

The Bugle

MAGAZINE

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THE END OF AN ERA

*Goodbye to the Hilton Durban,
and a piece of Durban's heart.*

See Story on page 3

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—Through My Eyes—

When the Pedestals Crack

By Kasia Yoko



I have been thinking about this slowly. This news that is reaching my algorithms. Persistent noise connecting with my quiet spaces. In the early morning, hands in dough, kettle boiling, light coming through the kitchen window.

Something is shifting. For years we were encouraged to look outward for instruction. Follow this person. Believe that expert. Trust this leader. Admire that celebrity. Buy the book. Join the movement. Subscribe to the certainty.

And now? The pedestals are cracking. It is not happening in one dramatic collapse, but rather, in small, undeniable fractures. Scandals. Hypocrisy. Empty promises. Performative spirituality. Political theatre. The gloss is wearing thin. And beneath it, we are discovering something uncomfortable but necessary: No one is coming to save us.

Please don't think that I say it with despair. I say it with clarity.

From experience and with over five decades of hard truths, I know that when you stop waiting for rescue, you finally begin taking responsibility.

The Mexican healer and poet María Sabina wrote, "Heal yourself with the light of the sun and the rays of the moon... Put love in tea instead of sugar... Stand strong with your bare feet on the ground... You are the medicine."

When I first read those words, I

thought they were romantic. Now I think they are radical.

Heal yourself! What is this witchcraft?

Oh!

Healing does not come from an influencer telling you how to breathe. It comes from careful attention, with discipline, with daily choices, with prayer. With discernment.

I was born in a town marked by history's darkest shadows. I have lived in a country wrestling with corruption and contradiction. I have seen systems fail and promises dissolve. And yet I have also seen resilience. Community. Faith. Bread rising in a warm kitchen despite everything.

The shift we are living through is not the "end times" hysteria that circulates online. It is an exposure. And this particular exposure feels violent because it is finally able to remove illusion.

Celebrity culture is losing its magic because we have seen behind the curtain. Guru culture is thinning because we have realised wisdom cannot be franchised. Political leadership feels unstable because integrity cannot be faked forever.

But this does not mean we descend into chaos.

It means we grow up.

Self-governance is not a slogan. It is waking up and deciding how you

will live regardless of who is trending or who is failing. It is choosing what enters your home, food, media, conversations. It is refusing to be manipulated by fear cycles.

This identity manifesto is quieter than revolution. It is harder too.

There is a temptation to dramatise this era as a "final countdown." I do not feel that. What I feel is a sorting of sorts. A revealing. A call to maturity.

Life is the highest teacher because it does not flatter us. It tests us. It humbles us. It exposes our weak spots and asks us to strengthen them.

The world may be shifting toward self-governance, but that shift begins at the level of the individual heart.

In my home, it looks simple: baking bread instead of buying noise.(Keto Schito Bullsh*), walking barefoot in the garden. Choosing prayer over panic. Listening more than speaking. Refusing to outsource my moral compass.

The pedestals are cracking, yes.

But perhaps they were never meant to hold our weight.

Perhaps we were meant to stand on our own feet all along.

And perhaps the real awakening is not dramatic at all.

It is the quiet decision, made daily, to live consciously without waiting for permission, applause, or rescue.

That is where I see the light.



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MISSING PERSON

Collin Govender

Public is urged to assist in locating Collin Govender of Lotus Road, Stanger Manor. Circumstances reveal that Collin had an altercation at home. He left home approximately at 7am on 23 February 2026 and has not returned. Collin was last seen in the Stanger Manor area carrying a work bag.

The family urges the community to help reunite Collin with them. If you seen Collin or know where he is, kindly contact the family on 076 7311 439 or Taurus Medical & Security 084 249 5608/ 032 437 8111.



Collin Govender from Stanger Manor

Dear Ed,

Re: Defaulting MPs

The national Public Works ministry under Durban's Dean Macpherson and department must please take all necessary steps speedily to legally evict the 3 ex MKP MPs who continue to occupy party accommodation despite being removed from office as MPs by their shady, inept and policy-lacking party., that is generally plagued by controversy and in-fighting.

Yes the lease agreements must be reviewed early to include amendments that will cover situations like those under

consideration, as well as others, to combat unlawfulness.

An order for legal and other relevant costs must be sought against the ex MPs GA Mogotsi, NG Mgwebi and RB Mbiki.

Access to courts re evictions and various issues comes at a high cost and the taxpayers usually foot such huge bills unfortunately.

Hamba defaulting MPs hambayour freebie days of party accommodation and accompanying benefits must end soon. Try your luck elsewhere such as shelters for the poor and homeless!.

**Simon T Dehal
Verulam**

Dear Ed,

Re: 2026 SONA

Recently President C Ramaposa delivered the 2026 State of the Nation Address (SONA). Reactions to this were mixed- some lauded it while others felt that it was the same old "recycling" with lofty ideas and the usual empty promises resulting in non-delivery, false hope and emptiness.

To me, it was a good address with endeavours proposed and promised all round—but just in theory. However, what actually will result, mainly tangible deliverables, remains to be seen. I hope my pessimism will not turn out to be reality.

Hopefully job creation, housing provision, timeous and effective service delivery, GBV, infrastructure improvement and additions, tackling the scourge of crime and corruption, improved health and education -especially infrastructure and added staff, ensuring consequence management and other vitals will be prioritised, with gross inequality and grave injustices all meaningfully addressed in tandem. In this way the peoples of Mzansi and our partners will eventually benefit after

3 decades of democracy.

Is it not ironical and a bit comical - even insensitive- that the military brass band did a rendition of Tyla's "Water" at the SONA? It is common knowledge that the ongoing water crisis is a national disaster and an utter disgrace. We are being deprived of a basic human and constitutional right. The incompetent authorities are not taking sufficient measures to address this serious matter with businesses and citizens suffering untold hardship and inconvenience, with the need to fork out additional finances, mainly for bottled water. The only beneficiaries in this fiasco are the companies with lucrative contracts to supply water to the public, on behalf of tardy local authorities.. Water Affairs Min P Majadona, Gauteng Premier P Lesufi (amaphanyaza) and other ditherers and deadwood must be speedily booted out of office as they are incompetent, insensitive and even arrogant. People must arise en masse to ensure that this happens – ulala usala!

