



# BUZZ

October/November 2015

Newsletter of the Betty's Bay Ratepayers' Association  
Nuusbrieff van die Bettysbaaise Belastingbetalersvereniging

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## From your Editor . . .

The next Buzz [November/December] will be available in the first week of December. Its primary purpose will be to give information about anything fun and/or interesting that is due to take place in the area over the holiday season. If you know of such an event, please tell me about it in the next couple of weeks. My contact details are on page 28 of this edition of the Buzz.

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**CHAS EVERITT**  
INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY GROUP

### Contact Us

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Deadline for submissions:

20th of each month

<http://www.bettysbay.info/>

*Please send us your comments, suggestions, events and news.*

### Subscribing to the BBRA

R60 per person per year, payable to:

**BBRA Current Account**

**ABSA Hermanus**

**Branch Code 632005**

**Account No 4066 6164 39**

NB! Reference must include your surname and Erf Number. *Please do not send cash.*

Contact: Adrian de Kock 028 272 9998

### Obtaining the BUZZ

The following options are available:

1. Get a copy at the Village Centre Café or Penguin Place, normally first week of each month.
2. Download a PDF version from our web page. Go to link 'The Buzz' at <http://www.bettysbay.info>
3. We also leave a number of copies at the Betty's Bay Library.

### Advertising and Crassula Hall payments

Payable to:

**BBRA Current Account**

**ABSA Hermanus**

**Branch Code 632005**

**Account No 4066 6164 39**

NB! Reference must include your business name. *Please do not send cash.*

Contact: Adrian de Kock, 028 272 9998

**Disclaimer:** The views expressed by the Buzz contributors are the authors' own and do not necessarily represent the views of the Editor of the Buzz.

**Notice:** The Buzz is a private newsletter, administered, financed and published by the BBRA so as to communicate important issues with its members. The committee reserves the right not to publish letters or articles it may receive.

### SAPS Emergency Contact Numbers

**Charge Office 028 271 8219**

**028 271 8200**

**Station Commander 082 778 6793**

**Additional Cell Nos. 079 894 1624**

**079 894 1622**

**082 443 6069**

**082 522 1831**

## **SECURITY MEETING FOLLOW-UP**

**BETTY'S BAY RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION – SECURITY MEETING, SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER 2015 – CRASSULA HALL**

It was pleasing to see the turnout for this meeting. This was an indication of the extent of concern of residents and property owners about the lack of visible policing in our area and SAPS's failure to get a handle on the issue of property theft, which has reached alarming proportions.

This situation is exacerbated by other factors, such as the failure of residents and visitors to take the necessary precautions in protecting their property with effective security systems and ensuring that items such as laptops, cameras, flat screen TVs etc. are out of sight. Additionally, those affected are not always prepared to report losses to the police and follow through by appearing in court when perpetrators are apprehended and charged.

We and SAPS are aware of perpetrators in our midst, in surrounding suburbs and those from outside but the present justice system appears unable to deal effectively with this scourge.

An overview was given of the activities of Millennium Management, a risk management company, in assessing the risk, providing a management plan and their approach to implementing same.

The meeting felt, by an overwhelming majority, that the way forward was to employ this company to undertake the assessment and produce a plan to combat the present unacceptable criminal activities. These first two phases would have a cost implication that would have to be borne by the community. Those present were in agreement that this was the course to follow and most pledged to contribute towards these two phases.

Of course, should we choose to employ the company to implement the plan there would be a substantial cost factor that would need to be carried by property owners. Provided all were prepared to participate the cost would not be too onerous, taking into account the positive spin off such as preserving our life styles, increased property valuations and peace of mind in our village.

So that we can get the assessment and plan implemented donations should be made to the following account:

**Betty's Bay Ratepayers Association**  
**ABSA Hermanus**  
**Cheque Account 4066616439**

Please reference your deposit as "Your Surname followed by Security" for identification purposes so that such deposits will be ring fenced for the purposes intended.

We have already received some deposits for which we thank the donors and if you receive this E-Mail having already donated please ignore the request for funding.

Any funds received in excess of that required for the planning stage will be held over and utilised in the implementation stage.

Additionally, if you are not already a member of the BBRA, please join. We currently

have 381 members and are the largest such organisation in Overstrand. The more members we have the greater our "clout" with the authorities.

