

Southbroom *Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa*

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER MARCH 2018

Hi Everyone,

The December and January visitors may have left but it has been lovely to see so many of our overseas visitors enjoy some really hot and humid weather but still brave enough to tackle the golf course, bowling greens and tennis courts. No doubt we will soon be saying goodbye to many of the “swallows” as they head back home for the European summer, we wish them well and hope to see them again soon. Sadly one of our well-loved visitors Trude Lehrer, who has been part of the community for many years, passed away suddenly after a very short illness on 26th February. We send condolences to her husband Horst and their family. (Tribute below).

Unfortunately the Umkobi swallows seem to have left rather prematurely this year, rumour has it that there was a big firework display on the Marina Beach side over new year which disturbed the swallows roosting spot in the reeds. You would think that people who are fortunate enough to own a home in such a stunning environment would be more aware of the effect of their actions on the surrounding wildlife.

Another holiday season will be upon us in a couple of weeks so we would like to remind visitors of a few basics:

- Refuse collection is on Monday, regardless of public holidays. Recycling should be placed in a clear bag and all other refuse in a black bag early on Monday in a cage or wheelie.
- DO NOT LEAVE REFUSE ON THE VERGE overnight. Please try to install a monkey proof container.
- We all love our cute monkeys but they can become a problem. NEVER feed the monkeys, do not leave food where it's visible to monkeys. If a group of monkeys start to look at all aggressive, keep calm and back off, do not threaten them. They will only attack if they feel threatened. A quick spray with a hose pipe or water shooter will not harm them but send them scurrying. For more information on monkeys click here : <https://www.monkeyhelpline.co.za/about-vervet-monkeys/vervet-monkeys-what-you-need-to-know/>
- Nuisance by-laws came into effect this year, an extract regarding noise was published in our February news. Please note that noise nuisance also applies to barking dogs.
- It has come to our notice that several people own up to five or six dogs; according to the by-laws only four dogs are allowed per property in a residential area, although on a small property a more realistic number would be two. Dogs must be contained within the property and kept under control at all times in public areas.
- Southbroom has a wonderful long stretch of dog friendly beach from just south of Grannys beach to Umkobi. Main beach, Grannys and Umkobi beaches are swimming beaches where dogs are NOT allowed.

- Southbroom has a variety of business options and we recommend you support local business where possible. Should you need any services, download the business directory on our website www.southbroom.org

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: MARCH 2018 by Brian Thompson

BEACHES AND POOLS

The tidal pool specialist that we engaged to repair the top of the walls and leaks in the side walls of the main beach tidal pool completed the repairs in February. The tidal pool is safe and is looking good again

RNM held a site meeting with service providers who will provide tenders to maintain the wooden structures at Granny's beach, and we are waiting for the order to be issued.

RNM advised that they have requested tenders to refurbish the ablutions at the main beach, and we will monitor progress.

ROADS

We are still waiting for a meeting with the Municipal Manager to discuss a proposal for a loan to fund the repair of most of the Southbroom roads, which will be managed and repaid by way of a levy by ratepayers through the Southbroom Property Owners Association.

We had a meeting with the new RNM roads manager in March, and agreed the following:

- RNM should receive the timber posts for road signs shortly, and repairs will hopefully be completed before the Easter holiday .
- RNM will deliver 6m³ of G2 sub base material and one drum of prime to a storage area next to the Depot, for the ratepayers to use to fix potholes themselves
- A RNM team will complete the pothole repairs on the main roads before the Easter holidays. Richard Bridgeford completed a survey of ten main roads (about 500m²).
- The upgrade design for College road is complete and will go out to tender before the June budget release.
- RNM agreed to start cleaning out storm drains, and will start with Eyles road, Captain Smith road and Eagle street.

We arranged for a contractor to install three additional speed humps, at Outlook Road, Beach road and outside the doctors' rooms in the CBD. These speed humps were all requested by residents to improve safety on roads.

We arranged for a contractor to repair 100m² of potholes in the Main Beach car park and Imbezane drive.

WATER AND SEWERAGE

We have arranged for a 5000 litre water tank to be erected at the Southbroom Police station. This will enable residents to draw water during outages, and Ugu will be able to replenish the water at a single point.

We are still waiting for a site meeting with the Ugu General Manager Water to discuss:

Security and missing manholes from the water reservoir

A large leak of water from the reservoir which has been flowing through a nearby residents garden for some time

The repair of two road verges damaged by Ugu plumbers when repairing pipe breaks

To ensure complaints are directed to the correct department at Ugu or RNM please use this link: bit.ly/ugureidentsrequest and complete the on-line form. These requests will be monitored by our Ward Councillor.

A TRIBUTE TO JIM DAVEY ON HIS RETIRMENT AND RELOCATION *by John Kinghorn*

As a mark of appreciation for all that Jim Davey has done for Southbroom, Southbroom Ratepayers hosted a farewell lunch at the Trattoria. During the lunch John Kinghorn paid the following tribute to Jim on behalf of the community.

There can be few people who have done so much for Southbroom and the local community and whose efforts are largely unknown, than Jim Davey.

