

The Bugle

MAGAZINE

email: thebugle@mweb.co.za



Lucia Majola's Mission of Love

Lets help Lucia to feed the children

Read Lucia's powerful story on page 3. Lucia's remarkable journey is a reminder that one person can change the world, even with limited means. She has shown that faith, paired with action, can ignite hope in the darkest corners. Her work has inspired not just her community but all who hear her story. Seen above; Lucia's angels who receive a hearty meal each weekend, see page 3 and help Lucia



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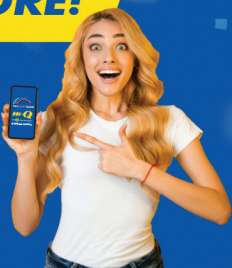
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Through my eyes



by Kasia Yoko

As we stand at the dawn of a fresh year, there is an undeniable sense of possibility in the air. The turning of the calendar feels like a collective exhale, a chance to release what no longer serves us and inhale the promise of something new. America has recently reminded us that history can be rewritten, even in the face of immense adversity. This moment in time whispers a powerful truth: transformation is always within reach.

Steve De'lano Garcia's words resonate deeply:

"Your triggers are not obstacles, but divine invitations to transform. Each emotional storm guides you to where healing awaits. When something disturbs your peace, remember: you're not being challenged, you're being chosen for growth."

These triggers, often viewed as disruptions, are sacred opportunities. They reveal the parts of us that need love, attention, and healing. The moments that unsettle us are not random; they are precise nudges from the universe, urging us to grow, evolve, and expand.

Each time we encounter a trigger, we face a crossroads. On one side lies the well-trodden path of reaction—defensiveness, blame, or retreat. On the other is a less familiar road: curiosity and self-discovery. When we choose the latter, we unlock the potential within us to heal old wounds and dismantle limiting beliefs.

Triggers, though uncomfortable, are master teachers. They act as mirrors, reflecting back the spaces within where love and understanding have not yet fully bloomed. If we pause to reflect rather than react, we can uncover their wisdom.

Imagine triggers as spiritual GPS coordinates. They point us to the exact places

where transformation is calling. That argument with a loved one, the frustration at work, or the pang of envy—these are not meaningless emotions. They are invitations to look within and ask: What is this teaching me? What part of me is asking for attention?

When we embrace our triggers, we rewrite the narrative. Instead of seeing them as obstacles, we begin to view them as allies—guiding us toward our best selves. They become stepping stones, leading us to a higher perspective and a deeper understanding of our potential.

This year, let us commit to viewing our triggers not as enemies but as messengers. Let us see them for what they truly are: divine interventions, designed to break us open rather than break us down. These moments of discomfort are the universe's way of shaping us into something extraordinary.

Transformation isn't always easy. It demands courage to face our shadows and wisdom to see the lessons within them. But with every trigger we embrace, we grow closer to the wholeness that is our birthright.

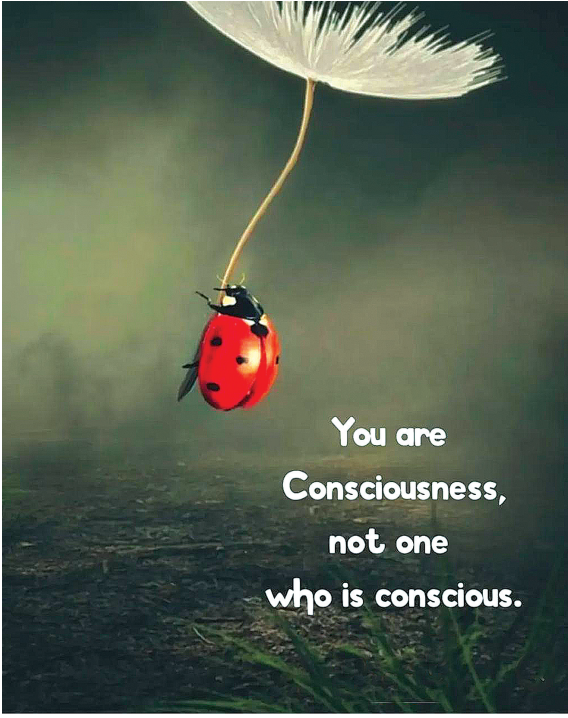
As we step into this new year, remember that the path to becoming is paved with these sacred moments. Let us welcome them with gratitude, knowing that within each one lies the potential for profound growth.

This is our time to rise, to heal, to evolve. This is the year we choose transformation over stagnation, love over fear, and courage over comfort.

So when the next emotional storm arises, pause and take a breath. Trust that this moment is here to guide you. It is not here to challenge you, but to remind you of the limitless power within.

Welcome to your new beginning. Welcome to your brand new world.

New Year, New Start, Brand New World



You are
Consciousness,
not one
who is conscious.

Dear Ed,

Re: Toxic Fumes in our Air

I am very concerned with the putrid smells that presented me this morning as I opened my doors.

I am of the understanding that the landfill site for dumping waste have moved from the Shongweni Landfill site to the North Coast.

My daughter and I moved from Hillcrest to the North Coast 4 years ago. We are very in tune with these smells and the serious implications these toxins emit have on our health.

The upper highway community fought a long hard battle to have this landfill removed.

My daughter was one of the many children whose health was seriously compromised from living on nebulizers to drips to being hospitalised.

I would like to bring an awareness to the community of how seriously dangerous these toxins are and to ask what will be done about it?

One of these peculiar things we discovered is that a person smelling the smells were dependent on the wind direction.

We found it odd in many cases how some could smell it whilst others couldn't however the problem existed.

We cannot leave this. It needs to be addressed.

Sharon Jacob Ballito

Dear Ed,

Re: qualifications for all SA Politicians

The office of a politician, whether in national, provincial or local government, is a public and high one. Persons holding same, either by appointment or having been elected democratically by way of the ballot box, are expected to have positive qualities, primarily proficiency and integrity and must be people-serving. These attributes are essential. For information, Parliament consists of the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces. At the pinnacle the President of South Africa is head of state and heads the national executive, with executive authority vested in him/her, per sec 42, 83 and 85 respectively of the RSA Constitution (Act 108 of 1996). Sec 47(1), 106(1) and 158(1) detail eligibility for membership of national, provincial and local government, and also indicate disqualifications there from. Note it was sec 47(1) that put paid to J Zuma's high aspirations to be the country's president ex the 29 May 2024 elections.

