

Hotelstuff / Greenstuff

Newsletter

Hotelstuff and Greenstuff Newsletter: Issue #49

December 2015

Hello from Hotelstuff

Ode to Ourselves

China, Mongolia, Centurion and Bloem
From farm to fork and Green Mangaung.
No fast food; just heritage and old fashioned "kos".
Green tips for Bloemfontein, shared like a boss.

What a roller-coaster end to 2015!

Lorraine was invited to represent South Africa at the "Slow Food China Festival" in Beijing. Then a sho't left to Inner Mongolia where she lacerated her hand on a broken bottle and could write a book about the Mongolian and Russian hospitals.

Best of all, the most fun and exciting project in our Hotelstuff/Greenstuff history - our "Sustainable and Ethical Food Workshop"; an academic experiment to compare the taste and price of organic vs commercial food.

And finally an invitation to give two keynote addresses at the "Free State Green Summit" to launch their "Green Heartland of South Africa" campaign.

HOLIDAYS ARE HERE!

Thank you, one and all, for another wonderful and busy year. We never cease to be amazed at how our work grows and evolves and are so encouraged at how South Africa is becoming ever more conscious about sustainability and protecting the future for our children.

Have a peaceful and blessed Holiday Season.
Best wishes from Lorraine, Dorothy, Sue, Tahnya and Bill.



Lorraine

Please remember to 'LIKE' our Facebook pages:



What We've Been Up To

SLOW FOOD FESTIVAL - BEIJING, CHINA

Slow Food is an international movement to protect heritage, traditional and indigenous farm animals, plants, food processing methods. I was invited to represent South Africa, along with 20 other countries.

Foodies are a special breed and it was a joy to share the passion and commitment with chefs, academics, farmers, growers, activists and volunteers like us. Fascinating to compare different cultures and their priorities. We were treated like royalty, Oscar-like functions with some serious brainstorming workshops in between.

I gave a short presentation on the work we are doing in South Africa to promote ethical farming and food production.



Welcome to Beijing.



The English-speaking contingent. Wales (pig farmer), Kenya (10,000 gardens project), me and Canada (fishing).



Arc of Taste displays - seeds, plants, farm animals, cheeses, etc., which qualify to be protected and preserved, registered in Italy.

ORGANIC FARMERS FESTIVAL - ULAANBAATAR, MONGOLIA

My journey into the Steppe and the nomad yurt camps had to be cancelled after badly injuring my hand. BUT, when we stumbled across this, it made up for everything. Found hundreds and hundreds of chefs and a huge parade on the Ulaanbaatar city square. Sponsored by the UN and World Vision, it was their Annual Organic Farmers Festival. If Mongolia can do it - come on South Africa!



SUSTAINABLE AND ETHICAL FOOD EXPERIMENT - CENTURION, PRETORIA

A "first" in South Africa. An experiment to taste the difference and compare the costs. Two tables of food.

- Table 1 - grass fed, free range Afrikaner beef and local organic veggies.
- Table 2 - factory farmed, feed-lot raised, hormone and antibiotic dosed beef with industrially produced veggies.

Whenever we talk about organic or ethical food, the first reaction is always "It costs too much". So it became our mission to test the perception.

All the food was seasoned and cooked identically with an almost obsessive determination by the chefs to make it a "fair fight". Food was weighed before and after cooking. Shrinkage was measured. Then we tasted both and guessed which was which.

Huge thank you to Caroline McCann (Braeside Butchery) for the meat and Robyn Higgins (Blubird Wholefood Market) for the vegetables, and our incredible team in Cape Town. To my speaker friends, thank you for your time, your commitment to your cause and for sharing your knowledge and stories with us. We will do this again.

Thank you to Prue Leith Chefs Academy for going way, way beyond the original brief. Anthony Roberts for faith in our passion and support every step of the way. Chef Adele Stiehler and her students for an honest and exhaustively accurate experiment, with food professionally prepared and elegantly presented.

Final outcome:

Vegetables, organic	R640	Vegetables, industrial	R804
Beef: Afrikaner free range, chemical free	R111.00/kg	Beef: Factory farmed, feedlot raised	R84.50/kg
Beef shrinkage after cooking:	21%	Beef shrinkage after cooking:	45%

After doing all the sums, we worked out that the ORGANIC food that finally ended up on our plates, cost R12.00 LESS than the industrial food... something we have always suspected! No more excuses.

Here's the link to an article in Business Day - [Food takes on an ethical flavour](#)



Presentations in the beautiful, state of the art auditorium at Prue Leith Chefs Academy.



