

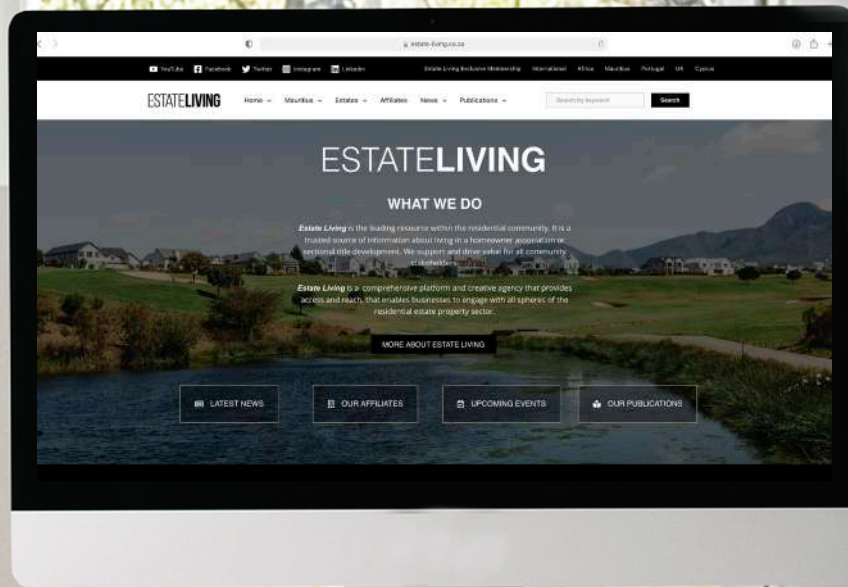
# KINGSWOOD BUZZARD

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



**KINGSWOOD**  
GOLF CLUB  
ISSUE#19 APRIL 2026

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# From the CEO

Dear homeowners and residents



As we move further into 2026, it is with a sense of optimism and continued momentum that I reflect on the progress within Kingswood Golf Estate over the past few months. Building on the strong foundation established in 2025, this year has already seen encouraging strides in both community life and operational advancement.

One of the most pleasing developments has been the continued success and utilisation of our community centre and clubhouse facility. What was once a long-anticipated vision has now firmly established itself as the heart of our estate, a vibrant, well-functioning space where residents, members, and visitors come together.

From social gatherings and events to the seamless integration of golf operations and hospitality, the facility is fulfilling its purpose in every respect. It is particularly rewarding to see increasing levels of engagement and enjoyment, reinforcing its role as a central pillar of the Kingswood lifestyle.

A number of important maintenance and upgrade projects are currently under way across the estate. These initiatives, while at times less visible, are essential in ensuring that Kingswood remains not

only aesthetically pleasing, but also operationally efficient, safe, and aligned with the expectations of a mature and high-quality residential environment. Ongoing attention to infrastructure, landscaping, and facility improvements reflects our commitment to preserving and enhancing both the value of our estate and the quality of daily living experienced by all residents.

In addition, various improvement projects are currently being driven on the golf course as part of



our strategic vision to position Kingswood among the top 50 golf courses in South Africa.

While some of these initiatives may result in temporary inconvenience to members, your patience and understanding are sincerely appreciated. We are confident that the outcome of these enhancements will add significant value, while improving both the playability and aesthetic appeal of our already beautiful course.



Our approach remains deliberate and forward-looking, focusing not only on addressing current needs, but also on planning responsibly for the future. As always, progress is achieved through consistent effort, thoughtful decision making, and a shared commitment to excellence.

Equally encouraging is the continued strengthening of our sense of community. The growing participation in events, increased interaction among residents, and the positive spirit evident across the estate all contribute to making Kingswood more than just a place to live, but a place to belong.

Talking about positive spirit, I may be letting the cat out of the bag somewhat, but it gives me great pleasure to share that our restaurant operator, La Famiglia, will be introducing a home delivery service within the next couple of weeks, together with the release of the relevant menu and ordering details. Homeowners and residents will soon be able to enjoy the convenience of ordering delicious meals from the comfort of their homes, with delivery directly to their doorstep.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to our homeowners and residents for your ongoing support, engagement, and constructive input. Your involvement plays a vital role in shaping the character and direction of our community.

My thanks also go to our dedicated staff and the board of trustees for their continued commitment, professionalism, and stewardship. It is through this collective effort that Kingswood continues to evolve in a manner we can all be proud of.

As we look ahead to the coming months, we do so with confidence and enthusiasm for what lies ahead.

We trust that you will enjoy this edition of *The BUZZard*.

Kingswood greetings,

Willem Jacobs

Chief Executive Officer

# KINGSWOOD HOA (events)



One Pot to rule them all ...

Kingswood was cooking on Saturday 21 March! Meet our competing teams. From left: The Lords of the Pot, Diknekke, We're Hot and Die Knorpotte.

The Kingswood community came together in true South African spirit on 21 March for a memorable Potjiekos Competition and Bring and Braai. The day was filled with laughter, camaraderie, and exceptional food.

From early morning, the HOA team was setting up braais, gazebos, tables, and of course the jumping castles for the kids.

## Then we got the fires started!

Competing teams pulled in, setting up their stations and potjies, each determined to impress with unique flavours, creative recipes, and carefully guarded cooking techniques.

Thanks to Safari Braai, the fires were high and the atmosphere was vibrant and welcoming, with families, friends, and neighbours mingling freely, embodying the strong sense of community that defines Kingswood Golf Estate.

Brilliant Events made sure that we had plenty of good music playing throughout the day, and MC Sean Snyman did a fantastic job of keeping everyone engaged and entertained, while Outeniqua Brew Co. kept spirits high and thirsts slaked with their generous donation of a keg of G&T, and of course a keg of our very own Kingswood branded beer, Kingswood Lager.

For the bring and braai, La Famiglia supplied bread and salads, ensuring that there was something for everyone to enjoy.

The overall feel of the day was one of unity and celebration. There was a wonderful sense of community coming together, with plenty of 'gees' (and even a few dance steps!) on display.



Kingswood HOA CEO Willem Jacobs with our judges Chef Pieter Nortje (left) and Trudie Niehaus (right).

Whether competing, braaiing, or simply enjoying the festivities, everyone contributed to the warm and lively environment.

