

Bay News

FREE!

An iconic, friendly, ocean City

Driven by innovation, service excellence and economic development – a destination of choice.

2019 Mayoral Cup
Hosted by the
Municipality



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Cleaning and
greening of City
prioritised



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IRONMAN hits our shores again!



On Sunday, 7 April 2019, Nelson Mandela Bay will again host the African Leg of the International IRONMAN Championship. Don't miss this top endurance race, in which among the best athletes in the world will compete for glory! See details and map on page 2.

Picture: Craig Muller



Message from the Executive Mayor



In this edition of *Bay News*, we share with you some highlights and challenges experienced over recent months. Read more about the cleaning and greening of our city - a big concern for all of us - and the consultation taking place around the redevelopment of Bayworld. We focus on craft and beading workshops at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Museum, celebrating our African heritage and, turning to sport, showcase the very successful Mayoral Cup that was recently concluded.

Rest assured that we are working very hard to improve and expedite service delivery to all our citizens.

This edition of *Bay News* features the Jazz Queens, a remarkable group of ladies who have 'adopted' a local old age home, using their remarkable musical talents to entertain and delight our senior

citizens. **Be inspired, reach out and make a difference in the lives of others!**

The drought persists, and our dam levels are dwindling. Included in this edition of *Bay News* you will find a Water Guide, specially put together to bring our residents up to date with our water situation and the prevailing drought. The fact is that we have to become even more vigilant in our water usage, as no significant rains are expected in the coming months.

We are the proud host of the IRONMAN Championship on the African continent! I encourage residents not to miss out and go and watch this rare sporting treat on 7 April 2019.

Happy reading!

**CLLR MONGAMELI BOBANI
EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

IRONMAN: Top Endurance Athletes flock to the Bay!

Last year, Nelson Mandela Bay successfully hosted the 2018 IRONMAN 70.3 World Championships - the first time that it was ever hosted on the African Continent.

This year, the many local lovers of this spectacular sport can again look forward to the African edition of the full IRONMAN: the 2019 Standard Bank IRONMAN African Championship will be held in Nelson Mandela Bay on Sunday, 7 April 2019. This popular triathlon, which consists of a 3.8 km swim, 180 km bike and 42.2km run is South Africa's toughest one-day race and will see athletes from all over the world participate to hear the words: "You are an IRONMAN!"

The love story between the IRONMAN and the Bay started many years ago. Undoubtedly, factors that favoured our selection as African host of this prestigious international event was the scenic route, together with our excellent climate (mild and sunny 320 days per year!), our beautiful beaches and our tourism potential.

What will excite spectators this year is the high caliber of professional athletes that will be racing. Both defending champions, Kyle Buckingham (South Africa)

and Lucy Charles (British), are back to defend their titles against a tough field. American Ben Hoffman, who won the African Championship in 2016 and 2017, is also back to try take back the bragging rights from Buckingham. Other athletes to look out for are South Africans James Cunnama and Matt Trautman, American fan favourite Tim Don, and David McNamee from the United Kingdom, who placed 3rd in the IRONMAN World Championship in Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i in 2017 and 2018. And after winning the Standard Bank IRONMAN 70.3 South Africa in Buffalo City this year, South African Annah Watkinson will be full of confidence going into this race.

An international competition of this stature requires precision, planning and organisation. The Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality is providing logistical, financial and other support. Working closely together with the organisers, we are determined that this shall be a well organised and spectacular IRONMAN!

This year, the Standard Bank IRONMAN African Championship has a new route (see map below). The swim course has been kept the same, with the 3.8 km swim

taking place at Hobie Beach. The change comes on the 180 km bike course: instead of heading right out of the Transition Area, athletes will head out left and do the 2018 Isuzu IRONMAN 70.3 World Championship bike course in reverse. The run has been shifted onto Driftsands Drive to remove 2 km of "dead space", allowing athletes to be surrounded by supporters for a longer period.

The day before, on 6 April 2019, there will be two build-up events to the Championship. The first is the Isuzu Corporate Triathlon Challenge, powered by Algoa FM, which is 10% of an IRONMAN distance. This event starts at Hobie Beach at 07h50. Following this, the Spur IRONKIDS sponsors by Pritt will start at 12h00 at the McArthur's Pools & Leisure Centre, where the kids will swim 100 m and run 1.2 km, to finish on the red carpet at Hobie Beach. Both events sold out before entries closed, highlighting just how popular these events are.

Nelson Mandela Bay will be buzzing with excitement on 6 and 7 April 2019. Don't miss the 15th Standard Bank IRONMAN African Championship!



