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What's New in PLETT

aka Est 1983

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Plett Shark Spotters

It's that time of year again when we start keeping our eyes peeled for the arrival of white sharks in Plettenberg Bay! In 2024, our first sighting was in May, with activity peaking around September. Robberg remains a truly special place, one of the few spots where you can witness these apex predators cruising just metres from shore, right alongside the mountain. Recently, four white sharks were tagged along the east coast and eight in Mossel Bay. Shark Spotters are now operating daily from 07:00 to 18:00 at five beaches: Lookout Beach, The Wedge, Central Beach, Robberg 1, and The Wreck. Lifeguards will raise the white shark flag if a shark has been seen within the past hour.

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12 July 2025
Venue: TBA
Please RSVP.
Open to the public. Sensitive topics can be discussed.
Please attend, and share far and wide!
For more information and/or to RSVP,
please contact 0823929561 /
info@greenheartsbittou.co.za

UnCommon Sense

By Rose Scott

Covid Controversy

To speak or discuss Covid-19 is still seen by many as a taboo topic, like politics and religion, only the brave dare to speak out. This column is not the platform from which to promote one view or another about the measures and conspiracy theories expounded by some. I do want to talk about something that is indisputable, which is the overwhelming trauma that the lockdowns have visited on every person globally to one extent or another.

As a service provider in the financial sector I personally saw several clients and friends go into financial meltdown. The trauma that these families suffered was brutal, some losing their homes, businesses and any hope for restarting business subsequent to lockdown. In South Africa the impact of the lockdowns on the economy were severely aggravated by the frequency and intensity of loadshedding, and the collapse of the rail and port systems. The result has been reflected in the higher interest rates and increases in the cost of living.

The official inflation rate as measured by the Consumer Price Index is reported as being 4,4% as an average for the year 2024. I am sure that anyone who has purchased potatoes, coffee and many other specific food types it is far greater than the "average" basket of goods included in the CPI.

The mental well-being of many people has not recovered from the impact that the lockdowns had, these include sleep disturbances, pervasive anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation.

In addition, children who were very young have shown delayed milestones. Learning to talk when most people were wearing the mandatory mask was not effective as children could not observe how a sound is made. Restricted activity and long days at home with parents working also resulted in low muscle tone for younger children.

The social connections that help us to thrive were also impacted, the most notable being that we could not see the smiles of people that foster a personal sense of wellbeing.

The reason that I touch on some of the lockdown "fallout" is that many people that you may interact with are potentially still feeling the shockwaves of the trauma of lockdowns. Bear this in mind when dealing with others. Kindness and compassion are never wasted, they are the only tonic for that which ails our post lockdown world. Many fear when the next pandemic might come, but I prefer to live in the present and aim to live a life that I can feel proud of one moment at a time.

The way we treat others also has a large impact on ourselves, we might not realise this but do a simple experiment is you are curious. Offer someone a pleasant smile and wish them a good day and see how good this makes you feel. Similarly, be surly and impatient with someone. This costs emotional energy.

I am writing a book on the Covid-19 phenomenon and if you have a story that you would like to share please email me at rose@obpractice.co.za



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Keep Plett Clean started twelve years ago to make sure our town looked clean and inviting to tourists and holidaymakers. This would encourage people to buy properties here, holiday here, open businesses and create employment for our people. Accommodation establishments, businesses, restaurants and retail stores would benefit. We have a number of volunteers who have walked this road with us from the beginning, and have helped to make it the success it has be-

come. This has been achieved by creating awareness and ownership of our surroundings and in so doing, teaching our children not to litter. Not only does littering make our town ugly, but it affects the environment negatively.

As we have grown, we recognised the need for some permanent staff and we now have three very capable hardworking men that are employed by us.

With this growth, our overheads have increased. Duncan Brown from Beacon Isle Kwikspar and Tops has been our main sponsor through the years and has also paid our employees wages every month. We salute you, Duncan Brown, for your kindness and generosity.

We thank Sotheby's for sponsoring all our dog poop bags, Robberg Fine Foods for cleaning the Industrial Area (a business hub that should be serviced daily) once a week, Broll Market Square for the donations and last but by no means least, the few individuals that donate to us monthly. We really appreciate your generosity.

