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GOLDEX

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GET READY FOR SEDGEFIELD'S FIRST 'EN ROUTE ARTS FESTIVAL'

Above: Well known actor / playwrite Andrew Buckland in full 'Fool's Guide' swing.

Right: The three local stooges - sorry - 'thespians' - in the hilarious spoof of "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare."

The final line-up has been announced for the inaugural *En Route Arts Festival* which will be held in Sedgefield from 19-24 June, and boy are the organisers setting the bar high in their first year!

Flip to the centre spread of this edition of The EDGE to feast on the impressive line up of South African creativity that's on offer, right here in your home town. Alternatively, visit the website and social media accounts created to get word across the Garden Route and beyond.

"The choice is yours," says Festival Director Roland Vorwerk, "Not only are there 15 theatre productions, including drama, comedy and political satire, there's also one exhibition, two children's shows, three talks and readings, four workshops, and five music performances, not to mention 11 guided tours."

The stage performances take place at *In Toto Retreat* and the *Simbavati Fynbos on Sea Bistro*, whilst other festival attractions will be hosted at different venues.

Just to get the festival excitement into contagious mode, the team will have a table in front of Scarab Village this Saturday to share more information about the programme and answer any questions.

Tickets are on sale via Quicket.

For more information visit the festival website: enroutefestival.co.za or find them on Facebook and Instagram. For queries call Roland on 082 466 1251.

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APPROVED BUDGET AND TARIFF INCREASES SPARK DEBATE

Council pledges infrastructure rebuild while DA warns of financial risks.

Knysna Council has officially approved a R1.57 billion budget for 2026/2027, marking what Executive Mayor Thando Matika describes as a "decisive shift toward financial stability" and massive reinvestment in crumbling infrastructure. However, the Democratic Alliance has rejected the budget, citing unrealistic projections and unaffordable tariff increases for residents as the reason.

The budget was nevertheless passed by a majority vote at a Special Council Meeting on Friday, 29 May 2026, with the ANC, PA, PBI, EFF, and KIM coalition supporting the measure. The DA Caucus voted against it.

Residents will feel the impact immediately, with the following council-approved tariff increases effective from 1 July 2026:

Property Rates: 5%

Electricity: 11.5%

Water and Sanitation: 12%

Refuse: 25%

The nuts and bolts of the approved budget include a total revenue of R1.57 billion and an operating expenditure of R1.53 billion, resulting in a projected surplus of R42.1 million. Notably, capital expenditure has increased significantly to R249.3 million, up from R137 million the previous year.

Knysna Executive Mayor Thando Matika insists the painful necessity of restoring municipal infrastructure takes priority.

"We are unapologetically focused on fixing the basics," he said. "Approximately 80% of the capital budget, roughly R200 million, is dedicated to infrastructure projects that include electricity, roads, stormwater, water and sewerage."

Key projects funded this budget cycle include R15 million for refurbishing the Knysna Wastewater Treatment Works, R30 million for network pumpstation upgrades across Greater Knysna, and R11.6 million for urgent CBD sewer pumpstation upgrades. Water security initiatives include pipe replacements in Westhill and Old Place to reduce non-revenue water losses, plus installation of 8,000 new water meters.

Addressing the steep 25% refuse tariff increase, Matika acknowledged the burden on residents. "The steep 25% increase in refuse tariffs is a painful necessity driven by the escalating costs of outsourced truck hire, which currently costs the town R8.4 million," he explained. "Our reliance on expensive, outsourced service delivery is a model we must move away from by rebuilding our internal capacity."

"Greater Knysna stands at a crossroads," Matika said. "The fiscal and operational deterioration we have faced is significant, but it is not insurmountable. We will rebuild this municipality brick by brick, focusing on stability, accountability and an unwavering dedication to our residents."

DA Knysna Mayoral Candidate Levael Davis criticised the budget extensively, calling it flawed and unrealistic "The proposed tariff increases are unaffordable for many households," Davis said. "Electricity tariffs will rise by 11.5%, water by 12%, and refuse removal by 25%."

"These increases come at a time when nearly half of all water pumped into the system is lost," Davis added. "Water losses have climbed to beyond 47%, driven by leaks, illegal connections, and faulty meters. Despite ongoing water cuts and infrastructure failures, residents are being asked to pay more without any visible changes."

The DA highlighted several financial concerns. Last year, R40 million was supposed to be borrowed to address the water meter crisis, but this never happened. The municipality now plans to borrow R99.4 million in 2026/27, followed by R45.8 million and R35.9 million in subsequent years.

"The Provincial Government is already assessing whether Knysna can afford this debt, as outstanding municipal debt, according to the latest monthly report, has already ballooned to more than R608 million," Davis noted.

He said that Knysna also faces a potential R600 million+ environmental fine liability, repayable over five years, from raw sewage spills and pollution affecting the Knysna Estuary. "We received no clear explanation of how these costs are budgeted for or linked to a detailed implementation plan with clear time-frames," the councillor remarked.

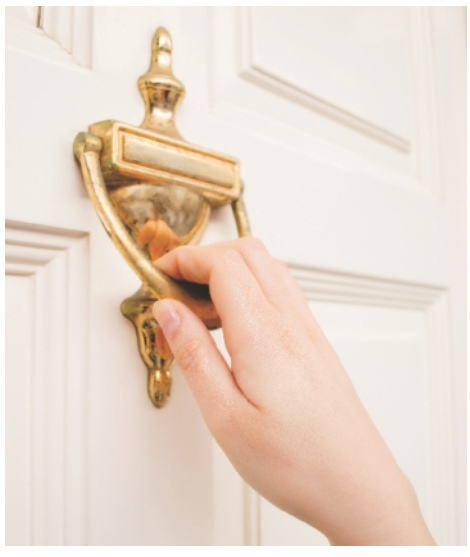
The DA also questioned the projected R42 million surplus. "This appears to rely heavily on capital grant allocations being counted as revenue. Excluding these grants, the municipality faces an operating deficit of R11.4 million," Davis explained.

Davis criticised Mayor Matika's accountability, stating: "In his budget speech, the Executive Mayor listed his five commitments made when he took office. There is no evidence to support his progress. Presenting recycled funding as an achievement is not accountability, but propaganda."

Despite the opposition, council remains committed to restoration. "Our goal remains unchanged: to restore Knysna as the Jewel of the Garden Route," Matika concluded. "The road ahead is long and the climb is steep, but we do not walk it alone."

The DA pledged continued oversight. "While the budget has now been approved, the DA will continue to hold the ANC and their partners accountable for delivering on their commitments," Davis said.

The approved budget and related policies are available on the municipal website.



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Notes from T'Ed's Head

You may notice that this week's column comes from a different angle.

Don't get me wrong – I haven't gone all hom-diddy hom-diddy and decided to examine the subtle complexities of the human condition or anything like that. I mean from a PHYSICALLY different angle.

Because I wrote it standing up.

Yes - standing up and typing at the same time. AND I'm listening to music. Who said we men cannot multitask when we want to?

You see, I have recently acquired a strange new device (and I'm sure you will understand that, for me, anything invented in the past 10 years is new). It's called a 'Standing Desk'. I'm sure I don't have to go into the intricacies of how such a thing works - it's pretty self-explanatory.

Why? Well, I am glad you asked (so nice of you to take the time) - because I feel I am due a large dollop of sympathy here … though to be honest I'd rather it not be in the form of flowers (might I be so presumptuous to suggest a goody-basket of sorts? I gather one of the bottle stores in town has a special on a certain brand of lager)

This new standing position of mine was a direct result of a long-standing complaint (Ha! See what I did there?). Simply put, I had a permanent pain in my neck.

No. It wasn't Mrs Ed (but that's a good one - heh heh - well done, and don't worry, I promise I won't tell her it was you who suggested such a thing!) though old Three Horse (nag-nag-nag) may bear at least some responsibility. It was an actual physical pain in the neck. I'd done something to it that left me annoyingly stiff and sore on the right-hand side, between my ear and my shoulder, and it didn't seem to be in any hurry to heal itself.

And whilst we are discussing my physiological condition, I might ask what happened to those days, when strain or injuries of any sort were few and far between? Even when they did happen, my body would almost ALWAYS manage to sort itself out overnight. Anything from a sprained ankle to a strained back, to a boxed nose to a dodgy gut - a good night's sleep would be all it took to get my lean, mean, windsurfing machine physique back to its original formidable format, where everything was locked in place and operating at peak efficiency.

Nowadays, since I limped past 50 and started rolling uncontrollably towards the big six oh, things are different. Somehow, I manage to regularly injure myself in fashions that are most embarrassing and totally unheroic.

In the last couple of years, I have put my shoulder out from 'over-brushing' my teeth. 'Cricked' my back picking my car keys up from the floor, and pulled a groin muscle opening the window above our bed. Hardly the sort of stuff that earns any admiration from lesser mortals in doctors' waiting rooms, and definitely not anything I want to be remembered by.

My biggest fear is that I meet my demise pathetically prematurely, and end up (or down) with a gravestone epitaph 'Here lies T'Ed, a kindly but clumsy soul who perished from head injuries brought about during brave attempts to tie a shoelace without his reading glasses.'

This neck injury has gone on that long, I can't even remember what caused it. However, I think I've narrowed it down to the time I

tried to open the gate whilst carrying a pocket of potatoes on my shoulder, and that last summer's day when I attempted to put my speedo on without lying on the bed.