The 15th Standard Bank IRONMAN African Championship takes place on Sunday, 7th April 2019. Athletes start the day with a 3.8km swim from Hobie Beach. Transition will take place at the Hobie Beach Car Park and athletes will head out on a 180.1km bike course. The bike course takes athletes left out of transition and along Marine Drive towards Schoenmakerskop. Here, veering right onto Victoria Drive, athletes will then turn left onto Sardinia Bay Road and sharp right onto Heron Road. From Heron Road, athletes will turn left onto Seaview Road. Shortly thereafter, athletes will turn left onto Elizabeth Road / M9 and continue to the turnaround approximately 1.3km from De Stades Road. From turnaround, athletes will head back to turn right onto Seaview Road. Seaview Road will take athletes towards the city through Mount Pleasant on Buffelsfontein / Heugh Road all the way down to Walmer Boulevard (M9) / Settlers Highway (M4) intersection, where they will turn right back onto Humewood / Beach Road / Marine Drive. Athletes will pass Transition / Hobie Beach to continue onto their second lap.

Transitioning at Hobie Beach after their second lap, athletes will start their 42.2km run along Marine Drive. Athletes will complete the run over four loops of approximately 10.55 kilometers. When exiting Transition, athletes will run around outside the lower perimeter fence of Transition, and turn left onto Marine Drive in the direction of the University. The turn-around point is up Admiralty Way to the University Way junction, here, athletes will turn-around and continue back to Marine Drive. Athletes will then continue passed transition and turn left onto Driftsands Drive. The turn-around point will be at the second median. Upon completion of their 4 laps, athletes will run down the magic red carpet and be welcomed home as an IRONMAN!

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Please note: the start of the race will begin with a canon which may be loud. Spectators are to take precautions, should need be, for the loud sound.

FULL ROAD CLOSURES FROM 05H00 ON SUNDAY:

All roads connecting along Walmer Boulevard, Heugh Road & Buffelsfontein Road will be closed with cross-over points at the following intersections:

ESTIMATED OPENING FROM:

- * 1st Avenue 18h00
- * 3rd Avenue 18h00
- * 6th Avenue 18h00
- * 9th Avenue 18h00
- * 10th Avenue 17h45
- * Swift Avenue 17h45
- * 17th Avenue 17h40
- * Walter Road 17h40
- * Melssetter Road 17h40

Full road closure is adopted for all roads connecting into the route from Mount Pleasant to Kini Bay and back to the start/finish point at Hobie Beach:

ESTIMATED OPENING FROM:

- * Humewood Road 18h00
- * Beach view / M9 16h10
- * Elizabeth Road 17h30
- * Seaview Road 17h30
- * Heron Road (via Link) 17h30
- * Sardinia Bay Road 15h10
- * Victoria Drive 15h10
- * Marine Drive at NMU 14h30
- * Marine Drive / Beach Road 24h00
- * Driftsands - Admiralty (University) 24h00

PUBLIC INFO MEETINGS

- Tuesday, 26 March 2019 at Summerwood Primary School - 18h00
- Wednesday, 27 March 2019 at Seaview Community Hall - 18h00
- Thursday, 28 March 2019 at Walmer Town Hall - 18h00

TEMPORARY BRIDGE ON MARINE DRIVE:

Marine Dr closed between Hobie Beach & 2nd Ave Construction on Sunday, 31 March 2019 from 05h30 - 07h30 Deconstruction on Wednesday, 10th April 2019 from 09h00 - 11h00

A Cleaner, Greener City!

All hands on deck to make City beautiful

Nelson Mandela Bay residents and businesses have been calling on the Municipality to clean up our City - and their pleas have been answered. The Executive Mayor, Mongameli Bobani, along with the Mayoral Committee Member of Public Health, Cllr Yolisa Pali, launched a City-wide cleaning and greening programme at Kuyga on 11 March 2019.

This programme forms part of an on-going national programme launched by the State President. It talks to the current scenario in South African cities, characterised by filth, illegal dumping and disregard for municipal by-laws. It also speaks to sustainable cities so that South African children will have a clean and healthy environment to play in.

The project encompasses different approaches such as the clearing of illegal dumping sites, planting of trees, the building of parks, litter picking and the policing and enforcement of by-laws.

"As a government that listens, we have heard your plea. Today we are launching this massive programme that will cover all aspects of public health. This programme will not only deal with waste management, it will also deal with environmental management, waste recycling, greening, creation of parks with gym equipment, and food safety. We know we cannot do this alone

and that is why I would like to make a plea for you to work with us," said Executive Mayor, Cllr Mongameli Bobani.

