

Kempton Park residents should prepare for a change of schedule on their waste removal calendar as the City of Ekurhuleni finds a new strategy to deal with waste removal. Only wheelie bins will be serviced in this new approach to refuse removal. See story on

page 3.

Breakthrough in murder case

Two foreign nationals, aged 35 and 37, had been arrested on Tuesday last week in connection with the brutal murder of an elderly Birchleigh woman on February 16.

The naked body of 74-yearold Miemie Bergh, a former theatre matron and scrub sister at Arwyp Medical Centre, was found in her bedroom cupboard at Manhattan Heights on the corner of Matumi and Geelhout streets around 2pm.

She had been strangled and hit on the head with an axe.

Capt Lesibana Molokomme, spokesperson for Norkem Park SAPS, on Wednesday said a team of detectives, under the leadership of Det Sgt Edwin Maborala, were put together to investigate the crime. He was assisted by Const Collin Molomo, Const Lawrence Mashaotane and Const Benny Selolo.

"On Tuesday the team went out on their investigations and at around noon they arrested the first suspect in Boksburg CBD. "The first suspect led the officers to Brentwood Park where a second suspect was arrested," Molokomme added.

A cellphone and necklace belonging to the deceased were recovered.

The men will appear in Kempton Park Magistrate's Court facing a murder charge. Station commander Col

Tobie Strauss and head of detectives Lt Col Potgieter thanked the community for information received from them, as well as the detective team who acted swiftly.





Girl learners from Mehlareng Combined Primary School receive gift bags with hygiene supplies from Child Welfare Kempton Park.

Donation excites girls



iva girls and viva education!" exclaimed Makha Thusi, director of Child Welfare Kempton Park, to 20 girl learners from Mehlareng Combined

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Primary School. "Among you I see lawyers, doctors and teachers. I don't want you missing school because you don't have sanitary pads.'

The Grade Six and Seven learners received brightly coloured bags with the word 'African' written on it last week. Inside, the smiling learners saw water bottles, roll-ons, lotions

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and sanitary pads.

According to principal Nombini Kuugwayo, many girls don't attend school during their menstruation period each month as they cannot afford these necessities.

With the average girl starting her periods as early as Grade Four, there are about 108 female learners at Mehlareng who may be facing this reality.

"This donation will contribute to bettering the learners' lives," said Kuugwayo. "Sanitary pads make the girls feel free - especially free to learn."

She thanked Child Welfare for their support and said she

AT.

hoped their relationship with the school would continue.

Child Welfare decided to make the donation after they were approached by a Glen Marais resident who read about the organisation in Kempton EXPRESS.

"We hope this gift will promote good hygiene, which in turn will promote a bright child and a bright mind," said Thusi. 'We want to teach them that they can be uplifted from the shackles they originate from."







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Ekurhuleni metro police, together with Interpol, the Hawks and Crime Intelligence, arrested two Lebanese brothers for illegally exporting drone components to Hezbollah in Lebanon.

Sam (Usama) Hamade (52) and his brother Isham (56) were arrested on February 16 and were expected to appear in Kempton Park Magistrate's Court on Monday.

"There was a red notice put on them by the US government for exporting items without a proper permit. Following that notice, we identified them to be in this country and executed a warrant," said Brig Vishnu Naidoo, national police spokesperson

"Sam was arrested at his house in Kempton Park, while Isham was arrested at OR Tambo International Airport arriving from Lebanon. Both brothers are wanted in the US for exporting goods without a permit," Naidoo said.

A third suspect, Samir Ahmed Berro (64), who has Lebanese and British citizenship, is yet to be arrested, News24 reported.

They have been accused by the US of illegally exporting items to Hezbollah, which is classified as a terrorist organisation.

Last week's press statement by the US Attorney's office for the District of Minnesota detailed how Usama Hamade, also known as Prince Sam and who reportedly previously claimed to be Lebanese royalty, allegedly lied, saying digital compasses for drones were needed in SA for antipoaching operations.