Our judges were Chef Pieter Nortje from the François Ferreira Academy and Trudie Niehaus from the South African Chefs Association. They were treated to a variety of delicious dishes, showcasing both traditional favourites and inventive new takes on potjiekos.

**And the winners are ...**

Of course, no competition would be complete without recognising the winners. The judges had a challenging task selecting the winners, given the high standard across all entries.



MC Sean Snyman bringing the groove.

**First place – Die Knorpotte**

Well done to Deville, Francois, Vanessa and Clarice Janse van Rensburg with their spectacular seafood potjie. Die Knorpotte also won the prize for the best themed station.

For their winning potjie they walked away with a voucher for an Elephant Experience at Buffelsdrift Game Lodge and, of course, the Kingswood HOA Potjiekos Winner floating trophy! For their fabulously decorated station, they won a starter kit from Outeniqua Brew Co.

**Second place – We’re Hot**

Alex and Celeste van der Westhuizen brought the heat with their lamb potjie, scoring a fantastic prize of a 4-ball from Kingswood Golf Club. Their jovial spirits and colour-coded dress theme earned them the prizes for Best Dressed and Team Spirit, paying off in gift vouchers for costume hire from the George Arts Theatre and free jumps from Elevate Trampoline Park.

**Third place – Diknekke**

Dawie van Niekerk and Jaco Mouton wowed the judges with their lamb neck potjie, earning them a gift voucher from 101 Meade restaurant.

Thank you to all our fire kings.



Simmer down ... the judges are here.

**Thank you to our prize sponsors and supporting partner**



From Kingswood HOA, we would like to congratulate all the competing teams – you all keep the home fires burning!

Thank you also to everyone who joined us for the bring and braai – Kingswood not only has community spirit, but also a whole lot of braai masters!

Without you, our Kingswood community, this day would not have been possible.

**Special thank you to our sponsors**

We would like to take a moment to express our gratitude to the sponsors whose generous support added tremendous value to the day, helping make the event even more memorable.

Prize sponsors:

- Kingswood Golf Club
- Buffelsdrift Game Lodge
- 101 Meade
- Outeniqua Brew Co.
- George Arts Theatre
- Elevate Action Center

Supporting partners:

- Outeniqua Brew Co.
- Brilliant Events
- Darkroom Studios
- York High School
- Safari Braai
- François Ferreira Academy
- La Famiglia

We would also like to extend a special thank you to Jetline for the extra mile they walked to help us get our new branded gazebos.

Overall, the Potjiekos Competition and Bring and Braai was a fantastic day that captured the heart of the Kingswood community – great food, great people, and great spirit. Events like these continue to strengthen the bonds within the estate, and excitement is already building for the next gathering.





# SECURITY UPDATE

## Pioneering systems to keep Kingswood residents secure in their homes

In the seasonal edition of *The BUZZard* (December 2025), a plan to install trailblazing technology was introduced by Kingswood security team chairman Fielies Nieuwoudt. In short, it's an advanced camera system to manage the movement of golf and restaurant guests and an LED display identifying them.

Drivers' names – not registration numbers, as visitors are often transported by e-hail taxis or rental cars – come up in lights on these display boards, indicating whether they are on the right track or required to leave the estate.

The cutting-edge technology does, however, pick up on numberplates and tracks non-resident drivers throughout the estate to ensure that they head in the right direction. 'At the time of our previous chat, we were testing to see if locally produced cameras could be programmed to talk to the Gallagher app.

'This tech, when acquired from abroad, is extremely costly, so local programmers were roped in to write the software that would allow integration while keeping expenses to a minimum. We are now preparing to implement the final phase,' says Fielies.

### Get this, then get on the app

Control measures of the final phase will entail installation of this equipment across from the golf course maintenance building, next to the new Community Centre / Clubhouse in Brookside Road, and Knightsbridge Road. 'This decision was made in cooperation with our trustees, with the emphasis on zero inconvenience to homeowners while keeping them as safe as possible.

'Once the first of these pioneering systems has been erected at the maintenance building, it will allow us to do any required troubleshooting. All the necessary equipment is already on site except for the LED screens which is delayed from China and should be working by the end of May.' But, adds Fielies, its successful rollout won't work without the relevant apps.

'Gallagher and My Estate Life must talk to each other, so please download and master these apps if you haven't yet. If necessary, we'll send instructions to homeowners to guide them through the process. Rest assured that the POPI Act is being respected, so your details are safe with us. But it's essential for everything to be on one platform.'

**In other news**

KGE's contract with Fidelity Security Services is now in the process of renewal. 'We are signing a new five-year contract from March for 60 months. Part of this deal is a drone with a trained operator – and no impact on residents' privacy. But drones are the best way to track someone down if there is drama.

'Most importantly, its presence deters wannabe offenders – a top priority. Staying ahead of the curve informs our decisions with every security upgrade considered. You may never achieve the 100% ideal but being better than the rest means you have the best chance to be left alone.' Stats from the latest security report illustrate some facets of the task at hand. In terms of traffic during February, homeowners and golf members accessing the estate with Gallagher totalled 46,291 in; over 17,000 visitors entered with MEL (daily average 618 in, 612 out); the monthly average of clubhouse visitors topped 2,200.

Service providers and construction workers totalled 6,660, and deliveries 2,525, while turnstile walk-ins of domestic and garden workers saw a daily total estimate of 1,300 and a monthly average of over 28,000.

'All we can say is thank heavens it's going so well, considering the volume of traffic and building and other activities at Kingswood. All systems are in place



to further the groundwork done in 2025 and to carry out these project extensions this year.

'Working within budget limitations, the camera project is on track while trenching for fibre and electrical connections continues. The fence cameras are never off because, in the rare case of a power failure, they fall back on inverters and batteries,' says Fielies.

Revisiting the long-term plan of relocating the control room from its current container home when space became available at the gatehouse, Fielies explains that finances dictated a delay in this move. 'The control room is working well, so we opted to rather spend money on cameras.

'It's imperative to not eat into your savings, and the camera project will take another two years to stay within the budget. Estates like ours must ensure that there's at least six-months' living costs in the kitty, catering for when any type of emergency strikes.'

**To be or not to BnB ...**

Finally, Fielies reminds residents that running an Airbnb or similar short-term rental offering from your Kingswood home is no longer allowed without you living in the home. 'In line with South African trends, we have done away with this practice in our constitution.