We meet every Tuesday evening for an hour to clean up identified areas.

Keep Plett Clean has a branch in Keurbooms, run by Alan Jackson. They meet to clean fortnightly. MAD - Make A Difference Plett, and Adopt-A-Park fall under our umbrella.

We donate bibs to the car guards so that they are identifiable and neat looking.

We are tasked with keeping Main Street painted and the flower beds neat and clean and the trees and bushes trimmed - thank you to Seeff Properties for helping us with this.

Our expenses have increased as we have grown - we have a scooter that is driven by one of our staff members, which needs to be repaired and maintained, along with the expense of other sundries.

All donations and funds we receive for the various branches are kept in one bank account. We have a full committee, as well as a registered NPO. Our account is audited by an accountant.

We welcome everyone to volunteer with us, whether physically or by assisting with funds. We



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Date: Friday 25th July 2025

Time: 17h30 for 18h00

Venue: Lagoon Room, Beacon Island Resort, Plett

Speaker: Len Swimmer

Price: R300 per heard including snacks

A cash bar will also be in operation

Bookings can be made online via Quicket or in person at Barney's Kiosk, Market Square, Plett.

For additional information please email: info@pletthistory.org

Or phone Len Swimmer:
082 452 1799

Don't miss this fascinating talk about Thomas Bain and his father, Andrew - road builders extraordinaire.

Many of their roads and passes are still in use to this day.

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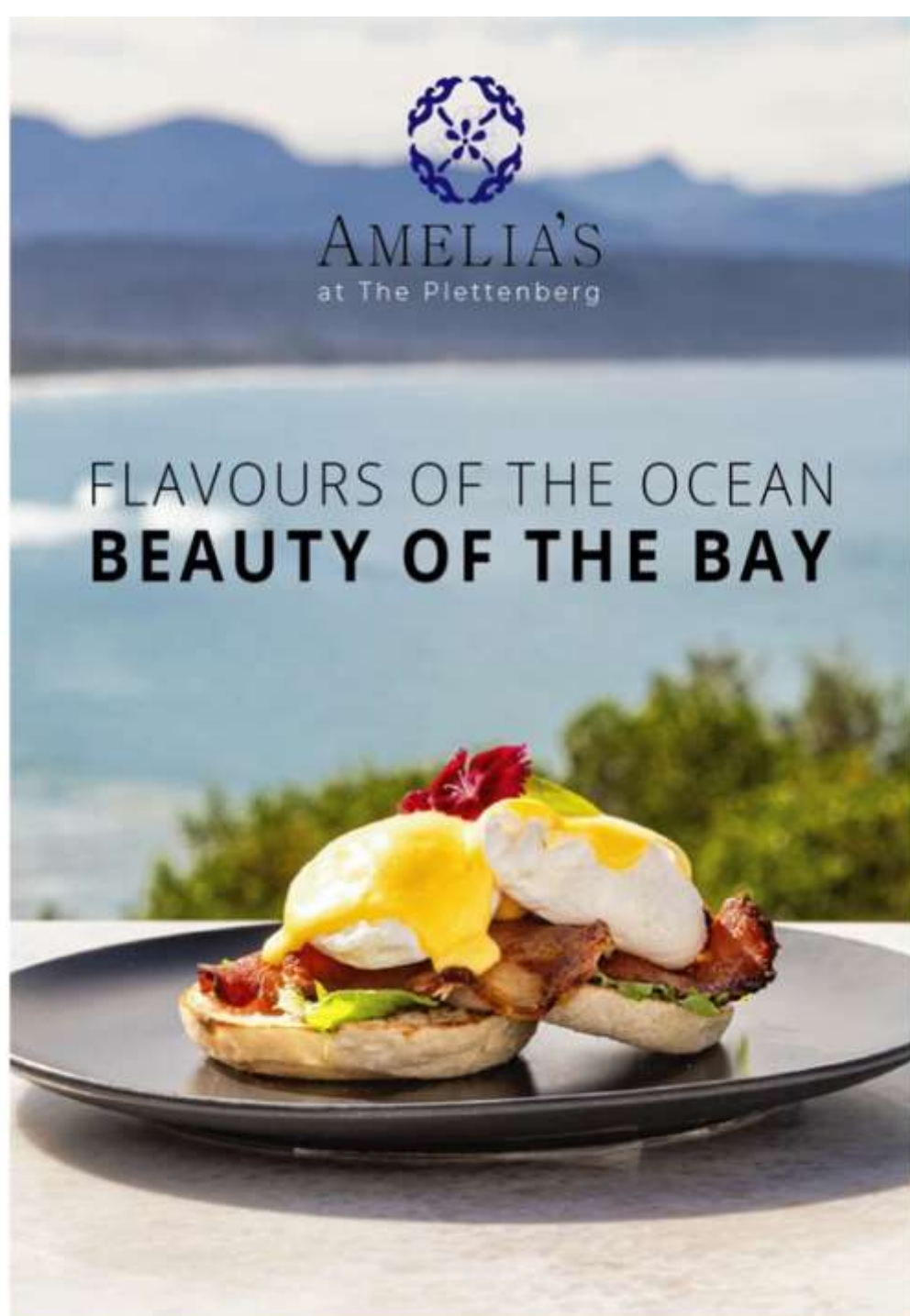
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ELIZABETH is looking for a job as a domestic worker call 063 716 2429