But the statement said these were actually destined for Hezbollah "co-conspirators in Lebanon".

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Confusion over refuse removal

A fter another week of refuse removal workers playing a cat and mouse game with residents, the City of Ekurhuleni seems to be back on track resolving the issues.

In a brief statement issued on Monday, Themba Gadebe, spokesperson for the metro, announced a change in the refuse removal schedule as the city "finds a new strategy to deal with waste removal backlogs".

According to him, March 5 will mark the reconfiguration of service points in all Kempton Park suburbs.

"This means an introduction of a process to cluster the number of households in close proximity to be serviced per day, which enables concentrated equal service areas per working team. The new system will allow officials to work smarter and equipped with adequate resources. Teams will be divided appropriately to the service areas," said Gadebe.

For example, the following suburbs will be clustered together to be serviced on Mondays: • Glen Marais, Kempton Park Highveld

Road to Glen Marais;

• Northern side: Aston Manor, Glen Erasmia, Nimrod Park, Zuurfontein 33-IR, Rietfontein 32-IR, Allen Grove, Witfontein 15-IR, Birchleigh AH, Witkoppie 64-IR, Kempton Park AH and Witfontein.

More areas will be clustered together to be serviced on specific days.

The new schedule for all Kempton Park suburbs is available on the Kempton EXPRESS website (www.kemptonexpress.co.za) under ""Municipal News".

Furthermore, March 5 will also signal the beginning of the strict use of the 240-L wheelie bin system to ensure effective cleanliness in the area.

Residents are invited to engage with the MMC for environment and waste management services, Clr Ndosi Shongwe, on the new developments on Saturday at 11am at Kempton Park Civic Centre.

However, before all these new developments residents were at their wits' end last week, not knowing what to put out - black bags or wheelie bins.

In some suburbs only black bags were taken while wheelie bins were not serviced. In other suburbs it was the opposite.

Certain wards have started looking like rub-



This photograph was taken in Brombeer Street, Terenure Ext 57 on Monday. Refuse has not been collected for three weeks, resulting in an influx of rats, mice and flies.

bish dumps as thousands of refuse bags line the streets.

In Ward 15 volunteers organised a clean-up operation where thousand of bags were picked up in Birchleigh and Van Riebeeck Park.

Residents took to social media to vent their anger at the lack of service delivery provided by the metro.

The new schedule for all Kempton Park suburbs is available on the Kempton Express website (www.kemptonexpress. co.za) under "Municipal News".

Hannelie Roux: "Why did we not receive wheelie bins as was reported in Kempton EXPRESS in November last year in Esther Park? We never know when the black bags will be collected. It is almost never on a Friday as scheduled!"

Linda Calitz: "Jip hier by ons is al die swartsakke nog op ons pavement. Hulle het niks gelaai nie. Ons betaal vir die verwyderings."

Kerri-Anne Garcia: "Our[s] gets picked up on Mondays and no issues we put out wheelie bins. The only time was between Christmas and New Year. We stay in Aston Manor." Derek Weldhagen: "The whole problem is, these workers are too lazy to do their jobs properly..."

William Millar: "Yesterday morning Linate Crescent Bonaero Park had only their wheelie bins emptied, BUT about 6.30pm a refuse truck removed the bags that were left on the pavement."

Charlotte Da Silva: "All this country wants is money and no service. I think the people of South Africa all should stop paying for these services and then you will see what the government will do."

Jo-anne van Loggerenberg: "In Terenure is net 'n paar huise se bins skoongemaak. Die res staan nog?"

Glenda Marlow Gardiner: "Last week my bags were not collected because they were IN the bin. I took them out and put them on a pavement... now I hear we must put them back in the bin and now I have double the bags as well. What are we supposed to do?"