Download the membership application ([PDF](#) or [XLS](#)) from the BBRA website [<http://www.bettysbay.info/>] and please fill it in and e-mail to [the membership admin](#). The fee is R60-00 per person p.a. and can be deposited into the above bank account with reference "Your Surname & Erf Number"

*Rudi Perold*  
*Chairman – Bettys Bay Ratepayers Association*



## **HANGKLIP - KLEINMOND COMMUNITY POLICE FORUM OCTOBER 2015**

Safety and crime prevention in the Hangklip – Kleinmond area got off to a good start with the election of a new committee on Thursday 22 October 2015. The committee is representative of all the towns with the following members being elected:

Chairman:	Mr Edward Richards
Vice-Chairman:	Ms Violet Bossut
Secretary:	Ms ME Hoffman
Vice-Secretary:	Ms Norma Sobantu
Treasurer:	Mr Graham Utton
Project Co-ordinator:	Mr Johan Cartens
Public Relations:	Ms Wendy Tawse

### **The way forward:**

Whereas the principle of Community Policing is enshrined in the most important documents of our Country and Province, namely the National and the Western Cape Constitution as well as Chapter 7 of the South African Police Service Act and South African Interim Regulations for Community Police Forums and Boards;

**Whereas** it is recognized that all members of the South African Police Service and the Community share the responsibility and are interdependent on each other to ensure a safe and secure environment for all of the people in the Western Cape Province; and,

**Whereas** it is incumbent on every member of a Community Police Forum and Board to ensure that the partnership between the Community and the Police is maintained in all the Police precincts in the Western Cape Province and that all Community Safety- and Victim Support Structures are directed, monitored and guided to act within the Law

The Chairman of the CPF, Mr Edward Richards, is confident that the newly elected committee will work well together and that they are committed to the roles that they have been elected. The way forward is to work within the parameters of the current

legal structures focusing on openness, transparency and service delivery as well as support to the local SAPS and Community.

The committee will meet once a month and if anyone has value to add or suggestions to make towards our common goal of making this a safer community, you are welcome to make use of the following e-mail address: [cpf.kleinmond@gmail.com](mailto:cpf.kleinmond@gmail.com)

## **KLEINMOND RESIDENTS TAKE TO THE STREETS IN ANTI-CRIME PROTEST**

It is not only Betty's Bay that is in the grip of a crime wave. The residents of Kleinmond are also at the end of their tether. On 10 October, traffic on the Main Road, Kleinmond, was brought to a standstill as residents staged a well-attended protest march through the town to the police station where they delivered a petition, reproduced below.

This is good news for Betty's Bay. The more dissatisfaction the communities of the Overstrand Municipality feel, the greater the pressure they will bring to bear on the powers-that-be.

### **PETISIE**

*Ons as gemeenskap van die Kleinmond/Hangklip-gebied rig hierdie petisie aan:*

- **Die Wes-Kaapse Kommissaris van Polisie,**
- **Die Senior Landdros van die Departement van Justisie op Caledon, en**
- **Die Area Kommissaris van Korrektiewe Dienste.**

1. *Hiermee spreek ons ons frustrasie uit oor die onaanvaarbare en stygende vlakke van misdaad in alle gemeenskappe in die Hangklip/Kleinmond streek, veral die ten opsigte van huisbraak en diefstal soos weerspieël word in die jongste gepubliseerde SAPS-statistieke. Die onlangse sinlose moord op 'n tagtigjarige inwoner, wat ookal die motief daarvoor mag wees, is skokkend en vul ons met weersin. Al die inwoners van die hierdie streek word toenemend blootgestel aan misdaad en dit bedreig ons almal se veilige, harmoneuse en gelukkige saambestaan.*

2. *Ons bepleit beter samewerking tussen die SAPS, die Departement van Justisie en die Departement van Korrektiewe Dienste. Ons as inwoners raak moedeloos om gereeld te hoor dat 'n misdadiger in hegtenis geneem en skuldig bevind is, net om 'n ligte vonnis te kry of na 'n kort tyd op parool vrygelaat te word.*

3. *Die toestand van die polisiekantoor op Kleinmond en die werksomstandighede daar is onaanvaarbaar. Die ruimte is uiters beperk en voldoen waarskynlik nie aan die Wet op Beroepsgesondheid en Veiligheid nie en die aanhoudingsfasiliteite skiet ver tekort. Ons versoek dat die polisie se bestuur sal toesien dat die fasiliteite en werksomstandighede verbeter word en dat die nodige hulpbronne en toerusting beskikbaar gestel word.*

