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14 January 2025

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MARVELLOUS MOOKIE MAKES 100



by Melanie Baumeister.

On 8 January 2026, Wilhelmina Jacoba "Mookie" Botha marked her 100th birthday, surrounded by 50 friends and family members who travelled from all over the country to honour her extraordinary life that spans a full century. The celebrations took place at her loving daughter Audrey's house in Sedgefield.

Born in 1926 in a grass rondavel near Gwelo in what was then Rhodesia, Mookie grew up as the youngest of eight children in a world with ox wagons, farm schools and radical self-reliance as the norm. A self professed 'tomboy', she preferred soccer, hunting and the outdoors. Almost 95 years ago Mookie was walking many miles to school and making her own toys from clay and sticks.

Sadly her childhood ended abruptly at the age of 14 when her mother passed away and her father was left bedridden after a serious accident. With remarkable courage, Mookie took over the running of the household and farm, cycling produce to market, tending livestock and keeping the family afloat through ingenuity and hard work.

At just 17, she married Dennis Botha, and together they built a life grounded in faith, determination and perseverance. They raised two children, built their own home brick by brick, and faced life's challenges with resilience and humour.

Mookie's working life was equally impressive. A gifted seamstress,

Mookie 'The Birthday Woman' (because at 100 'girl' seems stretching it) celebrates with her son Arthur Botha and daughter Audrey Van Der Merwe.

she sewed for generations of family and clients and later worked her way up to Buyer and Costing Manageress for a major retailer. She finally retired from her last paying job at the age of 93.

Mookie, who has two children, five grandchildren and ten great grand children spread all over the world from Cape Town to Durban to England to USA, still tends her vegetable garden which provides many neighbourhood households with fresh produce. She continues to enjoy puzzles and technology, and has developed a special fondness for the local indigenous Thick-knee birds, adding ornithology to the list of hobbies she continues to enjoy.

Reflecting on her long life, Mookie says simply, "Life was not always easy, but God was always faithful. If you keep going and stay thankful, you will be amazed at what you can overcome."

Her 100th birthday celebration was a fitting tribute paid by her loved ones, to a woman whose life reflects grit, grace, unwavering faith, and a century truly well lived.

1st DAY @ SCHOOL



Today, 14 January, the 2026 school year starts and there is no doubt that many youngsters will be almost as happy about starting their schooling careers as their parents.

Young Gian Jantjies could not wait for his first day in Grade 1 at Sedgefield Primér, especially considering he already has his career worked out. Apparently he is not so keen to be a SAPS Sergeant like his father Gavin (perhaps mom Anna-Meree had some say in this!) but he says would far prefer to become 'n Meneer (teacher) when he grows up.

The EDGE wishes Gian and indeed all the other young lads and lasses starting school this week all the very best and hopes their school years are amongst the best years of their lives!

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Notes from T'Ed's Head

How was your break? I hope you had many Blobbing opportunities.

Blobbing? Surely you know the term?

No? Really?

Let me try to explain, because if I think about it (and I really should start thinking of SOMETHING, because there's only 73 days left of January), 'Blobbing - the art of' is not only a big part of what makes me the renaissance man that I am, but sometimes I even suspect it is my super-power.

'Blobbing' - the act of sitting, slouching, or even lying down (on a good day), (usually on a good couch), doing nothing that could be even vaguely related to work or effort, for an extended period of time.

Now, whilst this may, to the uninformed ear, sound fairly straightforward, someone such as myself, who has been graced with the ability to reach higher levels on the Blobbing scale, would understand that this is not the case.

I will (as a service to the community) point out several pitfalls, just in case there are any RBs (Rookie Blobbers) out there.

Firstly, Blobbing should not be confused with The Afternoon Nap. They are definitely two

different things, each deserving separate time allocation. One may follow the other, much like a platter of cheese (preferably Gorgonzola, but any 'blue' variant will suffice) and biscuits might (in a perfect world) follow a hearty Shepherd's Pie dinner. Still, it is important not to consider The Blob and The Nap as part of the same act (though a good cheese platter may definitely be involved in the Blobbing process – but now I am confusing even myself).

Secondly, as any decent medical practitioner will inform you, 'The Afternoon Nap' is mostly medicinal in nature. In fact, the efforts of the 'napper' to try (sometimes against all odds) to 'get his head down' for forty-five minutes (which, really, in the grander scheme of things, isn't much to ask, especially if he has had an exhausting morning reading the newspaper – because, let's face it, SOMEONE in the family needs to be aware of what is happening in the world - and finishing the crossword) often go unrecognised.

Conversely, Blobbing should be seen more as an SIA (Social Interaction Application) involving all who live under the same roof.

One might even liken it to a 'compulsory family outing' in which the family does not go out at all, unless it be for urgent provisions (to be explained



later) but instead assembles for a period of inactivity in a communal living area, with minimal conversation other than 'Pass the cheese platter' or 'We're not watching THIS again, are we?'.

It is important to note that Total Participation is key. Any individual who chooses NOT to participate in the Blobbing exercise with the rest of the household will pretty much ruin the efforts of all the others. Indeed, anti-Blobbing behaviour CANNOT and MUST NOT be tolerated. I cannot stress this enough. (And it is way too early in the year for me to be stressing AT ALL).

Imagine, if you will, being part of a determined group of Boxing Day Blobbers, bravely lolling across armchairs, couches, beanbags and sections of carpet around the TV to lightly doze whilst watching reruns of 'Friends', 'Baywatch' or anything else that requires no concentration (merely because it's the twenty-seventh time you've watched it), when suddenly an Anti-Blob family member begins washing dishes, folding clothes, or even (horror of horrors) vacuuming.

Yes. Such people live and breathe among us.

It is thus advisable for each family to establish a policy outlining some sort of punishment and/or fine system to dissuade family members from engaging in such antisocial behaviour. You have to consider the greater good.

Whilst not as important as participation, Blobbing Attire certainly deserves a mention as it does provide a sense of unity amongst Blobbers. Fortunately, it is pretty simple: The SAP (Standard Acceptable Practice) of Blobbing provides only one rule, and that is 'Whatever You Wouldn't Wear In Public'. Whilst entirely up to the individual, this may include 'Crocs', that old tracksuit from 1985 that you suspect is flammable, the 'Helmut Lotti' t-



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MASI RAFFLE WINNERS

The winners of the three raffles that were started at the 2025 RE/MAX Garden Route Kite Festival were drawn on New Years Eve, 31 December 2025, at the Masithandane fundraiser event featuring the Dukes of Note at Scarab Village.



The winner of the two-night stay at In Toto Retreat Sedgefield is Neels Thiaart.



The winner of the two-night stay at Blackwaters River Lodge near Buffalo Bay is Sonja Scheepers (pictured above right with Masi Chair Jackie Weaver).

The winner of the two-night stay at Beacon Island Resort in Plettenberg Bay is Carla Lidstone (pictured right).

We wish to thank In Toto Retreat, Blackwaters River Lodge and Beacon Island Resort for the generous sponsorship of these fantastic prizes. Additionally, a very big thank you goes to Arrie Nel Sedgefield Pharmacy and Deo Gratia Coffee and Book Lounge for their willingness and support to sell tickets for the raffles at their establishments. The unwavering support of the Sedgefield community is highly appreciated.

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WATER DISASTER MAY BE DECLARED

At a press briefing held at Knysna Municipality on Tuesday 13 January, Western Cape MEC for Local Government Anton Bredell announced that he will be asking parliament to declare a 'Provincial State of Disaster' with regard to the dire water situation coupled with out-of-control fires in so many areas of the Western Cape.

At the briefing, which was hosted by Knysna Mayor Thando Matika, there were various officials from the municipality as well as dignitaries including Provincial Head of the Department of Water and Sanitation Zanele Bila-Mupariwa.

The press attending the briefing were given an update on Knysna's current water crisis. "We are heading into a very difficult space," said Bredell.

He couldn't be more right. With Knysna's Akkerkloof Dam sitting at 15% (from 27% at the beginning of December) Knysna residents are being called to limit their water consumption to 50 litres per person per day, as this is what could be supplied. "The big crisis is that we are currently drawing more water than we are producing," explained Director of Community Services Johnny Douglas.

Though the drought is playing a

huge role, infrastructure failure is still a big feature in the crisis situation, with roughly 50% of Knysna's potable water (estimated at 7.9 mega-litres per day) lost due to leaks, pipe breakages, faulty pumps, and the by-passing of meters - which they estimated at 7000 to 8000 households.

Currently the municipality has seven 'rapid response' plumbing teams working on addressing this situation, with five more to be deployed in the very near future.

But with demand still sitting at unacceptable levels, the Municipal representatives insisted that it would take behavioural change by Knysna consumers to avoid reaching 'Day Zero'.

Douglas said that plans were in place in case it should come to that point, but they were hoping Day Zero could be avoided because it would mean literally turning off the piped supply to homes and businesses.

"We would then have to provide water via JoJo tanks and water bowsers," he warned.

They also used the press briefing to implore residents with access to boreholes to be mindful of their usage too, saying that Knysna will be relying more and more on underground water supplies.

