

Southbroom Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER JUNE 2018



SARDINE FEVER HITS THE SOUTH COAST

Welcome to winter in Southbroom

And what an amazing winter we are having, stunning warm days and just enough chill in the air at night to cuddle up with a warming beverage and blanket. And, the cherry on the top, the Sardines have arrived in spite of the naysayers who believed they were gone. According to Mike Anderson-Reade of KZN Sharks board, who has been spotting *Sards* for at least as long as I can remember, this could be one of the best sardine runs he has seen. Fantastic to see the ocean alive with gannets, dolphins, game-fish and sharks following the shoals of silvery little fish as they move up the coast. Remember that the shark nets have now been removed from Port Edward to Durban; be extra cautious if you venture into the sea.



There are also plenty of whales about but contrary to popular belief, they are not following the sardines, but on their annual migration to the northern warmer waters where they mate or have their babies. In spring you may be lucky enough to see a mother and her calf returning to the colder Cape waters.

If you were not planning to come to the coast for the winter break then do try and make a plan to get here. There is of course no guarantee you will see sardines being netted as they move all over but you will certainly see some action in the sea. The Sardine hotline is no longer in operation but you can find the latest Sardine news at the Sharks Board Infohub -

<http://www.shark.co.za/Pages/MediaRelease> or follow their Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=kzn%20sharksboard%20-%20maritime%20centre%20of%20excellence>

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT by *Brian Thompson*

BEACHES AND POOLS

Thanks to Bennie Kruger for arranging for all the lights at the main beach to be upgraded by RNM. Four new benches have been installed on the grass banks at main beach by Coastal Care and funded by Department of Environmental Affairs. We did not request these benches but we arranged for the contractor to install them in more convenient situations.

Ugu have still not replaced the four sewerage manhole covers missing near Riptide, and we are investigating options of making these manholes safe.

ROADS

We have had no response to the roads proposal made to the RNM municipal manager on 3rd April 2018 despite several reminders, and continue to follow up.

RNM have no budget left for road maintenance until 1 July. They have responded promptly to requests where safety is compromised, such as the collapse in Captain Smith road. They have also started a programme to replace old and missing road signs.

WATER

At the end of May Ugu workers embarked on an unprotected strike and sabotaged the water supply system. On 4 June the Ugu district was declared a disaster area and received some assistance from the KZN provincial authorities. We are meeting with Ugu on 27 June to discuss actions to prevent the water outages.

Fortunately, Southbroom was not too badly impacted as our water team monitored the water reservoir levels, and were able to open some of the valves that had been illegally closed. My thanks go to the water team, particularly John Kinghorn, for all their efforts during this period.

I wish to remind residents that the 5000 litre water tank that we erected at the Southbroom Police station is available for use during water outages.

SEWERAGE

I am pleased to report that the Southbroom sewerage plant (at the end of Quantock road) has been repaired by Ugu and is again operational, after having been closed for several months. We continue to monitor the operation of this plant, and have taken water samples for analysis to ensure that there is no contamination of the lagoon.

OTHER

Thanks to Shane Cole and Talisha Roos who arranged to repair the jungle gym in Eyles park, and is again available for use by children.

HOUSEKEEPING

A few reminders:

- **REFUSE** is collected on Mondays regardless of public holidays. Please put both your recycle and normal refuse out in a secure container such as a wheelie bin or cage as early as possible on Monday morning. If you cannot put your bags out on Monday please take them to the depot in Outlook Road.
- **GARDEN** refuse may be taken to the Outlook road Depot. Large quantities of garden refuse and all other large items for disposal must be taken to the Municipal dump at Oatlands (turn inland at Pistols).
- **DRIVE SLOWLY** The speed limit within Southbroom is 40kph. Please be aware that especially during holiday times there are joggers, walkers, kids on bikes and of course the wildlife.
- **PLOT CLEARING** Please consult with Southbroom Conservancy if you are planning to clear an empty stand or cut down trees. Southbroom is a conservation area and there are restrictions as to what should be removed and what must be left. Please check the information boards at Eyles Park and work towards eradicating all alien plants and replacing with indigenous.
- **GOLF CARTS** are strictly for use on the golf course except by registered members travelling to and from the course to their home. Golf carts must not be used on Southbroom roads for “joy-riding”. All cart drivers must hold a current driver’s licence.

SOUTHBROOM CBD

Over the last few years we have seen some excellent improvements to the old buildings in the village as well as some lovely new developments. We thank all the business owners and contractors involved for helping to keep Southbroom beautiful. The Bowling Club has undergone renovations as has the Tennis club, which we featured in the May news and both are looking stunning.



The owner Colin Mackay outside the new Drifwood



Colin Mckay left and Russel Dugmore having a chat on the new veranda

The latest upgrade is to the Driftwood Centre and we thank owner Colin Mckay and contractor Russel Dugmore for giving this building a stunning new look. The centre now boasts a lovely covered veranda, the perfect spot to enjoy a pizza or burger from the two restaurants. There is also a hair salon and arts and crafts studio to keep you busy.