Cheryl Thomson Turner: "Fire the lot of them and employ people who want to work. It's a bloody circus. We have to pay for a service which we don't get and they expect a salary at the end of the month." John De Villiers: "Pathetic 2 weeks the bags/bins have been on the pavement."

Swart Varkie: "I will collect and drop off all the refuse at the mayor's office. I'm tired!"

Tania Cloete: "PATHETIC! Our bin went out as per normal, black bags inside the bin... they usually lift the bin lid and remove the bag by hand. NOT THIS WEEK... They skipped all bins in our area!!!!!! Confuse the paying citizens, stealing our money!!!! Next week my bin will be too small to carry two weeks refuse, what then?"

Tania Cloete: "Here is actually a business opportunity for someone. Why can't we privatise the removal of refuse and stop paying the municipality for services not rendered?"

Dinay Jansen: "I am very confused. How many days per week do we have to put our wheelie bins outside? Our current schedule in Norkem Park is on Wednesday. No collection took place. Today, Thursday, the truck arrived, with no warning of the late collection, and drove by at a very high speed. There is no commitment from Ekurhuleni to ensure that they do arrive on the scheduled days."

Rhodesfield residents angry about rubbish

A bleak scene welcomed visitors to Gladiator Street, Rhodesfield, on Wednesday last week as refuse from ripped black bags was strewn alongside the road and in front of residents' homes.

One of these homes belongs to a fed-up reader, who wishes to stay anonymous. "I have lived here for

53 years and it has never looked like this," she told EXPRESS. The black bags in front of her home were barely visible, covered, instead with its contents. According to the upset resident the rubbish was not collected last week. "They'll never pick it up now in this state," she added.

The Premier Hotel OR Tambo is less than a kilometre away from the messy street, and residents think the neighbourhood is presented in a bad light to visiting guests.



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Residents thanked for crime reduction

The community and other law enforcers were thanked for their part in reducing crime on Saturday at a crime awareness campaign in Birchleigh.

Members of the community, security companies, patrollers and neighbourhood watchmen were welcomed on the corner of Cloete and Essenwood streets at 9am.

Station commander Col Tobias Strauss, head commander of Norkem Park sectors Oupa Mojapelo and MEC officer

Samson Madi formed part of the campaign, Norkem Park SAPS spokesperson Capt Lesibana Molokomme told EXPRESS.

"Madi appealed to the community and to other role players to work hand in hand with the police to achieve one goal; to fight crime as one," Molokomme said.

He added that campaigns like this one would spread to other sectors in the near future.

Egpaar is 50 jaar gelukkig getroud Egpaar wat reeds 44 jaar in Kemp-



Herlina en Gerhard Veldman was op 20 Januarie 50 jaar getroud.

ton Park bly, het op 20 Januarie hul 50ste huweliksherdenking gevier. Gerhard en Herlina Veldman is in 1968 in Pinetown in Natal getroud.

Gerhard het vir 32 jaar by AECI Modderfontein gewerk en na sy vroeë aftrede vir agt jaar by Con Amore Skool.

Herlina was vir 34 jaar by die Bybelgenootskap werksaam. Na haar aftrede het sy vir drie jaar by Laerskool Edleen se snoepie gewerk en daarna by Oos-Rand Akademie se naskoolsentrum.

Sy is steeds by Westside Primary School in Kempton Park-Wes betrokke.

Die egpaar het twee kinders, Riaan en Marlien, en drie kleinkinders, Alyssa, Vironuque en Lihandré.



Gerhard en Herlina Veldman op hul troudag in Pinetown.

