

# Bay News

OFFICIAL MUNICIPAL COMMUNITY PUBLICATION

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## OUR CITY IS RUNNING DRY!

Urgent call on residents to save more water – now!



The Impofu Dam currently sits at **16,64%** capacity



The Municipality urges residents not to slacken their water-saving efforts after the recent welcome rains: unfortunately, the rain again mostly skipped the catchment areas of our major supply dams - and our dam levels are steadily dropping to alarmingly low levels, standing currently at 25,6 % (72 087 ML) of capacity ( as at 13 March 2020).

This against the background

of the warm weather still experienced, which increases evaporation from our dams, and the fact that the South African Weather Services are not predicting any significant rainfall in our catchment areas over the next few months.

**Major storage dams supplying the Metro: Dam levels as at 13 March 2020**

- Kouga Dam – 16.64% 20949ML
- Churchill Dam – 79.78% 28114ML

- Impofu Dam – 16.64% 17596ML
- Loerie Dam – 35.57% 1076ML
- Groendal Dam – 37.39% 4352ML

The steady increase in water consumption by residents over recent months is cause for great concern, and at an average of 303 megalitres a day now we are steadily moving away from our target of only 250 megalitres per day.

*The Bay is literally running dry!*

Against this backdrop and the legal limits imposed on water

resources by the Department of Water and Sanitation, the custodian of all water resources, the Interim Executive Mayor, Cllr Thsonono Buyeye, declared a local state of disaster on 21 November 2019 and more stringent water restrictions were imposed.

In order to reduce demand, the Metro not only kept physical restrictions in place for domestic consumers, but also encouraged Industrial and commercial consumers to use water with

great care, as they play an important role in the economic development of the city. Local car washes were also affected, as they are now required to recycle at least 60% of their water.

**Treatment at Grassridge Reservoir gives temporary relief**

Clearly the current water supply had to be augmented.

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### Dear Residents of Nelson Mandela Bay

In this edition of *Bay News*, we present to you news on programmes and projects undertaken by the Municipality to serve you as our customers. We are particularly proud of the new Customer Care Office recently opened in Motherwell.

In addition to the service delivery news, we cover three areas of critical importance: firstly, the escalating water disaster because of the continuing drought. Our dam levels are dropping to alarming levels. While I thank our local communities for their magnificent response and for saving water with great dedication and ingenuity, I urgently appeal to you to increase your efforts to use water sparingly. As a City, we are running dry, and it is imperative that we reach the collective goal of reducing our daily water consumption to 250 megalitres.

Loadshedding has become a reality of everyday life, affecting our lives in many ways. By adding more groups to the loadshedding schedule, we hoped to ease the burden on individual households so that you will experience fewer 'sheds' on any specific day. In this edition of *Bay News*, we also give you some practical tips from Eskom on how to best deal with loadshedding.

Finally, the Corona virus. I appeal to all residents to equip themselves with knowledge about the virus and take the necessary hygiene precautions to stay well and healthy – your city needs you! As a City, we are currently pursuing all available access to information and mechanisms to combat the pandemic. I thank you.

**Interim Executive Mayor  
Cllr Thsonono Buyeye**



'Safe to drink' – NMBM Director Water & Sanitation Joseph Tsatsire confidently drinking tap water at Mfanasekhaya Gqobose Building

## OUR CITY IS RUNNING DRY!

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A request to the Department of Water and Sanitation to access additional water from the Gariep Dam was successful, but the additional daily 30 megalitres of raw water thus obtained had to be treated. In a major feat, the Municipality succeeded in temporarily converting the Grassridge Reservoir into an emergency treatment facility. The Grassridge Reservoir is located to the northern side of Port Elizabeth along the R335 to Addo. The additional 30 Ml raw water obtained from the Gariep Dam is pumped from the Nooitgedagt Treatment Works in Addo to the Grassridge temporary treatment facility (converted reservoir) where it undergoes treatment to comply with SANS 241. The temporary treatment facility clarifies water in the reservoir, and the water is also disinfected at the facility. The water then undergoes a strict quality testing regime for all elements as per SANS 241 and needs to comply with the defined minimum threshold before distribution.

