

The Bugle

MAGAZINE

email: thebugle@mweb.co.za



Earlier this month, Fábrica had the pleasure of hosting the Women in Art event at their Sunningdale branch, and what an incredible success it was! Together, with their loyal partners they raised funds and awareness for Breast Cancer and supported The Pink Drive's life-changing work. With inspiring artwork, live music, and a community united for a cause, it was a night to remember. Fábrica would like to thank everyone who joined them in making a difference! Their sponsors were; @angelika_anastasisart, @thecarwashcoatunningdale, @autoworx_your_mechanic, @sorbetsunningdale, @aboutlace, @laserbox_pavas, @sentas_bubbly_life, @dng_eyecare, @the_travel_boss_za, @heidishedlock_art, @char_kraus_art, @nicoleplett, @lizakirbyartist, @terryangelosart, @thehaircompany.za, @carmenrmusic and PinkDrive

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Through my eyes



by Kasia Yoko

"The basic source of all happiness is a sense of kindness and warm-heartedness towards others. We are all the same as human beings. We are born the same way, we die the same way, and we all want to lead happy lives. The key to happiness is peace of mind. This is not something that can be bought. Inner peace has to be cultivated by each of us from within. All our religious traditions, despite whatever philosophical differences there may be among them, carry the same message of love and warm-heartedness that is the foundation of such peace of mind." **by Dalai Lama**

A Christmas Reflection

Christmas has always been a time of joy, togetherness, and cherished traditions in my family. Passed down from my grandmother to my mother and now to me, these customs are more than just rituals; they are the threads that weave our family's story. In our home, Christmas is not just a holiday—it's a way of life, a season that demands devotion, preparation, and love.

I can already hear my mother fussing in the kitchen, her voice ringing with authority as she orchestrates a symphony of activity. "The cakes need to be baked!" she exclaims, her hands dusted with flour. "The table must be set just so!" Despite

the heat of summer or the length of our to-do list, we press on, filling the house with the scent of spices, sugar, and nostalgia. These dishes—recipes older than anyone can remember—are not mere food but heirlooms of memory and connection.

As much as I adore the cooking, the baking, and the decorating, I've come to understand that Christmas is not only about indulgence. It's a time of reflection, a moment to pause and marvel at the blessings I sometimes overlook. This year, my focus will be on faith—the love of God that sustains us even in the hardest of times.

Not everyone can celebrate with

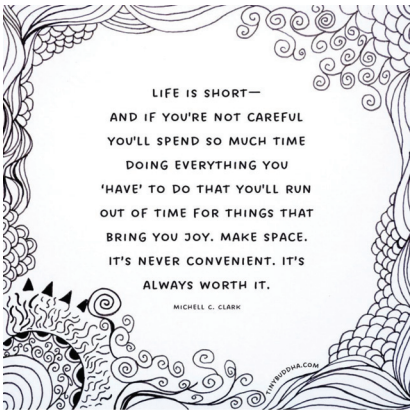
the same fervour. For many, this season amplifies feelings of loneliness or financial strain. I think of parents who are already anxious about the looming expenses of January—school fees, uniforms, supplies. I think of those who can't be with their loved ones, separated by distance or circumstances beyond their control.

And yet, even in the midst of hardship, Christmas offers a glimmer of hope. It's a reminder of grace, of a love that transcends material gifts and extravagant feasts. For me, Christmas is a call to look inward, to nurture gratitude for the little things—the breath in my lungs, the

smile of a neighbour, the resilience of the human spirit.

This season, as I prepare my family's favourite dishes, I will also carve out moments for quiet reflection. I'll light a candle and think of the miracles that surround me every day, from the sun rising each morning to the laughter that fills my home.

To those celebrating in abundance, and to those navigating a quieter, more introspective holiday, may we all find joy in what we have, peace in what we lack, and hope in what lies ahead. After all, Christmas is not only a tradition or a season; it's a state of the heart.



Oh Darren...

Obituary: Darren Aiken (1966 – 2024) By Kasia Yoko

Darren Aiken, a beloved son, brother, uncle, and friend, my 'bestie' passed away unexpectedly on October 31, 2024, at the age of 58, following a massive heart attack. Darren's untimely departure leaves an irreplaceable void in the lives of those who knew and loved him.

Born in 1966, Darren grew up in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, where he cultivated his remarkable talents and left an indelible mark

on his community. Darren was a man of many gifts—a trailblazing innovator, a brilliant artist, and a deeply authentic human being who enriched the lives of everyone he encountered.

Darren's artistry was as profound as his intellect. As a sculptor and accomplished visual artist, he created works that inspired awe and admiration. Yet, his genius extended far beyond the artistic realm. Darren possessed a unique

gift for numbers and was equally adept at navigating complex accounts with precision and insight. His ability to balance creativity with logic made him an extraordinary individual.

A true innovator, Darren's inventions were nothing short of ingenious. His creativity and resourcefulness knew no bounds, and he approached life with the same fearless curiosity that drove his innovations. Darren had a knack for seeing the world differently and leaving it better than he found it.

A passionate golfer, Darren was known for his skill on the course, where he often achieved single-digit scores—sometimes chipping with one hand, a testament to his exceptional talent and unpretentious approach to the game. He played with heart and humility, embodying the sportsmanship and grace that defined his character.

Darren's love for animals reflected his deep compassion for all living beings. He was also a devoted family man—a humble and caring son, a proud and loving uncle, and a steadfast friend to many. Darren's unwavering principles guided his life: he believed in doing what was right, no matter the cost, and held true to his convictions in every circumstance.

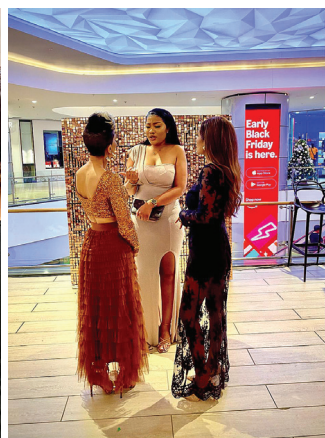
Those who knew Darren will remember him as a gentle giant—larger than life, yet profoundly grounded. His quick wit, warm spirit, and genuine kindness endeared him to all. To his best friend and countless others in KwaZulu-Natal, Darren was a confidant, a source of inspiration, and a cherished presence.