PETROS is looking for a job as a gardener call 071 804 5911

JOHN is looking for a job as a gardener and painting job call 063 316 69847

JOLLY is looking for gardening job call 068 1135 170

JUNIOR is looking for a job as a gardener or cleaner call 069 4261 748

VINCENT is looking for a job as a painter call 063 031 2393

PAUL is looking for a job as a gardener and caregiver call 073 578 8778

MCDONALD is looking for a job as a housekeeper call 068 504 9000

ALEX is looking for a job as a gardener and building job call 081 4625 940

JANEPPER Malawian is looking for a job as a housekeeper call 076 935 2791

JUNIOR is looking for a job as a gardener and driving with code 8 license call 067 241 0802

YOLAM seeks garden work on Tuesday. Call / WhatsApp 061 851 4251.

RABECCA seeks work housecleaner Monday - Friday 12 yrs exp. 061 248 2858

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coming week*

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5 July - David Andrew Brown

6 July - Dan Sharp ; Donovan Crerar

7 July - Donald Ravenscroft ; Shaylen van Wyk

8 July - Clinton Wild ; Anthol Evertse

9 July - George Muller ; Margie Mundy Chardonnay Rolfe ; Kosie van Wyk



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OORVLOEDIGE SEËN.

Die woord "oorvloed" verwys na iets wat meer is as net baie en word gebruik in die oortreffende trap om 'n inpak te maak en 'n groter hoeveelheid te beklemtoon. Wanneer ons na die Bybelse verwysings kyk om die voorsienigheid van God te beskryf aan die mens in menige opsigte is dit baie meer as wat ons verwag. In 1 Korintiërs 2:9 lees ons "Wat die oog nie gesien en die oor nie gehoor het nie..." en wat in die hart van 'n mens nie opgekom het nie, dit het God gereed gemaak vir die wat Hom liefhet. God, die Vader, wil elkeen wat Hom as Skepper aanvaar en dien, Jesus Christus, Sy Eniggebore Seun as Verlosser aanneem en met die Heilige Gees vervul is, die versekering van Sy oorfloedigheid van seën, verlossing en genade bied. Dan sal jy die goeie dinge wat God getrou voorsien geniet en toe eien. Dan kan 'n mens aanspraak maak op jou verlossing wat alle moontlike sondes in jou lewe betref, verlos, maak nie saak hoe sondig jou verlede mag wees nie. Romeine 5:15 "...maar met die genadegawes is dit anders as net die oortreding. Deur die oortreding van een mens [Adam] het baie gesterf, maar die genade van God en die gawe wat deur die genade van die een Mens, Jesus Christus, gekom het, is oorfloediger aan baie geskenk".

