

# Southbroom

*Kwa Zulu Natal,  
South Africa*

## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER JULY 2019

Hi everyone,

On a winter morning there must be few better places to be sipping your coffee than watching this beautiful sunrise over Southbroom beach.

Southbroom is without a doubt **the** place to be in winter, we have had some of the most amazing days and mild nights with the occasional front which blows for a day or so, we all moan and put on layers, and then it's gone. Unfortunately for the Southbroom Conservancy Golf day the front came just at the wrong moment, the morning before the sea was like glass and the surf just a little strip of white lace along the shoreline, and then everything turned on its head on Friday afternoon and the wind blew all day for the golf day on Saturday. Well done to all those who braved the weather for a wonderful cause. See report later in the newsletter.

Recent weeks have not been without their challenges for our dedicated water team but for the most part, in spite of considerable problems with Ugu, the majority have at least had some water and breaks have been attended to quite quickly. Fortunately the crisis seems to have past but we all still need to conserve water and if possible install a back-up tank. See full report by our chairman below.

It continues to shock me driving around that residents are still leaving black bags on their verge for a whole week, in spite of our regular pleadings to **ONLY** put refuse out on Mondays and get a secure cage of wheelie. (Cages can be obtained from Christo van Eeden 039 316 6855/082 821 0259). Some containers are so full and overflowing the lid cannot close, what's the point? The monkeys have a field day and the verge ends up looking a complete mess. It has been reported in some parts of the country that leaving refuse bags out overnight can pose a security risk. Where "pickers" roam the streets at night to see what they can find they are unlikely to miss an opportunity to go for something more lucrative.

Whilst, thanks to our CPF Southbroom crime is very much under control, the few incidents are invariably where beams are faulty, alarms not activated or doors left unlocked. We still need to be vigilant and look after our own security. Please maintain your systems, ensure they are activated and report ANY suspicious activity directly to Southbroom Sector Police on 039 316 6760, not only on the crime WhatsApp group. If you wish to join the group WhatsApp Comfort 076 152 4930 with your full name and lot number.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT *by Brian Thompson***

### **MUNICIPAL INTERACTION**

The RNM Municipal Manager (MM) advised at a meeting on 10 July: Council is concerned about deteriorating infrastructure, and realise that bad road infrastructure will discourage business development. There will be a shift of emphasis away from community halls and sports fields to activities that encourage economic growth. 58% of available expenditure this year will be on roads and related infrastructure. Application has been made for a DBSA grant towards road infrastructure master plan. Head of Department (HoD) Dlamini advised that money budgeted for roads would be spent on pothole repairs and preventative maintenance (chip and spraying) and that there was a planned schedule for clearing of storm water drains.

### **BEACHES AND POOLS**

Work has started on the refurbishment of the Lifesavers building at the main beach. This building was in a terrible condition, and RNM keep delaying maintenance requests. Our thanks go to South Coast Tourism who agreed to fund 50% of the costs of the upgrade.

We have been closely monitoring the activities of a new lifesaving contractor appointed by RNM to safeguard our beaches from 1 July. There were initial problems and we had a meeting with RNM and the contractor to resolve these. Ratepayers should note that RNM only provides lifesavers at our beaches over weekends and Government schools holidays.

Granny's pool ablution block is still in reasonable condition despite the floods, but we will appoint a contractor to varnish some of the wooden railings.

### **ROADS**

The damage to the road at the dangerous corner opposite Milkwood Point entrance on Outlook road has been temporality backfilled and coned off by RNM. The area will have to be reopened and gabions installed with an engineered backfill solution when funds become available in the new budget.

RNM made safe the damaged section of Lagoon road, and the drainage will be repaired and the section of road is scheduled to be resurfaced in August.

A program was issued by RNM for repairs to a few selected roads as well as an overlay for the main beach car park in August/September.

Those on the list scheduled for repair in August are:

Beach Road, Lewin Road, Bath Road, Loop Road, Basil Road, Eyles Road, Imbezane Drive, Tennis court access and Lagoon Drive.

If your road is in a bad way and you are not on the list you MUST report it directly to RNM via [services@rnm.gov.org](mailto:services@rnm.gov.org) stating your name, lot number and photographs where possible. It is essential you send an open cc to Richard Bridgeford so that he can follow up with the correct department [rbdr52@hotmail.com](mailto:rbdr52@hotmail.com). The more people who send complaints the quicker we get results. Do not send a complaint to Richard unless you have reported it.

