

COMMUNITY STANDS AGAINST MURDER SUSPECT'S BAIL

The Garden Route community remains gripped by the tragic murder of former Plettenberg Bay detective Anneke “Nicky” van Heerden, as her alleged killer, 53-year-old local driftwood artist Bevan van Druten, formerly of Sedgefield, returned to court on Monday 26 January for a bail hearing. Unfortunately proceedings were stalled and the decision as to whether or not he will be allowed out on bail was pushed to Thursday, 29 January.

According to a SAPS report, Van Heerden’s fatally injured body was found at approximately 22.30 on 18 January, at Keurbooms Beach near Rivertides, after reports of a woman screaming had been made by neighbours. She was lying beside a vehicle registered to Van Druten.

The artist was arrested the following morning and charged with murder at his first court appearance on January 21.

The bail hearing was set for Monday, 26 January, in Plettenberg Bay Magistrate’s Court, but when Van Druten’s attorney, Carl Jeppe, declined to represent him, the accused requested a state-appointed Legal Aid attorney. Due to this switch, Magistrate Zukiswa Hans postponed the hearing for two days to allow his new counsel time to prepare his defense.

The state had sought a district surgeon referral for observation, but withdrew it after the magistrate noted no prior court order existed. Prosecutors continue to oppose bail fiercely, citing the case’s severity.

Van Druten knew his alleged victim. The pair had recently begun a romantic relationship, and she had reportedly introduced him to her family earlier the same weekend.

Outside the court, protesters rallied against gender-based violence with placards reading words such as ‘No Bail, Only Jail,’ and ‘Justice for Alaska’ (Van Heerden’s nickname).

With the fight against crimes perpetrated on women and children supposedly a top priority in South Africa, many are asking why Van Druten had not been arrested previously, with at least five protection orders against him by local women for years of alleged harassment, intimidation, threats, and physical violence, which left a number of women traumatised.

Two of these court orders resulted from his assault of three ladies in Sedgefield after they had moved into a house on The Island, directly opposite Van Druten, in January 2023.

They agreed to tell us their story on condition of anonymity.

“He (Van Druten) had only lived there a few weeks when he went away for five days, leaving his dogs without food or water,” one of the ladies told us, “After we were alerted by their incessant barking, we managed to organise their feeding, but we did report him to Sedgefield Animal Matters.”

Little did the women know that this would be a catalyst for the escalation of crazed behaviour, with Van Druten verbally abusing them over the fence at every opportunity. On the evening of 22



Protesters brought placards to Plettenberg Bay Magistrates’ Court on Monday 26 January 2026, hoping that their painted words might send a powerful message to those officiating at the first bail hearing of murder suspect Bevan van Druten.

November things took a turn for the worse. He arrived at their gate and began shouting abuse. When one of the ladies went out to ask him to stop, he violently shoved the gate into her chest. She slapped him in retaliation and suddenly he was all over her - punching her in the face, grabbing her hair, throwing her to the pavement, and then kicking her whilst she lay helpless. When her friend attempted to come to her rescue, she too was manhandled to the ground, causing a bad break to her hand which later required surgery.

SAPS were called, but when a lone officer arrived, Van Druten had already retreated into his own home, where his dogs made it difficult for the uniformed man to gain access.

Though a case was opened, the intimidation continued into January 2024. On one occasion Van Druten obstructed their driveway, standing in front of their vehicle as they tried to leave, and ‘staring them down’. It was only intervention from members of Sedgefield COP and, eventually, SAPS Knysna’s tactical team that allowed the traumatised women to exit their car and head back into the house.. He

was arrested by the Tactical Team and the women were granted protection orders against him the next day in Knysna.

When his case got to court, one of the victims was informed that the docket containing much of the evidence against Van Druten had been misplaced. She told them she would not continue in court until it was located.

In July last year she was once again contacted by the state prosecution, stating they were ready for his trial, but at that stage she only wanted to move on with her life. “That chapter had already left me totally traumatised,” she explained, “By then we had relocated, and I just couldn’t face looking at him across the court room. So I said no!”

Van Druten had also meanwhile relocated from Sedgefield - It is believed that the barrage of complaints raised by residents

living around him on The Island resulted in his eventual move to Plettenberg Bay.

The current murder case returns to the Magistrates Court tomorrow (Thursday, 29 January) for Van Druten’s formal bail hearing, with both sides preparing amid heightened scrutiny. Legal opinion is that Magistrate Hans – who is known to be tough on crimes of a violent nature – will more than likely turn down requests for bail if compelling evidence to the contrary is not presented.



Murder accused Bevan van Druten (Source - Face Book)

Lew Geffen | Sotheby's

INTERNATIONAL REALTY



This neat 94 m² home positioned in a quiet cul-de-sac in the established area of Meedingside, offers open plan living/dining, separate study, extra lounge, functional kitchen with pantry, 2-beds, full bath & guest toilet. The spacious covered patio overlooks established garden with borehole & irrigation. Single garage & extra parking, gated security. Cash or pre-approved buyers only.

Asking: R 2 250 000

HENRY-JAMES ROELOFZ | 079 693 5603 | henry@sirsedgefield.co.za

info@sirsedgefield.co.za

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

Notes from T'Ed's Head

I'm not responsible!

Yes - I DO realise I am in danger of sounding like a politician (not that I was even invited to DAVOS, tut tut) but I believe this is a statement worth making.

I should, however, clarify that this announcement might not be what it seems at face value – I am not actually denying RESPONSIBILITY as in involvement in and/or the blame for any particular activity.

No. Not at all. As I'm sure Mrs Ed will have professed to anyone listening, most things that have gone wrong in this world are probably my fault ... somehow.

No. When I say I AM NOT RESPONSIBLE, I am referring to my total lack (or desire for) that honourable characteristic as defined in the Oxford Dictionary.

Responsible: *Worthy of or requiring responsibility, accountability or trust.*

In other words, whilst I, T'Ed, have often been referred to as "The one RESPONSIBLE for the ... (delete the inapplicable) chaos/damage/mess/empty fridge/missing cheese/dent in the door of my mother's Renault 4, all of the above, I don't ever remember hearing the words 'He's a RESPONSIBLE sort of fellow,' coming from anyone looking in my general direction.

I never have been, and probably

never will be, *that* sort of responsible.

In fact, quite the opposite. If there were ever the need to depict the word 'irresponsibility' in human form, I would be the poster boy.

"That's all very well," you say (and thank you for showing an interest where so many wouldn't), "But why are you choosing now to make such a bold and (dare I say) courageous announcement?"

I guess there are a few reasons - but here I present the top 3, M'lud:-

Reason 1. I am turning sixty (much, much later) this year (I know! It IS hard to believe, especially when I don't look a day over forty) and to be honest, I'm tired of TRYING (and failing) to be responsible. It is exhausting, isn't it? Remembering birthdays, making sure the car has enough petrol in, knowing how much money is left in the bank account (or... ummm ... overdraft), ensuring the same bills are paid every month, not putting a high priority on beer... I don't know how all of you responsible people do it, I really don't.

Reason 2. I have come to terms with my own limitations. Let me explain this with a story, if I may:- When I turned 21, my parents presented me with a Yamaha, steel-string acoustic guitar. Very nice indeed. They had clearly recognised my



delight in singing and thought that the world might be a better place if my dulcet tones were slightly drowned out by stringed instrumentation. So, clearly aiming for stardom, for the next few years, I tried (a little) to master this beautiful instrument. As history (and my lack of an Emmy Award) shows, I failed (apparently, you have to be reasonably sober), eventually deciding to put the trusty old Yammy into the cupboard under the stairs and take it up again later. (Actually, I think that might have been Mrs Ed's decision)

At the age of 55, I removed it from the cupboard and gave it away to someone more determined to succeed. *I had realised my own limitations.*

I would like to do the same with responsibility. I don't have a natural talent for it. I am not getting any better at it, and I'm pretty sure I never will. So, it's going into the cupboard under the stairs. Capisce?

Reason 3. The indomitable Mrs Ed. Yes - a lot of this falls on her broad, silverback shoulders.

As mentioned before, Mrs Ed thinks (and regularly states) that I am responsible for absolutely everything that is wrong with the world. Some examples, if you will:- #1. She gave me a severe scolding the other day when a tele-sales person pestered her with suggestions of 'debt consolidation', #2 I vividly remember her suspicious glare burning into my very soul when the untimely death of George Michael was reported, #3 As recently as last week, I was on the receiving end of a right rollicking when the Pizza fellow forgot her 'extra pineapple'.

(* Actually, I am rather proud of him - It's time SOMEONE took a positive stand for Pizza appropriateness).

Now, to the naked ear, this might not seem too bad, as relationships go. Still somehow, the ancient old reptile has decided that this RESPONSIBILITY I have should be extended to anything vaguely administrative in the T'Ed household ... And beyond!

In other words, she has put me in charge of EVERYTHING that she doesn't want to be responsible for.

"What do you mean - you haven't paid for my pedicure? I distinctly remember telling you about it at 11.57 pm last Friday, whilst we were watching that TV show that I love but you can't be bothered to stay awake for - I even read you his bank details!"



SEABRIDGE SCHOOL

from Grades R to 9
National Curriculum (CAPS)

from Grades 10 to 12
Cambridge IGCSE & AS

Call 071 391 8179

Visit the school at 3 Uil Street, Sedgefield

<https://www.seabridgesedgefield.org/>



DIVARIS
CONSTRUCTION





divaris_construction
Divaris Construction
www.timberhomes.co.za
demetridivaris@gmail.com
082 448 9015 - Demetri
079 211 3308 - Yogi

GOOD BUILDING PRACTICES SINCE 1987

she's having some sort of car insurance problems, apparently, so I said shame, man, she could put it in your name. She says, could you phone her broker and make an appointment before next Friday, because they want to get it done before their camping weekend?"

No. Not anymore. Not in 2026,

This is the year that things change. No more responsibility. No more demands of adult behavior. (see! I didn't even use Spell-Cheque, there!). This is the

year I have set the bar at ground level, with my personal expectations somewhere beneath!

Now I have to go, because there's a courier van at the gate. No. Not for Mrs Ed.

I think it's the ukulele I ordered through Takealot.

(I'll let you know the dates of my first tour.)

I'd be mad if I didn't!

Fynbos on Sea
SIMBAVATI
LODGE COLLECTION

Sunday Lunch Specials
Weekly from 12.00 - 15.00

Looking for a lavish lunch with a view?
Phone us to find out what Chef will be serving this week

R180 per person
Booking essential
069 300 8987 /
fynbos@simbavati.com

FIJNBOSCH
Streetside Cafe
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
➔ LOCAL & SOCIAL ➔

BREAKFAST
SWISS ROSTIS
COFFEE
WINE & BEER
LUNCH

VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR SPECIAL STREETSIDE EVENTS

FULLY LICENSED
On & Off-site

Shop 1, 30 Main Rd, Sedgefield
073 158 5820

- Light
- Affordable
- Quick to lay
- Colour options
- Attractive

ready bricks.
CONCRETE BRICKS & BLOCKS



Retainer Lites
Call / WhatsApp: 068 600 6557


The Garden Route is surrounded by mountains and sea - everywhere else is Fidelity-ADT

Phone 044 343 1288
visit www.adt.co.za



Registered as a Security Service Provider by the Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority, Reg. No. 765528

WATER SCARCE AREA SAVE WATER | YONGA AMANZI | BESPAAR WATER




SAVE OR QUEUE
Together, we can avoid Day Zero!