In 30 years of democracy in South Africa government in all 3 tiers has been graced by some persons with proficiency and integrity and people serving. Regrettably in this time government has been disgraced by persons lacking proficiency and integrity and not being people serving. They were a "biryani mix" of criminals, fraudsters, corrupt, looters, buffoons, nincompoops, charlatans, smooth talkers, tainted, dubious and unashamed con artists and crooks.

It is my firm belief that one must have a certain minimum level of academic qualifications in order to serve as a politician. For a good start a matric (grade 12) should be prescribed as a bare minimum. Thus I

make a strong plea for suitable legislation to be enacted urgently amending the Constitution to give effect to this innovation. This should be music to the ears of millions of sane and right-minded persons. However, as usual, there will be some detractors, no guesses for who they will be! In addition, politicians must be au fait with literacy, including with computers, and numeracy, both being the Achilles heel even of many professionals with tertiary qualifications. Dignity and decorum too are required.

It is just too painful -and shameful- how South Africa in democracy had in all levels of government politicians of the aforementioned negative attributes, many of whom were then ruling party cronies, lackeys and roped in by nepotism or other quid pro quo deal. Herewith are some examples: -Ex president J Zuma- this tainted, dubious and shameless geriatric from Nkandla could be the very personification of crime, corruption and other wrongs. The Guptas pulled the strings while this puppet merrily danced to their tunes. Yet he repeatedly pleads innocence and poverty, all the time going to extremes to delay legal actions against him. But he did well to be "self-educated" as he lacks formal education. Maybe some dubious university (P2) should confer an Honorary Doctorate in Crime, Corruption and Fabian Tactics on this tin god of the likes of Manyi, Mkwebane and Mfofu! - ex National Assembly B Mbete- she is alleged to have bought her drivers licence -ex Min D Pule- she is alleged to have taken her boyfriend/s on overseas jaunts at taxpayers expense -P Marais- this clown holds the national crosstitute record - he has jumped ship too many times and has been a member of over a decade of political parties. Vivian Reddy appears to be emulating him - ex Durban Mayor Z Gumede- she is a co-accused with many others,

including the ex incompetent City Manager of Ethekwini (S Nzuza- my old useless boss) in a multi millions Rand solid waste tender Re all the above, there is a common thread as at the times of the malfeasance, these persons were big wigs in the ANC.

What is extremely worrying is the crime, fraud and corruption that has not yet been unearthed or has been swept under the carpet. The NPA must up its game so that justice is served and crooks brought to book. As a start it should get a new head that is proficient, credible and produces results. The present one, Director of Public Prosecutions S Bathoi is certainly out of her depth. How she time and again "appeases" the relevant Party Portfolio Committee is baffling. Condolence to the family and colleagues of her Deputy de Kok who died this week following an illness. He would have done better than her.

The latest news of the alleged improper and irregular awarding of a R2,5 million tender by Min in the Presidency Ntshaveni (CR.s blue-eyed gal) is yet again a matter of grave concern. She apparently did the deed (misdeed) while she was a municipal manager previously. It took the SIU 4 long years to investigate this. She must be suspended and then face the music with the right to defend herself in the normal way.

South Africa is a great country and a great nation. If new US President D Trump strives foremost to make America great again, we here can be great too if we have politicians with minimum qualifications and other positive attributes to represent us and take us to new heights. The power is with the people, especially at the ballot box and positive use of social media.

Viva Mzansi viva.

Simon T Dehal Verulam

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"True abundance isn't based on our net worth, it's based on our self-worth," by Gabrielle Bernstein



Lucia and some of the mothers helping out with food distribution



Lucia and some of the mothers helping out with food distribution

Heartwarming story: Lucia Majola’s Mission of Love

By Kasia Yoko

In the small, sun-drenched community of Cottonlands, KwaZulu-Natal, there lives a woman whose determination to serve is nothing short of miraculous. Lucia Majola, a humble domestic worker, has embraced a mission far greater than herself. She is a beacon of hope to the children in her impoverished neighbourhood, and her story is one of faith, resilience, and boundless compassion.

Lucia belongs to the God Never Fails Church in Durban, led by Bishop ND Nhlapo. It was seven years ago that Lucia received what she describes as a vision from God. The message was clear: “Feed the hungry children in your community.” But with her minimal income, she felt powerless to act. The vision stayed with her, a quiet but persistent reminder of the work she had yet to do.

Last year, a moment of reckoning came. Lucia realized that her hesitation

was an act of disobedience to her faith. “I couldn’t wait for perfect conditions anymore,” she recalls. With courage and conviction, she founded the Lucia Kiddos Foundation in May 2024. What began as a modest effort, supported by her colleague Bev Gibson, has blossomed into a weekend feeding program that serves children who would otherwise go without a meal.

But the journey has not been without its heartaches. Lucia has faced countless challenges, from the rising cost of food to the ebb and flow of donor support. “Sometimes I cry,” she admits, “but I pray, and God provides.”

Still, Lucia’s work requires more help. Her kitchen needs larger pots to prepare fresh meals, a sturdy table for the children to sit around, and an awning to shield them from the relentless African sun. Clothing, toys, and even the simplest resources would make an immeasurable

difference to these little ones. Lucia’s dream is not just to feed these children but to provide them with a sense of dignity and belonging.

Lucia’s story is a powerful reminder that one person can change the world, even with limited means. She has shown that faith, paired with action, can ignite hope in the darkest corners. Her work has inspired not just her community but all who hear her story.

Now, she asks for your help. Let us rally behind this extraordinary woman and her mission. Every small contribution—a pot, a toy, or a donation—can bring joy to a child’s life.

Call Lucia at 068 241 5880 to make a difference. Come to Cottonlands and witness the miracle of love in action. Together, we can help Lucia answer her divine calling and ensure no child goes hungry in her community.