4. *Talle versoeke is sonder enige sukses oor 'n tydperk van jare gerig dat die mannekragtekort by Kleinmond SAPS dringend aangespreek moet word. Die getal lede wat op die verskillende skofte vir die hantering van klagtes, die ondersoek van sake en veral die dringende aandag aan noodgevälle beskikbaar is, is eenvoudig te min vir die wye*

gebied wat deur die SAPS Kleinmond gedek word. Dit, terwyl die inwonertal en misdaad oor die afgelope tien jaar drasties gestyg het. Ons is tot die uiterste gefrustreerd met die gebrek aan optrede in hierdie verband van die Wes-Kaapse en Nasionale Polisie-owerhede. Ons dring aan dat die Wes-Kaapse Kommissaris van Polisie binne 14 dae skriftelik 'n aanduiding sal gee van wat hy aan die mannekragtekort gaan doen. Antwoorde soos dat ons oor twee jaar vyf nuwe rekrute gaan kry, bevredig eenvoudig nie. Ons eis dat daar op 'n tydelike grondslag onmiddellik bykomende personeel aan Kleinmond toegeedeel word.

## **PETITION**

*We, the community of the Kleinmond/Hangklip area present this petition to:*

- ***The Western Cape Police Commissioner***
- ***The Senior Magistrate of the Department of Justice, Caledon***
- ***The Area Commissioner, Correctional Services.***

1. *We hereby express our frustration at the unacceptably high (and rising) crime levels in all the communities in the Hangklip/Kleinmond area, especially crimes pertaining to burglary and theft, as were shown in the recently published SAPS statistics. We find the recent murder of an eighty year old resident of Kleinmond – whatever the motive may have been – shocking and deeply disturbing. All the residents of this area are increasingly exposed to crime and this threatens the safety and harmonious coexistence of all.*

2. *We call for better co-operation between the SAPS, the Department of Justice and Correctional Services. We as residents of this area find it extremely discouraging to experience repeatedly that criminals are apprehended and found guilty, only to receive a light sentence and/or be released on parole after a very short time.*

3. *The condition of the police office in Kleinmond and the working conditions of the police are, to say the least, unacceptable. Office space is severely cramped and detention facilities are inadequate. It is highly probable that the Kleinmond Police Office does not comply with the provisions of the Occupational Health And Safety Act. We therefore ask that the facilities and working conditions of the police be improved and they be issued with the resources and equipment necessary for the proper execution of their mandate.*

4. *Over the last several years there have been many fruitless requests that the manpower shortages at Kleinmond SAPS be addressed. There simply are not enough personnel available during the various shifts to see to the processing of complaints, to conduct investigations and to react to emergency calls, especially when the size of the area in which they work is taken into consideration. It should also be taken into account that the number of residents and the incidence of crime in the area have increased significantly during the past ten years. We are extremely frustrated by the lack of action taken in this regard by the Western Cape and National Police authorities. We demand that the Western Cape Police Commissioner release a written statement within fourteen days as to his intentions regarding the manpower shortage in the Kleinmond Police Station. Promises of, say, five recruits within two years are really not satisfactory. We demand that Kleinmond Police Station immediately be apportioned additional temporary personnel.*

# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

## THE INTERIM EXCO COMMITTEE FOR THE BETTY'S BAY TOURISM FORUM

### BACKGROUND

A group of business owners and private homeowners interested in improving tourism in Betty's Bay have been meeting regularly with stakeholders from organisations such as the municipality.

To date, the group has done the following:

- Started a database of businesses in the area including private individuals who have shown interest and wish to be on the list
- Have had open meetings to discuss ideas and strategies
- Presentations by the municipality, Hangklip-Kleinmond Tourism and Betty's Bay Ratepayers Association have been done
- Compiled, agreed and adopted a Terms of Reference Document
- Looked into sub-committees on issues such as signage, festivals, structure and social media and presented findings and ideas

### WAY FORWARD

At the last meeting, it was agreed that an interim Exco Committee be formed to accomplish the following:

- Formally register the Betty's Bay Tourism Forum
- Compile the Charter and Constitution
- Complete the Strategic Document (Outline of which as already been supplied by Hangklip-Kleinmond Tourism)
- Oversee the sub-committees
- Minute and record meetings and the organisation thereof

It is envisioned that the interim Exco be for a period of 6 (six) months from inception with the option to volunteer for a longer term thereafter. The positions on the Exco will be for Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Projects/Operations Co-ordinator and Communication Liaison.

The Minutes of the last two meetings, the Terms of Reference, the strategy framework document and the database are available to interested parties. Please contact [info@solutionsconnect.co.za](mailto:info@solutionsconnect.co.za) and we will e-mail it to you.

