



Southbroom *Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa*

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2018

Hi Everyone,

Christmas is coming the goose is getting fat or so the old nursery rhyme goes. Most of us will put a few pennies in an old man's hat, but will no doubt substitute the goose for something more exciting. The locals have been doing their best to prepare for the holiday season and make everyone feel welcome. If you are looking forward to some well-earned time off in this special "paradise" we hope you will not find too much to complain about. Oh yes roads!

The village is looking stunning and the baobab tree is sprouting new leaves; look out for some interesting new businesses and lots of foodie options if cooking is not your thing on holiday. Check out the www.southbroom.org website for a list of all local businesses with their contact details.

You will see from Brian Thompson's report that the Southbroom Ratepayers Committee have been working hard to maintain and improve standards in our town and the "Keeping Southbroom Beautiful" team have done an impressive job on the public gardens and clearing overgrown areas. We are fortunate to have a wonderful team of willing volunteers not only SRA but also Conservancy and the sports clubs, working together to make Southbroom a village of which we can be proud

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

AGM

The Southbroom Ratepayers AGM will be held at the Golf Club at 0900 on Saturday 22 December 2018. We really need the support of all residents and property owners, and this is your opportunity to ensure that the Association is meeting your needs. (See attached Notice)

BEACHES AND POOLS

RNM refurbished the main beach ablutions after numerous requests.

RNM eventually did maintenance (mainly varnishing) on the Grannys' beach wooden structures. The scope of work was not what we requested, so we have appointed a contractor to do some structural repairs to the structure and the windows in the ablutions.

The main beach tidal pool was drained and cleaned in November. The pool was left empty for two weeks for the sand to settle, and should be looking good for the December holidays

We implemented a project to remove and tidy up old signage at the main beach, and replace where necessary.

ROADS

The meeting to discuss a road funding proposal with the Municipal Manager scheduled for 20th July was postponed and we are still waiting for another meeting. We shall discuss the way forward with this proposal at the AGM.

I made a short presentation on roads budgets to the RNM municipal manager (MM) and HOD's at a KZN SCRRA meeting on 10 September. The MM advised:

- He agreed that the road budgets were inadequate, and would ensure that they are increased in the next budget cycle.
- They are investigating a loan from PPSA to fund road maintenance. PPSA have provided a small loan for a feasibility study for road maintenance.
- Council has taken a decision to stop using capex to build community halls and will redirect these budgets to roads in future.

RNM have completed an extensive program of repairing potholes and patching roads, and also did a full slurry seal of North Ridge road.

We have ordered 50 bags of cold mix asphalt and a load of G5 sub base, and will repair "problem" potholes by mid December..

WATER

We are still extremely concerned about the viability of the Ugu municipality, which had serious financial issues, problems with a new billing system, labour problems and has lost several senior managers responsible for water management. A recent news article shows that Ugu monthly expenses are about R10 million more than revenue and their debts amount to R500 million. We strongly recommend that all residents keep an adequate supply of drinking water and, if possible, install water tanks at home.

Water samples show that sewerage is leaking in the Peters Way area. We are still trying to trace the source and have had good cooperation from residents in this area. We have sent more water samples for analysis and will follow up results.

GARDEN REFUSE TRANSFER CENTRE

We received a lot of complaints about the cleanliness and frequent closures of this centre. We held a meeting with the responsible RNM manager who agreed:

1. All recycle material collected by Council staff will be taken directly to the Recycling Centre in Ravine Lane Marburg .
2. The security guard has been instructed to stop residents dumping their waste at the transfer centre. Recycling material from residents can still be placed in the relevant bins at the transfer station.
3. Wasteng did have a problem with their compactors but they have been repaired, and the skips are emptied on a regular basis.
4. That there is a shortage of skips at this centre (only four out of six available), and will order more skips when the tender is finalised.

by Brian Thompson - Chairman

REPORT SERVICE ISSUES TO THE MUNICIPALITY

All residents need to inundate RNM with their complaints on roads, verges, cleansing etc.

It does not help to post on Facebook; complaints must go through the proper channels. Everyone needs to report specific problem areas accompanied by photographs. It has been proven that the more complaints received the quicker the job gets done.

First prize is to use the online form which can be found at <http://bit.ly/uguresidentsrequest>

We recommend using this form which your councillor can monitor and escalate.