Heartwarming and moving experience at the Lucia Kiddos Foundation in Cottonlands

As always a big thank you to my mama, Maria Koryl for not only contributing financially but also helping with food preparations.



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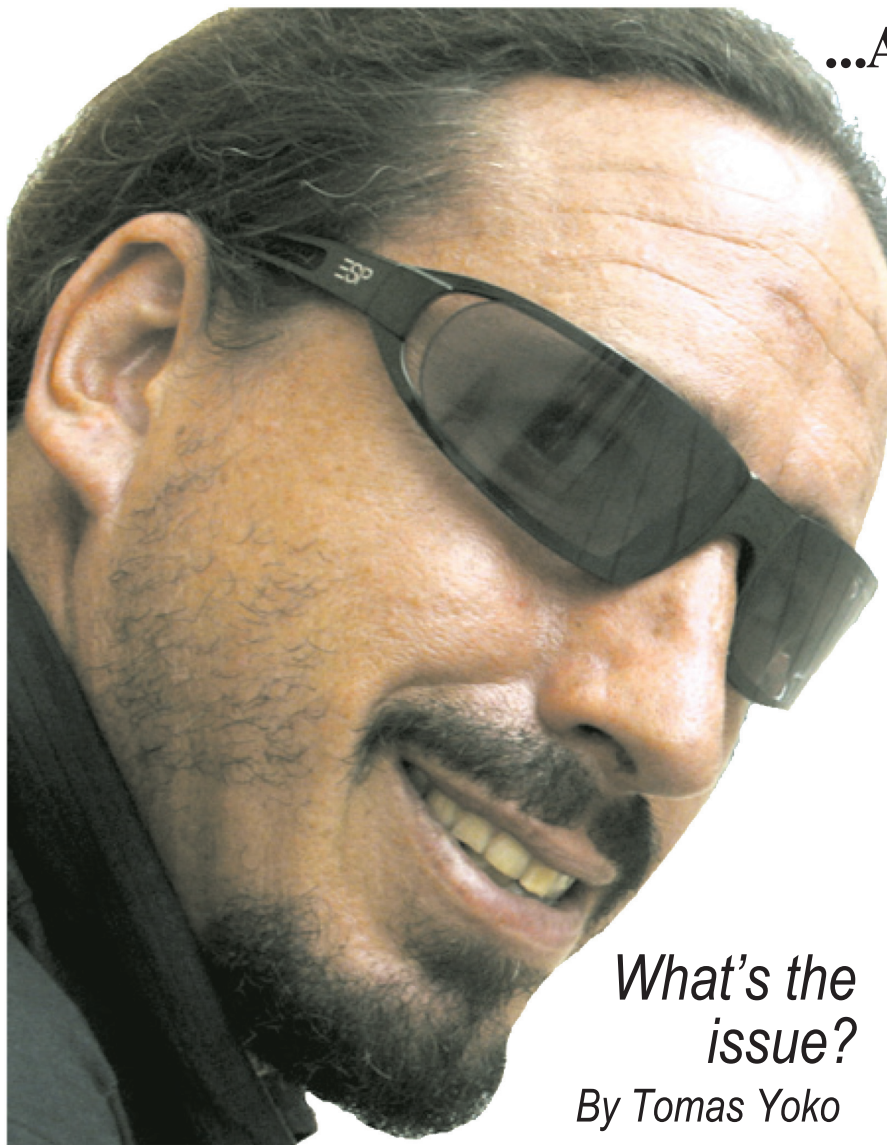
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"Christmas is a season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall and the genial flame of charity in the heart," by Washington Irving



...And so it starts...

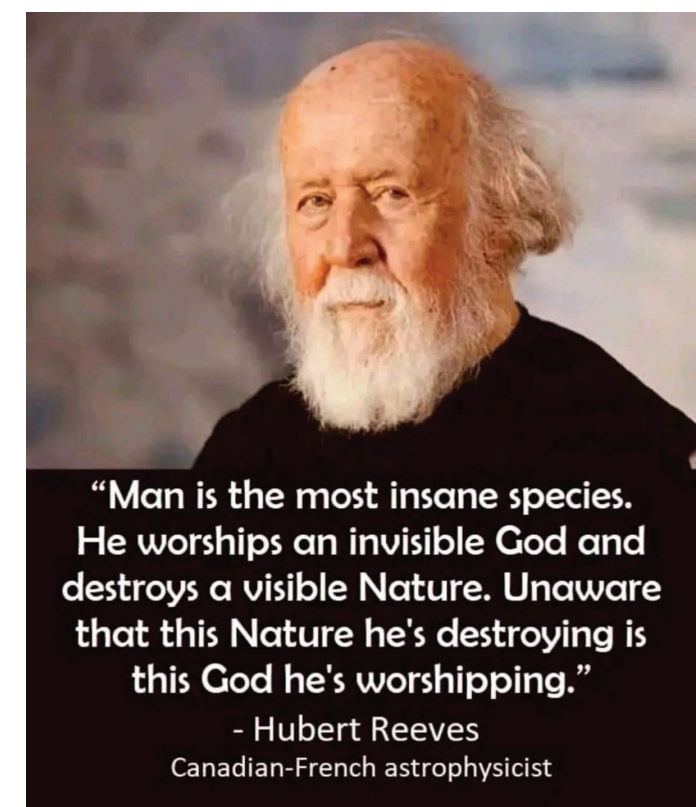
Is it a coincidence that even the planets got in line for the inauguration of Donald J Trump? The brain numbing meltdown from some celebrities is a peephole into the effects of the woke mindset, something that the world seems to have found the cure for.

Speaking of cures, the pardons are flying in the US with Biden pardoning Fauci, and his family, almost proving everything the neigsayers are saying about his role in Covid and its dodgy cure, which thankfully is now being removed from public access all over the world. Too late she cried.

With Trump taking office it is almost as if the mask is off, or at least it has slipped, just enough to recognise the wearer. The stranglehold on the narrative has been dislodged and the power of the people seems to be finding new breath in the swaying of the political pendulum.