This water (30 Ml/d) is mixed at the Motherwell Pump Station with water from the Nooitgedagt Water Treatment Works (140 Ml/d) via a low-level pipeline. This water is then distributed throughout the Metro.

Emphasised Joseph Tsatsire, Director in the NMBM Water and Sanitation Directorate: "Residents from the Metro need not be concerned about the safety of municipal water supplied through taps: all our water is completely

safe for human consumption and is checked and monitored by our Scientific Services Laboratory on a weekly basis.

This is only one of a number of short-term interventions implemented to make up the supply deficit experienced in the Metro.

Another renewed focus of the Municipality is fixing leaks, through which a significant percentage of our water is lost. The Municipality is procuring the services of external service providers to assist and augment internal teams in reducing leak backlogs. Altogether seven Cluster contractors will be appointed to assist. The Municipality is reactivating its water awareness campaigns amongst local communities.

Another focus area of the Municipality is pressure management: this is an intervention to reduce pressure in the reticulation system pressure management has a direct effect on water leaks, as reduction in pressure reduces the pressure on the system and therefore also the volume of water lost through leaks.

However, these initiatives do not remove the urgent need for all residents and business owners to increase their water-saving efforts and reduce their water consumption. The Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality again appeals to every resident for full cooperation in stretching the little water we have left over and to be mindful of the fact that the water crisis in the Metro is now critical.



# WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF WATER! PLAY YOUR PART.

USE ONLY **50ℓ** PER  PER DAY

 = **5ℓ**  
SHOWER

 = **1ℓ**  
HANDWASHING / BRUSHING TEETH

 = **2ℓ**  
DRINKING TEA / COFFEE

 = **12ℓ**  
TOILET (2 FLUSHES AT 6ℓ EACH)

 = **20ℓ**  
WASHING CLOTHES

 = **10ℓ**  
ONE DISHWASHER CYCLE

**SAVE WATER NOW!**

# Nelson Mandela Bay employees graduate with scarce skills

‘The Municipality cares for its staff’s development’

Corporate Services Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) Makhi Feni congratulated Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality (NMBM) employees who became ‘honey birds’ during their Graduation Ceremony at the Walmer Town Hall on Friday, 28 February.

Counting 26 in total, the jubilant municipal employees and a few unemployed youth proudly received their Certificates confirming that they had graduated in Horticulture and Landscaping, having successfully completed a year-long Learnership offered by the Khululekani Training Centre, courtesy of the Local Government Sector Education and Authority (LGSETA).

This programme addressed some scarce skills in the Municipality, courtesy of the

political leadership of the Metro, the astute administrators of the NMBM Corporate Services Directorate and the appointed service providers. Its main aim was to equip people with the necessary skills to beautify the City first and foremost and also to empower previously unemployed residents with some essential skills needed in the job market.

MMC Feni congratulated the proud graduates on their achievement: “Through this skill (in Landscaping) you’ll never be dependent on anyone. Instead, you’ll now assist the Municipality in responding to the challenges of climate change and addressing the refuse problem that is spoiling our environment.”

The NMBM Public Health Directorate recruited municipal employees to undergo the training, which was structured

to have both theoretical and practical components, while the unemployed youth were extracted from the municipal training database, according to NMBM Training Practitioner Armstrong Kobo.

Kobo, who supervised the training on behalf of the Municipality, said he was now happy to leave on retirement in 2021, following the success of the programme.

“This training shows that the Municipality cares for its employees. The Landscaping Course will ensure that we become active and productive, even during our retirement,” said graduate Bayanda Mbilana.

Graduation was a memorable day, confirmed graduate Lindela Eric Mzini, who thanked the Municipality, the LGSETA and Khululekani for a job well done.



Seated in front, from right, Armstrong Kobo, Acting Executive Director: Corporate Services Thembisa Nompandana, MMC Makhi Feni, Nonyameko Xotyeni (LGSETA Provincial Manager) and Vuyolwethu Bikitsha with Landscaping Graduates



Seated in front, from right, Armstrong Kobo, Acting Executive Director: Corporate Services Thembisa Nompandana, MMC Makhi Feni, Nonyameko Xotyeni (LGSETA Provincial Manager) and Vuyolwethu Bikitsha with Horticulture Graduates

# New municipal Customer Care Centre serving Motherwell residents

In a concerted effort to bring services closer to the people, the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality opened a new Customer Care office on 3 February 2020 in the Motherwell Licensing Centre (Thusong), situated in NU4B on the corner of Maku Road and Tyinirha Street, Motherwell, to deal with municipal account queries.

