



# NEWS LETTER

---

DECEMBER  
2025





**Before the year winds down, let's play.**  
A little festive fun to pause the rush, spark a smile,  
and enjoy the season — one puzzle at a time.

# Let the Festive Fun Begin!

Just like recruitment, this season is about connection, curiosity, and finding meaning between the lines.

## Festive Finds: A Very South African Christmas Word Search

Christmas in South Africa looks a little different; think braais, summer days and full plates. Take a moment to find the words that capture our unique festive season.



Afternoon Nap

Beach Day

Braai

Custard

Family

Feast

Festive

Fruit Cake

Green

Joyful

Laughter

Malva Pudding

Red

Summer

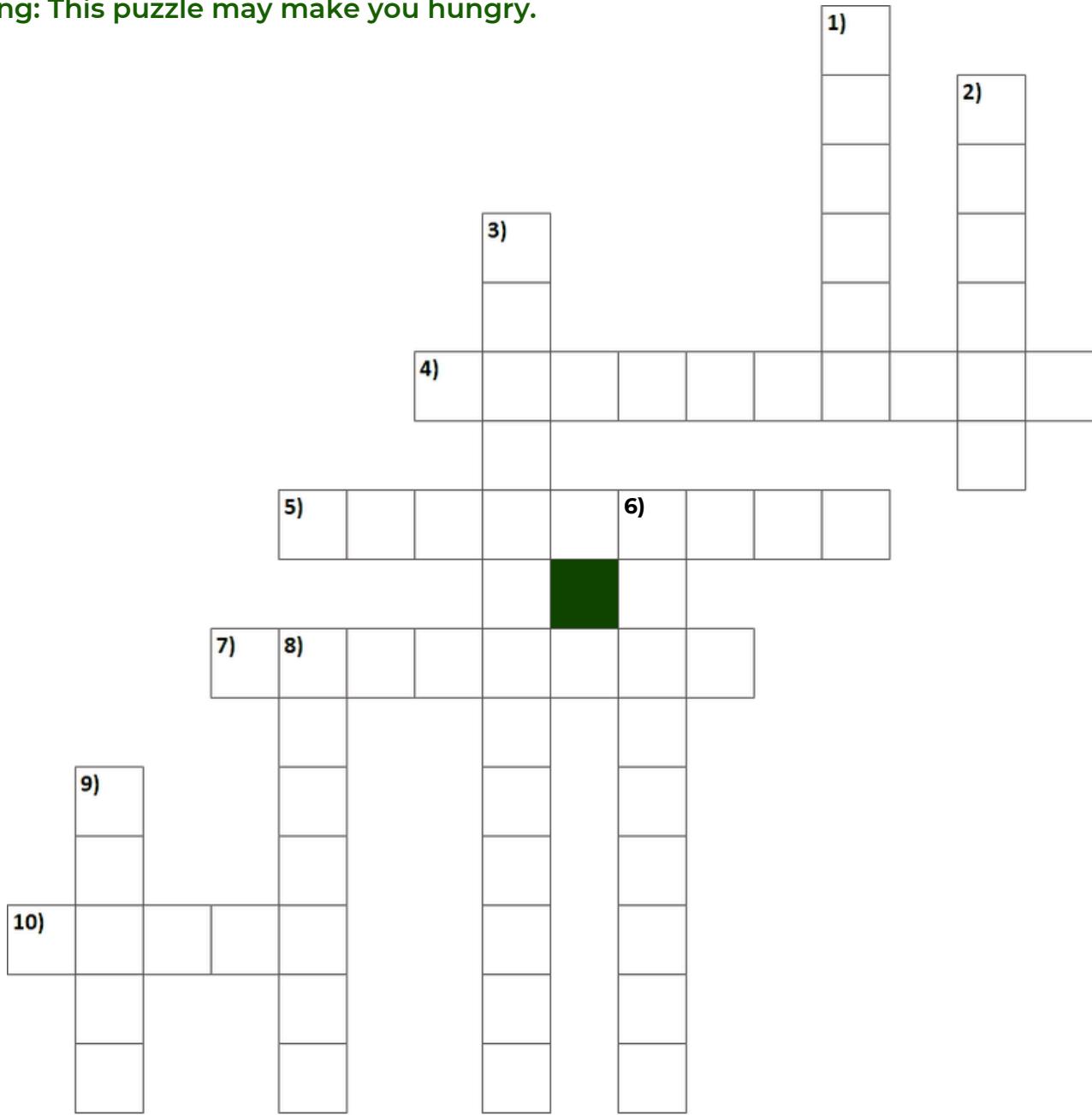
Sunshine

Watermelon

# A Taste of Christmas: Festive Flavours Criss-Cross

From sweet treats to braai favourites, this criss-cross puzzle celebrates the flavours that make Christmas deliciously South African.

