

SUZUKI KOKSTAD
JUNE SPECIALS

NEIL: 082 213 4795

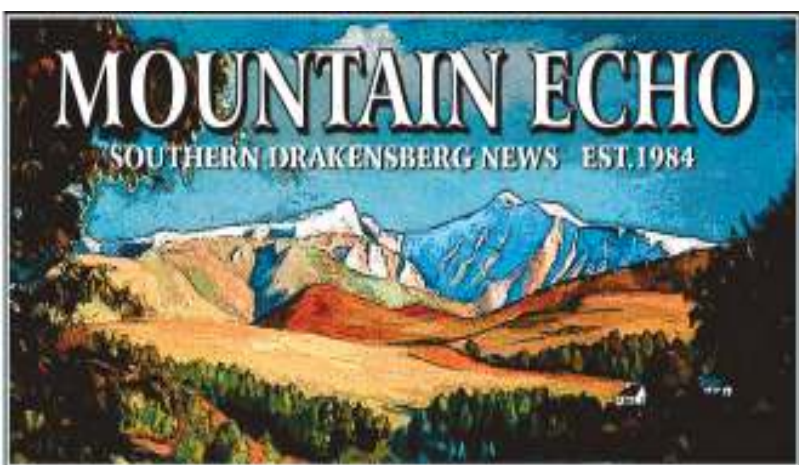
SAVE R35 000!

Suzuki GRAND
VITARA 1.5 GL
4AT

NOW ONLY

R346 900

WAS R381 900



Licensed Financial Services Provider(50028)

Geoff Clark
(Insurance Advisor)
geoffc@gwk.co.za
0832900234

Jemima Stay
(Insurance Advisor)
jemimas@gwk.co.za
0824874852

GWK
innovate agriculture
gwkc.co.za

DISTRIBUTED TO: Hilton, Merrivale, Howick, Lions River, Nottingham Road, Tweedie, Dargle, Boston , Bulwer, Donnybrook, Creighton, Ixopo, Underberg, Himeville, Bushmansnek, Drakensberg Gardens, Sani Pass

mountainecho.pw@gmail.com

082 493 8700

www.mountainecho.co.za



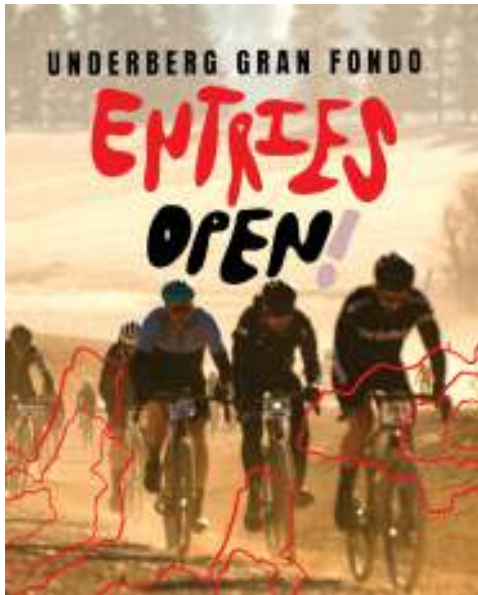
UNDERBERG GRAN FONDO 26 JULY

On July 26th, 2025, the mighty Drakensberg mountains overlooking the Southern Drakensberg town of Underberg will once again become the majestic backdrop to the Underberg Gran Fondo. The beautiful setting has earned the Underberg Gran Fondo the reputation as the most beautiful cycling event in the country, and this is equaled by the passionate desire of the local community to organise an event that matches the spectacular surroundings.

Underberg in July is well-known for the Underberg Gran Fondo which draws the best gravel riders to the village nestled in the foothills of the Drakensberg Mountains. There are a choice of three races **140km, 94km and the 45km** Tour de Farms provides a perfect introduction for those testing their legs on a gravel bike. Easier and more manageable for the average riders, the route still provides the stunning scenery without many of the more testing sections of the route.

Entries for the Underberg Gran Fondo via the MyActive entry portal at <https://underberggranfondo2025.myactive.co.za/>

The start and finish is at The Olde Duck Restaurant which is the home to Sani Spoors on the Drakensberg Gardens road. The Olde Duck Restaurant and Sani Spoors also host Run the Rivers for trail runners and Drak Descent for mountain bikers in January.



MAJOR
ADVENTURES
"The Sani Pass Specialists"

Explore
LESOTHO
adventure

082 298 2135

www.majoradventures.com

BRANDIS CONTRACTING

SOLAR
ENERGY

The Best
For your Home or business

Eco Friendly
Renewable
Full Warranty
100% Riba Save

033 7011 019

JUNE 28
JUNE 28
JULY 5
JULY 16
JULY 19
JULY 23
JULY 26
JULY 26
AUG 9
AUG 22 - 24
SEPT 6
SEPT 7
OCT 3 -4
NOV 1 -2
NOV 8
NOV 8
NOV 15
NOV 29
DEC 6
DEC 12 -14
DEC 13

Southern Berg MTB & Trail Run Challenge hosted by Gooderson Drakensberg Gardens. Race Entries on www.wardevents.co.za

Wild life Act Golf Day Fundraiser for vulture & rhinos contact 084 879 3629

Country Market @ Underberg Country Club from 9am - 1pm, 1st Saturday of every month

Garden Club meeting @ number 078 306 1758 [see page 5](#)

Wimblegin tennis Sani Round Table Ladies @ Himeville Tennis Club

Quiz Night GCAW Fundraiser@ Underberg Country Club [see page 7](#)

Underberg Trout and Clay Shootout. @ Reveille Clay Club & Goxhill Dam. [Contact kevfras@gmail.com](mailto:kevfras@gmail.com) or WhatsApp 072 394 0387.

Underberg Gran Fondo 140km, 94km and the 45km to choose from [see page 1](#)

CHOC Walk up Sani Pass more information dbn@choc.org.za or 0844888026 [see page 3](#)

SA Vets & U19 international Polocrosse vs Zambia & Zimbabwe

Pevensey Fete@ Underberg Primary School

TIDY TOWN COLOUR RUN -details to follow

Underberg UFA Agri & Lifestyle Show email for a stall & more details admin@kznufa.co.za

Himeville Underberg Garden Club OPEN GARDENS

Sani Stagger 2 road events (42.2km and 21.1km) 2 trail events (38km and 21km) Entries open 5 March sanistagger.co.za

UNDERBERG SUPERSPAR FOOD AND WINE SHOW

Bass 4 Cash fundraiser@pevenseyplace.co.za

Museum and Historical Society Traditional Christmas Bazaar at the Himeville Museum.

Touch Rugby Tournament, Round Table fundraiser

Umzimkulu River Rally @ Khotso

The Local Collection Christmas market for more info [Lauren Perks](#) 079 244 9601

UNDERBERG
SUPERSPAR
 SUPPORTS
 COMMUNITY
 EVENTS WITH
 THIS SPACE

UNDERBERG
SUPERSPAR

SPAR:DAILY
TOPS:MON-FRI
SAT
SUN

7AM- 7PM
8AM-7PM
8AM-5PM
10AM-3:30PM

033 701 1554. Main Road, Underberg, 3257
Click & Collect : 078 089 6579



**STEVEN
CLOWES**
ATTORNEYS

Dispute resolution, employment law,
agribusiness, land matters, contractual
law, commercial law, wills
& more

TEL: +27 71 95 6044

EMAIL: STEVEN@SCLOWESATTORNEYS.COM

Underberg Congregational Church Church Times:
Sunday Services at 09:00. Children & Junior Church at 09:30 Bible
Studies on Thursdays: at 10:00, contact Erika Smith 082 - 688 6759 &
at 18:00, contact Ray Scott 083 - 413 6917. We hire out our facilities at
the House of Grace for private or business meetings / functions /
training courses. Contact Daniela 082 - 403 8864

Roof Restoration Breathes New Life into Himeville Museum

If you have travelled through Himeville lately, you would have noticed that The Himeville Museum, a cornerstone of local heritage, is currently undergoing significant roof repairs, ensuring the preservation of its 120-year-old sandstone structure. The recent restoration focused on the roof, addressing wear and tear to protect the museum's extensive collection of exhibits and archives from leaks and damp. This restoration not only preserves a significant historical site but also ensures that future generations can continue to explore and learn from the rich history of the Southern Drakensberg region. Extensive maintenance programmes, such as the roof painting, are funded entirely by the museum, with the donations from visitors and our fundraising efforts. The museum has a few events coming up this year, such as Open Gardens and our Annual Christmas Market returns this year after a 3-year absence, and we hope to receive our community's support and involvement at these events.

How You Can Help

While entrance to the museum is free, your contributions can make a significant difference. Here's how you can support:

· **Monetary Donations:** Cash donations can be made at the museum. EFT donations can be made to Himeville Museum, Standard Bank, Branch 051001, Account Number 052183548.

· **In-Kind Contributions:** Donating artifacts, books, or historical items related to the region, or donating plants, 2nd hand clothing or household items for our Christmas Market.

Located on the corner of Arbuckle Street in Himeville, the museum is open Tuesday to Saturday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Sunday from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM. Admission is free, with donations welcomed to support ongoing conservation efforts. For more information or to arrange group tours, contact the museum at +27 (78) 359 9947. By Kitt Du Preez

MOTHS THANK YOU

We as members of Nursing Services admire your organisation greatly. You pop up in all sorts of areas assisting fellow man to live a better safer life. From Florence Nightingale who worked alongside soldiers in the First world war to today; Nurses and the armed forces have always respected protected and cared for each other and the communities they serve. That we in this community continue to recognise each other's efforts is commendable.

The Nursing Services Structure was established 50 years ago and is unique to this area and envied by many communities.

Nursing Services in this area like the Moths have a diminishing membership and a growing need for our help. We are extremely grateful to the Moths for not only the monetary donation which will certainly be used wisely but for the recognition that goes with this donation for the work we as an organisation are doing. The needs are growing as the hospital stays are shortened or sometimes not even available and folk need to be cared for in their homes.

We in our current format are not able to provide all the care needed on a voluntary basis so have set up a structure with fantastic ladies who have basic care training. They are providing a wonderful addition to the community and allow folk to stay at home when otherwise they would not have been able to. They are not volunteers though but we support them with equipment and advise if needed. The friends of Nursing Services (another leg) assist by maintaining and repairing faulty equipment; driving if needed; and helping when folk come home with a new challenge for example a stoma or catheter. The Country Women help by manging our annual Christmas donation drive. These monies were used to upgrade our equipment and insure all our items.

The past year we have bought two new hospital beds R19000 each; a few new wheelchairs and a new portable oxygen unit R32000 as well as some smaller items.

Thank you very much to each of you for your dedication and hard work. Your donation is hugely appreciated and will be treated with the respect that it deserves. By Cathy Knox (Editors Note) All these organisations together make our community great).