Minister Bredell said that he believed Knysna's residents

would rally together and each play his or her role in averting the possibility of Day Zero.

"We're South Africans. We pull together in hard times. I am sure everyone will step up to the challenge of this water crisis," he told the briefing.

Said Mayor Matika "It will be a difficult period for all of us, but let's work together. With the cooperation of business and private sectors, we'll pull through!"

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Talking Conservation

Drie Valleyen

Our Position in the Ecological Ecosystem

by Charl van der Merwe,
Environmental Ethicist
On behalf of Sedgefield
Ratepayers Association.

John Muir (1838-1914), a Scottish American, is viewed as one of the fathers of nature conservation in America. His most enduring contribution may be the philosophical framework he provided for environmentalism. He advocated a holistic view of nature, recognising that all living things are interconnected and interdependent. He strongly opposed the anthropocentric view that humans are separate from and superior to nature, advocating instead for a biocentric perspective that values all life.

Today, more so than ever, humans occupy a conflicting position in the ecological system. We are both integral participants in natural cycles and the dominant disruptors of them. Our role is distinctive because, unlike other species in the system, we actively reshape and wipe out ecosystems through our selfish desire for material wealth and exploitation of resources beyond what is necessary, or reasonable, and without consideration for the environment.

We are part of the Ecosystem because of the biological role we play as omnivores. We feed across multiple trophic levels. This places us not at the top of the food chain but as flexible participants in energy and nutrient flows. We are also dependent on ecosystems because we rely on ecosystems for clean air, water, fertile soil, food and medicines, biodiversity, cultural activities, and recreation. These services are essential for our survival, just as they are for other

species.

Furthermore, our health and prosperity are directly tied to ecological balance. For example, deforestation disrupts rainfall patterns, and invader species impact the flow of rivers and water quality, which in turn affects agriculture and food security.

We are Disruptors because industrialisation and urbanisation have led to exploitation of natural resources, habitat destruction, and pollution. Human activities are the primary driver of climate change, altering ecosystems at unprecedented tempos. We are also the primary cause of species extinction of which the rates are now hundreds of times higher than natural background rates. Extinction of a species is a recognised cause of a systems collapse with its concomitant negative ripple effect on other systems.

Muir famously wrote, "When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe."

We are also Stewards because of our awareness that we are not separate from nature but embedded within it. Recognising this, helps to bridge the gap between society and environment. Sustainable practices such as renewable energy, conservation, recycling, are examples of how we can function as stewards rather than exploiters. Our cultural dimension underlines that human development, is shaped by multiple layers of the environment. This means that our ecological role is not just biological but also social and cultural.

A system is a set of interrelated elements that makes a unified

whole. Individual things, like plants, animals, soil, and everything on and in it, watersheds, people and their infrastructure and economies, are systems and at the same time cannot be fully understood separately from the larger systems in which we exist. With any system, the whole is different and larger than the sum of the individual parts and the relationships between individual parts may be more important than the parts.

Muir had such a holistic view of nature, recognising that all living things are interconnected and interdependent. He challenged the prevailing utilitarian view that nature should be exploited solely for human benefit, arguing that it possessed intrinsic value worthy of protection.

Muir understood that ecosystems are complex, dynamic systems and that any disturbance to one part of the system can have cascading effects throughout the entire network. This understanding is crucial for addressing complex environmental challenges like climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss.

We focus on things that can be measured and quantified and it is often implied that phenomena that can be measured and quantified are more important, and even that what cannot be measured and quantified does not exist at all. However, some aspects of systems, like the relationships in a food web, cannot be measured or counted. Living systems develop and evolve. Understanding these systems requires a shift in focus from structure to processes such as evolution, renewal, and change.

If we want life to thrive, we must keep on asking the question: What conditions enhance life? And, more specifically, what specific conditions are the best for our environment? My view is that mutual accountability, knowledge, and an ethical approach to living in the environment are at least a good part of the answer.

THE HYDROLOGICAL STATUS OF GROENVLEI

by Dr Roger Parson

I have followed recent newspaper discussions on concerns about the state of Groenvlei and the planned abstraction of groundwater to irrigate proposed avocado plantations. The hydrology of Groenvlei has always been of interest to me since the 1990's when I start working on groundwater issues in the area.

In 2014 I was awarded a Ph.D degree for my research into the role of groundwater in partially sustaining Groenvlei. For transparency, I have provided technical support to PG Bison and their hydrogeological consultant during the development, operation and monitoring of the so-called Fairview Wellfield. This article is an entirely independent observation for benefit of public knowledge.

It is often a pity to spoil a good story with some facts, but the court of public opinion should at least take note of current scientific knowledge regarding the hydrology of Groenvlei – or disprove it. The chief hydrological drivers of the system are direct rainfall onto (into) the wetland and evapotranspiration from the open water and ring of reeds around it. Rainfall accounts for 72% of input into the system while evapotranspiration accounts for 83% of its water losses. Groundwater contributes 28% of the inflow into the wetland and 17% of its losses through subsurface outflow along the southern side towards the coast. Streamflow – either in or out – does not play a role.

The significance of these findings is that it is improbable that groundwater abstraction could significantly impact the subsurface discharge into the wetland – unless a well-field was specifically designed to prevent inflow. Only 5% of the recharge in the upgradient catchment reports to the wetland. I reviewed the measured pumping and groundwater level data during and after the wet-deck irrigation phase (2018 to end 2021) and found that the groundwater abstraction of some 4.5 ML/d had no impact on the water level of Groenvlei. The current (new) water use license only allows 3.4 ML/d to be abstracted for irrigation, within the limits of historic abstraction.

What I did find during my research and review was that the water level of Groenvlei responded to rainfall. During wet periods the water level is high – reaching the maximum on record of 3.4 m above sea level after the good rains of the early 1980s. High levels were also experienced in 2008 and 2015.

Low water levels of 2.2 m above mean sea level have been

recorded at the Department of Water and Sanitation monitoring station in 1980, 1992, 2003 and between 2020 and 2023. The water level recovered somewhat after the better rains of 2023 and 2024, but has already responded negatively to the poor rains of 2025. Only 439 mm/a was measured during the course of the year.

The long-term average rainfall

measured at Ruigtevlei between 1947 and present is 694 mm/a. Since the good rains of 2015, the average rainfall between 2016 and 2022 amounted to 564 mm/a. During this time the water level fell from almost the highest on record to the lowest. This drop in water level preceded the groundwater abstraction and showed no change when the abstraction stopped. A positive groundwater hydraulic gradient towards Groenvlei existed pre-, during and post- the period of wellfield pumping (2018 to end 2021) – and has persisted since.

This data – and the measured groundwater level data – demonstrates that any relationship between the water level in Groenvlei and groundwater abstraction is coincidental rather than causative. The wellfield has not been in production for the past 4 years since the partially burnt timber in wetdecks was removed. Scientific monitoring has continued.

As there is nothing we can do to control rainfall, I would think that if we are really concerned about Groenvlei we should be looking at the ongoing impact of alien fish on the ecology of the wetland rather than expending energy on issues that have been scientifically shown not to have any significant negative impact.

Dr Roger Parsons
Pr.Sci.Nat (400163/88
Geological Science)
Honorary Member: Ground
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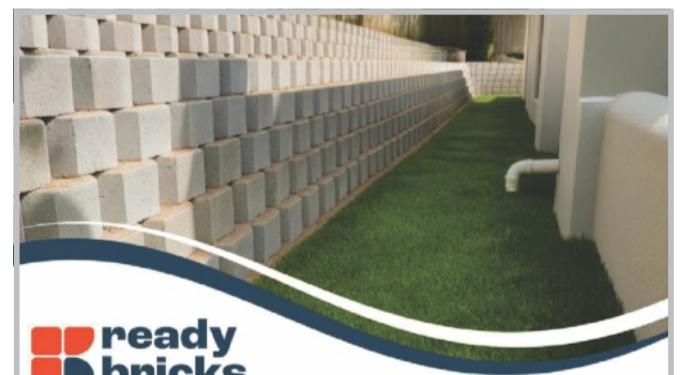
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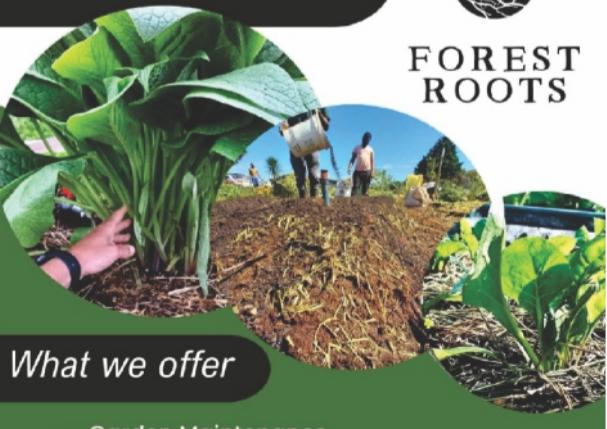
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WHY JOIN THE SEDGEFIELD RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

With the Sedgefield Ratepayers' Association's AGM coming up on 26 January 2026 (Sedgefield Bowling Club 18h00) we asked Chair Kevin Barnes to update readers on what the association is, what it does, and why locals and indeed property owners living away from Sedgefield should prioritise joining.

