



*Uvongo*  
River Resort Share Block (Pty) Ltd.

# UVONGO

## SHAREHOLDER NEWSLETTER

### DECEMBER 2017

#### Dear Valued Shareholder

Welcome back to your exclusive Uvongo River Resort update. We hope that you spend some lovely quality time with your family and loved ones in the upcoming Festive Season and that the year ahead is filled with blessings. For now allow us to update you on the latest developments at your Resort.



**“Dolce far niente”** – the pleasure of idleness... you may recognise it from the film/book *Eat, Pray, Love*. We understand that a holiday at Uvongo is your chance to just enjoy the small things in life, relax and stop rushing from one meeting or engagement to another. To truly live and breathe the essence of *“dolce far niente”*! It is for this very reason that we work extremely hard every year to improve, upgrade, adapt and change for the better – so that when you are here with us, you can focus on what truly matters – relaxing, enjoying being “idle” and just spending time with the family. And what have we been doing during the second half of 2017 to ensure you only have the best stay, the next time you visit? Well, let’s get into it.

Firstly, all five buildings at the Resort are sporting **new signage**. Now, you will easily be able to distinguish between Pisa, Casa Bella, Villa Amore, Toscana and San Marino.



## What’s News at “Little Italy”



### FROM THE OUTSIDE TO THE INSIDE ...



To complement the Italian look and feel of the Resort and add to the uniqueness, we are progressively installing new art in the units. And it may seem familiar to you...that would be because we photograph parts of the murals, blow-up the prints and mount them in the existing frames. It brings beautiful pops of colour into the units and really highlights what makes the Resort, oh so special. We hope to complete the project in the not so distant future.



Staying at the units, we decided to select certain units, like Unit 53 and sand and chalk-paint the dining room chairs. We’ll be testing the durability of this paint in selected units before implementing it across the board. But we will keep you in the know. Exciting news for the little ones! Our kiddies’ area is due for a little themed upgrade. But we prefer to keep this a surprise for the time being. We will give a little hint though – it will inspire the sailor or pirate in your little ones.



## OUR HERB GARDEN IS FLOURISHING AND IS AS POPULAR AS EVER.



Initially, we grow all our herbs indoors and once the time is right, we move them carefully to the outdoor herb garden. Due to popular demand and many requests, we now sell our seeds to guests who pre-order. Inspired by our beautiful painted surrounds, we handcraft and decoupage boxes and envelopes with images of our murals; we then carefully place the seeds in the envelopes and place them in the boxes. Guests can order these exquisite boxes of art, with seeds from us, for only R60.

## FROM THE OUTSIDE TO THE INSIDE



Seeds Sold per Order



Little Italy has Talent

By now you should be well aware of Little Italy's "waste not, want not" adage ... last year we reused tile cut-offs, this year we are transforming broken ironing boards. Our Resort Manager, Charlie Olori, turned the broken ironing boards into charming features for our gardens – don't miss the "wheel-barrows" when you next visit.

### "LITTLE ITALY" HAS TALENT

As some of our valued shareholders and guests know, we have a very talented artist at Uvongo River Resort. Some call him "Little Italy's Da Vinci" and a true artist; but he is also known as **Jose Deksa**, one of our awesome Resort security guards. Jose is an amazing pencil artist and specialises in faces. So, we decided to enter Jose in a local art competition – we will keep you posted on how he does.

### OUR WISHING WELL ASSISTS WORTHY PAWS AND CAUSES

*"A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle –Italian Proverb"*

As mentioned previously, our Uvongo River Resort Wishing Well assists various wonderful African Blessings causes – your "wishes" are changing lives! During the July holidays – we decided that the proceeds would go to the Cause for Paws Drive – a campaign that assists vulnerable dogs and cats with food and blankets in the freezing winter months. Thanks to guests who made use of the Wishing Well in July – a whopping R700 was donated to worthy paws! Now that is a cause for "ap-paws". Thank you for helping us make South Africa a better place.

We have also decided to use the popular Meet-and-Greets to support African Blessings. Besides the usual fair – we now make and sell boerewors rolls and donate the proceeds to African Blessings. Just another way we can support this wonderful Non-Profit Organisation and those in need.