**FOR SALE
MAKOTI
SUPERIOR
GOOSE DOWN
DUVETS,
PILLOWS AND
DOWN
PRODUCTS**

Available at
**97A Main
Street
Howick.**
Phone Corrie on
**0842951770 or
0333302551 or
email
corrie@skolly.co.za**

Highlands Church International

Johann and Debbie Van As
033 7011470 Sunday:
08:30 Prayer Meeting
09:00 Celebration Service
09:00 Kids for Jesus (all
ages welcome)
Monday: Homegroups
18:30 Tuesday: 15:00
Pevensey Ministry
Thursday: 18:00 Prayer
Meeting Alternate
Fridays: 06:00 Men's
Sunrise coffee (confirm
033 7011470)

**Berg Community
Fellowship
Berg Training Centre
2 Hlogoma Crescent
Underberg**

Every Sunday at 9 a.m.
Phone Pastor Dennis
on 0834407889 for more
info.



**Peta Parker
Properties**

Peta Parker Properties
Office - 033 701 1777
Home-087 802 8327
Cell -Peta - 083 305 3009
Cell -Lelani - 0784069355
Email -
info@ppproperties.co.za



UNDERBERG - R1 650 000

Partly Furnished Cottage With Stunning Views, In Quiet, Leafy Suburb, this beautiful Thatched Cottage, utilized as a holiday home and available for rent on Airbnb, offers a unique blend of rustic charm and modern comfort. The cottage boasts three, or four cozy bedrooms, providing ample space for family or guests, with a full bathroom equipped with a bath, shower, and basin ensures a comfortable and relaxing experience, plus guest loo.

UNDERBERG R1 950 000

Delightful, Sunny 4 Bedroom Home in Secure Complex - Direct Access To The Golf Course. Offering generous, open plan, living areas, seamlessly connecting the living room, dining area, and modern kitchen, featuring elegant granite countertops that provide ample workspace. The living areas flow effortlessly onto a large covered patio, where you can enjoy the views of the park-like gardens and dam. Adjacent to the kitchen is a convenient scullery, that leads out to a private courtyard, complete with staff ablutions. There is direct access from the double garage, into the home. This family home provides four spacious bedrooms, or 3 bedrooms and a study. The monthly levy includes a gardener every Wednesday afternoon.

UNDERBERG R4 500 000

Valuable 20 Ha tourism smallholding suitable as a wedding venue or related events - Fully Furnished. Approximately one third of the property comprises beautiful fishing waters, two large dams; 5 ha of dryland arable land, the rest is rolling lawns and mature plane and oak trees. This property enjoys magnificent views of the stately Bamboo Mountain, and has a favourable North facing aspect. The access road is a cul-de-sac and so there is very little passing traffic. The main building comprises eight bedrooms and eight bathrooms, two public restrooms, a two roomed fully equipped kitchen, large lounge/dining area with an enormous log fireplace. The pub is a separate large room, with more tables/chairs and interesting historic farm equipment/tools decorating the walls and ceiling. This property is fully furnished and equipped, turnkey take over. There is a Lister diesel generator producing power at the moment, which is not included in the sale.



*The four Ladies
from left are Ruth
Crouch (Tidy
Towns), Michelle
Pitman
(Underberg
Emergency
Medical Services),
Kitt Du Preez
(Himeville
Museum), Kathy
Knox (Nursing
Services)*

We said YES to the ADDRESS!

Acutts Underberg have a new address. Find us at shop C6, Boxer center, main road. We have an array of properties on the market and if you are thinking of selling contact Poppet, Kathy or Kerry for a COMPLIMENTARY market related assessment on your property. Otherwise pop in for a cappuccino and talk property with us!

UNDERBERG MOTHS HAND OVER R21 000 CHEQUE TO SHARE AMONG 4 WORTHY COMMUNITY CAUSES

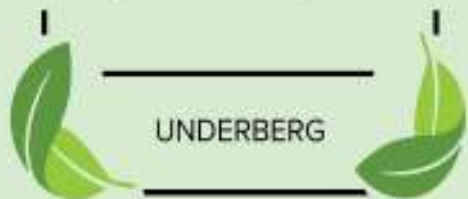


UNDERBERG EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

UEMS is a Non Profit Company, started in 2019 by Steve Roberts, Dr Grant Lindsay and Sandy Bodmann. In mid 2020, they restructured the directorship, resulting in the current structure of 4 directors, 6 paramedics, an Operations manager and an administrator. It is fully registered and licensed to provide medical response and ambulance services to the greater Underberg community. Being so far from hospitals, a decent, reliable ambulance service is vital. UEMS has become an essential cog in the Underberg community wheel, not only providing ambulance services, but primary health care from the clinic, support at events like splashy Fen, UTD, Drak challenge, school sports, First Aid courses and access to telephonic advice when the local doctors are unavailable. Our crew of paramedics are silent angels, who are there when called, always ready to help with a smile and a caring heart. Sometimes it is a thankless job, hugely stressful, especially in a small town where many of the cases are people known to the paramedics. Currently we have a membership option of a monthly fee, which will ensure that we are around in years to come. Our overheads are high, and donations like this are greatly appreciated. Being a small community, we don't have the volume of calls that operations like Netcare in a large town have. Hence the reason we rely heavily on subscribers and sponsors. A huge thank you to Moths, who go above and beyond to raise funds for organisations like us. Please don't stop! By Michelle Pitman



Premium Pre-Loved European Jackets



Clock Tower Centre

079 600 3219



CHOC WALK 9 AUGUST

CHOC Childhood Cancer Foundation SA - KZN Region invites you to our 16th Annual Sani Pass Walk. The CHOC Childhood Cancer Foundation South Africa KZN region is thrilled to announce the 16th annual CHOC Sani Pass Walk, which will be held on August 9, 2025. This incredible event will see participants walk up the challenging Sani Pass in the Drakensberg Mountains to benefit children and teenagers suffering cancer and life-threatening blood illnesses. **Date:** August 9, 2025 **Location:** Sani Pass, KwaZulu-Natal **Distance:** 16km, 8km Up and 8km down. The 1st walk in 2010 was initiated by a volunteer with approximately 70 walkers. Since 2018 CHOC has hosted this flagship fundraiser which has grown phenomenally. Purpose The CHOC Walk Up Sani Pass aims to raise awareness and funds for CHOC, each step taken reflects hope and unity. The CHOC is a NGO that helps support families that have children and teenagers with cancer and life-threatening blood disorders. CHOC provides holistic support to these families

CUT or TEAR OUT & RECEIVE
20% DISCOUNT



DEBONAIRS PIZZA
UNDERBERG

20% OFF
VOUCHER



TRIPLE the Value, TRIPLE the Flavour, TRIPLE the Fun
SAVE WITH OUR SPECIAL

The Southern Drakensberg Community Tourism Organisation (CTO)

extends a warm welcome to our newest members: XL Farm Cottages and Chikanka Cottage. We look forward to collaborating and growing tourism in the region together.

We extend our sincere thanks to NDZ Tourism and EDTEA for their support in promoting the Southern Drakensberg at the recent Africa's Travel Indaba in Durban. Special recognition goes to Nduduzo Khoza and his team for representing the region with dedication and pride. The Tourism Forum provided valuable insights and reaffirmed our shared vision for tourism in the area. Chairperson Russell has been actively engaging with District Cluster members. A service provider has now been appointed to install a yellow photo frame will be placed at a scenic lookout point in Underberg. In addition, four "Welcome" sign sites have been identified. Progress continues on the R617 road project, with a service provider now appointed. We appreciate the Department of Transport and local ward councillors for their efforts in supporting this vital refurbishment.

On the 5 June 2025, Town Planner Sizwe Gwala, Business License Officer Slindile Ndzimande, and various stakeholders gathered for the Underberg (and Himeville) precinct plan and land use awareness session. Thanks to all who attended, raised questions, and engaged meaningfully on these important issues.

The CTO has also worked alongside CHOC and Sani Stagger,

sharing our database of over 70 accommodation providers to assist in coordinating their upcoming events.

As winter takes hold, snowfall once again shines as a major tourism drawcard. Thanks to our dedicated social media manager, Rosemary, for sharing real-time updates and beautiful content. Special appreciation also goes to: Acting Port Commander Paul Kok, Tsepo from Sani Experience (Sani Top) Mapaseka, tour guide in Lesotho, Mitch and Dylan from Snow News and all members, especially Madie at Silver Streams, who continue to share stunning winter imagery with us. Thanks to our intern, Sphamandla Vezi, for his consistent and reliable behind-the-scenes support.

Despite negativity and disregard from some quarters, we continue to encourage all tourism-



related businesses—from accommodation and eateries to shuttle services, guides, and retail—to join the CTO. It is the right and necessary step to strengthen the sector. Most importantly, we remain committed to cultivating positive relationships across all areas that make up this diverse and vibrant community.

Our financial year starts in July, and we invite anyone interested in joining or learning more to reach out to our committee: Russell: +27 81 772 4319; Pierre: +27 83 709 8900; Robin: +27 63 100 1058. Together, we continue to put the Southern Drakensberg on the map.

FOR ALL
YOUR
IRRIGATION
& SEASONAL
FARMING
EQUIPMENT

CONTACT
033 701 1119
081 784 8488



YOU ARE OUR COMMUNITY

BULK FUEL
DELIVERED TO
YOU
BY THE
MAYS
GROUP

CONTACT
033 702 1356



WE SERVICE
MOTORBIKES,
4 WHEELERS,
RIDE ONS,
GOLF CARTS &
MORE

CONTACT
033 702 1356
061 439 1122

SUPPORT LOCAL



LAST MINUTE
FUEL, GAS, PARRAFIN,
COFFEE, SNACKS
AND MORE
ESSENTIALS

Mays
Express
HIMEVILLE



SANI COMMUNITY FORUM

NICHOLAS CONEY AND
DISUNTER.

“GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE, SHALL NOT PERISH FROM THE EARTH.” ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

There are extraordinary times unfolding in the United States which is reflected by great volatility,

as 10 million people turned out in protest against a government that is perceived to have strayed from their enshrined Constitution. In South Africa, we too have a Constitution, and closer to home, a Municipal Structures Act, which guides us to what we should, and must, expect from our Municipality, which we pay for. Pessimism is our yardstick of the quality of the municipal services that we will accept. Complacency creates an environment where poor service delivery thrives and the lack lustre performance by Municipalities is tolerated, and hence continues, unabated. NUD does not have 10 million residents to protest, but we should have more than a handful of dedicated residents that are fighting for the service delivery for all our residents. We need to shed the robes of complacency and stand united and be far more vocal in demanding a far higher standard of service delivery, otherwise our municipality can only assume that all the residents are content with their performance.

WATER: Water issues continue to dominate the bulk of the complaints as we shift from one crisis to the next. Recently, a few Commercial properties were not only switched off in Underberg, but their Pre-Paid Water meters were physically removed. According to the powers that be, accounts had been sent out and owners warned about debateable amounts owing, and the consequences thereof. Unfortunately, owners had never received these accounts which had been emailed to previous owners, or in some cases, unknown persons. Fortunately, an urgent interdict through the courts was avoided, and sense prevailed, with the meters being reinstated.

