



Hi Everyone,

A week ago we were enjoying stunning flat calm blue seas, sunshine, perfect summer weather, and telling our up-country friends how lucky we are to live in such a fantastic climate. We knew it could not last forever of course, and today I'm sitting at my desk with the heater on wondering how I ever survived 30 winters in Johannesburg. But we really are so spoiled, Ok so it has turned cold but it never gets so cold that we can't get outside for a walk on the beach, a game of tennis, golf or bowls, or just to sit outside at our favourite restaurant and enjoy a cup of coffee or glass of wine with the locals. Our gardens are full of colourful foliage at this time of year and many flowering shrubs are at their best. Don't hibernate, the best thing to keep warm is to keep moving; if you have been meaning to explore our lovely trails now is the time to dust off those walking shoes.



Love my view - *Clerodendron Splendens*

Remember there is still a serious drought situation; please continue to use water sparingly and keep your bird baths and feeders topped up, the wildlife are also suffering.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: JUNE 2016

Municipal Affairs

The last meeting of the current Ward 2 committee was held on 29 May. New committees will be formed after the municipal elections in August. George Henderson who is our existing Ward 2 councillor will be moving to Ward 19 (Uvongo) after the elections. The new DA nomination for Ward 2 is Dave Watson.

Please diarise 5.30 pm on Tuesday 21st June at the Ramsgate Lions Community Hall, to talk to Dave Watson, the DA nomination for Ward 2 and to enable all to express their concerns with him so that he can formalize his election manifesto, which will hopefully have planned measurable actions.

This has NOT been arranged as an opportunity for the DA to talk politics. It has been done because Dave Watson is, on the basis of previous elections, highly likely to be our next Councillor and we all need the opportunity to communicate with him to see how best he can serve our needs. Dave has promised he will NOT do all the talking, just listen.

Rate Increases and Valuations

At the May Ward committee meeting, HCM announced a tariff increase of 7% for property rates and waste removal with effect from 1 July 2016. They also advised that eValuations have been appointed to undertake updated property valuations in 2017. We will monitor progress with the property valuation process and keep ratepayers informed.

Water

There was a major pipe break in Lewin road in May which had to be repaired twice. Ugu has been requested to tar the road which was badly damaged.

UGU contractors started laying new water pipes in Link Road on 25 May, and are expected to complete the project before the end of June. This is in response to the large number of pipeline breaks this year. There should be no disruption to Southbroom water supply as the old pipes will only be cut off once the new pipes have been installed and can be commissioned.

During the recent break in water supply our team of “water boys” went way beyond the extra mile to get water back into your taps and we sincerely thank the team but especially John Kinghorn and Jim Davey for their huge contribution to keep our water flowing.

Beaches and Pools

The repair to the tidal pool by HCM on 18 March was unfortunately ineffective. We arranged to drain, clean and inspect the pool in May, but it was still leaking. A further inspection has now been carried out and measures will be put in place this weekend at low spring tide, which will hopefully rectify the problem. SRA arranged for an electrician to attend to the electrical issues at main beach and all the lights are now functioning correctly.

We arranged a meeting with the management of Tower 13 who provide lifesaving services, as a result of the incident on 13 March when a surfer was nearly drowned at the main beach. (See P.7 for update on Mike Halliday who was injured while rescuing the surfer) We inspected the premises and checked that all lifesaving equipment is in good condition and have improved communication with Tower 13. We upgraded the facilities at the lifesavers building, including a new burglar alarm and armed response service. We also arranged for HCM to commission a first aid station on the ground floor and repair the DB board at the lifesavers building.

Roads

HCM arranged a service provider to repair potholes and patch roads in April and May. HCM have exhausted their roads budget for 2015/16, and there will be no road repairs undertaken until the new budgets are available in July. The earliest we can expect work to recommence is August.

Unfortunately HCM did not accede to our request for a capital budget to refurbish College and Lewin roads in the 2016/17 year, because of budget constraints. We will continue to follow up on these requests.

by Brian Thompson - Chairman

LINK ROAD - Some residents, especially those whose roads are in a very bad condition, have questioned why Link Road was selected for complete refurbishment. Link Road had virtually collapsed due to basic original design, old water pipes and services causing major subsidence as well as the fact that this road was used as a “short cut” by both cars and heavy vehicles when the north entrance was closed for the upgrade of the R61 some years ago. Provincial roads refurbished part of Outlook and Captain Smith but Link being a side road was not included in this contract. SRA were under the impression that further capital funds would be available for other roads, but as stated in Brian’s report above, this has been put on hold.

The Link Road residents recently help an impromptu street party to celebrate the opening of their new road and thank the Southbroom Ratepayers for their contribution.

BY-LAWS PERTAINING TO DOGS

We have been informed by HCM that the following by-laws apply to dogs and must be strictly enforced.