### YOUR PARTICIPATION

Should you wish to nominate yourself or someone else, please request the Nomination Form from [info@solutionsconnect.co.za](mailto:info@solutionsconnect.co.za). Closing date for nominations is 12h00 on 16 November 2015.

Enquiries may be directed to [info@solutionsconnect.co.za](mailto:info@solutionsconnect.co.za) or Sandra, Natalie or Jeannie on 028 272 9099.

## **BONSAI EXHIBITION**

VENUE: CAFÉ EL'ORA ,VILLAGE CENTRE, BETTY'S BAY

DATE: Friday 27 to Sunday 29 November 2015

TIMES: Friday - 9.00 till 16.00 and Saturday and Sunday 9.00 – 14:00

Have a breakfast from as little as R30 and coffee or some of our lovely homemade scones or pancakes while being surrounded by these lovely pieces of artwork.

## **HANGKLIP COMMUNITY BOOTSALE**

**THE FRIENDS OF THE HANGKLIP LIBRARY,**

in association with other community groups,

**HANGKLIP COMMUNITY CARE CENTRE, MEN'S FELLOWSHIP,**

**JUKSKEI CLUB & PIKKEWYNTJIES,**

invite you to join in a social morning of fun,

refreshments & good fellowship!

Date/Datum: 12 December 2015

Time/Tyd: 09h00-14h00

Venue/Plek: Crassula Hall/Saal, Crassula Rd

BOOTSALE site: R50.00

Registration & payment at Library, Betty's Bay [028 272 9263]

Contact: Pip Prinsloo: 028 272 9949 / Penny Davidson: 028 272 9940

## **NG KERK BASAAR**

**SATERDAG, 7 NOVEMBER 2015**

Basaar op Bettysbaai by die NG Kerk Gemeentesentrum vanaf 08:30.

Kom kuier saam, eet lekker en koop unieke kersgeskenke. Pannekoek, basaar-poeding, kerrie-en-rys, potjiekos, boerierolle, koek, beskuit, wit olifante, boeke ... o ja ook lekker musiek, 'n koffiewinkel en vermaak vir die kinders.

Daar is iets vir jou, kom net!



## **THE BOTANICAL SOCIETY [KOGELBERG]**

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS:**

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November 6pm, Nivenia Hall:

GRANT BROOKER ON ECO-POOLS

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November 6pm Nivenia Hall, [fundraiser]:

JUDY NEW'S TRAVELS IN PERU

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 10am, Nivenia Hall:

Prof. Anusuya Chimsamy-Turan, Palaeobiologist of UCT presents:

"LIFE AND TIMES OF DINOSAURS"  
[suitable for young and old]

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 12 noon:

KOGELBERG BRANCH OF BOTSOC'S 30<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION  
a self-catered, non-braai picnic at Die Stroompie.

Chocolate birthday cake provided.

Contact Gwen Coetzee 028 272 9057/ 079 673 8882 if you are planning to attend.

Members and their friends welcome.

## **CHRISTMAS CONCERTS AT THE GARDENS**

**Jot down these dates now, so that you don't double-book.**

### **CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**

Sat 19 December 2015, Adults R40, Youth R20

### **GUGULETHU TENORS**

Sat 2 January 2016, Adults R80, 6 – 18 years R40

### **HEINZ WINCKLER**

Wed 6 January 2016, Adults R60, 6 – 18 years R30

For all the above the gates will open at 18:00 and carols/concerts start promptly at 19:00.

Botanical Society members and Senior Citizens pay full price.

## EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

<b>Overstrand Emergency</b>	24 Hours	028 313 8111
<b>Fire Department</b>	Control Room	028 312 2400
	Marlu Rust	082 776 9287
	Wendy Tawse	082 442 8005
	Fires in Reserves	082 783 8585
<b>Police</b>	Emergencies	10111
	Charge Office	028 271 8219
	Station Commander	082 778 6793
	Sector Policing Officer	082 522 1831
<b>Security Providers</b>	Safe Security	028 272 9110
	Response	082 410 7845
	ASK Security (Office)	028 272 9500
	24 Hour Emergency	082 951 1892
		071 135 9029
	Sandown Bay Security	028 271 5633
		028 271 3306
		028 272 9575
<b>Ambulances</b>	Provincial	10177
	ER24	084 124
<b>Doctors</b>	Dr Du Plessis	028 271 4227
	Dr Van Niekerk	028 271 4227
	Dr Morkel	028 271 4227
	After Hours	082 653 6355
	Dr Greeff	028 272 9999
	After Hours	082 659 9437
	Dr Moses	028 271 3152
	After Hours	078 417 5628
<b>Dentists</b>	Dr Duvenhage	028 271 3467
	After Hours	082 861 0616
	Dr Engelbrecht	028 271 3662
	Dr Visser	028 271 5321