And please don't feel led to say something that might add insult to my injury. I AM aware that now I've reached the 'latter half' of my life (you don't have to rub it in, unless it's Deep Heat - because that helps), I probably need to take more care of my physical wellbeing.

I have even started labelling my afternoon hammock snoozes as 'medicinal', in an effort to persuade Mrs Ed to schedule her incessant lawnmowing at different times. I am also taking the 'minimalist' approach to carrying anything in from the car except the car keys and Mrs Ed's handbag - even when we've done a 'big shop'.

I've also sought professional help, though I have to say, the feedback from ChatGPT was less than convincing, I think it might have been hallucinating.
"Newspaper editors often suffer TWS (Typo Whiplash Syndrome), so they should avoid reading through their own publications AFTER the printing has been done," it suggested, adding (the cheek of it) that I should also consider ditching the "serious editor" pose it found me portraying on Facebook, which it labelled 'ergonomically illegal'.

And as if that wasn't enough, it listed countless other possible neck pain causes for me to consider.
(i) Bad positioning of the coffee machine, resulting in 'office chair over-swivelling'.
(ii) Meeting fatigue. (It advised that when sitting around a table, I should support my head with BOTH hands so that it would not drop forward so violently when I nod off).
(iii) Social media strain. Apparently, I should avoid looking down at my phone every five minutes to see who's offended or who I can offend.
(iv) Occupational hazards - such as lifting heavy things (moral responsibilities and dodgy press releases are included, but hopefully cases of beer aren't).

On and on it went. Spewing out a veritable smorgasbord of ridiculous AI reasons why a newspaper editor, perhaps (just) past his prime, should unexplainedly wake up with a pain in the neck (No, AGAIN, ... NOT Mrs Ed - but BRAVO! Aren't YOU on a roll today!)
In fact, the only thing ChatGPT said that made sense was that I should avoid 'Bad Working Posture.'
"Ensure that you are not sitting permanently hunched over at your desk for hours on end," it told me.

This was a problem. In fact, this was more than likely THE problem.

I am not a typist by any means, so any newspaper content coming from my desk (or head) is painstakingly picked out at snail's pace by the ever-impatient Peter Pointer fingers on my right and left hands. And it involves SERIOUS concentration too, with my head bent down, four inches above the keyboard, in order to find the right keys (why on earth they can't be in alphabetical order I cannot fathom).

So … I'm hunched. Double hunched. My hunches have a hunch. If there ever were a movie, 'The Hunchback of The EDGE ', I would have the title role.

Which is why I am now trying something new. Standing … and typing. Typing and standing. Both at the same time.
And I have to report it worked! My neck pain started dissipating … slowly but surely, it ebbed away …
I was so delighted I felt I could just jump for joy.

That's when I put my back out.

I'm sure Mrs Ed will show some sympathy, and perhaps even offer me one of the countless pills she has in that cavernous handbag of hers …

... just as soon as she stops laughing.

I'd be mad if she didn't!

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ADMITTING GREEN GUILT

KNYSNA MUNI PLEDGES TO FIX ENVIRONMENTAL MESS

Knysna Municipality has been handed a landmark R10 million fine - suspended for five years on strict conditions - after admitting in court to multiple environmental law breaches. The local authority has pledged to spend hundreds of millions on urgent remediation and long-term rehabilitation. This according to the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) and the Acting Knysna Municipal Manager.

The municipality's admissions include several pollution incidents - the most recent being between 4 October 2023 and 7 October 2024, when sewerage spilled from open manholes into streams flowing into the Knysna Lagoon, causing significant pollution to water resources. The local authority also admitted that between 2 October 2023 and 29 April 2024 it had unlawfully disposed of waste on Erf 1339 in defiance of directives and action plans issued by environmental authorities. Earlier admissions were that between 9 May 2017 and 22 July 2019 the municipality failed to take reasonable steps to prevent environmental degradation at Erf 214 Knysna and two temporary relocation areas, TRA Site 1 and TRA Site 2 in that it allowed excavations and earthworks for housing development to continue without proper waste management systems.

The Knysna Regional Court fined the municipality R10 million after it pleaded guilty to five counts under the National Environmental Management Act, four counts under the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, one count under the Environmental Conservation Act and one count under the National Water Act. The fine is suspended for five years on condition that the municipality uses the same amount to carry out emergency repairs and meets the deadlines set in the plea and sentencing agreement.

Acting Municipal Manager Boy Manqoba Ngubo represented the local authority during the proceedings

Acting Municipal Manager Boy Manqoba Ngubo represented the municipality during the proceedings and said Knysna accepts the outcome. He said the ruling reflects serious shortcomings in environmental management and infrastructure compliance, but also gives the municipality an opportunity to strengthen compliance systems and accelerate infrastructure interventions. Ngubo said council has committed about R630 million over the next five years to address environmental compliance obligations, rehabilitate affected areas and improve the sustainability and reliability of critical waste treatment and sewerage infrastructure.

The agreement also requires long-term action plans for the Waste Treatment and Sewerage Works, finalisation of the Maintenance Management Plan for the Bigai River Flood Plain by 30 June 2026, and monthly progress reports to the appointed environmental officer and the provincial head of criminal investigation in the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning. The first status report is due by 1 July 2026. The municipality must also pay R500 000 to the provincial department for environmental law enforcement purposes by 30 July 2026.

Senior State Advocate Jacomina Swart said the municipality failed to adhere to its statutory obligations as an organ of state and that the admissions showed it had infringed important constitutional and environmental rights of Knysna residents. Acting Western Cape Director of Public Prosecutions Adv Adrian Mopp welcomed the sentence and said the NPA would continue taking all necessary steps to protect the integrity and safety of the environment.

The NPA statement, issued by Eric Ntabazalila, said that the sentence sends a clear message that environmental crimes carry serious consequences.

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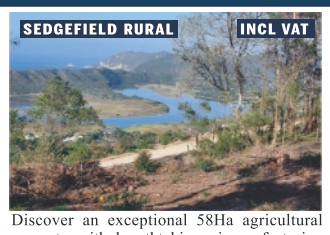

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IS THE MOUTH OPEN?

Beyond the breach : a conservation Sedgefield needs

By Jonathan Britton,
former excavator handler at the Swartvlei Mouth

Sedgefield has settled back into its familiar routine, the tidal rhythm of the estuary forming the backdrop to life in the village. In the days following the flooding around the Perdespruit, a familiar debate surfaced that was, on reflection, more balanced and thoughtful than in previous years. This article adds depth to those questions being written by someone who spent many years in the arena. A fuller understanding of what drives flood risk here opens a more empowering conversation.

What actually happened and why it matters

Authorities breached the Swartvlei mouth well below the prescribed trigger level of 2.0 metres above mean sea level, acting early and proactively. Had that intervention not been made, the flooding would certainly have been considerably worse.

Mechanical breaching is a risk mitigation action, not a risk elimination measure. One intervention in an extraordinarily complex system, designed to reduce severity, not prevent flooding entirely. The process is far more nuanced than it appears when viewed from the car park. The decision of when to breach is a layered read of constantly shifting conditions, data patterns and a structured decision-making process.

Swartvlei is a temporarily open and closed estuary, a living interface between river, sea, sediment, tide and human influence. Its behaviour is governed by laws of nature that do not bend to urgency, and an open mouth state does not override the physics. Wave action and storm surge actively resist outflow during major events, and research consistently shows that tidal state, wave setup and backwater effects can raise water levels upstream even when a mouth is fully open. This was precisely the sea state during the last breach, compounded by a neap tide cycle reducing outflow efficiency. Before the rainfall began, Swartvlei was already at 1.15 metres above mean sea level. Breaching at that level against powerful swells and storm surge would have delivered insufficient hydraulic head while wave action deposited sand into the preparatory trench, impeding the process.

The theoretical sweet spot for breaching is shortly after spring high tide, aligned with an outgoing tide and rip current, at the prescribed breaching height, in calm sea conditions. This event did not offer those conditions. The rate and volume of rainfall was the controlling variable.

The railway embankment and the N2 compound this further, functioning as physical berms constraining floodplain drainage regardless of mouth state.

What we experienced rivals the historic rainfall events of 1981, 1996, 2006 and 2007. and was a severe natural event meeting the limits of what any mitigation action can absorb.

A broader conversation worth having

The conversation about mouth state is only one part of what resilience in Sedgefield requires. We lost water for days. We lost electricity. Neither failure has anything to do with the estuary breach, yet both point to equally important questions about infrastructure resilience and contingency planning that deserve the same attention when a storm warning is issued.

Sedgefield is not separate from the Swartvlei system. It is part of it. The decisions regarding how to adapt and prepare for extreme events are woven into the ecology itself. Flood risk in this village is as much a product of accumulated human choices as it is of rainfall volumes. Understanding that does not assign blame, it clarifies where the levers of genuine resilience actually are.

The questions worth raising together

The Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002 is unambiguous. Municipalities carry mandatory obligations to anticipate likely disasters, identify at risk communities, reduce vulnerability, ensure emergency preparedness, and maintain funded contingency plans embedded in Integrated Development Plans. A plan without a funding allocation is not a plan. It is a document.

These are not aspirational guidelines. They are legal requirements.

Our community has every right to engage constructively through ward committees, ratepayer associations and IDP participation processes on the following: Does an approved Disaster Management Plan exist, and when was it last reviewed and tested with the community? Is there a tested evacuation plan, and how has it been communicated? What budget exists for disaster preparedness and preventative infrastructure maintenance?