“The new office has been serving between 90-130 customers daily since opening its doors to the public, but on a normal day in any municipal customer care centre, we expect to serve about 200 customers. Currently, the number of people passing through the doors of this new office is way less,” said Belinda Lamani, Controller: Satellite Office Co-ordinator. “Many customers and residents in the Motherwell area are sticking to their old habits and still go to the CBD (Head office in Govan Mbeki Avenue) for services, while the same services and



Motherwell Service Centre situated on the corner of Maku Road and Tyinirha Street

expertise are offered at the new office. We urge residents to make use of our facilities – we are right here, close to you, waiting to serve you”, she emphasised.

Members of the public at the

Centre were clearly overjoyed at its opening: “The service here is beautiful! Everything is done perfectly!” said Motherwell resident, Monge Stuurman. “The added bonus is that I do not have

to take a taxi to town. Going to town was both costly and time consuming. Now I can simply walk to the Centre,” he added.

Also applauding the good service received at the office was another resident, Xoliswa Vellem: “Having a municipal Customer Care office in Motherwell has made our lives so much simpler. Before, we were forced to take taxis to town, which is very costly, especially given that some of us are not employed; and the queues there are very long. Here at this office you are in and out in just 15 minutes” However, she lamented the fact that payments still could not be done directly at the Centre: “It would be nice if the issue of payments could be resolved soonest.”

Regretfully, no payments or cash is accepted at the office at this moment, but we anticipate that this service will be offered soon, Controller Lamani said, adding that certain logistics need to be finalised.

The following services are offered at the new office:

- Assistance to the Poor (ATTP) applications and queries.
- Arrangements to repay arrears in terms of the NMBM Debt Collection Policy.
- IVR (automated telephone system) registration.
- Water Rebate applications.
- Estate Late projects: free transfer of property for surviving ATTP beneficiaries.
- Rates rebate applications.
- Sporting body rates rebate applications.
- Public benefit organisation rebates/Non-profit organisations.
- Agricultural rates.
- Pensioners/Disability .
- Property Valuation Certificates.
- Copies of municipal statements.
- Address changes.
- Account balance enquiries.

• The Customer Care office situated in the Centre opens Monday to Friday from 8 am to 4 pm.

# SA's Biggest Careers Expo prepares to equip Class of 2020

Excitement is building ahead of South Africa's biggest career fair, the Working World Exhibition, appropriately held in Port Elizabeth at the heart of the Eastern Cape where unemployment and poverty rates are amongst the highest in the country. April will see the annual Working World Expo held at the Feather Market Centre. This initiative of the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality and Inkanyezi Events is now already in its 21st successive year.

The Expo is aimed at preparing our school-leavers to make informed career and study choices - thus reducing youth unemployment.

Remarkably, the 21st successive edition of the Expo, to be held over three days from April 21-23, will feature 80 exhibiting companies and be visited by over 10 000 Grade 12 learners as part of organised, rostered local school groups, and unemployed youth.

The learners and visitors will have the opportunity of speaking with leading employers and educational institutions.



**Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality Fire Fighter Doreen Jim, in front, followed by school pupils, Sarah Ikin (Victoria Park High) Teresa-Marie and Jesse Noah Jansen (Clarendon Park Primary) as well as Fire Fighters Dannie Viviers and Mtheza Mqopi**

These include the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality and all its Directorates, the Coega Development Corporation,

Vodacom, Woodlands Dairy, ABSA, Aspen, PwC, Standard Bank, CSIR, Stats SA and the South African Agency for Science

and Technology Advancement. Educational exhibitors include the Nelson Mandela University, Rhodes University, Pearson

Institute of Higher Education, Boston City Campus and Business College, Capsicum Culinary, CTU, Vega School, Varsity College, Damelin College, Total Concept Beauty Academy, UNISA, Belgium Campus, MSC Business College, Ready 4 Life, Rosebank College, SAICA, East Cape Midlands TVET College, AFDA, Francois Ferreira Academy and PE TVET College among others.