Dear residents

Water restrictions are implemented across the greater Knysna municipal area. **Stick to these restrictions to make sure the water in your taps doesn't dry up.**


SAVE	QUEUE
Stay in the comfort of your own home and use no more than 50 litres of water per person per day.	or walk to water distribution points and queue for water in the scorching sun. Daily water rations will be 25 litres per person per day.
Adhere to current level 4 water restrictions until further notice.	or face water shedding. Water availability will be cut off to most residential neighbourhoods during allocated timeslots in a Day Zero scenario.
Avoid punitive tariffs by using less water.	or receive a fine on your monthly account. The more water you waste, the higher the fine.
Make the water in your taps last to avoid Day Zero.	or queue for less water and face immense disruptions to every facet of homelife, business and day-to-day activities.

Thank you for playing your part in protecting this precious commodity.

 **REPORT WATER ABUSE VIA WHATSAPP 060 998 7000**

inclusive innovative inspired

Knysna
Municipality || Munisipaliteit || uMasipala



SEEDGE CENTRAL TO CHOO TJOE REVIVAL

On Monday 26 January, Alan McVitty, CEO of Classic Rail, the successful tenderer for the return of the Outeniqua Choo Tjoe, told all present at the Sedgefield Ratepayers AGM that Sedgefield Station is set to become the main steam train hub for the service that will operate on the George / Knysna Line. To this end, a new turntable and running workshop will be built north of the current station.

A Choo Tjoe progress update was issued the following day by Martin Hatchuel

The George / Knysna Railway Line was built between 1925 and 1928, so is now 100 years old and a privilege to restore.

Afri-Track, under the leadership of Johan Laubscher, Dawie Moller and Lean Steyn, is Classic Rail's track contractor. This company has one team on site clearing the vegetation from the rail reserve – initially five metres on either side of the centerline of the rail.

This team began working at the Sedgefield station in December, and has now reached the 12 km mark. The cleared material has been stored along the outside of the cleared area, for later chipping and composting. This is an important process as the dead vegetation could pose a fire risk.

Members of the team on site report that on average one in four wooden sleepers will need replacing, but that the majority of them are still sound, despite being 100 years old.

The project has broken into two phases: Phase 1: The Waterfront Express – the Sedgefield / Knysna line; and Phase 2: The Museum Limited – from Sedgefield to the George Railway Museum.

Classic Rail has exclusive rail access to the Museum Railway Platform.

BACKGROUND WORK

The remainder of the Classic Rail team is working in the background, to select and restore locomotives and heritage carriages. Preparation for the development and restoration of all the historic properties along the line is also underway.

RAIL REGULATOR

Classic Rail's Daleen Endley and Carol Anne Matseba have helped secure the Rail Safety Permit from the Rail Regulator to clear and later operate the line.

FAIRLIE PROJECTS

Shaun Ackerman, of Fairlie Projects, is preparing a refurbishment plan for all the Outeniqua Choo Tjoe Locomotives. (Shaun has a long history with the previous Gauteng-based Reef Steamers.)

Initially, two 19 D locomotives currently stabled in the LA Workshop at the George Railway Museum will be road hauled to Fairlie's Germiston Workshop for restoration. One will be restored as a coal-fired steam engine, and the other will be converted to an oil-fired steam engine – this will accommodate Fire Risk Days as determined by the Local Fire Chief on a daily basis.

On completion, these locos will be road-hauled back to Knysna.

One Class 32 diesel locomotive will be refurbished at the LA Workshop and then road-hauled to the Knysna / Sedgefield Line and will operate as an overall back up locomotive as and when required.

The remaining steam locomotives (as allocated to the Outeniqua Choo Tjoe Concession) are currently

stabled at Voorbaai, and will be rail-hauled to the George Railway Museum Yard in due course. They will then be repaired as and when required, together with the other Class 32 Diesel Loco.

All the relevant Outeniqua Choo Tjoe spares currently at Voorbaai will also be transferred to George LA Workshop.

This work will commence shortly when all paperwork with Transnet Heritage is completed.

LE ROUX CARRIAGE PROJECTS

Les Le Roux is a cabinet carpenter and builder who recently undertook the refurbishment of the luxury carriages for the Kruger Shalati Train Hotel on the Bridge at Skukuza in the Kruger National Park. He will be responsible for the refurbishment of all the Outeniqua Choo Tjoe's 3rd class side-door carriages which are currently stabled at the George Railway Museum.

These carriages will be repositioned from the Museum Platform to the LA Workshop where they will be completely refurbished and redecorated. On completion, they will be road-hauled to Knysna via Humansdorp because of the current roadworks at Wilderness.

SEEDGEFIELD STATION

Concept drawings for the Sedgefield Station development are being prepared by Shaun Ackerman, and will be finalised by heritage architect Henry Paine, who will also contribute to the redevelopment of all the heritage properties along the George / Knysna line.

The Owen and Donavon McCullum building team will be responsible for the construction



Seeff Sedgefield
Unit 11, Plumtree Trading Post
52 Main Road, Sedgefield
044 343 1151 (O)
Cameron Klement & Jennifer Dade



OPEN MANDATE



OPEN MANDATE

Sedgefield Sedgehill	R1 795 000	Sedgefield Kingfisher Creek	R3 000 000
FOUR BEDROOM HOME IN SEDGEHILL		QUAINT COTTAGE IN SLEEPY SEASIDE TOWN	
4 Beds 2 Baths 1 Parking	REF: RLS988650	3 Beds 1 Bath 2 Parkings	REF: RLS983142
Cameron Klement 081 456 6587 Jennifer Dade 079 79 884 1842			

and refurbishment of these heritage assets. Owen and Donovan built the Phantom Forest Eco Reserve that was destroyed in the 2017 Knysna Fire.

OTHER WORK IN PROGRESS

The status of all bridge repairs, and the appointment of the

Outeniqua Choo Tjoe operations and marketing team are considered works in progress at this stage, and Classic Rail will report back on these aspects of the project in due course.

SPECIAL THANKS

The company extends a special thanks to Cathy Averienos and Pam Booth who are guiding the

environmental process, as well as to Knysna's Dudley Isaacs, who has made himself helpful in many different ways.

Further updates will be posted on Facebook @classicrailgardenroute and to the company's website:- www.oudeniquachootjoe.com

Goal-based financial planning designed around you.

Creating lasting *peace of mind* through personalised financial strategies that evolve with your goals.

Comprehensive Financial Needs Analysis:

- Risk and Trauma Cover
- Investment Strategies
- Retirement Security
- Business Assurance
- Wills and Trusts
- Income Protection
- Offshore Offerings
- Short-term Cover
- Medical Aid

JP (Des) Des Fontaine
Financial Adviser | Representative of Liberty Group Ltd
084 473 0103
jp.desfontaine@liblink.co.za

Liberty Group Ltd is an Authorised Financial Services Provider (Licence No. 2409) and part of the Standard Bank Group.





SEEDGEFIELD POTJIEKOS DAY



SUPPORTING LIVING CORNERSTONE CARE FACILITY

 Sedge Links Golf Club

 03 MAY 2026

 8:30 am

 Info: 082 325 4235

Show off your potjie skills & WIN!

★★★★★
POTJIE ENTRY
R400.00

★★★★★
PLATE
R50.00

Family Fun • Great Food • Local Vendors



SUNDAY LUNCH only R89.99 EVERY WEEK

DAILY-BAKED BAKERY SPECIALS

Valid whilst stocks last

VANILLA OR CHOCOLATE 1 LAYER CAKE only **R 49.99** each

LAMINGTONS (6 pack) only **R 41.99** each

BEST BUTCHERY DEALS!

Valid whilst stocks last

COUNTRY CLASSIC BOEREWORS only **R109.99/kg**

BULK LEAN BEEF MINCE only **R129.99/kg**

OXTAIL only **R109.99/kg**

PORK SPARE RIBS only **R169.99/kg**

DELI GRAB-n-GO SPECIALS

Valid until 1 February '26

MINI BEEF SLIDER (6 pack) only **R 42.99** each

3 x CHICKEN CHEESE STRIPS & CHIPS only **R 27.99** each

DELICIOUS DELI PENSIONER MEALS **Mon - Fri**

PENSIONER MEAL OF THE DAY only **R 49.00** each

PASTA MEAL only **R 55.00** each

MEATY MEAL only **R 59.00** each

Remember...



PENSIONERS

GET

DOUBLE

SMART SHOPPER

POINTS ON WEDNESDAYS



Responsible Environmental Citizenship

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

South Africa is a country rich in biodiversity, from its iconic wildlife to its diverse ecosystems and, we who are staying in the Garden Route can attest to that. Yet, we face pressing environmental challenges such as pollution, deforestation, water scarcity, land grabs, industrial and residential developments, and climate change. To address these issues, your responsible environmental citizenship is essential. Responsible environmental citizenship emphasizes the role of individuals, ordinary citizens, in safeguarding our fragile environment through everyday actions and collective responsibility.

Section 24 of our Constitution guarantees everyone the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being and obliges the state to protect the environment for future generations through reasonable measures such as laws and the creation of nature reserves and protected areas.

However, protecting the environment is not only the duty of government institutions but also of ordinary citizens, communities, and businesses. With our constitutionally guaranteed environmental rights comes a responsibility. To be a responsible environmental citizen in South Africa is to **act with awareness, accountability, and commitment**. Every small action—whether conserving water, recycling, supporting conservation or reporting environmental crimes, contributes to a healthier environment. By embracing sustainable practices at work, at play or at home we can ensure that our natural heritage thrives, not only for our health and well-being, but also for generations to come.

Recent surveys show that South Africans are increasingly aware

of environmental issues, however, there is still a gap between awareness and consistent eco-friendly behaviour. Many citizens express concern about climate change, pollution, and degradation of the environment, yet daily practices such as recycling and energy conservation and participation remain limited. Being a responsible environmental citizen is not about perfection—it is about **small, consistent actions** that add up to important change.

Our environmental challenges are numerous. Urbanisation, with its concomitant rapid development, often leads to habitat destruction and increased pollution. Poverty and unemployment push sustainability into second place to address survival needs and while laws exist, enforcement is uneven. These concerns require convincing responsibility and collaboration between government and responsible citizens.

In our immediate environment we can do, and promote the following:

Waste Reduction & Recycling

- Separate household waste into recyclables, compostables, and non-recyclables.
- Support community recycling initiatives and reduce single-use plastics.
- Donate or repurpose old clothes and furniture instead of throwing them away.

Think of waste as a resource waiting to be reused. Reduce, reuse, recycle, repurpose.

Water Conservation

- Fix or report water leaks immediately.
- Use water-efficient appliances, and practice mindful consumption every day.
- Harvest rainwater and reuse greywater where possible.

Remember: South Africa is one of the most water-scarce countries in the world. We are experiencing a drought, every drop counts!

Energy Efficiency

- Switch to renewable energy sources like solar panels.
- Reduce electricity consumption by using energy-efficient appliances and turning off unused devices.
- Carpool, cycle, or use public transport to cut down on emissions.