Darren's memory will live on in the hearts of those who loved him and in the legacy of his extraordinary contributions. He is survived by his family and a wide circle of friends who will forever miss his love, laughter, and wisdom.

Rest in peace, Darren Aiken. You were so loved.



"It takes a deep commitment to change and an even deeper commitment to grow." By Ralph Ellison



Amor Couture Sprinkles Magic Dust on Fashion This Festive Season



The Amor Couture launch was more than a showcase of stunning clothing; it was a testament to a journey of passion and perseverance

Last Friday evening, the Oceans Mall in Umhlanga glittered with excitement as Amor Couture, a luxury fashion brand founded by Jits and Sita Hiralal, hosted the spectacular launch of their latest range. The event, which marked the brand's debut in this prestigious location, was a celebration of fashion, creativity, and perseverance.

The evening unfolded like a perfectly tailored ensemble, with local celebrities, fashion enthusiasts, and industry insiders gracing the occasion. The mood was vibrant, exuding the joy and anticipation of the festive season. Adding to the magic were musical performances by rising stars Verge and Brent, who serenaded Sita with their latest release, a song that beautifully captured Amor Couture's ethos. It was a moment of harmony and artistry, symbolizing the marriage of music and fashion.

The launch was more than a showcase of stunning clothing; it was a testament to a journey of passion and

perseverance. Sita and Jits Hiralal began Amor Couture from humble beginnings, driven by their shared love for fashion and a vision to create a brand synonymous with elegance and innovation. Years of hard work, sleepless nights, and unwavering belief in their dream culminated in this milestone moment—a gleaming storefront at one of Umhlanga's most luxurious malls.

Among the highlights of the evening was the unveiling of Amor Couture's latest collection, featuring the coveted Just Cavalli range. Known for its bold designs and sophisticated flair, the line captivated the audience, setting the tone for a season of glamour and celebration. Each piece reflected the meticulous craftsmanship and attention to detail that has become Amor Couture's signature.

The Hiralals' commitment to nurturing local talent also shone through. By involving young artists in their launch, they created an inclusive

platform that not only elevated the event but also celebrated creativity in all its forms. These collaborations reinforce Amor Couture's belief in giving back to the community and inspiring the next generation.

Sita and Jits began The Style Network from humble beginnings and have grown to the opening of their new store Amor Couture driven by their shared love for international fashion and a vision to createinnovation.

With the festive season upon us, Amor Couture's latest collection embodies the spirit of celebration and style. From its dazzling designs to its heartfelt story, the brand continues to sprinkle magic dust on the fashion world. As guests departed the launch, their hearts—and shopping bags—were filled with the promise of a sparkling season ahead, courtesy of Amor Couture.

For the love of fashion, the Hiralals have truly set a new benchmark.

Amor Couture's latest collection embodies the spirit of celebration and style



The event, which marked the brand's debut in this prestigious location, was a celebration of fashion, creativity, and perseverance



With the festive season upon us, Amor Couture's latest collection embodies the spirit of celebration and style



Each piece reflected the meticulous craftsmanship and attention to detail that has become Amor Couture's signature



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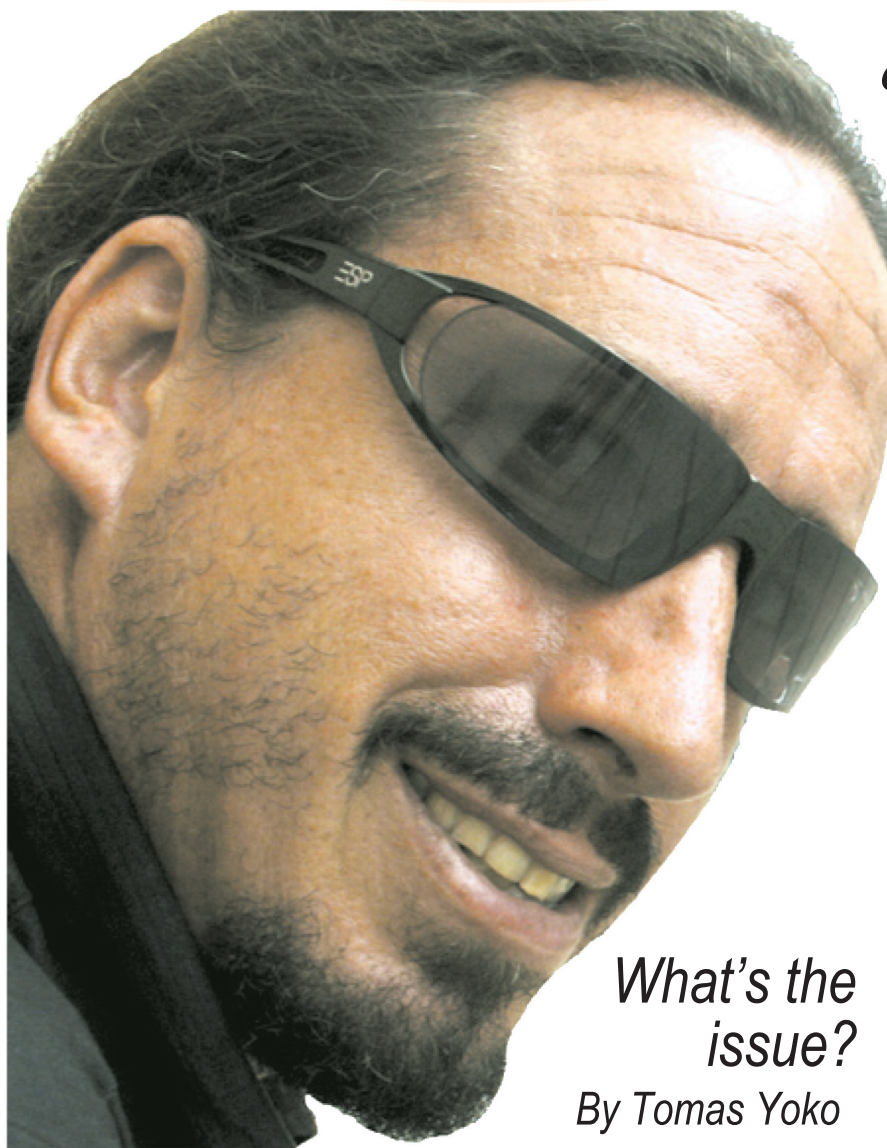
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What's the issue?
By Tomas Yoko

eish its getting real...