Notwithstanding, floreat Mzansi - may South Africa prosper. Hope springs eternal.

**Simon T Dehal
Verulam**



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Saying Goodbye to a legend as Hilton Durban closes its doors



The iconic landmark in Durban closes its doors

I remember the opening. The lights. The anticipation. The sense that Durban was stepping into something larger than itself. It wasn't just a hotel launch; it was a statement. A declaration that our city belonged on the global stage. The Hilton Durban stood tall over the CBD, polished and confident, welcoming presidents, business leaders, brides, dreamers, tourists, and conference delegates. It was more than concrete and glass. It was aspiration. And now? Empty rooms. Silent corridors. A contract collapse. Corporate language masking something far heavier. When a name like Hilton walks

away from a flagship property, it is never just "operational restructuring." It signals deeper fractures; economic, political, structural. It whispers what many of us already feel when we drive through parts of the inner city: decline is no longer subtle. Durban's CBD has been fragile for years. Businesses relocating. Offices downsizing. Investors hesitating. Crime creeping into conversations that should be about growth. The closure of the Hilton is not the cause of that decline — but it is a symbol of it. Tourism survives on confidence. On perception. On the feeling that a city is

stable, vibrant, safe, investable. When a global brand exits abruptly, the world notices. Conference organisers notice. Airlines notice. Travel agents notice. And then there are the people. The staff who built careers there. The waiters who knew regular guests by name. The housekeeping teams who worked unseen but tirelessly. The young interns who believed hospitality could be a pathway upward. For them, this is not a corporate disagreement. It is uncertainty. It is school fees. It is rent. For Durban tourism, this is a warning flare. If we cannot sustain flagship investments in our inner city, what does that say about infrastructure? Governance? Safety? Maintenance? Strategic vision? Tourism is not bulletproof. It relies on leadership, on urban management, on visible care. This moment demands honesty. Durban still has extraordinary natural assets — the ocean, the climate, the culture, the warmth of its people. But beachfront beauty cannot compensate for an ailing CBD. Investors need reassurance. Visitors need confidence. Locals need hope. The closure of the Hilton Durban is not just about a hotel. It is about the state of our inner city. It is about how we manage what we build. It is about whether Durban can reclaim its stature; or whether we continue to watch our landmarks fade into memory. It is heartbreaking. But perhaps heartbreak is also a reckoning.

Congratulations Privi!



The DA has announced Councillor Privi Makhan as its mayoral candidate for KwaDukuza Local Municipality.

"My friends tell me I have an intimacy problem, But they don't really know me." By Garry Shandling



What's the issue

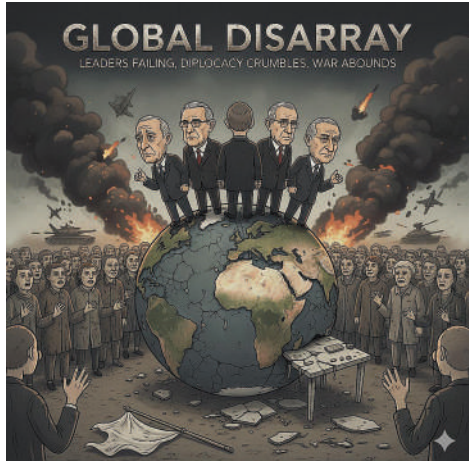
By Tomas Yoko

Everything is fine. Breathe in. Breathe out. Because the world, our spinning blue marble we call home, has never been in better shape. Truly. If you squint hard enough, ignore enough headlines, and consume sufficient quantities of your preferred anti-depressant, you might even believe that.

Let's start with the geopolitical masterclass currently being performed on the world stage. World leaders, those infallible towering intellects that we elected to steer our civilisation away from the rocks, are doing a spectacular job of steering us straight into them. Forever wars raging on multiple continents with all the casual permanence of a Netflix subscription nobody can figure out how to cancel. Diplomacy, that quaint old art of talking instead of bombing, has been largely replaced by strongly worded posts on social media platforms owned by men who appear to be in a prolonged childish competition to see who can most resemble a Bond villain. NATO's despicable plot to sneak a nuke into Ukraine to try and balance the power dynamic in the war, has to be criminal at the least. Diabolical by any standards and an indication of just how deranged these leaders are.

Europe is simultaneously navigating a land war on its eastern border while its political centre crumbles faster than a dry supermarket croissant, with far-right movements rising across the continent like a particularly enthusiastic sourdough. Macron, Mendelson, and that German chancellor guy with his attack-animal Fond-Of-Lying, all absolute gems in the crown of defunct governance.

The Middle East, perennially the world's favourite powder keg,



continues to exceed expectations. Some newscasters still refer to a "Ceasefire Agreement" in Gaza, I kid you not. US envoy to Israel, Mike Huckabee, kicked the hornet's nest when he espoused his theological wisdom on Israel's biblical right to claim the land from the Nile to the Euphrates. The 22 member Arab League and 57 member Organization of Islamic Cooperation condemned his divisive inflammatory remarks as they rightly should. My head is still shaking slowly from side to side. I think he believes his own bull schlacka. Trump and Bibi prepare to attack Iran and then we will see a real powder keg. The Zionists want it so bad they are going to get it.

Meanwhile, the United States of America, that beacon of democracy, land of opportunity, home of the, er whatever, has achieved the remarkable feat of making the rest of the world nostalgic for a time when America's dysfunction was just entertaining rather than life threatening. Trump under the

direct supervision of Bibi made the whole country a patsy to a small state somewhere east of DC. The extent of the US' fall from grace is unimaginable, so grand a scale it has achieved. So defiling and despicable their antics have been.

China and the West continue their thrilling economic decoupling, which is going swimmingly for everyone except the billions of ordinary people caught in the middle. The corrupt United Nations holds meetings. Very important meetings. With excellent catering, I'm sure.