'This was announced to residents on 26 December, so will gradually be phased out and be completely prohibited from 27 November 2026. The only instance in which you can rent out space at your place is if you live there on a permanent basis.

'People don't realise the security risk of ill-behaved overnighters – in fact, 99% of security callouts over weekends resulted from trouble with short-term visitors. Among these counted smashed garage doors after raucous drinking, and ruined furniture, while neighbouring homeowners' weekends were ruined in the process.

Report any suspicious behaviour to the control room on 087 537 9733 (landline) or WhatsApp 083 522 0731; call Gate 1 on 044 874 6877, Gate 2 on 044 874 4797, and Gate 3 on 044 874 4597.

 Esther de Villiers



# Build@KINGWOOD

introduction to Andries Wolmarans

## New construction era with ease of compliance and broad future vision

Being a native of Port Elizabeth (now Gqeberha) is not the only thing Kingswood's new Building and Architectural Compliance Manager Andries Wolmarans has in common with precursor Dan de Wet. When taking over the reins on 19 January, Dan clinched his decades-long service at Kingswood by ensuring that Andries knows the ropes.

This settling-in period was helpful in the KGE context, but Andries came armed with an arsenal of experience to prepare him for the task at hand. After matriculating at Andrew Rabie High, he gained diplomas in IT programming and mechanical draughting, among others.

Andries attained his B-Tech in Architectural Technology at NMU in the years to follow. He then established himself as business owner leading architectural teams, overseeing technical documentation, and fostering strong working relationships with engineers, contractors, and municipal authorities.

### Lured to the Route

Andries and his young family relocated to the Garden Route two and a half years ago. Having established his business AWDesigns Pty Ltd in April 2020, Andries got word of an opportunity in George some four years later. 'A friend in the area had given my name to a local recruitment company. Soon after, I was

contacted by the firm responsible for projects such as Le Grand Estate on the outskirts of George.

'When they got in touch to check if I would be available to work for them, it didn't take long to decide. We negotiated our terms and, when learning what was on offer, it made perfect sense to swap the Eastern for the Southern Cape. Two years later opportunity knocked, and now I am part of the Kingswood family.'

Andries has been intricately involved with HOAs of estates where he worked as architectural technician, such as Crossways in PE and Hartland in Mossel Bay. So there's no dearth of experience here. At KGE, he serves less in an architectural capacity but works closely with members of the estate's design review committee.

Another change is that Andries's predecessor, Dan, during his memorable career at Kingswood, handled security and maintenance while also overseeing the estate's natural resources, including the famous springbok herd.

'My focus is primarily on architectural guidelines, building compliance, and new submissions. In fact, when starting with Dan overseeing my first weeks in the saddle, I suffered a mini-identity crisis: after doing something for 15 to 20 years, you face a completely new work dynamic. Suddenly I wasn't sitting designing buildings anymore!

'In architecture, nothing happens overnight – typically, a project would stretch over eight months minimum. In my current position, there are more tasks but shorter timeframes. Issues get resolved much faster, so it's just a case of getting into the habit. Fortunately, I'm supported by a very efficient team.'

### **Guidance a joint effort**

Every second week, there's a gathering of the estate's Design Review Committee when Andries is joined by fellow members CEO Willem Jacobs, trustee Fielies Nieuwoudt, and architects Virgil Townsend and Lindy Bekker to thrash out issues at hand.

'What we discuss depends on each individual case, and feedback is provided by the committee before we revert to the owner or contractor. When dealing with



**Melanie and Andries Wolmarans**

new submissions, we must check whether approval has been granted before sitting down with the architect or homeowner. It's a question of "this is the plan, is it possible?"

'The estate's architectural guidelines have evolved from the old Cape Vernacular style, which has now been given a modern twist. These guidelines have also expanded in terms of regulations pertaining to wind turbines and artificial lawns, for instance.'

Andries says they look at the whole package. Percentages of hard and soft landscaping must be checked before a house-completion certificate can be issued.

'Most people want to adjust the rules a bit, but many forget that the development of the estate is subject to an Environmental and Landscaping Management Plan approved by the relevant local authority. Plant species must be chosen according to stringent environmental guidelines, and certain areas may not be disturbed at all.

'If we're not strict in this regard, it has a negative impact in the long run. We can't flex the rules around hard and soft landscaping when keeping the big picture in mind. It's hard to say no, but better than agreeing to something that you'd later need to retract.'

### Don't take it personally

Grey areas abound in many of these cases, which is why discussion is essential. 'It could be very subjective if not discussed with all parties involved. We are trying to avoid owners getting confused when receiving different opinions. Our design guidelines don't only impact the people around your property, but the entire estate.

'Our aim is to be fair, seeing each case in its own context and then comparing individual circumstances. There's also a positive spin: first meetings often involve complaints, but when the same owners return to discuss additions or alterations, they know that we'll do our best to help them.

'Please don't take it personally – we must stick to these rules for the benefit of everyone on the estate. Saying no is not a fun part of the job, but we motivate these decisions when addressing the many homeowners and builders we deal with daily.'

### Some accidents have positive outcomes

Shifting the focus from hard labour to the homefront, Andries says they are happily ensconced in their Fraaiuitsig abode. Wife Melanie works in building insurance, and their kids aged four and six attend Hartenbos Primary School.

When asked about the couple's shared history, he chuckles about the coincidence that brought them together: 'I first met Melanie in a sports bar in PE, then never laid eyes on her for a year. When a mutual friend was involved in an accident, I saw her again at the hospital.' The rest, as they say, is history.

'We try spending as much time as possible with the kids, going to the beach and visiting local markets.' But there's no rest for the wicked, so Andries often finds himself having to wrap up architectural projects he'd championed before taking up the Kingswood job.

'Sometimes on a Sunday after church, I'll have to attend a meeting where, as main designer, the sketch phase of a house has to be discussed with a client. I would like to get to a point where I can just switch off on weekends, but I'm forever trying to figure out what the future of architecture holds.'

### Five-year future vision

When asked about plans in the pipeline for the KGE Building and Compliance department, Andries says he's aiming to put new systems in place, with admin classification a priority. But upgrading to a fully electronic system will take time and manpower.