**Warning: This puzzle may make you hungry.**



## ACROSS

4. The official fruit of summer; refreshing enough to forgive the seeds.
5. The festive brick we pretend to love but eat anyway because... it's Christmas.
7. The hero of every South African Christmas when the weather says "No snow, only heatstroke."
10. The pudding that laughs in the face of the words "I'm full."

## DOWN

1. A dessert so layered it deserves its own family WhatsApp group.
2. The Christmas meat that somehow needs "quality control" slices every 10 minutes.
3. The toasted braai masterpiece that always disappears before the meat is even done.
6. The side dish that starts with confidence and ends with frantic water drinking.
8. The yellow sauce we pour generously and then act surprised when it runs out.
9. The centrepiece of Christmas lunch, and the reason the oven works overtime in 35°C heat.

## Festive Words That Spark Joy: A Little Puzzle Full of Festive Cheer

These festive words reflect the joy, hope and gratitude we associate with Christmas. Solve the puzzles to reveal a hidden phrase that captures the spirit of the season.

VETO



RM RYE



LEVO



NIKD



IINVGG



NRWOED



EEACP



OHEP



ALFMIY



## EGLSBINSS



UGREALTF

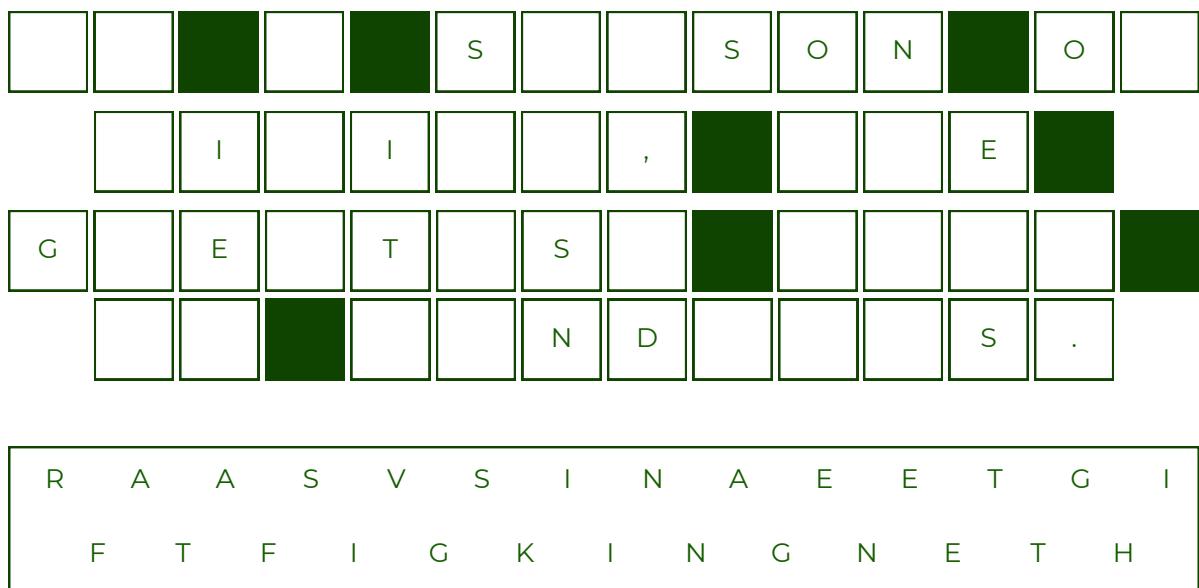


When you solve both puzzles, the hidden message is...