Bring on 2025, the EU has never been weaker, kept on the backfoot, the UK was the only economy in Europe that seemed to be standing up to international market pressures. Two tier Kier seems to be putting an end to that with alarming success, he couldn't destroy Britain faster even if it were his intention. Er, um, . . . The words of The Clash ringing in the background.

America seems to be taking back its power one tariff at a time, Trumps globalist ideas becoming more and more apparent with each



“Man is the most insane species. He worships an invisible God and destroys a visible Nature. Unaware that this Nature he's destroying is this God he's worshipping.”

- Hubert Reeves
Canadian-French astrophysicist

demand he makes. BRICKS just quietly getting on with doing its thing.

In a real slap in the face of the saviours of Europe, Russia was excluded from the 80th anniversary of Auschwitz's liberation. The Serbian President remarked at how the perpetrators of the holocaust were invited, along with their allies, but the saviours were not.

NATO-EU states are talking mad talk about sending troops to the Ukraine, Zelensky asked for two hundred thousand troops at the meeting in DAVOS. Laughable, someone get him a shirt and some chinos at least, those military green tee shirts are annoying now.

Russia is slowly winning the war, an inevitability that even America cannot prevent. Russian foreign policy diplomat Sergey Ryabkov has hinted that there is a window of opportunity for a negotiated settlement to the war, but that the window is small and will not last for long. Trump's promise to end the war in the first week of his taking office must certainly be putting some pressure on him, he is up against the mightiest foe a human can have on this planet. How this plays out could expose the evil cabal of globalist elites or bury its existence in even more mystery and secrecy. We just want the killing to stop.

Talk to me about stopping the killing in Sudan and the DRC. Senseless killing the world over.

So while they continue seeding the clouds with poisonous aluminium concoctions and then tell us that it's climate change, ram pseudo-science down our necks that deny carbon dioxide as natures biggest building block, we'll just reach for the remote and find something mundane to watch.

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

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

"Don't bother just to be better than your contemporaries or predecessors. Try to be better than yourself," By William Faulkner

Opening of the Sri Sai Baba Abode of Peace Centre in Durban North



Sri Sai Baba Abode of Peace Centre officially opened its doors on January 11, 2025, at 3 Beachway Road, Durban North

By Kasia Yoko

A beacon of faith, service, and community, the Sri Sai Baba Abode of Peace Centre officially opened its doors on January 11, 2025, at 3 Beachway Road, Durban North. Built by local philanthropist and businessman Ashok Sewnarain, the visionary owner of International Bank Vaults, this remarkable centre represents a labour of love driven by his wife, Sharoona Sewnarain.

The centre, a state-of-the-art structure with modern facilities capable of accommodating up to 250 people, is more than just a building. It is a spiritual sanctuary, a place for worshippers and seekers alike to come together in devotion to Sri Sai Baba, fostering peace and unity.

Speaking to the close-knit crowd of friends and family who gathered to celebrate the milestone, Sharoona Sewnarain expressed heartfelt gratitude and humility. “No blade of grass moves without the will of God. The same is true here. This centre would not be possible without the will of Sri Sai,” she said. Her words resonated with the spirit of devotion and service that defined the occasion, a sentiment shared by all in attendance.

The ceremony began with traditional

prayers and blessings, invoking divine grace for the centre’s future. Guests were invited to tour the premises, which include a spacious prayer hall, a library filled with spiritual texts, and dedicated areas for community outreach programs.

The design of the building seamlessly combines modern architecture with elements of traditional Indian aesthetics, reflecting the timeless teachings of Sri Sai Baba in a contemporary context. Its serene atmosphere, enhanced by natural light and tranquil gardens, immediately instills a sense of calm.

For Ashok and Sharoona Sewnarain, the centre is more than just a tribute to their faith. It is a manifestation of their desire to give back to the community, creating a space that will serve as a hub for spiritual and humanitarian activities. From meditation sessions to charity initiatives, the Sri Sai Baba Abode of Peace Centre aims to inspire service and compassion in its many forms.

The opening of this centre marks a significant moment not only for the devotees of Sri Sai Baba but also for the broader Durban community, symbolizing the enduring power of faith and generosity.



The centre, a state-of-the-art structure with modern facilities capable of accommodating up to 250 people



The design of the building seamlessly combines modern architecture with elements of traditional Indian aesthetics



A space that will serve as a hub for spiritual and humanitarian activities



The Sri Sai Baba Abode of Peace aims to inspire service and compassion in its many forms



From meditation sessions to charity initiatives

Support Simon During His Time of Need



Simon’s family is seeking help

We are reaching out with a heavy heart, our dear friend Simon has been diagnosed with a terminal illness. While Simon faces this journey with incredible courage and grace, the emotional and financial burdens have become overwhelming.

Simon has always been there to support everyone. Now, it's our turn to rally around them and provide the support they so deeply deserve. We've started this fundraiser to help Simon focus on what truly matters: Your contributions will go toward:

- Covering medical expenses not covered by insurance.
- Providing for existing financial needs
- Offering peace of mind during this unimaginably difficult time.

Every donation, no matter the size, will make a difference. If you're unable to contribute financially, we understand—your kind words, prayers, and sharing this campaign with others would mean the world to Simon.

Thank you for your compassion and generosity during this time. Let's show Simon how much he is loved and supported. Together, we can ease their burden and help create moments of comfort and joy.

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Cold Beetroot Soup
(Chłodnik)

Health Inducing Chilling Goodness

By Kasia Yoko



Poland often conjures images of snow-covered landscapes, hearty meals, and rugged, sausage-loving people. And while there is truth to our love of good food and a protein-rich diet, Polish cuisine offers so much more than the stereotypes suggest. Among the treasures of our culinary heritage lies a dish that holds a special place in my heart: cold beetroot soup, or chłodnik.

In my family, chłodnik wasn't just a meal—it was a ritual. On hot summer days, my mother would serve it in oversized coffee mugs, and we'd sip it slowly, savouring the bright flavours and vibrant colour. Traditionally, this dish features a boiled egg at its center, but I've seen creative variations with pierogi or even sausage. For me, though, simplicity wins—this soup is all about celebrating the earthy sweetness of beets and the cooling tang of yogurt.

