



Hi Everyone,

May glorious May. To be in Southbroom at this time of year always makes me feel so blessed, stunning balmy days with flat blue seas and pleasantly cool evenings. Perhaps it is a good thing our weather is not like this all year round or the whole world would want to live here. If you are off to Europe for a few months to visit family and friends “back home” we wish you are safe trip and look forward to your return in the spring.

SOUTHBROOM TURNED 80

What a fantastic party we had, folk are still talking about it and asking when the next one will be. There are so many people to thank, just about everyone in the village joined in and assisted in one way or another, it really was an amazing community effort, I won't single out anyone in particular other than of course Dawne Murray who not only worked herself to a standstill but drove everyone else and brought us all together – thank you Dawne, you were amazing.



RATEPAYERS NEWS

You're 2013 Committee have been hard at work this year with several projects on the go. We have co-opted Cees van der Slikke and Sean Larkins on to the committee. Cees is a qualified Engineer and will be overseeing the prioritising of road repairs together with HCM as well as working with a private contractor your Association is employing.

Sean, amongst other things, is an expert on database systems and is now helping to bring our database of Ratepayers up to date. Much of the information we receive from HCM is incorrect or out of date. If you know of anyone who is new in town or neighbours or friends who have recently purchased or sold properties please ask them to contact us with the new details.

STREET MONITORS can really help here. The Ratepayers Association still only has approximately 300 members (out of a possible 1000+). If you volunteered to be a street monitor please try to contact everyone in your street and encourage them to join up and update their details. We need all the support we can get if we are to continue to augment the services we receive from HCM.

MUNICIPAL INTERACTIONS

The chairman attended a Budget meeting with HCM on 16 April 2013. The meeting was attended by the Mayor, Speaker and Municipal Manager (MM), and a presentation was made by the HCM CFO. The South Coast Ratepayers Association made a presentation expressing concerns about the high levels of salaries, poor productivity of staff and low levels of services provided. HCM promised to provide a response, but this has not been received.

The South Coast Ratepayers Association held a march to protest against poor service delivery on 30 April 2013, and handed over a memorandum of grievances to HCM. A detailed response was received from HCM on 20th May 2013; a copy is attached as an appendix.

The committee of the Southbroom Ratepayers Association had a meeting with the MM on 16 May 2013. We provided the MM with details of the services and projects undertaken by the association, and the issues and concerns (mainly roads) with regard to HCM services. The meeting was very constructive and we agreed to work on a cooperative basis.

MAIN BEACH

Brian Dick has taken on the Main Beach portfolio and reports as follows:

Upgrade of the braai and shower areas has commenced. The construction of a retaining wall along the flood damaged section of the pathway, behind the restaurant at the lower car-park, will commence shortly. We have been advised by HCM that our application for funds to repair and upgrade the tidal pool area has been considered. Accordingly funds have been allocated in their budget for the new financial year. We await confirmation of the approved allocation.

CPF

The CPF are currently doing a great job keeping us safe, there have been no reports of serious incidents recently.

POLICE BARRACKS

Thank you to all those who donated paint for the barracks, however there is still a lot of painting to do so if you do have any spare paint, could you please drop it off at the Police Station in the village.

CONSERVANCY

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

We are pleased to announce that HCM is using Southbroom as a pilot study for the "TWO BAG" system of Waste removal. As from Monday 3rd June 2013, waste removal in Southbroom will operate in the following manner:

- All waste put out on the verge will be collected by two separate vehicles, i.e.
- Recyclable waste - paper, plastic, glass bottles, cans (all clean & dry) put out in either pink or clear bags will be collected first. The supermarket is now stocking clear bags at our request. Please have your bags out before 8am.
- Other waste - that has to go to the landfill (in black bags) will be collected by a second vehicle.

At this stage it is optional whether you separate the various recycling items or mix them all together. Monitors will be recording the effectiveness of this operation and we earnestly ask ALL to embrace this WONDERFUL initiative and make it a success. The success or failure of this test case will help determine whether or not this is rolled out to all communities on the Hibiscus Coast.

THE BOTTLE BANK at the HCM Depot will still be operating but if you have only a few small glass items you can include these in your white recycle bag.

IT IS IN EVERYONE'S INTEREST THAT THIS IS A RESOUNDING SUCCESS.

As this is new to us all - all input will be welcomed. If you use a wheelie bin or a steel cage then either put the recycling bags next to the bin/cage (if there is no smell the dogs and monkeys will not be interested) or put them on top of the black bag inside the wheelie bin/cage.

NB if you use a cage please ensure your cage is completely cleared and closed after the refuse has been collected. Monkeys are now tearing the bags through the cage mesh and small stuff can slip through the holes. The rubbish remaining at the bottom of the cage not only looks unsightly but continues to attract monkeys.