Energy saved today means a healthier planet tomorrow.

Biodiversity Protection

- Avoid purchasing products that contribute to deforestation or illegal wildlife trade.
- Support conservation projects and respect protected areas.
- Plant indigenous or be a purist and plant endemic to this area.
- Identify and remove alien invasive species on your property and inform others about theirs.

Every tree planted is a gift to future generations.

Community Engagement

- Participate in clean-up campaigns, tree-planting drives, and environmental awareness programs.
- Educate others about sustainable practices.
- Be a watchdog for environmental crimes.
- Influence others to become responsible environmental citizens.

Being a responsible environmental citizen is not about doing everything perfectly; it is about **doing something every day**. Imagine if every citizen saves just five litres of water daily or recycles one plastic bottle or picks up one piece of litter, we will make a massive impact.

Your actions inspire others. When you choose to live sustainably, you are not just protecting nature, you are **building a legacy of hope and resilience** for South Africa and specifically for our town. The environment does not need superheroes - it needs ordinary people making extraordinary choices.

Start small, stay consistent, and remember you are part of the solution, promote sustainable development, protect your environment, and motivate others.

GREAT STRIDES FOR SEABRIDGE

2026, will see Seabridge's first fully-fledged cohort of fourteen Grade 12 students take their final exams.

In 2024 and 2025, there were two small groups of Grade 12 students at the school (five and two respectively), who completed the required number of exams to qualify for a matric equivalent, but this year is our “coming of age” result. Our past students all did well, indeed, we are happy to report that two of them will be attending Queensland University in Australia this year, and one is in his second year at UCT. Moreover, our recent external exam results are most encouraging. The bulk of the 56 exams written in October/November 2025 were for IGCSE courses and from the fine outcome we can look forward to a solid set of AS results this year.



Unlike the case with the National Senior Certificate (CAPS) - where all of the exams that make for a matric are written at the end of Grade 12, in the Cambridge system the equivalent of a matric is built up over two years; first by passing some IGCSE exams in Grade 11, and then by passing the main AS exams in Grade 12.

Seabridge School was established in 2021 and has

grown steadily over the last five years. The school offers a broad range of subjects to provide for an education that allows our students to follow careers in the humanities as well as the sciences, but always with a sense of a deeper understanding of the environment and how to sustain it. Hence, our focus on Marine Science as a centrepiece in the school's activities.

TURTLE RESCUE NETWORK ROADSHOW

by Mark Dixon

In February, the Two Oceans Aquarium Foundation will be conducting their annual roadshow in the Garden Route with information on the correct procedures to rescue and transport stranded marine turtles found along the shoreline.

The Turtle Rescue Network has been instrumental in a series of successful rescues involving members of the public, conservation organisations and ocean focused marine NGO's.

Annually, between February and August, turtle hatchlings wash up along the shoreline between PE and False Bay. There are two species of hatchlings, loggerhead and leatherback turtles, that travel in the south flowing Agulhas current from their hatching grounds in northern KwaZulu-Natal.

The correct rescue response is to gently lift the turtles from the beach and place them in a dry, well ventilated box, preferably on a dry paper towel or facecloth. Once stabilised in this manner, rescuers can contact the Turtle Rescue Network number or their local rescue organisation to arrange collection and transport to rehabilitation facilities at either the Two Oceans Aquarium in Cape Town or Bay World in Gqeberha.

Turtle hatchlings usually wash up after strong winds and storms, and do so for a number of reasons. Following strong easterly winds, an upwelling event can occur, resulting in a rapid decline in ocean temperatures, which stun the

turtles. Another reason is weakness due to microplastic ingestion. In rehab facilities, over 70% of the turtles pass microplastic in their faeces. The plastic in their digestive tract triggers a satiated response, and the turtles don't eat, leading to hunger related fatigue and weakness.



Logistics of the Sedgefield Workshop

Strandloper Project will be hosting the Turtle Rescue Network Roadshow at the Red Roof at Scarab Market. This year, the format will be different to previous years, with a full day of videos and talks. There will also be exhibits with local marine NGO's, making the day a holistic informative experience for locals and schools to attend.

SAVE THE DATE

Date : **17th February**
Time : **09h00 to 15h00**
Venue : **Red Roof, Scarab Arts & Crafts Village, Sedgefield.**

Who to contact for turtle Rescues between Buffalo Bay and Wilderness.

- * Turtle Rescue Network hotline : 083 300 1663
- * Strandloper Project : 082 213 5931
- * Sedgefield Stranding Network : 083 2717324
- * SANParks : 082 269 5007
- * Cape Nature : 044 383 0043

What to do if you find a washed up turtle hatchling.

1. Do not return to the ocean.
2. Lift carefully, supporting from underneath, and place in dry, well ventilated box or container. Place on a dry paper towel or cloth.
3. Contact the Turtle Rescue Network hotline or local marine rescue organisation to arrange collection and transport to a rehab center.

Valuable information collected from rescued turtles

On the 24th of January 2026, the first turtle hatchling washed up at Brenton on Sea. What was remarkable about this turtle was that it was a hatchling from 2025. It had been micro chipped after being rescued in the 2025 stranding season and released in Gqeberha.

Visit the Turtle Rescue Network workshop to learn how you can sponsor a turtle rehab.

HAND MADE PERSONALISED STATIONERY

Handcrafted, locally made, notebooks, journals, diaries and magnets

📞 WHATSAPP 076 4055 765
✉ webbskb@gmail.com

Personalised
DIARIES, NOTEBOOKS, FRIDGE LISTS, MAGNETS & GIFT SETS

Corporate Branding
DIARIES, NOTEBOOKS, FRIDGE LISTS, MAGNETS

RSA Souvenir
DIARIES, NOTEBOOKS, FRIDGE LISTS, MAGNETS, GIFT SETS

ACUT ABOVE THE BEST
INDIGENOUS LAWNS
FOR ALL SEASONS
LM Berea - the best shade lawn!
Buffalo/Kweek - Semishade,
salt tolerant and water wise!

EDEN LAWNS
www.edenlawns.co.za 044 343 2883 084 380 6133

since 1997

COBBLE
SEDGEFIELD
Paving & Retaining

Gavin: 083 305 0346 • Rene: 082 586 4609

GARDEN SERVICE
What we offer:

- Garden Maintenance
- Lawn Care (cutting, edging, cleaning)
- Garden Bed Maintenance
- Pruning & Trimming • Green Waste Removal
- Microbial Spray Applications
- Consults on Organic Gardening Methods, Composting & Pest Control

FOREST ROOTS

info@forestroots.co.za
Slade 060 907 3845

DIARY DATELINE

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

Every 2nd Monday
2pm Sedgefield Art Society meet at the Lions Club. New members are welcome. Pasty -073 256 6021

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 outride 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 Jukskei Group at Sedge Bowling Club. All welcome. Aniel 072 600 0722

Fridays
8am Ladies Golf @ Links Course

Saturdays
7am Eden Cycling Club Group Social outride 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 outride departs Cycle Worx. All welcome.

Sunday 1 February
8am-12 Gardeners and Crafters Market at Steam Whistle Stop. 072 487 0395

Sunday 8 February
8am-12 Car Boot Sale at Steam Whistle Stop. 072 487 0395

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

If you have a picture of you and your copy of The Edge newspaper visiting faraway places, please send them to editor@edgenews.co.za

MASITHANDANE
NEW VEHICLE
FUNDRAISER

TARGET
R320 000

R51 520

60 000

50 000

40 000

30 000

20 000

10 000

NB.

Masithandane can provide a tax certificate for your donation.

Please send details to masithandane.office@gmail.com

DOGS LIVES LOST DUE TO BEES

Local resident Andre Stemmert is grieving the loss of no less than three dogs to bee stings from a massive hive lodged in the walls of an overgrown, vacant property next to his home, which he also believes has become both a fire hazard and illegal dumping ground due to unchecked vegetation.

Last August, two of his dogs died after a swarm attack, with another small dog, belonging to a neighbour, also found dead on the site. Stemmert has said that despite repeated complaints to the Knysna Municipality, fire department, and ward councillor, little changed until Women's Day last year, when

Community Safety Director Johnny Douglas visited and promised action. “A worker appeared the next day to address the hive, but the problem persisted,” he told us. The problem flared up again on January 23 this year when the property owner bulldozed the plot, disturbing the bees again.

This again resulted in the death of one of the Stemmert family’s dogs, while leaving another fighting for life at Knysna KAWS veterinary department.. Andre is at his wits’ end, and warns he may take matters into his own hands if this problem remains unresolved. “The neglected site continues to endanger pets, residents, and firefighters in this tight-knit community,” he says.

Knysna Sedgefield
HOSPICE

REDUCE YOUR TAX & SUPPORT US

Have you made your tax deductible donation yet?
Your donation will impact the lives of the 180+ patients we serve, giving them & their families, dignity & quality of life in their toughest moments.

Make a donation before the end of Feb 2026 to Knysna Sedgefield Hospice and REDUCE your taxable income. Section 18A Tax Benefits apply to individuals and companies. (B-BEEE points available too)

Bank details: Nedbank, Knysna Sedgefield Hospice
Acc no: 108 900 3145, Branch code: 198765
Ref: your name + surname
Email proof of payment to receive your Section 18A
Tax receipt to admin@hospiceknysna.org.za or call (044)384 0593

Bank details: Nedbank, Knysna Sedgefield Hospice
Acc no: 108 900 3145, Branch code: 198765
Ref: your name + surname
Email proof of payment to receive your Section 18A
Tax receipt to admin@hospiceknysna.org.za or call (044)384 0593

In Loving Memory of
Marie Dale
14.07.1941 - 26.12.2025

Our hearts are heavy as we share the sad news of the passing of our beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Marie Dale, on 26 December 2025.

Marie was a gentle soul with a rare gift for making everyone feel welcome. If you left her alone for five minutes, she would know everything about the person sitting beside her and would likely have made a new friend. Her kindness, warmth, and genuine interest in others left a lasting impression on all who were fortunate enough to know her.

She was the heart of our family, a constant source of love, comfort, and quiet strength. Her presence brought light, conversation, and connection wherever she went, and her love will continue to live on through the many lives she touched.

She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by her family and friends. You were our light and inspiration. We will miss you always. Love you always.



I.T GIRL garden route

Upgrades
Installations
Clean & Service
Problem Solving
Repairs

For all your computer needs!

LIZE • 0810112913

Scan QR code for contact details



THE EAGLE HAS LANDED

By Pam Victor

2026 has heralded an exciting new beginning for St Francis United Church, with Graeme Mercer and his wife, Kathy, starting as the new pastoral couple. They were joyfully welcomed after the service on Sunday 14th December 2025 in true South African style with a braai and plenty of salads!

But who are these newcomers?

Pastor Graeme Mercer was born in Zimbabwe and lived in Australia for five years, before settling in Port Elizabeth. He married Kathy in 1984, and the couple have three children and three grandchildren. Pastor Graeme began his career as a Metallurgical Engineer and was in industry for 11 years before entering full time ministry in the Methodist Church in 1994. His ministry has been multi-cultural and diverse, from a small Methodist Church in Riebeeckstad, near Welkom, to Montclair, Durban and finally Willows Methodist Church in Pretoria East. After retiring at the end of 2024, Pastor Graeme and Kathy took a “gap year” in Robertson to rest and to prepare for the new chapter in their lives. After much prayerful consideration, Pastor Graeme accepted the position as Minister of St Francis United Church in Sedgefield.