He kindly sent in this report.

Sedgefield is a town valued for its environment, character and strong sense of community. Protecting these qualities requires informed, active and organised civic involvement. The Sedgefield Ratepayers' Association (SRA) exists to provide exactly that: a credible, independent voice for residents on issues that affect how the town is managed and developed.

In recent months, the SRA has kept members informed on matters such as water supply challenges, municipal service delivery, infrastructure maintenance and development proposals. These updates are based on direct engagement with the municipality, careful review of official information and feedback from residents. In a climate where misinformation spreads easily, access to clear, factual communication is one of the key benefits of SRA membership.

Representation is another. Individually, residents often

struggle to be heard. Collectively, through a recognised association, concerns carry greater weight. The SRA engages with local government, submits formal input and raises issues on behalf of its members, helping to ensure that decisions affecting Sedgefield are questioned, explained and, where necessary, challenged.

The association's role is not limited to responding when problems arise. It also works proactively to promote responsible planning and sustainable development, with particular attention to water security, infrastructure and environmental protection. The aim is long-term solutions that serve both current residents and future generations.

The SRA is non-political and independent. It represents a wide range of residents who may differ in views but share a common interest in good governance, transparency and the wellbeing of Sedgefield.

Membership supports the practical work of the association, including communication, administration and specialist input where required. More importantly, it strengthens a collective civic voice. Joining the SRA is a simple, effective way for residents to stay informed, be represented and contribute to the future of the town they care about.

Join the association by contacting Ari Seirlis on 082 901 4150 or contacting the association on their email address sedgefield.ratepayers@gmail.com



Masithandane is not only one of Sedgefield's biggest charities, but they also know how to throw a party!

2025's New Year's Eve concert, held as a fundraiser on the Scarab Market grounds, was certainly one to be remembered, thanks to the wild and wonderful antics of the 'Dukes of Note'.

This carnival rock band from Cape Town combined elements of

Balkan rhythms, gypsy punk, vintage blues and swing with good old-fashioned rock 'n' roll. Mixed in was an eccentric blend of dark yet playful theatrics, which kept the audience singing, the dance floor over-flowing, and the party going right into the New Year and beyond.

Thank you Dukes, we hope you'll be coming this way again soon!

RATEPAYERS SPEAK OUT ON SEDGE WATER POSITION

A Statement from Sedgefield Ratepayers Chair Kevin Barnes.

We would like to clarify the water situation in Sedgefield and explain why the current problems cannot be blamed on drought alone.

There is no doubt that the Garden Route is experiencing low rainfall. However, Sedgefield's water challenges go beyond rainfall and are largely due to infrastructure and management issues.

In simple terms: there is water in the region, but the systems

needed to store it, treat it, and deliver it are not working as they should. This is often referred to as an infrastructure-related drought.

The main issues are:

Failing infrastructure

Leaking pipes, unreliable pumps, ageing treatment works, and limited reservoir capacity mean that available water cannot be properly distributed.

Insufficient storage capacity.

Existing reservoirs are too small to cope with peak demand and population growth, with

limited backup capacity.

Power supply interruptions

Water pumping and treatment rely on electricity. When power fails, water supply is disrupted.

Poor planning and maintenance

Delayed upgrades, slow repairs, and a lack of long-term planning have left the system under strain.

Water quality concerns

When water sources are contaminated or treatment systems fail, supply is reduced even when water is available. In addition, the telemetry system is not operating, meaning we do

not have accurate, real-time information on what is happening in the system.

The result feels like a drought - shortages, restrictions, and uncertainty - but in this case it is largely man-made. With proper maintenance, investment, and planning, much of this could have been avoided.

Our position remains clear: Sedgefield's water challenges are mainly about infrastructure, capacity, and management — not the absence of water itself.



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DIARY DATELINE

Every 2nd Monday
2pm Sedgefield Art Society meets at Lions Club. New members welcome. Patsy 073 256 6021

Every Monday
1:30pm Duplicate Bridge at Catholic Church hall. Enquiries (Whatsapp) to Toni 0722465024.

Wednesdays
8 for 9am Golf Day @ The Links. All members welcome.
4-8pm Mosaic Food Fare
5:15pm Sedgefield Striders Walking / Running time trials on road adjacent to Bowls Club. Beginners welcome.

Thursdays
7am Eden Cycling Club Group Social outside departs Cycle Worx All welcome.
8 for 9am Sedge Gentlemen's Golf @ The Links
12:30pm Social Bridge School at St Anthony's Catholic Church hall All levels welcome. Lessons 12:30, Play from 13:45. Enquiries: Gail 0834577647.
13:15pm Bowls. Tabs in
2:30pm Sedgefield Jukseki Group at Sedge Bowling Club. All welcome. Aniel 072 600 0722

Fridays
8am Ladies Golf @ Links Course

Saturdays
7am Eden Cycling Club Group Social outside departs Cycle Worx. All welcome.
8am-12 Wild Oats Community Farmers' Market
8 for 9am Saturday Competition Golf @ Links Course
8am-2pm Mosaic Market
8am-2pm Scarab Craft Market
13:15pm Bowls. Tabs in.

Saturday
G R Astronomical Society meet @ 3pm every 3rd Saturday at the George Botanical Gardens. 083 743 1690

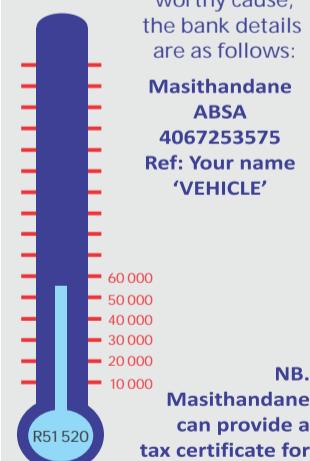
Sundays
7am Eden Cycling Club Group Social outside departs Cycle Worx. All welcome.

Should your association, Charity or group have any forthcoming events please send us details so that we may publish them in our next issue!

MASITHANDANE NEW VEHICLE FUNDRAISER

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LETTERS TO THE EDGE

in published letters and articles are not necessarily those of the management and staff of The EDGE Community Newspaper.

Dear Sedgefield

I am writing this open letter to the firearm owners in and around Sedgefield, as well as the residents of the town that would be Affected by this (which quite frankly is most if not all of us). I'll keep this short and cut to the meat of the issue. The government has been in deliberation about an issue that could potentially threaten our constitutional rights and security, they are attempting to further restrict and outright remove law abiding citizen's access to firearms for the purpose of recreation and more maliciously self-defense. It is being done under the guise as a means to improve public safety, however under any scrutiny it is shown to be nothing more but legislative creep to punish law abiding people for being such. This was attempted in 2021 and was thoroughly rejected by the public at large, and should have been scrapped, but has been attempted to be snuck through bureaucratic back doors without a lot of public knowledge or social media coverage, ignoring

proper process. Why this should bother you even if you don't own nor care about firearms.

First its more attacks on your constitutional rights (the removal of self-defense as a valid motivation is contradictory to our constitution).

Second, criminals are not law abiding by definition and this new amendment will only restrict and punish honest citizens.

Third, this law will affect private security companies as well and restrict their ability to help keep you and your family safe.

Fourth, this amendment will attempt to place more if not all of your safety in the hands of the police. Of course officers are properly trained as it should be, but they are greatly outnumbered. It also cannot be denied with everything coming to light (corruption, underfunding, firearms loss, understaffing, inadequate training, etc.) that they cannot do it alone and rely on security companies

and volunteers (general public) to assist them.

This bill will affect all of South Africa, so please keep your ears open for it and make your voice heard against it. Platforms like DearSA, FreeSA, AfriForum and political parties such as the DA, VFF, etc. and firearms groups such as SAGA are currently opposing and preparing to oppose this bill. There are a few of these platforms that offer petitions to resist this bill and I strongly encourage you all to take a look at the implications of this law and to stand against it.

Regards
Pug-eyes.

In Loving Memory of

Roger Stainforth

1943 - 2025

Roger a greatly loved father, grandfather and friend sadly left us last week.

Roger was a jolly fun-filled character. Laughter followed him everywhere.

Born in England and having spent most of his life in South Africa, Roger considered finding, moving to and living in Sedgefield one of the happiest and luckiest things he ever did.

He was an active community member, a member of Probus, Sedgefield Gentleman's Golf Club, and a committee member of the Sedgefield Island Conservancy. He also spent many hours helping to get the Sedgefield Brewery up and running in its early days. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him. RIP Roger



Believe it and you can achieve it

by Adrienne Bartlett

I'd like to share a story about a group of people, namely the committee of the Cola Myoli Conservancy, who had a dream. At the start of 2025, we met to discuss our projects for the year, and shared a vision of constructing two decks at the top of the Cola parking stairs which lead down to the beach.