Climate change, that inconvenient subplot everyone agreed to take seriously and then largely didn't, continues apace. Even though the cat is out the bag and everybody now knows that CO2 is an essential gas to life on earth and not a pollutant, Governments continue to announce ambitious targets for 2050, while they spray us like bugs with cloudseeding chemicals designed to blot out the sun while forcing green taxes to pay for solar panels. I couldn't make this stuff up even if I was goofed. The planet is running a fever and we've responded by arguing about whether the thermometer is biased.

And then, oh, then there is South Africa, a country of such breath-taking natural beauty, such extraordinary human resilience, such profound potential, governed with such magnificent, almost artistic incompetence that one can only assume it's deliberate. An elaborate performance piece. Governance as absurdist theatre. Just listen to any one of the many commissions covering up the obvious.



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

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

"If plan A doesn't work, the alphabet has 25 more letters — 204 if you are in Japan." By Claire Cook

By Jo Rushby from Ikes Books and Collectables, Durban



The Mango Republic

Ikes Books and Collectable: 48a Florida Road, Durban, www.ikesbooks.com, 031 3039214

“If I did tell she hold this gold of sundizzy tonguelicking juicy mouthwater flow ripe with love from the tropics, she woulda tell me trust you to be melodramatic; So I just say taste this mango and I watch she hold the smooth cheeks of the mango blushing yellow and a glow rush to she own cheeks.” (John Agard)

Mangoes. Big, roundy, juicy ones. The hardier longer ones. And the small stringy ones. They are abundant in the land of the Zulu. When I enter Veg Pro in Umgeni Road, the spirits soar. I have long been in awe of this globe of sunshine, juices dripping down my hands, sweetness overflowing into love, into my heart. Durban summers

and the mangoes keep on coming. I am like a mad womango, making juices, salads with flecks of red cabbage and sprinkles of fairy walnut dust. Or just eaten sliced, chilled, slithery orange flesh. And this year I experimented with sour mangoes made into a South Indian pickle.

And then the lady at Veg Pro lets me into a secret. Take a green mango, slice it up, throw in a masala and salt mix. Let it soak overnight. A mid-day mango mocktail, sending you twirling and swirling into the late afternoon.

I call the concoction- Supersonic. Tis but the season of abundance. Colour, light and joy. I send my brother who lives in

Wales, pictures of South Coast banana plantations. He holds onto a vague hope that he will grow bananas in the damp, cold valley. Frustrated and with a hint of jealousy, he writes back; ‘you are just a Banana Republic’. I thought ‘at least we are a Republic; Wales does not even have a rugby team’.

In David Davidar’s book, The House of Blue Mangoes, he writes: “At the southern tip of India, come the blue mangoes of chevathar, fruits so sweet that after you’ve eaten one, you can not taste sugar for three days.” Let the juices flow into your hearts, infuse you with love, and ‘don’t waste sweet words when sweetness in your hands.” (John Agard)



Hindu offering under mango tree

A Young Designer With a Big Dream, Meet Cthoko Mngadi

By Kasia Yoko



Local designer, Cthoko Mngadi

There is something incredibly powerful about watching a young person step into their purpose. Cthoko Mngadi is just 23 years old. Originally from Pietermaritzburg, she chose to sharpen her talent at Northdale TVET College, where she completed a three-year course that laid the technical foundation for her creative future. Pattern making. Fashion drawing. Computer practice. Clothing production. Entrepreneurship. Not just dreaming

— learning the craft properly. And it shows. Cthoko recently showcased her work at the Durban July Young Designers competition and earned her place as a Top 25 finalist. That alone tells you something about her determination. But what strikes me most is not just the achievement — it is the heart behind it. She speaks with deep gratitude about her lecturer, Mr Martin John Steenkamp, who believed in her

when perhaps she didn’t fully believe in herself. He showed her that she could. Those words matter. Sometimes one person’s belief is the turning point in a young life.

Cthoko’s dream is not small. She wants to build something that is hers. A brand that represents her personal style. She wants to enter major competitions. She wants to produce masterpieces for her own fashion shows. And one day, she wants to pass her knowledge on to others who carry big dreams in their hearts.

Her inspiration is beautifully local. She draws from skhothane sun-culture — the young boys and girls who dance in the streets. Those who “have” step boldly into the sunlight, dressed to be seen. Those who “have not” create their own fashion in the shadows — but they are still visible. Still proud. Still expressive.

Cthoko doesn’t judge either. She celebrates both. To her, every style is an individual impression — a personal signature.

And that is what real fashion is about.

She is already making her mark. Cthoko has designed successful garments for matric farewell balls, Durban July events, and traditional outfits for lobola celebrations. She is available for commissions and loves collaborating with clients to create something deeply personal — not just a dress, but a statement.

This is a young woman who has done the work. Who respects her craft. Who honours her mentors. Who sees beauty in both sunlight and shadow.

Durban has extraordinary creative talent. Sometimes all it needs is someone to shine a light.

Cthoko Mngadi Available for commissions

Call: 075 303 7486 WhatsApp: 066 101 7443. And I truly hope someone reading this will give her the opportunity she deserves.



Old friends: Dr Iqbal Survé gifting a signed copy of his book to former president Zuma

A Legacy of Vision: Dr Iqbal Survé Launches A Shared Future For Humanity

The Radisson Hotel in Umhlanga sparked last month as South Africa’s business, philanthropic, and cultural elite gathered for the much-anticipated launch of Dr Iqbal Survé’s new book, A Shared Future For Humanity. The event was a celebration of legacy, leadership, and a family philosophy rooted in service, entrepreneurship, and global impact.

Guests were welcomed to a curated experience of heritage and vision. Former President Jacob Zuma graced the occasion alongside key business leaders, friends, and members of the Survé family, all gathered to honour a story that spans continents and generations. Staff from across the Survé companies also attended, reflecting the family’s commitment to unity and shared purpose.

A Shared Future For Humanity is more than a chronicle; it is an intimate exploration of the Survé family’s journey. From ancestors who crossed oceans seeking opportunity to a present defined by global investments and philanthropy, the book illustrates how resilience, education, and service have shaped one of South Africa’s most influential families.