Affordable eyewear at Kaleideo Eye Care

Your local optometric eye care practice is now open Monday to Saturday, at Kaleideo City Campus Church, 6 Willow street, Kempton Park. We have branches in Springs and Pretoria as well

The aim of the practice is to determine the health status of patients' eyes and then provide advice accordingly. Should the patient need spectacles, they would be able to make an informed decision regarding lenses and frames with the optometrist, Johannette Fraser or Lourens Odendaal

Consultations include a complete optometric examination, glaucoma screening, as well as blood sugar measurements, all for ONLY R130. Spectacle prices start at R399 for Single Visions, **R940** for Bifocals and R1 255 for Multifocals. This price includes both the lenses and a guaranteed new frame. There are more than 200 frames to choose from

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Kaleideo Eye Care can accommodate any of the patients' upgrade requirements as well, such as photochromic lenses, thinning and strengthening of lenses and coatings like hard coats and anti-glare coatings. Kaleideo Eye Care can also provide you with various hard and soft contact lenses. We can also claim from medical aids should you wish (terms and conditions apply)

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Call 011 970-7148 / 082 314 8452 during office hours for an appointment.

ROAD CLOSURE NOTICE

As part of the First Phase of the Integrated Rapid Public Transport Network, the City of Ekurhuleni is constructing a pedestrian bridge in Tembisa.

Due to these developments, the following streets will be closed:

CLOSED ROADS: Andrew Maphetho Drive and Nkabinde Drive DATE OF CLOSURE: 10 March to 11 March 2018 TIME OF CLOSURE: From Saturday 14h00 until Sunday 10h00.



The City wishes to apologise for any inconvenience caused during this period.

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EMPD recovers copper cable

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he director of a Spartan company briefly appeared in Kempton Park Magistrate's Court on Monday

after copper cable belonging to the City of Ekurhuleni was found on the company's premises on Forge Road.

Copper and aluminium cable

A member of the EMPD anti-cable theft unit inspects the drum of copper cable which is clearly labelled Ekurhuleni Municipality. Photograph: EMPD

over 500m long and valued at about R170 000 was discovered on the premises by the metro police on Friday night.

Chief Supt Wilfred Kgasago, spokesperson for Ekurhuleni Metro Police Department, said the EMPD anti-cable theft unit received a tip-off about rolls of cable belonging to the metro being stored on the premises.

"Following investigations and verification of the information received, members, armed with a search warrant, went to the company around 9.30pm. An offcut of a 185mm fourcore aluminium cable, 300m in length, another off-cut of a 185mm three-core copper cable 150m long, as well as one drum of 70mm four-core copper cable, 134m long, were uncovered," Kgasago said.

NEWS

"Given that energy regulations debar cables belonging to the metro to be stored at any other premises other than council's, a 42-year-old company director was locked up at Kempton Park Police Station on a charge of possession of suspected stolen council cable."

Accidental shooting

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A cash-in-transit guard was hospitalised after his own gun went off accidentally, wounding him.

The incident happened on Wednesday afternoon last week on Wolff Street.

The incident happened as the guard got out of the vehicle.

"The exact circumstances surrounding the shooting are unclear but from information gathered on scene, a male guard, aged between 20 and 25, who was working as a crew in the back of the armed cash van,

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was shot during an accidental discharge of his own firearm," said Netcare 911 spokesperson Nick Dollman.

"He sustained a gunshot wound to his left lower leg and a secondary injury to his left hand, which was probably a ricochet wound."

The guard was transported to hospital for further treatment.

"We treated him for two gunshot wounds, but the one in his leg was the more serious one. He was in a stable condition and although our paramedics were on the scene, he was transported by an ambulance from another service to a nearby private hospital," explained Dollman.

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NEWS

Celebrating Local Businesses HAPPY/BIRTHDAY

Business birthday celebration

If your company's birthday is near, celebrate it by showing your creative side and making a big buzz about a new project or product.

Launch that experiment you've been working on but never found enough push to complete. Hard deadlines usually do wonders.

Do you have innovative, successhungry employees to whom you never gave enough chance to prove themselves?

Have them complete their ideas by the time to celebrate your corporate birthday. Show to the public that you're celebrating your birthday by launching employee-initiated innovations.