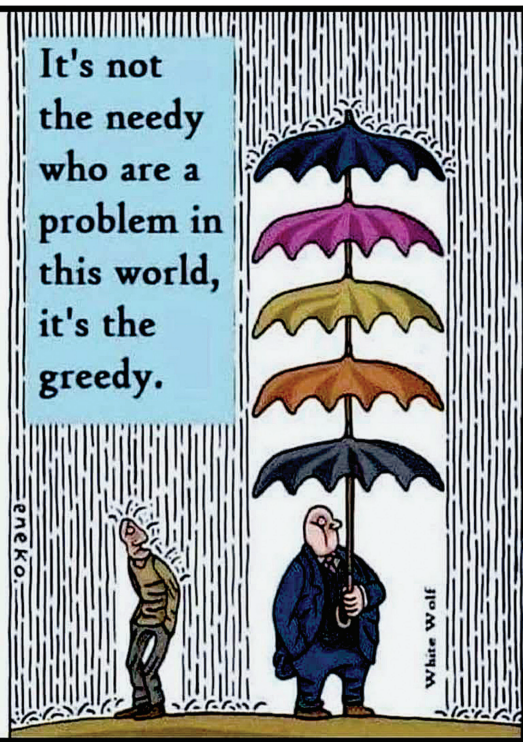
As the Red Wave sweeps across America, the Democratic party seems to have gone into overdrive in a desperate attempt to saddle Donald Trump with World War 3 as a welcome gift to his second term in office. The loathsome and despicable Washington Elite, or Deep State, or swamp monsters / military industrial complex, whomever they are, grappling with their crumbling mainstream media choke hold, wringing out as many murderous deaths as they can conjure up before the white shining hopes of God-fearing people the world over, come riding into power.

It's pure insanity, the elite know we know their media is crumbling, they are so desperate they are doing it in broad daylight now. The utterly evil ongoing genocide in the Middle East, a testament to just how tight Bibi's grip is on America's proverbial balls, his obvious control over their military, Iraq not excluded, and nothing can be done about it?

Joe Rogan is making international headlines with the roasting he gave Zelenski on his podcast. Ouch, he tore a few strips off the little comedian.

The ICC arrest warrant for Bibi and his buddy moves their military action out of the zone of protection and into the zone of genocide, but only if you look at it from that perspective.

However, if you are conspiracy minded and you watch captured Western media, you can see the hand of the globalists, how far its long fingers reach, new evidence from Sergey Naryshkin proves UK and American involvement in the Nord Stream pipeline terrorist attack, environmental disaster. It plunged Germany into a depression and now news that the UK is reported to have sent dozens of long range missile to the Ukraine and the obviously brain dead Keir Starmer, captured Keir, shows his hand in discussing troop deployments with his French partisan the short micro Macron. The idea was blasted out of the water by Olaf Scholz when first taunted in Feb, where Olaf claimed



that Western backers were unanimously against the idea, I hope their minds have not changed. I see a chessboard with long slippery elitist fingers moving their pieces.

Then reports of some extreme EU and American war mongering officials came up with an imaginative suggestion that outgoing, half dead, Joe Biden could give the little comedian Zelenski, some nukes as a "security guarantee" as an 'enormous and instant deterrent' and what do you think Putin's reaction would be? Didn't he just use an intercontinental ballistic missile for the first time in history? They will stop at nothing.

The debacle of the covid vaccine injuries now proved beyond a doubt in peer reviewed scientific journals, real science, revealing the mass murder that globalist elites are now being accused of, those long slippery fingers criss-crossing over each other as they manipulate their population control ideologies upon us.

January the 20th can't come soon enough. Back here at home our politicians are behaving badly again, defections from the EFF are rife, the ANC has finally manage to expel Jacob and the GNU seems to be in a tail spin. But we can all feel very proud of our guy from Pretoria, Elon Musk, he changed the course of history when he bought Twitter and got rid of the long slippery fingers controlling it.

Then the disappointing CopOUT29, climate conference has climate deniers pointing and laughing, doubled over with tears flowing down their cheeks as the Global South gets a financial kick in the crotch and the amount of money getting splurged, eish.



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4	9	8	5	2	3	1	6	7
3	6	5	1	4	7	2	9	8
1	7	2	9	8	6	4	3	5
7	8	1	6	3	5	9	4	2
2	5	6	4	9	8	3	7	1
9	3	4	2	7	1	5	8	6

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Images taken at the Cinnamon Festival in Hikkaduwa December 20018



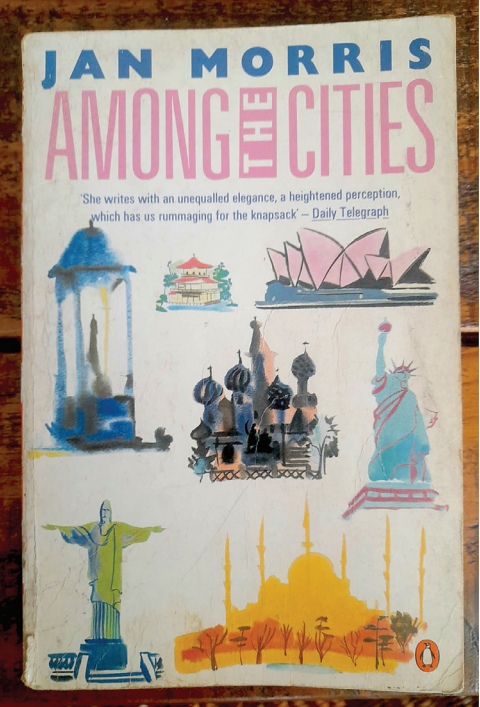
By Jo Rushby from Ikes Books and Collectables, Durban