'Building plans in our archives are mostly in hard-copy format. The first part of the process will involve scanning these documents to digitalise that vast library of information so that it's electronically accessible. In five years' time it should be attained. Finally, our goal is to integrate an app where owners can access everything from an erf's history to size and other specs, with all documentation available online. This is a long-term dream that I hope to see realised.'

Andries can be reached during office hours on 0861 72 71 70.



**A home designed by Andries at Royalston Wildlife Estate.**





# Meet the team

Well-travelled worker Bea a boon to Kingswood marketing crew

introduction to Beatrice Esterhuysen

*Beatrice Esterhuysen is the friendly new face you'll see when walking into the management block at Kingswood's gatehouse. She's been in charge of Communications, Marketing and Community Liaison since 5 January, and says she's here for KGE residents, far preferring people to pencil pushing.*

## Comms ace's 'komvandaan'

Born in the far-flung Eastern Cape town of Barkly East, she completed her school career in Queenstown. 'There isn't a province I haven't lived in! Our family moved around a lot when we were kids. I think my dad had ants in his pants.'

After matriculating in 1994 – coinciding with the seminal year of Mzansi's first democratic elections – she started working at the court in Queenstown, transferring to Bloemfontein in 1997. 'I wanted to study drama, but it made sense at the time to get a paying job.'

What could not be ignored, however, is that Beatrice

has the finer arts running through her veins, feeling equally passionate about music and language.

She managed to attain her Grade 8 in Musical Theatre through Trinity College. Her love for language and literature was pursued when tackling her bachelor's degree in Language and Literature, specialising in creative writing – a qualification that has served well throughout her career.

'I considered following that with an honours degree, but life had other plans.' Suffice it to say, her way with words makes Beatrice a perfect candidate for any communications department.

## Coming to George ...

It's now 20 years since Beatrice was transferred from Bloem to the George court. 'In 2006, I started working at George Magistrate's Court and dealt specifically with domestic violence and child abuse.' These dealings would take their toll on anyone's soul, but a

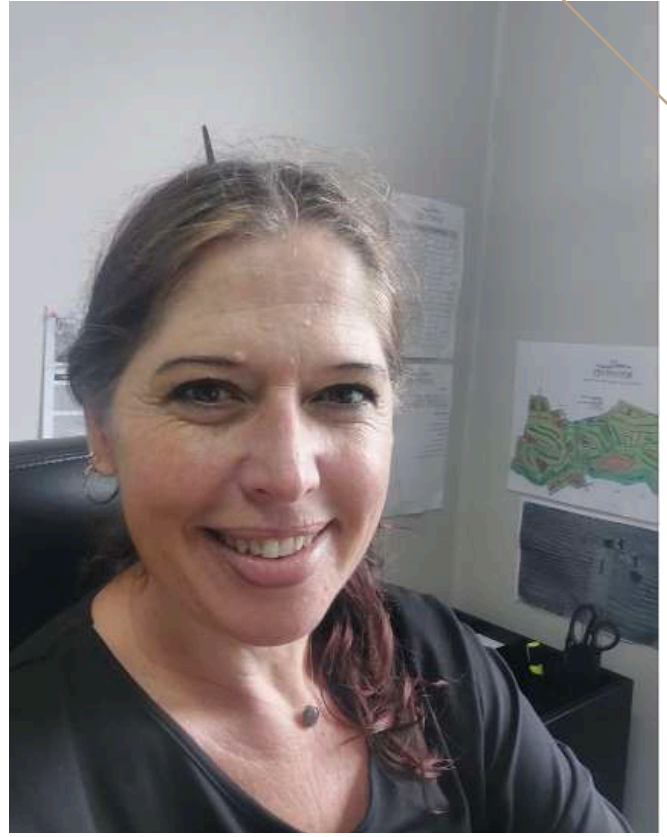
singer-songwriter at heart, she always had her music as consolation.

While still working at the court, she got involved at the theatre in close vicinity, located diagonally across from the traffic circle at the top of York Street. Her talents as singer and musical artist could now flourish again in a more official context.

In 2008, I was appointed as manager at George Arts Theatre. At first it was just me and two volunteers who helped on a twice-weekly basis with tasks such as sound, lighting and building maintenance when required.

'I was the only employee, so it was a relief when, some years later, I was joined by an intern called Jolien Petersen. Jolien went on to become events manager of George Arts, while I'm currently serving as vice-chair.'

Beatrice set foot on that stage again for the first time in 10 years, playing the villainous sea witch Ursula (from *The Little Mermaid*) when the theatre presented its Disney Tribute in 2024.





### ... and going Down Under

But Beatrice is hardly a stranger to stages of any shape or size. She has been writing songs, singing and strumming her guitar to appreciative audiences for decades. Her preferred styles are acoustic blues and jazz, with a bit of rock and folk thrown into the mix. Apart from local gigs, she has done a couple of national tours and had the good fortune of touring Australia, sharing stages with many talented musos and bands.

'I actually gigged full-time throughout 2014 to 2019 but recently decided that this part of my performing repertoire has run its course. I'm no longer in the mood for the pub scene, so did my last gig last year.' The road ahead may include more intimate gigs at house parties or other corporate and private functions.

Rewinding a decade, it's worthy of mention that this songbird's musical career was not without its challenges: in 2019, Beatrice was diagnosed with a condition that caused growths on her vocal cords, which required serious medical attention.

'I didn't sing for five years, but when my voice had recovered, I started performing again in 2024.'

### Burning the midnight oil no more

Before becoming Kingswood's newest broom, Beatrice worked for seven years – exactly – at Group Editors. She started there as a digital sub before being promoted to digital editor, then team leader of this section within the Southern Cape media giants.

'There were many changes in the digital world between 2018 and 2025. What people don't know is that, even though George Herald is a weekly newspaper, the digital side works like a daily, with some days running until after midnight.'

She chose the seven-year anniversary of her first day at Group Editors to hand in her resignation, but it wasn't a decision she had planned. 'I was in a very good place at Group Editors, but when the opportunity for making the move to Kingswood arose, I just couldn't resist it.'

### Getting in on the social scene

Beatrice jokes that she makes 'everyone's business my business' – she's surrounded in her office space by finance manager Marina and financial assistant Annemarie, receptionist Masadi and finance and admin assistant Lize. She sticks her nose in when wanting to ensure her purpose as information conduit is served.