## A Festive Message Worth Finding: **What Christmas Is Really About**

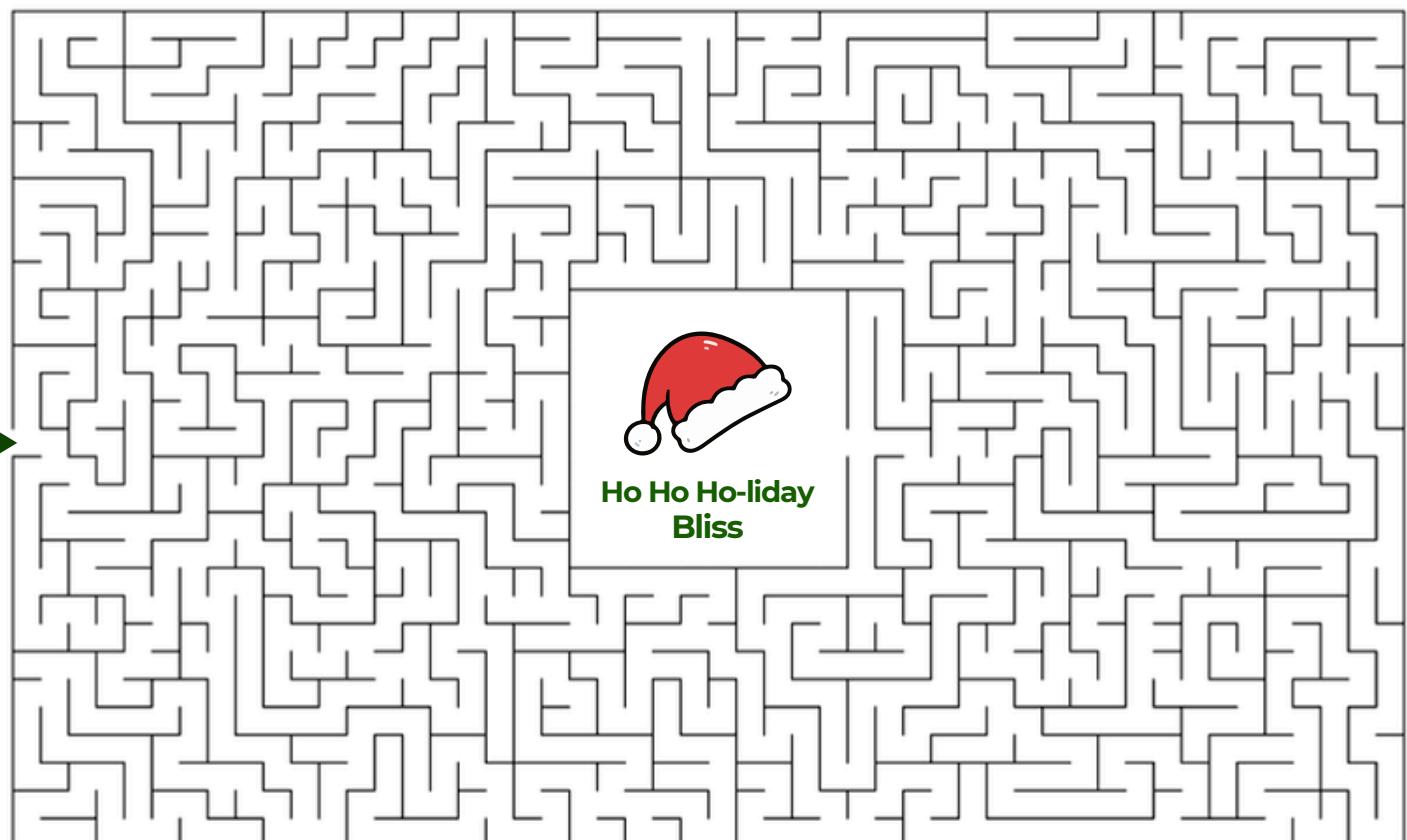
This fallen phrase hides a heartfelt reminder about the season we're in. Look closely as the letters come together; they speak of a season shaped by giving, a gift that costs nothing, and the quiet kindness that makes Christmas truly meaningful.



## From Janu-worry to Ho Ho Ho-liday Bliss

Less worry. More ho ho ho.

Janu  
worry



# Ho Ho Ho-larious Santa Approved Dad Jokes!

Because no Christmas is complete without a few jokes and lots of laughter.

**Which of Santa's reindeer has bad manners?**

Rude-olph!

**What do Santa's helpers learn in school?**

The elf-abet!

**What do you get if you cross a snowman and a vampire?**

Frostbite!