Serendib and the gentle game

There are cricket games etched in the locker-room. In 1996, Sri Lanka took on the mighty Australia in the World Cup Cricket Final. The Aussies were clear favourites. But, to the shock of cricket aficionados, Sri Lanka gave them a cricket lesson. It catapulted this tiny island into the cricket world. This resplendent island, where Buddha once sat. A place of magical wonder. Ceylon, where, as Jan Morris wrote ‘the landscapes...burst away in overpowering variety – landscapes cruel, seductive, grand or intimate in turn, so intricately jammed together that in a morning’s journey you can pass from jungle to alp to classic tropical foreshore ...a gently festive air seems to linger...and leaves in almost every visitor’s mind an impression of balanced

serenity.’ I too hail from an island. Cool Britannica, we like to tell the world. But it is cold rather than cool. Somehow, Sri Lanka has a sultry, tropical cool. When you see Sri Lankan cricket supporters, they are full of joy. Winning or losing. How I have longed to visit this place. I have dressed it up in my imagination as a place where ageing colonial architecture lean into alleyways into colours that would make a rainbow staid. These possibilities wash into my mind as the Sri Lankan cricket team heads into town. To play the game in my favourite form. Test cricket. At Kingsmead. It seems so long ago we had the honour of a test match, since the ancients sat under a banyan tree.

Names like Jayawardena, Murali, Jayasuriya, Malinga and Fernando somersault off the tongue like a fizzy sherbet dip. Many raise their eyebrows at the thought of Test cricket, four days of gentleness on the green. They want the razzmatazz of T20, dancing, music blaring, hardly anyone cares. And before you know it, like an English summer, it’s over. Everything has to be done with speed. Symptomatic of the world we live in. But there is something so restful about Test cricket, the pace, the twists and turns, patience, elation, disappointment. It is life compressed. T20 is baseball on steroids. Cricket is like a chess match. Searching for an opening. The occasional gambit. The watchfulness.



Ikes Books and Collectables can be found at 48a Florida Road, Greyville, Durban, Tel: 031 3039214. www.ikesbooks.com



Book store owner Sbusiso Mnguni

Turning Pages: The Inspiring Story of Sbusiso Mnguni

By Kasia Yoko

Nestled in a cozy corner of The Studios at Ballito’s Lifestyle Centre, a young man named Sbusiso Mnguni has quietly become a beacon of hope and inspiration. His small yet remarkable bookshop is more than a store—it’s a testament to resilience, transformation, and the power of community. Sbusiso’s journey wasn’t an easy one. He faced challenges that would have broken many. But he found a lifeline in the Denis Hurley Centre, Durban’s leading NGO devoted to uplifting the homeless. Through their award-winning initiative, StreetLit, Sbusiso discovered an opportunity to turn his life around.

StreetLit empowers people like Sbusiso by training them to sell second-hand books. What started as a way to make a living became a profound passion for Sbusiso. “I’ve always loved reading,” he says. “Books gave me hope even when life seemed hopeless.” Today, that love has blossomed into a vibrant bookshop where antique treasures and modern classics sit side by side. “My space is more of an aquarium,” Sbusiso says with a proud smile. “I collect a lot of antique books as well as special editions.” His carefully curated collection draws book lovers and collectors alike, offering them the chance to own rare and exotic titles.

Sbusiso’s journey is a remarkable transformation. From hardship, he has built a thriving business and, more importantly, a brighter future. “I’m not just helping myself anymore,” he reflects. “Through books, I can inspire others to dream, to learn, and to believe in second chances.” Thanks to StreetLit, there are now 15–20 vendors like Sbusiso in Durban. Together, they’re proving that hope and opportunity can rewrite any story. Visit Sbusiso Mnguni’s enchanting bookshop at The Studios in Ballito Lifestyle Centre, and let his story remind you of the incredible power of turning pages—both in books and in life.

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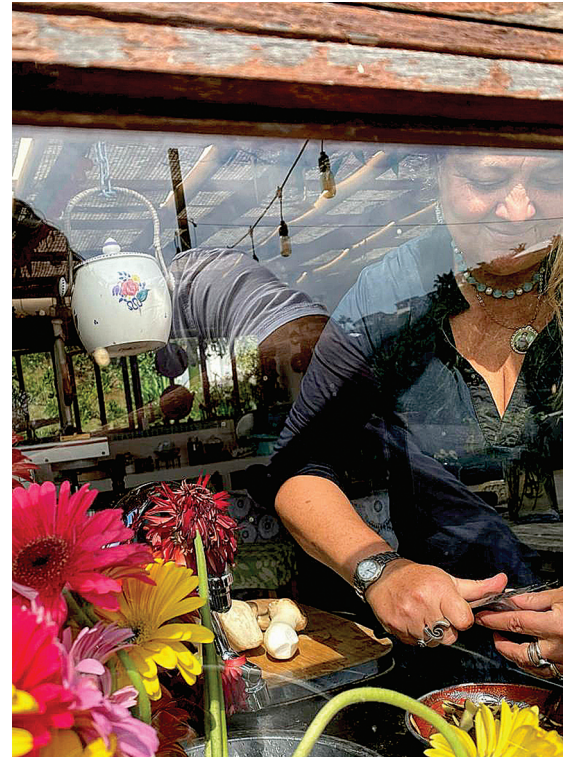
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Raspberry and Coconut Milk Salad Dressing

Perfect Summer Condiment

By Kasia Yoko



One of my all-time favourites for this time of year is my raspberry and coconut milk salad dressing. It's the epitome of summer—bright, fruity, and utterly satisfying. Whether you're tossing it with greens, drizzling it over grilled vegetables, or even using it as a marinade, this dressing transforms ordinary dishes into extraordinary bites.

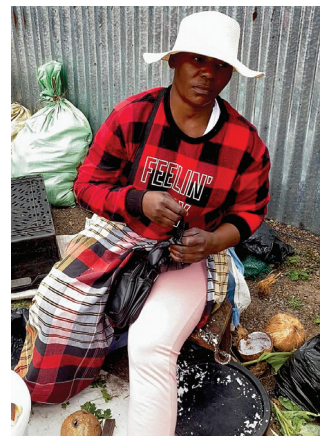
This summer, let's not just cook; let's celebrate. Celebrate the bounty of the season, the joy of shared meals, and the simple pleasure of food made with love.

This summer, let's not just cook; let's celebrate. Celebrate the bounty of the season, the joy of shared meals, and the simple pleasure of food made with love.