This chilled soup is not only refreshing but also nourishing—a perfect antidote to sweltering days. So whether you're a Polish food enthusiast or just looking for a light, summery meal.

chives and whatever you have on hand. Make this your own recipe.

2 cups plain yogurt (or kefir for a tangier taste)
1 cup sour cream
1lt cups cold vegetable stock (or water)
1 cucumber, finely diced
4-5 cooked zucchini, thinly sliced
2 tablespoons fresh dill, finely chopped
2 tablespoons fresh chives, finely chopped
Juice of 1 lemon
Salt and pepper to taste
4 hard-boiled eggs, halved (optional)

Instructions:

1. In a large mixing bowl, combine the grated beets, yogurt, sour cream, and cold vegetable stock. Stir well until smooth.
2. Add the cucumber, radishes, dill, and chives. Mix to combine.
3. Stir in the lemon juice and season with salt and pepper to taste. Adjust seasoning as needed.
4. Chill the soup in the fridge for at least 2 hours, or until thoroughly cold.
5. Serve in bowls or mugs, garnished with a halved boiled egg or your favourite topping.

Ingredients:
1 bag of beets
1 apple
Handful of following herbs: rosemary, bay leaf, dill,

Enjoy your chłodnik with a slice of crusty bread—or simply savour it as is, like a true Polish summer delight. Smaczno!

CMH Ford Ballito: More Than Just Cars, A Community Partner

By: Tomas Yoko



The under 16 KZN Inland Rock and Surf team that represented the province at the South African Rock and Surf Nationals are seen above from left to right: Nico Eybers the Team Manager, Layton Spence, Keegan Eybers, Liam van der Westhuizen, Luca Pantone, Marc Joubert, Dirkie Saaiman, their Guide and Adriano Pantone the Coach

CMH Ford Ballito is more than just another car dealership; it's a vibrant part of the North Coast community. Their commitment extends beyond selling vehicles to actively engaging and supporting local initiatives. A shining example of this is their recent sponsorship of the KwaZulu Natal Under 16 angling team. Providing two powerful Ford Territory vehicles, CMH Ford Ballito ensured the team could travel in comfort and style to the South African Rock and Surf National Championships, which were held in Mossel Bay.

The team's performance was commendable, securing 5th place overall. Adding to their success, young angler Keegan Eybers made waves by landing a hefty 6.5-kilogram Kob, earning him the trophy for the biggest edible

fish of the tournament. Keegan's skill also secured him 7th place overall in the under 16 division, a testament to the dedication and talent fostered within the KZN angling community. The Ford Territory performed brilliantly as well, delivering fuel consumption figures of just 11.5 litres per hundred kilometres with a fully laden trailer and five adult passengers. Reported figures are 7.0 litres per kilometre.

However CMH Ford Ballito isn't just about community involvement; they're also on the cutting edge of the motoring world. Their enthusiastic sales team speak animatedly about things like the stunning, newly released seventh-generation Ford Mustang GT. Jaw dropping on its own, it is now available in very limited numbers through their dealership, with the latest

Shelby Super Snake performance upgrades, using the new S650 Ford Mustang as a base for the first time. Powered by a supercharged 5.0-litre V8, with 619 kilowatts, offering supercar-like performance, with tuned suspension for sharp handling and an optimised exhaust system, imagine the sound. Very limited.

Whether you're looking for a rugged SUV to support a local team or dreaming of owning a powerful piece of automotive history, CMH Ford Ballito is the dealership to visit. Their commitment to the community, combined with their passion for all things Ford, makes them the premier destination for all your motoring needs on the KZN North Coast. Call them on 087 723 9278 or visit their amazing showroom at 35 – 37 Moffat Drive, Ballito.



Keegan Eybers with his trophies, biggest edible and 7th Overall position



The one that never got away, the biggest edible winner landed by angler Keegan Eybers



The Ford Territory with full laden trailer and five adults breezed through the highways to bring the team home triumphant



The team at CMH Ford Ballito can help you with the everything Ford from latest Ford Shelby Super Snake to the Ford Puma





CMH FORD BALLITO NEW CAR SPECIALS

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1ST INSTALMENT IN MARCH 2025



Ford Ranger 2.0D XL Auto Double Cab

Ford Territory 1.8L Ambiente EcoBoost Auto

Ford Everest 2.0D Bi-Turbo Sport Auto

Ranger 2.0D Bi-Turbo Wildtrak Auto Double Cab



From R6 499 per month incl VAT



From R6 199 per month incl VAT



From R10 999 per month incl VAT



From R8 999 per month incl VAT

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Property Talk

By:
Andreas
Wassenaar

Apply the two P's when selling your property: Pricing and Presentation



PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



R1 795 000 **SOLE MANDATE**
33 LA MERCY VILLAGE, LA MERCY
Beds 3 | Baths 2 | Garage 1
STUNNING SEA VIEW APARTMENT

Stunning sea view apartment in a well maintained Sectional Scheme located on the popular La Mercy South Beach Road. This 3 bedroom unit is well maintained and neatly presented. The "wow" factor of this property is that not only does it have Sea views it also has a garden which extends from a covered patio. This home is perfect for investors or first time buyers. The main bedroom boasts a walk-in closet and vanity. The interior is modern with sufficient lighting.

Mellini Naidoo
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zimbali.seeff.com

032 940 5005 | zimbali@seeff.com



Improving property trading conditions is evident across the price ranges for our local North Coast property market. The New Year has introduced a newfound urgency and commitment by buyers to secure the property they have been thinking about and lock in the favourable pricing that has been presented.

This has been an extensive buyers market, with pricing showing negative real growth for 2022 through 2024. The nominal FNB House Price index has been returning growth of 0,8% and 0,9% over November and October 2024 – the last two months available. Our CPI inflation rate is currently at 3%, leaving real house price growth in negative territory.