'Some days I would just get in a golf cart with Andries (Wolmarans – meet him elsewhere in this edition) and we'll recce the estate. It's important to know the lay of the land when planning events and learning about its inhabitants – and sometimes we even find little gems for our social media channels.' One of the first such events was a potjiekos competition on 21 March – more elsewhere in this edition.

To wrap it up: whenever there's a notice being sent out to residents, a memo to be proofread or some other message to be disseminated to Kingswood homeowners, Beatrice is on the ready. She is also busy establishing a social committee to get residents involved in social events at the Community Centre.

As CEO Willem Jacobs says: 'We know that our community will only be richer for having Beatrice involved.'





# GOLF

## Catching up on the course of golf at Kingswood

*The BUZZard* caught up with Kingswood greenkeeper Ivan van Heerden for a brief feedback session on the past season and projects currently on course. In the previous edition, it was reported that players were getting used to starting on a par 3 and ending on a par 5, necessitated by the positioning of the clubhouse.

This part of late last year's redesign promoted better flow to the course of play and, if at first the change to tackling the first eight holes before proceeding to the next 10 caused some head-scratching, everyone now seems accustomed to the new regime.

Apart from notes on the course redesign, the gist of Ivan's pre-seasonal report was that 2025 was the driest year since he took over the greenkeeping reins – practically on par with the previous low of 573mm in 2019. The impact of the drought on Kingswood's fairways, dams and greens continues to challenge Ivan and his team.

### **On projects and pipelines**

'The year started well in terms of weather – by the end of February, we had received about 94mm of rain.

Unfortunately, the early-March heatwave didn't help, and by the end of last month we had only measured 28mm,' he says. At the time of writing, Ivan reported a meagre tally of 31mm measured between 15 February and 25 March.

To ensure that none of the estate's precious water resource is lost in the system, an ongoing maintenance issue is the fixing of burst waterpipes underneath roads and bridges. 'When pipes burst, it is often related to the drought, so this is an ongoing battle to ensure maximum supply for the course, come rain or shine.'

During the weeks preceding the opening of the clubhouse, Ivan and his team focused on settling in the greens in its vicinity, did drainage on the sixth, and painted bunker faces. With golfing traffic adding



stress to the sunbeaten grass, paving cart paths in preparation for the festive season was an absolute necessity.

‘During February and March, we’ve been cutting lines on fairways and on new catch areas to tighten the mantle and create more space,’ Ivan explains when discussing projects currently on his slab. He adds that a process of stripping, or sodding out, of vegetation on the old tees is also ongoing.

‘The grass left over after stripping is being used to patch up several locations where required on the course. Among these counts the new area to the right of the dam on the sixth, where shrubs have been removed. Grass has now been planted there as part of the new tee complex.

‘Finally, we are levelling par-three tees in cases where they are uneven, and will be busy with this work for the next four to eight weeks. As is always the case with such projects, it entails waiting for grass to grow out.’ Images on these pages illustrate the task at hand and the progress so far.

Preparing at the time of our chat for KGE’s hosting of the HOGA Cup on 10 April, Ivan was confident that the course would be in good nick for visiting golfers. And on the subject of player satisfaction, the man in charge of golfing at the Kingswood clubhouse sheds some light.



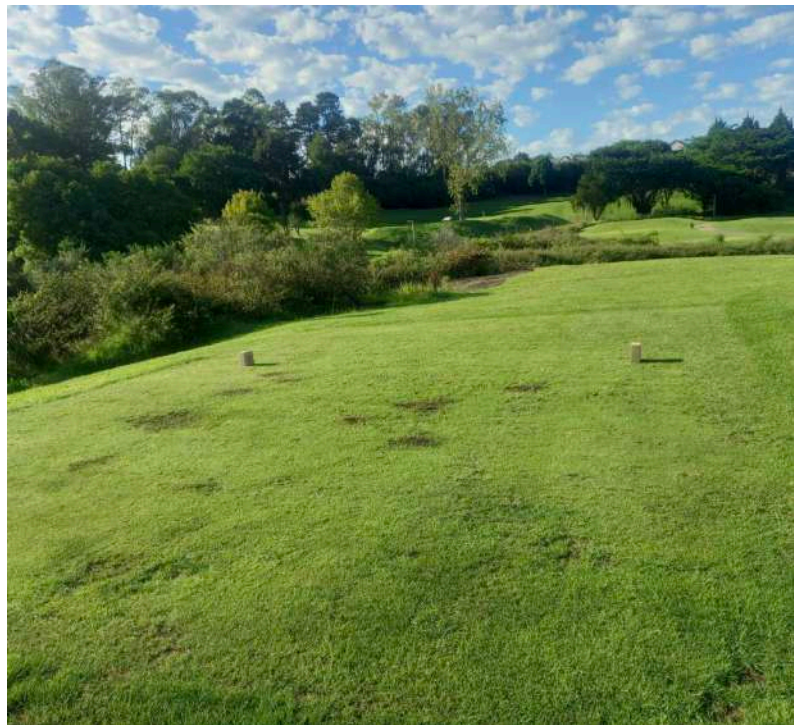
**Q&A with Kingswood's golf director**

Positive feedback was provided by Golf Director Dean le Vieux, supported by his 2IC Tim Steynberg during the seasonal increase of members and visiting players on the course and at the clubhouse.

*The BUZZard:* How are the new scoring systems and timesheets working out?

*Dean:* Members have been adopting the ScoreCapture system with enthusiasm, and we've been using it for all our club competitions – it's working out very nicely. There was a bit of resistance initially, but now almost everyone is using and enjoying it, as it's proven successful.

We have also requested that ScoreCapture



start adding different variations or formats of competitions, which members play in diverse groups that they are willing to accommodate.

*The BUZZard:* Are players responding positively to the GPS units on golf carts?

*Dean:* The expectation at most clubs today is to have GPSs on carts, and it's been very well received by members and visitors to Kingswood.

