



Little Eden turns 40 !

Chemical Convertors and Customers Together Donate Forty Thousand Rand in lieu of Christmas Gifts

From small beginnings ten years ago, Chemical Convertors has grown into the market leader in contract cleaning chemicals. From a handful of employees, Chemical Convertors now employs over fifty in three locations; Spartan, Pinetown and Cape Town.

The success of the company is due to a number of factors, quality products, quality personnel and most of all integrity. Chemical Convertors is proud to be still serving customers today who bought product on the very first trading day way back in August 1996. With a number of SABS approved products and six monthly audits by the SABS, customers can be assured that the quality of Chemical Convertors' products is non-negotiable. What they buy this year will be the same quality next year and the year after that.



From Left - Ntheme, Tommy du Plessis, Bruce Richardson, Lucy Slaviero and Suanrie



From Left - Ntheme, Lucy Slaviero, Rita van den Berg, Tommy du Plessis, Rene Butcher, Moses Masina, Angela van Wesemael, Arthur Willis, Mike Smith & Bruce Richardson and Suanrie

March 2007

A Big Thank You to all our Customers

The Story of Little Eden

The story of LITTLE EDEN is one of faith, love; dedication and perseverance which goes right back to 1967 when Mrs. Domitilla Hyams started a day care facility for three little girls with mental handicap.

Shortly afterwards Domitilla, a woman of profound faith, saw a vision of the Blessed Virgin Mary, motioning a number of children towards her. 'I leave these children in your care,' seemed to be the message the Madonna wished to convey.

It is a message Domitilla has since devoted her life to carrying out, with the support of her husband Danny and her own children, now grown up and actively involved in the organisation.

Nothing is simpler than her objectives: to allow these special children some of whom have been abandoned by their parents or rescued from indigent homes to live in a peaceful, loving environment.

Today, LITTLE EDEN consists of two homes, one at Edenvale and a 43ha farm in Bapsfontein, which together are 'home' to 290 children and adults with profound mental handicap.

Now in her 80s, Domitilla is still actively involved in the organisation she created. She sorts clothing at the home for the residents every day and knows each one by name. And she continues to pray for her angels every day.

Planning ahead

With foresight, Domitilla insisted in 1970 that land be purchased for future development to accommodate the children as they grew into adulthood. A 43ha farm in Bapsfontein was purchased, but over a decade would pass before the Elvira Rota Village (named after Domitilla's mother) was finally built, owing to lack of funds.

1984-1985

A borehole was sunk with an initial flow of 19 000 gallons per hour. Irrigation was laid and the pecan nut orchard was established. Eskom electricity supply was connected. A small building was erected for staff and the farm workshop, and farming operations began on a small scale - vegetables for the children and maize and beans for sale.

1991

Phase I of the building to accommodate 70 residents was officially opened by the Apostolic Delegate Archbishop Ambrose De Paoli. Without separate kitchen and laundry facilities, there was daily transportation of food and washing to and from Edenvale. The following year, the staff quarters were enlarged and a temporary laundry installed.

1993

Government finally approved the necessary subsidised loan to enable us to complete the kitchen, dining room, laundry and hall sections (Phase II), and the 'turning of the first sod' was performed by the MEC for Health, Gauteng, Mr Amos Masondo in 1995.

1997

An invitation was extended to President Nelson Mandela to perform the official opening of Phase II on 25 July, and we were now able to accommodate 70 residents at Elvira Rota Village. Planning of Phase III got underway to accommodate young people who, together with profound mental handicap, also have mental illness, resulting in challenged or aggressive behaviour.

1999

Work began on Phase III - Pino's Place comprising two self-contained units, (one for "aggressive challenged behaviour" for 12 residents and one for "challenged behaviour" for 28 residents). The facility was officially opened the following year, bringing the total number of residents at the Village to 110.

2004

Work began on the task of creating a natural wetland area below the settling ponds.

Over the years, this has grown to provide a peaceful sanctuary for the enjoyment of residents, staff and visitors.

2006

Official opening of the labyrinth at Elvira Rota Village on Arbor Day.