With our interest rate cycle having turned and the expectation of further cuts, we can expect sales activity to increase steadily this year. Sellers have not yet experienced upward pressure on pricing as the buyers remain cautious and seek value before committing to a transaction.

With the market now alive with activity, the best advice we can provide to sellers in order to achieve an acceptable sale is to apply their minds to the two P's: Pricing and Presentation.

Market pricing for residential real estate has nothing to do with what was paid for the property, how much has been spent on the property or how much a seller may need from the property to purchase their next property. All these factors may be real but utterly irrelevant in determining market pricing.

The only thing that matters is what the market is currently paying for other similar properties. Pricing is often negotiated to achieve agreement, and once the level is established, it is important to have your contract reflect this by using an experienced and knowledgeable estate agent.

Every property becomes readily tradable at a certain price. If your home has been on the market for over 6 months and not traded, then critically analyse your pricing as a starting point.

Presentation is an essential aspect for every seller to consider to achieve a good result. Poor presentation is a value killer and will result in buyers driving the price down to a level where the market overlooks this, but to the detriment of the seller.

Before putting a home on the market prepare it for sale. Repaint, repair, unclutter, improve landscaping and the sense of arrival. Ensure every aspect of the property is immaculately clean.

Think about showroom condition and how people buy cars. Something about a new car smell is amazing. In the same way, a property needs to engage across all the senses.

Residential property is bought largely on emotion and feeling. Knowing this, sellers have the opportunity to make their property desirable with a little effort directed correctly.

Sellers that focus on pricing and presentation, shift the success probability in their favour.

LEGAL TALK

by Fawzia Khan



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- NOTARIES
- MEDIATORS

Pitfalls Of Rushing To Court On An Urgent Basis

Traditionally the period 15 December to 16 January in the legal landscape is referred to a "dies non" period, meaning that service or delivery of legal notices are suspended during this time. The court goes into recess and only hears applications which are urgent. To proceed with an application during this time can be extremely risky as a litigant runs the great risk of the application being thrown out of court, due to lack of urgency.

A divorced mother of a 14 year old daughter applied to court on an urgent basis early in January 2025 for an order that her ex-husband consent for their daughter to be enrolled at a particular school in Cape Town and that her ex pay additional maintenance of sum R44 000 per month more than he was already paying towards their daughter's maintenance.

The daughter was an exceptionally talented dancer who represented SA at an international level and the mother said she needed to attend a particular dance school in Cape Town in order to develop her full dancing potential and talent.

The mother and the minor child lived in Hermanus. The father was not in breach of any of his legal obligations and complied with all his cash maintenance orders and the terms of his decree of divorce. The father suggested the matter be referred to mediation.

The mediation process however was not completed. On 23 December 2024, the mother wrote to the father asking him to pay interim maintenance as from 1 January 2025 pending the completion of the mediation process.

She said that if he refused, she would bring an application to vary the existing maintenance order. The mother informed the court that she herself earned a modest income of R6000 per month and was forced to use about R30 000 per month from the capital of her divorce settlement to supplement her income.

She said that should her daughter not be given the opportunity to join the dance team in 2025, it would have a lasting negative effect on her life and future and that she would be robbed of a chance to realise her dreams and aspirations and her development would be hampered.

Unsurprisingly the father opposed the application, saying that the matter was premature and not urgent and insisted that a maintenance enquiry be conducted by the Maintenance Court to determine the issue of increased maintenance. He felt that the sudden change of schools was not in the child's best interests and not a viable option.

The court agreed with the father saying the urgency by the mother was self-created and said that the mother had failed to disclose material facts and was not forthcoming and transparent with the court regarding all the timelines she presented. The court also said that the mediation process should have been allowed to properly run its course. The application was struck off the roll for lack of urgency and the mother was ordered to pay the legal costs incurred by the father of the child.

Know your rights! The Law Desk of Fawzia Khan & Associates. Giving YOU the Power of Attorney. Email fawzia@thelawdesk.co.za or call 031-5025670 for legal assistance at competitive rates.



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Coastal Building, 2 Flanders Drive, Mount Edgecombe

With over 30 years of legal practice, we offer a full-house and personalised legal service. Together we will chart a resolution to help you achieve an expeditious, cost-effective workable solution to your

legal matter. We explore all options available to you including mediation, negotiation and litigation and arbitration. We are accredited mediators and members of the KZN Society of Mediators.

Trust us with your Business, Labour, Commercial, Civil, Property, Family Law and Litigation matters.

Give us a call on 031 - 502 5670 or email fawzia@thelawdesk.co.za for excellent legal representation in your legal matters.



From left to right the three amazing new models from Morris Garages MG Umhlanga, the HS, Cyberster and ZS models waiting for your test drive, visit them today!

MG Umhlanga In Motion

By: Tomas Yoko

The iconic motoring brand MG is back with a vengeance. NMI recently opened their MG Showroom in Umhlanga with three amazing models on offer.

The recent launch of these three stunning new MG models at the NMI DSM dealership in Umhlanga has created quite a buzz in the automotive community. The MG HS, MG ZS and the eye catching MG Cyberster, showcase the brand's commitment to quality and value.

I took the HS and the ZS models for

a quick test drive and was suitably impressed with the build quality and spec level offered in both SUV models. Unfortunately they had already sold the Cyberster so I missed out on that thrill.

Never the less, the MG HS proved to be a spirit lifting experience, and driving this new SUV from MG showed me why the brand has been the fastest growing vehicle brand in the UK for two years running, selling 840 000 vehicles in 2023.

The HS seemed to have everything

you would expect from a top end luxury SUV, even a sport mode. Available with a 1.5 litre turbo petrol motor with a seven speed DCT gearbox or a 2.0 litre turbo petrol motor with a nine speed automatic gearbox. A comprehensive list of passive and active safety features is accompanied by another long list of comfort and convenience features like PDC and remote audio steering wheel controls.

MG are to be taken serious, looking at the MG ZS model, the sub-compact

SUV, their price point of R289 900 represents amazing value for money. "We have fabulous products here and at the right price in this highly competitive market segment. MG has produced a winning formula for this market," states Lungile Hlatshwayo, Sales Manager for MG Motor Umhlanga.