Organised communities that engage formally through recognised civic structures are not complainants. They are active participants in governance, and the record they create is far harder to ignore than a social media post.

The harder conversation

Severe weather cycles are shortening. Those who invest in and live alongside these systems carry a responsibility to understand that risk cannot be engineered away, before we buy, before we build, and before we direct our frustration.

Resilience is not only a question for Authorities it begins at home and between neighbours. The social fabric of a community is itself a form of flood infrastructure, one no municipal budget can build on our behalf. The goal must be resilient communities, not merely reassured ones, communities that understand the state of the mouth are one factor among many, prepare across many layers, and do not mistake a single mitigation action for a guarantee.

Where the river meets the sea, certainty ends. Preparedness begins.

About the author

Jonathan Britton spent 21 years in formal conservation with SANParks, including taking the responsibility for the mechanical breaching of the Swartvlei Estuary Mouth. His career evolved to include Social Ecological Systems Thinking, the study of how human communities and natural environments are inseparably connected, across open access Protected Areas. He now works in environmental consulting, lives in Sedgefield, and personally holds a significant stock of sandbags!!

SRA ASK DIFFICULT QUESTIONS

by Alvin Witten, on behalf of Sedgefield Ratepayers Association.

The Sedgefield Ratepayers Association (SRA) continues to actively represent the interests of residents by holding the municipality accountable for service delivery, infrastructure maintenance and future planning.

Following the recent storms and prolonged power outages, many residents in Smutsville, Cola Beach and Myoli were left without water. The SRA immediately engaged municipal officials, demanding answers about the failure of the emergency generator at the Sedgefield Water Treatment Works and questioning why critical infrastructure had not been properly maintained.

The municipality confirmed that the generator had failed and that repairs were underway. However, the SRA's concerns extend beyond this single incident. The Association has highlighted broader issues relating to infrastructure reliability, disaster preparedness and the apparent lack of preventative maintenance.

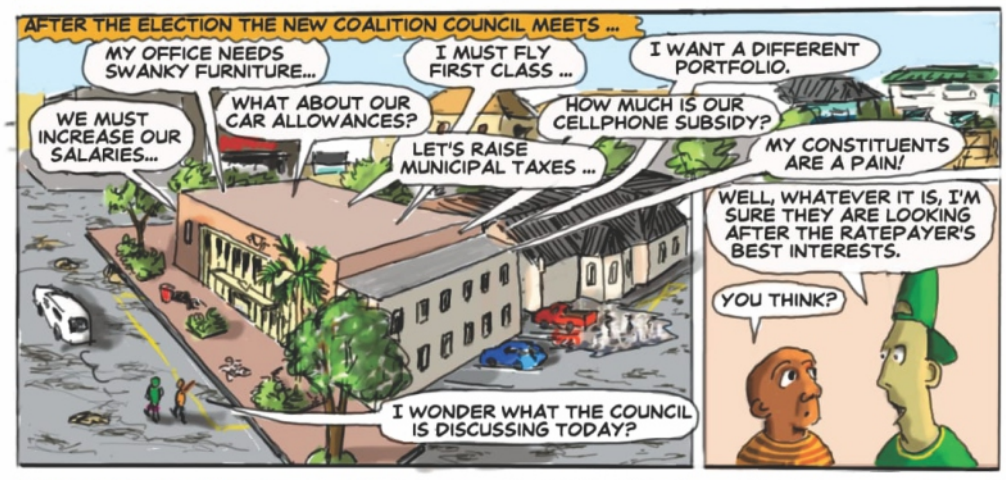
In a further step to protect residents' interests, SRA Chairman Kevin Barnes has submitted a comprehensive list of questions to the Municipal Manager and senior officials regarding water security and the risk of a possible "Day Zero" scenario.

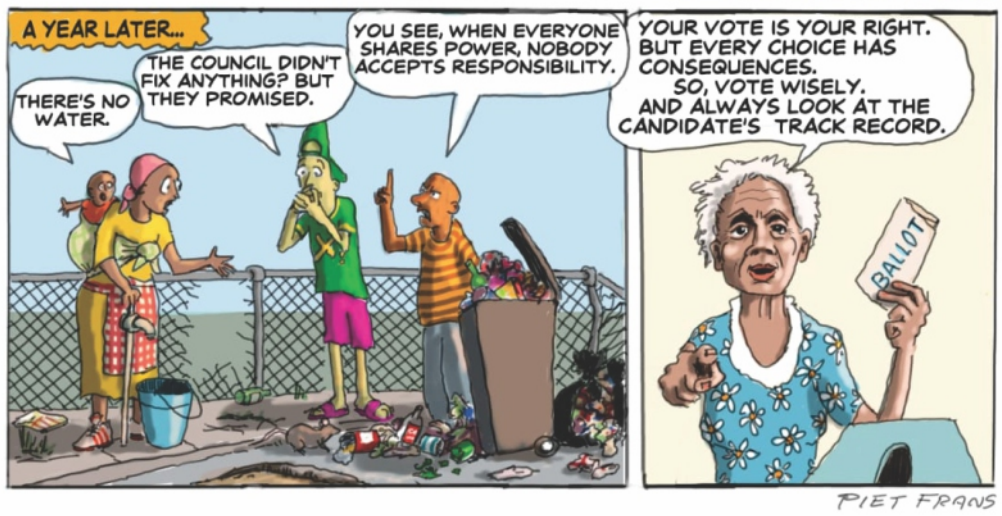
The SRA is seeking clear answers on:

* Current water restrictions and future water supply risks
* Dam levels, groundwater resources and water security forecasts
* The condition and resilience of water infrastructure
* Flood protection measures for pump stations and critical facilities
* Emergency backup systems and contingency plans
* Municipal preparedness for peak summer demand
* Public communication and transparency regarding water-related risks

The objective is simple: to ensure that residents are informed, that infrastructure is properly maintained, and that the municipality has a credible plan to provide uninterrupted water services .

The SRA remains committed to asking the difficult questions, demanding accountability, and advocating for the interests of all Sedgefield ratepayers.





THE LOVELY TALE OF ERIC

This has to be one of the most heartfelt stories in SAM's History. It's about love for animals and one beautiful grey cat.

Approximately two years ago this gentle grey cat arrived up at the old Oysters Edge restaurant. The owners at the time … Gary and Renee Atkinson and Mike and Kirsty Hofhuis, welcomed the cat which they thought was a female and named her Tinkerbell. They sold the property over a year ago and Gary and Renee have since moved to Robertson. Kirsty came to an agreement with the new owners to keep Tinkerbell there. She was fed by Colleen who works for SAM in the morning. Kirsty in the evening and the new owners during the weekend. She became the security cat and part of the family.

On Monday evening Kirsty discovered that Tinkerbell had hurt her foot. The next day when the SAM team went to collect she had gone missing. A two-and-a-half day search began, the property throughly combed and put posts out everywhere. Kirsty eventually found Tinkerbell on Thursday evening and rushed her to the vet.

While this was all going on Simone Gouws had seen a post on the Lost and Found Whatapp group and wondered if Tinkerbell could be her lost cat. That was ruled out as it was thought the kitty was a female.

However Jean, SAM's Vet Nurse, informed the team that Tinkerbell was actually Tinker Dude. Kirsty immediately notified Simone who went to the vet and discovered Tinker Dude was actually her long lost cat, Eric.

Kirsty Hofhuis from Sam's with Gaia and the Gouws family with Eric in the cat box.

Tears of joy all round. "Eric has been such a part of my life." says Kirsty, "Feeding him religiously for two years come rain or sunshine, My dog even played with him during feeding times. I sadly couldn't take him as I already have three cats."

A story of care and compassion on the one side and a story of an owner that never gave up hope on the other. "Go well Eric. We will miss you. A big thank you to Gary, Rene, Megan and Andrew for agreeing to take him in," Kirsty reflects, "And an even bigger thank you to Colleen who did the morning feeds, Ingrid who did the Saturday night and Sunday morning feeds and lastly to my Gaia Girl who always came with me and kept me company for the evening and Saturday morning feeds."

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HIGH COURT REJECTS GREY ELEPHANT INVESTMENT'S CHALLENGE TO KNYSNA'S MUNICIPALITY TARIFFS

In a significant ruling that reinforces municipal authority over service charging, the Thembalethu Circuit High Court has ruled in favour of Knysna Local Municipality in its ongoing tariff dispute with Grey Elephant Investments (GEI), the owner of Knysna Mall.

The two parties have been at loggerheads for years now, with Knysna Municipality reporting at one stage that GEI had an outstanding debt of between 60 and 70 million rand with them. Many heated council meeting eruptions occurred when certain political parties proposed that a large portion of this debt be written off.

This most recent judgement, delivered by Judge Daniel Thulare on May 27, 2026, affirmed the municipality's right to impose service tariffs on Grey Elephant Investments. The court rejected GEI's claims that the charges were unlawful and inconsistent with existing by-laws and the Local Government Municipal Systems Act.

"We found that municipalities are allowed to charge fees, rates, and surcharges to help pay for services, keep them running efficiently and sustainably, and improve them over time for the benefit of the community," the court held.

Judge Thulare's ruling included pointed remarks about GEI's position. "GEI's suggestion that salons, gyms, restaurants, and other businesses consuming municipal water at the mall should not pay for water services to enable the municipality to maintain, develop, and extend water infrastructure in Knysna is extraordinarily astonishing and stands to be rejected".

