

Dear Baby Boomers

It has always been the vision of Refirement Network to be locally relevant and globally connected. This month I hope to share how this is playing out and how it may affect you. Let's start with a look at the South African numbers taken from the 2011 Census. Currently there are 2,9 million people in SA over 65. The next generation heading towards this place are the Baby Boomers. The ages 45-64 make up the majority of this generation and are 8 million strong at the moment. Now we do understand that many will die before seeing their 65th birthday but there is a much larger group heading forward into this part of their journey. This opens up many questions for individuals, companies, government as well as planners of an ever ageing society.

Globally according to the Global Age Watch, there are currently 800 million people over 65 and this makes up 11% of the population. By 2030 there will be 1.375 billion (16%) and in 2050 the numbers will be 2,031 billion (22%) Sweden is ranked as the best place to grow old and SA sits at no 65 of 91 nations. The indicators are 1) Income Security, 2) Health status, 3) Employment and education 4) Enabling environment.

It is clear that the landscape is changing and many changes need to happen to plan for this tsunami. We cannot sit back and wait for government alone to support our journey. It is critical and necessary for each person to question their own journey, for companies to question current policies around ageing and retirement and for governments and civil society to start talking and planning for the social challenges that are on the horizon. ARE YOU READY? Take a look at a fun survey to check your status <https://www.refirementnetwork.com/files/yourscore.pdf>

Locally we have the Retirement Expo happening this month in Johannesburg from Friday 25th-27th (add link) Refirement Network will not have a stand this year but I will be doing a FREE workshop on Saturday the 26th at 13h00 on my eBook called "Finding passion, purpose and a pay cheque 50+" Please come and join us at this event.

I delivered a new presentation this past month to a group of clients of Family Foundation Wealth called **The Story of LIFE in the 21st Century**. Please be in touch if you want to book me for this talk or any of the many others available. Coaching individuals as well as building capacity in coaches interested in this **TREND** are growing requests. Companies needing to address their Retirement policy as well as workshops for their over 55+ staff should be on every CEO's list for discussion.

Globally there is great news for South Africa. We are hosting the 2015 **World Congress on Healthy Ageing**. <http://www.wcha2015.com/>

This is a great place to position the African conversation on the global agenda. We have less than two years to prepare and to ensure that we are proud of our progress. It is a privilege to have been invited to join the Scientific Committee for this event.

Locally I hear stories every day of people REFIRING their lives and it makes my heart happy to know that many have found that special place that fulfils them in this season of life. There is an article added this month of a group who are helping missionaries with short term skills. Please read and be in touch directly with them if this touches your heart. There is also a place to share your own story on the website - <https://www.refirementnetwork.com/tell-us-your-story>. We welcome your stories so that we can spread the word on the great ideas out there. There is a special place for each of us. It just takes time and some deep internal questioning to find your special place. It is worth it. Take the time.

Have a great month. Do the survey and take the first step on the next season of your journey. JUST DO IT.

Lynda

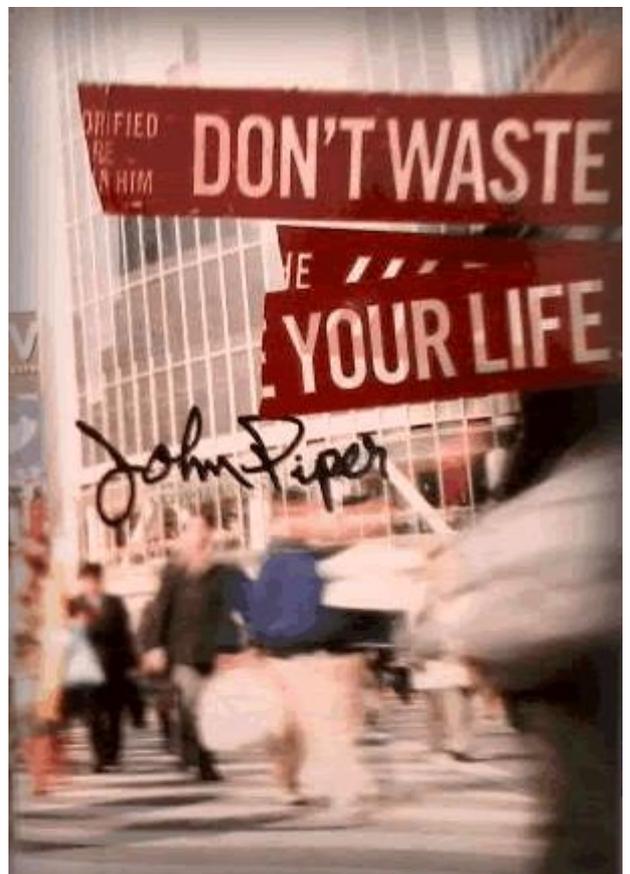
Preventing Tragedy

In his captivating book, **Don't Waste Your Life**, John Piper speaks about retirement by re-telling two stories:

Story 1 : "In April 2000, Ruby Eliason and Laura Edwards were killed in Cameroon, West Africa. Ruby was over eighty. Single all her life, she poured it out for one great thing: to make Jesus Christ known among the unreached, the poor, and the sick. Laura was a widow, a medical doctor, pushing eighty years old, and serving at Ruby's side in Cameroon. The brakes failed, the car went over a cliff, and they were both killed instantly." 1

Story 2: "[Now] Consider a story from the February 1998 edition of Reader's Digest, which tells about a couple who 'took early retirement from their jobs in the Northeast five years ago when he was 59 and she was 51. Now they live in Punta Gorda, Florida, where they cruise on their 30 foot trawler, play softball and collect shells.'

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Social Networking



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