We had 8 speakers covering introduction to Slow Food, organic meat, fish farming, genetic engineering, Bokashi for waste, green kitchens, Fair Trade, climate change and more.



Hectic activity and strict guidelines for the student chefs.



Some of the 80 attendees taste and discuss the dishes.

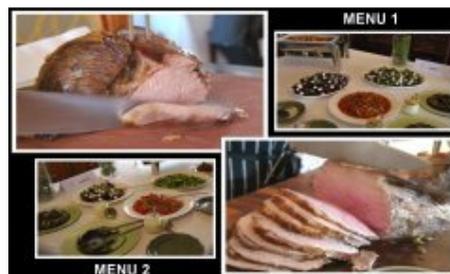


Table 1 and Table 2. Identically cooked dishes using organic vs industrial meat and vegetables. We had to guess which was which.



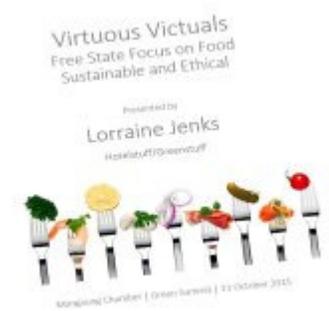
Dr Billy Gallagher gave a delightful talk on his interpretation of ethical food and some great anecdotes.

GREEN SUMMIT - MANGAUNG, FREE STATE

I gave two keynotes: One where I touched on tourism, agriculture, industry, schools, hotels, homes with broad outlines on greening each. The second on "Virtuous Victuals" - a summary of the recent food conferences and events we've been involved in.

Some innovative and proven solutions were presented for the municipality and, generally, we discussed how the Free State could become the "Green Heartbeat of South Africa". It is already halfway there with free roaming cattle, charming old fashioned accommodation and unspoiled towns. Urban folk are beginning to crave traditional comfort food... "kos"... still easy to find in the state.

Monte Bello is a charming venue, just outside Bloem. It is an old farm where big stone barns and storerooms are being converted into a lodge. Nice conference room. Good, home-cooked food and you know what? Die Vrystaaters are still the warmest, friendliest people. Stop there next time you drive to Cape Town.



Read some of our [previous newsletters](#) to see what we've been involved in

New and Repeat Subscribers to our Directories



3D WALL

3D WALL is the manufacturer and exclusive distributor of an exciting range of decorative interior wall tiles that are taking Interior Design to a new level. Our designs herald the beginning of a new trend of wall furnishings. Feature walls are no longer restricted to a mere splash of colour or pattern, unleash your creative spirit with 3D WALL to create the perfect mood in any room of your home or business.



AFRICAN KINETICS

African Kinetics is the Manufacturer & Supplier of eco and human friendly amenities products to the Hospitality Industry and individual clients. We offer personal service, develop long lasting relationships with our existing Clients and look forward to doing the same for you! We're open throughout the year, with products being readily available. All our products can be customised to your requirements.



ASTRO LINEN

Astro Linen was established in 1993, with over 20 years of experience in the linen industry. The company has grown to become one of the leading manufacturers in the industry. Since it was first established Astro Linen has remained committed to its customers. With persisting dedication to providing top quality products and services it has become well recognized in the market.



BARNO

Barno manufactures to specification in genuine leather, synthetic leather (PU) and PVC vinyl. Their product range includes such items as directory of service folders, do not disturb signs, menus, bill folders, conference blotters, airport collection folders, wine lists, telephone notepad holders, desk blotters, high res digitally printed counter mats and banners etc. Enquire about their eco-friendly leather range.



BLACKBASS

Blackbass is a product distribution agency in South Africa that source unique and interesting products, locally and internationally. From the exciting range of Gifts in a Tin suitable for stocking fillers and birthday presents to a range of Simply Natural products made from the purest quality beeswax blended with natural vegetable and plant-derived ingredients as well as the finest essential oils.



CANDLE BUDDY

Safety First ... Candle Buddy is a unique and affordable candle holder which keeps the candle in place at all times. Even if the candle holder is knocked or kicked over the candle remains in the centre position, reducing the risk of fire.



CARPENTRY CLASSICS

Carpentry Classics create handcrafted wooden products, mainly, but not limited to the hospitality market. Our range includes luggage racks, butler trays, tables, welcome trays, amenity holders, hospitality trolleys, step ladders and much more. We can also design and create any unique product you may require. Only materials of the highest quality are used and quality workmanship is guaranteed! We'll find the right solution for every situation and are not deterred by a little challenge!