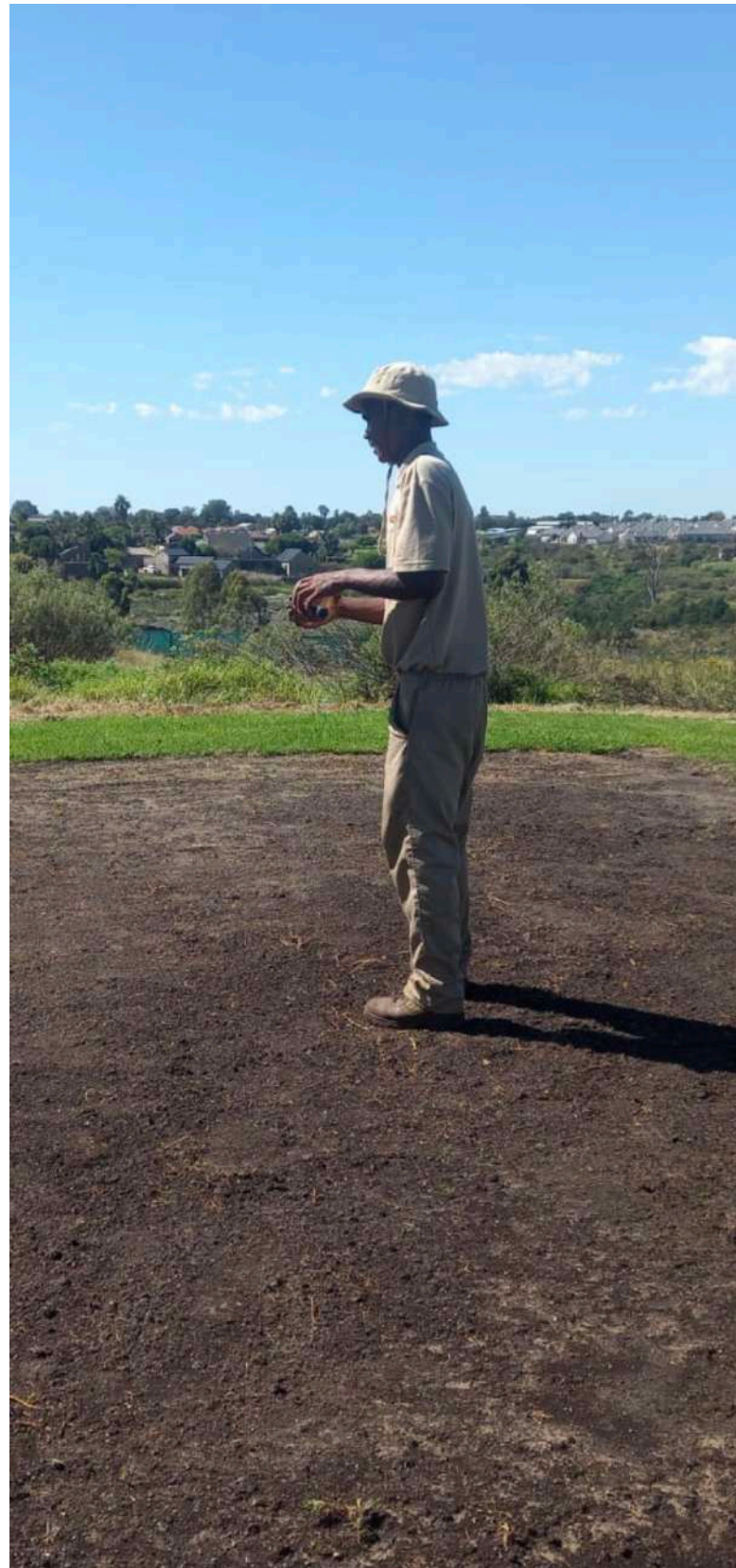
*The BUZZard:* Are players making full use of the clubhouse and your open-door policy?

*Dean:* Absolutely, in both cases. We look at the practicality and viability of all requests received. When considering these decisions, we always aim to prioritise the interest of the majority of our residents and members.

In conclusion, Dean is grateful to have experienced a great first festive season at the helm: 'We have achieved this within our budget, and received lots of good feedback on the clubhouse, carts, staff, and layout of the course.

'No huge upgrades are imminent apart from ongoing course upgrades. We're continuing as per normal and considering which changes or additions may be required over the next couple of months, but things are running smoothly and everyone is doing a decent job.

'As we speak, Ivan and his greenkeeping team are very busy out on the course to improve conditions and playability. This is a move in the right direction, considering that we aim to get the club into the top 50 in the country. It's going to take continuous efforts behind the scenes, but with lots of hard work, I believe we'll get there.'





# GOLF @ KINGSWOOD

Home of Golf Africa: Positioning the Garden Route as best golfing destination on the continent

*Collaboration between regional tourism bureaux, local and district municipalities, and the Route's best golf courses has enabled the hosting of the Home of Golf Africa Cup (HOGA Cup) over the next eight months. Add to that a major sponsor and a fit provincial sports minister, and it's clear there's a success story in the making.*

HOGA chairperson Charl Marais is not new to the business of promoting the region to a broad market. 'Four years ago, when George Tourism called for input from local businesses, it led to the establishment of a Tourism Advisory Committee, with all members keen to contribute.

'We gathered quarterly, and two ideas sprouted from those meetings: firstly, to cater for the large local trail community, which resulted in the rebranding of George Trails to return it to the public domain.

'Municipalities often don't have the capacity to handle commercial activities, so a private company (NPC) was formed and a three-year agreement signed, with a mandate to grow George Trails from a tourism perspective. An app to aid trailies will be launched soon.'

Secondly, says Marais, then-George mayor Leon van Wyk was leading the charge to focus on golf tourism. However, it became clear during these discussions that one couldn't just market George as a one-town golfing destination. 'We knew it was important to include the whole Garden Route as umbrella brand to market the region.'



### Sports-minded minister and social sundowners

'At first there was some scepticism among golf estates accustomed to focusing on their own clubs, but it was quickly realised that working together would be a much better plan. We all need something to attract golfers to the region, and this meeting of minds resulted in the soft launch of last year's multi-course competition.'

Marais says another stroke of luck came in the guise of Western Cape Provincial Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport, Ricardo Mackenzie, who opened doors to speak to the right people. The concept of teams playing 10 rounds of golf on 10 different golf courses was now a reality.

'Minister Mackenzie also suggested that a golf day be added to last year's George Sports Festival (GSF), held annually during mid-December. With very little time on our side, we quickly roped in Kingswood and George Golf Club for the purpose.'