## ADDIO "BASIL" THE UVONGO RIVER RESORT BUNNY

*"Tutto è bene che riesce bene – All is well that ends well"*

Basil crept into our garden and into our hearts. What a handsome little fellow – all dressed up in his shiny grey fur and set of magnificent whiskers. Basil thought he'd moved into the Garden of Eden – having the whole of "Little Italy's" garden and herbs to himself, to romp and chomp. Some of our guests also met Basil and spent some quality time with him. But alas, as bunnies do, he started munching through our plants and herbs and we made the difficult decision to find him a suitable home. Basil is now extremely happy with 23 other bunnies at Bushy Vales. He'll remain in our hearts for a long time (but at least our gardens are back to normal).



## Little “Ea-taly”

“La cucina piccola fa la casa grande –  
The little kitchen makes a big house”

## Little Italy – Mama’s Meatball Recipe

“Mmmm” is the same in every language. So whether you say “mmm” over one of the pizzas we roll and bake on special occasions; or say “mmm” while you sip on our now famous Little Italy Limoncello-Aid; or “mmm” while you enjoy “Mama’s Meatballs” made with herbs fresh from our garden – we know “mmm” translates into every language. Speaking of “Mama’s Meatballs” ... due to several guests asking for the Recipe after they tasted the juicy herb meatballs we serve at Uvongo, we decided to share our secret recipe with you... this one has been passed down for generations!



### What You Need For The Yumminess:

- 500g Pork Mince\*
- 500g Lean Beef Mince\*
- Fresh Herbs (Rosemary, Sweet Basil, Parsley or Origanum) \*\* Finely Chopped
- Four Cloves of Fresh Garlic, Crushed/ Finely Chopped
- One Large Onion, Diced
- One Cup of Mozzarella or Cheddar Cheese, Grated
- One Large Egg
- One Tin of Tomato and Onion Mix
- One Teaspoon of Brown Sugar
- Dash of Olive Oil
- Salt and Pepper
- Non-Stick Spray

### Notes:

\* Chicken/Vegetarian mince can be used as substitutes; although we cannot guarantee the same results.

\*\* You can use more than one combination of herbs and use as much as you want.

### How To Make the Yumminess:

- 1) Preheat the oven to 180 C.
- 2) Finely chop the basil (about ¼ cups worth); add it to the tin of tomato and onion mix. Add a teaspoon of brown sugar to this and combine. Set half of the mixture aside.
- 3) Take the finely chopped fresh herbs (of choice and amount) and mix it with the mince, garlic, onion, egg, grated cheese and half of the tomato-onion and basil mix. Work together until evenly mixed. Roll into small balls; if it is a hot day you can pop the mince balls in the fridge for a bit.

- 4) Spray an oven pan with non-stick spray; place the meatballs closely together in the pan and drizzle with a dash of olive oil. Bake this in the pre-heated oven for seven to eight minutes; then remove from the oven.
- 5) Evenly pour the remaining tomato-onion and basil mix over the meatballs. And pop it back in the oven, grilling it for three to four minutes. And hey presto! Mama’s Meatballs are ready for you to enjoy!

*Recommended: serve with fresh parmesan shavings and additional chopped fresh herbs.*



## ABOUT THE STORM

### “Chi la dura la vince – He who perseveres wins at last”

Earlier this year we discovered the true meaning of “*piove sul bagnato*” or, it doesn’t rain it pours. As you may remember from our mid-year newsletter, our gardens sustained massive damage earlier this year, due to a huge storm in May. This same rainstorm also damaged three of our units (with flat roofs), causing severe leaks; and also damaged the Laundry Room.

But, it takes more than a little storm to discourage “Little Italy”! With the assistance of a professional horticulturalist we designed a new garden, with new plants and special fertiliser. Our newly established garden looks fantastic and is flourishing – and the guests love it. The three units were also fixed by a contractor and our amazing Maintenance Team repaired our Laundry Room. And with that we said “ciao” to that particular storm’s damage.

