

## Welcome's Story

There has always been a large number of musicians in House JBM Hertzog.

In the year 2011, a guitar revolution occurred in JBM that would alter the life of one of its residents forever. Guitars and guitar playing was becoming increasingly popular among the residents of JBM. One night all the guitarists were called together to form a large acoustic ensemble that would lead the praise and worship before the weekly house meeting. There were 18 guitars in total.

It was very impressive to see all the musicians together and it caused quite a stir in the house. One person in particular, Welcome Seetha, was especially intrigued by all these guitars. He approached Len de Kramer, The RC Culture at the time, and explained that he had always been interested in playing the guitar. What was previously only a small flame of desire to play guitar, was now a flaming inferno that burned in his heart. The only problem being that Welcome had no musical knowledge. Also, coming from a disadvantaged home, Welcome did not have a guitar, nor did he have the means of obtaining one.

Fortunately Len's family had an extra guitar at home that he could use to learn on. Within the week Welcome was attending daily lessons with Len. Their lessons drew attention from other residents at times, and their small duo grew to a large group varying from 5-8 people, but everyday Welcome and Len practiced no matter what. Every day Welcome improved at an alarming speed, and every day his love for music became stronger.

Three months after starting, Welcome was proficient enough to join the praise and worship team in House Meetings. After 5 months of playing, a family heard about Welcome's story through their son, who resided in JBM Hertzog. Welcome's dedication coupled with his knack of playing was enough to convince them to buy him a brand new guitar of his own.

Seeing Welcome's face upon receiving his guitar was the most rewarding sight the family could have imagined. Welcome played them a tune on his new guitar to show his appreciation and gratitude. He still trains with Len today and is noted to be a "remarkable musician and a very quick learner" by Len.

Welcome's story plays testament to the strength of the brotherhood and friendships that are cultivated in residences at Kovsies.