Community Rangers have been employed to patrol their communities and ensure that people are not illegally dumping and to enforce municipal by-laws. People who are caught illegally dumping will be fined and held responsible for their actions.

Cllr Pali added that an educational campaign would be launched soon to educate residents and children about the negative effects of illegal dumping. "This is an extremely important project, because the filth affects the health of our residents. This will ensure that you have a clean and healthy environment to live and play in," said Cllr Pali.

Nomonde Velaphi, a Kuyga resident, expressed her happiness and gratitude for the programme. "I am so happy that the Mayor is visiting us. I work for the EPWP and we try to clean the community, but it is hard as we are not many but now that the Mayor is here, people have come out in their numbers to clean the community. It makes my heart very happy," said Nomonde.

The campaign will be strengthened by a number of other projects, such as a Waste to Energy Programme. Work has already started to ensure that we have a clean and safe City.



Kuyga residents braved the cold weather and came in their numbers to welcome the launch of the Municipality's War on Waste Programme



A Clean City: Executive Mayor Mongameli Bobani and MMC for Public Health Yolisa Pali



Eyesores like these are being removed

across the Metro.

The upgrades include the fencing of cemeteries and parks, tarring of roads, building of outdoor gyms, planting of trees, upgrading of benches, tables and braai facilities and the building of sidewalks.

A sum of R6 217 319 will be spent on fencing in Bethelsdorp (Wards 34 and 25), while R1 000 000 will be spent on upgrading braai facilities in Summerstrand (Ward 1). The remaining amount of R19 700 000 will be spent in North End, Holland Park, KwaZakhele, Zwide, Chatty, Bethelsdorp, KwaDwesi Extension and Motherwell to erect parks and sporting fields – to ensure that children and community members have a clean and safe place to play sports in.

Did You Know?

In an effort to beautify and green the City, the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality is investing a staggering total amount of R26 917 319 into the upgrading of beaches, parks and cemeteries in areas

Community Rangers to the Aid

Eager to test whether a community based waste enforcement system will work in the Metro, the NMBM Public Health Directorate has trained and employed 18 Community Waste Rangers in various areas in the Metro. Nelson Mandela Bay residents are now warned to stop illegal dumping or they will bear the full wrath of the law by paying fines, being prosecuted and possibly even jailed.

This pilot programme will not only hold people accountable for illegal dumping activities, but will also create job opportunities for the youth, improving the economic state of the City.

The Community Waste Rangers are responsible for the areas in which they reside, as they can easily identify the streets and hotspot areas for illegal dumping.

During the course of their training, the rangers initially shadowed the NMBM's Town Rangers for a period of two weeks. During this time, they were taught in the field how to issue warnings and fines. After this period, the Community Waste Rangers were deployed to patrol the designated hotspots in their areas of residence. In addition to this, they also created awareness

of the dangers of illegal dumping and the benefits of a clean and hygienic environment by talking to the residents in their areas and handing out fliers with additional information.

This programme has been made possible thanks to funding awarded to the NMBM through the Tirelo Bosha programme to commence a community ranger pilot project. The Tirelo Bosha Public Service Improvement Facility is funded by the Belgian Government and funds pilot projects aimed at investigating methods for improving service delivery.

Illegal dumping has a devastating impact on society - environmentally, economically and psychologically. It encourages the breeding of vermin such as rodents, mosquitos, flies and maggots, which can lead to the spread of disease. It also reduces the quality of our environment and has the potential to cause soil, surface water and ground water pollution.

The NMBM has also erected dozens of anti-dumping billboards in key areas across the Metro to spread the anti-dumping and anti-littering message.

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**PLEASE KEEP WITHIN THE
HOUSEHOLD LIMIT OF**



PER DAY

REPORT LEAKS AND WATER ABUSE 0800 20 50 50





Yellowwoods Farm School learners eagerly awaiting the municipal visit.



NMBM MMC for Budget & Treasury, Cllr Mkhusele Mtsila (right) accompanied by NMBM Acting Chief Financial Officer, Jackson Ngcelwane (left) with a shy young beneficiary

NMBM Budget and Treasury Directorate donates School Shoes to needy Learners

Once again demonstrating its caring heart, the Budget and Treasury Directorate on Thursday 21 February 2019 made a true difference in the lives of needy local learners.

The team, accompanied by Budget and Treasury MMC Mkhusele Mtsila and Acting Chief Financial Officer Jackson Ngcelwane, delivered 200 pairs of brand new school shoes to the needy children of Lovemore Primary, Yellowwoods Farm School in St Albans Gorge and RH Godlo Primary School in

KwaNobuhle, Uitenhage.