If you're a service company, consider launching a product. Don't be surprised if this results in new streams of income for you.

Launch a significant improvement to your product or service and tell the media about it. If you improve on something customers repeatedly asked for in the past, you may even get free social media buzz.

Before people decide to buy your new product, many of them will want some sort of proof that it's really as awesome as you say it is. What do people do when they're thinking about buying a new product? They go online to find out what other people are saying about it.

You can partner with some of the influencers your target consumers follow and ask them to review your product. The important part is

to work with influencers who have significant reach and impact in your target niche. You could give them an exclusive preview of your product or send them some product samples.

Reviews from influencers in your niche can help you win the trust of your target consumers, many of whom may have never heard of your brand or product before. Ask the influencers to include info about your product launch in their posts as well, to further help build buzz for the launch.

Don't be afraid of failure. Your company is one year older and one year wiser. Experiments and new offerings are your way of telling the public that you're not afraid to innovate.



Have your employees complete their ideas by the time to celebrate your corporate birthday.

advertorial

Angus Restaurant turns two this month

At 240 Monument Road in Glen Marais lies the Angus Restaurant, which is turning two this month.

Here, a cosy atmosphere welcomes you. A smiling waitress, Blessing, leads you to a red diner-style booth, where a denim tablecloth covers the table. As you read the menu, which has everything from seafood to red meat, Betty Everett's The Shoop Shoop Song plays softly in the background. The smell of frying bacon fills the air.

Across the room, a table of about 10 friends is chatting away. They stop when waiter Joelle arrives punctually with their food, and dig owner of Angus. However, as an in. Across from them, owner and manager Henry Capazorio sits in a corner booth. He is talking to a customer; a personal touch the restaurant is well known for.

Advertorial

"The restaurant has a character of its own," Henry tells Express. He has extremely high standards, clearly visible in the good service and tasty food.

"We also care about value for money", he adds. A delicious breakfast paired with a cappuccino for R55 testifies to this. That, and the affordable home-cooked takeaway meals on a weekly basis.

When not managing the restaurant, Henry can be found behind the grill, patiently flipping eggs with cook Fanie. Henry does not like to mention that he is the elderly lady enters the restaurants and happily greets him with a kiss on the cheek, his involvement in its success seems imminent.

Blast from the past

Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around for a while, you could miss it.

This sentiment can apply to businesses. With employees working hard, special moments may be forgotten. This is where a time



Making a time capsule can ensure that no special moment gets lost.

capsule comes into play. You can capture moments and put them in a safe place and open it on your business' birthday the following year or even 10 years from now.

Some ideas to consider when putting together your time capsule are:

• Taking photos of milestone events. These can include moving offices or celebrating an employee's anniversary at the business.

• Saving old projects. When you open your capsule you will see just how far your company has come.

• Keeping old marketing materials. These can be in the form of advertising, press releases or even promotional items.

Making a time capsule can ensure that no special moment is lost.



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Page 7

Robbery described



A manager of Edleen KwikSpar who was inside the store when six armed robbers struck on February 16 spoke to EXPRESS about this dramatic event.

"I was in the back of the shop when I heard a commotion," he recalled. "When I saw two men behind the till I knew something was wrong."

According to Capt Lesibana Molokomme, spokesperson for Norkem Park SAPS, customers who were inside the store at the time of the robbery were robbed of their belongings.

According to Molokomme, an armed man entered the store at Edleen circle around 7pm. He went straight to one of the cashiers, pointed a firearm at the employee and ordered the person to hand over the money in the till.

The manager said these armed men were extremely calm. "They weren't aggressive or in a hurry. They were too calm."

He added that the experience was indescribable. "It felt like my heart stopped beating."

Despite this feeling of terror, he stayed calm. "A man right in front of me had a gun, so I ran away."

