



A word from our estate manager

Dear Elaleni Community,

As we move toward the close of the year, it's fair to say that 2025 has been both a challenging and rewarding one for the estate. Despite the pressures and complexities that come with managing a growing community, there have been many positives along the way.

Looking ahead, 2026 is shaping up to be an exciting year, with new facilities scheduled to come online. These additions will be of significant benefit to Elaleni as a whole, and we look forward to sharing more details in due course.

One of the highlights this year has been welcoming new members to our team. Luke (operations and building control) and Dirk (IPSS security manager for Elaleni) joined the estate staff and have already added real value through their dedication, professionalism, and willingness to assist, which is to be commended. We are pleased to have them as part of the Elaleni community.

It is always encouraging to see residents out and about, making use of the estate and its facilities. Seeing families, and especially the younger residents, enjoying the swimming pool and slide brings a real sense of life and joy to the estate, particularly during the festive season.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to the Board of Directors for the time, effort, and commitment they continue to put in behind the scenes. This year presented some significant external challenges, and their involvement and support have been invaluable.

To the estate staff, thank you for your hard work and commitment throughout the year. Your efforts do not go unnoticed. We have some ambitious goals for 2026, and I look forward to tackling them together as a team.

Lastly, to our residents, thank you for your ongoing engagement, cooperation, and assistance over the past year. It has been a pleasure working with you, and your involvement plays an important role in making Elaleni the community it is.

I would like to wish everyone a happy, safe, and restful holiday season, and we look forward to welcoming you into the new year.

Best Regards,

Ryan Streit
Estate Manager

DoughPamine Pizza Day: A Slice of Community Joy

Nothing brings people together quite like good pizza—and Judd and Kelly from DoughPamine delivered in style at the Leisure Centre. Their Pizza Day for Elaleni kids was an absolute hit, with excited faces, plenty of laughter, and that unmistakable smell of freshly baked bases drifting across the pool.

From the first slice to the last, the energy was brilliant. Kids compared favourite toppings, queued for another helping, and dashed between bites to catch up with friends. Parents relaxed nearby, enjoying the easy atmosphere and the chance to connect while the little ones tucked in. It was simple, happy community time—the kind that reminds us why we love living here.

A huge thank you to Judd and Kelly for the generous spread and for making the afternoon feel so special. We're grateful for the care you put into the food and the fun.

If the enthusiastic feedback is anything to go by, we'll definitely be looking at more family-friendly food days in the months ahead. Here's to great pizza, great people, and many more shared moments at Elaleni.





Christmas First Friday at the Leisure Centre

We wrapped up the year with a festive Christmas First Friday at the Leisure Centre—and it was a wonderful evening all round. Residents gathered around the pool for easy conversation, twinkling lights and a relaxed end-of-year catch-up that set the tone for the season. Laughter carried well into the evening as families and neighbours connected after a busy year. It was a gorgeous evening for a get-together.

A sincere thank-you to Sip & Saute for the beautifully presented catering—fresh, generous and perfect for grazing—and to Dwell for kindly sponsoring the champagne. Your support helped create a warm, celebratory atmosphere that everyone enjoyed.

We're grateful to all who joined us and helped make the night special. Here's to more shared moments and community spirit in the year ahead.





A Visit from Father Christmas

Nothing says festive season like a surprise visit from Father Christmas—and this year he brought pure joy to Elaleni. With a sleigh (golf cart)-full of cheer (and a bag of presents), he made his way through the estate, greeting families, posing for photos, and handing out gifts to the kids. Laughter, carols, and the excited jingle of bells turned driveways and lawns into instant moments of magic.

Thank you to the residents who gathered to wave him on, and to the team and helpers who coordinated the route and made sure every stop ran smoothly. It was a simple tradition that reminded us what matters most—community, kindness, and a little sparkle at the end of a busy year.

Here's to carrying that spirit into the holidays. 🎄



Birds Are Back: A Forest (and Dam) Reborn

If you've walked past the small dam in front of the Forest Clubhouse lately, you've heard it before you've seen it—wingbeats, calls, and the busy rustle of reeds. After months of careful rehabilitation in the swamp fig forest, birdlife has surged back, and the dam has become a lively focal point for feeding, nesting, and courtship.

The difference is tangible. With silt cleared, banks reshaped, and indigenous planting taking root, the water is cleaner and the margins are healthier—exactly the mix that birds look for. Weavers have been especially active, stitching vivid green nests over the water. Tawny-flanked prinias hover and flick through the reeds, cuckoos call from the canopy, and the occasional fish eagle patrols the airways. Around the boardwalk, residents are again spotting purple-crested turacos, thrushes, weavers, and woodpeckers, while dusk brings the soft “whoo” of wood owls and, if you're lucky, a glimpse of a spotted eagle-owl on a quiet perch.