He continued: "To suggest that the legislature, through the Systems Act, would have envisaged that businesses in a mall would get water as a freebie from the municipality as regards infrastructure maintenance, development, and improvement, is extremely far-fetched".

The judge further held that when a municipality supplies water and sewerage to a shopping mall through one main connection, it can charge the mall for those services as long as the shops and businesses use municipal water. Despite the setback, GEI stated it respects the judicial process but expressed disappointment with the outcome. The company reportedly intends to seek leave to appeal the judgment.

The rates dispute between GEI and Knysna Municipality dates back to 2020, with GEI applying to the Western Cape High Court in December 2024 to resolve the issue. GEI had claimed that all tariffs - including water, waste removal, sewerage, and electricity billed since 2023 - were "illegal".

The company, which owns Knysna Mall, the Rex Hotel, and Rex Extension, sought an order to declare the municipality's 2024 and 2025 tariff policy unlawful and "ultra vires" (beyond legal power). GEI specifically challenged the municipality's practice of levying a fixed basic rate for water and wastewater/sewerage on business consumers per premises and number of business units or shops.

At one point during the dispute, the municipality had threatened to cut off services to GEI and Rex Extension, but a 2020 court order interdicted the municipality from doing so. The municipality did cut off their electricity in 2025, but this matter was again successfully challenged in court by GEI.

The 27 May ruling strengthens Knysna Municipality's position in managing local service delivery and revenue collection. The court's decision confirms that commercial properties within shopping centres remain liable for municipal services consumed, even when supplied through a single main connection to the mall.

Grey Elephant Investments now faces the question of whether to proceed with an appeal, which could prolong a dispute that has already consumed several years of legal proceedings.

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Sedgefield Art Society Exhibition

The Sedgefield Art Society is proud to showcase a rotating collection of artworks from their members – from captivating landscapes to vibrant abstracts.

20 & 21 June from 10h00-16h00 Garden opposite In Toto Retreat. Free Entry.

The Seeds of Kindness

Puff the Dandelion is a heartwarming children's book series. Join author and yoga teacher, Carla de Gouveia for a book reading and some yoga suitable for children.

20 June at 14h00. Lagoon Studio, The Island. R50

The Gift of Forgiveness

In the peaceful meadow where Puff the Dandelion spreads seeds of kindness, old feelings can sometimes grow heavy. Hear how Sylvester Crocodile must find the courage to look inside his own heart.

21 June at 12h00. Lagoon Studio, The Island. R50

In Conversation

The good, the bad, and the ugly of being a performing artist in South Africa; generational insights and perspectives. Hear Andrew Bucklans, Mike van Graan and Sophie Joans in conservation.

21 June at 15h00. In Toto Retreat. R100

Make the Question Beautiful

Join researcher and writer Greg Streak for a talk about his new book, Make the Question Beautiful. This introduction to thinking differently is practical, fast-moving, and grounded in real creative problems.

19 June at 15h00. In Toto Retreat. Free Entry

Staged Reading

Abraham's Promise is a dynamic, evolving scripted dialogue which takes the form of a staged television-studio panel discussion featuring representatives of the three Abrahamic faiths: Judaism, Islam, and Christianity.

21 June at 14h00. Lagoon Studio, The Island. R100

Painting a Plate

Paint a mug or a plate, with any design/pattern/picture. Enjoy the vibrant underglazes in the tranquility of this little pottery studio. Your ceramic work will be glazed and fired and ready for collection two weeks later.

20 June at 08h00 and 11h00. Slow Clay, Mosaic Market. R350

Telephone Wire Jewellery

A hands-on creative experience under the guidance of Michelle Lencoe, a skilled local crafter. Learn the intricate techniques of weaving colourful telephone wire into your own unique piece of jewellery.

23 June at 10h00. Lithemba Arts and Crafts Shop. R300

Trace Your Journey

Join Collin Cole and Dina for an immersive six hour-long printmaking experience where you will scratch, ink, wipe and print your own expressive drypoint monoprints using poly-carbon plates. For curious beginners and creative explorers alike.

22 June at 09h00. Blue Door Print Studio. 6 hour-long Workshop. R1250

Write your own Pillow Book

A creative writing workshop with Liesl Jobson, artist, musician and writing teacher. Ponder the thoughts that arrive in your bed, and nowhere else. Allow your most intimate writing to come alive.

20 June at 10h00. In Toto Retreat. R400

Amy Winehouse

This powerful tribute show unpacks the brief and impactful life of this once-in-a-generation talent who captured the imagination of both the mainstream pop chart and lovers of the timeless soul music of yesteryear.

22 June at 19h00. Simbavati Fynbos on Sea. R200

Call me a Diva

This show is a love letter to the artistry, power, and unapologetic glamour of unforgettable talents such as Aretha Franklin, Whitney Houston, Barbra Streisand, Dolly Parton, Shania Twain, Shirley Bassey, and more.

24 June at 19h00. Simbavati Fynbos on Sea. R200

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Solstice Reflections

A trio of talented artists mark the longest night of the year with music and poetry. Join Liesl Jobson (bassoon), Norman Carless (flute) and Elsabe Barkhuizen (piano) for an hour of reflection, celebration and hope.
20 June at 19h00. In Toto Retreat & 21 June at 15h00. NG Church Hall, Sedgefield. R200

Time to Tango

Be transported to a bustling streetside cafe in Buenos Aires with acoustic guitarist Kurt Siegfried playing a series of tango tunes. Enjoy an Argentine-inspired three-course lunch, a tango demonstration and an opportunity to learn the dance of love! 21 June at 12h00. In Toto Retreat. R450, includes lunch, music and dance.

For more information see www.enroutefestival.co.za
Tickets available at Quicket.
Enquiries, call 082 466 1251

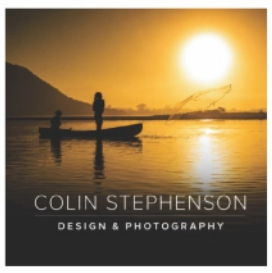
Fossil Trackways

Join Mark Dixon for a fascinating beach walk exploring the fossil trackways left by invertebrate, avian, reptilian, mammalian and hominid tracks and footprints up to 300 000 years ago.

19 June at 10h30. Platbank Beach parking. R750

Photography Excursion

Colin Stephenson hosts a landscape photography excursion along the Swartvlei Estuary, a location that provides lagoon reflections and fiery, cloud-streaked winter sunsets. An opportunity to discuss composition and camera setup to elevate your landscape photography. 20 June at 15h00. Kingfisher Creek Slipway. R300



Protea Farm Tour

A peaceful, guided walk among the beautiful Protea flowers cultivated on Fynboskruin Farm. A guide from Dawn to Dusk Safaris will explain the process to sustainably harvest and transport cut Protea flowers for local and international flower markets. 19, 20, 21 June at 13h00. Simbavati Fynbos on Sea. Free Entry.

Guided Nature Walk

Join the Sedgefield Island Conservancy for an informative walk along the Swartvlei Lagoon, Linda's Trail in the Island Bird Sanctuary and the Enviro Garden. Learn about the locally indigenous plants, the rich birdlife and the initiatives of the Conservancy. 19, 21, 22, 24 June at 10h00. In Toto Retreat. Free Entry.

Sedgefield Mosaic Tour

Enjoy an immersive and informative mosaic art tour of Sedgefield and hear the stories that inspired the Mosaic Art Project started by local NGO, Masithandane in 2008. The tour includes short walks around town and some driving between sites.

19 & 20 June at 10h00. Fijnbosch Coffee Shop. R200

Helen of Troyeville

A superbly acted solo show which reflects on privilege and complexity in contemporary South Africa. A 70-something former Black Sash member becomes a victim of crime in her own home and must deal with all of the stages of grief that losing hope brings. 19 June at 19h00, 20 June at 15h00. In Toto Retreat. R170

Humans of the Streets

This moving piece of theatre features the real-life stories of three people who once lived on the streets of Cape Town, and have managed to transform their lives. The show is followed by a conversation with the actors. Saturday 20 June at 15h00. Smutsville Community Hall. Entry Free. 21 June at 10h00. In Toto Retreat. R100

Markus

Markus verwerk die laaste drie jaar van sy universiteitslewe, verhoudings en die eksistensiële vrees van sy twintigs – alles met die hulp van 'n brandblusser. Hierdie eenman-kabaret en komedie meng humor, patos en rou eerlikheid.

22 June at 17h00. In Toto Retreat. R170. Show in Afrikaans

Mlungu

Talented young theatre maker, Shannon Hendry, reflects on the current state of the nation, claims that Julius Malema would love this show, and asks the provocative question, 'are you white or are you Mlungu?'

23 June at 19h00. In Toto Retreat. R170

Netphlix

Using physical theatre and comedy, award-winning young theatre-maker and comedian, Sophie Joans, brings to life all your favourite online series in a fast-paced performance piece that explores pop culture, modern storytelling, and the digital era.