A few dedicated residents coordinate the water leakages and outages reports that are received through a social media group, but they do not have the capabilities to get the Harry Gwala Plumbing Teams to physically repair the leaks. Hence, abusing and criticising these dedicated volunteers when leaks are not fixed timeously, is both disingenuous and unnecessary. A resident in Thomas Street has had damages to his property due to a burst pipe outside his property. For over 6 weeks this has been reported but the Plumbers chose to turn up on a Friday at the start of a long weekend to sort this leak out. After turning off the whole of Himeville due to the lack of any information on shut off valves or the reticulation system, they then decided that the job was far to big for a Friday and left.

The Water Tankers continue to fill up water tankers at the Reservoir

and deliver this water to the Underberg Low-Cost Village despite the Mayor saying that everyone must pay for water and hence he has installed meters at every plot in the two villages. The Mayor failed to answer the question as to where all these tankers go to and why they block Reservoir Crescent Road and prevent residents accessing their properties.

TOWN PLANNING: It was inspirational to attend a well conducted and transparent Town Planning and Precinct Meeting conducted by Mr Sizwe Gwala. The challenges facing the Town Planning Department are numerous, but with a Public/Private fruitful partnership underscored by good communication and transparency, no problems are insurmountable. With the towns growing exponentially, it is essential that the Aesthetic Committee is reinstated so that Building Plans are inspected by appointed Residents and the Planning Department simultaneously, before the plans are passed, to preserve the ethos of our villages and protect the environment.

The planned Sani Pass Hotel Development is back on the cards with yet another application for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) so if you are an Interested and Affected party or require further information on : DC43/0003/2025: THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT ON REM. OF THE FARM GOOD HOPE NO. 7168, SANI PASS, DR NKOSAZANA DLAMINI ZUMA LOCAL AND HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL please contact Mrs Hannah Markam at hannah@greendoorgroup.co.za

The endless annual excuses of no budget have worn thin too. There were plenty of very expensive vehicles parked outside, with body guards, and engines running, etc to dispel that myth. There always seems to be plenty money for food though.

Again, the actions of officials stocking up on the food, in take away containers seems to be a habit now, as has also been witnessed at the country club before, where whole platters we seen leaving.

We are all tired of the lies and deceit. People want proper engagement where everyone in office is prepared to really be held accountable and answer the hard questions. As the people are always reminded by those in authority, that they are servants of the people, they should remember they are paid by the people, so too should they be prepared to face the people and not given 15 minutes to question everything that affects their daily lives and receive pathetic excuse and always deviate from the subject.

Please publish the minutes of the meeting as a true reflection of proceedings. Ward 2 Cllr's replies the next day, will respond "Noted" and as of time of going to press there has been zero feedback which is ALWAYS the case. From Kevin Mc Donagh



' Len (The Lengend) Wittstock, cooking up a boerie storm at the Belmont refreshment stop in Creighton on the first leg of the legendary Sani2C cycle race! Legends together and The magic of ROTARY.

MOUNTAIN ECHO
Is Your newspaper.
Your input is valued!
DEADLINE DATE JULY 18
DISTRIBUTION DATE JULY 25

Build It Underberg
Yes We Can!

At Build It Underberg, we're proud to stand by the people who build up this town.

Whether you're fixing a leak, building a new room, or just keeping the cold out - we're here to help.

Built by you. Backed by us. Always.

033 701 1234
 Main Road, Underberg

OPEN LETTER TO : - Basil Ntshiza

Since you seem to have no problem posting videos and photos of those present, without first clearing it with those concerned, and bragging about the road shows etc, allow us to at least comment on the annual farcical IDP road shows, where the municipality pretend to encourage and create conditions for the local communities to participate in the affairs of the municipality. Whereas these forums are supposed to serve as platforms to engage and listen to the views of the communities, and ultimately be considered when implementing the annual budgets, it's always nothing but a badly organised, last minute, box ticking exercise.

The meeting last night, held in the cramped entrance hall of a BnB, with a pathetic sound system and microphone, was once again no different. More space was allocated to the food tables than seating for residents and ratepayers. Little wonder no-one attends these circus shows. But then again that's exactly what the municipality want. The municipal Manger was again noticeably absent for the 2nd time in 3 years. To dictate that only 5 hands be taken and 3 minutes per hand, allowed, so 15 minutes in all, to express views and ask questions, is ludicrous to say the least. It demonstrates just how scared the civil servants are of being questioned. Anyway when the questions are asked, they are not answered properly either, and in most cases ignored. To be presented with pages of numbers, that don't even add up, and hidden agendas, regarding specifics, does not go unnoticed.

The mayor was unable to coherently read the budget, jumping from page to page. It demonstrated a complete lack of understanding or comprehensive of the task at hand. This was plain for all to see. And then to admit that the task of replying to emailed questions, put to her, was too big a task for her to handle. So, to solve the issue she said she decided to just not attend pre-arranged meetings, and skipped 3 of the 4 without any apologies too. This once again speaks volumes about competency levels within the municipality, starting right at the top.

Snide comments regarding the meetings with Dr NDZ herself, without knowing the full context should best be reserved until the facts are known too.. The same goes for road works and many other issues which you have consistently refused to address, despite claims to the contrary last night.

The fact that the people at the head of the table spent more time playing on their phones than paying attention, did not go unnoticed either. Once again this demonstrated the absolute highest form of disrespect, we have all become accustomed to. It was there for all to see.

WINTER BUILDING PROMO

Heattech Geyser 150L **4999⁹⁹** INC VAT
SKU 635539

200L **7899⁹⁹** INC VAT
SKU 635540

WHILE STOCKS LAST

Afrisam Cement Star 32.5N 50kg **96⁹⁹** INC VAT
SKU 596073

CONTACT STORE FOR PRICING

Umgeni River Sand m³ **76⁹⁹** INC VAT
SKU 642088

Stone 19mm m³ **76⁹⁹** INC VAT
SKU 642091

Block M150 Pink **76⁹⁹** INC VAT
SKU 642093

Timber 6m Batten / Purlin / Rafter **76⁹⁹** INC VAT
SKU 642097

Shutterply A-Grade 19mm **619⁹⁹** INC VAT
SKU 642091

Wheelbarrow & Spade Combo **779⁹⁹** INC VAT
SKU 642097

50x76mm **179⁹⁹** INC VAT
SKU 642206

38x38mm **76⁹⁹** INC VAT
SKU 642097

114x38mm **194⁹⁹** INC VAT
SKU 642099

Promotion valid from 23 June - 26 July 2025. E&OE. While Stocks Last.

Find us at: 56 Main Road, Underberg, 3257 | Tel: 033 701 1420

BIRDING IN THE SOUTHERN KZN DRAKENSBERG

By Stuart Mc Lean

The Wattled Cranes appear to be doing well not just in the province, but locally as well. Several pairs are on the nest and at least two pairs have tiny chicks. The dams built many years ago on farms all over the area would probably have flooded the wetlands. After many decades of the grasslands around some of these dams being flooded there may have been sufficient time for these areas to become sedge habitats slowly as they replace the grass tufts, which live for decades or more in normal conditions. Sedge corns are a staple diet for Wattled Cranes. Why are these cranes suddenly using areas they have not used before? Either it is a population problem and young birds are looking for marginal areas to breed or the habitat has only now become suitable for this species.

Krissi Scott rescued a Grey Crowned Crane near the Polela River. She assisted by taking it part of the way to FreeMe, meeting one of the FreeMe team on the way, where they say the bird had symptoms of a vehicle collision. The bird had concussion, blood in the eye and bruised leg and wing. The FreeMe team does fantastic work with rehabilitation, hopefully this will be another one of their success stories. A great pity that the wind and snow effects prevented Wade Whitehead from giving the local Sani Wildlife group a talk about a Wattled Crane on 11 June. Hopefully the Sani Wessa will re-schedule this talk.

Domestic cats remain one of wildlife’s most serious predators. It is not just birds, but small mammals, reptiles and amphibians also pay the price. Many people downplay the problem, but consider the number of humans in the world and how many have not one cat but more. The density of domestic cats is considerably higher in an area compared to the number of wild/ natural/indigenous cats, as these cats are territorial and will not tolerate other cats. I know of people who belong to wildlife organisations who have numerous domestic cats running free on their property. I went to Mtunzini some years ago and stayed at a forest lodge in beautiful indigenous forest, but every lodge had feral cats around them, I will not return to that lodge! It was estimated that more than 1.3 million birds are killed by cats in the USA annually. I visited a Blue Swallow destination and domestic cats would follow me. This is one of South Africa’s rarest birds. How can one be so casual about cats!!

Consider the mouse infestation on Marion Island, where they were accidentally introduced by sealing vessels in the 1800’s. The idea of the conservationists in the 1940’s was to introduce domestic cats to solve the mouse problem. That did not work as it was easier for the cats to predate the birds nesting there. At a massive cost the last cat was removed from Marion Island in 1991. Now the problem is still the mouse infestation. To save the islands birds will cost millions. Let’s hope when they try with rodenticide it will work. New Zealand has had amazing success with this method. Sadly it is this or extinction for several birds. Let’s not leave things till it is so late!

Birds & Beyond - Bird Tours & San Rock Art Walks
Stuart Mc Lean
www.birdsandbeyond.co.za
082 742 6981 or 033 7021 761

ABOUT TROUT FISHING IN UNDERBERG

Good to say that this report is not all bad news. Since last report the rivers have closed and season only reopens 1st of September if conditions allow. But this far the rivers are looking in very good shape and hopeful that they will stay so untill opening. The stillwater has seen a big increase in fish being caught. Many reports both from anglers fishing clubwater as well as private and resorts have shown that the fish are moving into the shalows where they preparing to spawn. This makes for good sight fishing once the fish are found. These "spawning" fish tend to congregate in the shallower areas of the lakes and dams where some sort of bottom substrate preferbaly gravel attracts them. Though preoccupied with spawning they are still catchable using various methods. If using streamer it is best to use bright coloured flies with the use of a faster strip to hook the fish that strike at the fly out af aggression rather than to eat, spitting it out much faster once touched. The faster strip increases hook up rate. Using indicators or dry flies with small nymphs on a dropper work just as well. For those that do not frown upon fishing egg pattens dropping one below a indicator works good too. Biggest reported fish caught was from UHTFC waters. A Rainbow Trout of 65cm caught fishing a natural muddler minnow on a very short leader. This is just the start of long awaited season that surely going to produce some good days fishing. Hope that we will have more statistics on fish caught as the season continues. Until then tight lines.