There are forms for both UGU and RNM which you select on the website

Alternatively you may email : services@rnm.gov.za or use the SMS reporting at 32061

For urgent water leaks use the UGU SMS number 44751

Always quote your name and lot number with your complaint.

When using the email service please copy admin@southbroom.org so that SRA can escalate.

Please do not inundate SRA with individual complaints, the team are working continuously to get things done, please help by reporting direct.

COMMUNITY POLICING

CRIME STATISTICS

We are pleased to advise a significant reduction in reported cases of house-breaking :

Year 2017 = 54 : Year to date 2018 = 17

Thanks and congratulations go to all concerned and especially to our Sector Police and armed response companies.

HOLIDAY SEASON ONE WAY SYSTEM

Imbezane Drive will become a "one way" over the holiday season from 16th December until 3rd January 2019. The one way system will operate from 06H00 to 18H00 except on 31st December when it will apply for 24 hours.

The traffic direction will be from the village centre via Imbezane drive to Riptide Restaurant at main beach. Manned Barricades will be set up just after the RNM municipal offices and the entrance parking to Riptide. To exit from the beach, traffic will either go via Beach Road past The Admiralty or Southridge Road and Northridge road.

The purpose is to alleviate the traffic congestion experienced during previous peak periods and we ask residents and visitors to please abide by this.

USEFUL DO'S AND DON'TS

We would like all our visitors as well as our residents to have a fantastic holiday season, we hope the following information will help to ensure things run smoothly and there are no incidents.

REFUSE DAYS: Mondays regardless of public holidays. Please place both your black and clear recycle bags outside your property, preferably in a suitable wheelie bin or cage, early on Monday. If you miss the collection please take your bags to the transfer station in Outlook Road.

DO NOT dump bags in the litter bins or leave on the verge for days. Monkeys are a big problem and spread garbage all over the verges.

PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE MONKEYS

Keep all foodstuffs hidden and never threaten a monkey. A loud noise, shout or a spray from a water gun will send them packing.

SPEED LIMIT 40 KPH

The speed limit on ALL Southbroom roads is 40 kph, for good reason. Southbroom is a Conservancy supporting a wide variety of wild life; you will often see bushbuck, duiker and other wildlife on the road, usually early morning or evening. Drive slowly to get a chance to them and avoid hitting them. During holiday season there are lots of walkers, joggers, cyclists and children enjoying our lovely village. Please keep them safe.

Golf carts are NOT permitted on public roads. The exception being golfers, who have a special exemption to travel to and from their home to the Club only in their private golf carts. Only licensed drivers may drive a golf cart on the road. Please NO JOYRIDING

OCEAN CURRENTS

Visitors who are not familiar with the sea should be aware that there are frequently very strong currents along our coastline. Lifeguards are on duty at swimming beaches throughout season. Only swim on manned beaches between the lifeguards flags and do not swim when the flags are crossed. If in doubt, speak to the lifeguards.

If the Imbezane river mouth has breached, be extremely careful when crossing between Riptide and the beach. Never cross at high tide or when the river is running out fast. You can quickly lose your footing and be swept out to sea past the tidal pool and around the rocks. Again be guided by the lifeguards.

GAZEBOS

In consideration of all beachgoers, please do not stake your claim with your gazebo on the grass banks early in the morning and then abandon it for several hours. Only erect your gazebo when you plan to utilise it immediately and remove it when you leave the beach. Southbroom beach becomes extremely busy during the peak holiday period, please give everyone a chance to enjoy it.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

There is a ramp at Grannys beach for wheelchairs and strollers. There is also a wheelchair available from Southbroom Conservancy to utilise on the beach which can be used in Grannys pool. Phone the number on the wheelchair hut at Grannys to arrange to collect the key.

DOGS

Dogs are NOT allowed on the swimming beaches i.e. Main Beach, Grannys and Umkobi. Dogs under control are allowed from the rocks south of Grannys for about 3km south to the rocks just north of Umkobi. This is a beautiful long flat stretch to walk at low tide. Please keep dogs under control, they must be on lead in the streets. Doggie bags are available at entrances to dog friendly beaches, do keep our beaches clean. You can also use the packets to pick up any litter or plastic waste which frequently washes up on the beaches.

Dogs on lead are allowed on the Bushbuck trail but dogs are NOT allowed on the Frederika trail.

CONSERVANCY MATTERS

The Southbroom Conservancy Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Saturday 5th January 2019 at 9am at the Golf Club.

