



Southbroom *KwaZulu Natal, South Africa*

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2019

Hi Everyone,

Wow! What an amazing holiday season we had in Southbroom, arguably the busiest ever and with so much to offer for the holiday makers everything seemed to run smoothly with very few complaints. Of course when the weather is perfect and families can spend most of their day at the beach there is not much to complain about. Congratulations to everyone who was involved in hosting, feeding accommodating and generally making our visitors feel welcome.

There are of course always hitches, the majority of which are beyond our control but as you will see from Brian Thompsons reports the Ratepayers Association will be addressing these in the coming months and will again be asking for support from the community.

Photo of Southbroom beach on 30th December thanks to John Greve.

THE STRANDED YACHT

There was great excitement when a yacht was washed up on the beach in front of the Frederika Reserve on 15th December.



Sadly, the body of a lone sailor was found on board; reports say he left Port Elizabeth five days prior to the yacht beaching in Southbroom. One can only imagine what this poor fellow must have gone through. We have not heard the full story but it obvious that he had anticipated a problem as he had secured himself to the wheel and everything had been tied down on board.

The yacht was left on the beach for several days until the salvage boats were able to come from Durban and tow it back to Durban harbour. As you can see the keel became buried deep in the sand so it was quite a job for the tug to pull it out. Thanks to our local police for securing the beach throughout to ensure the yacht was not tampered with.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: JANUARY 2019

By Brian Thompson

AGM

The AGM held at the Golf Club at 0900 on Saturday 22 December 2018 was very well supported and went well with good interaction. A copy of my annual report which was presented to the meeting is attached for information. The following matters, which were brought up under general, require action:

- Lifesavers Hut – benches and tables will be included in the scope of work when this building is refurbished in the first quarter of 2019
- Ugu Water potability – The water committee will monitor the potability of water supplied by Ugu and will address any deviations.

NEW YEAR PARTY

The party was a success with reduced numbers (about 1281) as agreed, and no complaints. The party area and beach were clean on New Year's Day and there were no issues of concern.

The one way system on Imbezane Drive that was implemented with assistance of RNM Traffic to regulate traffic flow worked well, and we will continue with this in future.

BEACHES AND POOLS

I am sad to report that a teenage boy drowned in the lagoon behind the main beach on 1st January 2019, after accessing the lagoon from the Ramsgate side. Lifesavers are engaged to protect bathers in the sea and do not patrol the lagoon. We will liaise with the Ramsgate Ratepayers Association to improve signage for their side of the lagoon.

RNM eventually did maintenance (mainly varnishing) on the Granny's' 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 well used over the festive season and we will arrange for it to be drained and cleaned in February.

ROADS

The DIY pothole initiative implemented by Richard Bridgeford in December 2018 which enables residents to collect bags of cold mix asphalt from the police station and repair potholes in their areas was very successful, and we are going to repeat this in March 2019. A compactor would be of great assistance with these repairs and we are investigating the purchase or donation of a compactor.

I will attend a meeting with the RNM municipal manager on 20 March, and will make a short presentation on the condition of our roads, and a proposal to improve maintenance.

We were allocated R100 000.00 by the Southbroom Property Owners Association to maintain Southbroom roads, and we are investigating the most effective use of these funds.

We have agreed to install a new speed hump in Eagle road and College road at the request of residents, who have agreed to share the cost of the speed humps.

WATER

Fortunately, there were very few problems with the bulk water supply during the festive season, 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 constantly monitored the level of our water reservoirs, and when the Umtumvuma supply (main feed) went down they were able to switch to the Seaslopes feed quite quickly.

We noted that there is a very large dangerous hole in Woodlands road as a result of Ugu pipe repairs. It is very difficult to get either RNM or Ugu to repair roads damaged by Ugu, and Dietmar Klein has agreed to repair the hole. – *Brian Thompson*

VERGE CLEAN UP

Over the past few months RNM contractors have been cutting back the bush on the verges and in many instances doing a pretty poor job. The resultant cuttings have been left on the verge or pushed back into the bush leaving the whole town looking very untidy.

Following the success of the DIY pothole initiative, which will continue into 2019 (see below) we would like to undertake a similar project to clean up the verges.

If every resident could arrange to clear all the cuttings in the bush on their verge, cut down and tidy if necessary and pile the cuttings on the verge, SRA will approach RNM to remove the cuttings (see pics). Any non-biodegradable litter found in the bush should be separated into a black bag and placed in a monkey proof container on the verge on Mondays. Richard Bridgeford will be managing this project please contact him on: 079 648 2200 rbdr52@hotmail.com

We would remind you that it is illegal to dump garden refuse from private property on the verge; the disposal of garden refuse is the owner's responsibility. This DIY project is for the clearing of verges only.

We encourage all residents to beautify their verge and plant low maintenance indigenous plants. Many homes in Southbroom have some really attractive verges which only need the occasional tidy once they are established.



Current status & proposed solution



REFUSE ON THE VERGE

This is an on-going problem, and it was particularly bad during December when RNM were frequently late collecting the refuse. SRA are following up with RNM on this as well as the issues at the Outlook Road depot.

To prevent indiscriminate dumping of refuse on the verges and the resultant mess we have continually encouraged people to use a cage to secure the refuse, this prevents monkey and dogs getting into the bags and spreading the rubbish all over the roads. Wheelie bins are also OK but the lid must be secured with a catch or heavy weight so that the guys collecting the rubbish can open them but monkeys cant. And if you do have a cage please ensure your staff actually use it, see picture of a pile of rubbish next to the cage in the CBD, a health hazard right next to the doctors rooms.