The launch featured the unveiling of the

Survé family crest, a symbol of values that transcend generations. Saarah Survé, chairperson of Survé Philanthropies, and Rayhaan Survé, chairperson of the Survé Family Office, represented the next generation of leadership, embodying a commitment to carrying forward a legacy of community upliftment and global engagement.

Dr Survé described the book as a companion for readers, offering insight into the decisions, sacrifices, and achievements that have defined the family’s path. The book’s production was a feat of dedication: over 9,000 images were painstakingly curated down to 900, each capturing moments of influence, collaboration, and societal contribution.

From philanthropy to entrepreneurship, A Shared Future For Humanity positions the Survé family as a bridge between business and society, demonstrating how networks and knowledge can advance shared prosperity. The Umhlanga launch was not only a celebration of the family’s achievements but a statement of enduring vision: that leadership and legacy can inspire and shape communities for generations to come.

“I have made this letter longer than usual, only because I have not had the time to make it shorter.” By Blaise Pascal

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Sesame-Crusted Feta Salad with Berry Honey Drizzle

Featuring raw wild forest Zululand honey

Recipe & Pics by Kasia Yoko

Siyanda, honey seller

When the weather is hot and the body asks for lightness, we listen. Food should never feel heavy, it should feel alive. This salad is about texture, freshness, colour, and nourishment. It's about using what grows around us. It's about turning humble ingredients into something quietly magnificent.

And at the centre of it all, sesame-crusted feta and a simple *Berry Honey Drizzle* made with raw wild forest honey from Zululand.

Component 1: The Sesame-Crusted Feta

Ingredients:
1 block feta cheese
2 tbsp flour
Water (to make a light batter)
1/2 cup sesame seeds

Olive oil for shallow frying
(If you eat eggs, you can use a beaten egg instead of flour batter. I use flour and water.)

Method:
1. In a small bowl, mix flour with just enough water to create a smooth, light batter, not too thick.
2. Dip feta in the batter.
3. Roll and press firmly into sesame seeds until fully coated.
4. Heat olive oil in a pan over medium heat.
5. Fry until golden and crisp on all sides.
6. Remove and rest on paper towel.

The outside becomes nutty and crunchy. The inside stays creamy and soft. Texture is everything. Sesame seeds are rich in calcium and healthy fats. Feta brings protein and depth. Good fats nourish the brain. Real food supports real energy.

Component 2: The Fresh Summer Salad

Ingredients:

A few leaves of Cos lettuce (torn gently by hand)
A handful of Cherry tomatoes
Fresh local cucumber, diced
1 ripe avocado, sliced
1 mango, sliced or cubed
Fresh herbs (dill, basil, parsley or whatever is available)



Beautiful food tastes good

Edible flowers
Lime
Olive oil
Raw honey
Preparation:
1. Arrange torn Cos lettuce as the base.
2. Scatter chopped cherry tomatoes and cucumber.
3. Add avocado and mango for creaminess and sweetness.
4. Sprinkle fresh herbs generously.
5. Decorate with edible flowers, because food should be beautiful.

Fresh, living ingredients hydrate the body. Leafy greens cool the system. Avocado supports healthy skin and hormones. Mango adds enzymes and brightness. Food carries energy. When it is colourful and fresh, it uplifts us.

Component 3: The Berry

Honey Drizzle

This is not a heavy dressing. light, vibrant, and slightly sweet.

Ingredients:
A handful of blackberries
A handful of raspberries
A generous dollop of raw wild forest honey (Or any pure local honey)
A squeeze of fresh lime

Method
1. Lightly mash the berries with a fork.
2. Stir in honey.
3. Add a squeeze of lime to brighten.
4. Gently heat until slightly thickened
It should be rustic, not smooth. Let the seeds and texture remain.

Berries are powerful antioxidants. Raw honey supports immunity and brings a natural sweetness.

Final Composition
1. Place the golden sesame-crusted feta in the centre of the salad.
2. Spoon the berry honey mixture gently over and around.
3. Drizzle with a little extra olive oil.
4. Finish with a final squeeze of lime.
5. Serve with a thick slice of homemade sourdough.

The contrast is everything, warm feta, cool greens, sweet berries, sharp lime, nutty sesame, creamy avocado.

A Note on Food & Feeling

What we eat shapes how we move through the world. Light meals create light bodies. Local ingredients connect us to land and season. Natural sweetness reminds us we do not need excess.

When we cook with intention, we are not just feeding ourselves, we are restoring ourselves.

Food can be medicine. Food can be joy. Food can be gratitude. And sometimes, a simple salad becomes something royal.

Join the Cultural experience at the Roseway Waldorf Arts Festival



This is not just another festival, it's a chance to come together as a community and celebrate all the beautiful things that make us truly human!

The Roseway Waldorf Arts Festival is just around the corner! This inspiring event is an annual highlight in the Upper Highway cultural calendar (just ask someone who was there last year!) Delicious food, beautiful artworks and exciting performances from all around Durban - in the beautiful, natural setting of the Roseway Waldorf school.

If you are a visual artist yourself - there is also the opportunity for you to get involved and win some fantastic prizes! The Art competition is open

to all artists over the age of 16 and the winner will be awarded a Gallery Position at the prestigious KZNSA Art Gallery in Durban.

With performances by Kloof Senior Primary, Northlands Girls High, Hillcrest High, Benjamin Pine, Samia Primary and Westville Senior Primary, the event is sure to be buzzing with youthful talent. If you're keen to get moving there will be Irish dancing, belly dancing and fitness fun dancing demos to inspire you. Other highlights include Iain 'Ewok' Robinson, local aerosol artist, who will be creating a large art-work on the day

that will go home with the lucky winner of the raffle.

This is not just another festival, it's a chance to come together as a community and celebrate all the beautiful things that make us truly human!

Ticket bookings and competition entry form can be found on Quicket or reach out to events@rosewaywaldorf.school.za or call 031 768 13 09 for more info.

Event info: 07 March, 10am - 15:00pm, tickets from R35 through Quicket.