The iconic MG roadster has been given a royal treatment with the new MG Cyberster boasting specs like 0 to 100 km/h in 3,2 seconds and 725 Newton

meters of torque. Wow.

The NMI DSM dealership in Umhlanga is making it easier than ever to own a new MG, and these new models exemplify the brand's ethos of providing stylish, feature-rich vehicles without breaking the bank. If you're in the market for a new SUV, MG's latest offerings are definitely worth considering. Call them on 031 576 1200 or visit their stylish showroom at 2 Canegate Road, La Lucia Ridge. Why wait, visit them today.

If You're On The Go – get The Eeco

By: Tomas Yoko

2025 is out of the starting blocks and there's a sense of positivity in the air. Back to school and businesses start bustling again and if you need a partner that can get you and your products mobile, then consider the cost busting little Suzuki Eeco panel van.

As small as it looks, it has a very large loading bay, wide enough to be able to slide a full sized South African pallet onto its one point six metre long load bed. Certified to carry as much as two thirds of a ton, the Eeco relies on

Suzuki's tried and trusted 1.2 litre fuel injected K12N sixteen-valve petrol engine, that delivers a clean 59 kilowatts and 104 Newton metres of torque. This is coupled to a five-speed manual gearbox.

As is the case with all Suzuki models, the safety features are comprehensive with ABS anti-lock brakes and EBD electronic brake-force distribution, coupled with ESP electronic stability control and they threw in rear parking sensors, a great feature when

the Eeco is full. Dual front airbags protect the cabin occupants.

Two sliding side doors make the load bay even more accessible and takes the Suzuki Eeco to a level of its own. And being a commercial vehicle you get to claim the VAT back.

To find out more about the Suzuki Eeco and its ability to take a load off your work pile, speak to Nathi at CMH Suzuki Ballito on 078 772 7968 or landline 031 001 9965 or visit their showroom at 35 Moffat Drive, Ballito.



The Suzuki Eeco panel van suits small businesses or large corporations, traders and contractors alike, test drive this little stick of dynamite at CMH Suzuki Ballito – call 031 001 9965 or 078 772 7968



Following on a strong drive for market share, the P-Series range of bakkies has proven to be very popular in a market that is very demanding. The new P300 is rumoured to have the same 2.4 turbo diesel motor as the awesome P500

Look Out! It's Coming... THE ALL-NEW P300

The sales staff at GWM Umhlanga are bristling with anticipation for the arrival of their latest P-Series bakkie, the all new P300. An addition to what is an already impressive stable of almost 20 derivatives, with the GWM P500 HEV just being selected as a COTY 2025 finalist.

There's talk of a new motor, GWM SA plans to offer two versions of the P300. The familiar 2.0-litre, 120 kW and 400 Nm turbodiesel engine remains as an option, then there's the new 2.4 litre turbodiesel with 135 kW and 480 Nm. A new nine speed gearbox is featured with the new engine, as opposed to the 8 speed box.

Alongside the comprehensive list

of acronyms like ABS and EBD, the new P300 is rumoured to have a three and a half ton towing capacity. In the words of GWM, "Built to dominate the worksite, master the adventure, and handle everything life throws its way. The P300 is bold, capable, and ready to challenge the status quo. Whatever the road ahead demands, this is the bakkie that's ready to bring it on."

For more information, or to be first on their list, contact GWM Umhlanga on 031 576 1500 or email Mbulelo on mbulelo.myeni@nmidsm.co.za, his direct cell is 078 772 7968 or head down to their showroom at 2 Canegate Road, La Lucia Ridge, Umhlanga, the home of the P-Series Bakkie.

"A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." By Jackie Robinson

A Window Onto Nature's World

Man-made Infrastructure – Lacking Nature’s Holistic Approach



By Environmentalist and Green Campaigner Jill Theunissen

The word “infrastructure” from the Latin Roots simply means “underneath or below the structure”, the early word substructure implied the “Foundation”.

The natural structure or Bio-Diversity in a Coastal Forest is unique in its combination of Indigenous trees, shrubs, climbing species, ferns, bulbous plants, groundcovers and forest grasses. This holistic habitat which relies on air, rain water, sun and soil nutrients sustains many mammals from moles, to mongoose, duiker, bushbuck, warthog and often Wild cat or Leopard. The habitat invites a wide spectrum of insects, butterflies, reptiles and birds to complete the ‘Balance’. Every tree or plant has a specific Root System, which not only feeds the trees but simultaneously anchors the soil.

The stately Natal Mahogany and Natal Fig Tree are worthy examples of a large Root System, with an evergreen spreading crown, bearing dark green glossy leaves which translocate the carbons. The Glossy leaves deflect the heat from the sun’s

rays. Under the canopy, in shade, cluster the Large-leaved Dragon trees with broad leaves awaiting rainfall, creating run-off to the roots of their host.

By contrast our Society is dependent on a range of man-made infrastructure for daily living. For 2025, maybe you are selecting a Lot to build your new home? Firstly, the access roadways leading to the area or Estate should offer an engineered surface, complete with stormwater gullies and drains for evacuation to meet the 2022 Flood Record 24hr precipitation. A 2M verge will offer pedestrian access, with speed signs and parking bays to be in place and clearly marked.

All Building structures whether old or new, necessarily require Essential Services to include “Potable” Water, Sanitation with adequate Pipeline Infrastructure to enable waste removal, also Energy components such as Gas and Electricity.

Where the area is “Established”, or presents “Growth” the infrastructure requires Health facilities to include Clinics, Pharmaceutical

outlets, Rooms for Doctors and Specialists, and all linked services whether located separately, or within a Hospital, which must provide an efficient 24hr Trauma Clinic and Ambulance Service.

For Regions of human settlement with a working population the availability of Child-caring and Educational facilities are a priority for the community as a whole. Today the working mother wishes to leave her toddler in “Safe Hands” within a registered establishment. Grade ‘R’ is now the compulsory entry level for all children so a growth region will need to increase the Educational facilities for age groups to Matric. Where there is industrial growth, tourism potential and commercial increase, attention to higher education and technical colleges offering training with technical skills is essential. All teachers, lecturers, and instructors to hold the necessary levels of qualification.