CHOCOLATE GRAPHICS

Chocolate Graphics' chocolates are uniquely embossed with a raised chocolate design. These chocolates make ideal wedding chocolates, promotional chocolates, chocolate logos and personalized chocolates. Our process is patent protected and 100% chocolate. We operate from Cape Town and started doing business in 2007, supplying branded turndown chocolates to major hotel group and event organisers.



DYNACHEM

A new and revolutionary approach for the provision of portable heat for chafing dishes in the hotel and catering industry. The Chafo is a revolutionary and innovative new product from eco-burner. Designed to be the perfect 'drop-in' replacement for gel and wick chafing dishes, it overcomes all of the problems associated with heating chafing dishes by traditional methods. The Eco-burner Chafo is safer, greener, cleaner, gives greater control and is less wasteful than traditional gels and wicks.



ECOPACK

EcoPack supplies a new generation of highly versatile food packaging products that are 100% compostable, biodegradable, and derived from annually renewable sources. Our innovative product range includes compostable cups, plates, bowls, cutlery, containers and other packaging consumables. We continually source new products that meet our standards of quality and eco-efficiency, and are able to work with our clients to develop unique packaging solutions.



ELCHIM HAIR DRYERS

All Elchim® Hair Dryers are manufactured using the finest eco-compatible materials in accordance with the most stringent European and international standards. Amongst many unique features Elchim® products are all double insulated to SABS acceptable standards and are simple to install and maintain.



EUROBERRY

Euroberry is a reputable supplier of fruit products and has been servicing the industrial, catering and retail trade for more than 10 years. Euroberry specializes in frozen fruit, fruit purees, fruit concentrates, baking stable fruit pieces, candied fruits, cranberries, pumpkin seeds and Goji Berries. Our vast selection of fruit is available all year round, as we source our products from both local and overseas suppliers. We are constantly looking for the latest innovations so as to be able to supply our customers with an avant-garde product range.



EVOLVE HEALTH AND FITNESS

At Evolve we understand your business has many priorities which require your attention. As a premium supplier of Gym Equipment, we pride ourselves on our thorough, supportive approach, which means you can entrust us to efficiently deliver a superior fitness solution for your hotel, resort or spa. We have the specialist knowledge and experience to provide complete fitness solutions to the hospitality industry.



GUEST SOAPIES

Guest Soapies was established in 2003 to satisfy the need for high quality & readily available guest amenity products, not only in bulk, but also in smaller quantities. We supply distinctive guest amenities, that we believe are not only of the highest quality, but also affordable. All of our products are completely customisable to meet your unique requirements.



HERBAFRIQUE

Herbafrique's skin care products are made from natural, locally sourced ingredients and carefully selected herbs which have been chosen for their balancing and corrective properties. Founded in 2005 by a research and development team, they provide what they believe to be the finest scientifically founded herbal products in South Africa. Only the finest African ingredients and the highest standard of manufacturing has gone into these biological and natural products.



JENEV ENTERPRISES

Jenev Enterprises was established in 1983 and we pride ourselves as the largest stockist and supplier of upmarket towels, bathrobes and washable slippers in South Africa. Our specialty is quality. We offer the following brands Club Classique, Ecla, Terry Lustre and Zorbatec all of which has a wide range of towels, gowns, hand and bath towels, bath sheets, face cloths, slippers, beach towels, bath carpets and Velour gowns. We also have a special bathrobe for weightlifters and rugby players that has extra sleeve width for bigger biceps and a bigger chest size.



KIWINET

Founded in 1994 in the quaint village of Stanford, Kiwinet has grown to be widely regarded as a highly professional operation creating distinctive and elegant mosquito nets. With a truly international clientele Kiwinet takes great pride in producing innovative and customised nets to enhance any style of interior décor and will go to great lengths to ensure that their customers' needs are not only met, but surpassed. Rather than simply being perceived as mere protection from pesky mosquitoes, their nets are consistently viewed as a fabulous feature in themselves.



MATCHLESS CANDLES

Matchless Candles import and distribute heat, wax and flame free rechargeable T-light candles and lamps. The beauty of these products is that they are efficient, effective, time saving and budget friendly. Matchless Candles offer an easy way to bring light to tables. For alfresco dining Matchless Candles offers the simple solution as our products are wind resistant. The i-Light rechargeable LED lamp with its contemporary design and cutting edge style is perfect for this application.