Accustomed to assisting communities as part of their daily work, Ngcelwane shared that his Directorate established a Special Events Task Team in order to help poor communities.

"We approached the Department of Education and asked them to identify schools with needy children," said Ngcelwane, adding that they then looked for the right time to visit these schools in the new academic year.

At the three nominated schools, Task Team members Madelaine Lawrence-George

of Revenue Management and Customer Care, Siphokazi Simakuhle of Expenditure Management, Bongwiwe Phiri of Treasury and Financial Support, Sandise Situnda of Budget and Financial Accounting and Lungisa Giyose of Supply Chain Management represented 610 warm-hearted municipal employees from the Budget and Treasury Directorate who dug into their own pockets to make a difference in the lives of needy children. Their inspiration? Nelson Mandela, in whose legacy they started this charity work last year.

"The Task Team and their vibrant helpers have been motivating staff members since November to open their hearts and their wallets. Some gave more than what was required and in the end all the shoes required, as indicated by each school, were purchased. Each pair of shoes was then lovingly individually wrapped, with the relevant child's name and a short message of encouragement for the school year ahead," said Lawrence-George.

The young beneficiaries from the three schools shared that they wanted to become lawyers,

doctors, nurses and police officers, with Jackson aptly reminding them that they could also become Accountants!

Lovemore Park Principal Litha Nkayi said, "The Department of Education sent you to the right school. And thank you for these gifts - they are going to boost the morale of our children and improve their confidence."

Proud MMC (Member of the Mayoral Committee) Cllr Mtsila thanked his Directorate for this great initiative.

Our Youth introduced to World of Work

The Annual Working World Career Exhibition, hosted by Inkanyezi Events in partnership with the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, continues to grow in leaps and bounds. In February 2019, more than 1000 learners from across the City and surrounding municipalities, including the Sundays River and Ndlambe Municipalities, flocked to the Feather Market Centre to empower themselves about different career choices that they can pursue.

The Expo is an annual three-day programme dedicated to empowering primarily Grade 12 learners and youth about the different careers that they can pursue. The Exhibition is hosted in partnership with different stakeholders, like academic institutions, private companies and state owned entities.

In his welcome address, Executive Mayor Mongameli Bobani said, "It is obvious that every young person requires information and guidance in order to prepare for career options available and to make informed decisions. Properly conceived and

presented, this career guidance expo has the potential of providing learners with enough information to make the right career choices." Mayor Bobani added that the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality would continue to equip young people with updated labour market information and step up its training efforts in helping those who have difficulty adjusting to an increasingly knowledge-based economy.

Project Manager of Inkanyezi Events Company Wellington Jansen commented: "This is well organized event; it took about 10 months for us to organize. The different stalls are here to share information and career books free of charge. The Department of Education also endorsed this initiative. We are grateful to our partners who contributed in making this day a success."

Commenting on the issue of youth unemployment in South Africa Jansen said; "It is a ticking time bomb that needs critical attention in order to graduate our youth from the poverty trap."

In the 20 years of its existence, over 300 000 Grade 12 learners



At the Career Expo ... NMBM Executive Mayor, Cllr Mongameli Bobani, interacting with learners and exhibitors from South African Police Services (SAPS) Forensics Section

have benefited from the Annual Career Expo.

The clearly excited learners were intrigued about the opportunities out there for them, especially in Science and

Technology. One of the learners, Ongezwa Pongco from Soqhayise Senior Secondary School, shared what the Expo had meant for her: "I learnt that you can change the world, and I gained

a lot of information about Sound Engineering. I think that I will now be able to produce my own music and open up a business that will contribute to our economy."

Bold new Vision for Bayworld

Total Transformation on the Cards

On Monday, March 11, the Mandela Bay Development Agency (MBDA) launched an integrated social media and digital campaign to reach multitude voices of the Bay citizens. The campaign's tagline, "Imagine it. Shape it", calls on residents, students, experts, businesses and everyone to reimagine the Bayworld precinct and propose their own valued aspirational views and opinions.

To get a wider and broader collection of views and opinions about the planned Bayworld precinct redevelopment. Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality (NMBM) and the Eastern Cape Provincial Government (ECPG) and Department of Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture

(DSRAC) mandated the MBDA to revamp Bayworld. The Agency has incorporated the greater Happy Valley precinct as well as the old Boet Erasmus Stadium as sites of a wider Bayworld Precinct.

The proposed elements of the new Bayworld include a full dome theatre, the Circa, a seaside world, a water world, the 'gateway to the Eastern Province', and an Eco-boutique hotel. All these features will drive economic development and widespread job creation for Metro through tourism, science and the opportunities unlocked by the pursuit of an Ocean Economy.