<b>Hospitals</b>	Hermanus Provincial	028 312 1166
	Hermanus Medi-Clinic	028 313 0168
	Vergelegen Medi-Clinic	021 850 9000
<b>Child Welfare</b>	Kleinmond	028 271 4044
<b>Veterinarian</b>	Dr Dave	028 271 4183
	After Hours	083 440 5191
<b>KAWS</b>	Animal Welfare	028 271 5004
<b>Pharmacies</b>	Albertyn Pharmacy	028 271 4666
	After Hours	082 927 5240
	After Hours	082 868 4267
	Kleinmond Pharmacy	028 271 3320
	After Hours	082 652 4309
<b>Optometrists</b>	Obermeyer	028 271 3119
	Optical Eyes	028 271 5684
<b>Municipality</b>	Betty's Bay	028 272 9263
	Kleinmond	028 271 8400
	Fire & Water	028 313 8111
	Law Enforcement	028 313 8111
		028 271 8466
	Traffic	028 313 8111
	Sewerage Removal	028 271 8435
	Hermanus	028 313 8000
<b>Seawatch</b>	Betty's Bay	028 272 9532
	Mike Tannett	082 994 9300
<b>NSRI</b>	Gordons Bay	021 856 1992
	Hermanus	028 312 3180
<b>Electricity (Eskom)</b>	Electricity	021 859 5304
	Emergencies	08600 37 566
<b>General</b>	Councillor Lisel Krige	028 272 9533
	Betty's Bay Post Office	028 272 9363
	Centre Shop	028 272 9230
	Penguin Place	028 272 9257
	Tourism Bureau	028 271 5657
	Hangklip Community Care Centre	082 378 1614
	Fire Extinguisher Service	083 741 9914

## PIKKEWYNTJIES SCHOOL NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

The children who are going into Grade 1 next year need new school uniforms. The proceeds from the concert advertised below will go into the uniform fund.



*Music expresses that which cannot be said  
but what is impossible to keep silent*

Come and enjoy a musical evening  
and glass of wine with  
**Miso Markovina**  
on flute and saxophone

Date: Saturday 7th November  
Venue: Grace, 9 Harveya rd, Rooi Els  
Time: 6pm  
Cost: R50 - Tickets available from Rooi Els Cafe

All proceeds go to school uniform fund for children at PikkeWyntjies Pre-school

## THE QUALITY OF BETTY'S BAY'S NIGHT SKY



In Betty's Bay we talk about light pollution a lot. Not surprising, as here we have something so precious that it needs protection. Over the years I have noticed a decline in the quality of our night sky. Most of the light pollution is in the form of skyglow from neighbouring towns. For the first time I can now measure the amount of intruding light. It has made more sense to me to purchase a Unihedron Sky Quality Meter than a string of pearls.

On the morning of 12 October 2015 at precisely 02:00, I measured the sky quality from my home in Bass Road Betty's Bay and I wish we could have a drum roll here. I held my breath as I pointed the device to the zenith. How would Betty's Bay compare to other dark places in South Africa? I did not want us to be below average as I love our stars. I was thinking if only I could ask the owner of that very bright light down towards the sea and those who had blue alarm leds, where red ones could be just as effective and would also be more environmentally friendly, to switch off just for the measurement. That of course would have been cheating. Beep beep beep and I had my reading: 21.45 [Bigger numbers are better — Ed] The measured value is in magnitudes per square arcsecond. Now this sounds like Spanish but in comparison, values of 21.69 (Sutherland Observatory) and 21.95 (Hakos Observatory, Namibia) have been measured. These two sites are ex-

tremely dark places. I will keep on taking measurements and also do comparisons during holiday seasons and at different times of night.

Whatever you do, do not try to combat crime by having unshielded lights shining all night. It does not work and is just a big waste of energy. I live in the city where our nights have been turned into day and crime is spiralling out of control. I measured 17.20 from the darkest corner of my property. This means I can see only a few of the very brightest stars and planets. Bright lights that shine all night are a dreadful intrusion. Rather go for effective lighting with motion sensors or infra-red detection. This way, if there are patrols at night (or I am at my telescope!), any on/off lighting will alert to some kind of activity.