Running alongside the exhibition itself, an eye-opening DVD on "Careers of The Future and skills in the 4th industrial Revolution", sponsored by the Coega Development Corporation, will be a highlight.

Other free resources include an interactive stage - where coding will be introduced through the global award-winning TANKS game, Career Guidance workbooks, a Young Leaders/ prefects seminar and onsite career guidance counselling provided by the Nelson Mandela University.

• *The event is free to all visitors between 9am and 3pm from Tuesday to Thursday.*

## How can YOU reduce the risk of CORONA VIRUS infection?



Wash your hands



Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue



Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth



Avoid contact with sick people



Disinfect frequently touched objects



# Q&A

**Question:**

What bank account number should be used when paying Municipal accounts?

**ANSWER:**

The following ABSA account is to be utilized for the payment of single accounts

- Account beneficiary: Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality
- Absa current account
- Account number: 40-7953-3842
- Branch Code: 632005

The following ABSA account number has to be used for the payment of multiple accounts and Traffic Fines

- Account beneficiary: Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality
- Absa current account
- Account number: 40-7953-3826
- Branch Code: 632005

**Question:**

Where can I find my nearest municipal Customer Care Centre?

**ANSWER**

Customer Care Centres  
Business hours 8:00-15:30

Mfanasekhaya Gqobose Building, Govan Mbeki Avenue, Central

KwaNobuhle, Ponana Tini Road, next to Fire Station

Uitenhage, Town Hall Building

Walmer, Heugh Road, 6th Avenue Shopping Mall

Cleary Park, Cleary Park Shopping Centre

Motherwell, Motherwell Licensing Centre (Thusong)

Despatch, Main Road

Zwide, Johnson Road

Korsten, Ablett Street, Opposite Livingstone Hospital

KwaMagxaki, Cnr of Ralo and Uitenhage Roads

New Brighton, Ntshekisa Road

# URGENT MESSAGE FROM THE MUNICIPALITY TO ALL ACCOUNT HOLDERS

PLEASE PAY YOUR MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTS ON TIME!



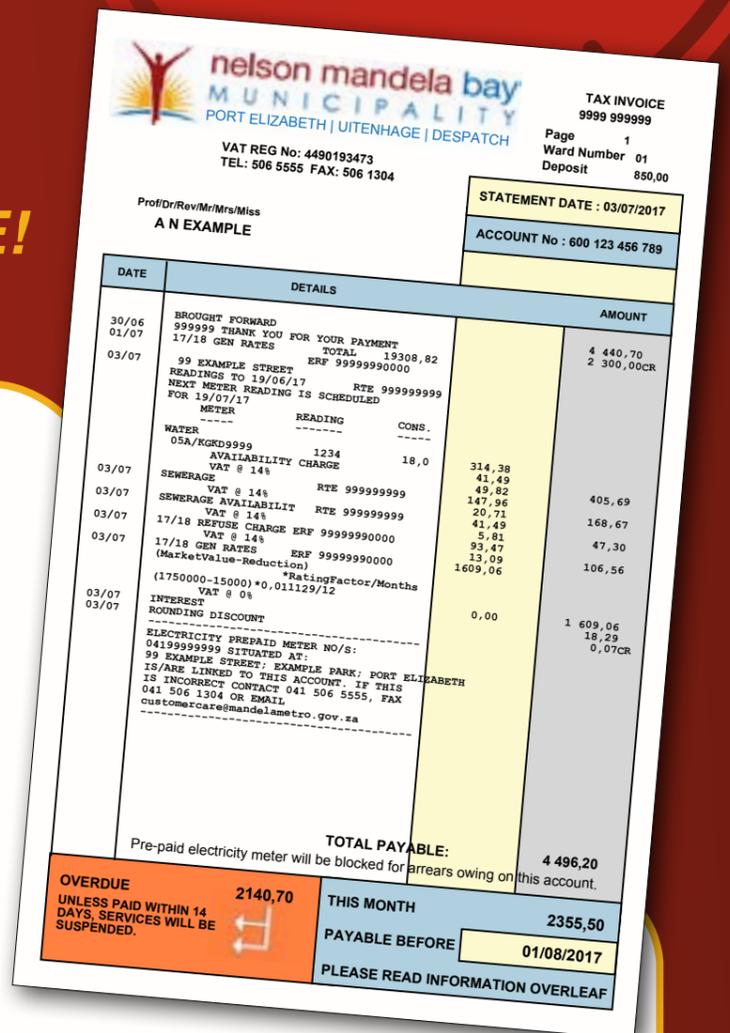
Help your City grow and develop.