The Bayworld Precinct will embark on a robust social media engagement campaign under the handles @Bayworld2020 and via www.bayworld2020.

co.za. The pillar of the campaign is an interactive public survey that will take only a few minutes to complete, either via a mobile or desktop device. Users who complete this survey also stand a chance to win shopping vouchers. The campaign will run until April 12, 2019.

In order to improve the engagement and authenticity of opinions, Bay citizens may engage with the survey in their preferred local language (English, isiXhosa or Afrikaans). "We want to ensure that we get a widespread public participation that is based on inclusivity, transparency, accountability and sustainability", said MBDA spokesperson, Luvuyo Bangazi.

Nelson Mandela Bay Senior Managers in Efficient And Effective Performance Management Workshop

"Continuous improvement is better than delayed perfection" - Mark Twain

Nelson Mandela Bay Municipal Senior Managers attended an interactive workshop to improve performance management within the institution, both strategically and operationally.

This two-day workshop, held in partnership between the offices of the City Manager and the Chief Operating Officer (COO) and Old Mutual, with Social Corporate Investment (SCI) driver PwC appointed as project manager, was aimed at unlocking the real potential of municipal resources and infrastructure.

"This, in order to help Mandela Bay serve customers and stakeholders and to focus on performance management processes in developing information that is compliant, useful and reliable," said Amanda Dowd-Krause, Acting Director: Policy, Strategy and Research in the Office of the COO.

In the workshop, according to Dowd-Krause, performance management was aligned with strategic and regulatory frameworks – the Integrated Development Plan (IDP), Service Delivery Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP), Budgets and Performance Plans.

"Interactive workshops are focussed on looking for improved formulation of meaningful indicators (aligned

and targets, with the emphasis on projects and performance monitoring and evaluation thereof," she said.

During the workshop, a high level findings report (per directorate) was prepared, highlighting any possible shortcoming identified or areas where further alignments and or enhancements could be required.

Information developed during the workshop that might feed into the final IDP, Budget, SDBIP and performance agreement of Senior Managers, would be collated and supplied to the Municipality. This will enable the NMBM to amend or refine its IDP, Budget, SDBIP, Performance Plans for Senior Managers (s56) and performance plans of Non-Senior Managers where required.

"As the Corporate Services Management Team, we believe this workshop will assist us in the crafting of realistic plans that respond with integrity to the needs of this institution, thereby improving service delivery," said then Acting Executive Director: Corporate Services, Nosipho Xhego, adding that she believed that understanding planning and reporting processes would make it easier for managers to meet the deadlines while responding positively to all the bottlenecks enquired.

✂ 10 Easy Ways To Pay Your Municipal Account

- 1. Easy Pay Outlets:**
 - Pick & Pay
 - Shoprite
 - Checkers
 - Selected Spar's
- 2. Any ABSA Bank Branches**
 - Current Account
 - Branch Code - 632005
- 3. IVR (Pay-by-Phone)**
 - you can register on the NMBM Website (www.nelsonmandelabay.gov.za)
- 4. Internet (EFT)**
- 5. ATM** – list NMBM as your beneficiary
- 6. Traffic Department - Sidwell**
- 7. Munelek Building (Electricity Department) - Harrower Road**
- 8. Pay by way of Debit or Stop Order**
- 9. Pay at any of the following Customer Care Centres:**
 - Mfanasekhaya Gqobose Building, Govan Mbeki Avenue
 - Walmer – Heugh Road
 - Korsten – Durban Road, opposite Livingstone Hospital
 - Cleary Park Shopping Centre
 - New Brighton, Ntshekisa Road
 - Uitenhage Town Hall
 - Despatch Town Hall
 - KwaNobuhle – next to Fire Station, Ponana Tini Road
- 10. Pay at any Post Office Branch.**
 - For more information, contact the Customer Care Help-line on Tel 041-506 5555

Jazz Queens of the Bay spend Valentine's Day with eKuphumleni Elderly

Bay Divas showing their warm hearts

Residents of eKuphumleni Old Age Home in Boo Street, Zwide township received high class treatment on Valentine's Day in February.

The senior citizens, who included former South African Flyweight and Bantamweight boxing champion Christopher "Chris Kid" Dlamini, were treated to a special meal and entertainment fit for kings and queens, thanks to the Jazz Queens of the Bay.

The Jazz Queens of the Bay, also known as the Jazz Divas, are highly talented female singers Vuyelwa Qweshu-Luzipho, Welekazi Pemba-Mosia and Thandeka Marwanqa, alias Tash Mahal.

