

Liliesleaf celebrates birthday with new project

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Liliesleaf is in the process of embarking on a project that will commemorate the 50th anniversaries of the formation of Umkhonto we Sizwe and the purchase of Liliesleaf.

Discussions with key stakeholders are currently under way to formalise the celebrations with the intention of establishing an MK site of remembrance. This year Liliesleaf purchased the Freedom Charter, which had been drafted in 1955, before it was to go on public auction. The Freedom Charter was handed back to the government at a ceremony at Liliesleaf in May.

Next year will focus on the realisation of the Freedom Charter and its integration into South Africa's constitution by focusing on a clause of the Charter each month. Said **Nicholas Wolpe**, CEO of the Liliesleaf Trust: "It would not be an exaggeration to say that The Freedom Charter represents, encapsulates and articulates the very core of what our liberation struggle set out to achieve. To have allowed The Freedom Charter to form part of a private individual's collection would have been a gross travesty and failure to protect and preserve a key element of our national heritage."

Liliesleaf was a secret meeting place for senior members of the MK and Congress Alliance and all South Africans are invited to share in the celebrations.

Further details of the anniversary celebrations will be released later this year.