Die Heilige Gees sal ook oorfloediger in jou wees en daarmee geseënd wees. Lukas 11:13 "As julle sondige mense dan weet om goeie gawes aan julle kinders te gee, hoeveel te meer sal julle hemelse Vader die Heilige Gees gee vir hulle wat Hom vra". Jy kan ook deel in die oorfloedige genade geskenk van vryspraak wat beteken om deur Christus vrygespreek te wees, te leef soos Hy geleef het, dus 'n dringende oproep tot 'n heilige lewenswandel tot Sy eer.

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Efesiërs 4:24 "Lewe as nuwe mense wat as die beeld van God geskep is: lewe volkome volgens die wil van God en wees heilig". Wees dus verseker dat in geloof en gehoorsaamheid kan jy staatmaak en vertrou op die oorfloedige seën vir alles wat jy nodig het en nie wat jy slegs wil hê nie. Efesiërs 3:20 "Aan Hom wat deur Sy krag wat in ons werk, magtig is om oneindig meer te doen as wat ons bid of dink". Geniet dus die oorfloedige seëninge van God!

Seënwense: Daan Ludik.

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Is your home unhappy because someone drinks/drugs too much? Al anon offers help, free of charge, to the families and friends of problem drinkers/users. Meetings are held on 1300 to 1230 (Mondays) at The House of Steps. Call 083 256 0841.

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NSRI

CALL OUT PROCEDURES TO CONTACT SEA RESCUE

Phone the NSRI emergency tel
number **082 990 5975**

give the the following info:

1. Your name and telephone number.
2. Your Position
3. Position of casualty.
4. Nature of casualty.

Give as much information as possible & stay in position and keep your telephone line open.

If problems with above cell number try the below:

Deon Truter 082 569 5542
Marc Rodger 082 780 6427
Steff Le Roux 082 440 0932
Rob Gibson 083 277 0992

Letter via The Editor

The VMIMC- Voluntary Medical male circumcision program is a program that works hand in hand with the department of health. We have these programs once a month and we have professionals that do the circumcisions. Additional information is also provided on the day or at your nearest health facilities and you can also get it from the mobilisers. We cut from the age of 10 yrs and older. It is utmost important to remove the foreskin to prevent getting any infections of any kind and it's a very safe way to do it. For any information or a booking, please so contact me on Facebook/ Whatsapp (0735135119).

Kind regards
 Frendell Shaun Terblanche

SNAKES ALIVE - REPTILE RESCUE

Snakes play a very important role in our eco-system. Don't kill them, call us. We capture and re-release them back into wild protected areas. 074 120 9416/534 8056



PLETT STANDS AGAINST GENDER- BASED VIOLENCE

NO MORE SILENCE

IN THIS TOWN WE BELIEVE:

- No one should live in fear
- Consent is non-negotiable
- Survivors deserve to be heard and believed

♥ WE STAND WITH VICTIMS

⚖ WE STAND FOR JUSTICE

🌐 WE STAND FOR CHANGE

Let's build a safer Plettenberg Bay – starting here.
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Your
best friend's
friend

Dr Brendan Tindal
Dr Pauline van der Watt
Dr Clare Schroeder
Dr Sunel Jooste

Tel: 044 533 0124

A/H: 076 909 2577

info@robbergvet.co.za

56 Longships Drive, Plettenberg Bay

Strandloper Project

Marine Wildlife Strandings in the Garden Route.

If, while enjoying your time on the beach and shoreline, you encounter a stranded species of marine wildlife, please contact your local Marine Stranding organization.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND A TURTLE.

1) Do not return it to the ocean. It has stranded as it is either weak, ill, tired or has ingested plastic. 2) Do not place it in a container of water. Turtles are air breathing and can drown if weak and tired. 3) Keep it in a dry, ventilated and room temperature box, preferably placing the turtle on a towel. 4) Contact the turtle rescue number or the local marine stranding organization. 5) Get a location pin.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND A LIVE SEAL.