Pastor Graeme’s greatest passion is sharing the message of the Gospel with as many as possible, especially those who have been disillusioned with the church. He believes in preaching and teaching that is relevant and life changing, with an emphasis on life change and discipleship and reaching those outside the church community.

Pastor Graeme is a keen sportsman and enjoys following cricket, rugby, golf, football and tennis. Both he and Kathy are nature lovers and enjoy hiking and camping. They have travelled extensively, and they completed the Camino from Porto in Portugal in 2023.



Kathy is a qualified teacher, specialising in Early Childhood Development. Whilst in Durban, Kathy was very involved in the establishment of the Udobo Grade R School - a school for the underprivileged. Whilst in Pretoria, Kathy became involved with Class Act, an NGO which was allocated the task of mentoring teachers from identified underperforming schools in Gauteng. Kathy subsequently joined an NGO called Ransom, the mission arm of their previous church, to head up the ECD Pillar, which involved training, coaching and mentoring teachers and principals of schools in the rural sectors of the city.

Kathy enjoys walking, hiking, birding and visual arts and crafts.

We welcome Pastor Graeme and Kathy to St Francis United Church and look forward with much anticipation to their ministry in Sedgefield.

ITALY COMES TO KNYSNA : ITALIAN STREET FESTIVAL RETURNS IN MARCH

Thesen Harbour Town in Knysna is set to come alive with the sights, sounds and flavours of Italy as the second annual Knysna Italian Street Festival returns on 21 and 22 March 2026.

Following last year's success, the event will be held over two days at the beautiful, upmarket Thesen Harbour Town. Promising a vibrant, immersive celebration of Italian culture that is not to be missed, organising duo Nicci Rousseau-Schmidt of Knysna PR and Carien Loubser of Brainwave said the festival will offer visitors a true taste of la dolce vita in the heart of the Garden Route.“Expect the irresistible aroma of authentic Italian cuisine and fine wines, live music and family-friendly festivities. Adding to the experience will be an iconic showcase of Italian motoring excellence. From classic Vespas and Fiats to legendary Ferraris and Lamborghinis, celebrating both old-world charm and modern design.”

Collaboration with ItalCham

This year marks an exciting collaboration with ItalCham, the Italian-South African Chamber of Trade and Industries. Pamina Bohrer from ItalCham said that, following Italy in Town - Cape Town's success, they aim to host three annual Italy in Town events across South Africa: Cape Town, Johannesburg, and the Garden Route edition in Knysna. “The events are about celebrating Italian culture, cuisine and lifestyle beyond the major metropolitan centres. This partnership brings together the

ItalCham mission to promote Italian excellence in South Africa with the Festival's strong local roots and vibrant community spirit. Through this collaboration, ItalCham will support the festival in strengthening its Italian identity, fostering cultural exchange, and creating meaningful connections between Italian businesses and brands and the South African public.”

The Knysna Italian Street Festival has become a key platform for showcasing authentic Italian food, wine, music and family traditions in the Garden Route. Bohrer said the inaugural Festival in 2025 attracted more than 2 200 attendees. “Visitors came from as far as Port Elizabeth and Still Bay. ItalCham is proud to be associated with an initiative that celebrates Italy beyond the major cities and highlights the richness of Italian culture at a community level.”

A passion for all things Italian

The organisers said sponsors are key to hosting a quality experience. Chris van der Merwe from REMAX Coastal, the Festival's main sponsor, said they are excited to be involved. “We love Italian cars, wine and food and are privileged to be part of the event. ItalCham involvement and the inclusion of the event in the Italy in Town collection are exciting, and I look forward to working with them to create an authentic, truly Italian experience. We also appreciate the support of Visit Knysna.”



Early bird tickets now available on Quicket

Ticket sales have opened and are available on Quicket, with early-bird tickets in February at R150 pp, pre-event tickets in March at R180, and R200 at the entrance. Limited VIP tickets are available at R500 pp and include reserved VIP seating, welcome drinks and a charcuterie board.

With world-class flavours, unforgettable performances, and a stunning display of Italian automotive passion, the 2026 Knysna Italian Street Festival promises an unforgettable weekend of culture, connection and celebration.

Buon appetito, Knysna - Italy is coming to town!

Follow the festival's social media channels for regular updates: Fbook: @knysna street festival Instagram: @knysna Italian street festival

POSITIVE START FOR REVIVE SEDGE

Revive Sedgefield has started 2026 on a very positive note with the long-awaited signing of its Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Knysna Municipality.

The agreement was officially signed almost twelve months after it was first submitted, marking a significant milestone for the organisation.

The MoU was signed by the Municipal Manager and Revive Sedgefield Chairperson, Linda Evans, with Sally Theron present as a witness. This important step formalises the partnership between Revive Sedgefield and the municipality and enables several long-planned community projects to move forward.

With the MoU now in place, approval has been granted for three priority projects that will have a meaningful impact on the wider Sedgefield community. The first of these is the installation of a spike water and sprinkler system at the Sedgefield Playpark. The playpark has become a central and much-loved gathering space for families and

children, but ongoing drought conditions have placed the area under considerable strain. The approval of this system brings much-needed relief and will help preserve this important recreational space. Revive Sedgefield will now engage with relevant stakeholders to begin implementation.

The second approved project involves the upgrade of the River-mouth carpark deck. With the assistance of AfriForum, Revive Sedgefield completed interim improvements ahead of the busy December holiday period. The project is now being finalised with the addition of permanent retainers, new planter boxes, an extra coat of sealer, and five recycled plastic benches. These benches will offer visitors a comfortable place to sit and enjoy the beautiful views of the lagoon and ocean.

The third MoU-approved initiative focuses on accessibility within the village. We plan to develop a wheelchair-friendly route through the business district, in collaboration

with Ari Seirlis. This project is planned for later during the year and reflects Revive Sedgefield's ongoing commitment to inclusivity and creating a village that can be enjoyed by everyone. We were delighted to receive a generous sponsorship donation at the end of 2025. At the donor's request, the funds will be used to begin replacing the broken pole fencing along the service roads. With the valued support of AfriForum, we aim to begin this work as soon as possible.

The popular Revive High Five initiative continues into 2026 after proving to be a great success. The initiative has been so well received that it will now run on an ongoing basis. Every second week, a pavement or verge that stands out for its care and presentation is awarded the Revive High Five, complete with a display board placed in the garden as a point of pride. Residents are encouraged to nominate deserving spaces by contacting Chairperson Linda Evans.

Rockie, Sedgefield's much-

loved local rock art installation, has also seen exciting developments with the introduction of the "Colour Me Rockie" packets. Each packet includes a rock, paints, a brush, a stencil, and a colourful instruction map. The initiative has been extremely successful, generating just over R10,000 in profit since its launch. The project will continue throughout 2026, with local businesses stocking the packets at R60 each. More rocks will be placed on Thursday, 29 January, with the goal of extending Rockie beyond its current 273 metres toward a target of 300 metres — trying ultimately to make it the longest rock art installation in South Africa.

Late last year, the black plant pots along the service road and surrounding areas were repainted in a warm terracotta shade and are now ready to be replanted with bougainvillea. A dedicated "Pot Team," led by Elize King, has been formed to care for and water these pots.

Looking ahead, Revive Sedgefield will host a fundraising event in May, featuring a Spit Braai and



SHAZA. Further details will be shared on social media closer to the time.

Revive Sedgefield continues to maintain its existing gardens as best as possible under water restrictions, steadily transitioning

to waterwise and indigenous plants. The organisation's passion for revitalising Sedgefield remains strong, fuelled by an incredible team of volunteers and the ongoing support of a generous and engaged community.

SRA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

History reminds us that real change seldom emerges from comfort, but is forged in strain, uncertainty, and tested resolve.

The fall of Robespierre showed revolutionary fervour meeting reality's limits, while communism's failure proved even forceful ideas fail without accountability, adaptability, and course correction - marking not ambition's end, but the start of grounded progress.

2025 mirrored this: a demanding year, challenging assumptions, testing systems, and demanding tough choices. It clarified essentials - integrity, perseverance, and quiet determination amid unseen efforts. Sustaining us was commitment, rather than rhetoric: The committee diligently bore heavy loads, often under pressure and sans recognition, ensuring stability and future foundations. My sincere thanks for their time, judgment, and resolve.

Entering 2026, we're neither naive about challenges ahead nor discouraged by ones past. We advance with a firmer resolve, and clearer purpose, believing meaningful change comes via consistent, principled action, not drama.

Governance Engagement and IDP Oversight. In 2025, EXCO strengthened local government ties via bi-monthly meetings with Wards 1 and 2 Councillors, focussing on Integrated Development Plan (IDP) progress. This shifted us from ad hoc talks to accountability, planning, and delivery. Post-engagements, SRA obtained the Knysna Municipal Spatial Development Framework (MSDF) Implementation Framework (2025), while insisting on prioritising, approving, and implementing 2020 Standard Operating Procedures for illegal land invasions.

Service Delivery Challenges. 2025 was tough, with alarming spatial planning and water meter woes. Refuse collection showed stabilisation signs, and there were limited repairs to Kingfisher Drive, but overall delivery stayed inconsistent, isolated, and discontinuous.

Waste Management and Provincial Ties. Garden Route Alliance representatives Kevin Barnes and Len Moults met Western Cape Government on Knysna's waste status. Follow-ups targeted the viability of the

Mossel Bay facility and mismanagement of Sedgefield's garden refuse site.

Provincial Oversight. Carte Blanche exposed Knysna's decline; Minister Anton Bredell blamed poor management and political interference - echoing residents' realities.

Water Security. SRA's 700+ signature petition urged water pump fixes and supply assurance. The Municipal Manager's promises rang hollow, and the issue persists, eroding trust.

Section 139 Backing. SRA endorsed Bredell's Section 139c intervention of Knysna Municipality for governance /service stability. Sadly, hoped-for improvements still lag.

Sedgefield Alarm. Sedgefield residents fear ongoing Knysna mismanagement: Inconsistent services force reactive petitions for notice. Concerns include no waste planning, garden rubble mishandling, non-recyclable neglect, tick-box consults, short-lived roads, months-long sewer pump breakdown and unrepaid gear.

Operational Failures: More w o e s : l a x i l l e g a l

Following such an outage, the distribution system takes time to recover, until all reservoirs are replenished, as water demand tends to spike following an outage.

Sedgefield System:

This is the second largest system in the municipality, and independent of the Knysna system. Main supply is via the Ruigtevlei Weir on the Karatara River, supplemented by four boreholes. The desalination plant (1.5MLD) at Myoli beach is part of the licensed supply but not currently operational. The boreholes cannot meet demand when the river flow is too low to allow abstraction

Water Conservation & Demand Management strategies to reduce losses and Non-revenue Water:

- Bulk meter management, assessments, refurbishments & installations
- Water supply zone optimisation
- Pressure management programme
- Leak repairs – general and indigent households
- Metering and billing analysis

occupation/dune enforcement, odd meter priorities, poorly repaired roads, no transparent service plans. Political meddling, cadre deployment, external suppliers sideline locals, undermining skill. Unchecked illegal builds risk legal/ecological harm.