By Duane Vaughn Howell
Underberg Flyfishing and lifestyle centre at The Clocktower Centre. -
Contact 0832286707 or 0655232877
Check out our website at uhtfc.org



Sani Pass TOURS





Sani Pass Day Tour

- Day trip into Lesotho
- Lunch at a local venue in Lesotho
- Visit the local church or village

Mokhotlong Day Tour

- Extended day trip into Lesotho
- Tea stop at a local venue
- Stop at Black Mountain
- Visit Mokhotlong for lunch

BOOK YOUR TOUR:

Call or WhatsApp us:
(072) 124 4356
info@sanipasstours.com


VIDA NOVA

*All tours conducted in guided 4x4 vehicles
*Detailed itineraries at sanipasstours.com

The Roof of Africa Returns as the Grand Finale of the Hard Enduro World Championship Series

Maseru, Lesotho – Cementing its position as one of the world’s toughest offroad motorcycle events, the ‘Mother of Hard Enduro’ has been added to the Hard Enduro World Championship (HEWC) calendar for the first time. Not only that, but the Roof will potentially be the decisive final round of the season and will take place from 20 to 22 November 2025, with Registration and Documentation on 19 November. This will place Lesotho on the world Hard Enduro map, in a welcome boost to tourism in the country and across southern Africa.

This year’s event will be planned and delivered by an elite team of event organisers. They plan to channel all their route planning and racing experience to deliver an event that’s worthy of the HEWC, and the heritage and legacy of the Roof itself.

Event Director Ross Whitehead shared that the new management team has built on last years’ experience to develop a strengthened operational plan. Key members of the 2025 Roof team include Route Director (and veteran of 30 previous Roof of Africa events) Graham MacLachlan, as well as Tausten Gibbs and Mitchell Gallagher (experienced Romaniacs route managers), LORA member and Chief Mashal Likotsi Koo Lemeke, and HEWC Track manager Mike Skinner. Whitehead is keen to highlight the appointment of motorsports industry figure Sakkie Maartens as Start and Finish Manager, thereby ensuring professionalism in every aspect of the event.

A strong line-up is anticipated for this year’s Roof, with title contenders Billy Bolt, multi-Roof winner Wade Young, four-times FIM HEWC world champion Manuel Lettenbichler, Mario Roman, Mitch Brightmore, Teodor Kabakchiev, and Alfredo Gomez all scheduled to compete in the Gold class, with more international and local riders to be confirmed nearer the time. The chance to see the 2025 champion crowned against the backdrop of Lesotho’s iconic Maluti Mountains is sure to attract the attention of motorsport fans worldwide. Phakisa Mokhesi, Secretary of the Lesotho Off Road Association (LORA) and Race Secretary for this year’s Roof of Africa, has expressed excitement about the event’s growing international profile and its local impact. “We always look forward to hosting the Roof of Africa here in Lesotho,” Mokhesi said. “The fact that this event will now have a global stage will help us to uplift

HIMEVILLE UNDERBERG GARDEN CLUB 16 JULY

The 16 July 2025 is Garden Club time again. Now in the grip of winter there are still many tasks to be done in the garden, one very important one being to start pruning our roses. We couldn’t ask for a more fitting venue than the garden of Shaun and Laurian van Huyssteen. Shaun will be demonstrating the pruning of roses and the winter care thereof. The meeting will start at 10h00 and end with teas and eats. As always, we welcome visitors at a fee of R30. Please remember to bring your hats and chairs

local communities and create a positive showcase for Lesotho’s landscapes, people, and unique Basotho culture.”

Southern Africa’s international profile will be further raised by the support of confirmed 2025 Roof sponsors including leading brands such as Red Bull, FNB, Avani Hotel and Casino, The Reporter, Plews Tyres, Econet, LNDC, Maluti, Naledi Outdoor Advertising, XCO, and SOX Footwear. Entries for the 2025 ‘Mother of Hard Enduro’ will open on 16 June 2025. For updates on this year’s event, visit [The Roof of Africa website](http://TheRoofofAfrica.com) and join the conversation on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/theroofof africa) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/theroofof africa).

Country cafe and Phuzabooza Bar

Giant's Cup Cafe & Crafts

FARM PRODUCE Our Dairy Products and Indigenous plant nursery.	HANDMADE POTTERY Daily Paint On Clay Workshop Fun for the whole family.	ORGANIC COFFEE And Food - Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, or Choeseruke.
---	--	--



OPEN DAILY FROM 7:30 AM TO 8 PM
SANI PASS ROAD
0835661997 / 0839873071
Facebook: [giantcupcafecrafts](https://www.facebook.com/giantcupcafecrafts)

Moorcroft Manor

Boutique Country Hotel

Hotel & Restaurant

Open 7 days a week for Breakfast Lunch Dinner

Sani Road Himeville

033 702 1967 or 0710277867

info@moorcroft.co.za www.moorcroft.co.za

Obituary: Graham Root – ‘Mkonto’

14th June 1943 – 25th May 2025

Aged 82 Graham recently passed away in his sleep. Towards the end of his life Graham Root made many a pilgrimage to the valley of his youth. The **Underberg and Himeville Historical society**, was lucky to catch him ‘*in the flesh*’ and ‘*on form*’ at Lotheni a year ago – Very special. We sat, an attentive bunch, in a comfortable semi circle and listened in awe to the stories of his ancestors and his Lotheni childhood. Here’s one hard to forget.... Sent out to fetch some sheep one day it began to snow, on the return trip with his bearings lost in the whiteness he climbed onto a rock with his dog because he was afraid of the jackals. It was a cold night out and when the cloud lifted in the morning he found himself only a few hundred metres from home.

He was the Grandson of the original Lotheni farmer settler **John Root** a sawyer from Deepdale and the son of **Peter Root** who created the present Lotheni hutted Camp after the farm was expropriated for conservation. Graham had a quintessential rural childhood, fishing rod in hand, dog and plenty of Zulu umfaan mates from whom he acquired linguistic skills that stood him in good stead. Even in his old age he was fondly known to the present day conservation staff of Lotheni as ‘Mkonto’ – ‘*the spear*’

I quote from his book - Roots of a Game ranger;
We learnt from a very young age to stick fight, which is the traditional Zulu sport, and we soon had a pile of sticks in our bedroom , won in ‘battle’. At Underberg school he was regularly canned for addressing the headmaster in Zulu.

At his memorial service held some weeks ago in Howick, friends annocdoted stories from his schoolboy days.

Quote : *The Macleans they were a crazy bare foot bunch, never wore shoes – they were wild - rough, but gee, there was family over the valley and a guy called Graham Root, his dad puts him on the ox wagon sends them to the station to deliver produce.*

Graham went on to Ixopo High and is remembered as mischievous and competitive but beyond his toughness having a gentle side. His cross - country records took years to be broken. One of his school mates recalled ;
‘if we’d been asked who would be the most unlikely to write a book it would have been Graham – he was an outdoor do’er but we would be proven wrong. His Childrens books and others on the exploits of a game ranger are testament to his grit and talent beyond the practical life he led. His books are on sale at the Lotheni camp office.

National service followed school and a story was told at his ‘send off’ of how he at one of his first roll calls



OUT THERE SERVICES

AUTO ELECTRICAL REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE EXPERTS

SPECIALIZING IN:

- ✓ Auto Electrical
- ✓ Starter Motors
- ✓ Alternators
- ✓ Hydraulic Pipes & Fittings
- ✓ Vehicle Diagnostics
- ✓ Breakdown Services
- ✓ Generator Repairs & Services

CONTACT US
LUKE: 072 227 7285
SHAUN: 071 360 3376
OFFICE: 033 7011 318

MDN-FRI: 7 AM - 5 PM
SAT: 7 AM - 12 PM
AFTER-HOURS CALLOUTS



**BULLMORE
MOTORS**

- * VEHICLE SERVICING & REPAIRS
- * TRAILER HIRE
- * NUMBER PLATES

SIMON : 082 264 5849
WORKSHOP : 033 7012726

DON'S REPAIRS
MAINTENANCE OF
ALL MOTOR VEHICLES
Workshop
MacKenzie Street - Goxhill Road
Himeville

Don Blakey
033 7021110 or 7021835 or 0823421387

ELECTROTECH

ALL SATELLITE SYSTEMS
SALES, REPAIRS & INSTALLATIONS
DICK BERKELJON
082 350 7891
electrotech@futurenet.co.za

FIELD SERVICES



Speak to me about Price
Lock installations
multichoice accreditation number 33008mc

corrected the Afrikaans NCOs pronunciation of the name Roodt . Three times his name ‘Roodt’ was called out and each time Graham failed to respond. ‘*My naam is ‘ROOT!’ - as in wortel*’ . Graham’s lifes work was in conservation, the Natal Parks Board and beyond but I will remember him by the experiences we had with him in the last year, particularly at the Lotheni Settler house Museum where he entertained us with his childhood tales. The notion of story telling has now evolved into an electronic age but to sit in a semi circle in a setting which oozes history, with humour and good cheer is as unforgettable as you can get. Family was everything for Graham and to them we at the Historical society wish them strength. So long Graham - Hamba Kathle ‘Mkonto’ and thank you. **By Don Guy. doneguy59@gmail.com**



REICHENAU MISSION - TOURS & STONE - GROUND MAIZE

Reichenau Mission has had a bustling start to winter despite some weather-related setbacks. The recent mielie harvest was delayed due to rain, but fortunately, the historic stone mill was able to operate before river levels dropped. As a result, more of our signature stone-ground maize—free from preservatives and bleach—was successfully milled and is now available to the public.

We are proud to announce our continued partnership with local business Lemon Tree Bistro, who are now stocking our maize products and actively supporting local initiatives. Prices are as follows:
Fine maize meal (2.5kg): R65 Coarse maize meal (2.5kg): R55

Please note: Reichenau Mission is private property, and we kindly ask that this is respected at all times. In spiritual news, winter Mass hours at Rosa Mystica

Chapel in Underberg are now in effect. Services are held from 08:30 AM to 09:30 AM, conducted in both isiZulu and English, and all are welcome to attend. For those interested in the rich history of the Mission, guided tours are available Monday to Saturday at 10:30 AM. Tours are R100 per person and must be prearranged and prepaid via WhatsApp at 062 949 2046.

Looking ahead, our annual October Market and Concert—a growing highlight in the Reichenau calendar—is currently in the planning phase. We look forward to sharing more details soon. Sent on behalf of Reichenau Mission

Himeville Museum welcomes new Assistant Curator.

Nolwazi Magwaza, born and raised in Hammarsdale, KwaZulu-Natal,

I am a passionate heritage professional with a deep love for storytelling, history, and the preservation of memory through audio-visual media. At 28 years old, I bring with me a growing body of experience in cultural preservation and archival work.

I previously served as an Audio-Visual Archivist for 4 years at the National Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, working under the National Film, Video and Sound Archives of South Africa. My role focused on the critical task of digitizing aging film reels and magnetic tapes work that not only preserves South Africa’s cultural memory but also ensures it remains accessible for future generations. In 2025, I began a new chapter by joining the Himeville Museum. The experience so far has been nothing short of inspiring. Despite the chilly mountain air which is a sharp contrast to the warmth of Hammarsdale the environment, the team, and the rich local history have made this transition exciting and meaningful.