We aren't a large Conservancy, so whilst we really loved the idea of having a place that would allow people who weren't able to traverse the stairs, to still be able to enjoy the amazing, therapeutic view of our ocean and beaches, we realised that the cost was more than we could afford. You could almost hear the cogs spinning as we brain stormed this vision.

This being municipal land we engaged with our ward councillor prior to pursuing the dream, to ensure we could take it on as a project.

In late 2025 Paul Dougall, our chairperson agreed to speak to our German community who live in Cola Beach, asking for their input. After a visit to the site and a discussion on the decks, these amazingly generous people offered to pay for the entire project.

of all ages (locals and holiday makers) resting in the seating areas, and there has been wonderful feedback and gratitude.

Initially dreamt of by the committee for the community, and finally brought to fruition by the German community, it really has been a community project!

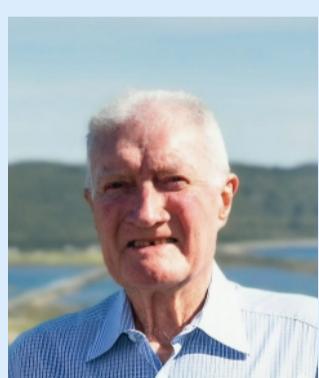
Thank you to everyone who made the dream a reality. This gift will continue to give all the visitors to Cola Beach pleasure for many years to come.

In Loving Memory of

Terry Donovan

6.8.1932 - 4.1.2026

On the 4th of January, 2026 we said goodbye to Terry Donovan. He passed away peacefully at home after a short illness. At 93, he lived a long and good life, rich in experience, love, and stories we'll carry forward. He meant more to us than words can capture, and his absence is already deeply felt. We're holding close the memories, the lessons, and the love he leaves behind.



He will be sorely missed by the whole Donovan family.

Eyeland Neighbourhood Watch



me on the number below. Should any person wish to join our team as a coordinator or a patroller please contact me on the same number.

Eyeland Neighbourhood Watch Chairman
Terry Savage - 082 829 3446.

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- 3 Give your ears time to recover
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- 5 Get regular hearing check-ups
- 6 Keep your ears dry
- 7 Move your body and stay active
- 8 Manage your stress levels

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POLICE NET 828 SUSPECTS DURING SFS OPERATIONS

The strategic deployment of several police units, newly trained Constables in conjunction with other law enforcement agencies, as part of ongoing Safer Festive Season operations yielded a positive impact after 828 suspects were netted in the Garden Route District. These operations which ensure heightened police visibility commenced on Wednesday, 24 December 2025 until 28 December 2025.

Suspects were expected to appear in their respective courts once charged.

The forces deployed remained on the ground to ensure that there were more boots on the ground at malls, shopping centres, beaches and areas where large groups gather. Water safety is key to the general safety of beach-goers and police divers were also deployed along beaches in the Southern Cape to bolster visibility as well as to provide professional assistance to emergency response teams to prevent drownings.



VALENTINE WINE TASTING WITH UNCLE BOB - 12 FEBRUARY



LIONS CLUB - 6.30 FOR 7 PM
R150 PP - LIMITED SEATING
SUPPER: CORONATION CHICKEN, GARLIC BREAD & SALAD
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PLEASE CONTACT PETER 061 560 8242



The forces embarked on stop and search operations, foot patrols, roadblocks, vehicle check points, and blue light patrols. Targeted operations at several illicit drug outlets and stop and search operations resulted in the arrest of 169 suspects for drug related offences (dealing in drugs and possession of drugs). The members confiscated 313 mandrax tablets and 106,83 grams Tik whilst a special focus on alcohol abuse led to the arrest of 8 suspects for selling liquor without a licence during close down operations. Police seized 322,69 litres of alcohol during these operations.

In the meantime, the zero tolerance approach to drunken driving during road safety operations, conducted in conjunction with provincial and local traffic officials, resulted in the arrest of 30 drivers for driving a motor vehicle whilst under the influence of liquor. Other arrests were for serious crimes reported during the period, drunk and disorderly, possession of dangerous weapons and property related crimes.

LIONS KICK OFF 2026 GENEROUSLY

It being Lions International Hunger Awareness week, Sedgefield Club's Project Coordinator, Lion Claire Ellis,

gathered donations for ingredients for the 'Jars of Hope'.

These are upcycled coffee bottles filled with dry soup ingredients ready for cooking. Thanks to the Lions, 45 Jars went to Martie Rooi for her feeding scheme, 25 Jars went to Pastor Mornay Galant, and another 45 jars were handed to Vuyisile Paulie. These

community leaders will ensure that each and every jar will reach someone in need.

The Sedgefield Lions also sent a sum of R4000 to Mossel Bay Lions to assist with their Disaster Relief programme following the devastating fires in that area.



Sedgefield Lions Club
We Serve.

YOUR help helps US help OTHERS

As Sedgefield Lions, we are very involved in our community with numerous projects within the following areas of focus:

Vision • Diabetes • Hunger • Environment • Childhood Cancer • Disaster Relief • Humanitarian Needs • Youth

Meetings are held every third Thursday of the month, 18.30 for 19.00

For more info - mwgrater@iafrica.com

(Reg # 235-744 NPO)

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ADRIAAN

4670 DOVER STREET COLA BEACH

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RXED-1832

CELEST

63 BLESCHOENDER STREET SEDGEFIELD CENTRAL

R3,850,000

RXED-1833

STEFAN

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044 343 1905

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CLASSI-ADS

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NB. Classified adverts for the next issue need to be in by Monday 26th January 2026. Emailed classies will not be placed without payment

4. Announcements

ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS Sedgefield Acorn Group. 079 323 2085 for details.

BOOKS & COFFEE with homebaked treats. We buy quality 2nd hand books. Free WiFi. Deo Gratia 082 9020 649

Garden refuse removal... your affordable solution in Sedge, Knysna Dial a Drum ... 082 808 5984

Sedgefield Mosaic Tours
Masithandane hosts mosaic art tours on Tuesdays and Thursdays. You can hear the stories that inspired the pieces that make up a magical outdoor gallery alongside a water wonderland. Come meet the talented mosaic team, learn about the town's history, people and 'slow town' character. Call or WhatsApp Jacky 0824142133 to book your place.

WANTED: Sedgefield Hospice Shoppe
need your second hand goods. Have a clean out and help others with your unwanted items! Please give them a call on 044 343 1722

6. Building & Related Services

Architectural Draughting Services. Phone Tracy 082 695 3119

Bay Hill Frameless Glass & Aluminium. Leading Frameless Glass Specialist operating from Stilbaai to Plett. 20 years experience. Precision work & professional service. info@bayhillsa.co.za

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Decks, timber alterations, pergolas, garden sheds, tiny homes, cabins ~ all things timber! 30 yrs construction experience in the Garden Route. References. Call 069 404 2937

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Tools, tiling, paint, varnish, electrical, plumbing, hardware Sedge Hardware 343 1960

7. Businesses

PASTEL SALES, setup and training. Call C A Mather Accounting. 044 343 2202 or 083 779 7934

9. Clothing

Embroidered burpers & face cloths - handmade. Mariana 082 771 0694

10. Computers

Computers Desktop, Laptop, Network & Internet support. Call Ken Hampson 072 111 7791

PASTEL SALES, setup and training. Call C A Mather Accounting. 044 343 2202 or 083 779 7934

12. Education & Tuition

MUSIC LESSONS Piano, music theory and clarinet. All ages from beginners to advanced. Please contact Ann Carroll on 083 275 7576, adrcarroll@gmail.com

SINGING LESSONS from classical to contemporary, and musical theatre. All welcome. Contact Lynne Brown. 083 660 4749

Supportive Learning for Ages 5-12 Is your child struggling with Phonics /Spelling, Reading, Maths? I offer one-on-one assisted learning in fun, friendly and focused sessions. Online or in Studio. Contact Margie on 083 629 9471 to discuss rates and book a free consultation.

13. Electrical

HEUNIS Plumbing, Electrical and PV Solar. All Maintenance & Construction Qualified in both trades COC Certificates. Call 082 972 3911 manie.heunis@gmail.com

14. Employment Offered

Sales assistant/manager required who is passionate in natural health. Contact 079 506 3396

15. Employment Wanted

Jodan, gardener available for 2 days. Please call - 074 917 6727

Carer - home based

Thandi - 074 330 9262 Ref

Domestic

Emma - 072 455 7797
Lincy - 078 494 3118 Refs. Avail 3 days
Mercy - 078 486 8684

Thandi - 083 746 4110
Thomas - 078 873 3402
Wongani - 064 091 2621

Gardening

Charles - 064 091 2621

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email: cathy@camather.co.za
address: 14 Swallow Drive, Sedgefield

Karim - 083 774 0992 Refs

18. For Sale

Retainer lite blocks ~ affordable, light, easier to work with and quicker to install. Ready Bricks 0686006557

Rust Stain Remover Fabric. Various sizes available from Edge offices. Cash sales. Enq. Verity 076 619 3659

19. Home & Garden

AQUAMAN POOL CARE Service Maintenance. Pump Repairs. Call 044 343 2327 / 072 704 2872

Garden Refuse Removal for as little as R90 per month, 082 808 5984. www.dialadrumknysna.co.za

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OUTENIQUA ORCHID NURSERY is open Wednesdays from 10-1pm. Blooming orchids and potting medium for sale. We repot your plants. Now at 34 Napier Street, Blanco, George. 044-870 8150

Tree Felling & all other shrub & tree maintenance, including Stump removal, palm pruning, crown lifting, site clearing, tree care. Call or WhatsApp Matthew SGD TREE FELLING on 064 129 4129

We do tree felling, bush clearing, plot clearing, paving waste removal, and other related garden works. Call Godfrey on 078 337 7786

20. Health & Beauty

Aloe Ferox Products whole range in stock @ factory prices. The Aloe Lady : 071 362 0433 @ Wild Oats Market on Saturdays.

