracting rodents and help protect both animals and people.
Importantly, the children participating are not just collecting rubbish. They are also being educated about recycling, waste separation and the importance of looking after their environment. The aim is to instil these values from a young age and encourage a generation that takes pride in its surroundings.

REWARDING YOUNG ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPIONS
To encourage continued participation, RNA has introduced a monthly collection competition. The boy and girl who collect the most rubbish will each receive a meal of their choice. The highest collectors by the end of the year will also be rewarded with a sponsored outing.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND VOLUNTEERS
Community initiatives like this are only possible through generosity and people willing to get involved.
A heartfelt thank you to Nu-Chem CC RTC Control Systems - Pty Ltd. Pick n Pay Sasolburg and Blue Saddle Ranches.
Every bag donated, every volunteer who gives their time and every child who participates contributes to something much bigger.

THE WORK CONTINUES!
With growing community involvement and constructive engagement with local government, animals.
Because meaningful change happens when communities come together and take action.

Learn more at Rainbow Nation Animals Facebook Page.