I'm passionate about making history more accessible, especially through digital tools and storytelling. I love learning about local histories and how they connect us, and I'm excited to keep growing in this space.





**SEASONAL FLOWERS
GIFT SHOP**

Crafted with care, handmade
locally by talented women—
supporting artistry,
community and
empowerment with every
purchase.

Monday - Friday
8am - 4pm
Saturday & Public Holidays
9am - 1pm
Closed on Sunday

www.peonyperfect.co.za
083 407 1969
Mzuri Farm, Sani Road, Himeville

Blooming Brilliance on the Slopes of Sani Pass

Nestled at the foot of Sani Pass in Himeville, Peony Perfect Farm is making waves with its stunning array of premium blooms. Under the guidance of founder Belinda McLintock, this boutique flower farm cultivates herbaceous peonies, delphiniums, hellebores, and hydrangeas—an extraordinary sight in KwaZulu-Natal’s rugged mountain landscape.

From Passion to Petals
Belinda’s horticultural journey began on her childhood farm and was later refined through formal studies in the 1990s. After working in landscaping and irrigation in Johannesburg, she settled in Himeville to turn her dream into reality. The region’s cool mountain climate proved ideal for growing high value cut flowers, inspiring her bold move.

Extending the Blooming Season
Starting with just over a hectare of peonies, Peony Perfect discovered the challenge of a short six-week season. To overcome it, they cultivated overlapping varieties—each blooming for about two weeks—extending the harvest window to six weeks. Further innovation followed through the introduction of hybrid plants and tissue-cultured blooms from Holland, grown under tunnels to allow near year-round harvesting. This expansion not only diversified their offerings but also provided year-round employment for local women.

Sustainability at Its Core
Operating in a volatile environment means contending with hail, frosts, and nature’s unpredictability—plus local electricity interruptions. Belinda and her team, however, view these challenges as part of the farm’s rhythm, adapting quickly and staying the course. In line with their eco-conscious approach, they use Indian Runner ducks to manage pests naturally and apply carefully timed sprays that protect essential pollinators.

Blossoms & More
Beyond flowers, Peony Perfect is also a creative hub. They produce locally handmade items—think aprons, candles, soaps, even polymer clay jewellery—designed to complement their fresh blooms by featuring their signature fabrics and fragrance lines. Their farm shop in Himeville is open weekdays from 08:00 to 16:00, and their seasonal blooms run from mid-October to the end of November, with peony rhizome orders opening in January for July delivery.

Flowers That Travel
Despite the logistical challenges—cold storage at 2 °C, weekly shipments, and even a near-miss with a global order—the farm delivers consistently fresh blooms to locations across South Africa and beyond.

Why Himeville Should Be Proud
Unique regional offering: Peonies and hydrangeas are rare above the escarpment; seeing acres of them in bloom is both beautiful and unexpected.

Empowering employment: Belinda’s focus on year-round local hiring and skills development strengthens the Himeville community. Eco-friendly innovation: The ducks-for-pests initiative and pollinator-friendly farming reflect a deep environmental ethos.

Creative commerce: Beyond agriculture, the farm fosters local crafts and artisanal products, enhancing the area’s cultural appeal.---
Peony Perfect Farm is more than a floral boutique—it’s a testament to vision, resilience, and community upliftment. As the peonies bloom this spring, the farm is ready to welcome visitors, share its fragrant beauty, and remind us all why flowers—and the people who grow them—truly make us smile.**Contact Info & Visiting Details Name: Belinda McLintockPhone: 083 407 1969 | Email: belinda@peonyperfect.co.za Address: Mzuri Farm, Sani Road, Himeville (08:00–16:00, Mon–Fri)**



Thank You from the Pevensy Knitters: We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who so generously supported us during our Piggly Wiggly Children’s Blanket initiative. We are especially grateful to the Underberg/Himeville community for kindly funding a delicious lunch, which added a wonderful sense of togetherness to our day. With sincere appreciation The Pevensy Knitters

**Fey’s Cave, Sani Pass
A Widow’s Wish**

Oh, let me put on my takkies again
And fleet foot run across the greasy slopes
And up the stony scree
Then crest the tops and watch where eagles fly
Wingtips upturned against the azure sky.

Once more I’ll scramble where
The cliffs meet heathered slopes,
I’ll sit inside the sandstone caves,
Then resting awhile
Hidden by a leafy screen
I’ll watch far-far below
The crazy world drive by
In frantic search for
What I have already found:
A mystic quiet, and peace profound.

Beth Fey 2004.



**Quiz Night
Horns
& Hooves**

GCAW Fundraiser: Donations of
petfood & blankets etc welcome.

Date: 23 July 2025
Time: 6:30pm
R50 per person
Teams of 4
Prize for best dressed team

Contact Trish: 0660033773
Underberg Country Club

DON’T BE RUDE

Phubbing refers to the act of ignoring one’s immediate social interactions in favor of engaging with a smartphone, making it a prevalent behavior in today’s digital age. While it is frequently associated with the concept of fear of missing out (FOMO), the current body of research presents conflicting evidence regarding the strength and consistency of this relationship.

In May 2012, as part of a linguistic experiment by Macquarie Dictionary, the advertising agency behind the campaign, McCann, had invited a number of lexicographers, authors, and poets to coin a neologism to describe the behavior. The word "phubbing," a portmanteau of phone and snubbing, was first described by McCann Group Account Director Adrian Mills, who was working with David Astle.

The term has appeared in media around the world and was popularized by the Stop Phubbing campaign created by McCann.



STOP PHUBBING

**MOTH on
Parade
- treaty of
Vereeniging
(31 May 1902) -
end of the Anglo
Boer War**

**held on
01.06.25**



THE SPECKLED HEN

At The Clocktower
Centre Underberg



**Funky Socks
Perfect Gifts
for Loved ones**



**Lovely Wooden
Board with
unique designs**



**Warm & Cosy
Sheepskin
Slippers**





THE LEMON TREE

Local Farm Shop
Breakfast & Lunch
Coffee & Treats
OPEN DAILY
Clock Tower Centre, Old Main Road, Underberg

Sani Curios @Clocktower Centre



Curios

Kikois Kikio Pants & shorts Basotho Blankets

Alex 084 706 3351

TIDY TOWNS. BY RUTH CROUCH

“Where have all the flowers gone? Faded and frosted everyone.”

I know there are those who didn’t like the Marigolds in the green bins, but they at least added a pop of colour and cheerfulness. However, they will soon have to go. The potholes at the butchery were repaired a while ago but three bags with the gravel were left by the road repairers. Easy to take away but one just wonders how long they will remain there now!!! That whole area is so scruffy and untidy-wire fencing being taken by the street mechanics, building materials lying all haphazardly and disorderly. Folk passing going to the two schools, the two churches and to the doctor must pass this ugly spot in our village daily. The Street Light remains like “The Leaning tower of Pisa” which we have reported and requested for it be removed on numerous occasions. We have tried to help enhance this area with two murals: the Nguni one and the abstract mural, both credits to Don Guy.

ODDS AND ENDS: The two Tidy Town chaps and I have plugged away with many small things: The creosoting of some of the poles, painting the small concrete street signs (I will redo the lettering as I am trying to get some stencils), brush cutting and neatening the banks and edges below the big taxi rank and clinic, removing scrub vegetation, cutting all the dead cannas in the park etc....so we do sweat the small things and so folk who do kindly donate, you have some idea of where the money is being utilised.

For the Underberg School, we systematically felled and removed the lower branches of all the many trees lining the main road into the village and so sought to give a lovely vista into the school. Also, we have been tasked to do the Himeville Anglican Church Garden so these are private jobs, but it all helps to beautify the villages. Not so with Puma Garage in Himeville - a real eyesore and nobody can tell us if and who has bought it. The Magistrates Court too still has not had its carport repaired since that fatal snowstorm in September last year.

MAINTENANCE: With the growing season having now ceased, there is no longer any need to brush cut and mow. So, I have encouraged the municipality to send in an environmental team, using pangas, slashers, long arm saws etc. to cut down bonga-bongas, young gums and wattles growing in the entrance to Underberg, also in the entrance to and in the heart of Bulwer. She is the younger sister to Underberg as is Himeville - all need to get these invasive plants under control. Trish Maphanga is taking up the challenge and planning for a work party on Thurs and Fri 19th and 20th to remove the Black Locust plants at the back and alongside the newly painted red roof of the



As winter approaches, CUNINA, a Belgian international non-governmental organization, is pleased to make a positive impact on the lives of underprivileged children at Reichenau Primary School and Enhlanhlani Combined School in Underberg, South Africa. The organization has generously sponsored winter tracksuits for these children, providing them with warmth and comfort during the cold winter months.

CUNINA’S efforts are driven by the tireless work of its President and Founding Member, Sophie Vangheel. Over the years, Sophie has dedicated herself to sponsoring children in various parts of the world, including South Africa, Uganda, the Philippines, Haiti, Brazil, Nepal and Peru.

In the picture is Eve Smith, CUNINA Representative, Headmistress, Mrs M Mkhize and Nomasonto, the Skills Centre Sewing Teacher, seen handing over the tracksuits to the sponsored children at Reichenau Primary School. This gesture demonstrates CUNINA’S commitment to improving the lives of underprivileged children and providing them with essential support.



museum.

With such strong winds in this district, I have requested to Mr Z.L. Dlamini to have certain potentially dangerous trees removed before they grow into towering giants. e.g. the three gums on the bank opposite TWK, a couple near to the Himeville Police station...etc

OLD MAGISTRATES HOUSE: (GOLD=Grand Old Lady Done-up)

Recently someone requested to view the interior of GOLD. So, Hylton, my husband, took him round and he actually did us a favour as it was evident that there had been a forced entry: the hand basin smashed, a further door stolen etc. I duly posted a message and several pics on two WhatsApp groups.

Somehow, this galvanised some of us into action to renew our efforts to help save the Old Lady from further abuse and neglect. There is good will and some concerned citizens in and around NUD. Mike Hunter on seeing my recent cry about the break-in at Gold, contacted Ian Crouch and requested that he send some of his chaps to slash and clean up and that he would foot the bill. Which he duly did. I will do some further tidying up of the hedges, the gutters etc with the Tidy Town chaps.

There are a huge number of run-down state-owned properties that could be handed over and with the intention to lease it out. So, we hope and pray that there is a way forward to save her.

I thought to stage another Tidy Town Colour Run on the 7th of September and the proceeds will go to GOLD. Last year, it went to the maintenance of the Oak Trees when we had a couple of work parties. So, we can change the route and go from Gold to the Cairn and back.