Any problems with epilepsy or other disabilities? EPILEPSY SA on 044 382 2155 or visit Off Rio Road, Knysna. We can help!

Norma's Soy & Beeswax Natural Skincare @ Mosaic Market on Saturdays. Cell 084 274 2590 normadutoit@gmail.com

Sedgefield Pharmacy, Woodpecker Mall. Tel 044 343 1628, Fax 343 1110. Mon-Fri 8am-6pm, Sat 8am-1pm, Sun & Pub Holidays 9:30am-12.

Res-Q-Care Patient Personalised Care - Caregivers, Fragile Care, Alzheimer's Care & Post-operative care. Contact 084 922 8524

Silver Scissors Unisex Hairstylists - 21 Tiptol Street, Sedge. 072 205 7985

22. Home Improvements

DAN THE HANDYMAN General Repairs & Maintenance, Tiling, Painting, Glazing, Carpentry, Plumbing, Roofing & Soak Ways. No job too small. 084 400 5437. Luke 072 022 5977

JIMMY CATER Quality painting and decorating. Free quotes. 082 773 9782

25. Motor Cars/Bikes

Auto Mobile Diagnostics & Services - We collect, service, deliver to you. Call Cecil 083 701 3655

27. Pets & Livestock

All pet food or donations for Animal Welfare 044 384 1603 to be dropped off at Simply Vets or Knysna Vet Clinic.

Knysna Animal Welfare office 044 384 1603, emergency 073 461 9825. (24hrs)

28. Plumbing

Heunis Plumbing & Electrical. All Maintenance & Construction Qualified in both trades COC Certificates. **Solar Geysers.** Call 082 972 3911 manie.heunis@gmail.com

Klaus Schulz Plumbing. PIRB Registered. Does all work personally. Locals since 2006. 044 343 2114 / 073 345 6110

Plumbing all services. 083 226 2261

Plumbing Hardware @ Sedge Hardware

31. Security

JVM AUTOMATION - Alarm systems. Automated Garage Doors, Gates, Remotes & Batteries. Installations, replacements & repairs. Sedgefield based. Call Jaco Venter 072 083 1977

32. Services Offered

BATHROOM GURU - All alterations. Plumbing, tiling, all fittings, Walk in Showers, Specialised bathrooms for aged/disabled. Anthony 074 708 4738

COP - Community Orientated Policing. Fighting Crime in Sedgefield. 074 506 7242

Garden refuse removal - bag/ drum/ bakkie ... Dial a Drum ... 082 808 5984

Cindy's Cleaning Services - Drop off Maids, Supervised Team Cleans, Holiday Homes. Competitive rates. Contact Casey on 066 068 5851 or email caseyleeowen393@gmail.com

Karen's Holiday Home Management while you are not at your holiday home, we will be! Regular monthly checks, reports on all aspects of your home. Karefree Home Management. Call 072 586 1086.

M J P HOME MAINTENANCE - Roof cleaning, painting, deck maintenance, gutter cleaning, wall extensions, window sanding & repairs and fencing. Call Martin 071 558 8581

33. Sports & Leisure

PRIVATE TENNIS COACHING with Martin in Sedgefield. All levels. Bring your own racquet, balls supplied. Coaching fees R150 hour + R50 court visitors fee. Call to book 071 558 8581



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LEGAL NOTICES

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Full name: CESIRA SIVIERI
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Last Address: 12 Disa Street, Sedgefield 6573 Western Cape
will be open for inspection at the office of the Master, Cape Town, and the Magistrate's Court Knysna, for a period of 21 days from the date of the publication of this advertisement.

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PUBLICLY SPEAKING

by Levaal Davis

Earning Community Trust: The Foundation Local Government Forgot to Build.

South Africa's promise of participatory democracy relies on a crucial element of community trust that many municipalities neglect. Our progressive legal framework, although ranked 36th on the World Justice Project (WJP) Rule of Law Index, cannot fix the declining trust between local government and communities.

Without this vital relationship, even the most advanced participation mechanisms become empty gestures that widen the gap. It is not uncommon for municipalities across South Africa to request feedback from residents on policies, processes, bylaws, or budgets, but they frequently do not provide any responses to these comments, or they provide responses that are generic and lack substance.

Section 152(1)(e) of the Constitution obligates local government to encourage community involvement in municipal matters. The Municipal Systems Act, in section 16, outlines methods for public participation, including meetings and consultative sessions. These processes enable communities to influence their development by giving inputs into Integrated Development Plans (IDPs) and performance management systems.

South African municipalities use various public participation mechanisms, primarily ward

committees, established by the Municipal Structures Act, to enhance community involvement and improve basic services. In addition, they engage residents through IDP representative forums, mayoral imbizos, public hearings, and digital platforms.

However, recent research from the COMPACT project, which studied 12 municipalities, highlights significant limitations in these participation mechanisms. Despite their existence on paper, these mechanisms often lack impact.

Municipal public participation faces significant challenges and barriers. Research in Ekurhuleni Municipality highlights a demographic imbalance, where mostly indigent residents engage, while middle-class citizens are often uninterested. A 2024 study in Tzaneen Municipality revealed frustration among participants due to committee leaders lacking essential knowledge of municipal service processes, creating a disconnect that affects both communities and officials.

In Beaufort West Municipality (2016-2019), the ward committee system was found to favour politically connected decisions over genuine community input. The study recommended overhauling the legislative framework and the role of politicians to improve engagement.

Additional research on informal settlements shows that government-led engagements often follow a ticking the box approach rather than enabling meaningful participation.



Geographic and socio-economic factors intensify these issues, with rural communities facing transportation costs and language barriers, and residents of informal settlements feeling silenced in participation spaces like ward committees.

Municipalities often erode community trust by treating consultation as a mere compliance exercise instead of genuine engagement. Common issues include scheduling meetings with insufficient notice, at inconvenient times, or without proper preparation, signalling that community input is seen as a burden rather than a valued resource.

Traditional public meetings have become less effective, especially in larger communities, as some residents prefer online engagement, yet many municipalities cling to outdated methods, which these communities interpret as indifference.

Most critically, municipalities often do not show how community input has influenced decisions, creating a "feedback gap" that breeds negativity. When communities see their contributions ignored, it builds a wall between them and the municipalities meant to serve them.

Until municipalities remember that trust is not demanded but earned through listening, responding, and acting on what communities say, participatory democracy will remain a foundation that was never truly built.

A TERN UP FOR THE BOOKS

On 22 December, while patrolling Lookout Beach in Plettenberg Bay as part of the Plett Stranding Network (PSN) program, CapeNature Senior Marine Ranger Chanel Visser and Conserve Eden Intern Rani van der Vlist (a Dutch student completing a 5-month internship) came across the bodies of deceased terns. Closer inspection revealed that one of the birds, a Sandwich Tern, had a ring (No. DB03624) from the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO). When requesting data on the bird from BTO, they were informed that the Tern had been ringed as a nestling on 5 June 2000 at Lady's Lake, Wexford, Ireland!

This meant the bird had lived for just over 25.5 years (9331 days) with a direct line distance between its ringing site and recovery site of 10 015km.

"Imagine the story this bird could tell of traversing almost the entire length of our planet every year for the last 25 years!" said Conservation Director Dr Mark Brown.

"Of course, it flew a less linear route each year on



Buzzards and Forest Buzzards.

Conserve Eden also conducts standard ringing, which involves assigning a unique individual number to each bird. They ring approximately 1,000 birds in Plettenberg Bay annually, including a few hundred Kelp Gulls in collaboration with CapeNature.

The PSN is a group of volunteers who record and respond to any marine animal strandings on local beaches, ensuring that sick or injured animals are taken to local rehabilitation centres or veterinary clinics for proper treatment and care, while also collecting data from dead animals that wash up on our beaches.

Conserve Eden is a small local NPO based in Plettenberg Bay, working on a range of important research and conservation programmes.

SEDGEFIELD GREEN DUMP A FIRE HAZARD ONCE AGAIN

Sedgefield's Municipal Green (Garden Waste) Dump is once again seemingly jam-packed to overflowing, getting local residents up in arms about the fire risk.

Further, local residents and garden service operators are complaining that vehicle access is nigh on impossible because there is no room left to manoeuvre. "It has to be seen to be believed," said one resident, "HUGE piles of garden trimmings, branches and grass that stretch over hectares of land. And close to a residential area and an old age home too. If that catches fire we're going to be in big trouble."