21 June at 19h00. In Toto Retreat. R170

Pet Friendly

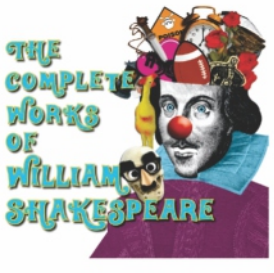
An off-the-leash 'stand-up commentary' combining stand-up and satirical sketch comedy extracting humour about pets in their own right, as well as using humans' love for animals to comment on how we treat other people and their children. 20 June at 17h00. In Toto Retreat. R170

The Beta Man Alphabet

A poignant one-person show set in a changing South Africa exploring memory, identity and hope through a deeply personal father-son journey. Part memoir, part song, part dictionary of a life — this is a show about what we inherit, what we pass on, and what it finally means to be brave. 21 June at 17h00. In Toto Retreat. R170

The Complete Works (abridged)

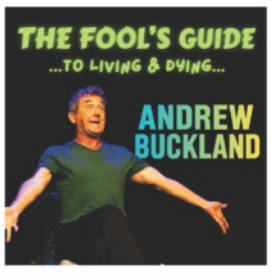
Local actors, Nita Allsopp, Gareth Pretorius and Bomber Webb, come together in a madcap attempt to squash ALL of the Bard's masterpieces into a single theatrical experience. Expect hilarious choreographed chaos covering 37 plays (and ALL the Sonnets) in just 90 minutes! 20&21 June at 15h00. Simbavati Fynbos on Sea. R200



The Fool's Guide

This highly physical performance by the acclaimed Andrew Buckland takes us into the world of contemporary technology, asking serious questions about the human condition, social media and AI, through raucous comedy, loveable characters and poignant story telling.

19 June at 15h00, 21 June at 18h00. Simbavati Fynbos on Sea. R200



The Ugly Noo Noo

Andrew Buckland's award-winning masterpiece tells the story of a man's encounter with the notorious Parktown Prawn. Using sharp satirical commentary, the play takes the audience on an unforgettable journey through the dark underbelly of suburban life in the big city.

20 June at 18h00. Simbavati Fynbos on Sea. R200

CLASSI-ADS

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NB. Classified adverts for the next issue need to be in by Monday 15th June 2026. Emailed classies will not be placed without payment

4. Announcements

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

BOOKS for quality new & 2nd hand books, visit Deo Gratia - we also buy books. 082 9020 649

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

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

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

6. Building & Related Services

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7. Businesses

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9. Clothing

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12. Education & Tuition

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13. Electrical

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15. Employment Wanted

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Vivian - 071 076 656

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Alex - 073 988 8330 Refs
Chakwira - 071 657 9909
Grand - 064 145 4915
Karim - 083 774 0992 Refs
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18. For Sale

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22. Home Improvements

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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

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31. Security

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32. Services Offered

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33. Sports & Leisure

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DIARY DATELINE

Weekly
Sedgefield Cycling Club. Training and social rides from Cycleworx. For ride schedules contact 044-343 1710 or 083-357 9999.

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.
5:15pm Sedgefield Striders Walking / Running time trials on road adjacent to Bowls Club. Beginners welcome.

Thursdays
8 for 9am Sedge Gentlemen's Golf @ The Links
9:30-12. Every 1st and 3rd Thursday, the Pin Cushions meet at the Bowling Club. Quilting. Enq: Claudine 082 456 6055
1:15pm Social Bridge School at St Anthony's Catholic Church hall with play starting at 1:30pm. All levels are welcome. Enquiries: Gail 083 457 7647.
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 every 3rd Saturday at 3pm at the George Botanical Gardens. 083 743 1690

Sunday 7 June
8am-12 Gardeners and Crafters Market at Steam Whistle Stop. 072 487 0395

Sunday 14 June
8am-12 Car Boot Sale at Steam Whistle Stop. 072 487 0395

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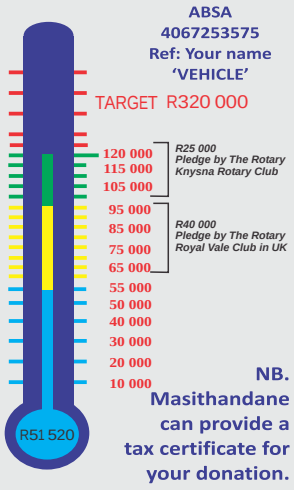
Ref: Your name 'VEHICLE'



NB. Masithandane can provide a tax certificate for your donation.
Please send details to masithandane.office@gmail.com

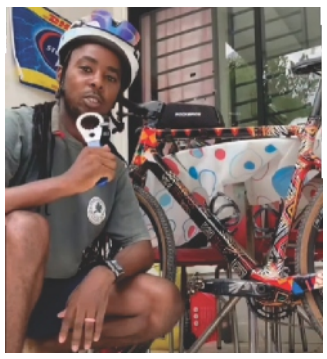
PLEASE NOTE: If you would like to write a letter to the editor, it must be submitted with the author's full name, address and phone number. If a writer does not wish his or her name to appear in print, a 'pen name' (nom de plume) may be included. Email letters to: editor@edgenews.co.za The editor has full discretion as to which letters are included or excluded and no argument, badgering, cajoling, bribery or heated conversation will be entered into. Opinions expressed in published letters and articles are not necessarily those of the management and staff of The EDGE Community Newspaper.

Dear Editor

My name is Malcolm Gawie, and I am originally from Smutsville, Sedgefield. I am currently raising funds to provide bicycles for children in Smutsville, and I was wondering if The Edge Community Newspaper would be willing to share my story with the community. So far, we have raised $504.54.

To support the fundraiser, I recently completed a 1,200 km cycling challenge in Cambodia and, in July, I will ride 1,000 km across South Africa, covering the Garden Route and Karoo, to raise further funds and awareness. You can view the fundraising campaign through the fundraising link and also follow the journey on Malcolm Luke Gawie Facebook page, where I regularly share updates from the rides. Thank you for your time and consideration. Any support in sharing the story would be greatly appreciated.
Kind regards

#UbuntuOnWheels



The Editor

Firstly, thank you to those responsible for getting us back on line following the rain and wind of two weeks ago - I hope that we learnt from it so when it happens again we will be not be in the same boat. We trust that our pump station has backup power and the generator at the waterworks is high up out of the flow of the water.

We hope that:
• The water pumps that feed our main line also have a backup supply so that we don't have the same problems again.

•The Electrical Team has cleared the lines so that when trees blow over the power lines are out of harms way.

• There is a maintenance plan in place and that the permanent power supply will be switched off once a month so that the alternative power kicks in and runs for at least 15 to 30 minutes and that this will be recorded.

• The truck path on the village green gets fixed and more sand and lime placed where the water has been lying on the park grass. We trust that this will all be done so that Sedgefield stays a town that we can be proud of.

Demetri Divaris

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This Week in Sedgefield
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MAYORAL OPEN DAYS WILL BRING SERVICES CLOSER TO COMMUNITES

Knysna Municipality is set to strengthen community engagement and accelerate service delivery through the launch of its newly revamped mayoral service delivery programme; an initiative aimed at taking municipal services directly to residents across all wards.

According to Knysna Executive Mayor Thando Matika, the programme previously known as the Friday Mayoral Site Visits will now operate under the banner of the Mayoral Service Delivery Day. "We are taking a more hands-on and community-focused approach that will see municipal leadership and operational teams working directly within communities every Friday," he explained. "The initiative officially launches on Friday 5 June 2026 in Ward 1, Sedgefield. It will then rotate through different wards throughout the municipal area on a weekly basis."

Matika said the programme is designed to close the gap between residents and municipal services while ensuring that service delivery challenges are addressed faster and more effectively. "We are taking government to the people," he continued. "Communities should not always have to travel long distances or struggle to access municipal services. Through these Mayoral Open Days, our residents will be able to engage directly with municipal departments and leadership within their own wards."

The Executive Mayor, Mayoral Committee Members, senior management, departmental officials and operational teams will work from a designated community hall within a selected ward every Friday from 08:00 to 13:00.

Residents will be able to:
- make municipal payments;
- resolve municipal account disputes;
- report unresolved service delivery issues; and
- access various municipal services directly, dependent on which departments are present on the day.

Municipal departments will establish dedicated service stations within the venue to ensure residents receive efficient assistance directly from relevant officials.

Operational teams will be deployed throughout the ward to undertake visible service delivery interventions at the same time. These will include:
- the cleaning of stormwater drains and V-drains;
- grass cutting and vegetation clearing;
- necessary tree trimming;
- cleaning of illegal dumping hotspots;
- general clean-up and beautification campaigns;
- repairing potholes; and
- attending to service delivery complaints raised by residents.

"We will coordinate with teams from the Community Work Programme to assist with cleaning operations and environmental improvement initiatives within the targeted areas," Matika said. "This initiative is not only about listening to communities, but about acting decisively where people live. We want residents to see municipal teams on the ground, solving problems and improving the condition of our neighbourhoods. This programme represents a shift toward a more responsive and accountable local government."

Several external stakeholders will be invited to participate and provide services to residents, including the South African Police Service, Department of Home Affairs, South African Social Security Agency, Garden Route District Municipality, National Youth Development Agency, the Department of Health, Department of Education,

the Small Enterprise Development Agency and Asivikelani. The Income Section, Licensing Services and, where possible, learner's licence services will also form part of the programme.

"Service delivery works best when government institutions work together. By bringing multiple stakeholders into communities on a single day, we are creating easier access to critical services and support for our residents," Matika concluded. "I encourage residents to actively participate on the day, and to make use of the services that will be available right in their wards. This is another example of how we are working with our partners to build an inclusive, innovative, inspired Knysna."