For this measurement to be included in a log of sky brightness readings, made with SQM-L meters, at various places in South Africa, I have to state the identity of my SQM-L: Unihedron Model no: 2.18 Serial no 8912

21.45 mags per square arcs at 02:00 on a Monday morning was not a bad start to the week. Our light pollution levels are not beyond the point where all hope of preserving the night sky has been lost. Maybe just maybe we can close in on Sutherland - if only we could get Kleinmond to play along as well.

*Carol Botha*

## **“YOU CAN’T ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU WANT”**

**. . . and, quite often, you can’t even get what you need!**

### **[A LETTER FROM THE BBRA TO THE MUNICIPALITY AND THE RESPONSE]**

#### **From the BBRA on 17 September 2014:**

##### **OVERSTRAND MUNICIPALITY BUDGET 2015/16**

Items for inclusion in the budget for the Bettys Bay area

In terms of instructions received at the August Ward Committee meeting the following items we consider essential for inclusion in the 2015/16 budget deliberations in respect of the Bettys Bay area.

Gravel Road Maintenance

Storm Water Channels & Drainage Pipes

Potable Water Pipe Replacement

Otter Close Bridge

Visible Law Enforcement

Beach Parking – Main Beach

Disabled Access – Main Beach & Silversands Boardwalk

Bass Lake Boardwalk

Industrial Refuse Bins – Bettys Bay Collection Point

### **Gravel Road Maintenance**

The gravel roads in Bettys Bay are in a disgusting state and have been deteriorating over the past few years at an alarming rate. This is causing much frustration amongst residents, damage to motor vehicles and quite frankly are a danger in that motorists are forced to move from side to side of the roads to avoid the potholes. The past seasons failure to complete the biannual maintenance program through lack of funds is unacceptable and sufficient funds must be made available to maintain the roads at an acceptable level on an ongoing basis.

Furthermore a planned program of tarring roads needs to be implemented with particular reference to the main thoroughfares. In the long term this is the more cost efficient option.

### **Storm Water Channels & Drainage Pipes**

The lack of maintenance on an ongoing basis to the current storm water channels causes flooding of roads and properties besides the damage to roads caused by the failure to divert storm water in an acceptable manner towards the sea. This issue needs to be addressed with some urgency at an escalating rate in conjunction with the roads maintenance program.

### **Potable Water Pipe Replacement**

Whilst we appreciate that this issue is being addressed we feel that the rate of replacement needs to be stepped up because of the continued pipe breaks being experienced in our area at an increased rate. As the current old pipes get older and older this problem will escalate. From a recent presentation of your relevant department and the contractors it was established that with the current rate of replacement the replacement program will take another 60 years. The contractors further advise that the life span of the new pipes is also about 60 years so on that basis this is an ongoing saga without end.

### **Otter Close Bridge**

There has over the past few years been no definitive plan and associated budget allocated to construct a bridge which will withstand the ongoing assault of the annual storms. This bridge has been washed away on a number of occasions in recent times and it is time that a concerted effort is made to address this issue.

### **Visible Law Enforcement**

There is a virtual complete lack of visible Law Enforcement personnel in Bettys Bay. This is particularly noticeable during the holiday season when much attention is given to Kleinmond and Hermanus with the Hangklip area being treated as poor cousins.

An examination of the periodic lists provided in respect of action taken by these personnel in the area proves that attention is not given to enforcing the Municipal By Laws to an effective and acceptable standard.

### **Beach Parking – Main Beach**

The state of the main beach parking is atrocious with the area covered in pot holes, being ever reduced in size through the dumping of sand and gravel, the annual flooding and is a very poor advertisement for those holiday makers visiting our area.

#### **Disabled Access - Main Beach & Silversands Boardwalk**

This problem has been under discussion for a considerable time with no action being taken. What is happening? It is apparent that there is a complete lack of consideration for those wishing to visit our beaches who through physical disabilities are unable to do so because of a lack of suitable facilities to assist them in this regard.

#### **Bass Lake Boardwalk**

The boardwalk on the Kleinmond side of Bass Lake is moved each year by the rising waters during winter because the supporting poles are not long enough to prevent this happening. New longer support poles sufficiently anchored need to replace those that are inadequate to prevent this happening in the future.