- 1 cup fresh or frozen raspberries (thawed if frozen)
- 1/2 cup coconut milk (freshly made or canned)
- 1 tbsp honey or maple syrup (adjust to taste)
- Juice from 2 lemons or 1/4 cup fresh lime juice
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- Pinch of sea salt
- Optional: A sprig of fresh mint for garnish

1. In a blender or food processor, combine raspberries, coconut milk, honey, lemon/lime juice, olive oil, and salt. Blend until smooth.
2. Taste and adjust sweetness or acidity as desired.
3. Strain through a fine mesh sieve if you prefer a smoother texture.

4. Pour into a jar and refrigerate for up to 3 days. Shake well before using. Enjoy this tropical-inspired dressing on your favourite summer salads. And remember, support local and savour every moment!



From Professional Surfer to Renowned Piercing Artist

By Kasia Yoko



Piercing artist Lesmeri with model KK at the Trade Mark Tattoo Studio in Umhlanga

Lesmeri Postma, an Umhlanga local, has carved a remarkable niche for herself as one of the region’s most celebrated piercing artists. With nearly 25 years of experience, Lesmeri combines skill, precision, and a passion for her craft. Her journey, however, began far from the piercing studio—as a professional surfer riding the waves of South Africa’s coastline.

After stepping away from competitive surfing, Lesmeri found herself drawn to the creative world of body art, working as an assistant to renowned tattoo artist Mully Hilton. It was here that she discovered her true calling: piercing. “I’ve been doing this for 24 years, and I know I’m the best at what I do in this region,” she says confidently.

Lesmeri’s clientele ranges from children as young as six to seniors in their

nineties, and her commitment to safety and quality is unwavering. “I use the highest-grade surgical steel needles and jewellery,” she explains. “If I feel a piercing isn’t safe, I won’t do it.”

Her services include a wide variety of piercings, from the conventional to the more intimate—a request she notes is surprisingly common. Prices range from R400 to R500, which includes 316L surgical steel jewellery, ensuring both safety and style.

Lesmeri operates out of the Trade Mark Tattoo Studio in Umhlanga, where her reputation for excellence and professionalism precedes her. Whether it’s a first-time earlobe piercing or something more adventurous, clients trust her expertise and dedication.

For those interested in booking a session or learning more, Lesmeri is just

a WhatsApp message away at 073 210 4431.

Her journey from the ocean to the piercing studio is one of passion and reinvention—proof that following one’s instincts can lead to extraordinary success. The basic source of all happiness is a sense of kindness and warm-heartedness towards others. We are all the same as human beings. We are born the same way, we die the same way, and we all want to lead happy lives.

The key to happiness is peace of mind. This is not something that can be bought. Inner peace has to be cultivated by each of us from within. All our religious traditions, despite whatever philosophical differences there may be among them, carry the same message of love and warm-heartedness that is the foundation of such peace of mind.

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If you’re looking for a dealership that truly prioritises customer satisfaction, Mystic Cars in Ballito is an outstanding choice. Recently, I had the pleasure of purchasing a Land Rover Discovery from them, and from start to finish, their service has been nothing short of exceptional.

Not long after driving my new car, a fault emerged around the 150-kilometer mark. While this might have been frustrating, Robert Lonsdale and his team at Mystic Cars turned, what could have been a setback, into a testament to their commitment to excellence. Rather than simply fixing the issue, they immediately provided me with a like-for-like replacement vehicle as a loan, ensuring my routine was not interrupted. In a wonderful touch, they filled the tank, so I wasn’t left out of pocket while they worked on my car.

The team addressed the

fault with remarkable efficiency, communicating transparently throughout the process and ensuring the repair was completed thoroughly. When I returned to pick up my vehicle, it was evident that they took great pride in their work, going above and beyond to ensure my satisfaction. From their friendly approach to their attention to detail, Robert and the Mystic Cars team truly stand out in customer care.

In an industry where service can sometimes fall short, Mystic Cars shines. Their willingness to step up, even under unexpected circumstances, is a testament to their dedication to their customers. I highly recommend Mystic Cars in Ballito to anyone looking for not just a car, but a dealership that values trust, quality, and exceptional service. Thank you, Robert and team, for setting such a high standard!

INTERESTING FACTS:

Dandelions - The marvels of nature

Dandelions are not just common garden plants; they showcase nature’s hidden mathematics. If you look closely at a dandelion’s seed head, you’ll notice spirals that follow the Fibonacci sequence. This pattern maximizes the number of seeds in a limited space, ensuring efficient dispersal by the wind.

The leaves of a dandelion also follow a fascinating mathematical principle. Arranged at an angle of about 137.5 degrees, their positioning allows each leaf to get the most sunlight without shading the others. This angle is linked to the golden ratio, a pattern found in many plants.

“Nature uses only the longest threads to weave her patterns, so each small piece of her fabric reveals the organization of the entire tapestry.” Richard Feynman



"It's your outlook on life that counts. If you take yourself lightly and don't take yourself too seriously, pretty soon you can find the humour in our everyday lives. And sometimes it can be a lifesaver." by Betty White



Property Talk

By:
Andreas
Wassenaar

Preparing for the annual migration



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With the holiday season upon us and the knowledge that the population of the greater Ballito area is expected to surge by fourfold there is an opportunity for those sellers who have been trying to sell without success to take some good advice to get to a sale.

Although traffic will suddenly become an issue to the Ballito locals over this period, we welcome this annual migration, as the overall business communities are the beneficiaries. A percentage of those visitors are going to be investing in property, and this is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your home.

With the economic fundamentals looking better all the time with the Reserve Bank actioning the second 25 basis point decrease in the repo rate from 8% to 7.75% and the Prime Lending rate immediately edging downwards to 11.25% from 11.50%, the trend is set, and the clear expectation is for further decreases in the first quarter of next year. The cost of money is the main driver of demand for residential real estate. The lower the rates the happier estate agents will be.

The primary reason why sellers are unable to secure a sale on their properties is pricing. If you are not in the strike zone you are setting yourself up for failure. The market is very intelligent as a whole and has access to excellent information about comparative sales, which remains the best predictor at what a property is most likely to trade at.