If you are struggling to pay, please visit your nearest municipal Customer Care Centre.

**DON'T WAIT UNTIL YOUR SERVICES ARE BLOCKED! VISIT US TODAY FOR AFFORDABLE REPAYMENT INSTALMENTS.**

For more information, contact our **Customer Care Accounts Helpline** on 041 506 5555. If you have a disability and require us to visit you for an ATTP application, please call 041 506 1416.



customercare@mandelametro.gov.za

www.nelsonmandelabay.gov.za

# Brighter future piloted at local schools

German Foundation and NMBM join hands in improving township education

On 24 February 2020, a meet-and-greet was hosted by the Interim Executive Mayor, Councillor Tshonono Buyeye, to welcome a German delegation. The delegation came to oversee the implementation of the GIZ Multisectoral HIV Prevention Programme and inter alia visited the Khulile Primary School, in Motherwell as well as the Masifunde Foundation in Walmer Location. The German delegation, in collaboration with the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality and the Departments of Education, Health and Social Development, handed out prescription spectacles to twenty lucky learners from the Khulile Primary School (Motherwell) in an endeavor to improve and ease their learning.

Warmly welcoming the visitors, the School Principal, Lumka Zokoza, stated: "Engagements such as these show that globalisation bringing us closer together. Many children in less privileged societies experience learning barriers. As a result, there is a high number of absenteeism, teenage pregnancy and drop-outs

in our schools."

It was in response to these needs that the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality in collaboration with Department of Health, Department of Education and Khulile Primary, formed an Integrated Health Policy Programme in 2017. It was through this initiative that the twenty Khulile learners received their spectacles from the visiting German delegation.

But the Programme has a much more ambitious aim, as shared by the Programme Coordinator, Nomfundiso Joseph: "The Integrated Health Policy is currently being piloted at ten schools in the Metro. Our initial focus is on training school principals, because the main aim is health promotion and boosting learner performance. I see to it that each department plays its role in terms of conducting health screenings, peer education and counselling sessions. We are working together in fighting the social ills in our society, such as child abuse/neglect, in order to promote better performance."



Some of the young recipients of prescription glasses at the Khulile Primary School

## Loadshedding info and tips

Loadshedding will be with us for the foreseeable future, what with Eskom's ageing fleet being constrained and vulnerable.

### Loadshedding groups in Metro increased from 8 to 19:

From 2 March 2020, the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality introduced a number of changes regarding the implementation of loadshedding in the Metro.

A key change was the addition of more groups to the loadshedding schedule, with domestic groups increasing from 8 to 19, with additional suburbs added.

The new schedule is calculated over a cycle of 19 days. Good news is that the number of times that any specific group is shed, has been reduced.

This means that domestic groups will not be shed for longer than two hours at a time and that certain areas will no longer shed multiple times a day, which created such frustration and challenges previously.

Industrial groups will be shed for four hours at a time if Eskom announces stage 5, which is the new emergency stage.

The Municipality urges residents to plan ahead and be prepared, to limit inconvenience to their households and damage to their electrical appliances



The new schedules and groups are available on the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality's website:

[www.nelsonmandelabay.gov.za](http://www.nelsonmandelabay.gov.za)

### Electrical appliances

Televisions, microwaves, kettles and other electrical appliances have become fatalities of Eskom's load shedding. The cost of replacing these items could run into thousands of rands. Prevent this by UNplugging your electrical appliance before your scheduled loadshedding time starts. What happens is when there is a power outage and the electricity comes back on, plugged-in appliances

get a surge of current - a start-up voltage spike. This is what causes the damage.