Members are reminded that annual subscriptions of R400 are now due, this equates to R7.70 per week or R1.10 per day to help Conservancy maintain a relatively alien and litter free environment. If you are not yet a member please contact Dawne Murray imageworks@ibi.co.za

Enjoy a fun night out in support of Conservancy on 20th December, where more about Conservancy will be discussed.



CONSERVANCY CAROLS CONCERT: EYLES PARK SUNDAY 23 DECEMBER AT 17.30

- Our annual carols concert will once again feature carol singing
- Christmas songs by Winston Smile, a surprise visit by Santa,
- A chance to win the magnificent library raffle
- Much fun and laughter.
- Everyone welcome, no entry fee, donations welcome



SOUTHBROOM LIBRARY

The Southbroom library is celebrating its 10th year of being run entirely by volunteers from the community and we wish to congratulate them and thank them for their hard work and amazing achievement in keeping our library alive and thriving for the benefit of the community. The library operates entirely on donations and fundraising in spite of which this year they have managed to buy 91 new books with a few more on order for this year; there is something for every taste.

Opening hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 09.00 to 13.00 and Saturdays 09.00 – 12.00

Pop in to pick up your books and don't forget to buy your tickets for the magnificent hamper raffle.

The raffle will be drawn on 23rd December at the Carols Concert in Eyles Park.

N.B. the Library will of course be closed on 25th December and 1st January 2019.



SOUTHBROOM BOWLING CLUB

The green is running beautifully after spring treatment, and the club house looks fresh and friendly after the recent improvements. The club is open to bowlers throughout the holiday period; tabs-in on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2pm for 2.30pm – 16 ends.

Fridays at 3pm for 3.30pm – 12 ends. We play in civvies.



The ladies' team of Marilyn Shepperd, Julie Walker, Margie Purkiss, Helen Proctor, Bev Clements, Heather Roberts and Jean Purtell after Marqate Sevens



Men's champion Tony Waters with Heather Roberts and Hein Bester. Mal Shepperd was lady champion.

On Wednesday 19th December, an introductory clinic will be held,

starting at 9am. Coaches will be on hand to explain the basics. Bring the family and let the kids have a go – small-sized bowls are available. Wear a hat and flat-soled shoes, and bring a water-bottle. The cost is only R20 per person or R50 for the whole family. The bar will be open afterwards.

Due to limited resources, booking is essential: please phone Julie on 083 273 6840, Cleve on 082 783 5236, or email southbroombowls@gmail.com

TENNIS CLUB NEWS

The Southbroom Tennis Club looks back on an extremely busy, productive and successful 2018, considering the progress made with regards to:

- Upgrading the Club House facilities.
- Landscaping the STC grounds.
- Repairs of the Gabion Walls which protect the foundations of the Tennis Courts.
- Increasing the membership; to date there are 69 members.
- Starting an Outreach Program by partnering the Gcilima Primary School, introducing the Sport of Tennis to 75 Grade 4 learners.
- Re-introducing popular Sunday Tennis and Floodlights for evening play to come in 2019.
- The Club committee's main focus in the coming year will be on "Project 2019 - Resurfacing of the Tennis Courts" at an estimated cost of R150,000. A major financial challenge for a small Club.

The Round Robin Tennis Tournament will take place on Sunday, 9th December 2018

The tournament starts at 11h45. Tennis partners will be allocated.

The Round Robin will be followed by a bring 'n braai and Christmas party to celebrate the year's achievements. Members, friends and visitors welcome

A note to all visitors, club tennis takes place on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 2pm onwards. If anyone wants to book a court at any other time, there will be booking sheets outside the clubhouse. Visitors please put your donation in the honesty box.

Wishing all Members and Friends of the STC a merry festive season.

With thanks and kind regards,

Rolf Gudegast

SOUTHBROOM GOLF CLUB

The Club welcomes visitors, both golfers and non-players.

The club offer a breakfast and lunch menu; keep a look out for evening "specials".

The newly enclosed veranda offers protection on those wet or windy days, or you can enjoy the magnificent view while sipping your sun-downers and having a bite to eat on the extended patio.

We hope all our visitors have a wonderful holiday, travel safely and if there is anything you need to know please either check the [Ratepayers website](#), contact one of the committee or post you query on the Facebook group "[Southbroom News Updates](#)".

With very best wishes for Christmas and 2019

SOUTHBROOM RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Jackie Pratt - Secretary