**Why shouldn't you lend money to elves?**

They're always short.

**What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?**

"It's Christmas, Eve!"

**What is a vegan's favourite Christmas song?**

Soy to the World!

**What is every parent's favorite Christmas song?**

Silent Night!

**What's the absolute best Christmas present?**

A broken drum — you can't beat it!

**What was the Christmas tree's favorite subject in high school?**

Treegonometree!

**Why are Christmas trees bad at knitting?**

They always drop their needles.

**What do you call an elf that runs away from Santa's workshop?**

A rebel without a Claus!

**What's an elf's favourite musical genre?**

Wrap music.

**How do Christmas trees get their email?**

They log-on.

**Why did Santa win an award?**

He was very present-able.

**What does Santa use to clean his sleigh?**

Santa-tizer.



**Between laughter and reflection,  
there's a moment to pause.**

To look back on what this year asked of us —  
and what it quietly gave in return.

# Our Year of Challenges, Growth and Gratitude

As we look back on 2025, one truth stands out more clearly than ever: everything we do is built on relationships. This year deepened and strengthened many of them, with clients, candidates, partners and friends, while also reminding us that some partnerships evolve and change, and that growth often comes with that shift.

Professionally, it has been a year of meaningful milestones. GigElement turned one, opening new ways to connect talent and opportunity. Our BNI partnerships gained real momentum, and we celebrated incredible achievements within our network, including Isabel's chapter being named Chapter of the Year and her recognition as Rookie President of the Year. We met and connected with people who added real value to the Vital Element community, welcomed new clients who share our values, and placed candidates who are already making a genuine impact in their organisations. Those moments remind us why we do what we do.

Behind the scenes, the year wasn't without its challenges. Our website evolved more than once, especially after losing hard-earned SEO, and AI continued to reshape the way work is done. We navigated those changes carefully, choosing to use technology as a tool, not a replacement, and staying committed to what matters most: the human element. Recruitment, at its core, is about people, and no machine can replace real connection.

On a personal level, 2025 asked a lot. There were family milestones, health scares with beloved pets, moves, and the everyday juggling that comes with life continuing alongside work. Like many others, we didn't escape the year untouched. And yet, as it draws to a close, there is a quiet but powerful sense that growth has taken place, personally and professionally. As the saying goes, there truly is no gain without pain.

We end this year tired in places, grateful in many more, and deeply appreciative of everyone who has walked alongside us. Thank you for the trust, the support, the conversations, and the shared belief that people matter. As we move into the next season, we do so grounded, hopeful, and committed — ready to keep doing this very human work, together.



**Some things are best felt, not explained.**

As the year gently closes, we make space for gratitude, growth, and the moments that shaped us.

# As the Year Gently Closes

As Christmas lights begin to glow,  
And another year prepares to rest,  
We pause between what's been and what's next,  
Holding gratitude close to our chests.

This year was shaped by human moments —  
Conversations, courage, trust, and change,  
By people seeking new beginnings,  
And employers hoping to grow, not just rearrange.

We saw how work is more than roles and titles,  
More than CVs or skills on a page;  
It's about belonging, purpose, and potential,  
And choosing kindness at every stage.

As Christmas reminds us to give freely,  
Of our time, our care, our belief in one another,  
We're grateful for the partnerships built on trust,  
And the futures shaped together.

Now we step toward a brand-new year,  
Wiser, hopeful, and ready to begin,  
Carrying forward what matters most —  
The vital human element within.