### What you can do to limit the need for load shedding:

Reducing your electricity usage at home and at the office, and encourage your friends and family to do the same:

1. Delay switching on lights and appliances until after peak periods, whenever possible
2. Switch off your pool pump and geyser, and never run both at the same time or other large electrical equipment simultaneously
3. MOST IMPORTANT: Switch off what you don't need
4. Adjust air-conditioners to 23 degree Celsius
5. Retrofit your homes and businesses with energy efficient lighting

Saving electricity not only reduces pressure on the grid, but also reduces your electricity bill and South Africa's carbon emissions.

### How can I prepare for load shedding?

• Keep aware of the state of the power system and whether the country is likely to load shed, or if it is load shedding, and if so, in

what stage.

• Keep checking your load shedding schedule and plan on the assumption that load shedding WILL take place

• Think about communication: ensure that your cell phone / laptop / tablet is always fully charged when power is available.

• Think about transport: ensure that your vehicle always has fuel in the tank (many petrol stations cannot pump fuel during power outages).

• Think about cash: ensure that you have enough cash (ATMs cannot operate without electricity).

### Think about access, security and safety:

• Make sure that the backup batteries in your electrically operated gates, garage doors and security systems are in good condition to last through periods of load shedding.

• Keep temporary lighting readily available, e.g. battery-powered torches, gas lamps and candles (and put these items in places where they will be easy to find in the dark).

• Keep battery-operated equipment charged (e.g. cell phones, torches, laptops, tablets, radios).

### Think about keeping things cool and heating them up:

• Boil water and keep it in thermos flasks for hot drinks for

times when the power is scheduled to be switched off.

• Use an insulating cover on teapots and other pots and pans to keep drinks hot, and meals warm.

• Prepare meals beforehand in readiness for periods when there will be power cuts.

• Obtain a small stand-by bottled LP gas heating ring for essential cooking and to boil water for hot beverages.

• Keep adequate stocks of essential foodstuffs.

• Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed. A power outage lasting four hours should not cause food spoilage, and a freezer should keep frozen food safe for at least a day. Keep alternative snacks available that do not need refrigeration.

• Most medication requiring refrigeration can be kept in a closed fridge for several hours without spoiling (to be sure about this, check with your doctor or pharmacist.)

• Fill plastic containers with water (still leaving some space inside each container for expansion during freezing) in a deep freeze or the freezer compartment of your fridge. This frozen bottled water will help keep food cold during a power outage.

• You may want to consider investing in a petrol, diesel or gas-powered generator, or a UPS system designed to power equipment and appliances that you consider essential.

# Three exciting Exhibitions on at our Art Museum!

## Local and international art celebrated in Nelson Mandela Bay

Word from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum is that they currently have three very interesting exhibitions on show, guaranteed to satisfy a broad range of tastes. New and unique are the works of a number of American artists, exhibited in terms of the Sister City relationship between the Metro and Jacksonville, Florida, USA. Passages and rites of passages are the focus of the second exhibition, while the works of top crafters and artists of the Eastern Cape are on show. Why not drop in at the Museum, at 1 Park Drive? **Warning: art is addictive!**

**More details of the three exhibitions are given below:**

**Journey to South Africa: Struggle & Resistance**  
Continuing is the popular 'Through Our Eyes' annual exhibition, coordinated by the Ritz Museum in Jacksonville, Florida, USA.

In 2018, this annual exhibition turned 25 and local Jacksonville artists were invited to make works in response to the theme "Journey to South Africa: Struggle & Resistance". Nelson Mandela Bay was selected as a Sister City partner for Jacksonville because of its profound liberation history and

has been in an active relationship with Jacksonville since the year 2000. 2020 marks the 20-year milestone for Jacksonville's participation in the Sister Cities project. Hosting this exhibition by Jacksonville artists at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum affirms and strengthens the Sister City partnership and helps promote artists, both here and in Jacksonville internationally.

- This exhibition will close on 11 April 2020.