The trio prayed to the Lord above before dishing a scrumptious dinner they prepared with love for the over 100 elderly residents they have adopted since December 2018.

Assisted by Qweshu-Luzipho's highly talented son,

Barlo (Luzipho) on keyboard and jazz legend Sunrise band leader Reverend Pat Pasha on alto and tenor sax, the Jazz Queens rendered beautiful jazz sounds that made the elderly take to the dance floor. Listening to the sweet melodies of the group going down memory lane, the wheelchair-bound did a trick too, with some spinning of the wheels.

The Jazz Queens of the Bay was formed in 2004 with the late Nomzamo Mkuzo and Dineo Lebakeng, from New Brighton. After the passing of the duo, Marwanqa was roped in. The group performs at government sponsored and corporate events, with the members also performing as solo artists, mainly at the PE Opera House.

Celebrating last Christmas with the eKuphumleni elderly, the Jazz Queens decided to spend time with them during special days like Valentine's Day.

"We want to thank some individuals who assisted us in



From left, Welekazi Pemba-Mosia, Chris Kid Dlamini (resident), Nomzamo Mankewu (Dora Nginza Hospital Admin Officer), Vuyelwa Qweshu-Luzipho, Rev Pat Pasha, Thandeka "Tash Mahal" Marwanqa with two Ekuphumleni Old Age Home residents

making this joy for the elderly a reality. We have adopted Ekuphumleni and would like to do more for them. We would like to take this institution looking after our fathers and mothers as our own responsibility," said Marwanqa.

Guest speaker Dora Nginza

Hospital Administration Officer Nomzamo Mantewu emphasised the importance of love, as shown by the Jazz Queens. She told the elderly they were not sent there because their families did not love them. Instead, they were in the institution to receive love, care and support, with their rights as

the elderly citizens recognised and respected.

"Please don't stop praying for your children, for our leaders and our country. We love you!" said Mantewu.

Centre Manager Monga Peter thanked the Jazz Queens for their gift of love to the senior citizens.



Visit from Swedish Sister City

(Back, left): Peter Matthiasson - Chairperson of the East Goteborg District Committee with Cllr Andile Mfunda, Cllr Lehlohonolo Mfana, Deputy Executive Mayor Tshonono Buyeye (Co-Chair of the NMBM-Göteborg Partnership Management Committee), Cllr Ncediso Captain and other Team Members

Early in March 2019, Nelson Mandela Bay was visited by a delegation from its oldest Sister City alliance, namely the Swedish city of Göteborg (Eastern District). Warmly welcomed by the Deputy Executive Mayor of Nelson Mandela Bay, Cllr Tshonono Buyeye, the Swedish delegation expressed great interest in the Red Location Museum of Struggle. In the process of establishing a cultural house themselves, they felt that there were lessons to be learnt from our city about dealing with challenges such as segregation.

The Nelson Mandela Bay delegation was led by the Deputy Executive Mayor, Cllr Buyeye, along with the MMC of Human Settlements, Cllr Andile Mfunda and the MMC for Sports,

Recreation, Arts and Culture, Cllr Lehlohonolo Mfana.

"This visit is extremely important, so that we can address the challenges that us two cities face. It is important to remember that although we are worlds apart, we share many same challenges because our countries are both so ethnically diverse," said Deputy Executive Mayor, Cllr Buyeye.

The cultural house will be built in the multicultural area of Bergsjon in East Göteborg. The area is battling with many challenges around segregation, the integration of various culture, social issues, a low Matric pass rate of only 20%, and crime.

It is obvious that the people of Bergsjon feel isolated from the rest of East Göteborg. The visiting Swedish delegates shared that the

motive behind building a cultural house in Bergsjon was exactly to encourage integration. "This visit is so important for us to learn from your city, especially about your Red Location Museum, as your city has already faced some of the challenges that we are facing now," said delegate Katja Ahsell.

The delegates stated that the surrounding community would be consulted and included in processes around the establishment of the cultural house, so that they would not feel excluded or less than their fellow citizens in more affluent areas. Local artists would also be invited to demonstrate their talents in the cultural house to ensure that they feel valued.



Libraries should be the nucleus of communities as centres of knowledge

A myriad innovative and enticing programmes exist to position libraries as the focal point of knowledge generation, gathering places for likeminded people and research facilities for communities.

Mrs Sithenjiswi Nyangiwe, member of the Library and Information Association of South Africa (Liasa) in the Eastern Cape, made this poignant statement at the launch of the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality National Library Week programme.

The packed programme, focused on intellectually stimulating learners and generally be a safe haven for youngsters during the school holiday, starts on Monday, 18 March and ends on Friday, 22 March.