**Every journey begins somewhere.**

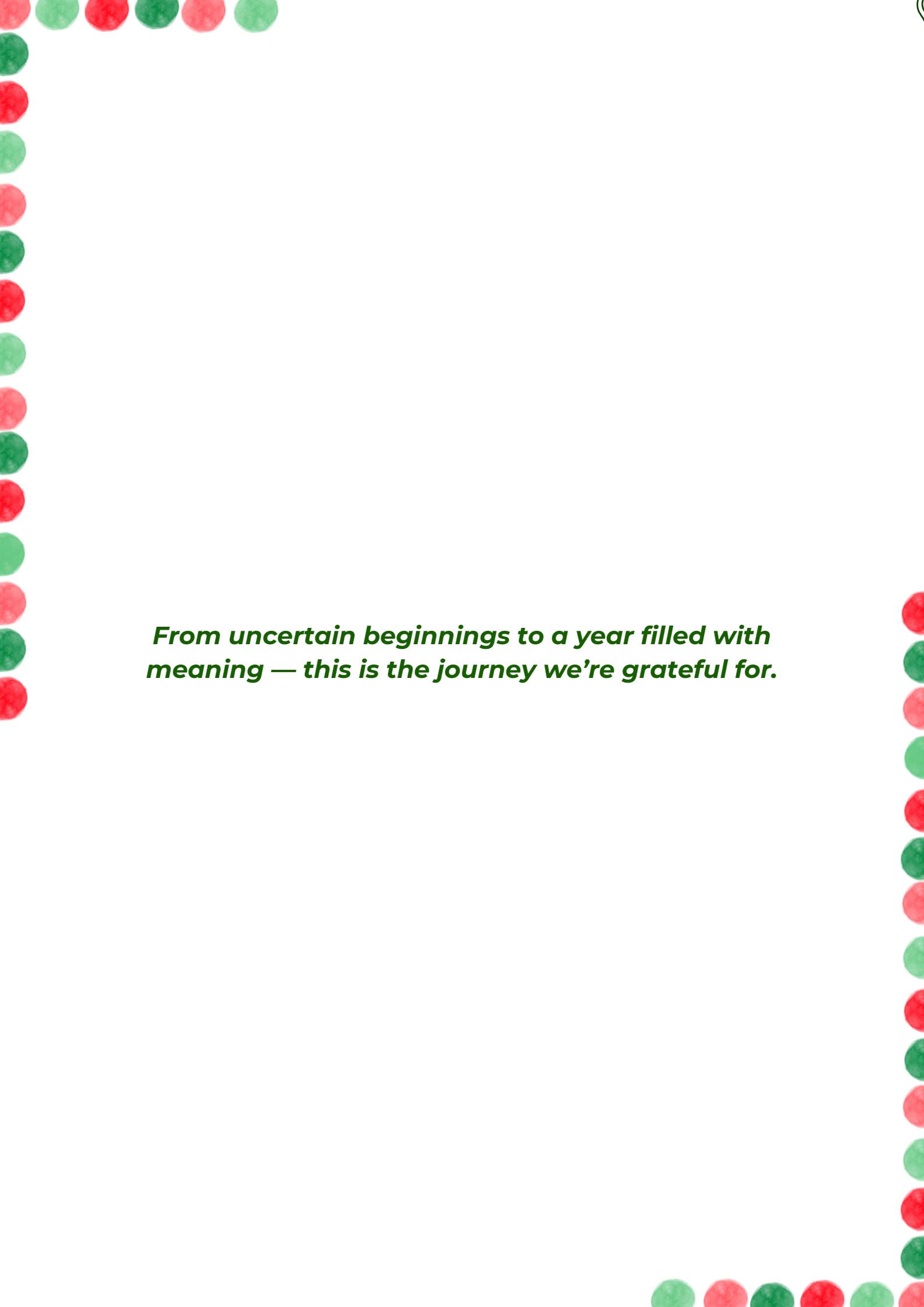
And when we look back, it's not just milestones we see — it's people, courage, and the choice to begin.

# Where It All Began: A Quiet Moment From Four Years Ago

Filled with hope, uncertainty,  
and the courage to begin.