**Passage**  
Selected works take the viewer on unique journeys through the past and present, both real and imaginary. Keith Dietrich retraces colonial and precolonial trade routes through his giant watercolor paintings, while Andrietta Wentzel's twelve sculptural totems invite us all on a heroic journey.

Natasha Bezuidenhout's large-scale ceramic installation depicts a memory of a life-changing journey made during her childhood, while Berni Searle's video brings attention to the plight of African refugees who risked their lives to get to the Canary Islands in the hope of a better life in Europe.

- Closing date: 19 June 2020.

**The Lithuba Lakho (this is your opportunity): Top Eastern Cape Craft Exhibition and Competition**

This exhibition showcases some outstanding work by Eastern Cape crafters and designers. It supports the development of top export quality craft from a diverse range of disciplines. The competition and exhibition are designed to promote excellence in our local craft market and was initiated by the Eastern Province Development Corporation and the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum.

- This exhibition opens on 20 March and will close on 5 June 2020.

**Museum opening times:**

- Weekdays: 09h00 – 16h30 (closed Tuesday mornings)
- Entrance is free.
- The Art Museum is open from 9:15 – 12:45 on the second Saturday in the month and the last Sunday in the month.

**Contact us:**

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum  
1 Park Drive, Central,  
Port Elizabeth 6001

Telephone: 041 506 2000

Fax: 041 586 3234

E-mail:  
artmuseum@mandelametro.gov.za

Website: www.artmuseum.co.za

Follow us on Facebook.



Staff of the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum posing with their favourite art pieces

# National Library Week celebrated in Bay

The Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality's (NMBM) Library Services will again be actively participating in the 2020 South African Library Week celebrations, with special events and activities to be rolled out for library users at all 24 municipal libraries. The programme will last from 16 - 22 March 2020.

The theme of the 2020 National Libraries Week is: **'Libraries: Your Partners for Life.'**

Libraries are committed to advance development and in that regard are increasingly intent on connecting with seemingly non-traditional roleplayers. The advantages are the value derived from the relationships, proper acknowledgement of all concerned and making a difference in our communities.

Over Library Week, the NMBM Library Services will run programmes in partnership

with local schools, visit clinics, old age homes and crèches for storytelling sessions and creating library awareness. Other activities include a Library registration drive, crocheting and knitting lessons, a quilting workshop, craft workshops and book donations.

Human Rights Day (21 March 2020) will be celebrated by talks on human rights and displays of books relevant to the theme at all municipal libraries.



The Launch of South African Library Week (SALW) was held on 13 March 2020 at the Bethelsdorp Community Hall, West End,

with entertainment provided by learners from West End Primary and Arcadia High Schools.

# Springboks return to Nelson Mandela Bay to rousing welcome!

Port Elizabeth's World Cup winning Springbok Captain Siya Kolisi was clearly in his element among his home crowd at the Cleary Park Shopping Centre in the Northern Areas. Kolisi, fellow Bok Bongi Mbonambi and the team's Assistant Coach, Mzwandile Stick, returned to the Bay on an 'apology tour' - but clearly all was forgiven by the adoring fans



South Africa's sweet victory in the World Cup was relived when residents from Uitenhage and the Northern Areas welcomed members of the victorious Rugby World Cup-winning team on Wednesday, 11 March 2020. This after the original victory tour of 10 November 2019 was cut short, bypassing Stanford Road and several other stops also in Rosedale Uitenhage, to the bitter disappointment of thousands of waiting fans.

But the mood was jubilant when key members of the triumphant

team – notably home boy Springbok Captain Siya Kolisi, returned to the city to make it up to the fans.

Kolisi, accompanied by Bok teammate Bongi Mbonambi and Assistant Coach, Mzwandile Stick was welcomed by scores of adoring fans wherever he went, with thousands awaiting him at the Cleary Park Shopping Centre in the City's Northern Areas. Rosedale residents were not forgotten and they lined the streets to greet their heroes.



Proud Host City ... Interim Executive Mayor Cllr Thsonono Buyeye delivering a message of support to an attentive audience

## National Championships for Physically Disabled and Visually Impaired: 20-25 March

The Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, in partnership with the Eastern Cape Sports Association for the Physically Disabled, hosted a media launch for the 2020 Toyota National Championships for the Physically Disabled and Visually Impaired on Monday, 24 February 2020. This huge tournament is set to take place from 20-25 March 2020 in Nelson Mandela Bay.