Move Forward with Intention, Momentum and Confidence



Guest speaker Alison Kirk, founder of Seriously Organised

There is something powerful about women gathering with purpose. Not simply to exchange business cards, but to exchange energy, ideas and courage. This March, KZN Women in Business invites the women of KwaZulu-Natal to do exactly that.

Under the theme Reflect. Reset. Roll Forward, the upcoming networking breakfast offers more than conversation — it offers clarity. It is a moment to pause, to take stock of where you have been, and to step deliberately into what comes next.

Guest speaker Alison Kirk, founder of Seriously Organised, will lead the morning's conversation. A wife, mother of two energetic boys and a successful business owner, Alison understands the daily balancing act many women navigate. Her message is simple yet powerful: progress does not happen by accident. It happens when intention meets action. Her talk promises practical insight and renewed

focus, equipping attendees to move into the year ahead with confidence and momentum.

The event takes place on Thursday, 5 March 2026, at the Hellenic Community Centre in Umgeni Park, Durban. Breakfast will be served from 08:00, with the meeting commencing promptly at 08:30 and concluding at 10:30.

Attendance includes a full breakfast, secure off-road parking, a small gift, the meeting list, dedicated networking time and access to the guest speaker. Members attend at R290, and non-members at R395.

For women building businesses, leading teams, raising families and carving out space for their own ambitions, this gathering offers both connection and direction.

Bookings can be made at www.kznwib.co.za. For further information, contact KZN Women in Business Administrator, Nicci Hosking, at info@kznwib.co.za.

Dead Fish on our Shore

A grim discovery on the North Coast has forced the KwaDukuza Municipality to shut down the uMhlali River mouth at Tinley Manor Beach and the Shaka's Cove Tidal Pool. Thousands of fish, ranging from juvenile kingfish to crabs and shrimp, were found dead or gasping for air by residents following a recent thunderstorm. While some locals reported a brownish tint and a chemical smell in the water, authorities are still working to pin down the exact cause.

The municipality has warned everyone to stay out of the water and, most importantly, not to collect or eat any of the dead fish while they wait

for laboratory results to confirm if this was caused by industrial spillages, sewage, or natural factors like low oxygen levels.

This environmental crisis has sparked different reactions across the community. Environmental activists and local conservancy groups are heartbroken, calling the area a vital nursery for marine life that has now been devastated. On the other hand, officials are asking for patience as they conduct water quality assessments to ensure public safety before reopening the popular swimming spots.

It is a frustrating situation for residents who have seen similar



Sad scene at UMhlali River

pollution issues in nearby rivers recently, raising bigger questions about how our water systems are being managed. The beaches remain open and the fish death has been accredited to the long heat wave and oxygen deficiency.

SA Roof Rats: They Really Suck... And That's a Very Good Thing

If you're looking to improve comfort, cut energy costs and do something genuinely smart for your home, Roof Rats SA are the people to call. They specialise in professional roof insulation installation, helping keep this crazy heat out in summer and the warmth in during winter, exactly what coastal homes need.

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Property Talk

By:
Andreas Wassenaar

Essential elements of a lease Guidance for landlords and tenants



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Nicole David
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A clear, well-drafted lease protects both landlord and tenant, reduces conflict and preserves the value of a property. Below are the essential aspects every lease should address, presented from both perspectives for the vibrant North Coast rental market.

From the landlord's perspective

1. All terms and conditions in writing- Every material term must be in writing. If the landlord wishes to reserve the right to terminate the lease in the event of a sale, the lease must include the specific termination clause permitted by the Rental Housing Act. That clause allows termination only in two specific circumstances: (a) the landlord intends to move back into the property, or (b) the landlord intends to sell the property. If such a clause is not inserted, the lease survives a sale and the incoming owner must adopt the existing tenancy. Landlords and tenants should also agree in advance on acceptable marketing activity while the property is occupied so viewings and advertising do not become an avoidable obstacle to sale.

2. Presentation and maintenance - A landlord's attitude to maintenance and presentation has a direct effect on achievable rental and on how tenants treat the property. Regular, proactive maintenance and professional presentation attract better tenants and support higher rental yields. Tenants who see that a landlord cares for the home are more likely to reciprocate.

3. Municipal accounts and subscriptions - Where the lease places responsibility for municipal accounts, levies or subscriptions on the landlord, those accounts must be paid timeously. Non-payment can result in service interruptions, penalties, and reputational damage that reduce rental appeal and create disputes.

4. Tenant deposit management - Deposits should be accurately specified in the lease — generally at least one month's rent, preferably 1.5 to 2 months; for furnished properties, two months is standard. The Rental Housing Act requires that deposits be handled transparently and invested appropriately. A professional managing agent will hold deposits in a trust environment (for example via secure payment platforms such as PAYPROP), ensuring separation from the landlord's mortgage or operating accounts. Interest accrued belongs to the tenant. Deposits may be applied at lease termination to repair damage or cover unpaid utilities billed to the tenant, but valid tax invoices must support any deductions. Using a deposit to cover tenant-billed utilities erodes funds available for repairs and may lead to dispute.

From the tenant's perspective

1. Pay rent on time - Pay rent so funds appear in the designated account before the first of each month. Consistent punctual payment builds a positive rental profile and helps avoid escalation into arrears and legal action.

2. Pay utilities promptly - If utilities are billed via the landlord or agent, settle these charges immediately on receipt to prevent service disruption and avoid deposit deductions.

3. Maintain the property - Keep the home clean and uncluttered. Good upkeep not only improves daily living but also influences the landlord's perception and future rental adjustments. Respect for the property is central to a long, trouble-free tenancy.

4. Communicate promptly if finances change - If your financial situation changes, contact the agent or landlord immediately to negotiate an arrears management plan or an exit strategy to a more affordable option. Professional rental agents report payment performance to tenant profiling networks and credit bureaux; missed payments harm your ability to secure future rentals.

Conclusion

Successful tenancies rest on written clarity, timely payments, mutual respect and open communication. Landlords should adopt professional management practices for maintenance, accounts and deposit handling. Tenants should honour payment and care obligations and engage proactively when problems arise. Those simple fundamentals underpin a stable, productive landlord-tenant relationship.

