



# HELP DESK

*Don't quit your job.  
Change your office*

Photographs Val Adamson  
Location The Old Queen Victoria Hotel



Our guests explore the design potential of the **Old Queen Victoria Hotel** in Mahatma Gandhi (formerly Point) Road in Durban, which is being converted to an office building.

Shoot location arranged by Chalupsky Properties



**OFFICE DESIGN**

Michelle Swart, Owner

**Tell us about your company.**

Michelle's Office Design has been operating since 1996. I believe the right working environment results in happier, healthier and more productive employees. The services I offer extend from space audits, space planning and design to furniture and finishes selection, implementation and relocation management.

**The latest office trends?**

Businesses are becoming more and more aware of the ongoing impact that internal fittings and finishes have on the environment and how designers can assist with sustainable product selection.

**Your top solution for the office?**

The chair is the most important investment. Technological advancements have an enormous impact on furniture design together with the cost per square metre. Companies need to get maximum benefit from each square metre so we need to be as creative and economical as possible space-wise to create a great working space!

**A recent project that exemplifies your products/services.**

I've been working for the multinational Unilever for many years. Unilever focuses heavily on its people and on minimising its carbon footprint. I am working on an ongoing project to maximise efficiency at Unilever's head office and the set parameters really channel one's thinking into the best practice available.



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