Jim has made five major contributions:

1. The first was to stop HCM dividing up Southbroom into small stands. With his knowledge of civil engineering and sewerage treatment, Jim proved that small stands would be a health hazard without waterborne sewerage and that waterborne sewerage would be prohibitively expensive in Southbroom's terrain. He persuaded Ratepayers to fund a report by the country's most respected town planner. The report which was accepted by HCM confirmed Jim's findings.
2. The second was the monitoring of pollution.
 - 2.1. He was concerned that the traditional South Coast septic tanks were inadequate for medium density housing, particularly complexes and that streams and lagoons were being contaminated.
 - 2.2. He arranged for consultants to analyse samples to confirm his fears. When they heard of Jim's findings, adjacent villages wanted to sample but could not afford the expensive consultants. Ugu had a new mayor who was interested in the environment and who was proud of Ugu's new laboratory. Jim persuaded the mayor to allow the laboratory to analyse samples for the villages from Margate to Port Edward. This was the start of the Green Town Project. Jim preferred to call it the CRAP Committee (Concerned Ratepayers Against Pollution).
 - 2.3. Jim chaired meetings and educated us on the treatment of sewerage and the monitoring of pollution. He dealt with the lab and Ugu officials, kept records, circulated lab results and issued rosters. He had a fair amount of success in persuading polluters to sort out their problems. Jim designed, built and patented septic tank systems that produced an effluent suitable for garden irrigation
3. Jim's third contribution was to reinstate the Southbroom water reticulation system and set up the Southbroom Water Committee.
 - 3.1. The new generation of Ugu plumbers only knew of the isolation valves at the entrance to Southbroom and every time they had to fix a leak they isolated the whole of Southbroom, inconveniencing everybody. During the repair the whole system emptied and when the water was turned on again it rushed down the empty pipes until it hit the end causing water hammer and shock waves which resulted in further leaks.
 - 3.2. Because the air relief valves were not working, trapped air caused airlocks which resulted in long delays in the restoration of supply.



Back left to right: John Kinghorn, Cees van der Slikke, Grey Norton, Richard Derman. Front Jim Davey

- 3.3. Jim realised that leaks had to be isolated using the local valves. Many of these valves were hidden in the undergrowth or buried in sand.
- 3.4. Jim persuaded Ratepayers to employ a man to uncover and clean out as many valves as could be found.
- 3.5. Jim also persuaded the original consultants to part with a copy of the 30 year old drawing of the initial installation. He reproduced it on his computer and printed copies. He then made a presentation to the municipal manager, showed him the drawing and explained the work he had done.
- 3.6. The municipal manager was impressed and agreed to lend us a plumber to find unidentified valves and learn how the system worked. He also arranged for us to have regular meetings with Ugu officials to iron out problems
- 3.7. Jim has since updated the drawing and provided Ugu with a computer disc to allow them to make their own copies. We now have a proper understanding of the system and provided we have an experienced plumber, leaks get fixed quickly with a minimum amount of inconvenience.
- 3.8. More recently liaison with Ugu has become more difficult, but because Jim was highly respected by Ugu, senior officials were prepared to answer emergency calls from him.
4. Jim's next contribution to the community was the nursery school and crèche in the location which he ran for a number of years. He organised the finances, managed the teacher and staff and dealt with the various local authorities. Once a week he personally bought a week's supply of food and delivered it to the school. With Jim's departure the school has had to close.

Finally Jim and Denny have made an important contribution to the spiritual life of the community. We thank Jim and Denny for all they have done for the community. They are going to be greatly missed.

A LAST GOODBYE: TRUDE 12/10/1940 – 26/02/2018

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our dear Trude beloved wife of Horst, loving mother of Josephine, Katharina and Michael, treasured mother-in-law of Bernhard, dear sister of Frederike and cherished friend of so many Southbroomers

Trude was born in Vienna and lived in Austria for most of her life. Trude and Horst started visiting South Africa in the 80's and in 2000 Trude persuaded Horst to buy this house – the home in which they created so many special memories.

Although Horst and Trude have been “swallows” since then – spending only part of the year in Southbroom – happily the Southbroom sojourns have been getting longer each year.



Horst and Trude have enriched many lives in our community, and have made lifelong friends. Horst is an integral part of the famous Dad's Army and Trude a stalwart of the Southbroom Breakfast Club. It was our privilege to spend the last Friday of her life with Trude at our February breakfast, where we all commented on how beautiful Trude looked in her lovely sunshine yellow dress.

Trude's beautiful garden is known throughout the South Coast and she shared its beauty with so many people.

RIP DEAR TRUDE

SOUTHBROOM BOWLING CLUB NEWS



Southbroom Bowling Club hosted 24 bowlers from Jersey for an afternoon last month and the green looked beautiful with everyone in their whites. St Valentine's Day had a very different look – red and white throughout!

The club is very informal on tabs-in days (Monday, Wednesday and Saturday at 2pm for 2.30pm and 3pm for 3.30pm on Friday, half an hour earlier from May) when we play in mufti; whites are worn only for inter-club, sponsored or internal competitions. There is a fully licensed bar which opens after play.

Southbroom entered four teams into the Kingfisher Bowling Association's Mixed Pairs event held during March; congratulations go to Southbroom residents Tony Waters and Julie Walker on their bronze medal.



JULIE WALKER - Secretary

Southbroom Bowling Club - southbroombows@gmail.com

If you are visiting Southbroom during the holiday please do remember that the whole of Southbroom is a Conservancy area, for this reason the speed limit is 40 kph, please drive slowly and enjoy our beautiful village. Remember that Golf carts are for the golf course not for joy riding on public roads.

Travel safely and have a wonderful holiday

Jackie Pratt

SOUTHBROOM RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

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www.southbroom.org.