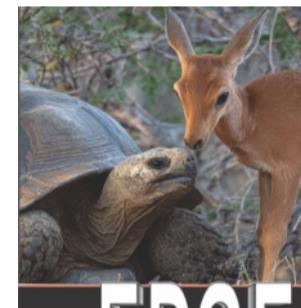
This seems to be a problem that regularly raises its head - with the last report (in The EDGE) being September last year, after which the site was swiftly cleared.

But it is very much full again, and as wild fires are making headlines all over the Western Cape, there's no doubt that urgent action needs to be taken.

Ratepayers Chair Kevin Barnes is extremely frustrated about this issue. He said towards the end of last year he had escalated complaints about the green waste site all the way to Provincial level, and the Western Cape Government Director: Waste Management, Saliem Haider, had inspected the site personally and insisted the Municipality made clearing it a priority.

When Barnes sent a follow up report earlier this month, pointing out that the fire hazard was very much still there, the director responded with some surprise, saying that it had been indicated to him at the Knysna Municipal Joint Operations Centre (JOC) of 29 Dec 2025 that the issues at Sedgefield's site had been resolved, and that he need not be concerned.

"Quite the contrary," Haider told Barnes on hearing his report, "I am very concerned and hence asking my team to work with Green Scorpions in addressing this matter."



EDGE
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
Keeping
conservation
conversations
going since 1998

WHAT TO DO IF SOMEONE GOES MISSING

When a person suddenly disappears it can leave family members and/or close friends both bewildered and alarmed, especially if it is abnormal behaviour for the missing person. But what are the first steps to be taken?

According to information from Sedgefield's Community Oriented Policing (COP), when someone goes missing, it is best to act timely as despite common thought, you do not actually have to wait 24 hours.

They submitted the following practical step by step guide.

1. Act immediately

- Trust your instincts. If the disappearance is out of character start taking action right away
- Call or visit the local police station and report the person missing as soon as you suspect something is wrong. (SAPS Sedgefield 044 3026702/ 044 3026703)

2. Gather key information

Have this information ready for police and search teams:

- Full name and nicknames of missing person
- Age, gender and ID number

(if known)

- Recent photo
- Clothing worn when last seen
- Last known location and time
- Phone number(s) and social media accounts
- Medical conditions, medications or vulnerabilities
- Vehicle details (if applicable)

3. When you report to the police (SAPS)

- Insist on opening an official missing person case (SAPS 55)
- Ask for the case number and investigating officers details
- Request that details of the missing person be circulated locally and nationally if need be
- Update police immediately with any new information

4. Contact family, friends and workplaces

- Call or message anyone who may have seen or heard from the person
- Check:
 - The homes of family members and friends
 - Workplaces or schools
 - Hospitals and clinics

5. Check digital and financial

activity

If you have access or permission:

- Call the person's phone and send messages
- If you have access check a device location using tools like Find My Phone

Check last activity on any social media accounts

- Monitor recent bank card or phone activity (via the bank/network if necessary)

6. Organise a search (if appropriate)

- Coordinate with police and local CPF before starting large searches.

Focus on:

- Last known location
- Regular walking routes
- Parks, open fields, rivers, and abandoned areas

Keep a log of who is searching and where they have searched to avoid duplication

7. Use social media responsibly

- Share a clear missing person poster with as much detail (If possible try get an official poster from SAPS and CPF):
 - Photo

Last seen details

Police case number

Contact details

Avoid sharing rumours or unverified information

Remove posts if police advise doing so

8. Contact support organisations

- Local community policing forums or neighbourhood watch groups

9. If the person is found

- Inform the police immediately so the case can be closed (If a missing person docket was opened the person who was missing will need to go to the closest police station to prove that they are found and safe)

- Update social media posts to prevent unnecessary panic

Important reminders

- There is no waiting period to report a missing person
- Children, elderly persons, and vulnerable adults are treated as high priority
- Stay organised, calm and verify any information before putting it out on social media.

ONE STOP
LOCAL PLUMBING & MAINTENANCE
IF IT'S NOT PLUMB, IT'S NOT DONE
CONTACT US
072 033 5902

THE EDGE ON HEALTH

SEDGEFIELD PHARMACY

Mon-Fri 8am-6pm • Sat 8am-1pm • Sun & Pub Hols 9.30am-12pm

ARRIE NEL
PHARMACY GROUP

FREE DELIVERIES

044 343 1628 | A/H 082 804 0115

Physiotherapy



Diane Parker
Bsc Physio (Wits)

Karen Williams
BSc Physio (Stell)

8 Fraser Street, Sedgefield
044 343 3188 Cell 064 832 0263
sedgephysio@gmail.com



Drop In
MATWORK
Pilates
Classes R150

WhatsApp for
daily timetable
084 567 9809

CHOOSE A HEALTHY 2026

Each year, if we don't get enough exercise and don't eat a healthy diet, we gradually gain weight, which can lead to obesity and negatively impact our health. Common contributors include highly processed foods and sedentary lifestyles.

When it comes to healthy habits, consistency is essential. Without it, the body struggles to adapt, and positive behaviours are less likely to become lasting habits.

Habit #1: Be more active, especially after every meal

- One of the simplest and most effective ways to support your health doesn't require a gym membership or long workouts.
- Being committed to moving your body - especially after meals - can improve blood sugar, metabolism and overall well-being.
- Taking a short walk after a meal can help lower blood sugar levels. Even walking for just 10 minutes has been shown to reduce blood sugar, and doing this regularly can decrease the risk of developing diabetes.

This habit is easy to incorporate into daily life and may involve the whole family taking a walk together, spending a few minutes outdoors or walking the dog.

Physical activity after a meal helps prevent going to bed with elevated blood sugar. It's also a great way to get fresh air and feel good after eating.

Making activity fun can help it stick. Families can dance while cleaning up or play games outside. Turning movement into quality time makes it easier to maintain as a habit.

Habit #2: Get enough sleep

- Sleep plays a critical role in health. But balance is key.
- The sweet spot is not too little, but also not too much. People who sleep fewer than five hours or more than eight to nine hours tend to have worse blood sugar over time.
- Insufficient sleep can also lead to overeating, resulting in weight gain.
- Prioritising consistency, sleep hygiene is an essential part of staying healthy.

Habit #3: Follow a healthy diet

Diet is another cornerstone of health, and whilst there are numerous options of healthy eating available online, do use common sense to choose a sustainable diet that will suit your needs, rather than a 'quick fix'

promising instant results. For example:- Eating a variety of colourful fruits and vegetables - often called "eating the rainbow"- is a simple way to improve nutrition.

Having a dietary pattern is also beneficial. The Mediterranean diet, which emphasises plant-based foods, olive oil, fish, legumes, and nuts, is particularly effective for heart health.

The DASH diet (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension) is another option, focusing on 5 to 10 servings of fruits and vegetables daily.

The newer MIND diet combines elements of both the Mediterranean and DASH diets and may help reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and cognitive decline.

If you aren't sure which would work better for you, please do speak to your doctor or a dietitian.

There are some 'no-brainer' actions you can take which will make quite a difference on their own, such as reducing sugar and ultra-processed foods. Just one additional serving of a sugar-sweetened beverage per day can increase your risk of diabetes by 13 to 27%. Replacing highly processed foods with fibre-rich and whole foods can make a significant difference.

Pilates & Iyengar Yoga

R100 per class
Vanessa 084 551 2356 (WhatsApp)

Total Foot Care
Sr. Gillian Williamson
071 877 2638 • 072 672 4162

Small, daily actions will help you achieve your health goals

For 2026, remember that every decision counts, but intention without action yields no results. Small, consistent choices around diet and physical activity add up over time, helping you improve your health and, ultimately, live a longer, happier and higher-quality life.

Source uchealth.org

Fynbos on Sea
SIMBAVATI
LODGE COLLECTION

Spa & Wellness Centre

SPECIAL FOR LOCALS

We are excited to announce that for locals, up until 18 January, all treatments are at a 40% discount, and all spa facilities are included in this discount.

Daily Opening Hours:
10:00am to 8:30pm
until 18 January 2026.
We look forward to welcoming and giving you the ultimate relaxation experience!

Booking essential
069 300 8987
fynbos@simbavati.com

Sedgefield Dentist / Tandarts

Dr Francois Rousseau
B.Ch.D., PDD (Implantology)(Stell)
Oral Hygienist Available

9 Tarentaal Road, Cnr Tarentaal Rd & Flamingo St
Tel: (044) 343 3124 all hours

HUG HOUSE APPEAL

Masithandane Care and Respite Centre is a registered private Health Care Establishment with the Department of Health - Certificate 349.

The Centre offers 24/7 cost-effective, compassionate short-term care for patients with chronic illnesses, TB HIV and AIDS, patients who need post-surgical care and rehabilitation as well as terminal and respite care.

It has been operational since May 2017 and is also fondly known as HUG (House under Grace or Huis uit Genade.)

It is a custom-designed home-from-home care facility, and allows patients from Sedgefield to be cared for and recover close to home.