The Mayoral Service Delivery Day serves as an extension of the Mayoral War Room, which residents can contact on 044 001 2631 or via email at warroom@knysna.gov.za.

The provisional schedule for Mayoral Service Delivery Day is:
- Ward 1, Smutsville Community Hall, Friday 5 June
- Ward 2, Karatara Community Hall, Friday 12 June
- Ward 5, Rheenendal Community Hall Friday 19 June
- Ward 4, White Location Multi-Purpose Centre Safe Hub, Friday 26 June
- Ward 8, Concordia High School Hall, Friday 3 July
- Ward 7, Khayalethu Community Hall, Friday 10 July
- Ward 3, Chris Hani Community Hall, Friday 17 July
- Wards 6 and 11, Hornlee Community Hall, Friday 24 July

This schedule is subject to change, residents are advised to keep an eye on printed and social media for more information.

Brushstrokes

Sedgefield Art Society would like to encourage all art lovers to visit some exciting exhibitions taking place around Sedgefield. Golem Pottery and Craft Studio, situated on the Main Service Road, will be presenting their latest display titled "Winter Wonderland", featuring beautiful, handcrafted creations and artworks inspired by the winter season.

The ever-popular exhibition at Lake View Restaurant continues to draw visitors and boasts an impressive collection of new artworks by some of our very talented Society artists. This exhibition is well worth a visit, whether you are enjoying a meal or simply appreciating the creativity on display.

The Sedgefield Art Society is also very proud to share news of a wonderful exhibition currently taking place at the Sea View Hotel by two of our very own artists, Petra Brits and Roy Vieira Forte. Whether you are stopping in for a meal or simply enjoying a coffee, this exhibition is certainly not to be missed.

Another regular highlight on the Society calendar is our much-loved Pop-up Exhibition, held next to Sotheby's on every last Saturday of the month. Visitors are warmly invited to meet the artists, browse the beautiful artwork on display and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere.

Some of our artists were recently spotted enjoying a Plein Air outing at the Steam Whistle Stop Café, where they found inspiration in the quaint venue and beautiful surrounding scenery. Visitors to the café can now view artwork by Carmen van der Merwe currently on display there.

Our next monthly meeting will take place on the 8th June at the Lions Hall from 14h00. We look forward to welcoming Jeanette Swart, who will be presenting a workshop on Watercolour Techniques.
This promises to be an inspiring afternoon and all art enthusiasts are warmly invited to attend.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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KEEP MEDICINE UP AND AWAY FROM CHILDREN

Pharmacist's warning to parents and grandparents. Medication is intended to heal, but it can be dangerous if misused, used incorrectly or accidentally ingested by curious children.

Medipost pharmacist Cathy Jacobs shares an important safety message to help prevent accidental overdose.

"Accidental ingestion of medication remains a leading cause of paediatric emergency room visits, and anyone who uses medication must take responsibility for keeping it safely out of harm's way to prevent potential tragedies," she says.

Poisoning is among the top five causes of childhood injuries worldwide, and a local study (Balme and Stephen, 2022), published in the African Journal of Emergency Medicine) records that accidental ingestion of medication accounted for 38% of children being treated for poisoning over a 10 year period at one South African hospital.

"All medications, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, should be stored 'up and away' in a place that is out of children's reach, preferably in a locked container or cupboard. This is especially important for parents, caregivers, and any households that children may visit," she says.

"Anyone using daily pill organisers, as many parents and grandparents do to keep track of their chronic medication, should be sure to keep them somewhere secure rather than on a bedside table or in a handbag that could be easily accessible to children or pets."

The principles of medication safety aim to ensure that the correct dose is administered to the correct patient at the scheduled time, via the correct route and for the correct duration. However, medication can become poisonous if taken by the wrong person, or at the incorrect dosage or timing, especially when it comes to children's smaller bodies.

"Often, child and adult doses vary, and sometimes parents need to administer doses of their children's medication according to the child's weight. When giving medication to children, parents or caregivers need to be careful not to exceed the recommended doses and to administer medication correctly as per the instructions on the medicine label issued by the pharmacist. Otherwise, medication can do more harm than good," Jacobs says, "Also – please make sure you understand everything your doctor or pharmacist tells you about how to give your child their medication, and feel free to ask as many questions as you need to. It is very helpful to speak to a pharmacy professional in your home language to get the most out of these interactions."

Medication safety checklist

- **Ask the right questions:** Your pharmacy team and doctor can provide clarity on the dosage and timing of medication, including whether it must be taken with or without food, and advise you about potential interactions with other medications or how to manage any side effects that may arise.
- **Always read the prescription label and patient information leaflet first:** Even with familiar medications, labels and leaflets provide critical warnings on food interactions, drowsiness or updated dosage instructions. Check and double-check that you have the correct medication, and understand the dosage and timing.
- **Disclose other medications that you are taking:** Make a list of all the medications you are taking and their dosages, including any over-the-counter medication or supplements, and share this with your healthcare provider. Parents should do the same for their children's medications.
- **Store medication 'up and away':** Keep medications out of reach, and preferably locked up, away from children and anyone who may be at risk of accidental overdose, such as loved ones with advanced dementia, as well as pets to avoid accidental poisoning.
- **Medication should be stored in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight to protect its effectiveness**. Certain medications require refrigeration, read and follow the cold chain instructions provided in the packaging.
- **Never share medication:** Never take medication prescribed for someone else, even if the symptoms seem identical. Prescriptions are tailored to individual biological factors, including weight, renal function and medical history.
- **Complete the course:** For treatments such as antibiotics, it is vital to take the full course of medication as directed, even if you start feeling better. Stopping treatment early allows surviving bacteria to grow back stronger, contributing to the global crisis of antimicrobial resistance.
- **Keep on track with chronic medications:** For long-term medications, such as those for diabetes, heart disease, and other chronic conditions, ensure that you never run out of your supply to maintain uninterrupted treatment.
- **Dispose of medication responsibly:** Never throw away unused or expired medication with household rubbish, as pharmaceutical compounds can harm ecosystems and, over time, reduce the effectiveness of lifesaving medicines. Speak to your pharmacist about safe medication disposal.

"Medication is essential for health and managing chronic conditions; however, its efficacy and safety depend entirely on how it is handled. Everyone has a role in ensuring that the therapeutic benefits of medication outweigh the risks, and it starts with awareness of medication safety," Jacobs concludes.

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

PHYSIOTHERAPY
Andrea Lamprecht
WILDERNESS • KNYSNA
SEDGEFIELD 082 457 2472

Physiotherapy
Diane Parker
Bsc Physio (Wits)
Karen Williams
BSc Physio (Stell)
8 Fraser Street, Sedgefield
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sedgephysio@gmail.com

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Prof Stan Brighton
• Arthritis diseases
• Back pain from disc diseases
• Back pain from rheumatic diseases
Phone 083 457 4246

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

Knysna Sedgefield HOSPICE
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Tel: 044 343 1722
Main Road, Sedgefield

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
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Monday 7.00 pm
Catholic Church, Sedgefield
Flamingo Street gate entrance
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for more info call
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SAMURAI SUDOKU

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

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

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

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

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

2			7			1		
6								
	3							
4			2			7		
	2		4					
1								

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

TENNIS NEWS

Club Report

With the monthly Monday challenge in May having been washed out on two consecutive Mondays, June's challenge took place on the 1st, with eight players taking part.

As always, three rounds of 12 games were played with Martin Rainbow emerging as the winner with Wian Dekker second and Phil Marais third.

Fun was had by all with really good tennis being played. All players hope that the next one in July sees a full field of 12 players.

As always the club remains a social club welcoming all from our community to join.

It is worth noting that our club is welcoming ladies from Belvidere Club to our midst as a result of the damage inflicted by the storms on their club.

Our ladies are also playing a friendly match against Leisure Isle on the 26th of June.

CHURCH SERVICES

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 9.30am
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 Sedgefield/Knysna
Erediens Sondag 11vm
Goukamma Kerk gebou by Riverdeck
Buffelsbaai pad.
Dr Wim Dreyer - 082 859 6876

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

New Apostolic Church
Enq: Anthony Davis - 083 641 5027

NG Kerk Sedgefield: 08.45am
Karatara: 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

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

Sedgefield Seventh-day
Adventist Church
Ph 081 270 7212

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

St Francis United Church
Sunday - 9am - Family Service
Every 1st Sunday –
9am – Communion Service
Cnr Swallow Drive / Pelican Lane
All welcome! 044 343 1702
Rev Graeme Mercer 082 926 3798
office@stfrancissedgefield.co.za

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 087 630 0609

'Our Ocean Heritage' Programme of Events

An environmental awareness and education programme, Our Ocean Heritage, will take place at the Scarab Open Air Theatre in Sedgefield on National Youth Day, Tuesday 16 June.