Unfortunately, that was not the last big storm to hit Uvongo – in June four old trees fell over due to strong winds. Nobody was harmed and we simply removed the trees for our guests’ safety. These winds also affected some of the shade parking bays; but once again we simply made the necessary repairs. So, Uvongo River Resort – two; Hibiscus Coast Storms – zero! Every storm runs out of rain or in the second storm’s case, wind ...eventually.

And while we were busy adding and fixing up at the Resort we thought “safety first, is safety always” and thus added razor wire to secure any potentially vulnerable points on our boundary.

## Did You Know?

### A Few Interesting Uvongo Statistics

In seven months...

- 3898 adults came through our gates
- 1151 sets of little feet counted (kiddies)
- Over 600 meatballs made and 480 pizzas rolled and baked on special occasions
- 600 packets of popcorn given away
- 3635 cups of coffee shared with our valued guests
- 8232 sugar and 7270 Cremora sachets were used
- 7458 toilet rolls set out and 1299 refuse bags used
- 1929 little soaps used



**Don’t forget** to share your stories, recipes and favourite memories with us at [YourResortStory@oaks.co.za](mailto:YourResortStory@oaks.co.za)

# The Latest Fun in the Sun and Beyond

"A vostro comodo – At your leisure"

Spending time with your family and having fun is important to you and consequently, it is important to us. We continue to have all kinds of old fashioned fun in peak season – from sackcloth races and egg and spoon sprints, to giant snakes and ladders... and more. We plan to include "magic" and puppet shows in the future and have started mini-market days too. On our mini-market days, we allow local residents to sell their amazing, handmade products (during peak season).

## YOUR RESORT STORY SECTION

*"AMORE NON CONOSCE TRAVAGLIO – LOVE NEVER TIRES"*

Congratulations Shaun Oosthuizen and Denise Koch on your engagement. Uvongo River Resort was happy to be part of the arrangements, for the start of your happily ever after!

Please remember to share your favourite Uvongo memories with us at [YourResortStory@oaks.co.za](mailto:YourResortStory@oaks.co.za)



## IMPORTANT NOTICES

Please note that our VRS Head Office will be closed from the **18th of December 2017 to the 2nd of January 2018**. We will return for business as usual on Wednesday, 3rd of January 2018. From 18 to 20 December there will be a skeleton staff available to deal with urgent enquiries; however we do expect high call volumes and ask that you please contact us before then for general enquiries.

Levy payments: **Levies must be paid in terms of the Use Agreement and no occupation or usage of any form is allowable until the levies have been paid.** This applies to usage, spacebanking, renting etc. of the timeshare week. For alternative payment arrangements, please contact Property Admin: [propertyadmin@oaks.co.za](mailto:propertyadmin@oaks.co.za)

Spacebanking and rentals: Please note that a request for spacebanking or rental must be submitted to Property Admin a minimum of five months prior to the occupation date, to enable us to process them. Please contact Property Admin at: [propertyadmin@oaks.co.za](mailto:propertyadmin@oaks.co.za).

Occupation dates: Please note that Resort Calendars are linked to school holidays, and it is therefore vital that you check the annual calendar to ensure that you occupy the correct week. Please refer to the 2018 calendar available on the following link:  
[www.vrsonline.co.za/HTML/documents/UvongoRiverResortCalendar2018.pdf](http://www.vrsonline.co.za/HTML/documents/UvongoRiverResortCalendar2018.pdf)

## Torna Presto – Come Back Soon

**Wow... here we find ourselves at the end of another year and Shareholder Newsletter.** We shared many wonderful memories, including achieving **Silver Crown status** at the RCI OSCAS again ...and more. On behalf of Uvongo River Resort and VRS: have only the best Festive Season, take care and remember **"Chi la dura la vince – He who perseveres wins at last".**

Warm regards

*Marjorie Forssman*

VRS Managing Director



**UVONGO RIVER RESORT**  
t: 039 315 7537  
e: [uvongomanager@oaks.co.za](mailto:uvongomanager@oaks.co.za)

**VRS**  
t: 012 492 1232  
e: [propertyadmin@oaks.co.za](mailto:propertyadmin@oaks.co.za)

