



26 September 2021

Greetings from the BRP Team ☺ ... for the last time! This is the promised final Update from the Botsis Retirement Project team ... so, there is lots to chat about!

To begin with, we are so pleased to be able to report that the Reveal on 14 August was a wonderful success and Rod and Mandy were both delighted and perhaps a little overwhelmed.

We have delayed the issuing of this Update to wrap up all formalities and to allow time for the completion of the Reveal video, with its BPC produced version of one of Rod's favourite worship songs "Shout to the Lord".

Please enjoy the occasion with Rod and Mandy ... go to: <https://youtu.be/OwLt0C85ZyQ>

The Reveal was essentially a time of thanksgiving for:

- God's grace and mercy in blessing BPC with Rod and Mandy's ministry of more than 40 years ...
- The opportunity for the Congregation to express their love and appreciation to Rod and Mandy ...
- The generous way in which folk far and wide have contributed financially to make this gifting project possible.

From the video one is able to get an overview of most of what this gifting project has delivered, but we would like to share with everyone a more detailed view as well.

From the outset we committed ourselves to gifting both Rod (a study) and Mandy (at that stage still to be decided). So here is how things worked out:

1. Around July 2020 Mandy indicated that air-conditioning in the main part of the home would be wonderful. So, the BRP Team then decided, with summer coming, to install a suitable unit - and that was completed by September 2020.
2. Then on the 5th of July 2021 construction commenced on Rod's study and on the 14th of August the completed study was revealed, featuring:
 - a. A large west-facing window with a lovely garden view through elegant see-through burglar bars. Privacy is provided by blinds.
 - b. A sliding door into the courtyard which provides access for visitors to the study without having to pass through the house. Privacy is provided by a matching set of blinds.
 - c. An internal door into the remaining part of the garage and from there access to the kitchen via a comfortable ramp.
 - d. An insulated ceiling was installed between the exposed roof beams in the study - giving it a touch of "character". Downlighters between the beams provide overhead lighting.
 - e. The floor is laid with luxury vinyl called Inzpyra in a colour called Rhee and edged with white skirtings.
 - f. Plastered walls that are painted with a colour called "Resplendent" ... which is indeed splendid!!!

- g. An air-conditioning unit installed to ensure all year-round comfort.
- h. A small kitchenette with an elegant stone top, ample cupboard space and equipped with:
 - i. Kettle, Nespresso coffee machine and milk foamer
 - ii. Elegant mugs and glasses
 - iii. Cookie and rusk containers
 - iv. And everything else to enable Rod to serve tea or coffee with aplomb!
 - v. A set of most impressive whisky tumblers ... finished off with a bottle of great single-malt
- i. At the far-end of the study, a beautiful Imbuia bookcase and TV cabinet. A new 32-inch Smart TV now provides Rod with access to everything that is available through the house TV ... so he has no excuse for behaving like an English soccer fan in the lounge!! The study has full internet access via Ethernet cabling to the router in the house.
- j. Other items of furniture in the study:
 - i. A desk that has come a long way with Rod and which was refurbished for the occasion.
 - ii. Two chairs that have very special memories for Rod ... they came off the Mailship SA Oranje - courtesy of Capt. Bluett. They have been repaired and reupholstered ... and restored to their former elegance.
 - iii. A stylish new occasional table for those comfortable chats over a cuppa!
- k. Some of Rod's old paintings and pictures ... carefully selected by Rod ... and reframed for the special occasion.
- l. An extension of the house alarm to cover the new study
- m. Replacement of the garage door motor which after many years of service was playing up.

3. Early in the planning phase, Mandy indicated that additional packing space would make life easier for her. So, in the gap between the now defunct garage door and the end of the study, a set of shelves has been installed and the deep freeze has been moved into this area. Additional shelving has also been installed in the remainder of the garage.

4. Now we come to the reconfiguration of the courtyard - which was originally not part of the initial plans.

Mandy soon recognised that the sliding door to the study opened up a 'new entertainment area' ... and imagined meeting Rod there in the sunshine for tea or coffee or something cool.

So the Team sprang into action to revamp the courtyard:

- a. The entire courtyard was raised in order to eliminate steps and to hide a plethora of piping and trunking. It was re-laid with new, different sized pavers to create an interesting feature finish.
- b. A new fold-down clothes line was installed to discreetly provide for washdays.
- c. Mandy's favourite pot plants were repotted and reorganised on her favourite stands (that have aged authentically).
- d. Wooden trellising was installed to hide the bank of air-conditioning units and to support a new Star Jasmine creeper.
- e. Finally, a new outdoor table and four chairs completed the transformation of the courtyard into a wonderful recreational area.

We trust that the video together with this description has helped everyone to get a full sense of what the gifting process has been able to deliver to Rod and Mandy so far ... but it does not end there!

The generosity of everyone who has been led to contribute to this project, has been astounding. The Lord's hand has indeed been on the Botsis Retirement Project. As a result, Rod and Mandy will soon be receiving the balance of the funds raised once we are sure that all invoices have been settled. At this stage it looks as if Rod and Mandy will be receiving an amount of some R152 000.

Thank you to everyone who has made this gifting project such a success!

A summary of the finances reads as follows:

1. Total donations received as at 26th September 2021 stands at R345 000.
2. Total spent on improvements described above R193 000.
3. Balance to be gifted in cash R152 000.

A complete set of accounts has been kept and will be handed to Session by the end of September 2021. Anyone requiring further information regarding the finances may contact Matt Brenzel.

Special thanks are due to:

Matt Brenzel for his oversight of the finances and valuable advice.

Caryl de Krielen for handling the actual finances ... acknowledging donations ... paying accounts ... and keeping impeccable records.

Louis Coetzee for his construction expertise that brought the whole conversion to life in a remarkably short time.

Annemarie Brenzel for her decor and design skills, attention to detail and her tireless energy.

Dennis de Krielen for his help with the TV and internet installation and the filming of the Reveal.

Audrey Coetzee who edited and created the video.

Tom Parkin who created our home-grown soundtrack for the video, together with his team of talented musicians and singers ... Seth Coetzee, Elmien Filippi, Elzaan Coetzee, Suki Lock, John Comminos and Lucille Solomon.

(Editor's note: the writers have fought against outside written contributions but have relented on this really deserving piece:

"As Peter's wife, and one who walked this road with him, I would like to honour and say thank you to him for his vision, his perseverance and his determination in bringing the BRP project through to its successful culmination. Well done!" - Colleen van Vuuren).

Finally, we would ask that our prayers include thanks to the Lord for the successful completion of the project.

In closing ... it has been a privilege for the BRP Team to serve the Congregation in this unique way of saying a "BIG THANK YOU!" to our beloved Rod and Mandy.

With love and best wishes from the Botsis Retirement Project Team.

Just as a reminder everyone ... all documents relating to the project that have been sent out so far to everyone on our database can be found on BPC's website at <https://www.bpc.org.za/blog/news/>:

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Launch Letter March 2020. | 4. Update September 2020. | 7. Update February 2021 | 12. Update August 2021 |
| 2. Fundraising Letter June 2020. | 5. Update November 2020. | 8. Update March 2021. | 13. Update September 2021 |
| 3. Update July 2020. | 6. Update January 2021. | 9. Update April 2021 | |
| | | 10. Update June 2021 | |
| | | 11. Update July 2021 | |