The free community event runs from mid-morning into the afternoon and features short (+-ten minute) talks on marine and terrestrial conservation, as well as children's activities, music and arts.
10:00 — Welcome and introduction. Sarah Mackie of Project Ubumama Environmental Education will thank participants and sponsors and open the event.
10:10 — Cetaceans of our coastline. Mark Dixon discusses whales and dolphins found between Wilderness and Plettenberg Bay. (10-minute talk)
10:30 — The Whale Show. A LUNCHBOX Theatre production aimed at younger audiences.
11:00 — Seabirds of the Garden Route. Mark Brown talks on local sea birds and will announce the winners of the Sedgefield BirdLife photographic competition.
11:00 — Children's fire-safety demonstration. The Sedgefield Fire Department will run a fun, interactive and educational demonstration for children (concurrent with the 11:00 slot).
11:30 — Sharks of the Garden Route. Melissa Nel speaks on local shark species and their ecology.
12:00 — Our Afromontane Forests. Rudi Swart (NVT) talks about the region's montane forests.
12:15 — The secret lives of fish. Jess Seath explains why fish matter more than people often realise.
13:00 — Lunch break. Light jazz from Jazztrainlive provides entertainment during the lunch hour.
14:00 — Fynbos and natural pollinators. Giorgio Lombardi (NVT) discusses fynbos ecosystems and their pollinators.
14:15 — Bees and planting for pollinators. Wilfred and Clayton Cloete give a basic overview on bees and how to plant for them.
15:00 — Water quality on the Garden Route. Robin Petersen talks about local water-quality issues and monitoring.
15:30 — Siyakhona Choir performs.
Musicians Helio and Andre will perform during the later afternoon, and there will be Arts & Crafts with Knysna artist Olivier Reichen at the Red Roofed Boma, as well as an interactive poster/game session for children presented by the Plett Shark Spotters team.

PHOTO COMPETITION
As part of the event locals are invited to participate in the Sedgefield Bird Photography Competition focused on indigenous bird life.
Entries to be sent in JPEG or HEIC format to ubumama.co.za/competitions, and prizes will be presented by local birding specialist Mark Brown at the OCEAN HERITAGE event on the 16th of June.
The two categories are Youth bird photographers and Oldies (over 20yrs) bird photographers Cellphone and any other digital photography entries are welcome. Please remember the themes Indigenous birds and raptors / ocean birds.
"We're excited to encourage creativity, observation, and environmental storytelling through the eyes of Sedgefield locals and especially Sedgefield's young people," says Sarah.
The Our Ocean event is family-friendly and suitable for school-aged children. Bring sun protection and a reusable water bottle. (Please consider arriving early for seating.)

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

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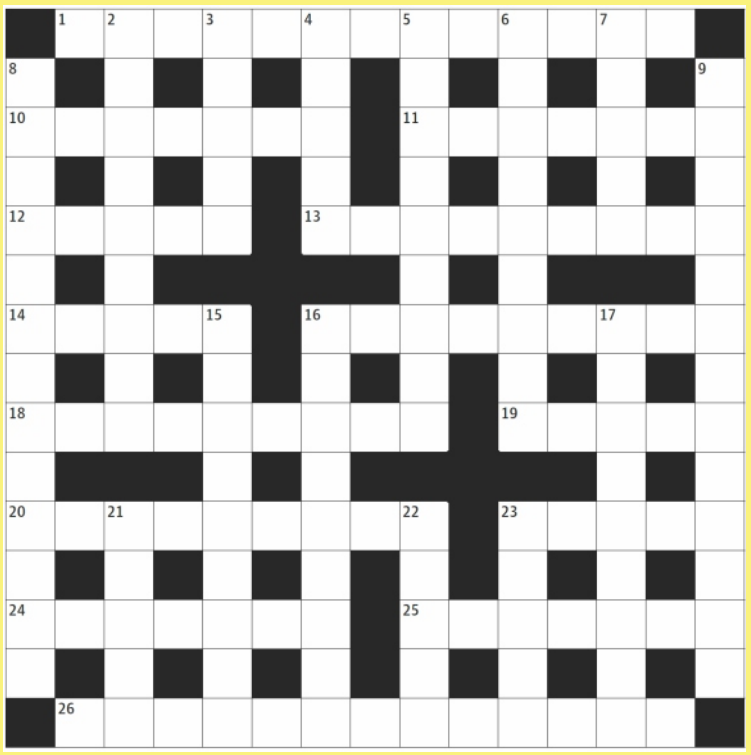
SEDGEFIELD COMMUNITY CHARITY EVENTS CALENDAR 2026

JUNE	
16	Our Ocean Heritage at Scarab Theatre
19 -24	En Route Arts Festival
JULY	
25	Medieval Event (Lions)
AUGUST	
25-27	Melodrama
SEPTEMBER	
1, 3, 4	Melodrama
OCTOBER	
17	Pink Walk
18	Remax Kite Festival (Masi)
31	SAM's Fashion Show
DECEMBER	
31	Watershed (Masi)

Masi - Masithandane
SAM - Sedgefield Animal Matters
TLC - The Living Cornerstone

T`ED`S BRAIN CRUNCHER



Across
1. Those ones indicating a bright future are nearly always a plus. (8,5)
10. Opinion editorial about post offices isn't well received. (7)
11. Bottle tops, you will hear, keep drugs within. (7)
12. Take a shine to those on one side who put the General manager out. (5)
13. To slurp soup, one employs extras. (8)
14. Slowly persuade a student to stand up for the artist! (5)
16. The south isn't similar to those so innocent. (9)
18. For the record, you should shift the dining spot around. (9)
19. There's nought to beat it for a game! (5)
20. Less one bad clue it would be tiny. (9)
23. It's quiet, like that single from old Gqeberha. (5)
24. Is there merit in blowing up airports? (7)
25. When it starts to rust, I might be the one to visit. (7)
26. Still taking records. (13)

Down
2. Terribly poor media content for one who dictates. (9)
3. Sadly minus total. (2,3)
4. Asian river industry doesn't make the effort. (5)
5. Writing that no longer joins and doesn't stick to the subject. (9)
6. I am politically coming short, and somewhat daft! (9)
7. Sisters have nothing but things! (5)
8. Meatiest guess! (5,8)
9. Remarks that new evaluation sees smartness in a dynamic form. (13)
15. Working hours when business is dead? (4,5)
16. Relocated bums using what is included. (9)
17. Switch to being in quarantine. (9)
21. Part Eleanor Theron got put her on top of the world! (5)
22. Pay a bit more for the next rated cast member. (5)
23. Is it so smart to push student content? (5)

SOLUTIONS FOR LAST ISSUE

Across: 1. Not a chance 6. Chub 9. Understood 10. Idea 12. Definitively 15. Warbler 16. Outcome 17. Eternal 19. Nonagon 20. In other words 23 . Peak 24. Vocal cords 25. Eels 26. Assessment.
Down: 1. Noun 2. Tidy 3. Carte Blanche 4. Antsier 5. Chorizo 7. Hodge podge 8. By any means 11. Sitting ducks 13. Sweetie pie 14. Free for all 18. Lardons 19. Neonate 21. Tree 22. Psst.

The Wine Ghost

The Wine Ghost tasted – KWV Grenache Blanc 2025
The bottle boasts a very classic front label, indicating that the wine is from the Classic Collection. The back label offers a comprehensive description and tasting notes about the wine. Abv.14%
The wine's appearance is clear, very light yellow with visible legs. When nosed, dried apples and pears, unripe peaches, violets and green apples came to the front. It is a well balanced wine, with a medium to long mouth feel.
Flavours of unripe peaches and Granny Smith apples were experienced. Tastes left in the mouth, were green apples and slight minerality.
It is a lighthearted wine. Serve chilled, this wine will pair well with grilled pork chops or a seafood salad.
The price range is R80 – R100.

In Vino Veritas till next time.

SEDGEFIELD BRIDGE CLUB

Monday 19 May 2026
1st Irene & Linda 63,54%;
2nd Mary & Paul 55,21%;
3rd= Ina & Johannes plus Carol & Meg on 50%:

Monday 25 May 2026
1st Clive & Terry 65,63%;
2nd Irene & Robyn 51,46%;
3rd Paddy & Bernard 50%:

THE SPORTS EDGE

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

NEXT EDGE: Wednesday 17 June 2026 - Issue 742

PLEASE NOTE OUR DEADLINES

(Careful, they tend to fly by VERY quickly)

Display Ads: Email editor@edgenews.co.za by 11 June 2026
Classifieds: (Stuff for sale, jobs, get-rich-quick schemes, secret treasure hints) Email accounts@edgenews.co.za by Monday 15 June 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

FISH EAGLE MASTER SWIMMERS

On Saturday, 23 May the FEMS AGM was held at the MOTH Hall in George and the success of the recent National Championships hosted by FEMS, was the main topic of the meeting.

However it has been the growth of the club which was noteworthy with the competitive team having more than doubled in number since last year's championship. The social members also keep increasing and this is in no doubt due to the many regular training sessions in the pool and in various rivers, lakes and lagoons. The focus is on promoting swimming and this has certainly been achieved. Members are made aware of all activities via social media.

The outgoing committee were all re-elected with Gavin Gericke nominated as the new chairperson.

The prize-giving was interesting as the Victrix Ludorum was awarded to the oldest female member of the team, Judy Dixon, and the Victor Ludorum to the newest (and second youngest!) male member of the team, Leonard Graaff. These achievements surely reflect that real effort always achieves results!

For any potential swimmers wanting more information about Fish Eagles Master Swimming go the FEMS website. Next year's National Championships will be held in Cape Town.