1. Vicious dogs must be kept on a leash or confined to premises. A dog that has bitten or attempted to bite a person is deemed to be vicious.
2. **Not more than 2 dogs** are allowed on any premises without written permission from HCM.
3. All dogs on premises must have a valid rabies inoculation certificate
4. Owners are not allowed to keep dogs that bark, yelp or whine, thereby creating a nuisance or disturbing the peace.
5. Any police officer or HCM official may seize any dog which is vicious or disturbing the peace, and place in a pound.
6. A penalty of up to R500 may be imposed for the first offence, R1000 for the second offence, and imprisonment of up to three months thereafter.

Please ensure you report any contravention of these by-laws either to HCM who deal more specifically with by-laws, or to the Police

HCM Protection Services Emergency Number: 039 682 5555. -
Assistant Superintendent Mr X H Nhlangulela: 0603050777

COMMUNITY POLICING FORUM

Whilst there have been some incidents of house breaking during the last couple of months, the majority have been due to negligence on the part of the home-owners; a number of arrests have been made and CPF are following up on all incidents. Residents and visitors are reminded to be extra diligent during holiday periods and to ensure their alarms are serviced and armed.

MUNICIPAL WORKERS HOURS

You may have seen in the local press and on social media the HCM, in an effort to improve productivity and tighten up on staff, they have published the official working hours for HCM staff. Their hours are as follows:

Clock in 7.30 am
Morning break 10.00 am to 10.10 am
Lunch break 12.30 pm to 1.00 pm
Finish work 4.00 pm

Please co-operate with HCM and if you see staff arriving for work late, leaving early and having breaks outside these hours please report them and make sure you get a reference number: services@hcm.gov.za - 039 688 2027

A photograph to support your observations would be ideal but they don't take kindly to being photographed when they know they are in the wrong.



CONSERVATION MATTERS!!

Dear Members and Readers alike,

We thank you for your on-going and unfailing support both financially and morally!

BAGS/CHAIN/PADLOCK GRANNIES POOL

It would be appreciated if the parties responsible for removing the plastic bags/chain/padlock meant for picking up dogs mess, kindly return same. By the same token we would appreciate any information on this matter should someone have seen what has happened, yet again, to these items. Please email churashamba@telkomsa.net

ON THE MATTER OF MONKEYS – BALANCE VS CONSIDERATENESS

It has been brought to the attention of the Conservancy as well as having received several calls from concerned residents in Outlook road and Eagle road that the monkeys appear to be getting out of hand.....this is due to non-permanent residents/visitors who come to Southbroom and decide to provide themselves with entertainment by way of feeding the monkeys. I have witnessed first-hand a brilliant smorgasbord offered to them, in Outlook road, which resulted in almost the entire troop of about 60 monkeys all appearing from wherever to join the feast, on the wall, in the garden, much to the great enjoyment of the human!! WE ARE NOT DOING THEM ANY FAVOURS!!

Whilst most residents are aware that Southbroom has a “NO FEEDING” policy it needs to be reiterated for the following reasons:

It is extremely inconsiderate to the neighbours to invite troops of monkeys to your house and then leave after a few days/weeks/months of them getting used to having fast food 24/7; in addition, after humans leave after having provided the food, it takes a long time for the troop to settle down and disperse once more because they are opportunists – they learn that this fast food comes from a human’s house so they will go relentlessly from house to house raiding however they can. This results in aggressive encounters with humans in their own homes plus their pets and all because the monkeys are merely trying to secure and protect a food source. We are teaching our monkeys to become brazen and brave by putting food out in our homes – they have learnt there’s a quick meal to be had by stealing in the back door, or window, or patio under our sleeping noses and then we have the audacity to complain there are too many and they’re out of hand!!

It leaves our small buck vulnerable and excluded from the foray as they rely on the monkeys primarily to warn them of approaching predators as well as the usual amount of seeds/flowers/leaves that monkeys drop which feed the buck and other small animals, in other words, these animals actually rely on the monkeys to do a job and we don’t want the buck and other animals on our stoep (well some might think it’s cool, but its not). Buck are particularly sensitive creatures that need to hide - hence the Conservancy’s protection programme – from hunting dogs, loose dogs in general, opportunistic builders on sites setting snares, general poachers from wherever, and keeping our green spaces indigenous with natural food enough for monkeys and buck and other animals.....after all, they were here first and this is what makes Southbroom so special is that we are trying to live in harmony and balance with nature.