MATCO

Matco, one of South Africa's leading floor matting manufacturers and suppliers, recently joined the globally successful COBA International group of manufacturing and distribution businesses based in Europe, Asia and Africa. For Matco, this means an enhanced product range and superior service delivery, ensuring that clients throughout Africa receive top quality matting for entrances, bars and leisure areas within realistic lead times.



MR PRICE HOME

Looking to wow your hospitality guests, create an exciting new look for your office revamp, or simply for some inspiration for your client's new home? With our wide range of contemporary homeware and furniture, at exclusive business to business rates, you'll be saving your way to success. To us value means more than just a great price. It's about quality, design and a wide range of products that caters to all of our customers' personal tastes.



NUMATIC INTERNATIONAL

Cleaning is an essential activity each day, every day, week in week out, 365 days of the year, every home, every commercial enterprise or industrial location cleans or is cleaned....! Numatic blends innovation, eco-friendliness & a whole lot of personality into their wide range of vacuum cleaners & accessories. Perfect to keep your carpets and floors clean.



ORYX DESERT SALT

Oryx Desert Salt is a natural, crystal-white salt - unrefined, sun-dried, and free from additives and preservatives. Oryx Desert Salt is committed to supplying an ethically harvested, sustainable and renewable desert salt that has an exceptional taste, and enriches the flavour of your food.



PRENOX

When searching for the right company to supply your catering equipment, you need someone that understands the importance of design engineering and its impact on quality and efficiency. Prenox operates within the industrial catering industry and designs, manufactures and supplies a wide range of industrial kitchen equipment and Convection Ovens, including the unique Modular Range.



RECYCLING BOX

The Recycling Box is a space, cost and eco efficient recycling bin for household and office use. The Recycling Box functions as a bin and carry bag which means you can conveniently take your recycling to your closest drop off centre or school. The Recycling Box facilitates separation at source so that you can deposit it directly into the relevant recycling skip without decanting your recycling into separate bags.



RODLIN DESIGN

Rodlin Design was founded in 1993, mainly as an auditorium seating and chair manufacturer, but has since expanded into the conference and hospitality market. The equipment we use in the Hospitality industry is modular, mobile and fold up, multifunctional equipment and complements our seating ranges, which are stackable, linkable and can be transported and stored on a dolly. Through the growth of Rodlin Design locally, we have been able to expand our market and currently we supply Angola, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia, Botswana, Kenya and Nigeria.



SMART ASH

An effortless solution to cigarette waste - Smart Ash offers fully serviced rental bins, emptied and cleaned for you and which can double as advertising space or be purely decorative in appearance. Many attractive finishes available.



TECHNOSWISS

For over 20 years, Technoswiss have been bringing European quality and style to Southern Africa with their range of precision made hairdryers and shaving/cosmetic mirrors. Exclusive distributors of the French JVD brand, all items are designed with your guests' safety in mind and have anti-theft features. NEW STOCK JUST ARRIVED. Also supplying guest kettles, bathroom scales, steam irons, and alarm clocks.





TOWN & COUNTRY FURNITURE

Town & Country makes a comprehensive range of custom made furniture using mainly exotic timbers, and we pride ourselves on top quality finishes that have been carefully monitored and refined over the years. Our paint techniques are unique and result in end product effects that are visually exciting and pleasing to the eye.



VIETCOFFEESA

VietCoffeeSA imports carefully selected Vietnamese Coffee with a unique flamboyant flavour that is truly unforgettable - providing the catering & hospitality industries, as well as coffee aficionados, with the finest whole beans and pure grounds Vietnam can offer.