While doing so, he pressed a panic button. This was the third robbery he had witnessed,

of which the first two were at different shops. According to him, MML Security swiftly arrived on the scene. "It was barely two min-

utes and they were there." A security officer who responded was attacked by the robbers and his firearm was

attacked by the robbers and his firearm was taken. The suspects fled the scene with an undisclosed amount of money, customers' property, the stolen firearm and cigarettes.

He said the store is going through procedures to make it safer.

Norkem Park SAPS appeals to anyone with information to contact the station on 011 391 1814/5 or 086 001 0111.

SAPS arrests 25 suspects

Over the weekend Norkem Park SAPS saw 25 arrests.

Twenty of these arrests were for driving under the influence of alcohol, Capt Lesibana Molokomme, spokesperson for Norkem Park SAPS, told Express.

"The suspects were all aged between 24 and 48," he said. According to him, the operation was undertaken by the metro police.

The other five arrests were two for assault and three for possession of suspected stolen property.

The suspects were arrested after being tracked by detectives.



Impies spog met die distrikstoekennings wat hulle ontvang het: Sonja Pothumus, Layla Venter, Lukas Janse van Rensburg, Ruan Pienaar, Lawrence Smith, Hanre Hattingh, Kayla Roos en Caylin Olivier. Inlas: Bernelee Doster.

Impies tweede in distrik

aerskool Impala is by die jaarlikse Ekurhuleni-Noord distrikstoekennings op 16 Februarie by Kempton Park Burgersentrum as die naasbeste kultuurskool in die streek aangewys. Die skool se leerders het ook met talle toekennings weggestap. Die toekennings is gehou vir sport, waardes in opvoeding en kultuur vir afrigters, organiseerders, skeidsregters en leerders. Die volgende Impies spog met toekennings: Sonja Pothumus (kultuurmeisie van die jaar), Layla Venter (derde kultuurmeisie van die jaar), Lukas Janse van Rensburg (sportseun van die jaar), Ruan Pienaar (skeidsregter van die jaar), Lawrence Smith (tweede afrigter van die jaar), Kayla Roos (tweede kultuurmeisie van die jaar), Caylin Olivier (sportmeisie van die jaar) en Bernelee Doster (tweede sportmeisie van die jaar).





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The 2019 national elections are coming...

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The learners sit quietly to listen to the story being read to them, some more interested than others.



These little readers couldn't wait to start reading on World Read Aloud Day. Front: Sibusiso, Tazna'e and Angelique. Back: Jazlyn, Buyisiwe and Michel.

Reading thrills young children



housands of children across South Africa spent World Read Aloud Day glued to their seats as teachers and volunteers alike read to them.

This, in partnership with the reading-for-enjoyment campaign Nal'ibali, is an effort to reach one million children and put a stop to the poor literacy levels in South Africa.

Kempton Park's Westside Primary School threw its weight behind the project, adding about 500 children to the one-million mark.

Forty-two of these 500 learners were the excited Grade Fours, all neatly in rows. They listened with interest as Debbie Thacker, director of the Kip McGrath Education Centre, read The *Final Minute* by Zukiswa Wanner. The only time the smart learners did talk was to help their reader with the pronunciation of an isiXhosa name.

Thacker believes that reading is vital to the success of a child's education.

"Comprehension is vital to children [when reading] because it influences their schoolwork from Grade One



Director of the Kip McGrath Education Centre Debbie Thacker reads to the Grade Four learners from Westside Primary on World Read Aloud Day.

right up to Grade 12. If they don't understand what they are reading, they are not going to manage," she said.

Principal Soekie Pieters agreed, "Reading is the basis of everything. If you cannot read, you cannot do any of your schoolwork.

She believes children do not read as much any more because they do not grow up in a reading environment.

"Parents and guardians, read with your child every single day. We need to create a culture of reading again," she advised.

As Thacker finished reading the story, a little girl in the front row shot up her hand to ask a question. "Do you need to be talented to read a book?"