See the list of contact numbers below.

The DIY pothole programme went well in June with 450 bags of cold mix repairs by residents. My thanks go to Johan Burger and Wilhelm Steynburg who did most of the repairs. RNM has started to clear storm water drains in Captain Smith road and College road and we have requested that they return to clear drains in other roads.

At our request RNM initiated a programme to paint road lines and road signs on most of the major roads in the village area.

We will liaise with Margate Asphalt for a quote for about 600m<sup>2</sup> of road repairs as soon as we know what road maintenance has been completed by RNM

### **WATER**

There was a major water outage in May/June caused by multiple pump failures (and lack of spare parts) at the Umtamvuma water works. Ugu implemented “*water shedding*” for all water users between Port Edward and Southbroom for over three weeks. Fortunately our water team “*made a plan*” to limit the impact. Full water supply from Ugu was achieved by Ugu at the end of June. Southbroom was fortunate to have only 1.5 days water outage, compared with 3-6 weeks by other villages, and I thank our water team for their efforts.

Ugu is presently installing telemetry in the SB reservoir. We are trying to find out how this will be monitored, and whether we can access the output.

Fortunately, there were very few problems with water leaks, largely due to the fact that when a break did occur our water team were able to contact the Ugu plumbers direct and they responded quickly. Our water team continue to monitor the level of our water reservoirs.

### **GARDEN REFUSE TRANSFER CENTRE**

We have again complained to RNM about the shortage of skips and poor service by the refuse removal trucks, which are causing the centre to be closed for use nearly every day. The refuse centre is designed for six skips, but only three skips have been available for nearly a year because of breakages. RNM replaced one of the missing skips at the beginning of July and has promised to provide another two new skips by the end of July.

### **REFUSE AND VERGES**

There has been a big improvement in this area after our meeting with the RNM Depot Manager and verge cutting contractor. The verge cutting program has now improved in time and quality, and the contractor has started spraying poisoning on the grass and weeds by the road kerbs. Please report all problems with verges including trees overgrowing and blocking the road to RNM.



*Above: Wilhelm Steynburg fixing potholes  
Bottom: New road markings*



## TOWN PLANNING

RNM advised that the application to install a base station and 30 metre cell phone tower in Erf 607 (1 Beacon Road) will be reviewed by the Planning Tribunal in July.

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**PLEASE NOTE: we cannot emphasize enough how important it is to report every problem with roads, verges and refuse direct to RNM and water a sewerage problems to Ugu. SRA can only follow up on matters that have been reported.**

**Please quote your name and lot number when reporting.**

**Please print out and keep these numbers handy or add to your phonebook.**

### **ROADS, VERGES & REFUSE :**

RNM [services@rnm.gov.za](mailto:services@rnm.gov.za) [bit.ly/uguresidentsrequest](http://bit.ly/uguresidentsrequest)

SMS 32061

Copy Richard Bridgeford [rbdr52@hotmail.com](mailto:rbdr52@hotmail.com).

### **WATER & SEWERAGE:**

Ugu [info@ugu.gov.za](mailto:info@ugu.gov.za) - [bit.ly/uguresidentsrequest](http://bit.ly/uguresidentsrequest)

SMS 44751

Copy Richard Derman [rpderman@telkomsa.net](mailto:rpderman@telkomsa.net)



## **CONSERVANCY MATTERS**

It is that time of year when gardeners have their annual winter cut back ready for the new growth in the spring. We all know that everything tends to “grow like mad” in this climate however please do be selective with your chopping, especially where trees are concered; make sure all work is carefully supervised. We encourage everyone to remove and control aliens but please if you are not sure consult an expert before trimming trees. Dangerous overhanging branches must of course be controlled but there is a right and a wrong way to do this in order that the tree is not damaged.

Anne Skelton, chair of our conservancy can always advise on what to remove and what to preserve. [anne.skelton@webmail.co.za](mailto:anne.skelton@webmail.co.za) 082 896 7814

Please also remember that brush cuttings must NOT be left on the verg, the municipality will only collect cuttings their contractors have left on the verges. It is the owners repsonsibility to remove garden refuse from their property. There are many reputable companies in Southbroom who will remove your rubbish for a reasonable fee or you can take small loads to the depot in Outlook Road.