New Banking Details: NUD TIDY TOWNS Bank: Nedbank

Account: 1316748650 Branch Code: 198765 Reference: Your name or organisation

Thank you to those who do kindly donate on a regular basis or as a scheduled payment as the late Chris Bonsma encouraged me to suggest to businesses and residents. So, I have a certain amount coming in each month to pay for the labour costs, petrol for brush cutters, my car etc. **So dear mysterious AJAY who kindly donates a set amount each month, I do hope you read this article to take note of the change of banking details. I really would like to meet you one day and thank you in person. Ruth Crouch. 0842073057**

The Battle of INdawana

January 1881

doncuy59@gmail.com

War with the Basutos broke out in 1880 and this spilled over into East Griqualand. A magistrate and his two assistants were murdered. Hordes of Basuto rampaged through the country and were expected to attack Kokstad. **Donald Strachan** and his **Abalonolosi** ‘The protectors’ took command and attacked the Basuto driving them back over the mountains. Further north the Basuto were making threatening movement on the Natal border. On the **Ndawana River** (about 20km from today’s **Underberg** on the road to Kokstad) in those days the border of Natal and the Cape colony there existed a pioneering community of, the most interesting for me ,one Randal Walker who had moved there from Highflats.

Archive sources record **Walker** in charge of native levies and associated with **Donald Strachan** on the Cape side and **Major Dartnell** of the Natal Mounted Police on the Natal side. Archie Scott from ‘Brachan’, old van Wyhe and his sons from ‘ Glencoe’ and John Caroll who farmed at ‘Umgano’ all joined forces with Walker at ‘Bathurst’ still known as Walkers Camp to protect themselves and wait for the Basuto’s. The Basuto attacked from a hill behind the house shooting one of the Zulu occupants and driving off a lot of cattle. Walker and his men pursued them, recovered the cattle and drove the Basuto over the Drakensberg.

The wives and family of these men fled to Underberg where stayed at a kraal of a wealthy Zulu (probably *Sakhayedwa* whose kraal was located below Hlogoma)

Don and Helen Guy are local guides with historical and natural history expertise and interests. 066 018 6430

A writers note; One wonders whether Walkers peak which is located between The Knuckles at Bushman’s nek and the Rhino at Garden Castle might have been named commemorating Walkers pursuit of these lifted stock in January 1881

WE ♥ NUD

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT?

- ☒ MONTHLY DONATION
- ☒ ADOPT A SPOTS UPKEEP
- ☒ JOIN THE TEAM FOR PROJECTS

OUR NEW BANKING DETAILS

NUD TIDY TOWNS
BANK: NEDBANK
ACC NO.: 1316748650
BRANCH CODE: 198765
REFERENCE: YOUR NAME

PROOF OF PAYMENT & QUERIES:
RUTH CROUCH -27 84 297 3057

TIDY TOWNS
UNDERBERG & HIMEVILLE

062 804 8928
084 363 4855

BECOME A GCAW PAW PAL

Set a debit order monthly for R150
4 HELP US BE THEIR VOICE

Pals for Ever!

GCAW NPC
First National Bank
Acc: 62902665233
Ref: Your Name / Pawpal

Mr. Jackson. The Polela district administrator sent in the following report dated the 18th January 1881.

18th February 1881

Admin of Native Law Polela
To
The Honourable The Colonial Secretary

I have the honour to report that
On the 16th ? the rebel Basutos about
250 strong, attacked Mr. Randal Walker,
Killing one of his men, and carrying
Off some of his horses and his sheep
And goats. After an hour and a
halfs fighting the Basutos were driven
back into the Berg and all the stock
re captured. The Basutos carried off
their killed and wounded.

This report written from Highbury
Near present day Bulwer by Jackson.

COMBINED PENTECOST SERVICE

L - R:
Johan van As,
Ray Scott,
Kayla
Urmbasch, Rob
Kötting
and
Dennis de
Stadler

How blessed to be on the Underberg Primary Sports field on Sunday morning, honouring our King of Kings and the birth of the Church. So good to share with our counterparts in four other NUD churches. And what a powerful message from the youngest of the 5 ministers, Kayla Urmbasch.!

Heartwarming to observe the joyful unity of the leaders and to share in their prayers.

Long may this over 25years old NUD tradition last.

By Rae Higgins

WINNING STOCK MARKET STRATEGIES

OBLIQUITY: ACHIEVING YOUR GOALS WITHOUT INTENDING THEM * EXTRAORDINARY PROFITS FROM ORDINARY SHARES * WINNING STOCK MARKET STRATEGIES *

The term "Obliquity" was first coined by Sir James Black, a British chemist, who was also a Nobel Prize winner, and whose research led to billions of extra profits for ICI. Black realised that goals are often best achieved without intending them.

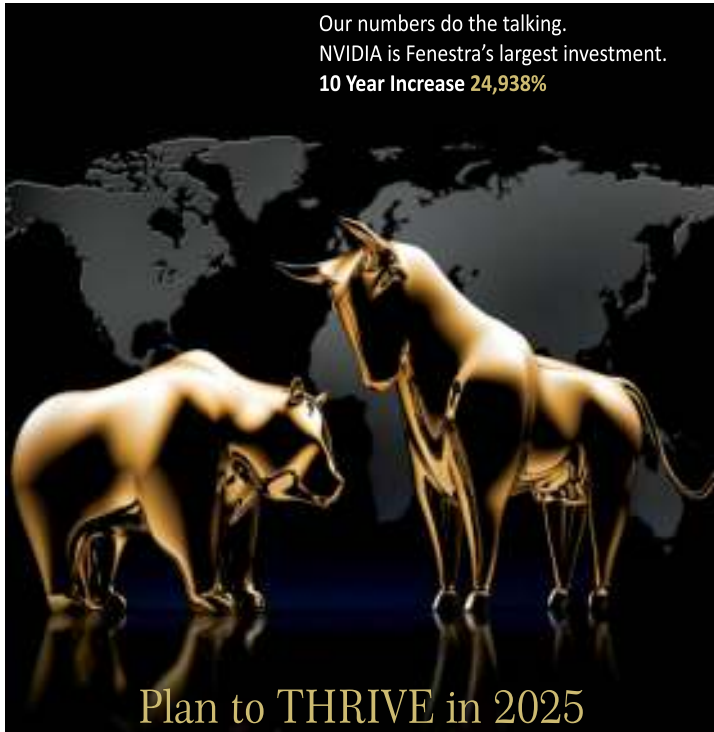
John Kay, a British economist, takes this principle further in his fantastic book : "Obliquity : Why Our Goals Are Best Achieved Indirectly".

He argues that we are kidding ourselves if we think that our deft planning and control will lead to our intended outcomes. The world is too complex for that. Given that rational control is hubris, is it not better to have qualitative rather than quantitative goals.

High – level objectives – living a fulfilling life, creating a successful business, producing a distinguished work of art, are almost always too unprecise for us to have any clear idea how to achieve them. That doesn't imply that these goals lack meaning or the capacity for realisation. We understand their meaning and realise them by translating them into intermediate goals and actions; we interpret and reinterpret them as we gain knowledge about the environment in which we operate. That is why successful approaches are oblique rather than direct.

"Happiness is not achieved through the pursuit of happiness. The most profitable businesses are not the most profit-orientated. The wealthiest people are not those most assertive in the pursuit of wealth. The greatest paintings are not the most accurate representations of their subjects, the forests most resistant to fires are not the ones whose foresters are most successful in extinguishing fires. Soviet planners managed the economy far less successfully than the adaptive, disorganised processes in market economies".

John Kay explains that during Bill Allen's time as head of Boeing from 1945 to 1968 it developed the 737, the most successful airliner in history. When it began development of the 747, which would define commercial aviation for decades, a non –



executive director questioned the planes profitability. He was given the cold shoulder, because management sided with the engineers and not the accountants.

Boeing created the most commercially successful aircraft company, not through the love of profit but through the love of planes. The oblique approach to profitability delivered spectacular results.

Boeing lost its way when new CEO Phil Condit emphasised cost reduction and shareholder value. And we all know about the disasters – the crashes of the Boeing 737 Max – 189 dead on Lion Air Flight 610 and 157 dead on Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302 and the latest crash – Air India Boeing 787. The share price has suffered a spectacular collapse.

Johnson & Johnson is another example. Johnson & Johnson's mission, written by Robert Johnson himself in 1943 reads as follows : "We believe our first responsibility is to the doctors, nurses and patients, to mothers and fathers and all others who use our products and services" Only in the last line of the mission statement do we find a reference to profits : "When we operate according to these principles, the stockholders should realise a fair return".

As Sir James Black observed, it's only in pursuing higher – level objectives that you create an organisation that is motivated to outperform. Profit can only come as a result of the greater meaning and value that you provide the world and the people that work for you.

I think the greatest example of Obliquity is that of King Solomon. God asked Solomon what he wanted from him and Solomon asked for wisdom so that he could best serve his people. Pleased, God personally answered Solomon's prayer, promising him great wisdom and wealth because he did not ask for self-serving rewards like long life or the death of his enemies.

I believe the principle of Obliquity is most useful in life and in investing.

If you are not happy with your portfolio performance or would like a second opinion, please do not hesitate to contact Fenestra for a free review of your portfolio.

William Meyer

Cell: 0796244031

FENESTRA ASSET MANAGEMENT
FSCA Licence NO: 688
Licenced Financial Service provider for 34 years

Call: 021 6897855
email info@fenestra.co or fam@mweb.co.za
website: www.fenestra.com for more info

Cognitive Dissonance by Heidi Kyle

Following on from the article on "Gaslighting" last month we will focus on cognitive dissonance which is one of the effects of being gaslighted and manipulated.

Cognitive dissonance is one of the most influential concepts in psychology, describing the mental discomfort we experience when our beliefs, attitudes, or behaviours contradict each other. This psychological phenomenon affects everyone and plays a crucial role in how we process information, make decisions, and maintain our sense of self.

The term "cognitive dissonance" was coined by social psychologist Leon Festinger in 1957 in his book "A Theory of Cognitive Dissonance." Festinger developed this theory after studying a UFO cult that predicted the world would end on a specific date. When the prediction failed, instead of abandoning their beliefs, members doubled down and claimed their faith had saved humanity. This observation led Festinger to theorise that people experience psychological tension when holding contradictory beliefs and will go to great lengths to reduce this discomfort.

The word "cognitive" refers to mental processes like thinking and reasoning, while "dissonance" comes from music theory, describing the harsh, unstable sound created when conflicting notes are played together. Together, they capture the mental "discord" we feel when our thoughts don't align.

Cognitive dissonance manifests in countless ways throughout daily life. A health-conscious person who continues smoking experiences

dissonance between their knowledge of smoking's dangers and their behaviour. They might resolve this by downplaying health risks, emphasising stress relief benefits, or promising to quit.

In relationships where one partner is gaslighting the other, the victim will experience cognitive dissonance. Often the victim struggles to rationalise their partners manipulation and they will often make up new beliefs, change their behaviour or even slip into a fantasy world to cope.

People might stay in unhealthy situations by minimising problems or emphasising positive aspects, creating internal justifications for choices that contradict their stated values about self-respect and well-being.

In politics, political supporters will often explain away behaviours of their leader which contradict their stated values.