#### **Industrial Refuse Bins – Bettys Bay Collection Point**

The present “trailer” should be scrapped and replaced with industrial refuse bins such as those in Pringle Bay. The trailer has no wheels and as such requires Municipal Officials to climb into the trailer to empty same which besides being inefficient is a danger to those staff both in the way of possible injury and additionally create a health hazard.

Bettys Bay does not ask for much in terms of service delivery from our Municipality but feel that we are treated as poor relations when it comes to delivery. The Overstrand Municipality makes much of their commitment to service delivery but items such as roads, storm water drainage, visible law enforcement and other areas mentioned above are in the opinion of residents equally classed as service areas and therefore should be given the necessary attention which they deserve.

Additionally we would like to be included in the planning stage of the 2015/16 budget where we can give input in terms of the points raised which need attention in our area.

Adrian de Kock

Vice-Chairman & Treasurer, BBRA & Ward 10 Committee Member

### **To the BBRA on 31 July 2015**

I'll respond *seriatim* to your attached letter.

**Gravel Road Maintenance** - Our operational allocation for the maintenance of gravel roads for 2015/16 is R1 100 000.00. Of this amount R300 000.00 will be used for the hiring of machinery during October to simultaneously attend to the needs of Bettysbay and Pringlebay. R800 000.00 will be used for the purchasing of gravel.

This allocation is for the whole of the Hangklip area. No capital funding has been allocated.

**Storm Water Channels & Drainage Pipe** - No capital funding has been allocated. Stormwater maintenance is done by our internal maintenance team.

**Potable Water Pipe Replacement** - I'll obtain the information regarding the spending on the annual pipe replacement for Bettysbay from our Infrastructure Directorate.

**Otter Close Bridge** - No allocation for the upgrading of the bridge. I've also applied for funding to the 'Working for the Coast' project (Provincial Department) and is still awaiting their response.

**Visible Law Enforcement** - This item does not resort under ward specific projects. The request has been forwarded to the Directorate of Protection Services and visible law enforcement has been increased.

**Beach Parking - Main Beach** - No ward specific allocation has been awarded for the upgrading of the parking area. Our environmental department is currently engaged in the planning process for the rehabilitation of the parking area with their own funding.

**Disabled Access - Main Beach & Silversands Boardwalk** - No allocation. Can only be implemented with a ward committee fund allocation.

**Bass Lake Boardwalk** - No allocation.

**Industrial Refuse Bins - Bettys Bay Collection Point** - No allocation. Can only be realised with a ward committee fund allocation as it will be a small plant purchase.

From Desmond J Lakey [Senior Manager: Kleinmond]

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## **MAY I INTRODUCE . . . Grant Brooker, aquaculture specialist and designer of natural pools.**



*Grant and his wife, Yulande, live in Pringle Bay.*

Grant and two partners run a company, based in Pringle Bay, called Deep Blue Aquatic Systems. They are aquaculture specialists and their core focus is on the design, manufacturing and installation of aquaculture and live-holding systems for both fresh and marine species. To the man on the street, they are experts you call on if you want to farm fish or other edible species that live in water. For more than ten years they have been involved in the cultivation of abalone, crayfish, tilapia, salmon, trout and cob and their business extends well beyond the borders of South Africa.

The aquaculture industry, though in its infancy in South Africa [less so in other parts of the world], is going to become of critical importance in the years to come. Natural fish stocks are dwindling fast and the world's population is ever expanding. Food stability will be one of the greatest challenges of the future and fish farming will inevitably become more and more vital.



*Tilapia brood stock in Caprivi, N. Namibia.*



*Tank installation on an abalone farm*

Recently, Grant has become interested in the design and installation of natural swimming pools, fresh water pools that can support plant and animal life but double as swimming pools that do not rely on the use of chemicals to keep the water clean and algae-free. The pools are divided into two sections, the swimming section and the plant or bio-filter section and it is important that the plant section is big enough in relation to the swimming pool section to ensure the cleanliness of the water through adequate filtration. Water is constantly circulating from the one to the other – a small pump runs continuously. The roots of the plants and the bacteria filter the water as it passes through a deep bed of stones to the pipes below, from which it is pumped back to the swimming pool section.

It takes a good two years before the pool functions optimally as the root systems of the plants need to develop and spread and the bacteria need to multiply. It is the roots and the bacteria that compete with algae for the nutrients in the water. As time goes on, the pool will need less and less maintenance, though it is important to regularly remove dead plant matter from the bio-filter as this will decompose and “feed” any algae present in the water. It is also necessary to have skimmers for the removal of floating debris and the swimming pool will need to be vacuumed periodically to remove any settled debris. The water needs to be sufficiently oxygenated to support plant and animal life and this can be achieved through including oxygenating plants in the bio-filter and by aerating the water, through venturi systems or splashing water.