The most critical Service for all Residents, Businesses, Industrial venues, and Agriculture is the Electricity

Power Supply. The capability of the designated Administration must be able to ensure continuity of Supply 24/7, regular Maintenance and Up-grade with qualified technicians for every level. Due to the on-going Power Supply problems and annually increasing tariffs, alternative forms of energy namely, Wind Power and Solar are being adopted. To ensure growth, employment opportunities for all, our infrastructure must receive professional planning with relevant budgets. The aspect of Safety and Crime reduction is another Key Issue for all sectors of our community and to restore confidence for Tourism to flourish.

The solution and challenge for 2025 lies in the appointment of “Elite Teams” for each Province with expertise and qualifications combined with not less than 10 years experience, plus a track record of success. The time is here to meet the needs of all Established regions and areas presenting exciting “Growth”. Ref; Infrastructure Ref. Act 10 of 2013.

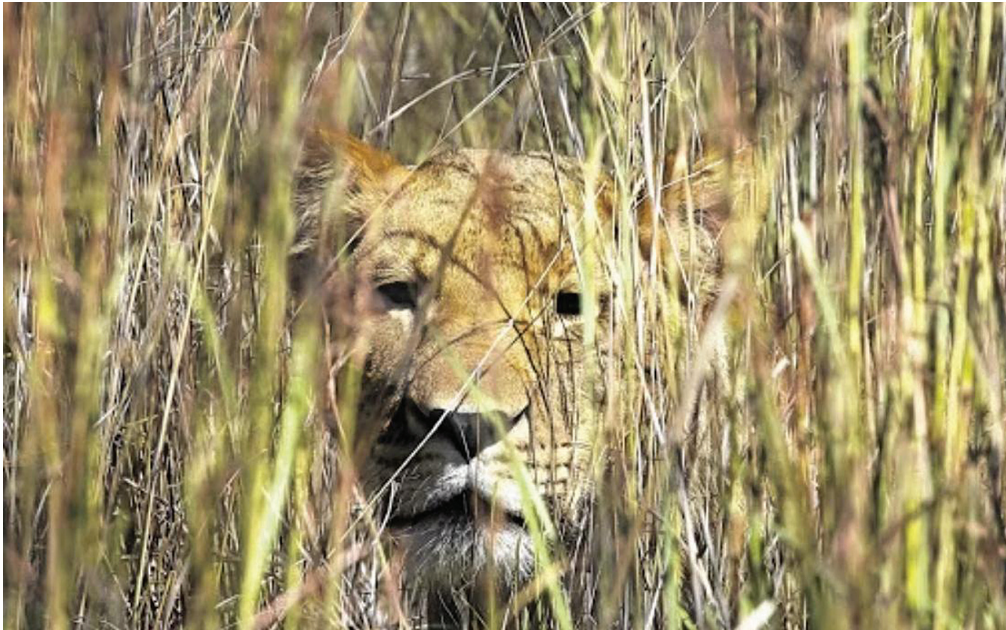
Roaming Lions Wreak Havoc in KZN As Fear Sparks Across Communities

Residents are Advised to Stay Indoors and be Vigilant. Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife has

deployed teams to northern KZN to search for lions believed to be on the loose. The search follows recent reports of livestock killings and sightings of the wild animals in the Gluckstadt area. According to Musa Mntambo, spokesperson for Ezemvelo, two teams were dispatched to the area, with a backup helicopter to assist in tracking the lions.



Communities in KZN have been cautioned



According to Musa Mntambo, spokesperson for Ezemvelo, two teams were dispatched to the area, with a backup helicopter to assist in tracking the lions

Let us clear the field

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Roof Rats are here to help you fight pests

The continued reports of a rat infestation popping up in the towns along the North Coast are raising concerns of a possible mass infestation.

Rats are a continued pestilence and eradicating them can prove arduous, however one company that has years of experience dealing with these kinds of problems is Roof Rats, the only company in the country that will vacuum your ceilings. They also specialise in pest control, bird control and animal exclusion methods and are the first company you should call to help sort out your rat population.

Roof Rats also provide roof services like waterproofing, gutter repairs, gutter guards, roof security and almost everything for your roof.

Contact their Durban branch on 031 109 2080 or 072 767 1999 and the roof over your head will be sorted.



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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



KZN Sharks Board Interns: Wandile Nxumalo and Andile Gumede enjoying Seabreeze at Ramsgate Beach

Join KZN Sharks Board Crew Serving Shark Nets Through Educational Passenger Boat Trip



Early morning Boat Tour, where they get to see the staff from Operations Department servicing the shark safety gear

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.

BOAT TOURS

Visitors can be part of the KwaZulu-Natal Sharks Board Maritime Centre of Excellence exciting early morning Boat Tour, where they get to see the staff from Operations Department servicing the shark safety gear off Durban's Golden Mile beaches. The visitors experience and enjoy the sights of Durban, which includes the beautiful Moses Mabhida Stadium as you travel through the harbour and out to sea into the rising sun. The Boat leaves the harbour at 06h30 and the trip lasts for approximately 2 hours. Trips take place from Monday to Friday. Fee: R350.00 per person (children under the age of 6 are not permitted) - Boat tour fee includes complementary tickets to see the educational Audio Visual & Shark Dissection show (Show days are Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, subject to a minimum number of people attending the show). Booking is essential

Bookings: 082 403 9206 CALLS, SMS & WHATSAPP ACCEPTED! The Boat leaves the harbour at 06h30 and the trip lasts for approximately 2 hours.

Contact us at: www.shark.co.za,



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SHARKS BOARD
Maritime Centre of Excellence

The only organisation of its kind in the world

Boat Trips



Curio Shop



Museum



Dissection Show



Audio-Visual



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Tuesday - Thursday
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Every 1st Sunday
of the month:
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BOAT TRIPS:

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Contact Number
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FOR BOOKINGS

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