This sensitivity to pricing differs across the price ranges. In the lower price bracket within our North Coast area a variation of R100,000 in price can make the difference between a sale or no sale. In the mid-range of around R3m to R6m, the sensitivity is around R500,000 and once the price brackets increase this margin grows.

The interesting fact is that the typical buyer is not just concerned with price, they are mostly concerned about the value the home offers and the benefits they will derive from ownership. Knowing this, as a seller you have to ensure your home is presenting compelling value to those prospective buyers that may be introduced. To enable you to get the most people that are in the market over this holiday period to know about your home, you have to appoint the right agent who can articulate and show you a clearly defined marketing plan to achieve the result.

It begins by how a home is presented online but that is only the first step. The skill and ability of the agent to persuade the ready and able buyer to commit to your property is then the differentiator and the key-determining factor of where in the price range you end up at.

Your agent is your representative as the seller and therefore should be carefully selected and then committed to fully to allow them to do their magic. A highly skilled agent will make things happen and will not rest until a sale is concluded. By the time they eventually receive their agency fee, they have earned every cent many times over.

LEGAL TALK

by Fawzia Khan



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- ATTORNEYS
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- NOTARIES
- MEDIATORS

The High Court Is Not Obligated To Accept A Divorce Settlement Agreement When It Concerns Children

As the upper guardian of all minor children, the High Court is not bound to rubber stamp a settlement agreement which divorcing parents have already agreed to, when that agreement relates to the rights of minor children. The court can interfere with the terms of such an agreement, using its powers as the upper guardian. It can thus set aside an agreement, if it believes that the agreement which the parents signed, relating to the minor children, is not in the children's best interests. That is what happened in a divorce case that where the order by the high court was taken on appeal to the Supreme Court of Appeal in October 2024.

In that case, the Pretoria High Court refused to endorse the divorce settlement agreement which the husband [Mr. E] concluded with his (now former) wife, where the parties agreed that the father, Mr. E would be awarded primary residence and care of their minor child and the mother be granted alternate weekend contact. Instead, the court

granted the primary residence and care of the child to the mother.

The court also penalized the father by ordering him to pay the costs of the divorce from his share of the communal estate. The matter went on appeal to the SCA. He claimed that the mother had an online gaming addiction and was financially unstable. The court heard that when the marriage broke down, Mr. E, removed the child from Limpopo, without the mother's consent and relocated in Vanderbijl Park in Gauteng.

Mrs E's version that she was child's primary caregiver from birth, until the child was removed from her care. The Family Advocate report found that the child had a strong bond with both parents but as the child was settled with the father, that status quo should remain.

The high court however rejected the Family Advocate's recommendation and found that in reality Mr E was not the child's primary caregiver and accepted the version put forward by Mrs E that she was the child's primary caregiver, until the child was

removed from her care.

The court also found that the evidence revealed that Mr E had purchased expensive gaming equipment and that he was the author of Mrs E's financial 'instability' as he had cut her off financially and dismissed Mr. E's appeal with costs.

The SCA said that it is "not looking for a perfect parent but to find the least detrimental available alternative for safeguarding the child's growth and development" and that it was in the minor child's best interests that primary residency be awarded to the mother.

The SCA also found no misdirection by the Pretoria High Court and that it could not be faulted in how it exercised its discretion by not following the arrangements made in the settlement agreement and making its own order, which it believed, served the best interests of the child.

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The New Toyota Hilux 4X4 GR

By: Tomas Yoko



Legendary toughness meets ultimate performance in the new Hilux GR-Sport, a formidable addition to the Hilux Double Cab model range. The 2.8 GD-6 4x4 GR-Sport third generation is a testament to confident off-roading and refined on-road dynamics."

The Toyota Hilux has long been celebrated for its robustness and reliability, and I recently test drove the latest edition , the 4X4 GR (Gazoo Racing) model. Talk about raising the bar to new heights. This top-of-the-range Toyota bakkie perfectly blends performance, luxury, and off-road prowess, turning the heads of enthusiasts and everyday drivers alike, wherever I went. At the heart of the Hilux 4X4 GR is a powerful 2.8 litre turbocharged diesel engine that delivers an impressive balance of power and efficiency. 165 kilowatts and 550 Newton meters is like fighting talk. With its advanced four-wheel-drive system, this truck is engineered to tackle even the most challenging terrain without breaking a sweat. Whether navigating rocky landscapes or cruising through muddy trails, the Hilux 4X4 GR excels with its excellent ground

clearance and robust suspension system. Aesthetically, the Hilux GR showcases a bold, aggressive design that commands attention. The exterior features unique styling cues and sporty accents, including distinct grilles and special badging, setting it apart from its more utilitarian siblings. The heads were turning with expressions of longing on the faces. The Toyota Hilux 4X4 GR is not just about ruggedness; it is a versatile vehicle that performs well in urban environments while also excelling on off-road adventures. For those seeking a pickup that embodies both performance and practicality, the Hilux 4X4 GR stands as an exceptional choice in the competitive truck market. Contact CMH Toyota Umhlanga to get your name on the list of prospective buyers. Call them on 031 580 400 or visit their showroom at 1 Wilton Crescent, Umhlanga.

TANK 500

The Epitome of Power and Luxury

The GWM TANK 500 Hybrid SUV combines elegance, advanced technology, and superior off-road capability. As GWM's flagship model in South Africa, it showcases luxury and exceptional build quality. With state-of-the-art features for comfort and safety, the TANK 500 HEV stands out in the SUV market. Powered by a 2.0-liter turbocharged engine paired with a hybrid system, the TANK 500 delivers 255 kW and 648 Nm torque, enabling a 0-100 km/h acceleration in 8.3 seconds. Its 9-speed automatic gearbox and 11 driving modes, including settings for snow, sand, and rock, make it versatile on any terrain. Inside, the TANK 500 boasts a customizable luxury interior, highlighted by a 14.6-inch touchscreen, ambient lighting, Nappa leather seats with heating, cooling, and massage functions, and ample space for all passengers. The SUV's safety is underscored by a 5-Star ANCAP rating and features like Adaptive Cruise Control, Lane Departure Warning, and a 360-degree camera. GWM supports the TANK 500 with a 7-year warranty, battery coverage, roadside assistance, and a service plan, ensuring reliability and peace of mind. This SUV is a testament to GWM's commitment to quality, blending power, technology, and luxury for a premium driving experience both on and off the road. If you're looking for luxury and power, to stand out from the crowd, to reward yourself with a vehicle that suits your lifestyle and your brand, then speak to Mbulelo at GWM Umhlanga on 072 306 9168.