Grant’s first natural pool was built in Betty’s Bay and below is a photo-tour of the process.



*9 June 2013. The site is on a mountain slope and an excavator was used to shift rocks.. Construction has begun. The rectangular section will become the swimming pool. The rest will eventually become the bio-filter.*



*10 July. Pipes are laid at the base of the bio-filter. On the left is the elevated skimmer box. The biofilter will later be filled with fine stone, in which the plants will be grown. The concrete needs to set for a couple more weeks.*



*24 September, 2013. Decking has been laid and rocks and big stones have been positioned to soften the edges of the bio-filter. Tap water has been used to fill the pool. Let the planting begin!*

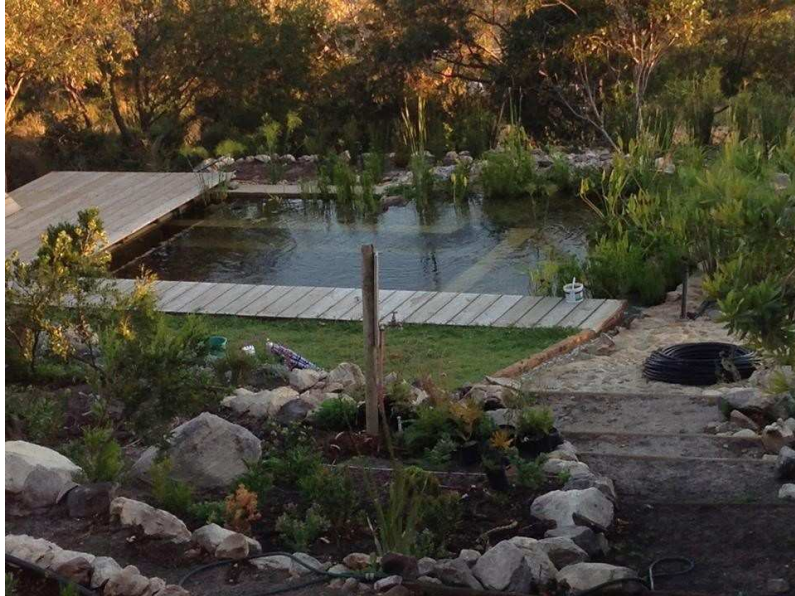


*25 September, 2013. Planting in the bio-filter commences. The filtration pumps have yet to be switched on.*



*Late October, 2013. Crystal-clear water! The bio-filter is doing its job!*





*02 January 2014. The pool is behaving as it should and the landscaping down to and around the pool is beginning to take shape.*



*A newly-built eco-pool in Hermanus. The swimming pool [left] is long and narrow, for swimming laps. The bio-filter is on the right. Lilies grow in deeper water.*

## # NZXTs MUST FALL!

**It's official. The Kogelberg branch of the Botanical Society has declared that the New Zealand Christmas Trees is Public Enemy #1. Let the battle commence!**



*New Zealand Christmas tree: Metrosideros excelsa*

You can grow these lovely trees in your garden in Cape Town or on your farm in Gauteng. But you are forbidden to grow them anywhere in the Overstrand Municipality. And, what is more, if you have them growing on your property, even if you personally didn't plant them, you could be prosecuted. And this isn't the local branch of the BotSoc flexing its muscles. This is according to the law of the land.

**Category 1a** refers to invasive species that may not be owned, imported into South Africa, grown, moved, sold, given as a gift or dumped in a waterway. Property owners are required to rid their land of these species. By far the most interesting Category 1a species is the New Zealand Christmas tree. In the latest lists, the New Zealand Christmas tree is only prohibited as a Category 1a species in the Overstrand Local Municipality District, which stretches from the eastern edge of False Bay to Cape Agulhas, and includes the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve.

In December, the BotSoc is initiating a poster campaign, entitled "Good Plant, Bad Plant" and new posters will be made available every quarter. Needless to say, the very first "Bad Plant" will be the NZXT and a comprehensive educational campaign will go hand-in-hand with the release of the first poster. Property owners will be encouraged to do the right thing—get rid of all these invasive aliens that are growing on their land.

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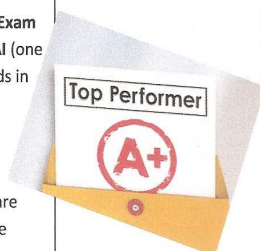
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