SOUTHBROOM BOWLING CLUB

Julie Walker (Secretary) 083 273 6840 walkerjuliea@gmail.com

Visiting bowlers are always welcome at Southbroom Bowling Club.

Tabs-in are at 1.30pm for 2pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, and at 2.30pm for 3pm on Fridays.



Southbroom Bowling Club's Malcolm Milne building the new braai area



Sunday Bowls 'n' Braai – midwinter!

The green is in superb condition, the club house has been beautifully repaired and painted to match the village theme, and the braais are almost built. We play in civvies on tabs days, and the bar is also relaxed and friendly.

Congratulations to Southbroom residents and club members Heather Roberts (left) and Helen Proctor on their silver medal in the All KZN Ladies' Pairs competition played earlier this month.



CONSERVANCY MATTERS *by Anne Skelton*

May and June bring us cooler glorious days and some chilly evenings.

The Aloes begin to flower followed by the Coral trees. Cooler water temperatures bring shoals of bait fish followed by hungry hordes. Sometimes we are even lucky enough to see a return of the Sardine Run. Let's hold thumbs that by the time you read this they will have arrived and it will indeed be one of those good years.



Indications of the bait fish shoals are often beached seals that stray a bit in the search for these shoals. Maggie Flemming raised the alarm that such a beached seal was on the Frederika beach late on the afternoon of Friday 8 June. After a quick assessment as the sun was setting the Stranding Network was alerted and their wheels set in motion for an early Saturday recovery.



Maser Security was wonderful in giving us a guard for the night shift. We all traipsed in and out through the Clarkes home and garden as theirs was the shortest access. High tide was around midnight. The seal apparently paddled a bit in the deeper water but came ashore again about 50m further south. The guard assuming that it had gone back to sea packed up and returned his chair to the Clarkes. When the day shift arrived a little after 6 it was evident that the seal had been visited by some rather large footed dogs and moved off a bit further south. This put it slap in the middle of Frederika beach. An absolute no-no for vehicular access. So when the uShaka team arrived it was a long trudge carrying a heavy crate and all

the paraphernalia from Sea Village up the beach. The corralling and crating was relatively easy as the seal was really placid, almost spaced out. Once in the crate the REALLY HEAVY work started. A few extra "on-lookers" would have been welcome to help shoulder the load.

Manoeuvring the crate through the Sea Village path opened our eyes as to the requirements for better access for rescue staff and equipment. We will be looking into this shortly. The trick is to open the access but not create a blowout nor encourage unauthorized vehicles.



Once Warrior as she was named by the uShaka staff, had been assessed by the vet, dosed with antibiotics and upset tummy mutis, she was left to settle and begin recuperation. All looked to be going fine but sadly the report came through on Monday 18th that she had suffered a relapse and died in the early hours.

Thank you to all who helped – Clarkes, Bams, Maser and especially the uShaka team. At least we tried.

Still on the beach: Thank you to Geoff Skelton for sawing through the big log that was threatening the Granny's pool ramp and to Alfred and Michael for the muscle power to move the sawn off piece aside.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SOUTHBROOM MISSION CHURCH

Many may not be aware that Southbroom has its own little Mission Church which is situated just inland from the Southbroom robots. This is a Presbyterian church and holds services every Sunday morning.

The church is planning to hold an **AMAZING RACE SCAVENGER HUNT**. This will take place on Sunday 1 July at 11.00 at the Southbroom Tennis Club in Eyles Park.

Any residents and/or holiday makers are welcome to join in. R5 entrance fee will get them bottled water and the clues to the game.

The whole race should be over by about 13.00 when they will be able to purchase boerewors rolls.

For further details about the church and service times contact

David and Jean Thorburn - Humphrey.

Cell: David 082 859 8133 – Jean 076 835 8314

GOLF NEWS

- The Annual Men's Amateur Classic, one of the major events on the Southbroom Calendar, attracts a field of over 175 players from all over the country. This year's event will be held from 9th to 18th July 2018 at the Southbroom Golf Club.
- Tony Westoby, on behalf of Southern Natal Nomads, will be hosting the Andrew Mentis Golf Day at Southbroom Golf Club on 23rd September 2018. This year's charity event will help raise funds for children with autism. For further details contact Tony on 082-570 9526

Please continue to send your reports re potholes to services@rnm.gov.za or the online form bit.ly/uguresidentsrequest with your name, location of problem and lot number. Please copy SRA and Richard Bridgeford rbdr52@hotmail.com so he can follow up.

We wish all our visitors safe travels and a wonderful holiday in this special part of the world. Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact one of our committee members. All contact details can be found on the website.

Jackie Pratt on behalf of SOUTHBROOM RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

admin@southbroom.org

www.southbroom.org