Why the resurgence? Habitat quality. By restoring water flow, removing excess sediment, and re-establishing native vegetation, the team has rebuilt the layered structure birds need—open water for drinking and bathing, reedbeds for nesting and cover, and surrounding forest for food and roosts. In short, the dam is functioning as a proper wetland edge again.

This recovery didn't happen by accident. It's the result of consistent, hands-on work by the rehabilitation crew and our environmental specialists, paired with patience from the community as pathways and banks were repaired. The payoff is a richer, more resilient ecosystem—one that delights birders and casual walkers alike.

How to enjoy it responsibly:

- Visit in the early morning or late afternoon when activity peaks.
- Keep voices low and stick to the paths/boardwalk to avoid disturbing nests.
- Bring binoculars; you'll be surprised how much is happening just beyond the reeds.
- Share sightings to our resident channels—your notes help build a living record of the forest's recovery.

The forest has always been Elaleni's heartbeat. Hearing it sing again—right at the water's edge—reminds us what careful stewardship can restore.

(PHOTOS BY SEAN DIXON)



Meet Our New Security Manager: Dirk Botes

We're delighted to welcome Dirk Botes as Elaleni's new Security Manager. With 17+ years' experience across residential estates, commercial sites and high-risk operations, Dirk brings a calm, professional approach to safeguarding people, property and places. His background includes leading security teams, refining access-control systems, coordinating emergency response, and driving continuous improvements in on-site safety. He has a strong grasp of risk management, incident prevention and compliance—the exact mix needed to uphold Elaleni's high standards.

While Dirk is employed by IPSS, he will serve full-time at Elaleni, working closely with residents, contractors and the Estate team. Expect a focus on clear communication, proactive problem-solving and practical, resident-friendly security protocols.

Away from work, Dirk is family-orientated and active, which fits the pace and responsibility of the role.

Please join us in welcoming Dirk to the community—we're confident his experience and approach will make a positive impact across the estate.

Contact Dirk:

✉ security@elalenihoa.co.za

☎ 076 204 5672



From Sea to Sand: Jacques Grobler's Namib Desert Ride

Elaleni's own Jacques Grobler has just ticked off a truly epic adventure—riding up South Africa's West Coast into Namibia and finishing on the iconic Nedbank Desert Dash route into Swakopmund. The Desert Dash is no ordinary finish line: it's a legendary, mostly overnight traverse of the world's oldest desert, covering roughly 401 km from Windhoek to the Atlantic—wind, heat, corrugations and all.

Even better, Jacques wasn't doing it just for the thrill. He joined Joel Stransky's Sea-to-See team, a charity ride raising funds through the LumoHawk Foundation to help give the gift of sight to children—rolling all the way from Durban to Swakopmund (about 2 500 km over two weeks) before taking on the final push across the Namib. Purpose-driven kilometres, capped with a bucket-list desert crossing.

Want a feel for that final stretch into the dunes? Watch this short highlight from the Sea2See Final Stage – Desert Dash 2025—you can almost taste the dust and hear the cheers on the Swakop seafront.

From all of us at Elaleni: Well ridden, Jacques. Thanks for flying the flag—of grit, generosity and community spirit—so far from home. If you're curious about the Desert Dash itself, its history and what it takes to prepare, the official site and race booklet make for great reading (and might just inspire your next adventure).

Links:

- Sea-to-See final stage clip (YouTube). [YouTube](#)
- More on LumoHawk's Sea-to-See fundraising ride. [SA Sports Press+1](#)
- Desert Dash overview & 2025 race info. [Desert Dash Namibia+1](#)



Meet Our Neighbour: Louise Carver

We're delighted to welcome Louise Carver to our community—a chart-topping South African singer-songwriter with two Billboard #1s, multiple SAMA wins and nominations, and a career that's taken her from early radio hits (“It Don’t Matter”, “Home”) to celebrated collaborations across Europe and the USA. Beyond the stage, Louise is all about the simple, grounding rhythms of life: Pilates in the Forest Clubhouse, swims in a beautiful pool, and quiet walks that make a place feel like home. She has recently settled in at Elaleni, and we asked her to share a little more about herself.

1. What made you choose Elaleni—and what felt like “home” the moment you moved in?

I chose Elaleni because it offers a rare blend of coastal calm and forest serenity — a place where the sea and the trees meet, and everyday life feels connected to nature. From the moment I passed through the gates I felt the calm I was looking for — the forest boardwalks, pilates classes, the bird life, the beach club, and that sense of like minded people appreciating the same peaceful lifestyle, all made it feel like this was the right place for us.

2. Describe your perfect Elaleni morning (or evening) in three words.

Trees. Peace. Pilates.

3. Have any local spots already become favourites?

Yes, we love Ray's Kitchen, The Garden Spa at The Litchi Orchard, Lila Moon Hair Salon, Sweet Peas in Lifestyle centre and The Gallery Lifestyle.