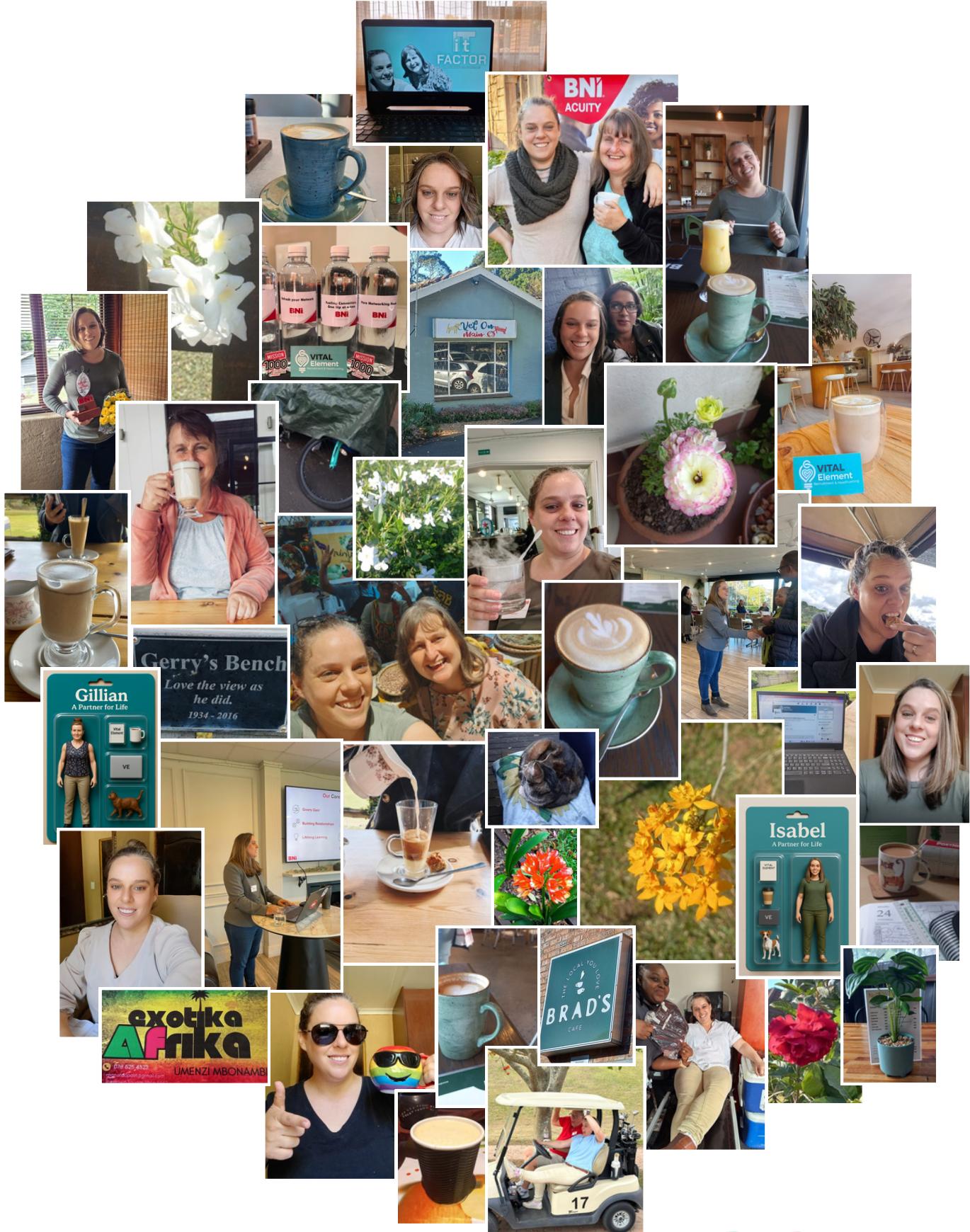
Captured in December 2021, just after Vital Element began. We were young, hopeful and unsure of what lay ahead; unaware of the growth, learning and blessings the journey would bring.

