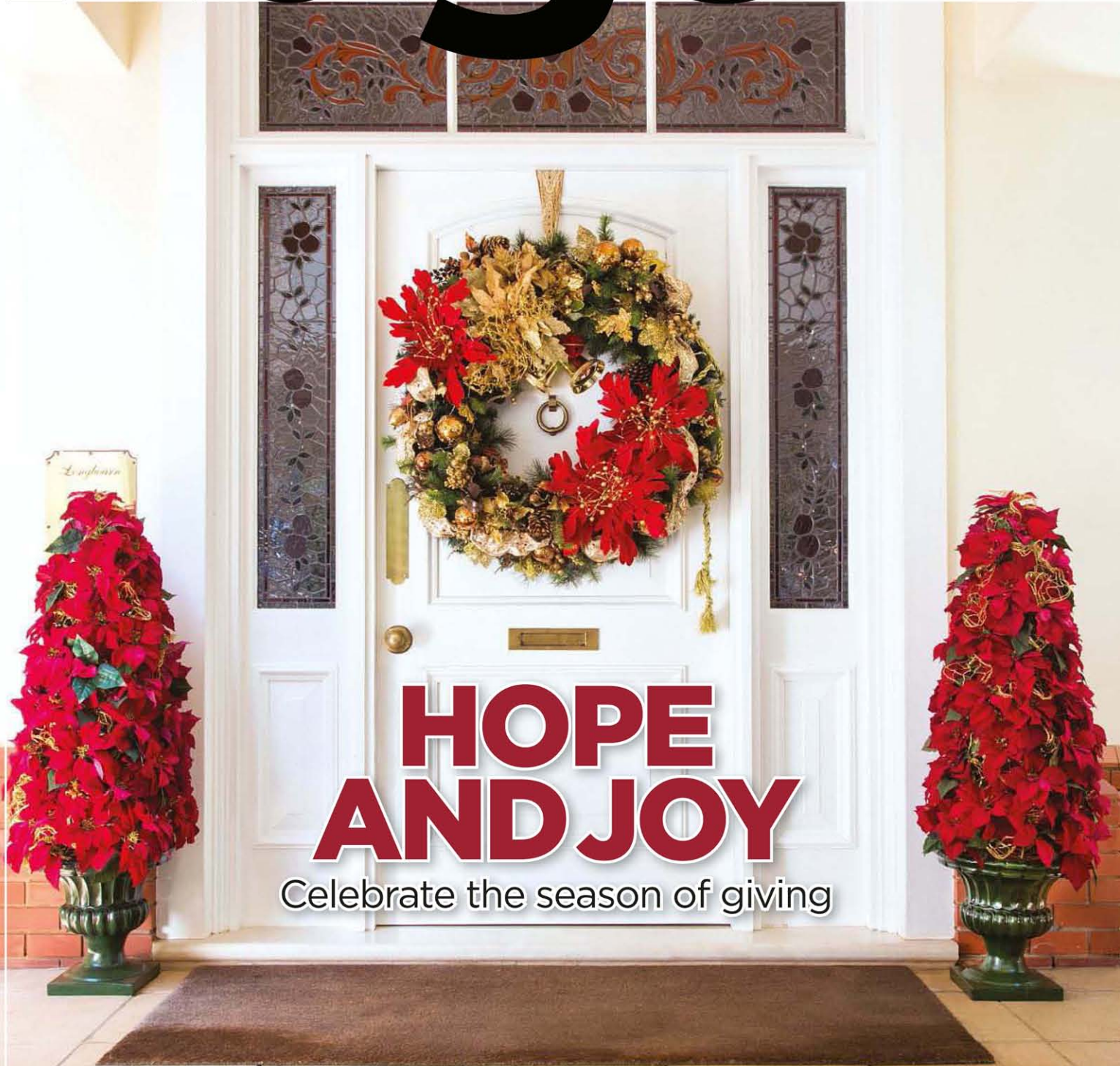


the
ridge

EXCLUSIVE
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HOPE AND JOY

Celebrate the season of giving

 Distributed to the communities of Ballito, Durban North, Gateway, La Lucia, Mt Edgecombe, Prestondale, Somerset Park, uMdloti, uMhlali, uMhlanga Ridge, uMhlanga Rocks, Zimbali



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The festive season conjures up different memories and feelings for all of us, but it's the one time of the year when family traditions and beliefs hold strong. I vividly remember the excitement on Christmas Eve in anticipation of "what was just around the corner", knowing that I had to go to bed early because Father Christmas was travelling all the way from the North Pole to deliver presents – and I had to be asleep

SOCK DOLLS BRING HAPPINESS

In our last issue we featured a story on Wendy-Lou Haird who had taken the time to make "sock dolls" from odd socks. Wendy-Lou and her family have recently returned from the Wild Coast where she delivered her dolls to the local school. It's amazing the happiness one small gesture can bring. A lesson to us all.



WIN A WEEKEND GETAWAY

Need to get away for a weekend of luxury in the bush? Turn to page 52 and enter our competition to win a weekend for two at the stunning Mthembu Lodge. What better way to start 2019.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

when he came ... otherwise there would be no presents. This story hasn't changed over the years, and all over the world there are children trying desperately to stay awake to have a peep at the man in red sneaking in with a sack over his shoulder.

I also remember waking early on Christmas morning to find Father Christmas had eaten the mince pie we had left out for him ... but in his haste had left crumbs all over the place – for my mom to clean up!

One Christmas custom we never escape are the festive songs that follow us as we trawl the shops looking for the perfect gifts. The song words revolve around snow and reindeers, Red Robins and snowmen, roaring fires and sleighs. Wonderful visions if you're in the Northern Hemisphere ... but not written for a festive season sweltering



in our Durban heat. Where are our home-grown Christmas songs?

*Sleigh bells ring, are you listening,
In the lane, snow is glistening,
A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight,
Walking in a winter wonderland.*

I can hear Michael Bubl e's voice drawing me to the shops as I write this. Time to go and finish my Christmas shopping. But in the meantime, to fill you with the spirit of Christmas, we have loads of ideas to inspire and admire, so sit back and enjoy the reads.

Until next year, have a wonderfully peaceful festive and holiday season filled with joy and good blessings. Drive safely.

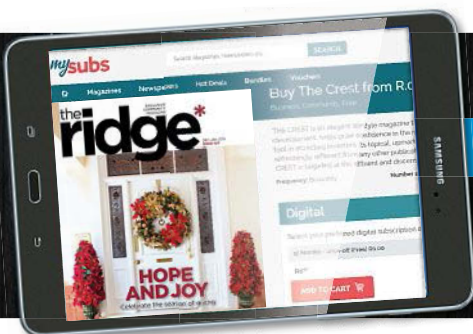
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Happy



Holidays



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