At the top of the pile you will find the GWM TANK 500, exuding a presence that speaks of sophistication, power and luxury. Speak to Mbulelo on 072 306 9168 for a chance to test drive this animal of an SUV



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THE NEW CITROËN C3 AIRCROSS SUV: C To The Power Of 3

By: Tomas Yoko



Win the new Citroën C3 Aircross, Cool, Comfortable and Clever, test drive it and stand a chance to win one, call CMH Citroën Umhlanga on 087 721 5705

Test driving the new Citroën C3 Aircross SUV, I was impressed with the approach of the Citroën C-Cubed programme, which stands for "Cool, Comfort, Clever". The new C3 Aircross had achieved those objectives and then some. Achieving Cool with the use of some innovative new materials in the cockpit of this 5 or 7 seater compact SUV, as well as the artful

styling that produces confident robust muscular looks. Add 17-inch alloy wheels and dual-tone roof paint, metallic included, and the looks are catered for. Comfort is provided for, being a French model, they have provided for oodles of space with the wide stance of the C3, the 5 or 7 extremely comfortable seats. The C3 Aircross keeps everybody comfortable with a very capable air conditioner that disperses cooling air to the rear seats in the 7-seater with a roof mounted vent. The 'Clever' element is everywhere in the C3, form the 1.2-litre turbocharged PureTech 3-cylinder engine, that delivers 81 kilowatts of power and 205 Newton meters of torque, to the high performance six speed automatic gearbox. This combination borders on genius with just 6.3 litres fuel consumption in a combined cycle. You'll find the element of Clever everywhere, from the 7-inch TFT instrument cluster to the 10-inch touch screen with all the accessibility you can dream of. There are the integrated safety systems including Airbags, ABS, EBD, ESP, rear view camera PDC, Hill Hold Assist, and a tyre monitoring system. But the most exciting feature of the new Citroën C3 Aircross is that you could win this car, just by test driving it at CMH Citroën Umhlanga. Call them on 087 721 5705 or pop in at 89 Flanders Drive, Mount Edgecombe and feel the smoothness of the C3 for yourself.

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A Window Onto Nature's World



By Environmentalist and Green Campaigner Jill Theunissen

Recognition of the role of the Honey Bee is at last receiving focus. Without this Global Pollinator the survival of mankind is "At Risk" due to the extreme loss of fruits and berries, nuts and all seed-bearing plants whether in the Wild or under cultivation, often extensive areas of Land Resource.

The early Egyptians cherished the honey from their bees. In those days a dome-shaped clay pot protected the swarm, with the Nubina slaves trained as carers. Honey retains its quality indefinitely, with even a jar being discovered in King Tut's tomb. No doubt the Hunter Gatherers would have collected honey from Wild Bees, but today Bee-Keeping in an Apairy is beneficial for all consumers, and augments the Wild swarms where they occur naturally. For successful agricultural production pollination of the crop is critical, with Bee hives often distributed over extensive areas to ensure optimum pollination of the flowering crop.

In South Africa two species are dominant. Firstly, *Apis mellifera scutellata* which is found throughout all Provinces, except in the Cape where *Apis mellifera capensis* enjoy the Vnybos and floral splendour of the Western Cape. Of interest is the Cape Point Nature Reserve which maintains a rich biodiversity of indigenous species.

Some years ago through donations and community based events a pair of Honey Badgers were successfully re-introduced.

The Hive community is structured with the Queen Bee the titular head who lays the eggs. The smaller worker bees collect the nectar and pollen for honey and to make Beeswax, also propolis and royal jelly. The larger male bee or Drone, protects the Hive, and the many wings perform the aircon function!

The Cone has a specific format comprising a cavity with a thin-walled hexagon shape which "holds" the honey. Each bee has five eyes; one on each side and three on top of the head. They gain direction from the Sun and in this regard the Butterfly species are the same. Indigenous flowering shrubs such as Ribbon Bush (*Hypoestes aristata*) and Blue and White Plumbago will attract species of Butterflies, plus many other indigenous varieties from the Blue Barleria along the Coast, to the pink Pom-pom Tree (*Dias cotinifolia*) flowering in valleys below the Drakensburg. When the butterfly lays her eggs on the under-side of a leaf synergy is at work. When the larvae hatch there is an abundant protein lunch for the new Robin hatchlings. By night the moths take up the task of pollination.

Alarm bells are ringing across the Globe at the current decrease in Bee Populations. The

Causes stem not only from the reduction in the Natural Environment and its Bio-Diversity, but from the disappearance of Veld Grasslands under increasing and extensive agriculture, also degradation of forests. The use of man-made pesticides, toxins and chemicals continue to cause death of the natural pollinators. In parts of China it is already recorded that hand pollination has become necessary. This must surely escalate food costs to higher levels to cover minimum wages.

It is evident that to "Save the Bees" and all the pollinators a major Re-Wilding Program is required to Re-introduce our wealth of indigenous species, and at the same time eradicate Alien plants. Our "Green Heritage" is in urgent need of 'Care and Attention' from all communities and administration, with professional guidelines and 'proven' supervision. The Sunbirds will relish nectar from the new hedgerow with flowering orange Cape Honeysuckle and golden heads of *Psychotria capensis* (Black-bird Berry).

In Australia it is interesting to learn that the many Fig Tree species each enjoy a specific Beetle as the Sole Pollinator. Focus on restoring our Bio-Diversity will benefit our Pollinators and ensure food Security for all

Preservation of our Natural Pollinators - Vital for Mankind's Survival



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By Simon T Dehal

The Magic of the Smile Foundation

From time to time the Smile Foundation undertakes plastic surgery on children with cleft palates and facial deformity or abnormality, free of charge. This humanitarian gesture is carried out with the aid of plastic surgeons and other medical professionals who provide their altruistic services gratis.