Thacker answered: "No, dear. Look at me, I'm just a normal person. Anybody can read."

She donated the Kip McGrath reading trophy to the Grade Four class in an attempt to inspire them to continue reading.

To view video footage from this event visit our website www.kemptonexpress.co.za



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KEMPTON EXPRESS March 1, 2018

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NEWS

Page 9

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF FRESH R Ε SEEN ON TV! SEEN ON TV! AS SEEN On TV! SEEN ON TV FOOD GROWN VHITE CHEDI CHEDDAR class 1 potatoes 7 kg Potato Pockets 7 kg White C Onion Bags 3 kg LIMITED TO 3 PER LIMITED FOOD LOVER ALZUE995 2 FOR **R25** FOR 95 g:GRADE ALZUE995 ree Range S1 g: GRADE 2 FOI 2 FOR **R25**) L class 1 Alzu Free Range Large Hot Cross Buns 6's Eggs 6's Fuel the F Sweetcorn Prepack Avocados Kelloggis Alban FIOTA ANY 2 FOR **CORN FLAKES** Summer Pear Thriftpacks 1 kg SUPER H Flora ANY 3 FOR White ZVE White, Red Seedless & Black Grape Punnets Lettuce I Buy a Loaf of Albany Superior White Bread ANY 2 FOR 700 g & Hugo's Mixed **R25** Flora Gold Tub, Low Fat Fruit Jam 450 g Olive, Lite 40% F/S, XL Low iron Fat or Regular Tub 500 g Kellogg's Corn Flakes 500 g Lettuce Prepack, English Cucumber & Spanish Santé Tomatoes Spanspek & Sweetmelons uxuru RS FOOD LOVER'S 2 FUF Y 3 FOI FOOD WN **R25** honey a white almond muesli sugar CARE RE tomatoes atoes 2 kg 1 kg g PLY Carrot Thriftpack 1 kg, Luxury Soft 2 Ply Toilet **Robot Pepper** Food Lover's Brown Food Lover's Muesli Beetroot Thriftpack 1 kg & Tomato Thriftpack 1 kg or White Sugar 2 kg Assorted 750 g Paper 200 Sheets 9's Thriftpacks Sweet Potato Thriftpack 1 kg BUTCHERY Whole Turkey



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Monica thanks everyone for helping during crisis

MONICA VAN LOGGEREN-BERG of Birchleigh writes:

I am writing this letter because I want to thank everyone I don't know who were there for me the past few months.

I want to start with the accident. Although I can't remember anything, I was told there were people who shined their car lights on us so that paramedics could see and help us. Thank you for that.

I want to thank the paramedics who were there. I know in my heart you guys did everything possible for my kids. Thank you for saving my life so that I can see my baby grow up. I know that night was hard on all of you, but thank you for going far beyond your work.

To Sunshine Hospital, thank you for taking such good care of me and Abigail. Thank you for all the jokes and small conversations every day. I didn't feel alone for one second. You really have great people working there.

To my sister Nicolene, and Barry, thank you. Out of all my family, you are the only ones who stood by my side. Thank you.

To my best friends Maria and Loran, thank you for everything you did and are still doing for me. Thank you, Maria, for every



Monica van Loggerenberg (29) with little Abigail (1). "Thank you for saving my life so that I can see my baby grow up," Monica said to paramedics.

day's coffee - it means the world to me. Their kids, Ashley and Rudolf, thank you for being such good friends to Meckayla and Jean-Pierre. I know they loved you.

To Florence and Hendrik van

Niekerk, my future parents-inlaw, thank you for all the months you took care of me and Abby. Ruan and Aletta, thank you for all your support and love.

Thank you to Wimpie and Philip and everyone who helped Juan with the funeral. Also to Pastor Andrew, thank you. Thank you Mr Van der Merwe. Without your help my kids wouldn't have had a proper goodbye.

To Laerskool Birchleigh, thank you for what you meant to my son. Thank you for always being there for Jean-Pierre. I know he loved everyone.