While cognitive dissonance is natural and sometimes unavoidable, several strategies can help minimise its negative effects. The most effective approach is developing self-awareness—recognising when you're

Plan Ahead with Oakleigh Funeral Home

Ensure peace of mind for yourself and your loved ones with our Pre-Paid Option. By making arrangements in advance, you protect your family from future financial stress and guarantee that your wishes are honoured. Our caring team is here to guide you through the process, offering tailored options that provide comfort and security.

Why choose Oakleigh's Pre-Paid Option?

- ✓ Relieve your family of financial burden.
- ✓ Pay for tomorrow's services at today's prices!
- ✓ Create a tailored plan that respects your personal wishes.

"Walking Alongside You"
086 111 1380

Durban 031 205 9959 384 UMBILO ROAD	Gillotts 031 765 4117 3A GILLOTT'S CORNER	Pietermaritzburg 033 342 6116 25 PETER KERCHHOFF STREET	Howick 033 330 3400 GREENDALE ACRES CENTRE
--	--	--	---

www.oakleigh.co.za info@oakleigh.co.za

DIAMOND

BIDCORP GROUP

Bidcorp is a diversified food service group that operates in developed and developing economies on five continents. The business is very entrepreneurial and operates on a decentralized model, management has a depth and experience level that is enviable and the business culture positions the company well for sustained growth.

The company is a steady grower with a reliable dividend payer. The businesses operate in South Africa, Europe, the Americas and Australia. The business is growing at 5 percent per annum in real terms. So, this is a steady performer and management can be commended to sticking to a tried and tested formulae which delivers organic and acquisitive growth. The company is constantly making bolt on acquisitions e.g. a purchase in Portugal will increase business there by 40 percent and an upgrade to the Rome facility is beginning to bear fruit. Investment activity into new distribution capacity continues and eight bolt – on opportunities were concluded during the last reporting period. The shares can be considered a great currency hedge and a cornerstone for any portfolio.

William Meyer Fenestra Asset Management (Pty) Ltd Mobile Nr. 0796244031

HEIDIKYLE

hypnosis & counselling
heidikylepractice@gmail.com
082 386 1053 www.heidikylepractice.co.za

Smoking - Weight Loss - Fears & Phobias - Depression - Anxiety - ADHD and much more

experiencing dissonance and honestly examining the conflicting elements.

Sometimes just acknowledging that your beliefs maybe wrong or incomplete makes it easier to change views when presented with new information rather than dismissing contradictory views.

If you can change your environment so you can be exposed to different viewpoints rather than echo chambers that reinforce your current thinking. It is important in relationships to allow other perspectives and not be defined only by a partner. This can go a long way to managing gaslighting and manipulation and isolation.

If you find yourself in an ongoing state of cognitive dissonance and you can trace that feeling to a person in your life it maybe time yo consider responsibly disengaging.

If you are experiencing a general form of cognitive dissonance, it can be helpful to embrace the discomfort of uncertainty. Not everything needs immediate resolution.

Understanding cognitive dissonance doesn't eliminate it entirely, but awareness of this mental process can lead to more honest self-reflection and better decision-making in all areas of life, especially relationships. Next month we will focus on responsible disengagement.

Southern Drakensberg Honorary Officers



TYRE EXPERTS | CLOSER TO YOU

**TYRES | BATTERIES
BRAKES | SHOCKS**

PENSIONERS' WEDNESDAY

WHEEL ALIGNMENT, WHEEL
BALANCING & TYRE ROTATION

**only
R350**



SUPA QUICK STORE
52 MAIN ROAD UNDERBERG
033-701 1198

UNDERBERG
033 7011198 52 MAIN RD

SDHOs are volunteers who work behind the scenes, supporting our stalwart Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife staff and raising funds for conservation projects.

SDHO Chairman Simon Acutt has received a **Certificate of Merit** from Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, presented to him at the provincial honorary officers AGM held at Mtunzini on the 7th of June. The citation reads: 'Certificate of merit from Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, awarded in recognition of exceptional performance and commendable dedication. Your remarkable efforts and contributions have been exemplary and are truly appreciated. Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife Honorary officers would like to extend our sincere thanks to you.'

This is a well-deserved honour; we can be justifiably proud of Simon. HO **Fundraising** recently included manning two aid stations for the Giants Cup Trail Event held between the 23rd and the 25th of May. The big entry kept SDHO members busy, assisting at the Swiman and Cobham tables. Conditions were ideal for runners, but accidents still happen. HO Simon Vickers (also a Mountain Rescue volunteer) was at the Swiman table when a report came in about an injured female runner. SDHO members at the table swung into action, with Mike Bloom driving his trusty LandRover with the EMS medic as close to the hurt competitor as he could get, while Simon ran further to find her. He then carried her on his back for more than a kilometre back to the waiting LandRover, which transported her to Swiman. She had a badly swollen ankle, possibly a break or severe sprain. Simon's exemplary action has been recognised and commended.

Eland Management. With the goal of better understanding the movement of Eland herds and individuals within the region and making informed decisions on population management, Chris Kelly from The Wildlife Act, Ezemvelo, and the Southern Drakensberg Honorary officers have plans to GPS-collar approximately six eland in the southern berg. The Ezemvelo capture team will be in the area in June / July and will focus on herds at Bushmans Nek and Cobham as well as two resident herds outside the Park. All landowners in the areas will need to agree to the capture, in case Eland move from one property to another. And there is a shortfall of R78k needed for helicopter flying time; any funds would be appreciated.

Poisoning is suspected in the case of a dead Secretary Bird recently found on local farmland. HO Rosanne Clark nobly transported the dead bird to *Free Me Wildlife* in Howick, where a necropsy was performed. Unfortunately, the results could not show conclusively if it died as a result of poisoning by insecticide, or not. These magnificent, endangered birds need our protection.

We thank Kim Fraser for her help with the dead secretary bird, and we welcome new SDHO member Malusi, (assistant manager at Coleford

Nature Reserve,) as well as Ralph and Joanne Mills, who are on probation.

If you'd like to join the Southern Drakensberg Honorary Officers, contact Kayla, sdhosecretary@gmail.com.

By HO Nicki von der Heyde.



HO's attend to the injured runner during the Giants Cup Trail event.



Giants Cup Trail competitor Barbara Grantham has her water bottle filled by an Honorary Officer at the Swiman aid table



AVI-PLUS
FEED FOR BIRDS
For a variety of birds
Nutritious, easy to digest and perfect for water feeding!



SPOIL YOUR FEATHERED FRIEND
With AVI Plus Floating Duck Pellets



Get All Your FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT
Be prepared!

AVAILABLE ON ORDER

- Bakkie Sakkie
- Drip Torches
- Fire Beaters
- Knapsack Sprayers
- Water Syringes



TWK TRADE
Underberg | Swartberg | Cedarville
Ixopo | Kokstad | Howick
T: 033 701 2229
E: underberg@twkagri.com
W: www.twkagri.com/trade

NEW TRADING HOURS:
Weekdays: 7:30am - 5:00pm
Saturdays: 8:00am - 1:00pm



Kevin Fraser will be taking part in the 2025 Rhino Peak Challenge on 20 September. Funds raised will go to Vulture & Rhino conservation projects managed by Wildlife ACT.

It's official



HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT?
MONTHLY DONATION
ADOPT A SPOTS UPKEEP
JOIN THE TEAM FOR PROJECTS

TIDY TOWNS
SUPERHEROES IN KIMWILLE

OUR NEW BANKING DETAILS
NUO TIDYTOWNS
BANK: NEDBANK
ACC NO: 1316748650
BRANCH CODE: 198765
REFERENCE: YOUR NAME

PROOF OF PAYMENT & QUERIES:
RUTH CROUCH - 27 84 267 3057



Rhino Peak Challenge Lucky Draw

Kevin Fraser will be taking part in the 2025 Rhino Peak Challenge on 20 September and funds raised will go to Vulture & Rhino conservation projects managed by Wildlife ACT. Each donation, in multiples of R200, will be an entry to a lucky draw for a number of prizes. First name out the draw gets first choice, second name – second choice etc. Draw will be done in the week leading up to the Challenge. More prizes to come.....

Lucky Draw Items so far:

1. 2 night stay for up to 10 people in the 5 Bedroom Self-catering Game Lodge and 1 game drive per person per stay at **Bonamanzi Game Reserve**, Hluhluwe.
2. 2 night stay for 2 people in a luxury self-catering chalet at **Sunset Lodge**, St Lucia, plus a hippo / croc cruise on the St Lucia estuary and a sunset game drive in iSimangaliso Park with **Heritage Tours & Safaris**. Also includes 2 x R500 dinner gift vouchers for **Barraca Restaurant**.

Big thank you to the Sponsors above for the amazing offers.



SCAN HERE TO DONATE
****Remember to add name & amount to be eligible for draw****

HORSES AND THEIR INCREDIBLE CONNECTION WITH PEOPLE

This month I thought we should give some thought to horses and their incredible connection with people. I recently read of a horse in France names Peyo that has an affinity with sick people. He is taken on regular visits to the local hospital where he walks down the corridor, stops outside a particular door and lifts his foot. His handler then opens the door and he goes in and bonds with the sick patient inside. Apparently he has brought a calming influence and comfort to some very sick patients who are really struggling.

A couple of years ago I read an article in the local newspaper of a lady Springbok endurance rider who lived on a farm near Ficksburg. Here she kept her Arab horses between competing in events. At one point she travelled over to Canada where she learned of a program where horses and people bonded. She was so impressed she came home and turned all her horses out on to the mountain, saying "Go and be wild horses. I am no longer going to feed you, vaccinate or stable you". This must have surprised her much loved string of horses.

What she now does is run a B and B in conjunction with time spent with the horses and doing workshops for people with stress, health or emotional problems.

I was fascinated by this and my wife and I booked a few days at the farm, tough not to do the workshops. When she learned I was a vet and wanted to see her horses she agreed to take us out. So late one afternoon we headed out in her bakkie to the foot of the nearby

mountain. We could see a number of horses dotted around on the slopes. She first warned us not to talk to the horses, touch or try to stroke them or offer any tidbits. She told us to walk a short distance away from the bakkie, then just stop and wait. This we did. We could see the horses observing us and gradually they moved down off the mountain and came closer and closer. There were about 12 of them About 4 or 5 horses came really close, the others just encircling us. The 2 horses began nibbling my sleeve moving down my arm and then nuzzled my palm. It absolutely thrilling!

After a while she said to us "Now move away and head slowly back to the bakkie." This we did but the one horse would not leave me alone and followed me all the way back to the vehicle. Later she said "It was extraordinary that that particular horse picked you." I felt very privileged.

Apparently different horses pick out different people with a variety of problems, but they all come away feeling refreshed from their encounter. Recently through GCAW I had a little experience with a sad grey horse and her foal. She was in terrible condition and had a piece of wood stuck deep in the muscles of the shoulder. GCAW arranged for the local vets to operate and remove a big piece of wood. She then went to a farm near Richmond with Jean Brown for some much needed TLC. However the wound did not heal completely and required a second operation. This time the wound healed beautifully and the horse blossomed before being returned to its owner.