The Smile Foundation and associates and partners are highly commended for their altruistic endeavours. Well done good folks and please keep up the excellent work. The Foundation's motto is that every child deserves to smile and

their work brings untold joy and pride to persons who have been helped over the ages, as well as their families. They have given the deserving young ones new hope and a better life. As a result they no longer are stigmatized and overcome being the victims of ridicule, bullying, shame, pain, ostracism and torment, especially from thoughtless, insensitive and inconsiderate persons, primarily in the early stages of their lives.

May the Smile Foundation and other local and international humanitarian

organizations like Gift of the Givers –headed by luminary Dr I Sooliman, Medicins Sans Frontiers (French for Doctors Without Borders), Child and Family Welfare Societies, Red Cross and Red Crescent continue with their sterling endeavours. May GOD bless them as they bless humanity, particularly the needy, destitute, disadvantaged and underprivileged, as well as the victims of war, civil disorder and natural and unnatural disasters?

Life is most precious and everyone desires a good standard of living,

notwithstanding inequalities and other impediments, with famine, poverty and unemployment etc keeping people in bondage and misery. Any good deed is one done as unto GOD and any good withheld from one in need is one withheld from GOD – Matthew 25: 31-46 (BIBLE) refers. Lets us not pass an opportunity to serve one truly in need. However, be prudent and diligent as there are too many con artists and charlatans out there in the world seeking to dupe or defraud unwise and non-discerning persons.



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An Ikon Evolves - The New Suzuki Swift

By: Tomas Yoko



The new Suzuki Swift takes this iconic car to new heights speak to Nathi on 078 772 7968 for a test drive

The latest addition to the iconic Suzuki Swift has arrived in South Africa, and it's an absolute gem of a vehicle that's sure to continue capturing the hearts and imaginations of drivers across all generations and lifestyles.

As one of Suzuki's most iconic and popular models, the new Swift builds upon its well-established reputation for being an exciting, engaging, and downright fun car to pilot. This peppy Hot Hatch packs a potent new Z12E 1.2-liter, three-cylinder engine that delivers a sprightly 60kW of power and 112Nm of torque. Paired with a smooth-shifting five-

speed manual or new CVT transmission, the Swift's powertrain provides a dynamic and responsive driving experience that Swift drivers have come to know and love.

With impressive fuel economy figures, this Suzuki will keep your wallet happy at the pumps too. Of course, practicality and versatility haven't been overlooked, with the Swift offering a spacious and well-appointed cabin that can comfortably accommodate up to five passengers and their cargo.

Suzuki has also ensured peace of mind for owners, backing the Swift with a comprehensive 5-

year/200,000km warranty and 2-year/30,000km service plan. The latest Suzuki Swift has an undeniable appeal that's sure to make it a hugely popular choice in the competitive hatchback segment. With its winning combination of style, performance, efficiency, and value, the latest expression of this iconic model is an absolute must-drive for anyone in the market for a truly delightful compact car.

Contact CMH Suzuki Ballito to book a test drive of the new Suzuki Swift, speak to Nathi on 078 772 7968 or visit their showroom at 35 Moffat Drive, Ballito.

Hole-In-One Wins A Suzuki Jimny 5-Door

By: Tomas Yoko



Santos Khan with Anette King and the hole-in-one winner Jimny

CMH Suzuki Ballito regularly dangle the carrot of winning one of their amazing models in a Hole-In-One competition at their Golf Days. Recently a Prince's Grant resident, Anette King holed the 18th at Umhlali Golf Club in just one shot. A near impossible feat on any day with

the odds soaring higher than my insurance rerate on the day the competition was held.

Super Sales Executive, Santos Khan, was on hand to give the keys to the lucky winner saying, "Her first question was when is the next Ballito Jimny Club Run?"



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"Sometimes the most important thing in a whole day is the rest we take between two deep breaths." — Etty Hillesum



MEC of EDTEA Launch Festive Season 2024 At Ramsgate Beach

The KwaZulu-Natal Sharks Board Maritime Centre of Excellence (KZNSB) was established in 1964, strives to be a leader in environmentally sensitive protection of bathers against sharks and capacity building in the maritime sector. KZNSB safeguards 37 beaches on the KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) coastline with shark safety gear owned and maintained by the KZNSB. The organisation positions itself as "The Only Organisation of Its Kind in the World. The organisation has achieved distinguished accomplishments in its existence, defining the organisations successes towards achieving its' mission.

KwaZulu Natal Sharks Board Maritime Centre of Excellence (KZNSB) participation at the Ramsgate Beach Summer Launch Festival hosted by KwaZulu-Natal Tourism (TKZN Tourism), KZN Film in partnership with Department of Economic Development,

Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), KwaZulu Natal Sharks Board Maritime Centre of Excellence (KZNSB), Ray Nkonyeni Municipality an uGu District Tourism Municipality. The launch took place on the 16th of November 2024 at Ramsgate Beach in Margate, Port Shepstone.

In participation representing the KZNSB was Mr. Babalo Mpaka (Acting Public Relations Officer), Mr. Wandile Nxumalo (Office of CEO Intern), and Ms. Andile-Portia Gumede (BDD Intern).

With the weather being an accommodative element into launching the Ramsgate Beach Summer Launch Festival in Margate, the main purpose was to officially welcome the residents of Margate into summer and inform them about the safety of beaches within the district. A local DJ was invited to entertain the public with great music. Moreover, fun activities such

as beach volleyball, 360 camera photoshoot, bean bag games were part of the entertainment set.

In absentia of Acting Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Harry Mbambo; Mr. Babalo Mpaka (Acting Public Relations Officer) delivered a speech on the behalf of KZNSB. Mr. Mpaka's speech was to inform the public about the core values of KZNSB and reassure the public that 37 beaches in KZN are currently protected from any shark attacks. In addition, Mr. Mpaka stated that as we are approaching the festive season, tourists should visit the beautiful beaches found in KZN and visit KZN Shark's Board to experience and explore the different activities provided by the organization.

Bookings: (031) 5660435 for Dissection Shows, 0824039206 for Boat Trips, (031) 5660462 for Hall Hire or visit our website: www.shark.co.za



Honourable Reverend Musa Zondi MEC For Economic Development Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) Testing his beach soccer ball skills during the launch of Festive Season at Ramsgate Beach



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