1) Do not try and chase it into the water - it is either tired, undernourished or weak and wants to rest. 2) Create a safe zone around it and prevent dogs and crowds from approaching it. 3) Call your local marine stranding organization. 4) Take a location pin to share with the rescuers.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND A PENGUIN

1) Do not try and chase it into the water - it is either tired, undernourished or weak and wants to rest. 2) Create a safe zone around it and prevent dogs and crowds from approaching it. 3) Call your local marine stranding organization. 4) Take a location pin to share with the rescuers. 5) After you have spoken to a marine animal rescuer, and they request you to collect the Penguin, follow their instructions on how to handle it and where to take it. Please be aware that they have extremely sharp beaks and need to be handled with care and cautiously.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND A DOLPHIN

1) Check for any obvious injuries. 2) Report to the local marine stranding organization and provide a detailed report of condition and location. 3) Unless advised by the stranding organization, do not attempt to return the dolphin to the ocean. Keep it cool by placing wet towels over it and wetting the towels about every 10 minutes. 4) Reduce any stress from dogs and crowds.

Plett area

Plett Stranding Hotline - +27 79 463 4837

Nature's Valley

Nature's Valley Trust- 044 531 6820

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FAMSA provides support & counselling in a safe environment for folk experiencing challenges with relationships. Also for depression abuse, trauma, parenting and grief. Please call 044 533 0515.

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ADDO BREAKAWAYS - ZUURBERG MOUNTAIN VILLAGE offers less 40% for senior citizens. Tel 042 2338300. www.addo.co.za

ALANON MEETINGS. Is your home unhappy because someone drinks/drugs too much? Al anon offers help, free of charge, to the families and friends of problem drinkers/users. Meetings are held on 1300 to 1230 (Mondays) at The House of Steps. Call 083 256 0841.

EXCITING NEWS!

Kelvin Hair & Barber
is open on the
upper level at The Market Square



Come visit their brand new salon for all your hair needs - whether it's a fresh cut, vibrant colour, stylish perm or a complete makeover.

Call 044 533 4646 to book your appointment
- they cant wait to see you.

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RESIDENTS AND VISITORS: Please do not put out your garbage bags until the morning of collection. There are baboons in the area, as well as seagulls which tear open the bags

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Transforming Lives: FAMSA Knysna/Plettenberg Bay/Sedgefield Offers Life-Changing Counselling Course for Volunteer Counsellors. For those with the passion to help others and the time to learn, a remarkable opportunity awaits. FAMSA (Families South Africa) Knysna/Plettenberg Bay/Sedgefield, a trusted name in strengthening families and communities, is offering a comprehensive counselling course that equips volunteers with the skills to support individuals through life's most challenging moments. The course, which is both transformative and practical, is open to individuals who are ready to dedicate their time and heart to making a difference. Designed with both theory and hands-on experience, this training prepares participants to become FAMSA volunteer counsellors — capable of providing emotional support, guidance, and practical tools to those in need. "We believe that anyone with empathy, commitment, and time can become a powerful force for healing," said Karin, Director of FAMSA Knysna. "This course doesn't just teach counselling techniques — it shapes compassionate listeners who can help others rebuild their lives." Participants learn about trauma support, relationship counselling, communication skills, crisis intervention, and more. The program includes supervised practical sessions, group work, and regular feedback, ensuring volunteers are confi-

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AGS PLETTENBERGBAAI



Pastoor Ben Brazer

WAAR: Upper Deck Centre
Shop 21
Behind Coffee Shop
TYD: 10h00
Kontak: 083 450 2461(of)
Marlize Jacobs: 083 432 3186

dent and competent by the time they begin their service.

Graduates of the course not only gain invaluable skills but also join a community of dedicated volunteers who are changing lives every day. Whether you're looking to give back, explore a new path, or grow personally, this course is a stepping stone to meaningful impact. One of our volunteer counsellors says: We give our clients this safe place (counselling room), we peel back the layers to their gold centre and we are witness to their struggles ... past and in recent years. It is a privilege to walk a little way with our clients ... we walk them to a place of healing. ♥

The next intake is open, and FAMSA is encouraging all interested individuals to apply early as spaces are limited. If you have the time to learn

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Jana 082 070 9417

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BITOU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

LAND USE MANAGEMENT NOTICE



The Municipality in accordance with Section 45(3) has instructed the applicant to attend to the publication of the land development application received in terms of Section 15(2) of the Bitou Municipality Land Use Planning Bylaw of 2015.