Addressing the media, the Interim Executive Mayor Thsonono Buyeye said, "The Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality is very proud to host this prestigious event. In a short while, the cream of South African athletes with physical challenges will descend on the Bay. They will be coming for glory and for the chance to compete at the Paralympics later this year in Tokyo, Japan.

"I wish to thank the Eastern Cape Sports Association for the Physically Disabled for its commitment to make this wonderful event a success. I know that you are hard at work precision planning and organising the Championships to make sure that all the athletes will have an unforgettable stay and the Championships will run like clockwork.

"The Municipality will play its part in ensuring the success of the event, also in respect of safety and security and traffic arrangements. We are also looking forward to the welcome boost a large sporting event like this one will bring to the economy of the Bay.

"Events like these championships testify to how far sport for people with physical challenges has come in recent decades. Athletes with physical disabilities

have become a force to be reckoned with. The magnificent Paralympics has ensured that the international spotlight has turned on sports for the disabled. The world is watching, and the world likes what it sees. We are all in awe of the inspiring performances of the Paralympic athletes."

The sporting codes for this multi-coded event are: Athletics, Boccia, Goalball, Football 7A side, Cycling, Powerlifting, Swimming and Judo.

Interim Executive Mayor Buyeye was joined on the stage by Moekie Grobbelaar (President of South African Sports Association for Physically Disabled), Wanele Klaasen (Chairperson of the Eastern Cape Sports Association for Physically Disabled) and Freddie Makoki (President of NMB Sport Confederation).

## Bay ready to host third instalment of SA Lifesaving Championships

Nelson Mandela Bay will for the third successive year play host to the very best of South Africa's lifesaving talent. The Wimpy South African Lifesaving National Championships is one of the biggest sporting events on the local calendar, with over 1700 competitors from 40 national clubs competing in more than 500 events over the week.

Craig van Rooyen, Director of Sport for Lifesaving South Africa and Director of Sport, said this year's exciting instalment is once again a collaboration between the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Nelson Mandela Bay Lifesaving, the King's Beach Surf Lifesaving Club, Seagulls and Hobie Beach Lifesaving Clubs, LSA's sponsors and partners, Treble Group, Wimpy, General Tire, Aquelle, Score, Dairy Maid and the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation.

The very best of South Africa's lifesavers will spend over a week in the city, with the popular Nippers competition and the Senior elite competing in Port Elizabeth in both surf and pool events.

The family-friendly event will take place once again from March 19 to March 25, 2020 with close to 1700 lifesavers taking to the surf and pool to determine the best individuals and club in South Africa.

South Africa's best male and female lifesaving athletes, selected for the junior and senior high performance squads, will compete in Port

Elizabeth in preparation for the World Championship in Italy later this year, as well as at the Spanish Cup in Spain and Sanyo Cup in Japan, taking place in May and June 2020.

This year the Opening Ceremony will start proceedings on March 19. The juniors and seniors will kick the pool events off on 19 March, while the Nippers brave the sand and surf for the first half of the competition starts on 19 March as well.

The Masters Surf competition will take place on 22 March followed by the pool championship on 23 March. The Nippers will battle it out in the pool from March 23 while the juniors and seniors will conclude the national championships with three days on the beach from 23 to 25 March.

Another feature sees the return of surf boating, with ten crew, including ladies and men's crews, competing in the Score Surf Boat Shoot out from 23 to 25 March. Surf Boating has grown in the past two years since the first Shoot Out in 2017 and the Boaties will compete for the number one position in a series of races over three days.

### Schedule:

- Thursday 19 – Saturday 21 March: Nippers Surf
- Thursday 19 – Saturday 21 March: Juniors and Seniors Pool
- Sunday 22 – March: Masters Surf
- Monday 23 March: Masters Pool
- Monday 23 – Tuesday 24 March: Nippers Pool
- Monday 23 – Wednesday 25 March: Seniors and Juniors Surf
- Monday 23 – Wednesday 25 March: Surf Boat Shoot Out