Ultimately it needs to be understood that monkeys play an integral part in sustaining our eco system in Southbroom and should not be interfered with. To feed them artificially is to completely unbalance the system. Entire troops do not usually sit together all the time but when there’s food about it appears the entire population of monkeys in Southbroom arrives, not so, that is just an indication of how many can be in a troop. Other troops do pitch up and then there’s fighting and all

sorts of unpleasant behaviour amongst them. Currently we have about 9 troops in Southbroom. Southbroom Conservancy appeals to all residents/visitors to think twice before:

- Putting food out for monkeys (this includes an uncovered compost pit)
- Putting rubbish bags out on wrong days so the monkeys just tear and mess and help themselves

And remember.....get between a monkey/monkeys and their food or family and they will become aggressive.....despite those vehemently claiming monkeys wilfully scare “women” whilst they are jogging, this is not true - rather that we are seen as opponents meanwhile they are just wild animals.....and remember.....we have done that to them. Wild un-interfered with monkeys steer clear of humans as they pose no threat to their feeding or habitation.

ON THE MATTER OF ALIEN INVASIVE PLANTS

Southbroom Conservancy needs to, from time to time, carry out “containment” exercises which means certain plants/trees which pose a threat to overtake the indigenous, need to be eliminated. It may appear unkind but please be assured it is done with the best intentions and knowledge for the environment. There are certain species that will invade and destroy if left unattended. We are aware they temporarily leave gaps and when possible indigenous replacements are planted or the area is left to grow up again with natural pioneer grasses (feeding small birds) and other indigenous flora already there but suffocated by the aliens!

Currently the Conservancy have needed to ring-bark pine trees, bug-weed, and a few flame trees that are spreading seeds too quickly. Not to mention Syringa trees which are highly poisonous and an absolute menace. We do not ring-bark indiscriminately or there would be no trees left, so the process is selective and needs to be undertaken with utmost care and spaced out over a long period of time. We are indeed mindful that flowering trees and plants are crucial for the bees and butterflies however it needs to be understood that local/endemic species plants are a more sustainable food source for bees and butterflies. Some are totally host specific so they need their food too.



SWAP THIS!
Remember to pull out the bulbs!!

FOR THESE!



Aptenia cordifolia (sun)

We encourage all residents to join in on a drive to eradicate the totally useless **SWORD FERN** (*Nephrolepis*) – there is nothing that eats it and even the frogs don’t need it.....

However, we understand that it holds many banks and soil in place so we are offering a few suggestions for indigenous replacement that are so quick growing and rewarding and work far better to hold soil and encourage the bees and butterflies.

It is important to note that when pulling out sword fern, the bulbs are the most important to get all out of the soil. Be careful not to drop any – they may be stored in a pile away from the newly turned site and left to dry. Please call Anne Skelton 0828967814 to come along (free of charge) as she has a big bin in the back of her bakkie in which they will be loaded and burned *in situ*. Please note, strictly speaking, sword fern may not be dug up and carted off site as they will just sprout and grow elsewhere. Interesting to note is that all Conservancies on the South Coast are on a drive to eradicate sword Fern – so far so good!



PLUS: *Phaulopsis* (sun + shade) & *Delosperma* species (sun - an example at Library island).
 Cuttings available from Anne Skelton 082 896 7814 or plugs and plants from Indigiflora (Munster) or Sebenza Nursery (Uvongo, near Gayridge chickens)
 Happy gardening.

CONSERVANCY GOLF DAY 2016

On the 16 July the Southbroom Conservancy will be holding their 2016 Fundraising Golf Day at the Southbroom Golf Club. This is the main fundraising event for the Southbroom Conservancy which plays such a huge role in maintaining and managing the natural beauty and wildlife of this special village.

As can be seen from the above Newsletter, the conservancy is involved in many aspects of maintaining Southbroom as an ecologically-balanced area of natural beauty by managing areas such as beautifying the entrances, keeping alien invader plants under control, re-establishing indigenous garden areas, clearing and maintaining unique walks like the Bushbuck Trail and the Frederika Reserve Trail with its spectacular Viewing Deck, maintaining the beautiful Grannies Pool area with its special floating wheelchair, keeping the beaches clean and protecting and managing the many forms of animal life that form an integral part of the un-spoilt tranquility of Southbroom, as well as our ongoing recycling project .

We know that you appreciate the advantages of promoting your business in Southbroom, and we hope that you will be willing to assist us in this fundraising effort by sponsoring a hole on the course, sponsoring prizes, or making a cash donation. As a sponsor you will be recognized at the event. Please book at the Pro Shop or contact Cathy Thompson on 083-636 9993 should you need any additional information.

HOUSEKEEPING

Southbroom prides itself on a clean and tidy image, in the past we have had many complaints regarding the state of our verges but recently, since the new contractor took over, generally our verges are looking pretty good and many residents maintain and beautify their own verge gardens. Conservancy encourage everyone to plant indigenous, especially on their verge, to ensure we eradicate aliens and attract wildlife.