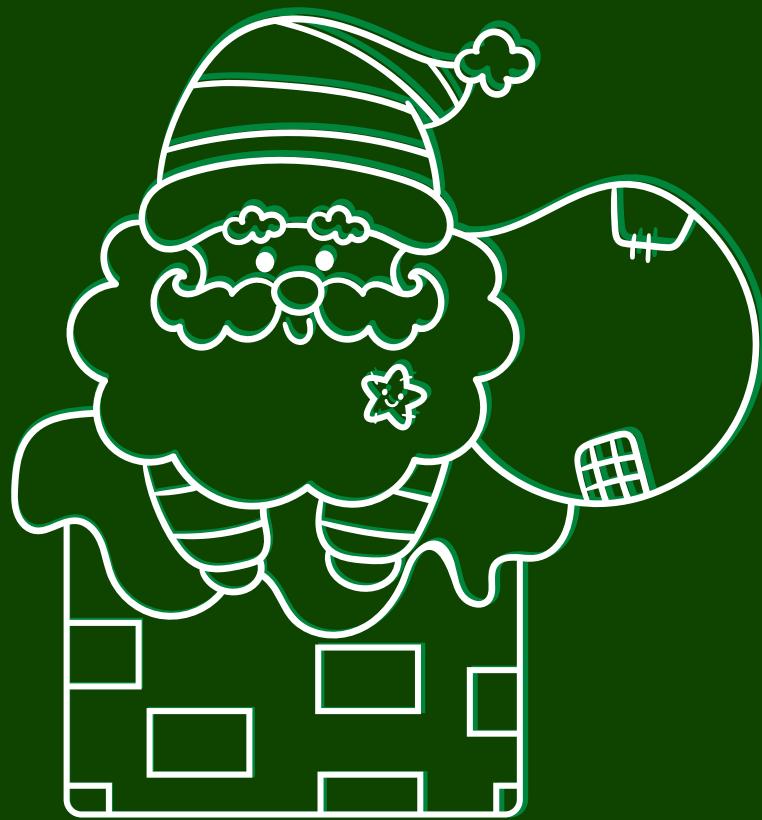


***From uncertain beginnings to a year filled with meaning — this is the journey we're grateful for.***

# How Far We've Come: 2025 A Year That Shaped Us

Moments from 2025 that reflect growth, resilience, connection and gratitude, and a journey shaped by people who walked it with us.

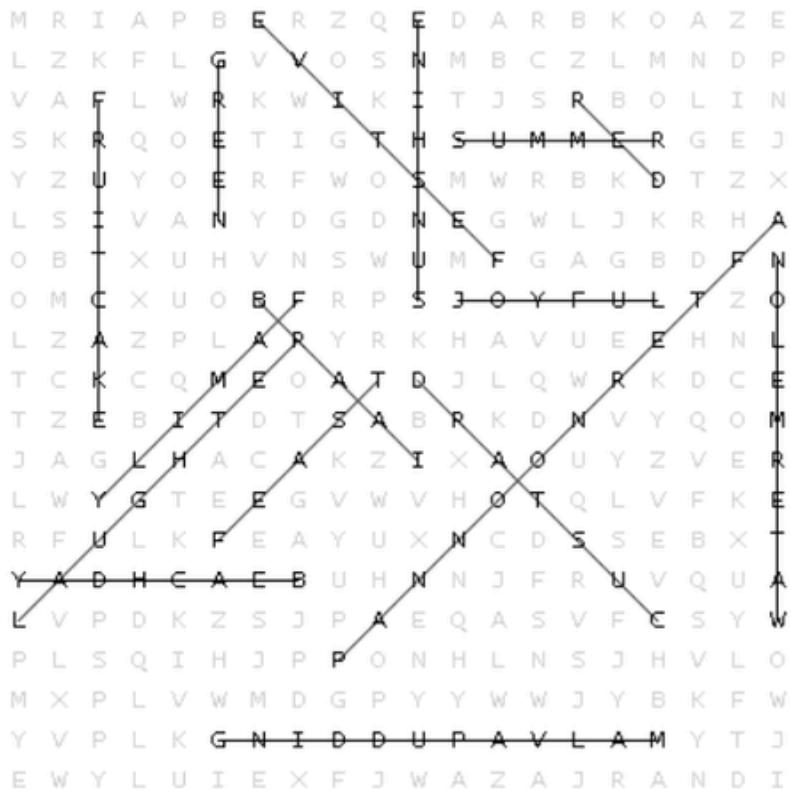




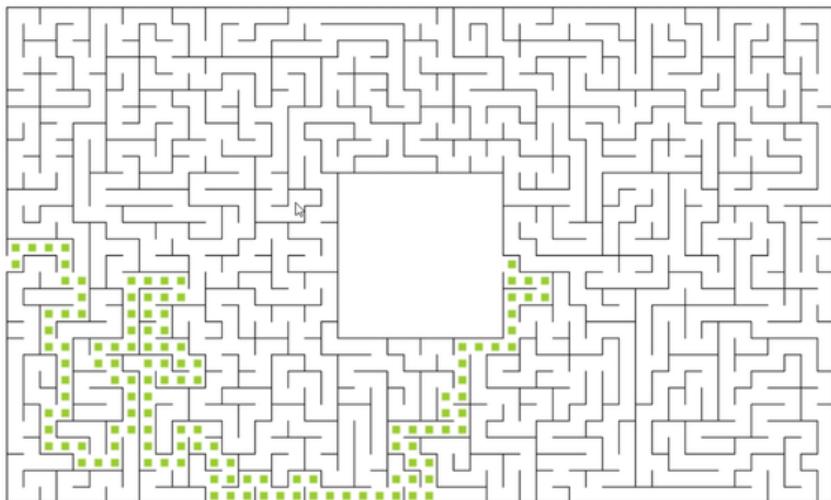
**In case you got stuck —  
or just couldn't resist peeking...  
Here's how it all came together..**