Dubbed the 'Sundowner Challenge', nine holes were played on each of these courses on 13 December, with the minister as part of the field. Mackenzie is lauded for promoting school sports, sport development, and cultural initiatives, notably leading the Active Western Cape initiative. 'He even did the GSF fun run,' smiles Marais.

### The game is on!

When clicking on [www.homeofgolf.africa](http://www.homeofgolf.africa) you'll find not only competition rules but also a slew of information on accommodation, activities, eateries and drawcards such as the Big Five for visiting golfers. These attractions span not only the Garden Route but also Klein Karoo gems like Oudtshoorn.

In a nutshell, competition mechanics, dates and venues are as follows: The series is played in a two-ball format, and each ticket covers one round for two players; a minimum of three rounds must be played to qualify for the overall leaderboard.





The first round was played at Pinnacle Point on 21 March, and the second round at Kingswood on 10 April. These dates are now open for bookings: 3. Pezula, 2 May; 4. Outeniqua, 22 May; 5. Simola, 12 June; 6. Mossel Bay, 3 July; 7. George, 24 July; 8. Oubaai, 14 August; 9. Knysna, 4 September; and 10. Montagu, 2 October.

The final will be held at Oubaai on 30 and 31 October. Marais explains: 'The top 12 teams will play at our expense with HOGA sponsoring their accommodation, breakfast and dinner, a practice round and final-round prizegiving; 25% of your score will count towards final positions.'

Proving the interest generated so far, bookings are going very well, says Marais, with 50% of overall bookings already attained by mid-March (Pinnacle Point was sold out weeks in advance). Fields are limited to 60 players, but courses are open to the public.

Local golfers are invited to participate at any of these courses and support their own clubs, and visitors from the Mother City, Gqeberha, Gauteng and beyond are encouraged to make a long weekend of it. Two of the 10 competitions are played on a Saturday, but the rest on Fridays so that out-

of-towners can explore the Garden Route.

### Promoting the brand

'We planted the flagstick and called it Home of Golf Africa, because we believe this is the best golf tourism destination in Africa. But when a brand is being created from scratch, funds are required to keep it alive. So we are grateful to have signed a three-year agreement with the Heineken Group, promoting their premier Windhoek brand.'

HOGA also invested in drone footage of the entire region to add to its existing promotional materials, making a visual tour of Garden Route treasures more accessible to an international market of travel-hungry golfers.

Although we're dealing with an exceptional tourism product, and the unique situation of three bureaux working together to form an overarching organisation, funding will always be a challenge.'

The HOGA website features long lists of strategic, accommodation and activity partners – click on the

'commercial partners' tab if you would like to get involved.

'It's important to point out that this is a collaboration, not a case of event organisers coining it. There are no shareholders, and all funds generated are reinvested to attract national and international tourists.

Our local courses are busy, but costs escalate over time. If 60–70% of players are members, shortfalls come into play and, ultimately, those members will lose out.'

**Focus on fun**

Marais says that the lucky-draw system introduced during the pilot phase will again be included this year, along with bragging rights for podium positions and lots of other prizes – among these, custom-made golf bag tags.

'You can hang this on your bag to prove your participation. Everyone can be a winner, even if you've played a terrible round.

'We want to combine the fun with a competitive element and, in the process, generate income that will be reinvested into marketing and branding. During the first year we were finding our feet, but now we're in full swing!'

Marais encourages local golfers to come and enjoy the various courses and fair rates and, as a long-time Kingswood resident, reminds local members to support their own club.

Go to [www.homeofgolf.africa](http://www.homeofgolf.africa) and book one or multiple rounds.





# LOCAL N Lekka

Tracey's mission is turning your children into life-long learners

When *The BUZZard* conducts interviews at the Kingswood Clubhouse, it's notable that a significant part of its guests comprise families with kids of all ages. This trend proves that the fabulous facility also serves its dual purpose as community centre, and that on-site eatery La Famiglia is aptly named, indeed.

But do these residents know that there's an educational expert in their midst, with all the tools required to gear youngsters on the oft-rocky road to successful learning? Kingswood local Tracey Yates has been counselling parents and children on site since making the estate her home six years ago.

### Creating curiosity

The ages of children in Tracey's care typically range between four and 14 years old, but ideally she likes to catch 'em early. 'If you start helping at a younger age, you're assured of better outcomes. The process of fostering life-long learners often starts by creating opportunities for curiosity,' she says.

Tracey's career includes teaching for two decades at Bryanston Pre-primary and St Peter's Boys Preparatory in

Joburg. 'I loved the boys, so full of energy and humour. These were mainstream classes, but many of the learners' emotional needs weren't being met.

'Struggling to manage socially or deal with conflict, they would withdraw when things became too much, such as a subject being too challenging. Our brain will always choose to be emotionally safe before it can explore or learn.'

Tracey started exploring psychology-informed education, allowing her to see the bigger picture from both a teacher's and councillor's point of view. Depending on the needs of the family and child, Tracey can offer therapeutic play methods, parent consultations or counselling sessions.

With this deep understanding of child development, Tracey brings a unique blend of educational expertise and therapeutic knowledge to support families. Her approach combines passionate understanding with evidence-based practices, ensuring that each child receives the individual attention required to thrive.

Her qualifications include a Masters in Psychology and BA Communications degree, with post-grad certificates



in Education (ECD and foundation phase), and Therapeutic Play Skills. She is listed as a specialist counsellor in play-based intervention.

### Homework for parents

Believing that parents are their broods' first and best teachers, Tracey also acknowledges that raising a life-long learner can be overwhelming. Her interactive parent workshops aim to awaken children's potential and discover how to positively shape their educational journey.

Areas covered include hands-on strategies to fuel early-learning support; building early literacy and numeracy skills; and teaching practical ways to create a home environment that fosters natural curiosity and secures emotional foundations.

'Equally important is understanding how to build your child's confidence to face challenges at school by developing calmer, more secure children. The workshops also allow you to connect with other parents and share experiences.'

One such a three-hour workshop was hosted at Tracey's Kingswood home on Saturday 14 March, but she also presents sessions at local schools to educators she regards as first responders. 'This is a big passion of mine, as teachers can truly appreciate the challenges faced by children and their parents.'

### Calling Kingswood home

Tracey's husband Greg often works in far-off destinations such

as Maputo, and their son Connor is a third-year student at Stellenbosch University, after having matriculated at Glenwood College. But how did they end up in George and living happily ever after at Kingswood?

