

LILIESLEAF LEGACY PROJECT NEWS UPDATE

Joint Collaboration with CNBC Africa:- An Extract from the Press Release

“CNBC Africa, with the Liliesleaf Trust, is set to produce a three-part documentary on the role Liliesleaf played as the headquarters of the newly formed armed wing of the ANC, Umkhonto weSizwe... Viewers will experience a firsthand account of the events and circumstances leading up to the raid of Liliesleaf, as well as insights into some of the revolutionary personalities who helped shape South Africa’s democracy... Rakesh Wahi, Vice-Chairman of CNBC Africa says he’s pleased that the channel can be a platform to tell the story of this historical landmark...Pre-production on the documentary is already under way and is set to be completed within months”

Audio & Audio Visual Interviews - Archive:

A key component of the Liliesleaf Legacy Project has been to interview numerous individuals directly and indirectly linked to Liliesleaf. The aim and purpose of this is to build-up a comprehensive audio & audio visual archive. It is essential to the Trust that the memories of those individuals be preserved, as they all have unique and fascinating tales to tell. Therefore a goal of the Trust has been to capture the stirring stories of those people directly and indirectly linked to Liliesleaf. Thus elements of the hours & hours of audio and audio footage captured will form part of the interactive experiential exhibit. The tourist will have the opportunity to hear stories told by those very people who were involved.

Since the audio and audio visual interview process began the Trust has been extremely fortunate to interview some of the following people;

- Andrew Malangeni Denis Goldberg
- Ahmed Kathrada Arthur Goldreich
- Lord Joel Joffe George Bizos
- Alaister Sparks Philip Steenkamp
- Winnie Mandela Zini Mandela
- Zenani Mandela AnnMarie Wolpe
- Vivian Ezra Brian Widlake
- Ron Anderson Bokkie Gaitz
- Paul Goldreich Nicholas Goldreich
- Hazel Goldreich Len Lazarus

An Extract From The Brian Widlake Interview:

In June of this year we interviewed Brian Widlake, who interviewed Nelson Mandela back in 1961. Anthony Sampson Nelson Mandela’s authorised biographer told Brian Widlake that this was a seminal interview, which indeed it was. The interview was seminal for a number of reasons, but in particular as Nelson Mandela gave the first indication of the ANC’s intent to move to armed struggle.

Below is an extract from the interview conducted with Brian Widlake in June of this year

“Back at my hotel I talked to Patrick O’ Donovan of The Observer who had some sympathy over my treatment. He knew someone who could arrange an interview with Nelson Mandela. I was sceptical. Mandela was the most wanted man in South Africa. He could speak to newspaper men while in hiding, but TV posed different problems...

At 2am Mandela slipped silently into the living room, shook hands with everyone and sat down in the designated chair. He was well above 6ft, powerful shoulders covered by a black leather jacket...”

Exhibit Update:

As Liliesleaf is a living breathing entity, so are its exhibits which reflect this. Like Liliesleaf the exhibits are not static memories to a unique and pivotal epoch, but are evolving, testimonies and stories that will enhance the visitor’s experience. As the research process develops and unfolds new illuminating, fascinating and stories and tales come to the fore which send the team on new uncharted trajectories.

The Legacy Project Team is currently working on the following new additions to the exhibit;

Liberation Centre:

- *Content Research for the Liberation Path
Adding Names to the P. Map
Hardware research for the P. Map Touch Screens
People Map Content and Photo Research Development*

Resource Centre:

- *Coffee Table installation featuring 6 new personalities linked to the Liliesleaf story*

Main House:

- *Interactive Table Content focusing on the uniqueness and importance of Liliesleaf in terms of leadership and the liberation struggle
Redeveloping the Cabinet of Curiosity to include animation, progressive installation, lighting and additional audio
Developing content and procuring period artefacts for the ‘Detectives in the Lounge’ Panel
Improving Visitor comfort – new visitor benches are being made*

Outbuilding Room 2 - 5:

- *Rivonia Trial exhibit in Room 5
Improving and enhancing visitor safety – installing glass panels into the foundation recesses*