COMPOSTING.

We urge everyone to STOP putting kitchen waste into their black bags. **PLEASE** either get composting bins or just start a compost heap. It is the perfect WIN-WIN situation. All your kitchen waste, leaves and grass etc. from the garden soon turn into wonderful "black gold " to spread onto your garden and produce wonderful flowers and vegetables.

It does not take up much room and does not smell. If you are really short of space then you can just spread the leaves, grass etc. directly onto your flower beds and leave them; they soon decompose and enrich your soil.

**IF THERE IS ONE "GREEN" THING WE URGE YOU TO DO THIS YEAR - THIS IS IT
"START COMPOSTING"**



MORE GOOD NEWS: The Outlook Road Transfer Station may now be utilised by visitors who close up and leave and cannot put their refuse out on Monday for collection. Please ensure all visitors and tenants are informed and **DO NOT** leave bags out for monkeys to wreck.

Any questions or suggestions - Please contact either David Halle david@halle.co.za 0823004283 or Anne Skelton

Whales and dolphins have been spotted off Southbroom, the whales were in quite close over the weekend and some believe one might have been giving birth.



Folk lore (or fisher-man's tales) leads us to believe that the Sardines will not arrive until the Aloes are in bloom. Well they are already a riot of colour everywhere, perhaps this year we will get lucky and the elusive little silver fish will come in close to delight us all. The water is still far too warm, but keep your eyes out for sightings of birds, dolphins and whales and send us your reports or post on the Southbroom News Facebook group.

DOGS

There have been a few unfortunate incidents with dogs lately. Whilst dogs are allowed in Eyles Park, please keep them on a lead, remember the park leads to the Bushbuck trail which is a conservation area. Rehabilitated game is often returned to the wild in this area and can easily be spooked by dogs. There are plenty of other areas where you dogs can run free. The beach from north of the rocks on the north side of Umkobi all the way to the beach entrance south of Grannies Pool is a superb dog friendly and great walking beach. Please do not take dogs onto the bathing beaches (Main Beach, Grannies and Umkobi) and if you see young children on the beach when walking your dogs please put them on lead at least until you are clear of the children. Your dog may "Love" kids and be as gentle as a lamb but many young children are frightened of dogs. A big dog bounding up to a small child can be very scary.

OVERGROWN STANDS

If there is a vacant stand near you or you know of any that are overgrown and unkempt you can report this to Conservancy or to the HCM depot in the village. Conservancy will arrange to have the stand cleared and charge the owner.

It is also illegal to dump garden refuse on the verge or on vacant stands; this should also be reported to Conservancy or the Depot.

TOURISM

The Southbroom/Mpenjati area Committee held their Annual General Meeting at Coffee on the Square last Tuesday 21st May. The meeting was very well attended by local Tourism members as well as representatives from Ratepayers, Conservancy, Golf, Bowls, Tennis and the Library.

Chairman Gary Purtell gave a report on the year's events and highlighted the highly successful S.A. Women's Open Golf event which was only marred by the weather, the organisation and efforts from Tourism were outstanding.

CEO of UGU South Coast Tourism Michael Bertram introduced Councillor George Henderson to the meeting. Michael gave a full report on UGU Tourism's activities and plans for the coming year and congratulated Southbroom on their achievements.

Congratulations to the following who were elected to the new Committee

Chairman, Vice Chairmen and committee portfolios will be agreed at the first Committee meeting.

Gary Purtell	- Realty1	Tom Kostrzewski	- Sunny Rock
Alice Brandsma	- San Lameer	Heiner Wolber	- Alans Rest
Kate Clarence	- Golf House	Bonnie Richardson	- Camelot Spa
Jackie Pratt	- Southbroom Ratepayers		

ADVERTISING

Website advertising comes up for renewal in July. If you are already an advertiser or would like to advertise on the Southbroom Ratepayers website, please contact me (Jackie Pratt) for further info. We are also considering advertising in the Newsletter to help cover the costs of an annual mail drop, again contact me if you are interested.

I SAW THREE SHIPS COME SAILING BY



How amazing to see the three tall ships sail past Southbroom this week.

Thanks to Luise Mohr, who was in direct contact with the leading Captain, the three ships sailed close into Southbroom Beach and received a grand welcome from locals waving flags and wishing them well on their way. You can track their course as they travel the world on the old original trade routes at:

www.oosterschelde-nl/positie-ship/

That's all for this month folks – please send in any bits of news of interest and don't forget to go to our Facebook group, Southbroom News Updates, to keep up to date with everyday news and if you're into Twitter go to @NewsSouthbroom and tweet away.

Jackie Pratt

With thanks for contributions from
Southbroom Ratepayers Association
Southbroom Conservancy
Southbroom/Mpenjati Tourism