LEGAL TALK

by Fawzia Khan



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Can You Separate Issues In A Divorce Trial?

A husband embroiled in opposed divorce proceedings against his wife, brought an application to court asking for the court to separate the issue of the granting of a divorce from determining the calculation of the net value of their respective estates and his wife's claim for spousal maintenance. He said that by doing so the divorce process would be expedited and the parties could get on with their new lives.

The parties had no children and were married by ante-nuptial contract with the accrual system in place- [an accrual is where on dissolution of the marriage the estates of both spouses are valued and the spouse whose estate shows a smaller growth has a claim for 50% of the difference, from the other spouse].

He admitted that his estate has shown more growth. He wanted the issues of the divorce to be finalised in two parts, with the first being a divorce order to be granted on an unopposed basis and with him being directed to transfer to his wife an amount equal to one-half of difference between the accrual in their respective estates, where the only evidence to be led would only be confined to the fact that the marriage relationship had broken down and nothing else. He

claimed that they simply grew apart as a couple and no longer lived together as husband and wife. In the second part of the proceedings he said the calculation of the accrual would be made and the wife's claim for continued spousal maintenance would be heard. He argued that his wife would not be prejudiced by the separation of issues since he tendered to pay interest on the amount of the accrued claim.

For her part, the wife denied that the reasons he advanced for the breakdown. She claimed that he was unfaithful on several occasions and was at present in a relationship with his younger employee, with whom he was now living. She opposed his application for separation of the issues saying that she needed him to provide her with a full disclosure of his financial affairs to enable her to make a proper assessment of the accrual value of his estate.

The court found that the husband did not make out a clear and defined case motivating the separation of the issues, saying that separating the issues would most likely lead to a duplication of evidence.

The court said that if the extent of the wife's accrual claim was only to be determined at the second

trial, two financial enquiries possibly involving two different material dates would have to be conducted. It also said that the reasons for the breakdown of the divorce may be relevant considerations in both the first and second trials and different decisions and different conclusions may be made in this analysis in both the first and second trials.

The court found that husband supported his wife throughout their marriage and she that she had a limited income with few assets. It said it had a 'duty to protect potential financially vulnerable spouses from procedural gymnastics that may jeopardise their financial security'.

The court held that since the parties would have already been divorced at the first trial, the court may not in terms of Section 7 of the Divorce Act be legally competent to make a spousal maintenance order after the divorce has been granted and dismissed the husband's application for separation of the issues.

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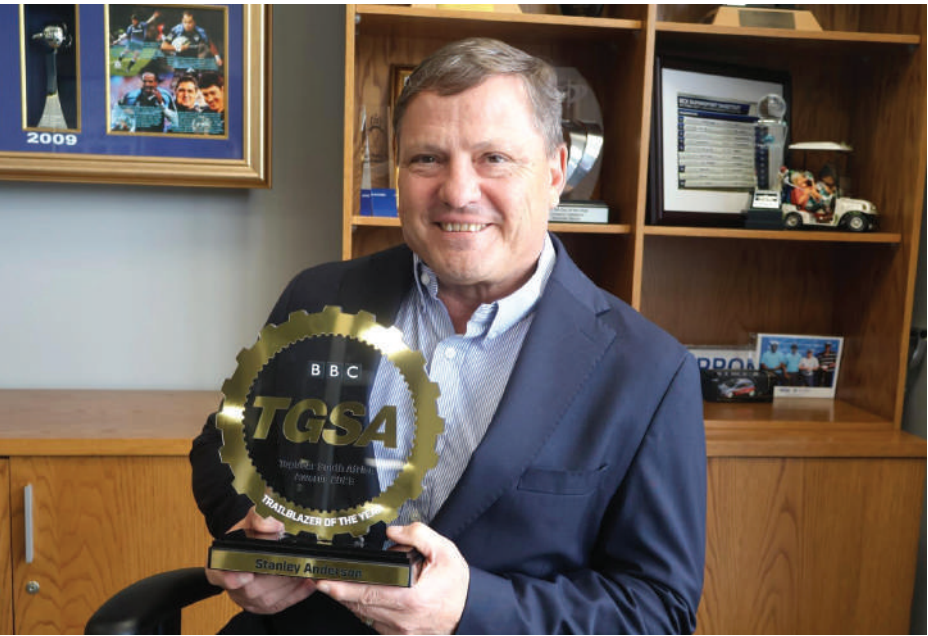
With over 30 years of legal practice, we offer a full-house and personalised legal service. Together we will chart a resolution to help you achieve an expeditious, cost-effective workable solution to your

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Stanley Anderson Named 2025 Trailblazer of the Year



Stanley Anderson, Chief Executive Officer of Hyundai Automotive South Africa has been named 2025 Trailblazer of the Year at the TopGear South Africa Magazine Awards

Hyundai Automotive South Africa CEO Recognised for Transformative Leadership and Industry Impact

Stanley Anderson, Chief Executive Officer of Hyundai Automotive South Africa has been named 2025 Trailblazer of the Year at the TopGear South Africa Magazine Awards, recognising his measurable impact on the South African automotive industry.

Since his appointment in July last year, Anderson has strategically repositioned Hyundai Automotive South Africa as one of the market's most progressive and customer-focused brands. His leadership has strengthened dealer networks, accelerated product and digital innovation, enhanced customer engagement and reinforced Hyundai's commitment to sustainable mobility solutions.

The Trailblazer of the Year Award honours leaders who deliver meaningful change through industry leadership, strategic foresight and operational excellence. Avon Middleton, Publisher of TopGear South Africa Magazine said Anderson's recognition reflects both performance outcomes and leadership visibility.

"Stanley's selection as Trailblazer of the Year was unanimous. His contribution to South Africa's automotive industry spans decades of decisive leadership that has strengthened Hyundai's competitive positioning. Since becoming CEO, he has generated a marked increase in positive media coverage, driven

by consistent engagement, transparency and accessibility. That heightened visibility has contributed materially to improved brand sentiment and stronger market confidence in the Hyundai brand."

Anderson was unable to attend the awards ceremony in person and the accolade was accepted on his behalf by Zweli Mnisi, Group Head of Corporate Communications at Hyundai Automotive South Africa. Commenting on this recognition, Anderson expressed gratitude to TopGear South Africa Magazine.