Resident Resolve. Sedgefield won't stay passive: residents demands urgent intervention in governance, law enforcement, and the restoration of trust.

Swartvlei Access Advance. 2025 saw the Swartvlei launch;

business plan in Municipal Legal review, with Ritchie Morris's input. Next we need approval with costs/timelines. SANParks aid has been sought via Dr Viljoen /Coastal Management, and there is a collaborative push. Planning Department is now a champion of this cause, pledging the formation of a steering committee.

Membership Insights. Our membership survey drew 36 replies from ~220 members (16% rate), so it is indicative, not definitive, revealing priorities for strategy. Our EXCO favors

simple membership so that we may grow our database for communication reach, thus giving us more clout with Knysna Municipality.

Financial Stability. Our Financial Report shows a healthy position, funding our Community in Blue, Revive Sedgefield, and security upgrades - despite non-profit status.

EXCO Gratitude. Thanks to 2025 EXCO for performing extremely well in an especially tough year. *Kevin Barnes.*

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT KNYSNA WATER SUPPLY

Municipal Water Supply Sources:

- Rainfall in the area is variable throughout the year with historical data showing a slight peak during spring.
- There are five main water supply systems serving the municipal area: Knysna, Sedgefield, Karatara, Rheenendal and Buffalo Bay.

• Surface water supply provides most of the water to the municipality, and relies on rainfall to keep rivers flowing, to fill dams and reservoirs. The main potable supply is from the Knysna and Gouna rivers, pumped to the water treatment works. When excess capacity is available, water is also pumped from these to Akkerkloof Dam. The latter provides storage capacity of more than two months (71 days at 12 MLD), should the rivers run dry. Akkerkloof Dam is thus not the primary source of drinking water to Knysna but a critical part of the system especially during drought periods.

- The groundwater systems are not currently optimised, providing only

±1.5 MLD. Refurbishing of boreholes and expanding of existing wellfields have been prioritised.

- The desalination plants are not operational and will be assessed with a view of bringing them back into operation to diversify water supply and build system resilience.

Knysna System Water Supply:

The Knysna water treatment plant (KWTP) (capacity 21.3 MLD) provides water to ±90,000 people in Knysna (increased population in peak season). The KWTP can get water from the Gouna River diversion (2.6MLD max), Charlesford Weir (23.7MLD max assured) and Akkerkloof Dam (15.6 MLD max). Theoretically, 41.9MLD raw water can be supplied to the KWTP, providing redundancy in times of pump failure.

Akkerkloof Dam dropped below 30% storage prior to the peak season, providing insufficient buffer to peak holiday demand. Both the Knysna River and Karatara River flow reduced to levels too low to abstract, resulting in widespread outages.



Knysna
Municipality || Munisipaliteit || uMasipala
inclusive || innovative || inspired

ADOPTION OF THE KNYSNA MUNICIPAL SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (2024/2025)

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 20(1) of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act 16 of 2013) that the Knysna Municipality at a Council meeting held on 11 December 2025, has adopted an amended Knysna Municipal Spatial Development Framework (2024/2025) by way of Resolution No: M 02/12/2025.

AANNEMING VAN DIE KNYSNA MUNISIPALE ONTWIKKELINGSRAAMWERK (2024/2025)

Kennis word hiermee gegee in terme van Artikel 20(1) van die Ruimtelike Beplanning en Grondgebruik Wet, 2013 (Wet 16 van 2013) dat die Knysna Munisipaliteit by 'n Raadsvergadering op 11 Desember 2025, 'n gewysigde Knysna Munisipale Ruimtelike Ontwikkelingsraamwerk (2024/2025) aangeneem het by wyse van Resolusie No: M 02/12/25.

ADOPTION OF THE SEDGEFIELD LOCAL SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (2025)

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 10(2) of the Knysna Municipal Bylaw on Spatial Planning and Land Use Management (2021) that the Knysna Municipality at a Council meeting held on 11 December 2025, has adopted the Sedgefield Local Spatial Development Framework (2025) by way of Resolution No: M 01/12/2025.

AANNEMING VAN DIE SEDGEFIELD PLAASLIKE ONTWIKKELINGSRAAMWERK (2025)

Kennis word hiermee gegee in terme van Artikel 10(2) van die Knysna Munisipaliteit Verordening op Ruimtelike Beplanning en Grondgebruiksbestuur (2021) dat die Knysna Munisipaliteit by 'n Raadsvergadering op 11 Desember 2025, die Sedgefield Plaaslike Ruimtelike Ontwikkelingsraamwerk (2025) aangeneem het by wyse van Resolusie No: M 01/12/25.

DR. LULAMILE MAPHOLOBA
MUNICIPAL MANAGER / MUNISIPALE BESTUURDER


www.knysna.gov.za

155311 www.ayandambanga.co.za

Index

- To Rent
- Accom. Wanted
- Accom. - Holiday
- Announcements
- Boats & Acc
- Building Services
- Businesses
- Cellular, Electronics & TV
- Clothing
- Computers
- Crafts & Home Industry
- Education & Tuition
- Electrical
- Employment Offered
- Employment Wanted
- Fabric & Haberdashery
- Food & Wine
- For Sale
- Home & Garden
- Health & Beauty
- Hobbies
- Home Improvements
- Lost & Found
- Miscellaneous
- Motor Cars/Bikes
- Personal
- Pets & Livestock
- Plumbing
- Property
- Restaurants & Pubs
- Security
- Services Offered
- Sport & Leisure
- Tea/Coffee & Take-Aways
- Heavy Vehicles & Mach.
- Wanted / Swap etc

NB. Classified adverts for the next issue need to be in by Monday 9th February 2026. Emailed classies will not be placed without payment

1. To Rent

Spacious upstairs apartment with balcony, max 2 persons. Garage parking available. 1 March. R8000pm. Excl. Water/Elec. Tel 082 467 8596

4. Announcements

ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS Sedgfield 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

Sedgfield 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 0824 142133 to book your place.

WANTED:Sedgfield 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

All DIY Hardware and Tools available @ Sedgfield Hardware. Tel 044 343 1960

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

COMPUTERS

Hardware, Software & Internet Support
Ken Hampson 072 111 7791



Tortoise Car Hire
044 343 2991
082 874 6245
Based in Sedgfield
Deliver between Mosselbay and Plett

BUILDERS... We source the best local products at the cheapest possible price. CX Tipplers & Diggers - your one stop aggregate supplier. Tel 044 382 1645

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

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 7710694

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

Jolly Juniors Registered Crèche and Aftercare on the Island. Contact Anzelle @ 082 058 2988

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

13. Electrical

Electrical Hardware @ Sedgfield H/Ware

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

15. Employment Wanted

Anette, domestic work. 068 146 1634

Elijah, gardener, painter & cleaner. Please call 061 137 3589

Godfrey - garden work . 075 343 5654

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

Maulana Maumbo is looking for work as a Driver Machine operator. Email maulanamaubo@gmail.com or please call 069 286 9277

Rachel, domestic work. Malawian. Call 069 589 3764

Suzen, domestic work. Malawian Call 069 559 5035.

Thandi looking for domestic work. Refs + work permit. Exper. 078 928 0555

Violet Shaba, domestic work.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT & REGISTERED AUDITOR



CATHERINE ANNE MATHER
BCompt Hons CA(SA) (ACIS)

tel: **044 343 2202** cell: 083 779 7934
email: cathy@camather.co.za
address: 14 Swallow Drive, Sedgfield

Malawian. Call 060 587 7782

Witness Mzia, domestic work. Malawian. Call 060 405 4696

Building work
Zimba - 073 194 6419 Paint, Tiling, Carp

Carer - home based
Thandi - 074 330 9262 Ref

Domestic
Enala - 082 237 3935
Fostina - 062 260 4093 Refs Wed 1 day
Lennie - 067 798 9174
Lincy - 078 494 3118 Refs. Avail 3 days
Loveness - 067 172 1955
Thomas - 078 873 3402
Rachel - 076 731 8986
Rose - 069 825 4480
Violet - 060 587 7782
Witness - 060 405 4696

Driver
Thomas - 067 235 1000 Mechanical

Gardening
Charles - 084 091 2621 Painting
Frank - 065 575 8089 Driver, Cleaner
Godfrey - 075 343 5654
Justine - 075 187 6365
Karim - 083 774 0992 Refs
Lazarus - 063 951 0351 Painting
Steven - 083 337 7660 Painting, Cleaner

18. For Sale

Golf clubs very good condition as set Woods 1,3,5 Spalding, 7 Hippo Irons - 3 to 9, 4 Ram rescue clubs, 3 mixed putters, 1 chipper, 126 balls, sand wedge, pitching wedge, 2 bags, ball retriever, lightweight cart. R2000. Martin 084 618 1180

Retainer lite blocks ~ affordable, light, easier to work with and quicker to install. Ready Bricks 068 600 6557

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

Shower seat plastic, plus (2) plastic mats. Seat folds-up for easy storage. (Make - Hobby Life, 570mm high, by 360mm wide, when opened). Very recently bought. No longer needed. Like new. R500. Call 079 523 5940

19. Home & Garden

AQUAMAN POOL CARE Service Maintenance. Pump Repairs. Call 044 343 3237 / 072 704 2872

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

KUBI HIRE - Digger Loader for Hire Landscaping & hauling. Craig 073 726 4424

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

Personal Plumbing Services Qualified plumber. Water pumps. Rainwater harvesting. Handyman Service. Call Deryck 081 046 8915

We do tree felling, bush clearing, plot clearing, paving waste removal, and other related garden works. Call Godfrey on 078 337 7886

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!

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

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

22. Home Improvements

BUILDERS... Contact CX Tipplers & Diggers for all your planthire & aggregate requirements. Quality products & service at your doorstep. Tel 044 382 1645

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

Personal Plumbing Services Qualified plumber. Water pumps. Rainwater harvesting. Handyman Service. Call Deryck 081 046 8915

31. Security

Alarm and Gate Batteries. Tel 3431960

JVM AUTOMATION - Alarm systems. Automated Garage Doors, Gates, Remotes & Batteries. Installations, replacements & repairs. Sedgfield 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



Fish Eagle Financial Planning
FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS CRAFTED WITH CARE
AUTHORISED FINANCIAL SERVICE PROVIDER : FSP NO. 14958

• Offshore investments • Retirement Planning
• Local share and collective investment schemes
• Risk Planning • Wealth Planning • Wills

BRIAN GROOM
Bachelor of Economics

082 900 5391 brian@fisheaglefinplan.co.za

www.fisheaglefinplan.co.za

JOIN OUR FREE LOYALTY CLUB PROGRAMME

LAUNDRY-ON-SEA
Shop 15, Pick n Pay Centre

8am - 5pm
6 days a week

FULL SERVICE LAUNDRY & DRY CLEAN
Holiday Makers • B & B's • Households
081 819 2421 Light Industrial • Pet Blankets
NOW USING FILTRATED WATER

TIMBACLAD

• Decking • Ceiling • Poles • Balustrading
• Half log cladding • Staircases • Flooring
• Handrails • CNC Service

timbaclad@telkomsa.net Francois +27 (0) 82 411 0513
www.timbaclad.co.za Sanet +27 (0) 82 829 4775

COP- Community Orientated Policing. Fighting Crime in Sedgfield. 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 Sedgfield. All levels. Bring your own racquet, balls supplied. Coaching fees R150 hour + R50 court visitors fee. Call to book 071 558 8581

SURF LESSONS on weekends. Beginners to advanced. Call Slade 060 907 3845

ROUTROTS de Tis

FSH BUILDERS
"Building with Pride"

26 Years in the Garden Route
flabuschagne3@gmail.com
083 325 8299




DIVARIS
SKIPS
Division of Divaris group



Contact
Georgou: 079 211 3308

TOYOTA VEHICLE OWNERS OF SEDGEFIELD - You - yes you!