Notice is hereby given in terms of section 45 of the Bitou Municipality Land Use Planning By-Law of 2015 that the applicant has submitted a land use application to Bitou Municipality. The details of the application are as follows:

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF APPLICATION	APPLICANT DETAILS
REMAINDER OF THE FARM NO. 247	SUBDIVISION INTO TWO PORTIONS OF APPROXIMATELY 8.0 HECTARES AND 14.6 HECTARES	Shaun McMillan Land Surveyors 8 Greenpoint Avenue Plettenberg Bay 044 53303072

A copy of the application and full supporting documentation is available for viewing on the Municipal website. Enquiries regarding the application may also be directed to the Municipal Land Use Management official Olwethu Yonke at 044 501 3317 or at townplanning@plett.gov.za.

Any comments or objections to the application, with reasons, therefore, must be lodged in writing to the abovementioned official by means of email or hand-delivery within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, and must include the name & contact details of the person concerned. Comments / objections received after 30 days may be disregarded. A person who cannot write may visit the Town Planning Office, where a staff member will assist to transcribe their comments.

The personal information of anyone who submits comment / objection might be made available as part of processing the application.

ALANON MEETINGS.

Is your home unhappy because someone drinks/drugs too much? Al anon offers help, free of charge, to the families and friends of problem drinkers/users. Meetings are held on 1300 to 1230 (Mondays) at The House of Steps. Call 083 256 0841.

AFFORDABLE DIAMONDS available at Goldex, Knysna Mall. Good selection to choose from. Contact Glen 082 7888 700 or 044 – 382 0417.

A reminder to our community. **FAMSA** assists with all forms of emotional and relationship challenges, e.g. depression, abuse, grief, trauma, parenting and divorce counselling. We would love to assist and make a difference. **Call 044 533 0515 for info.**

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BITOU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



MUNICIPAL NOTICE NUMBER: 238 of 2025 RESOLUTION FOR LEVYING PROPERTY RATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1 JULY 2025 TO 30 JUNE 2026

Notice is hereby given in terms of section 14(1) and (2) of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004; that at its meeting of 30 May 2025, the Council resolved by way of council resolution number C/2/284/05/25, to levy the rates on property reflected in the schedule below with effect from 1 July 2025.

ASSESSMENT RATES			2025/2026
1.1	Property Categories	Ratio	R/Rand
1.1.1	Residential	1 : 1	0.00534
(i)	Vacant Land	1 : 1.3	0.00693
(ii)	Private open places	1 : 1	0.00534
(iii)	Natures Valley Special Rating Area		0.00092
1.1.2	Business and Commercial Properties	1 : 1.67	0.00890
(i)	Business: Vacant Land	1 : 2	0.01067
1.1.3	Industrial Properties	1 : 1.67	0.00890
(i)	Business: Vacant Land	1 : 2	0.01067
1.1.4	State Properties	1 : 1.67	0.00890
(i)	State Owned: Vacant Land	1 : 2	0.01067
1.1.5	Agricultural:	1 : 0.25	0.00134
(i)	Agricultural Vacant	1 : 0.25	0.00134
1.1.6	Other:		
(i)	Public benefit organisations	1 : 0.25	0.00134
(ii)	Sport Clubs/Fields not operating form municipal property	1 : 1	0.00534
(iii)	Public Service Infrastructure	1 : 0.25	0.00134
1.2	Relief measures related to categories of properties		
1.2.1	Residential properties		
	Domestic Properties with values up to R 350,000 (three hundred and fifty thousand rand) (excluding accommodation establishments and vacant land) in terms of Section 15(1)(b) of the Act will be exempted.		

Full details of the Council resolution and rebates, reductions, and exemptions specific to each category of owners of properties or owners of a specific category of properties as determined through criteria in the municipality's rates policy are available for inspection on the municipality's offices, website (www.bitou.gov.za) and public libraries within the municipality's jurisdiction.

MBULELO MEMANI
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

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HOME FOR HOPE SOUP KITCHEN
The above mentioned organisation is asking for your kind donations of stamp, mielies, bread, soup mix, pasta and veggies for ±150 children in KwaNokuthula. Kindly leave at Print Shop for collection. Thank you. Enq: Theodora Krabie (063 840 7154)

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