Motivational talks, story time, book discussions, spelling bees and interactive activities by library staff are just some of the goings-on children can participate in at any one of the twenty-four (24) operational local libraries. In total the municipality has 26 libraries.

While contextualising the national theme of Collaborate @ Your Library Nyangiwe

said libraries are meant to be an integral part of communities.

"When you need to do research for a job opportunity or are interested in interesting stories to read, your closest library should be that source of knowledge or just a great place to gather," she added.

On Monday, 18 March Uitenhage Library host story time and make an enormous crocodile toy (Roald Dahl) from 10 am, Walmer Gqebera Library has story time and how to make a beaded toilet roll bracelet at the same time. At the Zwide Library at 10am children can participate in story time and learn how to make Easter baskets also at 10am.

Mrs Bongiwe Chigumbu, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality Head of Libraries, encouraged students from Walmer, present at the launch held at the Walmer Multipurpose Centre, to make optimal use of the Walmer Gqebera Library.

Learners from both Walmer High School and Primary performed musical items.

● Consult your nearest library for more specific details.

Celebrate local Craft and Design this Easter

Rich heritage showcased

Nelson Mandela Bay Metro presents five fabulous exhibitions in support of the development and promotion of top quality local art, craft and design.

On the 29 of March at 17:30, the fourth instalment of **Lithuba Lakho (This Is Your Opportunity): Top Eastern Cape Craft Exhibition and Competition** will open at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum. Crafters and designers working in the Eastern Cape Province have submitted their most outstanding creations for the exhibition. Once again there will be prizes for the best works on exhibition. There will be four winners in the categories of homeware, contemporary accessories, traditional accessories and apparel and the top ten crafters will be profiled in a brochure publication which will be available at the end of the exhibition. The Lithuba Lakho craft competition was initiated by the Eastern Province Development Corporation and the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum.

From 4 to 6 April, visitors to the **IRONMAN Health and Fitness Expo** will be able to purchase outstanding city ambassador craft from the 2019 Nelson Mandela Bay City Promotional stall.

Clothing, hats, bags, shoes,

accessories, homeware and many other beautiful craft keepsakes and curios that market Nelson Mandela Bay will be available for sale.

The Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum opens an exhibition of works by the nationally acclaimed **Keiskamma Trust** on 10 April at 17:30. The exhibition features the key works from the city's art collection including the Keiskamma Guernica tapestry produced in 2010 by this active community organization. The tapestry is a reinterpretation of the famous work of the same name by famous modern artists Pablo Picasso on the horrors of war. The Keiskamma Guernica shows the painful struggle of rural communities dealing with the AIDS epidemic. The Keiskamma Trust was set up in the village of Hamburg to promote health and hope through art, music, HIV/AIDS treatment, poverty alleviation projects and education initiatives. Over the years the Keiskamma trust has shown the power of community art and craft to change lives. The Keiskamma Trust has produced many famous large scale artworks which are now represented in top art collections around the country.

A **ceramic exhibition** curated from the Art Museum's important collection of South African Studio

Ceramic artists will open on 30 March. The exhibition showcases the work of many local ceramic artists from the bay.

The **2018 Standard Bank Young Artist Winner in the Visual Arts Category**, Igshaan Adam takes you on a walk down memory lane with his exhibition, *When the dust settles*, made up of a patchwork of vinyl laid down on the floors and walls of the gallery space. Hanging in the centre of the exhibition are delicately woven sculptural installations made out of cotton strings, nylon rope and rags. Adams uses domestic items like the flooring to bring back memories associated with his Cape Malay heritage. His woven sculptures incorporated Arabic calligraphy and are a reference surahs (chapters) from the Quran and his Islamic faith.

The Art Museum's popular exhibition, ***Mother Tongue: The Influence of traditional Xhosa fashion on contemporary design***, closes on 22 March. This is your last chance to see this exhibition, which celebrates local fashion. The exhibition features the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum's important collection of traditional Southern Nguni beadwork and textiles alongside selected works by the internationally celebrated textile designer **Laduma Ngxokolo**.



Textile designer Laduma Ngxokolo



Mayoral Cup Challenge a triumph

Vibrant participation brings communities together

The Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality's 2019 Mayoral Cup Challenge was a resounding success. This sports development tournament involves football, rugby, netball, boxing, cricket, basketball, volleyball and, for the first time this year, sporting codes for physically disabled persons. The Mayoral Cup Challenge was launched on 20 March 2010 to promote local sport – initially only in the codes of soccer, rugby and netball.