"I am deeply humbled by this prestigious honour. This recognition reflects the dedication of the entire Hyundai Automotive South Africa team, our dealer partners and our customers," stated Anderson. "Over the past year, we have focused on strengthening our operational foundations while positioning the business for the future of mobility in South Africa. I am proud of what we have achieved together."

A seasoned automotive veteran, Anderson previously served as the company's Sales and Operations Director (since 2015) and Marketing Director (since 2004), playing a key role in the brand's growth since 2001. Under his stewardship, Hyundai Automotive South Africa has experienced renewed brand momentum, improved stakeholder confidence and a sharpened focus on sustainable growth.

America's Most Thrilling Mustang Yet Is Coming And It Means Business



Available to order soon, the Dark Horse SC is, quite simply, the most compelling argument for the American V8 in years. Speak to CMH Ford Ballito on 087 723 9278. Don't miss it

There's a moment in every car enthusiast's life when something comes along that makes you stop scrolling and pay attention. The new Ford Mustang Dark Horse SC is that car.

Ford Racing, America's race team, has taken everything learned from competing at the very top of global motorsport and poured it into a road car. We're talking lessons hard-won at Sebring, at Virginia International Raceway, benchmarked against Ford's own GT3 and GTD racing machines. This isn't a badge and a body kit. This is genuine race-to-road engineering. At the heart of it sits a supercharged 5.2-litre V8, paired to a seven-speed dual-clutch gearbox, delivering the kind of soundtrack that most European rivals have quietly abandoned in their rush toward turbochargers and electrification. Ford hasn't abandoned it. Ford has turned it up.

The chassis engineering is serious: next-generation

MagneRide dampers, forged suspension links, a magnesium strut brace, and Michelin Pilot Sport Cup 2 R tyres developed specifically for this car. Opt for the Track Pack and you add carbon-ceramic brakes borrowed directly from the Mustang GTD supercar, shedding 150 pounds and generating 620 pounds of rear downforce at speed. That's supercar territory at a fraction of the price.

What makes the Dark Horse SC genuinely exciting isn't just the numbers. It's the philosophy. In a world where performance cars are increasingly engineered to impress on paper and coddle you on the road, this Mustang is built to be driven hard, heard loudly, and felt deeply.

Available to order soon, the Dark Horse SC is, quite simply, the most compelling argument for the American V8 in years. Speak to CMH Ford Ballito on 087 723 9278. Don't miss it.

CMH Suzuki Ballito, Santos & The Ballito Jimny Club



Getting away from it all and into nature is imperative and easy in a Jimny



Off the beaten track is where you will go with your Jimny and the Ballito Jimny Club



The Jimny convoy weaves its way through the valley

The showroom floor is always buzzing at CMH Suzuki Ballito, some of that buzz can be attributed to Santos, everybody knows Santos. His larger than life mannerism is contagious and led to the formation of his favourite Suzuki model, the awesome enigmatic,

yes even iconic Jimny.

With his business partner Pam, they have created a following of fellow Jimny lovers and have been on numerous amazing 4X4 adventures.

The Ballito Jimny Club recently enjoyed an action-packed day trip to

the scenic Mqeku River, combining adventure, community spirit and the great outdoors. They navigated rugged terrain in their beloved Suzuki Jimnys before cooling off with some relaxed river tubing. With breath-taking views, plenty of laughs and a strong sense of

camaraderie, the trip was a perfect reminder of why exploring local gems with like-minded adventurers is always worth it.

For info about joining the club or participating in one of their thrilling upcoming adventures contact Santos on

067 375 7554 or Pam on 083 255 1319.

And if you want to change your life, speak to Santos about buying a Jimny and joining the club. Adventure awaits. Call him on 067 375 7554, or find him on the New Car Showroom Floor at 34 Moffat Drive, Ballito.

"As you get older, three things happen. The first is your memory goes, and I can't remember the other two." Sir Norman Wisdom

Tata's Sexy CURVV Curves, Character and Practical Charm

By: Tomas Yoko

Let's be honest: the Tata CURVV walks out of the showroom looking like it was designed with a bit more fun in mind than your average compact SUV. Those body contours aren't just for show, they give the car a sculpted, athletic stance that turned heads at the robots and roundabouts alike. It looks... well, sexy in that practical-yet-playful kind of way. Under the bonnet sits Tata's familiar 1.2-litre turbo petrol engine, and while the spec sheet won't set your pulse racing like a supercar's would, it delivered eager performance exactly where I needed it. Around town it felt sprightly; on the open road I never catch myself wishing for more. And for a car that wears its curves with such confidence, it was surprisingly composed through bends and traffic flow alike. Fuel consumption is friendly too, in everyday driving you can coax respectable figures out of it, making it a sensible choice whether you're commuting, school-running or escaping the city for a weekend break. Tata backs the CURVV with a 5-year / 150 000 km warranty, which in this price category is generous and reassuring. Inside, it's clever and comfortable, with intuitive tech that doesn't require a second mortgage to use. Practical storage, good visibility and a driving position that didn't leave me feeling like I was wedged into a bargain chair, added to the overall appeal. So why buy one? Because the CURVV manages to blend style, substance and a mischievous grin in a package that doesn't cost the earth. In a world of bland SUVs, here's one that chooses to curve... and has a good time doing it.



Resplendent on the curb, the TATA Curvv manages to blend style, substance and a mischievous grin in a package that doesn't cost the earth

The GWM Tank 300: A North Coast Favourite That Just Keeps Delivering



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Terms & Condition apply. E&OE



The GWM Tank is proving to be a firm favourite in the jeep style bodies, get yours at GWM Ballito, 8 Moffat Drive, Ballito

The GWM Tank 300 needs no introduction on the North Coast. By now, it's a familiar sight and a well loved one at that. At GWM Ballito, the Tank 300 has earned its stripes as a proper off road machine that also happens to treat its occupants exceptionally well. Built on a tough ladder frame chassis, the Tank 300 blends serious hardware with everyday usability. A multi-link rear suspension and double wishbone front setup give it impressive on road comfort without dulling its off road edge. Every model comes standard with a rear differential lock, Crawl Control for technical terrain and the clever Tank Turn system, which pivots the vehicle around tight obstacles with almost no forward movement. It is one of those features you scoff at until you use it, then wonder how you lived without it.