'My sister moved here two years before us, but Connor was actually the catalyst for our relocation back in 2020. With Greg being away a lot, the option of living in a safe estate with a garden big enough for two dogs was an easy choice.'

The four-legged family members in question are golden retrievers Rollo and Lilly, aged five and six respectively and loving their twice-daily walks. 'Rollo isn't trained as a therapy dog, but brings comfort and happiness,' she says, adding that he sometimes escorts her on visits to the George oncology unit.

'When first arriving in George, we integrated through our church. Then the clubhouse opened and I realised the vast extent of people living here – it really helps to create a sense of community at Kingswood.'

Tracey believes in keeping her body as healthy as her mind, so swims lengths in the Planet Fitness pool thrice weekly, and adds Core Pilates sessions to her exercise routine. Travelling is also a priority, with a trek to Kruger Park an annual highlight.

### Welcome breaks

Finally, it's a year of big birthdays for Tracey's family, with son Connor turning 21 in October and mom planning a special treat for her Big Five 0. 'I've been a fan of Andrea Bocelli's music for as long as I can remember, so we're forever grateful to have secured tickets for his concert in Tuscany on 12 July!'

Now that sounds like a proper break from the serious business of preparing kids for a life of happy learning. Call 072 378 6654 or email [tracey@mylittleglight.co.za](mailto:tracey@mylittleglight.co.za) and check out [www.mylittleglight.co.za](http://www.mylittleglight.co.za) for further information.

# PETS AT KINGSWOOD

Responsible pet ownership in our community

Pets are an important part of many homes at Kingswood Golf Estate. Whether it's a dog greeting you at the gate after a long day or a cat curled up in the sun, our animals bring companionship and warmth to our households. At the same time, living in a shared estate environment means we all play a role in ensuring that pets, neighbours, and the natural surroundings can coexist comfortably.

Kingswood remains a pet-friendly estate, and with a few simple guidelines we can make sure it stays that way. The estate's pet rules are designed to promote responsible ownership, protect wildlife, and ensure that all residents can enjoy the peaceful lifestyle that Kingswood offers.

Residents are allowed up to two dogs and two cats per property. No outside aviaries are permitted on the estate. No domesticated wild animals should be kept on the estate.

Before bringing a pet onto the estate, residents are required to obtain approval from the Kingswood Golf Estate Homeowners Association.

## Choosing the right pet for your property

When keeping a dog on the estate, it is important to consider whether the size and energy level of the dog are

suitable for the size of your property. Large or highly active breeds generally require more space and regular exercise to remain healthy and content.

Keeping a large dog in a very small property may lead to frustration, excessive barking, or attempts to escape. Residents are encouraged to ensure that their pets have adequate space, stimulation, and daily exercise so that they remain well adjusted and do not become a nuisance to neighbours.

Responsible choices about the type of pet kept on a property help promote both animal welfare and community harmony.

## Good neighbour pet etiquette

Living in an estate means sharing space with neighbours, wildlife, and fellow pet lovers.

A few simple habits help keep Kingswood a comfortable place for everyone:

- Keep dogs on a leash when walking around the estate.
- Clean up after your pet on common areas, paths, and open spaces.



- Prevent excessive barking, especially early in the morning or late at night.
- Ensure that pets remain within the boundaries of your property.
- Help protect local wildlife by keeping pets under control near natural areas.

**Common pet rule mistakes to avoid**

Most pet-related issues are the result of small oversights.

Residents are reminded to avoid the following:

- bringing a pet onto the estate before HOA approval is granted
- allowing pets to roam freely outside the property
- walking dogs off-leash in common areas
- pets without identification tags
- failing to clean up after pets in shared spaces

Dogs should also not be walked on the golf course during playing hours.

**Quick pet registration checklist**

- Apply for HOA approval with your details and erf number.
- Provide your pet’s type, breed, age, and name.
- Submit a clear photograph of your pet.
- Ensure that your property is securely enclosed.
- Wait for written approval before bringing the pet home.
- Ensure that your pet has an identification tag (and collar with bell for cats).
- Keep pets within property boundaries and on a leash when outside.

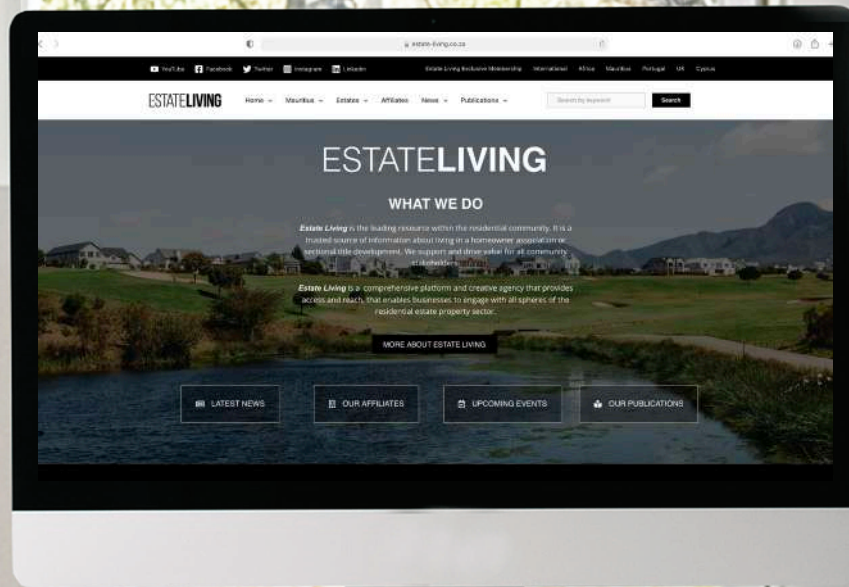
**A community effort**

The goal of these guidelines is not to restrict pet ownership, but to ensure that Kingswood remains a welcoming and harmonious place for both residents and animals.

With a little care, courtesy and responsibility, our pets can continue to be a happy part of the Kingswood community.

If you have questions about pet registration or estate rules, please contact the estate office for assistance.

# Find everything you need to know about Estate Living.



Estate Living is the leading resource within the residential community.

It is a trusted source of information about living in a homeowner association or sectional title development.

Estate Living supports and drives value for all community stakeholders.

[estate-living.co.za](http://estate-living.co.za)