Trivia - Complete and utter Trivia

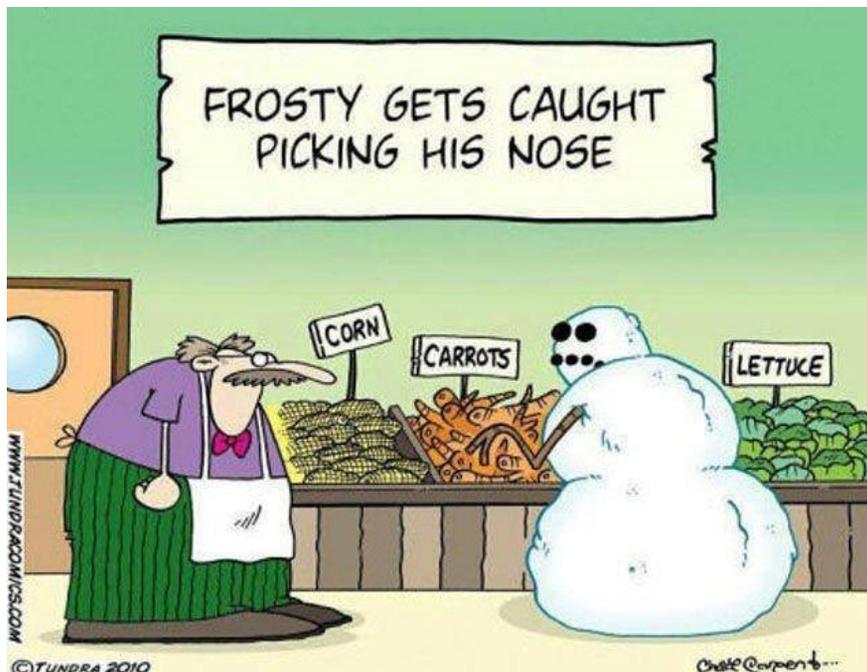
PICKY RESTAURANT PATRONS

And in closing, just a thought for the poor chefs out there - a sentiment I picked up after chatting to these hard-working and dedicated professionals.

I get so irritated when people in restaurants insist on changing the ingredients of a dish - vegan, vegetarian, no fat, no carbs, no sugar, no shell fish, no lactose, no nuts, no garlic...

For heaven's sake, find something close to what you can eat, order it, eat what you can and give the rest (that would have killed you) to someone else at the table.

Or... bring your own food in a sissy bag.



Who are we?

Hotelstuff: Conceptualised as a platform for trade introductions and online directory of suppliers, Hotelstuff has since evolved into a sophisticated business tool and much more than just an online directory. Today, many procurement departments from every industry and also homeowners use our two directories as their primary supplier list. Better still, it costs nothing for buyers to contact those listed in our directory. Suppliers simply pay an annual registration fee for their directory listing. Please note **WE ONLY MANAGE THE WEBSITES** and do not get involved in sales or quotes.

Greenstuff: Sister website to Hotelstuff, Greenstuff is a separate online directory of the green or eco-friendly products of suppliers listed on Hotelstuff.

Quick & Simple: No middle man. Interaction between the third parties is direct and enquiries are channelled to the supplier at no cost. The conclusion of the sale or interaction is not influenced by Hotelstuff in any way and we don't receive commissions or referral awards.

Virtual Helpdesk: As a value-add, Lorraine mans a free virtual Helpdesk for buyers who can't find what they need on our sizeable directory or are looking for unusual products or services. Given Lorraine's insight and 15-year tenure in Africa's largest hotel chain as Contracts and Purchasing Manager, she is more than qualified to refer and advise.

Conference & Event Stuff (Eco) Directory: We have partnered with The Event Greening Forum and created a new directory which provides anyone, wanting to host a green event, with easy-access tools to source venues, organisers and product suppliers that are offering 'eco' options.

Green Hospitality Consulting: If you sell accommodation or manage a restaurant, call us about a consultation or to run a simple workshop to help you and your staff understand what 'going green' entails and why it needs to be taken seriously - in short, we'll get everyone's buy in, including yours! And if you are a supplier, let us assist with greening your manufacturing process and the lifecycle of your product and packaging.

Speaking: Ask Lorraine to come and address you, your team or your community. Lorraine is a member of PSASA and has become a popular motivational speaker on sustainable and responsible tourism, hospitality and family lifestyle. She has been invited to speak at international conferences, seminars and exhibitions, right through to small local functions.

Workshops: Hotelstuff/Greenstuff is running nationwide workshops on sustainable and responsible hospitality, in partnership with Eskom, who promote their energy solutions. All aspects of sustainable, eco and green issues are addressed, debunking the myths and demystifying the jargon and leaving the audience positive, motivated and with easy solutions.

Awards: Lorraine has received numerous awards and commendations for her commitment to responsible tourism and hospitality in South Africa. [Read more about the rewards here.](#)

2014 Winner
Bronze Award
Inspire Trade Expo



2013 Special Award Winner
**Energy Efficiency
Awareness**
Eskom ETA Award



2013 1st Runner Up
Patron of the Year
SAEE Award



2013 2nd Place
Eco Warrior
Enviropaedia Ecologic
Award



2011 Winner EXSA
Best Green Indoor Pavilion
Hostex Johannesburg



2011 Winner
Chairman's Award
Invelo Responsible Tourism



2010 Winner
Best Overall Stand
Decorex Johannesburg



2010 Winner
Excellence Award
Decorex Cape Town



For more information please visit www.hotelstuff.co.za and www.greenstuff.co.za;
drop us a line at info@hotelstuff.co.za or call us on 0860 272 272.