51 PATIENTS ADMITTED TO HUG FOR 24/7 CARE in 2025

Sr Brigid also does Community Care and support in the form of placing carers in private homes,

monitoring and assisting with chronic care needs, wound and catheter care.

As a non-profit organisation, admission is open to all. We are appealing for financial assistance to cover the costs of those patients who cannot pay for services through lack of financial income.

If you can help, the bank details are Masithandane ABSA 4067253575

All contributions qualify for a Section 18a Tax Certificate so please make your reference HUG + your contact number.

Did you know?

If you are having surgery and need 24/7 care for a period thereafter, Masithandane Care and Respite Centre is a registered Private Health Care Establishment with the Department of Health (Certificate 349). The Care and Respite Centre, also fondly known as HUG (House under Grace/Huis uit Genade), will allow you to recover closer to home, family and friends

MASITHANDANE
Care and Respite Centre

For more information please call or WhatsApp Sr Brigid 0835002425

9			6		7	
1	2	8	5			
	6			5		
		4		8		3
	7	3	9			4
3	4					
6	2	1	8	4	3	7
4	2	6	3		8	
8	3		4	6	2	

SAMURAI

8	4	1	7	3	5	1	6	8											
7	1				5	6	8												
6	2	5			3		5	4	7										
6	9		5	3	4					7	6	2	5						
8			3	5	7					2	4	8	9	3					
3				8	1					2					1				
5	2	3			9										6	3	2		
			8	7	4					5	6	2			1		4		
7	4									4	2		6		8				

1. Each
Samurai
Sudoku
puzzle
consists of 5
overlapping
"classic" 9x9
Sudoku sub
puzzles.

3	5	8		4			7	6
4			7	5		2		1
	1		9					
8				9	4			3
1						2	9	
		2	5					
			2	1	4			8
6	4	9				3		
7				1		4		

SUDOKU

2. Each 9x9
sub-puzzle
must be
solved
according to
the rules of
Sudoku.

CHURCH SERVICES

Afrikaanse Protestantse Kerk
Cearn Saal, Leisure Isle, Knysna
10am Service
Christo Matthee 083 769 9313

AGS Lighuis
Kontak : Kerkkantoor 044 382 6551
Sekretariesse 072 189 0215

Anglican Chapelry of St. Aidan's,
Wilderness
Peter Mundell 060 985 9113
or Paul McMillan 083 273 2601

Church of Christ
Lynn van der Walt.
Tel: 076 068 2900

Church of the Resurrection
Service 9.30am
Petronella Buis 084 252 1698

Church Without Walls (WOW)
Red Shed, Scarab Market
Sunday 9.00am
Schalk van As - 082 413 8363
(Please bring a chair)

Deo Gloria
Past Danie & Karin de Bruyn
044 343 1301 or 084 714 7023

Elohim gemeente
Kerkkantoor: 082 896 6387
Pastoor: Hansie Strydom

Evangelisch-Lutherische
Gemeinde Südkap
Southern Cape Evangelical
Lutheran Congregation
Rondevleehoogte
Peter Lor 076 649 3050

Knysna Presbyterian Church
Office 044 382 7722
Rev Tim Hawkridge
083 324 3562

Lakeside Baptist Church
Sunday 9am
3 Duiwe Laan
Pastor J D - 066 160 7029

Ned. Hervormde Kerk Sedgefield/Knysna
Erediens Sondag 11vm
Goukamma Kerk gebou by Riverdeck
Buffelsbaai pad.
Dr Wim Dreyer - 082 859 6876

THESE ARE THE CHURCH
DETAILS WE HAVE ON FILE.
PLEASE SEND UPDATED
DETAILS. THERE IS LIMITED
SPACE SO PLEASE ONLY LIST
THE TIME AND CONTACT NO.

New Apostolic Church
Enq: Anthony Davis - 083 641 5027

NG Kerk Sedgefield: 08.45am
Karata: 10.30am
Ds. Marius Coetzee 079 873 1382
Kerkkantoor (044) 343 2033

NG Kerk Die Vlie, Hoekwil
Ds. Dawie le Roux 084 532 9958
Kantoor: 078 965 3651

Pinkster Protestantse Kerk
Ouderling Jakobus Grootboom
078 158 2042
Chris Solomons 071 617 5630

Sedgefield Christian Church
Sunday services @ 09h00
Kairos Jnr & Snr Youth SAT 6pm-8pm
Pastor Juan & Tammy Pienaar
081 749 2534
info@sedgefieldchurch.co.za

Sedgefield Seventh-day
Adventist Church
Ph 081 270 7212

St Anthony's Catholic Church
Cnr Sysie / Flamingo Streets
Find us on FB Debbie - 083 242 2808

St Francis United Church
Sunday - 9:30 - Family Service
Teen Church & Junior Church
Every 4th Sunday -
09h30 - Communion Service
Cnr Swallow Drive / Pelican Lane
All welcome! 044 343 1702
Pastor Graeme Mercer 082 926 3798

Suid-Kaap Christen Familie
Pastor: Leon & Elmarie Terblanche
081 271 1551.

Assist Pastor: André & Soné Rossouw
072 341 7099

Wilderness Christian Fellowship
Pastor: Steve Grewar
044 877 0307 or 083 594 7505

THE EDGE'S WEEKLY PODCAST



It's EASY!
Scan this QR
code to get the
**WHERE
TO
FIND IT
SEDGEFIELD**
Directory on
your PC or phone



TED'S BRAIN CRUNCHER

Across

1. Sounds like a tailor-made order to get it right. (4,2)
4. Time the European Football League happens inside – but flatten the ball! (7)
9. Infect our discombobulation with candied fruit! (9)
10. Adding some origanum, a mild meaty flavour results. (5)
11. Student quite the looker! (5)
12. Replacement headlamps would take a dimmer view of such covering. (9)
- 13&15. Would they mind arresting you? (7,6)
17. Inaction keeps most of the list as is. (6)
19. Coloured fellow took another path. (7)
22. Mostly prefer to end a popular vote. (9)
24. Little builders around the beginning made redundant. (3,2)
26. Singular on marriage. (5)
27. Clothes-rail experiences unnecessary extras. (7-2)
28. The innocent expression of a messy baker, so we were told. (3-4)
29. Pet swim has a brush with internal failure of engine? (6)

Down

1. Turned over the top card and won! (7)
2. In a clever play on words, you said – 'It's a new day.' (5)
3. Secret police hold stolen valuables, though there were some instances of overflow. (9)
4. Imagine Maerd! (5,2)
5. Fuse blown starts duels between warring parties. (5)
6. Edits of the initial audio-visual Alan checked caused the crashing downfall. (9)
7. Stepped out, very much looking forward to dropping of charge #1. (6)
8. Fellow alien shot. (6)
14. Not joining the queue for bad behaviour. (3,2,4)
16. 'Student 1's lies - the beginning of being the least
17. Would they mind arresting you? (7,6)
18. Being coordinated sounds like childish description of Titanic demise. (7)
19. Offers online teaching. (6)
20. Try just less than 30g then beat. (7)
21. Common with sharing coffee and flour. (6)
23. Is it right for Andrea to get a little 'frisky'? (5)
25. Musical arrangement on toast. (5)

SOLUTIONS FOR LAST ISSUE

Across: 1. Bachelor 5. Taught 9. Corpuses 10. Doctor 12. Temperature 15. Basic 17. Unitarian 18. Cambridge 19. Ducat 20. Nanoscience 24. At once 25. Cabarets 2. Master 27. Educated

Down: 1. Back to back 2. Chromosome 3. Etude 4. Over abundant 6. Aforesaid 7. Gate 8. Term 11. Business card 13. Discontent 14. Unstressed 16. Chronicle 21. Isaac 22. Maam



TOPS & TAGS DRIVE

Help collect and recycle plastic bottle tops & bread tags and give the gift of movement. In exchange, wheelchairs will be provided to disadvantaged members of the community.

Some drop off points are at: SAM Charity shop, Ana's Organic, and Mosaic Village.

Let us keep plastic out of the oceans and put it to good use!

A standard wheelchair is funded through 1750 kg of bottle tops or 350 kg of bread tags.

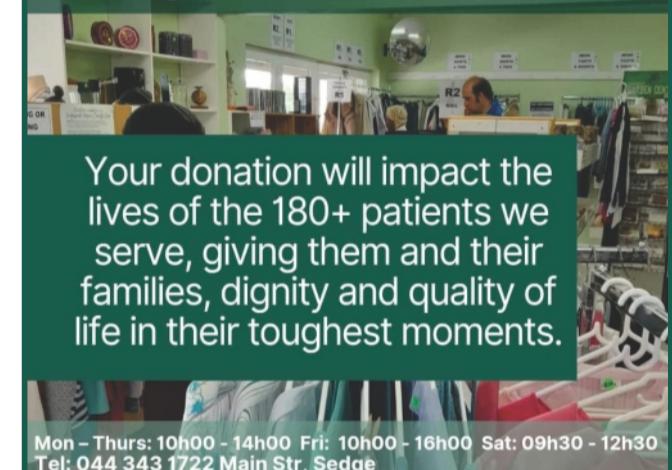
As a rule of thumb, we always tell Sweethearts that "if you can drink the product, you can keep the lid."