Are you tired of travelling for your services or waiting in or around town for your vehicle to be ready? KNYSNA TOYOTA offers a pickup service for your vehicle. Renaldo Calitz resides in Sedgfield and will pick up your vehicle to be serviced @ KNYSNA TOYOTA.

If you want to know anything TOYOTA – NEW OR USED - Buying, Selling or Service related – Please call Renaldo 044-3821122 or 0845974734

KNYSNA TOYOTA **AUTOMARK**
CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED VEHICLES

BUILDING PLANS

SACAP & SAIAT Registered Professional Senior Architectural Technologist
Design of New Houses (Modern & Contemporary)
Additions & Alterations to Existing Dwellings
Approval of Unauthorized Building Work
Swimming Pool & Roof Solar Panel Approval
Subdivision and Consolidation of Erven
Business Signage Application
All Rezoning Applications
Contact Details: Cell: 062 6252 096



RESIDENTIAL AND
COMMERCIAL INSTALLATIONS
AND MAINTENANCE

FRANCOIS KRUGER
079 517 6302
edengaslp@gmail.com

SAQCC NO – 5535

FISHERMAN SAVED AT SWARTVLEI

Jonathan Britton, NSRI Wilderness station commander, reports:

At 21h43, Wednesday, 21 January, NSRI Wilderness duty crew were activated following a report to their duty phone from an eyewitness raising the alarm regarding a fisherman suspected to be in distress on Swartvlei Beach, Sedgefield.

Off-duty NSRI lifeguards, who were camping in the area at the time, had also been alerted following a commotion at the beach, indicating that a person appeared to be in distress in the water.

NSRI Wilderness rescue swimmers and NSRI medics responded while the off-duty NSRI lifeguards, and local community volunteer medical personnel, were activated and responded.

Knysna Fire and Rescue Services, the SA Police Services and WC Government Health EMS were activated

and responded. Reports suggested that what appeared to be a headlamp, worn by a local fisherman who had been fishing from the beach and waded into shallow surf, had disappeared underwater in the surf zone. Immediately bystanders witnessing the incident raised the alarm.

On investigation the off-duty lifeguards, who had grabbed the NSRI pink rescue buoy that is stationed on the beach, located a 22-year-old male fisherman, from George. He was in shallow water, barely conscious, and appeared to be trying to get himself to the shore.

The off-duty NSRI lifeguards assisted the man to the shore and initiated medical care as by that stage, he was unresponsive and in a serious condition presenting with non-fatal drowning symptoms.

The lifeguards were joined by NSRI medics, local community volunteer paramedics, Police and emergency services.

The man was stabilised by paramedics and he was transported to hospital by EMS ambulance in a serious but stable condition.

Following medical treatment in hospital, the man was discharged on Thursday.

While fishing the man had got into difficulties in shallow surf. He may have been caught in rip current that swept him into the surf zone.

The eyewitnesses that raised the alarm and the swift response of the off-duty NSRI lifeguards, the community volunteer paramedics, NSRI Wilderness, Police and the emergency services, are commended for contributing towards saving the man's life.

Bystander eyewitnesses have praised the swift response, the professionalism, compassion and cooperation displayed by the joint teams that responded to this incident.

AIR Project 2026 : Empowering Knysna's Next Generation of Cultural Entrepreneurs

The Western Cape Arts Festivals (WCAF), powered by Ariva Arts Foundation, and funded by the Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport (DCAS), the National Arts Council of South Africa (NAC), the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture (DSAC), and the Presidential Employment Stimulus Programme (PESP) Cycle 6, in proud partnership with Knysna Municipality, officially announces the launch of the African Indigenous Renaissance (AIR) Project 2026.

This transformative training and development programme empowers artists from the Knysna region through hands-on mentorship with indigenous musicians, instrument makers, master crafters, and business experts. The project equips participants with the skills to transform their creative practices into sustainable cultural enterprises rooted in indigenous heritage.

The AIR Project is designed to nurture cultural entrepreneurship by providing practical training in indigenous instrument making and playing, craft production, business management, events coordination, and marketing. Participants graduate with both creative mastery and commercial insight, enabling them to build viable livelihoods within the cultural and tourism economy.



“The AIR Project is where culture meets commerce,” says Yusuf Ganief, CEO of the Western Cape Arts Festivals and founder of the AIR Project. “We are not only developing artists - we are cultivating cultural entrepreneurs who can sustain themselves through their heritage, skills, and creativity. This programme directly links empowerment, identity, and economic opportunity.”

Executive Mayor Cllr Thando Matika welcomed the initiative, stating:

“Knysna is proud to host a programme that directly empowers our creative community. The AIR Project aligns with our Integrated Development Plan by advancing local economic growth, social inclusion, and cultural tourism - particularly for artists from underserved and rural communities. It enables meaningful participation in the

creative economy while celebrating the rich indigenous heritage of our region.”

Beyond skills development, the AIR Project promotes economic participation, job creation, and cultural tourism growth. By strengthening local creative value chains - from instrument makers and craft producers to performers and cultural entrepreneurs - the programme contributes to Knysna's positioning as a vibrant cultural destination.

Auditions for the AIR Project 2026 were successfully held on 9 December 2025 at Hornlee Civic Centre, where musicians and crafters from across the Knysna region presented their work for evaluation. A panel of five independent judges assessed artistic skill, cultural relevance, craftsmanship, and entrepreneurial potential.

SASSA PROVIDES UNIFORMS

Parents from Sedgefield Primêr in Smutsville are very grateful to the SASSA offices from George who came to the school on 17 January with school uniform hampers for the children.

This initiative is part of SASSA's Social Relief of Distress (SRD) programme, ensuring vulnerable learners receive essential schoolwear with dignity and timeliness. As a Schedule 3A public entity, SASSA administers social grants and emergency relief to qualifying households, and the provision of school uniforms forms a critical component of the SRD grant, aimed at reducing the financial burden on indigent families and promoting school attendance.

Whilst the wait had been lengthy – applications were filed back in 2023 - the parents of the young recipients were very grateful. “The delivery included full uniform sets for twenty children, each worth over

A grateful parent receiving a school uniform hamper from SASSA

R5000,” said a Smutsville community member Salome Kiewiets, who had assisted with the facilitation. She explained that each hamper included a pair of shoes, three pairs of socks, two pairs of trousers, a short sleeve shirt, two long sleeve shirts, a jersey, underwear, a belt, raincoat, Dry-mac, schoolbag, pullover, tracksuit, sports shirt and a sports t-shirt.



EXPERT CARPENTRY SERVICES

Looking for skilled craftsmanship and precision? With 30 years experience in Knysna, our expert carpentry service brings your vision to life .

Decking & Outdoor Woodwork ✓
Timber alterations ✓
Wendy Houses ✓
Garden Sheds ✓

We specialise in all things timber

Call:
0694042037

MILLWOOD
TIMBER TRADING CO

EDGE PRES

Printing Services
044 343 2415

Quality printing locally available

Brochures
Flyers
Business Cards
Posters

072 516 4701
editor@edgenews.co.za

Legal Notices

JW

JORDAAN VAN WYK INC.
Attorneys, Conveyancers & Deceased Estates

ESTATE NOTICE
Estate no 026484/2022

The First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Accounts in the Deceased Estate:

Surname: BATSON
Full name: RICHARD GUY
Identity Number:3611055058185
Last Address: 68 Charles te Water 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.

If no objection is lodged with the Masters during this period, payments will be made in accordance with the accounts.

JORDAAN, VAN WYK ATTORNEYS INC.
65 MAIN ROAD, SEDGEFIELD, 6573.
Email: estates@jvwlaw.co.za
Tel: 044 343 2126
Executor: Anton Jordaan

SAVE OR QUEUE

Together, we can avoid Day Zero with 50ℓ or less per day!

<p>9ℓ</p> <p>DISH WASHING 1 sink wash a day or, 1 economy load (29ℓ) every 3 days = 9ℓ/day</p>	<p>10ℓ</p> <p>BODY WASHING Stop-start (with hair wash) No hair wash = 5ℓ Sponge bath = 3ℓ</p>	<p>1ℓ</p> <p>PETS Small to medium sized pets</p>
<p>9ℓ</p> <p>FLUSHES One flush Use greywater = 0ℓ If it's yellow, let it mellow</p>	<p>10ℓ</p> <p>LAUNDRY 1 machine load (70ℓ) per week = 10ℓ/day 1 handwash basin = 9ℓ</p>	<p>2ℓ</p> <p>TEETH & HANDS Wash hands with waterless sanitiser = 0ℓ</p>
<p>3ℓ</p> <p>DRINKING Water, tea, coffee</p>	<p>5ℓ</p> <p>HOUSE CLEANING Clean every 2nd day Use waterless products = 0ℓ</p>	<p>1ℓ</p> <p>COOKING Food prep & cooking</p>

REPORT WATER ABUSE **WHATSAPP 060 998 7000**

This is a guide for 50ℓ per person per day. Your actual usage will depend on your appliances and personal preferences.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT **KNYSNA.GOV.ZA/DAYZERO**

inclusive | **Knysna** | innovative | Municipality || Munisipaliteit || uMasipala | inspired

Pilates & Iyengar Yoga

R100 per class

Vanessa 084 551 2356 (WhatsApp)

Fynbos on Sea

SIMBAVATI LODGE COLLECTION

Spa & Wellness Centre

You'll feel on top of the world!

Rejuvenate your body & mind with our expert treatments. Reduce stress, boost energy, & glow from within. Experience the healing power of relaxation & self-care. Our treatments promote overall well-being and leave you feeling refreshed. Treat yourself to tranquillity & bliss.

We are open from 10am to 7pm, every day of the week.

Booking essential 069 300 8987

fynbos@simbavati.com

Knysna Health

Lifestyle Medicine

We have a wide range of supplements from premium quality suppliers, healthy food products and skin and body care ranges in store

FEEL FREE TO POP IN OR ORDER ONLINE

www.knysnahealth.co.za

044 492 0522/3 • 062 607 1634 or info@knysnahealth.co.za

- Shop 4, Broadwalk Centre, Waterfront Drive, Knysna

- Boatshed Close, Thesen Island, Knysna • 061 973 0764

HEALTH EXPERTS PUSH BACK AGAINST THE NEW YEAR DETOX CRAZE

Each January, detox diets surge as part of the annual post-holiday reset. A US study published in *Nutrients* found that around 26% of consumers have tried a juice cleanse or detox programme, underscoring how entrenched detox culture has become. Although the data is US-based, experts suggest the trend mirrors behaviour seen in many countries with comparable wellness and diet industries, including South Africa.