Unfortunately however there are some residents who spoil things for everyone else. Garden refuse is NOT collected by HCM, residents are responsible for disposing of their own garden refuse which may be taken to the transfer depot in Outlook Road; garden refuse must NOT be left on the verge for more than a couple of days and black refuse bags and clear recycle bags must ONLY be out on Monday mornings.

The biggest eyesore and hazard for walkers at the moment is building materials and rubble. Strictly speaking this should be kept inside the property until the contractor is able to dispose of it. Where this is not possible the area must be kept clean and tidy, preferable screened by shade-cloth, and rubble and rubbish removed promptly. If you are building please ensure your contractor tidies up daily, not only inside your premises but also the verge.

Also remember to contact the Police and your security company if you are having work carried out on your premises as not only you but your surrounding neighbours are more vulnerable at this time.

GOLF NEWS

The annual Southbroom Men's Classic will be held from 3rd – 8th July and we welcome visiting golfers and partners from all over South Africa. The course will be closed for the competition on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday. If you are planning on visiting during the event this is a good opportunity to explore other local courses. Check with the Pro-shop to find out what the regular members have planned.

SURF RESCUE Many of you will have heard how local resident, paddler and surfer Mike Halliday risked his own life and sustained a serious injury while assisting in the rescue of a surfer on Main Beach in March. Long story short, Mike had an operation on his shoulder and then a second operation 3 weeks ago to re-fix a screw that had come loose. Maybe he tried to do too much or maybe they just did not tighten the screw sufficiently! In any event, he is now making good progress again and the visit to the doctor last week showed that all is good. Unfortunately, he will not be able to train for another 3 months so not enjoying life too much at the moment.

The much anticipated

SOUTHBROOM PHARMACY has now opened across the road from the Southbroom Medical Centre.

Welcome Pharmacist Kevin Naidoo & Courtney Povey. They invite you to call in and discuss your needs with them.

Phone no: 039 316 6075

Email: Southpharm@telkomsa.net

Fax: 086 518 7991

Hours Mon - Fri 08:30 - 17:30

Saturdays - 09:00 - 12:30



The SOUTHBROOM SURF SCHOOL will not be setting up on the main beach during the July holidays as the owners are currently running a school in the USA. However their highly trained and friendly staff are still operating out of Umzumbe and will be happy to come down to Southbroom for lessons and rentals.

If you are visiting during the holidays, why not give them a call before you come down to ensure you secure a booking.



We look forward to welcoming our up-country friends; we hope you will be treated to a week or two of sunshine and flat seas and get to enjoy everything our lovely village has to offer. Travel safely and don't forget if you need to know what's going on, join the Facebook group [Southbroom News Updates](#) and check out the Southbroom.org website for details of all the local businesses and volunteer group members.

Best wishes from SOUTHBROOM RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION & SOUTHBROOM CONSERVANCY

TOURISM NEWS

For the [Southbroom/Mpenjati](#) sub-committee of UGUSC Tourism

COMING SOON.....

Watch this space for exciting New Marketing initiatives websites, packages & passports to name a few... Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date.

[Southbroom/Mpenjati Tourism](#)



Events on the Horizon

Our committee is striving to bring a wealth of events to our shores, as well as supporting local events.

- DIG – Discover Indigenous Gardens
 - Cross Triathlon Event
- Stand Up Paddle Boarding Event
 - Discover Birds
- Southbroom Street Party



Visit

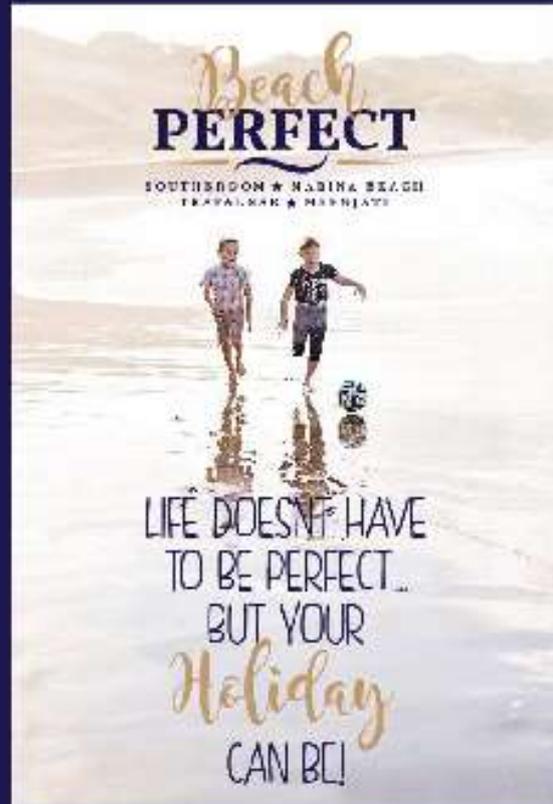
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