The Sweethearts Foundation



Knysna Sedgefield HOSPICE

Sedge Hospice Charity Shop



Your donation will impact the lives of the 180+ patients we serve, giving them and their families, dignity and quality of life in their toughest moments.

Mon - Thurs: 10h00 - 14h00 Fri: 10h00 - 16h00 Sat: 09h30 - 12h30
Tel: 044 343 1722 Main Str, Sedge

SEDGEFIELD BRIDGE CLUB

Monday 5 January 2026
1st. Jeannie & Mark 59.8%
2nd. Keiran & Terry 57.29%
3rd Paddy & Bernard 53.13%

Monday 12 January 2026
1st. Keiran & Terry 70.83%
2nd. Rodney & Paul 52.08%
3rd. Irene & Linda 51.39%



The Wine Ghost

The WG (Wine Ghost) tasted - KWV VS Potstill Brandy

The WG kicks off 2026 with a different and quite interesting tasting.

The bottle has an impressive, attention-drawing front label, with gold and embossed lettering.

The back label offers concise, yet in-depth tasting notes. Abv. 40%. The brandy has a golden amber colour, with very pronounced legs.

Nosing this brandy brought a lot of aromas forward. Red delicious apples, caramel, vanilla, honey, stewed dried peaches and cassia bark were experienced.

When tasted, honey, tobacco (cigarette box) and dried apricots and peaches were prominent. This potstill brandy has a long mouth feel, with tastes of dried fruit and honey lingering in the mouth.

In conclusion, the WG was very impressed with this flavourful brandy. Enjoy neat or with 1 or 2 ice cubes. Sip slowly to unlock all the flavours. Price range: R350 - R400.

In Vino Veritas till next time.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
Face-to-face Meeting
Monday 7.00pm
Catholic Church, Sedgefield
Flamingo Street gate entrance



Newcomers Welcome!
for more info call
079 323 2085

THE SPORTS EDGE

Off the Mat

Sedge Bowling Club News



"Welcome to 2026 - the year when bowls will once again teach us patience, humility, and the fine art of creative excuses. Perfect training for life in the New Year!"

Rollbokke up and at them

South Africa has enjoyed a solid showing at the 2026 Ambassador Cruise Line World Indoor Bowls Championships at Hopton-on-Sea, England.

Jason Evans reached the men's singles quarter-finals, while Esme Kruger won her opening match in the ladies singles before bowing out in the quarters. Well done to both - proudly flying the SA flag. You go, guys!

In the pairs formats, South African entrants unfortunately exited early, but valuable experience (and a few hard lessons) were gained.

What's brewing in our district

Eden Bowls

The 2026 Eden Singles Competition tees off on 17 January, featuring:

- 10 Novices (3 Ladies, 7 Men)
- 5 Open players (2 Ladies, 3 Men)
- 15 Veterans (7 Ladies, 8 Men)

Good luck to all our Sedgies - travel safely, bowl well, and most importantly, enjoy it!

With Eden circulars flying faster than a ditch-headed bowl, 2026 promises to be a bumper year for bowls in our piece of paradise with nominations and entries open for:

- **2026 Louries Squad** (trials starting in March)
- **National U15, U18 & U25 Championships** - 29 & 30 March, Bloemfontein
- **2026 Personal Trust All Cape** - 3 to 23 March

The accolades are out there, Sedgies - let's go grab them!



Eden Social

The Plett Ladies Day takes place on 5 February, themed *Black & White, Polka Dots, and Stars & Stripes*. Show them that unmistakable Slow Town style on the greens and on the ramp, ladies!

Sedgefield Bowling Club – Drawn Pairs

Our first club competition of the year kicks off on 13 January, with semi-finals and finals on 10 February. Best of luck to all competitors, and sincere thanks to Neels Theron, Renata Raath and Ros Macmillan for the hard work behind the scenes - excellence doesn't happen

by accident.

Sedge Social

The ever-fabulous Sedgefield Lovely Ladies Group had their first game, gathering and glamor last Friday. Judging by the photos, a very good time was had by all!

"In a case that ended in court, A bowler bowled regularly short. His skip, though not really sad, Eventually, went totally mad - So if you can bowl longer, you ought."

That's a wrap - see you all on the mat!

Sedgefield Striders TIME TRIAL Wednesdays @ 5.30pm on Wally van der Walt Street adjacent to Sedgefield Bowls Club Beginner runners/walkers welcome.

SEND SPORTS RESULTS OR ACHIEVEMENTS
TO editor@edgenews.co.za.
Please keep sporting editorial brief in order to enable us to include everyone.

TIDE TABLE

Wed Jan 14 2026

low tides 06:43 19:25

high tides 01:03 13:05

sunrise 05:32 sunset 19:43

Thu Jan 15 2026

low tides 07:38 20:05

high tides 01:55 13:53

sunrise 05:33 sunset 19:43

Fri Jan 16 2026

low tides 08:21 20:40

high tides 02:35 14:33

sunrise 05:34 sunset 19:42

Sat Jan 17 2026

low tides 08:57 21:13

high tides 03:09 15:09

sunrise 05:53 sunset 19:42

Sun Jan 18 2026

low tides 09:31 21:43

high tides 03:40 15:43

sunrise 05:36 sunset 19:42

Mon Jan 19 2026

low tides 10:03 22:14

high tides 04:10 16:15

sunrise 05:37 sunset 19:41

Tue Jan 20 2026

low tides 10:36 22:44

high tides 04:40 16:48

sunrise 05:38 sunset 19:41

14 Jan - 27 Jan 2026

• Full Moon 2 February 2026

Wed Jan 21 2026

low tides 11:09 23:16

high tides 05:11 17:22

sunrise 05:391 sunset 19:41

Thu Jan 22 2026

low tides 11:45 23:50

high tides 05:44 17:57

sunrise 05:40 sunset 19:40

Fri Jan 23 2026

low tides 12:24

high tides 06:19 18:37

sunrise 05:41 sunset 19:40

Sat Jan 24 2026

low tides 00:27 13:08

high tides 07:00 19:21

sunrise 05:42 sunset 19:39

Sun Jan 25 2026

low tides 01:10 14:02

high tide 07:47 20:16

sunrise 05:43 sunset 19:39

Mon Jan 26 2026

low tides 02:04 15:14

high tide 08:46 21:30

sunrise 05:44 sunset 19:38

Tue Jan 27 2026

low tides 03:22 16:47

high tide 10:05 23:09

sunrise 05:45 sunset 19:37

SEND SPORTS RESULTS OR ACHIEVEMENTS TO editor@edgenews.co.za. Please keep sporting editorial brief in order to enable us to include everyone.

NEXT EDGE: Wednesday 28 January 2026 - Issue 732

PLEASE NOTE OUR DEADLINES

(Careful, they tend to fly by VERY quickly)

Display Ads: Email editor@edgenews.co.za by 23 January 2026

Classifieds: (Stuff for sale, jobs, get-rich-quick schemes, secret treasure hints)

Email accounts@edgenews.co.za by Monday 26 January 2026

KINDLY NOTE: Due to the epic craziness of life as we currently know it, our EDGE office may not always be open.
Please call 072 516 4701

SEDGEFIELD

OFFICE 044 343 1287

EMAIL sedgefield@pamgolding.co.za

JOINT MANDATE



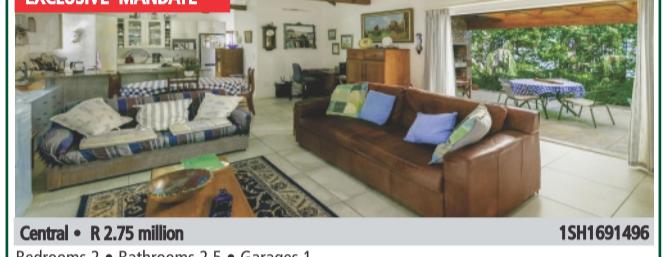
Kingfisher Creek • R 2.8 million

Vacant Erf • 929m²

Vacant stand in prime position, with spectacular views.

Hilna 082 722 4611 • Tania 062 974 8899

EXCLUSIVE MANDATE



Central • R 2.75 million

Bedrooms 2 • Bathrooms 2.5 • Garages 1

Stylish and spacious home with lovely garden in gated estate.

Hilna 082 722 4611 • Tania 062 974 8899

TO RENT



The Island • R 21,000 p/m

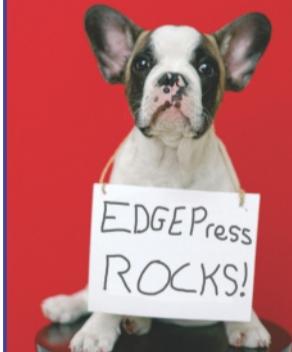
Bedrooms 3 • Bathrooms 2 • Garages 2

Fully furnished home with pool in quiet setting. Easy walking distance to the lagoon.

Peet 084 811 9973

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E-BIKE RENTALS



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