This seasonal surge is mirrored in consumer spending. January remains a strong sales period for detox and detox-adjacent supplements, with products positioned around liver support, digestion and cleansing. These trends form part of a rapidly expanding global detox market, forecast to grow from about USD 40.7 billion in 2025 to more than USD 72.6 billion by 2035.

Prominent dietitian, Aziwe Booï, known for her evidence-based, culturally relevant nutrition advice, says despite their popularity, there is no credible scientific evidence that detox

diets remove toxins or provide lasting health benefits.

“The human body is naturally equipped with highly efficient elimination systems – primarily the liver, kidneys, lungs and digestive tract – that continuously remove waste without the need for special regimes or products.”

“Detox diets and cleanses often promise rapid toxin elimination, weight loss and improved energy levels, but research shows most lack strong clinical evidence. Some protocols, such as juice-only cleanses, may even lead to nutrient deficiencies, blood sugar fluctuations and negative metabolic effects. The supplements industry is largely unregulated, with no requirement for health claims to be verified. As a result, many products marketed for weight loss, cleansing or detoxification often contain ingredients with laxative effects. Long-term use of such substances can be dangerous and may lead to dehydration and, in severe cases, hospitalisation.”

The research published in *Nutrients* also found that a three-day juice cleanse increased markers of inflammation and altered gut bacteria in ways associated with poorer digestive health – contradicting typical detox claims.

Booï also notes that the term “toxins” is rarely defined in wellness marketing, with many detox plans failing to specify what is being removed, how it would occur or whether those substances are harmful at typical dietary exposure levels.

Health experts advocate for “balance”, not cleanses

“Detox diets tend to oversell the idea that we need to purge our bodies after a few days of celebration,” says Booï. “In reality, your body is already detoxifying around the clock. So, if any product is being sold promising anything that sounds too good to be true? It probably is. Sustainable habits, not extreme regimes, support long-term wellbeing.”

She highlights that many popular detox programmes are overly restrictive, often excluding balanced protein, healthy fats or fibre sources essential for metabolic and digestive health. “You might feel lighter or sharper during a cleanse, but that’s usually due to calorie restriction or cutting out alcohol and processed foods temporarily – not because you’ve eliminated ‘toxins’.

“This year’s wellness reset should emphasise re-establishing healthy routines rather than chasing quick fixes. Gentle, evidence-based approaches give people real tools to feel good again, without misleading claims or unnecessary stress.”

Rooibos – a scientifically credible ally in post-holiday wellness

For South Africans, Rooibos needs little introduction. Increasingly, however, it is being recognised in scientific and public health research as a credible, evidence-based beverage, valued for its antioxidant profile rather than detox claims.

“People often look for something to ‘fix’ festive overindulgence,” says Booï. “But the reality is that the body already has highly effective detox systems. Rooibos doesn’t promise a quick fix – it supports everyday hydration and balance, which is far more sustainable. Meeting hydration needs can often prove to be challenging for many. This is where Rooibos – consumed either as an iced tisane or served as a warm beverage – can be a flavourful alternative with additional health benefits.”

Rooibos contains polyphenols, such as aspalathin and quercetin, associated with antioxidant activity and reduced oxidative stress – a process linked to inflammation and chronic disease risk. Research has also linked Rooibos consumption to improvements in cardiovascular and metabolic markers, while emerging gut-health studies suggest it may help protect the

intestinal barrier and reduce inflammation in gut cells.

Rooibos, which is naturally caffeine-free and low in tannins, is a convenient substitute for sugary or caffeinated drinks, supporting lasting whole-body health rather than temporary cleanses.

“Instead of chasing the next trending cleanse, focus on habits you can actually sustain,” says Booï.

She encourages a shift away from restriction and towards an abundance mindset – asking not what you need to cut out, but what you can add to your diet and lifestyle to make it healthier.

Here’s a simple health checklist to help you build lasting habits:

- Stay hydrated – this includes beverages like Rooibos
- Eat fibre-rich meals by prioritising darker, whole-food starches
- Choose nutrient-dense options, such as colourful fruit and vegetables every day

Total Foot Care

Sr. Gillian Williamson

071 877 2638 • 072 672 4162

Build Strength • Stability • Mobility

Tamlyn Hetem **BIOKINETICIST**

061 514 7085

Using exercise to assist and improve:

Spinal conditions • Parkinson’s Disease • Fibromyalgia

Balance and fall risk • Shoulder and hip conditions

Knee and ankle conditions

Discovery Vitality Fitness and Functional Assessments

621 Lake Road, Wilderness 6560

8 Fraser Street, Sedgefield 6573 www.360mindbody.com

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Face-to-face Meeting

Monday 7.00 pm

Catholic Church, Sedgefield

Flamingo Street gate entrance

Newcomers Welcome!

for more info call 079 323 2085

MOVE Community

Drop In

MATWORK Pilates

Classes R150

WhatsApp for daily timetable 084 567 9809

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

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

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

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

SAMURAI

SUDOKU

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

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

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

CHURCH SERVICES

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.

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

AGS Lighuis
Kontak : Kerkkantoor 044 382 6551
Sekretaresse 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

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

New Apostolic Church
Enq: Anthony Davis - 083 641 5027

NG Kerk Sedgfield: 08.45am
Karata: 10.30am
Ds. Marius Coetzee 079 873 3832
Kerkkantoor (044) 343 2033

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

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

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

Sedgfield 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

SEDGEFIELD STRIDERS' AGM SIGNALS A STRONG YEAR AHEAD

Sedgfield Striders held its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday evening, drawing an excellent turnout of members and comfortably exceeding the required quorum.

The strong attendance reflected the continued commitment and enthusiasm within the club. Key matters affecting the club were addressed, with particular emphasis placed on the much-anticipated Tortoise Tuff, scheduled to take place on 21 March. With FJ Cruiser confirmed as the main sponsor, and generous support from Wild X Adventures, AR Gaiters, and V&M Labs, the committee expressed confidence that this year's event will be another resounding success. Numerous smaller sponsors have also come on board, with the list continuing to grow.

More than just a race, the Tortoise Tuff has become a showcase event for both the club and the town of Sedgfield. The influx of runners, supporters, and visitors provides a meaningful boost to the local economy while reinforcing Sedgfield's reputation as a welcoming destination for athletes and outdoor enthusiasts alike. The event also highlights the important role Sedgfield Striders plays within the broader community.



A special highlight of the evening was the introduction of three Life Honorary Members, individuals recognised for their outstanding and sustained contributions to the club over many years. Together with club chair Alvin Witten, they are (as pictured above) Pedro Goncalves, Paul Laubscher and Darryl Webber.

"By conferring honorary membership tonight, we do more than say thank you. We affirm the values we want this club to be known for: service, generosity of spirit, teamwork, and commitment to something bigger than ourselves," said Chairperson Alvin Witten. Development will be a key focus area for the year ahead. To support this, the club has established a separate development fund, underscoring

our commitment to structured growth and future capacity building.

The AGM concluded with the presentation of certificates and trophies to athletes across various categories. Sedgfield Striders athletes continue to represent the club with distinction, participating in numerous events throughout the district and consistently drawing positive attention to both the club and the town. Congratulations were extended to all award recipients for their dedication and achievements.

For more information on the AGM, upcoming events, and award recipients, visit www.sedgfieldstriders.co.za or follow Sedgfield Striders on Facebook.

THE EDGE'S WEEKLY PODCAST

This Week in Sedgfield



SCAN ME

CAN YOU ASSIST MASITHANDANE

The Masithandane Children's Safe Park Programme needs the following please:

- Top Trumps card games in various categories
- Jig-saw puzzles up to 60 pieces
- Board Games suited to Primary School Children
- Musical Instruments
- Clean empty 25 litre buckets

Items can be dropped off at Masithandane, Milkwood Road, Sedgfield until 13h00 or call Candice Lima 044-3432110 if you would like goods collected.

ALSO – The Masithandane Weaving Project – aimed at job creation – is in urgent need of a single or double garage in which to store their equipment, on either temporary or permanent basis, as their current premises needs to be vacated on Wednesday this week.

Please call the number above should you be able to assist.

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



SEDGEFIELD BRIDGE CLUB

Thursday 15 January 2206
1st. Willem & Clive 58.8%
2nd. Linda & Robyn 55.5%
3rd. Thinus & Johann 54.6%

Thursday 22 January 2026
1st Keiran & Terry 64.5%
2nd. Jo & Ann 63.8%
3rd. Jeannie & Mark 56.2%

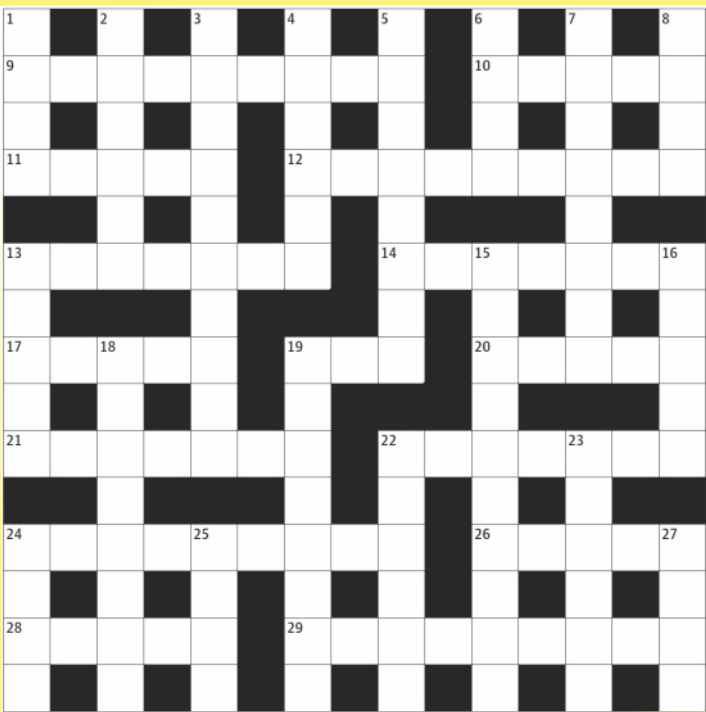
TED'S BRAIN CRUNCHER

Across

9. Strangely in awe of the colour being affected by elements. (9)
10. Card carrying leader eats the first steak. (5)
11. Was it the threat of war that got one so rattled? (5)
12. Could those scars be less 'him' perchance? (9)
13. Not keen on a job involving coconuts. (4,3)
14. What the editor says to show off. (7)
17. The clown - a powder is all it takes to get him into hot water! (5)
19. A large amount of inflection without direction. (3)
20. On record that it could mean the demise of this crossword! (5)
21. 'Man of the match' won't work. (7)
22. A bridge destroyed by fire. (7)

24. Chap I rush about on wheels. (9)
26. He has his own personal high-dive platform. (5)
28. On the board, as it were, the Reverend is envious. (5)
29. Turn too sharply and topple the beast. (9)
Down.