An overjoyed Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture (DSRAC) Director

Charmaine Williams noted that the sporting tournament held in February 2019 were clearly enjoyed by the thousands of enthusiastic players and fans who participated in the Games.

"This year I must make mention of the direct involvement of the Executive Mayor. He

took full ownership of this Mayoral Cup Challenge!" said Williams.

According to Williams, the addition of sport for the disabled was an exciting new initiative in the 2019 Mayoral Cup, and our sportsmen and women with disabilities were going out full force in the competitive sports.

A big plus of course is the prize-money awarded to the

winners, while the Municipality is happy about the vibe that the Mayoral Cup games creates in the city.

The Mayoral enthusiasm was also noted by Nelson Mandela Bay Open Boxing Organisation President Andile Gege, who commended Mayor Bobani for his active and enthusiastic support of a 'good and positive' venture.

A key objective why the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality hosts the Cup is to encourage interactive community participation through sport and recreation. It also gives young residents a healthy and wholesome option for their leisure hours.

"All the sporting codes have finished their championships, but we held our finals at Soweto-On-Sea on Sunday, 3rd March," said Gege.

Mayoral Cup Winners include, in rugby:

- Division 1: Missionvale RFC
22-15 Gardens RFC
- Division 2: Motherwell RFC
15-6 Zwide United
- Division 3: Glen Roses
30-5 Eagle Stars RFC and
- Division 4: Morning Stars RFC
13-12 Kuyga RFC

The Volkswagen Volleyball Club won the (Male) Mayoral Cup while the Female Mayoral Cup went to Nelson Mandela University's Volleyball Club.

In boxing, Uitenhage Zone took position 1, followed by Port Elizabeth and Motherwell zones.



Above and below: Proud winners of the various sporting codes in the Mayoral Cup



Nelson Mandela Bay Opens Boxing Organisation body on course for Vision 2020 /2022 - Thanks to Mayoral Cup



The referee, former professional boxer Michael Mbekisa, watches S. Bantom of Uitenhage (In Blue) and PE's A. Mapu (Paperweight) in attacking mode at the George Botha Indoor Sports Centre, KwaNoxolo during the recent Mayoral Cup Boxing Semi-finals

It seems that Vision 2020 / 2022 of Nelson Mandela Bay Open Boxing organisation (NMBBO) is being realised. This thanks to the Mayoral Cup, an annual sporting tournament used by the Nelson Mandela Boxing Organisation (NMBBO) to unearth and harness boxing talent at grass-roots level.

In pursuit of this Vision, the NMBBO managed to take Veeplaas boxer Siyabulela Mpongoshe to the 2018 Australia Commonwealth Games and Female boxer, Bongiwé Colani of KwaNobuhle, to the 2018 Zone 4 All-Africa Games in Mozambique, where she snatched a Silver Medal.

A proud NMBBO President Andile Gege was confident about the prospects of their boxers in the forthcoming Commonwealth and Olympic Games.

In order to give the youngest boxers a chance to compete in the 2018 Mayoral Cup, the NMBBO decided to include ages 8-10 and 10-11 in the Cadets (age 12- 14 years) this year, before the Juniors (15-16), Youth (17-18) and elite

from 19 years up.

"These boxers exist in the gyms but do not partake in the best organised annual boxing tournament we hold in the Metro, and that is a disservice to them," said Gege, adding that 10 Clubs from Uitenhage, 11 clubs from Port Elizabeth and 7 clubs from Motherwell took part in the 2018 Mayoral Cup.

"The Mayoral Cup looks at the Best Boxer and the Best Bout of the Tournament. Apart from trophies and medals, the winners also receive financial rewards, and the kids love these," explained Gege.

Taking kids from a young age and keeping them active helps the Metro take a strong team to the Eastern Cape Amateur Boxing Championships, according to Gege, who added that Mandela Bay and Buffalo City have been giving each other strong competition in the Cadets, Juniors and Youth Divisions over the past three years.

Apart from helping boost the boxing prowess of young Mandela

Bay hopefuls, the Mayoral Cup is rated high in developing knowledge of the technicalities of the game among both male and female officials.

"Firstly," Gege said, "It was expected that boxing clubs must have a female boxing coach and a host of female boxers training in the club. Many of our clubs are doing well in this regard and, very soon, all the clubs will be complying."

The Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage and Motherwell zones bring five officials each to make up the 15 boxing officials taking part in the Mayoral Cup. A technical team of five members is supervised by a President, and the alternating judges ensure fair representation and deal with queries, in addition to two First-Aiders.

There is also a good representation of former professional boxers putting their shoulders behind the wheel in ensuring the success of the Mayoral Cup's Boxing Development Objectives.