Finally on a lighter note : when we were vet students we were each allotted several animal cases to look after and treat. My friend Colin was assigned a horse. Part of the initial examination involved collecting blood and urine samples, the latter usually being done with a container on the end of a wooden pole. After lunch one Sunday Colin decides he is going to collect the required urine sample so off he goes to the stable block....but he does not come back !! Eventually another friend and I go looking for him. As we entered the stable block we heard a faint "Help, help". We ambled through the row of loose boxes to find Colin in the very last one. Colin was a big lad but he was perched on the food manger, away from the door, while the horse circled threateningly around, threatening to kick him if he dared to leave his perch with thought of escape.

When we stopped laughing we distracted the horse from the adjacent loose box allowing a white faced Colin to escape. We all had more respect for horses after that.

By Llew Evans
retired vet



Nyathi Polocrosse Club team based in Dundee in green beat Seaton Team in blue from Umdloti 23 points to 20 in the final of the Kzn Polocrosse Championships on 7 & 8 June.

If you didn't watch make sure you don't miss the international tournament on
22 - 24 August
for fast and skilled action.

Please Be Vigilant For Rabies and Foot & Mouth Disease

As a non-writer type, I can assure you that writers block is a real thing. After a few months of trying to get a newsletter out on time, it finally got me. Zero inspiration. This is possibly from the stress created by our current "groot gevaar," foot and mouth disease (FMD). After a brief discussion with David Forde this last week on the subject, it was clear that irrespective of which way forward we choose; the disease is affecting us, and we need to help educate as many people as possible on the impact it has on agriculture.

It has been months since I updated you on the happenings at Reichenau Mission. They have worked extremely hard to fence key areas of the farm and plant a large area to maize. With what Guy Taylor estimates to be approximately two hundred tons of maize at the mission, there is obviously a need to dispose of the grain profitably. Guy Taylor has offered to purchase the crop if a few concerns are dealt with. Negotiations are well advanced, and we should be seeing a combine harvester at Reichenau Mission again, after a long absence.

This being the same story for Nkwezela. After a few meetings to steady the ship, we appear to be back on course. The threat of a "big stick" sometimes helps to get people motivated.

Work has been continuing in our neighbouring communities. Regular training sessions at dip tanks is on-going. The current schedule allows for two sessions per month. At this rate we would have covered our local dip tanks by November this year. As mentioned earlier, FMD is a major topic. Our communities rely heavily on livestock, and this disease would cripple their ability to generate an income. And possibly affect the affordability of other protein sources. Thank you to our three Agri stores, TWK (Pat Dlamini), Agrimark (Abongile Sithole) and VKB, for their support in these sessions.

Sheldon Kok (VKB) has taken to supplementing our protein on these days with excellent selections of rump steak. While Pat Dlamini and Abongile Sithole ensure we are always well hydrated. The Department of Agriculture (Vet) in Ixopo has been assisting as best they can. And have attended a few sessions to explain their role if suspect cases of FMD are reported.

Although it is clear that they are under-resourced at this level. I do believe they took blood samples from local commercial herds as part of a sampling exercise. Small interventions can make a large impact. After the rabies case on Bushman's Nek Road, the Ixopo vet technicians assisted us with an inoculation drive at West Islay farm on the Swartberg Road.

Mike Willment initiated this. Approximately thirty animals were vaccinated. This

helped to allow the Giants Cup Animal Welfare (GCAW) ladies to tackle other areas as well. Unfortunately, more cases appear to be popping up. SAPS meetings still happen, albeit irregularly. Our last meeting discussed a dog poaching incident, and we are hopeful that more support is forthcoming. Remember to report all crimes. Follow ups are difficult if there are no references.

To end this edition, I would like to ask everyone to be extra vigilant. Rabies is a deadly disease and FMD would cripple the heart of our district which is Agriculture. Report any suspicious activity to the UFA or Community Watch.

By Wayne McNamara
(U.F.A. COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER)



The spread of Foot and Mouth Disease FMD underscores the need for stronger systems, including improved traceability, movement controls and certified markets for vaccinated animals. While containment plans exist, implementation challenges remain. Every delay threatens livestock producers and urban and peri-urban economies that rely on the functioning of the sector. Kwanalu is calling for urgent action, accountability, and the declaration of FMD as a State of disaster in KZN.

1 Samuel 16:7b 'The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.' - What is going on deep within our hearts is important to God. - God sees your heart.- He knows what is going on and He is not distracted by how things look.- God's understanding and care goes far beyond human comprehension.

UNDERBERG VETERINARY SURGERY

Tel: 033-7011092 (all hours)

Stockists of a carefully selected range of LIVESTOCK HEALTH PRODUCTS Suited for local conditions At excellent prices with professional advice

FLA STOCK SALE 3 JUNE 2025

QTY SUPPLIED	213
QTY SOLD	213
PERCENTAGE	100%
MAXIMUM PRICE	R30 000
MINIMUM PRICE	R5 200
AVERAGE PRICE	R14 522



15 Old Main Road

OFFICE HOURS

MON-FRI

8.30 AM - 4.30 PM

SATURDAY 8.30 AM - 11 AM

UNIT 42, Campsdrift Park

3 Brayford Road

OFFICE HOURS

MON-FRI

8.00 AM - 4.30 PM

SATURDAY 8.00 AM - 10 AM

For enquiries please contact

us on:

033-7011017/ or 0832875183

Email:

accounts@sanipasscarriers.co.za
operations@sanipasscarriers.co.za

SANI PASS CARRIERS

Transports the Mountain Echo

from Chatsworth to Underberg

A HUGE SAVING

DISCLAIMER

This Newspaper is Published by the owner Eilan Donan Publishingcc T/A The Mountain Echo is printed by Rising Sun Printers, Chatsworth. All copy is accepted IN Good faith. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the publisher, Paul Welch.

ACUTTSTM

ESTABLISHED 1851

UNDERBERG
ESTATE AGENTS

MAGNIFICENT DOUBLE STORY HOME IN FAIRMOUNT ESTATE



R3 500 000

This impressive double-story home is set in the secure Fairmount Estate on the Underberg Golf Course, offering breathtaking mountain views. It features a double electric garage, open-plan living and dining with panoramic berg vistas, a sleek modern kitchen, and a sunny patio complete with a jacuzzi. A grand staircase leads to a cozy pajama lounge, three bedrooms (two en-suite), plus a guest room. Enjoy luxury and comfort in this gated estate.

NATURE'S HIDEAWAY HOME - PRICE REDUCED!



R4 550 000

Brittlewood is a 5.96ha smallholding with river frontage, two natural pools, and superb trout fishing. A Moonrise Deck with valley views, Patience Pool for relaxing afternoons, and stables for up to four horses. The main home offers two ensuite bedrooms, open-plan living, patios, and a gym. A two-bedroom income-generating cottage adds value. Just 5km from Underberg, this peaceful estate offers space, charm, and room to expand. Scenic trails lead to forest retreats, decks, and a hidden plunge pool, with abundant wildlife and birdlife.

BREATHTAKING HOME IN THE MEADOWS COUNTRY ESTATE



R2 650 000

Enjoy serene, modern living in this single-level home in The Meadows Country Estate. With sweeping mountain views, open-plan design, underfloor heating, and dual fireplaces, comfort is key. Featuring three ensuite bedrooms, a flexible office/fourth bedroom, and a double garage with extra storage. Estate amenities include dams, a pool, clubhouse, tennis court, and golf course. A perfect, secure, serene countryside retreat or stylish family home awaits!

HOME WITH MATURE GARDEN - NO TRANSFER DUTY!



R1 190 000

Set in a spacious grassed garden with mature trees stands this 3-bedroom home with a study, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, laundry and sunken lounge. The covered patio is warm, sunny and has a lovely sense of space overlooking the garden. A neat driveway that leads directly into a double garage with access straight into the house. The double carport is perfect for guests or a potential tenant in the 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom flatlet at the back of the property. Embrace the country lifestyle in this lovely home!

IMPRESSIVE HOME IN THE GATED FAIRMOUNT GATED ESTATE



R3 200 000

Experience unparalleled luxury in this 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom home in Fairmount Gated Estate. Enjoy breathtaking mountain views, elegant interiors with two cozy lounges, a gourmet kitchen, and an enclosed veranda. With seamless indoor-outdoor flow and direct access to the Country Club. This residence is a true Southern Drakensberg gem.

CONTACT OUR AGENTS

Sarah Acutt

073 171 9446

Kathy Abbett

082 925 7983

Kerry Abbett

076 934 1487

underberg@acutts.co.za

033 701 1359

SCAN FOR MORE LISTINGS



PROPERTY SHOWCASE

Underberg



REF# 1UB1697444

UNDERBERG - R 4 500 000

3 BEDROOMS | 3 BATHROOMS | 2 BEDROOM COTTAGE

Set in scenic Scotston Valley with prime 'Mzimkulu River frontage, this 6.4-hectare completely off-grid smallholding offers stylish, sustainable country living at its best.

Jade Lloyd
+27 (0)72 194 2121
Registered with the PPRA - Full Status FFC



REF# 1UB1694492

UNDERBERG - R 3 890 000

3 BEDROOMS | 2 BATHROOMS | 2 GARAGES

Just a short stroll to your own stretch of the 'Mzimkulu River from this newly renovated home. This stunning property boasts large trees and a hassle-free garden. Ideal for horses.

Paula Bullimore
+27 (0)79 491 0101
Registered with the PPRA - Full Status FFC



REF# 1UB1603055

UNDERBERG - R 1 125 000

VACANT SMALLHOLDING

Situated near the renowned Drak. Gardens Hotel, this prime location offers access to its excellent facilities and the well-loved Ezemvelo hiking trails. The property boasts breathtaking mountain views.

Paula Bullimore
+27 (0)79 491 0101
Registered with the PPRA - Full Status FFC



REF# 1UB1645754

UNDERBERG - R 1 650 000

3 BEDROOMS | 2 BATHROOMS | 1 GARAGE

Soak up the panoramic Southern Drakensberg vistas from the enclosed verandah of this spacious front – row, double-storey Mountainairs unit. Price includes extensive inventory of household contents.

Paula Bullimore
+27 (0)79 491 0101
Registered with the PPRA - Full Status FFC



REF# 1UB1666133

UNDERBERG - R 1 990 000

3 BEDROOMS | 3 BATHROOMS | DOUBLE GARAGE

Perfect family home, situated in a sought-after area. Thoughtfully designed for comfort & sustainability, this home features solar power, direct garage access to the house and a water tank.

Khwezi Ngcobo
+27 (0)73 381 3957
Registered with the PPRA - Full Status FFC



REF# 1UB1689524

UNDERBERG - R 320 000

VACANT LAND

Spanning an impressive 2,625 m², this slightly sloped property offers a unique canvas for your dream home or vacation retreat.

Jade Lloyd
+27 (0)72 194 2121
Registered with the PPRA - Full Status FFC