4. What's your favourite part of Elaleni?

The way Elaleni brings nature into everyday living. Having a real coastal forest on your doorstep, with protected indigenous flora and fauna, plus private beach access. I love the Pilates classes, doing my laps in the stunning pool and going for a run in the late afternoon. Also, the feeling of being safe yet free means a lot to people coming from Joburg.

Music & creative life

5. How did your journey as a singer begin—and what keeps you inspired right now?

I began playing piano at two, joined the choir at six, as well as started piano lessons. By eleven I was writing my own songs. At fifteen I started opera training and was signed to my first record label. My first single, It Don't Matter, went to radio while I was still at school, and my career grew from there. I draw inspiration from the turns of everyday life, especially the dynamics and complexities of personal relationships.

6. What's your favourite song? (Sung by you or someone else)

It's actually a soundtrack: Out of Africa (John Barry)

7. Which artists are on repeat in your home this month?

Lily Allen: West End Girl is a new fav then my Spotify playlists which I have created over the years to match my mood and what I am doing.

8. Dream collab: who would you love to share a stage or studio with?

Tracy Chapman, Fleetwood Mac, Black Coffee... too many to mention.



Home & studio vibes

9. What would your perfect day look like?

Wake up naturally without an alarm clock. Enjoy a great cup of coffee then do a pilates class in the Elaleni fig forest. Go for a lovely breakfast at the Ballito lifestyle centre and pop into Sweet peas and The Gallery. After that, go for a wonderful massage at The Litchi Orchard Spa and followed by sundowners on the beach and dinner at Ray's Kitchen. Heaven!

10. One item in your space that sparks joy or tells a story (an instrument, a photo, a vinyl)?

My mother is a fine artist and she painted a beautiful painting of myself holding my scottish terrier, Elvis, who passed away five years ago. He was my absolute love and I treasure that painting.

Community & lifestyle

11. How do you balance show days with slow days—any wellness or routine tips for the rest of us?

I am definitely not one to talk about balance but I do try to keep my daily exercise going which has become a lot less hectic and more core focussed. I attempt to eat healthily and don't drink alcohol during my tours. I am constantly trying to enjoy the moment more and think living in Elaleni will help that.

Festive & December notes

12. Your go-to festive song — classic or modern — and why?

Classic - O Holy Night gets me every time. Soulful and deeply moving.

Quick-fire (fun!)

Sunrise or sunset? Sunset

Tea or coffee? Coffee

Beach or Pool? Pool... but needs to be a beauty like the Elaleni pool!

From international stages to quiet forest walks, Louise brings a wonderful blend of artistry and everyday warmth to Elaleni. If you see her around the boardwalks or at the pool, say hello—she's as generous with conversation as she is with a chorus. Welcome, Louise—may your new home be full of trees, peace, and Pilates.



Updated Speeding Penalty Structure

To keep our roads safe and our processes fair, the Elaleni Coastal Forest Estate Board—together with the Rules and Penalties Sub-Committee—has approved a revised speeding penalty structure. The goal is to simplify enforcement, ensure consistency, and promote safety for residents, visitors, and contractors.

New Penalty Structure (per vehicle/number plate)

1st offence: R500

2nd offence: R500

3rd offence and further (within a six-month period): R1 000

Record reset: If there are no speeding offences for six months, the record for that vehicle resets. Any new offence thereafter will be treated as a first offence (R500).

Adjustment of Previously Issued Penalties

If you have already paid penalties under the previous higher structure (R1 000, R3 000 or R5 000), the difference will be credited to your levy account, and the new, reduced amount will apply.

Late Payment

Interest will be charged on late payment of speeding penalties and added to your levy account, in line with estate financial policies.

Speed Monitoring Cameras

There are currently two speed monitoring cameras within the estate:

Ingwe Drive, shortly after the Elaleni Coastal Forest entrance

Bee Eater, around the corner

If a vehicle is recorded speeding by both cameras, even within a short period, two separate penalties will apply. Cameras may be relocated from time to time without prior notice.

Estate Speed Limit

The maximum speed limit is 30 km/h throughout the estate. Exceeding this limit anywhere within Elaleni may result in a penalty.

Responsibility

Each vehicle is treated as a separate entity for penalty and escalation purposes.

Homeowners are responsible for the conduct of their visitors, contractors, and service providers. Any penalties incurred by them will be charged to the homeowner's account, as per the estate rules.

Thank you for your cooperation in adhering to the estate's speed limits—this helps maintain a safer environment for all road users.

Questions? Please contact Estate Management.



Veggies to pick

Beetroots (ready soon)

Lettuce

Cauliflower

Radishes

Broccoli

Chinese mustard

Spinach

Chillies

Herbs:

Thyme

Rosemary

Oreganum

Basil

Sage



CONTACT US

HOA Contact information

Contact person: Robyn Pascoe

032 866 0100

admin@elalenihoa.co.za

www.elalenihoa.co.za

<https://elalenihoa.co.za>



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