1. Has bad weather. (4)
2. In Morecambe, go right, but be careful of the angle. (6)
3. A cut of mutton? Get knotted! (10)
4. Flip burger offcut by making it a little unsavoury. (6)
5. Noise had scared them into sticking together. (8)
6. A small ornamental case buried in 'hulle tuin'? (4)




7. Slice out a new berth for this man. (8)
8. In the Cape, such is one that mimics. (4)
13. Primitive ignition systems for light industry. (5)
15. The investigation of the writer's sketchy storage unit. (6-4)
16. Inch towards the point of being lazy. (5)
18. Bobs respectfully Brusque? That's terrible Afrikaans! (8)

19. Arrogant about seasoning. (8)
22. 'Dinosaur' at the tavern turns away money. (6)
23. Put up with an offer to the newspaper man. (6)
24. Sometimes silent push begins to show disgust over swimmer Lewis. (4)
25. The average worker is simply unable to pour out. (4)
27. Heat aimed at Will. (4)

SOLUTIONS FOR LAST ISSUE


Across: 1. Just so 4. Deflate 9. Confiture 10 Umami 11. Pupil 12. Lampshade 13. Thought 15. Police 17. Stasis 19. Tangent 22. Referenda 14. Let go 26. Union 27. Hangers on 28. Doe eyes 29. Stroke **Down:** 1. Jackpot 2. Sun up 3. Spillages 4. Dream up 5. Feuds 6. Avalanche 7. Exited 8. Bullet 14. Out of line 16. Loneliest 18. Synch in 19. Trains 20. Trounce 2. Ground 23. Randy 25. Tasto





COLA MYOLI CONSERVANCY
Living in Harmony with Nature

CONSERVANCY AGM

All welcome to join discussions, stay informed and to share your views.

**THURSDAY**
5 February 2026

**TIME**
17h30

**VENUE**
Lions Clubhouse
(next to the Sedgfield clinic)

Our guest speaker is well known local author Sue Swain who will be speaking on the subject 'Biomimicry: Revitalising relationship with our living planet'.

More Information:
colaconservancy@gmail.com

Cash Bar Available

The Wine Ghost

The Wine Ghost tasted – Spier Chardonnay Pinot Noir 2025

The front label on the bottle is quite plain, but the cellar's name is definitely prominent.

On the back label there is a bit of history about the cellar, as well as tasting notes. Abv.12%.

It is a very clear wine, with a light salmon blush colour and a few distinctive legs.

The wine has a yeasty nose, like one would find in homemade ginger beer. Aromas of golden delicious apples and freshly cut grass came to the front. Rather high acidity was experienced, with flavours of green strawberries, apple and prominent mineral tones.

It is a medium bodied wine, with a medium length mouth feel and tastes of yellow apples with minerality lingering in the mouth.

Enjoy chilled with a raw salmon salad, or on its own.

It is an interesting wine in the price range R80 – R100.

In Vino Veritas till next time

ISSUE 732 28 January 2026

THE EDGE Page 11

PLEASE NOTE OUR DEADLINES

(Careful, they tend to fly by VERY quickly)

Display Ads: Email editor@edgenews.co.za by 5 February 2026
Classifieds: (Stuff for sale, jobs, get-rich-quick schemes, secret treasure hints)
Email accounts@edgenews.co.za by Monday 9 February 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



The BIG Walk for Young Warriors

A Childhood Cancer Awareness Walk
18 FEBRUARY 2026 5.30pm
Wally vd Walt Street, The Island

PLEASE WEAR YELLOW OR GOLD IN SUPPORT

No entrance fee, but donations to CHOC
(Childhood Cancer Foundation of South Africa)
will be appreciated



From left: Almarie Mead, Linda Evans and Wendy Mack

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

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

TIDE TABLE

28 Jan - 10 Feb 2026

● Full Moon 2 February 2026

Wed Jan 28 2026
low tides 05:07 18:18
high tides 11:41
sunrise 05:46 sunset 19:37

Thu Jan 29 2026
low tides 07:38 20:05
high tides 0:43 13:04
sunrise 06:41 sunset 19:26

Fri Jan 30 2026
low tides 07:50 20:19
high tides 01:51 14:07
sunrise 05:48 sunset 19:36

Sat Jan 31 2026
low tides 08:43 21:04
high tides 02:42 14:57
sunrise 05:49 sunset 19:35

Sun Feb 01 2026
low tides 09:28 21:43
high tides 03:26 15:41
sunrise 05:50 sunset 19:34

Mon Feb 02 2026
low tides 10:09 22:19
high tides 04:05 16:20
sunrise 05:51 sunset 19:33

Tue Feb 03 2026
low tides 10:46 22:53
high tides 04:42 16:57
sunrise 05:52 sunset 19:33

Wed Feb 04 2026
low tides 11:21 23:25
high tides 05:18 17:32
sunrise 05:53 sunset 19:32

Thu Feb 05 2026
low tides 11:54 23:55
high tides 05:51 18:05
sunrise 05:54 sunset 19:31

Fri Feb 06 2026
low tides 12:24
high tides 06:19 18:37
sunrise 05:41 sunset 19:40

Sat Feb 07 2026
low tides 00:26 13:00
high tides 06:58 19:12
sunrise 05:56 sunset 19:29

Sun Feb 08 2026
low tides 0:57 13:38
high tide 07:32 19:50
sunrise 05:57 sunset 19:28

Mon Feb 09 2026
low tides 01:33 14:28
high tide 08:13 20:44
sunrise 05:58 sunset 19:27

Tue Feb 10 2026
low tides 02:26 15:54
high tide 9:12 22:28
sunrise 05:59 sunset 19:26

BIG WALK FOR YOUNG WARRIORS

Please join the Sedgefield Lions and Striders for the Childhood Cancer Awareness walk on Wednesday 18 February. The Big Walk for Young Warriors will happen along the Striders Club time trial route in Wally van der Walt Street at 5.30 pm.

The fight against Childhood Cancer is one of the pillar projects of Lions International. Whilst childhood cancer is the leading cause of disease related deaths in children, the survival rate can be up to 80% in higher income nations if treated early enough.

Come along and have fun supporting this worthy cause.

LADIES' GOLF

Club Report

Friday, 16 January 2026

... and the ladies are back. The theme this year "Smile, Fun and Fabulous Golf!"

Our first Friday saw us looking very spiffy in our new pale blue shirts, buzzing to catch up after a month-long break. The weather turned it on for our opening ladies' match of the season - though, truth be told, even rain probably would not have drawn many complaints given the local water shortage.

After a quick rundown of the latest course rulings and a warm welcome to Debbie von Plato, who has joined the ladies' division, we were ready to kick off the golfing year. With fingers crossed that we had not completely forgotten how to coax that little white ball into such a tiny hole at the end of the green, 19 ladies stepped onto the tees - and away we went, the format being Individual Stableford!

Results:

1st Place - Almarie Mead 34 points (count-out evens 18)
2nd Place - Linda Evans 34 points (count-out evens 17)
3rd Place - Wendy Mack 33 points (count-out 16)
4th Place - Marina van der Westhuizen 33 points (count-out 17)

Nearest the Pin (Handicap 16 upwards) Linda Evans

Birdies

Shannon Nicol (10)
Brenda Howden (14)
Clare Garner (5)
Almarie Mead (8)
Well played to all ladies!

Friday, 23 January 2026

With 19 ladies arriving at Sedge Links, the cool air and gentle breeze were a welcome relief as we gathered to say hello and enjoy a quick catch-up before heading off to our allocated tee boxes. The day's format was an Alliance, with two scores to count. We also had the pleasure of welcoming newcomer Adelaide Claassen to the team.

Results:

1st Place - Brenda Howden, Daleen Schooling and Ronnie Maingard (79 points)
2nd Place - Shannon Nicol, Janet Wood and Brenda Howden (ghost) on a count out (75)
3rd Place - Adelaide Claassen,

Essie Steinmann and Debbie von Plato (75)
Adelaide played 2 under her allocated handicap

Nearest the Pin 6 and under handicap - Linda Evans

Birdies

Marina van der Westhuizen (10)
Wendy Mack (14)
Claire Theunissen (14)

Well played to all players!

Off the Mat

Sedge Bowling Club News



"You don't stop playing bowls because you get old

—
you get old because you stop playing bowls!"

PROTEAS FLYING HIGH

Our ROLLBOKKE - Esme Kruger, Jason Evans and Shaun Thomas gave an outstanding account of themselves at the World Indoor Bowls Championships. Although there were no medals, they represented us with pride, grit and determination. Sometimes the bowls don't fall your way!

THE WAY WE ROLL IN EDEN

Eden Singles
It's only January and Sedge Bowling Club is already filling the trophy cupboard with a fine collection of silverware from the Eden Singles:

- Ann Dold - Silver, Veterans Ladies
- Robin Gibbs - Bronze, Veterans Men
- Marius Nagel - Silver, Novice Men

JUBILANT JUNIOR

The pride and joy of our club, Wilize Botha, played brilliantly to enhance her chances of selection for the Eden team to compete at the SA National Junior Championships later this year! You go girl - we're cheering you all the way!

BACK HOME ON OUR OWN GREENS

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this publication (including inserts) are not necessarily those of the members of The Edge Community Newspaper and no liability therefore is accepted. Letters to the Editor will, on request, be published under nom de plumes provided that the names and addresses of authors are supplied. Whilst every care is taken with the reproduction of photographs and other submitted formats and/or articles, no liability is accepted by The Edge Community Newspaper or its members for any loss or damage that may occur.



SEDGEFIELD
OFFICE 044 343 1287
EMAIL sedgefield@pamgolding.co.za

JOINT MANDATE



The Village • R 4.495 million **1SH1727476**
Bedrooms 4 • Bathrooms 3 • Garages 2
Spacious, newly renovated home with a flatlet in the Village.
Hilna 082 722 4611 • Tania 062 974 8899

EXCLUSIVE MANDATE



Central • R 2.75 million **1SH1691496**
Bedrooms 2 • Bathrooms 2.5 • Garages 1
Modern and stylish home in gated estate with beautiful indigenous garden.
Hilna 082 722 4611 • Tania 062 974 8899

EXCLUSIVE MANDATE



Cola Beach • R 1.55 million **1SH1709979**
Vacent Erf • 850m²
Along the quiet curves of Cola Beach is this well-hidden patch of paradise.
Peet 084 811 9973

ooba
Contact ooba today, Call us on 0860 00 66 22

Pam Golding Properties
An International Associate of Savills

The clubs drawn Ladies' and Men's competitions are progressing well and with the Novice Singles kicking off on 17 February There's no shortage of opportunities for Sedgies to test their mettle - and keep their nerve under pressure.

Loyal servants to the end

It will be more of an au revoir than a goodbye when Barry and Felicia Gerber move west within the Eden District at the end of Barry's term as Club Secretary. We'll miss you not only for your service, but for the heart and humour you brought to the club.

It's all in the call
If it is true that "Good communication saves a lot of measuring" we all owe Pieter Griesel and his trusty WhatsApp group a vote of thanks for keeping us off our knees! Dankie Pieter!

*"An elderly bowler called Kent Whose backhand was terribly bent,
Was rumoured to say
In competitive play
That he couldn't control where it went"*

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

DELIVERY AND PICKUP AVAILABLE

Cell: 065 035 0124
www.knysnaebikeco.com



E-BIKE RENTALS

Scan. Book. Ride

KNYSNA E-BIKE co