# Stuck or Just Curious?

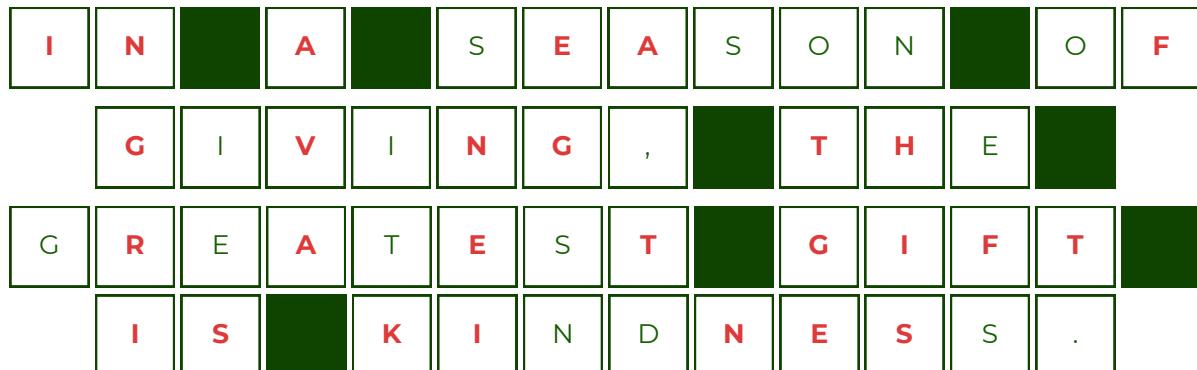
## Festive Finds



# From Janu-worry to Ho Ho Ho-liday Bliss



# A Festive Message Worth Finding



# A Taste of Christmas

**DOWN**

1. Trifle
2. Gammon
3. Braaibroodjie
6. Chakalaka
8. Custard
9. Roast

## ACROSS

- 4. Watermelon
- 5. Fruit Cake
- 7. Ice Cream
- 10. Malva

## Festive Words That Spark Joy

YFJOLU 

J		y	f	u	l
---	--	---	---	---	---

RMRYE 

M		r	r	y
---	--	---	---	---

LEVO 

L	o		v	e
---	---	--	---	---

NIKD 

K		n	d
---	--	---	---

IINVGG 

	i	v	i		n	g
--	---	---	---	--	---	---

NRWOED 

w	o	n	d		e	r
---	---	---	---	--	---	---

EEACP 

P	e		c	e
---	---	--	---	---

OHEP 

H		p	e
---	--	---	---

ALFMIY 

F		m	i	l	y
---	--	---	---	---	---

EGLSBINSS 

B	l	e		s	s	i	n	g		s
---	---	---	--	---	---	---	---	---	--	---

UGRFALTE 

G	r	a		t	e	f	u	l
---	---	---	--	---	---	---	---	---

When you solve both puzzles, the hidden message is...

A	s	e	a	s	o	n	t	o	g	i	v	e
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# Merry Christmas! & HAPPY NEW YEAR



As we wrap up the year, we're reminded of the passion, people, and ideas that carried us through every season.

Thank you for trusting us, partnering with us, and allowing us to bring the vital human element into every connection we make together.

May this festive season bring you rest, joy, and the quiet moments that refill your cup. And as we step into a new year, may you find fresh purpose, renewed hope, and opportunities that move you closer to where you're meant to be.

Here's to a meaningful Christmas, a bright New Year, and the lifelong partnerships we continue to build.

YOUR VITAL TEAM

# GET IN TOUCH

## **CONTACT US :**

-  073 141 8004 / 083 959 0091
-  <https://www.vitalelement.co.za/>
-  [gillian@vitalelement.co.za](mailto:gillian@vitalelement.co.za) /  
[isabel@vitalelement.co.za](mailto:isabel@vitalelement.co.za)

## **CLICK TO VIEW OUR SOCIALS**

-  [INSTAGRAM](#)
-  [LINKEDIN](#)
-  [VISIT OUR BLOG](#)