Cages can be obtained from Christo at Professional Security Systems:
Cell: 082 365 4542 Email: profsec@venturenet.co.za

Let us all help to **KEEP SOUTHBROOM BEAUTIFUL**

POTHOLE INITIATIVE

The DIY pothole initiative organised by Richard Bridgeford in December was highly successful and we thank all those who participated. Southbroom Ratepayers have arranged to purchase further supplies of materials and will again be asking residents to assist in filling potholes in their roads. Richard will co-ordinate the operation and further details will be circulated shortly once the material has been delivered and we have had the opportunity to prioritise the roads needing attention



CLUB NEWS

The sports clubs and Library were all buzzing with activity from the beginning of December through to mid-January when the private schools went back, a very long season and no doubt our local businesses benefitted. The golf club was packed to capacity, even in the heat of the day which the locals tend to avoid. Apart from functions which are open to all, we do not usually report on golf club news as the club produce an excellent weekly newsletter for their members. You can contact the club if you would like to become a social member and receive their newsletter.

An updated list of committee members of all the local clubs and organisations can be downloaded from the website www.southbroom.org under "Contact Us"

BOWLING CLUB NEWS

The club had a very successful season. Regular and new visitors from up-country came to play and commented on how well our green is playing. The bowls clinic had a good turnout and several attendees have requested further coaching. Two coaches will be offering free lessons until the end of February; booking is essential (see below). The club has 88 members, almost all of whom play regularly. The internal competitions will commence shortly, and a new competition, handicap singles, has been introduced.

Tabls take place at 2pm for 2.30pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, and at 3pm for 3.30pm on Fridays (12 ends). The bar is open after play. Starting times are half an hour earlier from May. See below photos of members taken at the Christmas Lunch

Julie Walker, Secretary : 083 273 6840 southbroombowls@gmail.com

President Hein & Elize Bester, Juley Moorley & Mike Jaquet, Calla Uitenweerde & Nora Hill



TENNIS CLUB NEWS

The Southbroom TC is very satisfied with its financial performance in the first six months of the financial year.

Events like the Partner Canasta Evenings, the Lighting of the XMAS TREE on the 1st Advent, attended by over 160 guests, Sunday Tennis and the popular Round Robin tournaments proved to be very entertaining and successful.

With regards to the remainder of the financial year, a newly formed committee has taken on a number of challenging tasks, of which the funding of the repair and resurfacing of the three courts, at a cost of approximately R140 000 has priority. It is an overwhelming task and any financial help would be appreciated.

May I take this opportunity to thank our Social Members and Friends of the STC for their continued support.

Rolf Gudegast: Chairman : Southbroom Tennis Club : 082826 0479

LIBRARY NEWS

The hamper raffle was drawn at the Carols Concert on 23rd December and was won by a delighted Wendy Holness who is pictured with Elaine Harrison collecting her prize in the library. The final tally was R7,860 and our sincere thanks go to all who donated goodies and cash for the hamper, and to all who generously bought tickets.

The library was hectic this season, and it was good to see so many little ones choosing books. During the holiday period we had well over 300 visits from locals and visitors, and more than 950 books were checked out. Very rewarding.

Thanks to all for their kind words and support.

All the best for 2019. **Elaine Harrison Library Coordinator**



CAROLS CONCERT

The annual Southbroom Conservancy Carols Concert was attended by about 150 intrepid souls who braved the rainy weather to share in this fun event.

Thanks to the Southbroom Tennis Club's generous offer of the use of their clubhouse most people avoided the rain ... which definitely did not dampen the party spirit.

The Southbroom Christmas Choir led the lusty carol singing and the ever-popular Winston Smile turned the event into a party which had young and old on the dance floor.

Santa's arrival on his golf sled (buggy) was heralded with great joy and each child received a small gift, courtesy of the Conservancy.



THE SOUTHBROOM CHOIR ENTERTAIN THE PARTY GOERS AT THE CAROLS CONCERT



THE LEGENDS VALENTINES DINNER & DANCE

The Southbroom Golf Club's annual International Shoot-Out will be held on 9th and 10th February 2018. The weekend will feature a fun evening dinner/dance on Saturday night.

Visitors are welcome, but tickets are selling fast. Contact the Club on 039 316 6026 to secure your table.



SOUTHBROOM RATEPAYERS MEMBERSHIP

One of the reasons Southbroom is so special is that SRA, Conservancy and many volunteer groups work tirelessly to maintain and improve standards. Yes we all pay our rates and expect a level of service but as we know in many areas current services levels are totally unacceptable. Whilst SRA are in regular contact with RNM and Ugu, if we wish to maintain and improve infrastructure and services, it will continue to be necessary for communities to supplement services themselves. In order to do this SRA utilise the funds from membership. The sad fact is however that not even 40% of homeowners in Southbroom are members of the Ratepayers Association and even less are members of Southbroom Conservancy.

This year our goal is to achieve 100% membership; this would provide SRA with approximately R400,000pa to utilise on improvements and maintenance issues which are not covered by RNM. Please speak to your friends and neighbours, encourage them to join and make sure your subscriptions are paid up for 2019. Every R400 can make a difference. A big thank you who all those who have paid their 2019 subs and a special thanks to those who have made donations. A membership form is attached for your convenience.

To join Conservancy contact Dawne Murray : imageworks@ibi.co.za
If you have any questions or wish to join SRA contact me at the address below.

Jackie Pratt
Secretary – Southbroom Ratepayers Association
admin@southbroom.org
www.southbroom.org