## CONSERVANCY GOLF DAY SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019



*Clockwise from top left: Dawne Murray with the wonderful prizes - Dawn, Richard Derman and Cathy Thomson at the registration table inside the Pro shop out of the wind – Guys battling the wind on the 5<sup>th</sup> - Brave ladies all wrapped up hoping to play 18 . That blue sky is deceiving, the wind was VERY COLD!!!*

The Southbroom Conservancy golf day was held on Saturday the 20th July and despite a raging gale and very cool conditions the participants braved this to play some good golf and collect a bounty of wonderful prizes.

This annual event is used as the major fund raiser for the Conservancy and relies on the services of a handful of people to make it happen. Spearheading this group is a lady who has contributed her time and personal finance for a number of years and has been responsible for the success of this event. Dawne Murray has to be thanked and congratulated by every resident, property owner and visitor to Southbroom for her incredible efforts in raising funds for the Conservancy through the golf day and various other events.

Southbroom without the Conservancy would not be the hidden jewel of the South Coast.

Thank you Dawne Murray and your team for enabling the committee to financially implement the policies used to keep Southbroom a bucolic delight. *Report by John Pole*

## BOWLING CLUB NEWS

Southbroom Bowling Club is delighted to have had three medallists in the recent Kingfisher Bowling Association's Novices' Singles tournament. Congratulations go to Neale Cary-Smith on winning the men's event, to Glenn Hatfield on being the runner-up in an all-Southbroom final, and to Brigitte Cary-Smith on achieving bronze in the ladies'.

The club, which now has more than 100 members, recently held a "BlitzBowls" day sponsored by The Ear Institute. The format is for quick bowls and many scoring opportunities. A dozen teams took part; the winners were Vernon Clements, Glenn Hatfield and Carol Reiniers, who narrowly beat Marilyn Sheppard, Bruno Lolli and Brigitte Cary-Smith in a thrilling, sudden-death final.

The club also had a novel Durban July Sweepstake, whereby horses' names were taped onto old bowls. Players then had to roll their own bowl and knock a "horse" into the ditch. Every bowler got a horse, although only 18 were actual runners in the race. Shergar, Shadowfax, Bucephalus etc went the way of the favourite. Dick Plaistowe was the lucky winner with Do It Again.

The bowling club also hosted the inaugural Southbroom Limefest, dreamed up by resident Felicity Robertson as a cook-off/bake-off to use up some of the abundance of limes from her tree. The day attracted 22 entries of a fantastic standard, and more than 70 visitors, all of whom thoroughly enjoyed the event. Our thanks go to residents Dawne Murray, Sheena James and Peddy Bam for being such enthusiastic judges.

In addition to the three monthly sponsored competitions at the club (Tiago's, Mariner's and Wolf Security), the club has secured the hugely popular JL Panelbeaters' Men's Fours previously hosted by Margate Country Club, and the Ladies' Fours is to recommence on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August. Del...ish, Sensasia and Riptide have very kindly put up some prizes and we would be delighted if another one or two would come aboard for a regular quarterly sponsored ladies' competition.

The green is in great condition notwithstanding the time of year, and visitors are always welcome to come to tabs: 1.30pm for 2pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, and an hour later on Fridays.

*Tasty eats on display in the Clubhouse at the inaugural Southbroom Limefest*



Left to right: Neale & Bridgette Cary-Smith, Glen Hatfield  
Gold, Bronze and Silver novices



Southbroom bowlers braving the cold



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**SPRING DANCE**  
**SWING INTO SPRING**  
**WITH THE LEGENDS!**  
All welcome  
@ SOUTHBROOM GOLF CLUB  
SAT 31 AUG 18h30 R180  
FULL BUFFET  
BOOK IN THE OFFICE OR CALL 039 316 6026  
DON'T MISS OUT

Our very own local group of talented musicians will be getting you up and dancing at the “Spring Dinner and Dance” which will be held at the Southbroom Golf Club on Saturday 31st August. Pop into the office or give them a call today to make sure you secure a ticket.

This bi-monthly Newsletter is published by the Southbroom Ratepayers Association.  
If you are not a member of SRA please sign up here: [http://www.southbroom.org/sign\\_me\\_up.htm](http://www.southbroom.org/sign_me_up.htm)  
or contact the Secretary Jackie Pratt: 083 654 6922 - [admin@southbroom.org](mailto:admin@southbroom.org)  
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