

# Cork oak survives the rubble

**Eli Grossman writes from Sandringham;**

While controversy rages about the tons of rubble dumped on the Serbian Society Sports Field, the role played by tenant Nick Anicie and whether or not the City of Johannesburg Property Company is correctly overseeing its mandate, a small miracle on the field remains overlooked.

In the corner, closest to the Sandringham veterinary hospital, is a magnificent stand of cork oaks which so far have survived, although damaged by the massive deposit of building rubble around them.

One of the trees is at least 50 years old, judging by its girth. My question is, how did they get there?

Who planted them? As a Mediterranean species they must have been nurtured as saplings to survive the Highveld frosts.



**Miracle trees have survived the rubble dumped at the sports field in Fairmount.**

Were they planted by the market gardener who had a thriving business

in the area in the early 1950s? Can anyone tell me?