The hybrid electric version raises the bar further, delivering a combined 255 kW and 648 Nm through a smooth nine speed automatic, while still returning a claimed 8.4 litres per 100 km. That is strong performance wrapped in sensible efficiency. Inside, the Tank 300 leans heavily into comfort and tech, with twin 12.3 inch screens, ambient lighting, leather upholstery, electric seats and a full suite of advanced safety systems. Five colours are available, backed by a seven year 200 000 km warranty, roadside assistance and a five year service plan. The hybrid adds an eight year battery warranty. This is not a newcomer. It is a proven favourite, and one that continues to make a strong case for itself. Take a Tank for a test drive, call Shane on 074 644 5618 for details.



The Ford Ranger Wildtrak X takes off road to the next level, you can go anywhere, speak to CMH Ford Ballito on 087 723 9278

CMH Ford Ballito just keeps reminding us that being a dealership “for the people” isn’t a slogan – it’s a way of doing business. Their recent cheque handover to the ‘Restore Africa Foundation’, in partnership with The Orphan Fund, was a quiet but powerful moment. A five thousand Rand contribution may look modest on paper, but in real terms it translates into meals, care and hope for a child who needs all three. It was a reminder that impact is measured in lives touched, not headlines chased. Dealer Principle Matthew Buck said of the event, “I would like to encourage the other businesses in Ballito to take this as inspiration to help support this cause.”

Parked alongside the proceedings was the Ford Ranger Wildtrak X, and it quietly stole the spotlight. With its tougher stance, uprated suspension and design cues that show intent,

rather than decoration, the Wildtrak X is the kind of bakkie that turns heads without asking for attention.

The Wildtrak X stands apart with its off-road focused upgrades: unique suspension tuning for tougher terrain, bold exterior accents, protective detailing and a cabin that balances rugged intent with everyday comfort. It’s a Ranger for people who work hard, play harder, and want a vehicle that reflects both.

The uprated suspension, wider stance and tougher underpinnings give it a planted, confident feel that translates just as clearly on tar as it does when the road runs out. It looks ready because it is ready.

At CMH Ford Ballito, they don’t just sell vehicles. They back causes, support futures and deliver products that are ready for the real world. Call them on 087 723 9278 to arrange the Ranger that fits your world perfectly.

CMH Ford Ballito: Purpose on Display, Power on the Floor



CMH Ford Ballito proudly handed over R5,000 to the Restore Africa Foundation NPC in support of their 30 000 Meal Drive — providing over 1,500 meals to children in need! Seen at the handover are from left Dealer Principal Matthew Buck, Justine Theunissen, Restore Africa Foundation CEO Eduard Louw, and New Car Sales Manager Mbuyiselo (MK) Khuboni. Just R35 provides 10 meals. R250 sponsors 70. Every Rand counts. Call them to help on 061 145 3512 or email restoreaf2025@gmail.com



CMH FORD BALLITO

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WILDTRAK
3.0 Litre V6 10AT**

**RANGER
WILDTRAK X
4WD DC 10AT**

**EVEREST
PLATINUM
4WD 3.0L V6 10AT**

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FROM ONLY
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SAVE A MASSIVE
R130 600

FROM ONLY
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R185 000

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Offer Includes: 6 year/90 000km Ford Optional Service Plan | New Vehicle Warranty - 4-yr / 120 000km Comprehensive Warranty | Corrosion Warranty - 5-yr/unlimited km cover | Roadside Assistance - 4-yr/unlimited km | Ford Family Promise comes standard with these offerings at no additional costs. Excludes Factory Extras. Offer exclusive to CMH Ford Ballito



CMH FORD BALLITO | 087 723 9278
35 - 37 Moffat Drive, Ballito | www.fordballito.co.za

"A good rule to remember for life is that when it comes to plastic surgery and sushi, never be attracted by a bargain." By Graham Norton

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.

KZNSB offers a dynamic audio-visual presentation. Although the 26 minutes presentation is designed to entertain, it is also educational, providing information on subjects such as the sensory biology of sharks and their role as top predators in the marine environment. The show is followed by a shark dissection where you can see the internal anatomy of one of the ocean's most feared predators, "SHARK"

SHOW TIMES Tuesday to Thursday: 09:00am and 04:00pm. First Sunday of the month at 14:00pm.

BOAT TRIPS

There are also boat trips to venture out to sea to watch the shark safety gear off Durban's Golden Mile. Boat trips lasting for an estimated two hours. We leave Wilson's Wharf at 06:30 and this includes opportunistic viewing of marine life including seabirds and get to see the beautiful, magnificent Moses Mabhida Stadium.

SHARK MUSEUM Get a chance to view the large variety of life-like replicas of sharks, as well as other marine animals.

CURIO SHOP You can browse around the Curio Shop where a treasure chest of unusual and stylish gifts awaits you, including handcrafted ornaments, T-shirts, Caps, leather goods and jewellery and shark tooth necklaces etc.

VENUE HIRE

The KwaZulu-Natal Sharks Board Maritime Centre of Excellence is in the affluent residential, commercial and resort town of Umhlanga in the north of Durban. The Venue is not too far from the King Shaka International Airport. The venue offers a versatile auditorium of 19m x 19m that can accommodate reception/party seating of minimum 160 guests and maximum 300 guests. Presentation: Seating cinema style up to 300 people. The hall hire comes standard with:

Exclusive use of the venue and an exquisite outside location to consider for use at no extra costs

- Armless chairs
- Tables
- Fully equipped kitchen
- Secure parking
- Cleaning staff
- Security
- We are ideally situated

close to the freeway: with access to and from the N2 and M4

Bookings: (031) 566 0435 for Dissection Shows, 082 403 9206 for Boat Trips, (031) 566 0462 for Hall Hire or visit our website: www.shark.co.za