LADIES' GOLF

Club Report

Friday, 22 May 2026
Only nine ladies decided to take a chance on the water laden Sedge Links course thi-s week, but that didn't stop them from having fun. Actually it was rather a perfect golfing day, not too hot, no wind, and some bunkers out of play… always a plus!
It was pleasing to find that after the devastating storms of the previous week and excessive flooding on the course, where one would wonder why on earth there was a flag in the middle of a lake (usually hole number one green) if you didn't know, you wouldn't know!
Nine being perfect for a 3 x 3 ball game of Individual Stableford, off we trotted in somewhat trepidation of what might lay ahead in relation to casual water on the course. However, all turned out well in the end!
Results:
1st Place: Shannon Nicol (42 points)
2nd Place Almarie Mead (36 points)
3rd Place Marie Joubert (35 points) c/o with Linda Evans
Nearest the pin:
0 – 16 Handicaps: Linda Evans
17 & above: Roll over
Birdies for the day: Marina van der Westhuizen on hole 17
Shannon Nicol played a magnificent 6 under her handicap!
Well played ladies and thank you for taking the chance.

Friday, 29 May 2026
Medal and Putt Day rolled around once again so quickly, in fact, that a few of the ladies who had not played for two or three weeks decided not to "risk it," opting instead for the safer choice of Individual Stableford.

After a quick stretch session on the deck with our captain, who warmly welcomed back Michelle, Wendy, Kaye, and Claire, fourteen ladies, dressed proudly in their red club shirts, headed to the tees in high spirits. The excitement was even greater knowing that the bunkers were officially out of play… making it just about the perfect golfing day! No wind, not too hot, and no bunkers to contend with. The cherry on top, was knowing that a welcoming cheese and tomato toastie with chips would be waiting for them on the 19th, courtesy of the ladies kitty!

Results for the day:
Gold Division
1st Place: Shannon Nicol (nett 54)
Runner-up: Marina van der Westhuizen (nett 56)
Silver Division
1st Place: Sylvia de Moor (nett 54)
Runner-up: Claire Theunissen (nett 57)
Bronze Division:
1st Place: Christine Coetzee (nett 52)
Runner-up: Marie Joubert (nett 60)
Individual Stableford Winner: Michelle J Gilchrist (27 points)
Least putts: Shannon Nicol 24
Birdies: Christine Coetzee and played 2 under her handicap.

Well played to all ladies. Many thanks to Engen 1-Plus Sedgefield for sponsoring the prizes for today's game.

Off the Mat

Sedge Bowling Club News

"Every bowls club has at least one unofficial prophet, one unofficial umpire, and a whole crowd who know exactly what you did wrong — and are more than willing to explain how to fix it!"

Robin does SBC proud
Robin Gibbs narrowly missed out on a semi-final place in the 2026 Bowls SA Men's Open Veteran Singles when he was beaten in the quarter-finals by the eventual tournament winner. A superb achievement nonetheless, Robin — making SBC proud once again!

Nominated Pairs
After a rain-interrupted start and some masterful juggling by the Comsecs, the nominated pairs competition has reached the semi-final stage.

In the ladies' semis, Lyn Otto and Riana Pollington face Sue Crone and Analise le Roux, while Wendy Mack and Kris Raubenheimer take on Ann Dold and Ros MacMillan.

The men's section promises some fierce competition too, with Pieter Griesel and Frank Witteveen up against Neels Theron and Chris Baker, while Ian Jarman and Nico Coetsee meet Brian Concannon and Martin Simonic.
Good luck to all involved — and may the best bowls win!

All Cape Tournament
SBC's ladies' teams performed admirably at the All Cape Tournament, finishing 7th and 9th in their respective sections.

Congratulations to Ann Dold, Wendy Mack, Ronel Eloff, Ros McMillan, Janet Larkin, Lyn Otto, Vanessa Marx, Riana Pollington and Antionette Serfontein for representing the club so proudly — and apparently having a wonderful time doing it too!

Men's Mini League
SBC also enjoyed an excellent outing at the Men's Mini League hosted at Leisure Isle, with three of our teams finishing in the top five.
Well done to Chris Cannon (1st), Neels Theron (3rd), Charles Fontini (5th), Mike Crone (9th), Dawid Malan (18th) and Pieter Griesel (23rd), along with their teams.
With four rounds still to come, there's plenty of time to climb even higher up the leaderboard.

From woods to whiskies — you lot keep us rolling!
Over the past few weeks we've thanked the hardworking members and groups who keep SBC running smoothly, but we nearly forgot the most important group of all — every single member of the club.
Whether you're sending woods down the green or keeping the bar stools occupied, you are the heartbeat of SBC. Without your support, laughter and loyalty, we'd simply be a patch of grass and an empty hall. Thank you ALL for making this club feel like family.

A quick chuckle before you go
"An enthusiastic young gopher one day
Marked all the greens the wrong way
Tabs-in was a mess
Where to bowl was a guess
Now the poor guy isn't allowed near chalk to this day!"

That's a wrap — see you on the mat!

TIDE TABLE

03 June - 16 June 2026
• Full Moon 30 June 2026

Date:	Sunrise	Sunset	High Tides		Low Tides	
Wed 3 Jun	7:26	17:27	5:00	17:35	11:01	23:24
Thur4 Jun	7:27	17:26	5:35	18:11	11:36	-
Fri 5 Jun	7:28	17:26	6:15	18:52	0:05	12:14
Sat 6 Jun	7:28	17:26	7:01	19:39	0:53	12:59
Sun 7 Jun	7:29	17:26	7:57	20:34	1:50	13:53
Mon 8 Jun	7:29	17:26	9:04	21:38	2:58	14:59
Tue 9 Jun	7:30	17:26	10:19	22:46	4:09	16:11
Wed 10 Jun	7:30	17:26	11:31	23:50	5:16	17:20
Thur 11 Jun	7:30	17:26	12:35	-	6:16	18:23
Fri 12 Jun	7:31	17:26	0:49	13:31	7:10	19:20
Sat 13 Jun	7:31	17:26	1:44	14:23	8:00	20:14
Sun 14 Jun	7:32	17:26	2:36	15:13	8:49	21:06
Mon 15 Jun	7:32	17:26	3:26	16:01	9:36	21:57
Tue 16 Jun	7:32	17:26	4:15	16:49	10:23	22:49

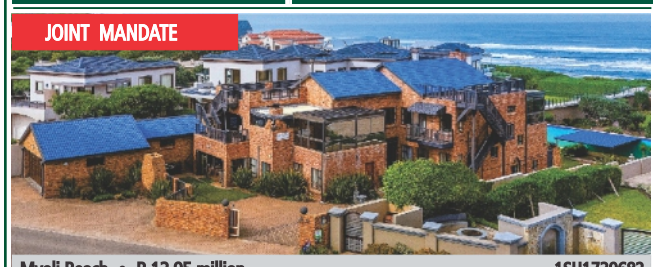
Congratulations to Hans van der Wetering - seen here finishing his 100km trail race in 16h36m08s (don't worry - his grandchild didn't go the WHOLE distance).

Ida, his wife, ran the same distance with running buddy Matty Smith, finishing in 23h43m50s, They were 2nd in their age category.

PAM GOLDING PROPERTIES

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

JOINT MANDATE



Myoli Beach • R 13.95 million 1SH1739682
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EXCLUSIVE MANDATE

Meedingsride • R2.95 million 1SH1737346
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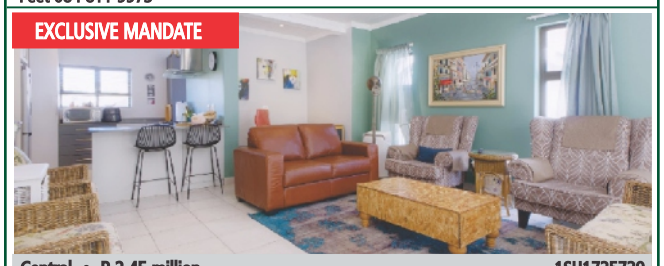
Coastal charm meets easy lock-up-and-go living, ideal holiday retreat or permanent home.
Peet 084 811 9973

EXCLUSIVE MANDATE



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SEDGEFIELD GENTS'GOLF

Thursday, 21 May 2026
As always, we endeavour to assist everyday golfers with advice. For example, if your wife ever asks you if you feel like 'playing around', you should grab your clubs with immediacy and scoot off to the local Links course. There is no need to thank us just enjoy your game.

Whilst the field was the smallest of the year on this Thursday as members were still recovering from the horrific weather and lack of electricity for more than two weeks, the following players ended the day feeling most relaxed.
Terry Savage took the honours in the I.P.S format with 35 points. Tony Hunter, who obviously has recovered from his recent lapse of golfing expertise, was second, after a count out with Trevor Pahl, both with 32. Glen Mauchline finished with 32, Peter King with 32 and Rudy Bosch followed with 26, which for him was a very good score.

Thursday, 28 May 2026
We are reminded that golf is a thing of the spirit not a mere mechanical excellence of stroke and that no part of the golfer's body gets harder wear than the wishbone.

The day's play was the ever popular Pick n Pay/Engen Monthly Mug and the players whose wishes came true were the following: in the A division playing medal the winner Glen Mauchline with a net 55 after a count out with Des Munro on the same score. Third spot was taken by Hans Anema with 57. We are pleased to announce that the winner of the B division, playing stableford, was Peter Heath, now known as "Snap" because his 33 points equalled his handicap of 33. We will never forget the first time he broke 80. He went into the pub, had a couple of drinks and forgot to play the second nine. Second was Roger Howden with 27 and Rudy Bosch with 26.
Nearest the pin prizes went to Derek van Zyl on the second and Bill Craig on the 17th. Peter Schnetler exhibited his golfing skill by winning the Lucky Draw.

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