To Kempton EXPRESS, thank you for keeping everyone up to date on what happened and how it's going with us. And thank you to the Lady Down Under for your words. It really means a lot.

To Juan van Niekerk, thank you for the last three years. You gave my kids a home. You showed them what love and family are. You were a real dad to them. They say anyone can be a father, but it takes a real man to be a dad.

I know you and I and Abby still have a long path ahead of us. I know that one day we are going to tell Abby about her big brother and big sister. I know she is going to love them.

And thank you God for giving me the strength every day so that I can be a strong mommy for Abby.

To Jean-Pierre and Meckayla, we miss you a lot and love you. You gave us joy, laughter and love every day. We will never forget.

Refuse workers do half a job

LOUTJIE BURGER writes:

I am so upset with the metro's handling of the weekly pick-up of refuse and black bags.

We have a wheelie bin but that can only take four to five bags of refuse, so we put the other loose bags outside when it is time for collection.

The truck arrives and only takes the wheelie bin and tips it into the truck. What is the problem with the guys? Can't they just put the other loose bags into the bin and tip that into the truck as well?

No, it is not their job. They only pick up the wheelie bins and we have to take the bags to Norkem Park Transfer Station. Sometimes the person looks in the back of your bakkie to see what it is and charges you an extra R20 for dumping.

Why are we paying the metro for picking up our refuse when they are doing half a job? What would the metro do if all the people took their bags not collected and dumped them in front of the civic centre just to show them we are sick and tired of them doing half a job?

Come on, metro, really. It is so simple; your truck staff gets a salary to do a job so they must do a decent job, not half a job like the past three weeks.



GAUTENG PROVINCIAL BUDGET 18/19

Will there be more money for skills and economic development?

MEC of Finance Barbara Creecy will answer these and other questions when she presents the 2018/19 Provincial Budget to the Legislature on Tuesday, 06 March 2018.

Tune-in to the following community radio stations and listen to the live broadcast of the Budget Speech: Thetha FM/ Alex FM/ Jozi FM/VUT FM/ Soshanguve Community Radio/ Voice of Tembisa/ Kasie FM/ Eastrand Stereo/ Radio Today/ West Side FM/ Mams FM and Radio Islam.



You can also watch the speech on DSTV; GauTV, channel 265 and Business Day TV, channel 412.

Connect with the MEC @BarbaraCreecyGP or join the conversation about public finances on Twitter and Facebook using

#GPBUDGET2018

Together, Moving Gauteng City Region Forward



Express Diary

Saturday 3 March

• A large selection of books and second-hand clothing will be on sale at Avril Elizabeth Home, 11 Castor Road, Fishers' hill, Germiston, from 9am to noon. Call Sharon on 011 822 2233.

• Die sanger Pierre van der Westhuizen tree om 9.30vm tydens 'n oggendtee by Allenpark op. Kaartjies kos R60 elk. Vir besprekings, skakel Sarie Scheepers by 011 972 4220 of 083 627 5966.

• Die Birchleigh-gemeenskap hou elke eerste Saterdag van die maand 'n markdag van 8vm tot 4nm op die ou korfbalbane op die hoek van Essenwood- en Cloetestrate. Mense wat stalletjies wil bespreek kan Belinda skakel by 079 904 0131.

• Bonaero Park Farmers' Market takes place every first Saturday of the month at 26 Geldenhuys Road, Bonaero Park, from 8.30am to 2pm. Free entry, safe parking. Boeresport for children starts at 11am. Call Magda on 083 845 7660.

• Diamant4 bied vanaf 10vm 'n boeremusiekfees aan by die Diamant4 Landgoed, Muldersdrift. Eie verversings en drinkgoed welkom. Kontantkroeg is beskikbaar, asook kos en pannekoek. Kaartjies kos R80 en kinders onder 12 is gratis. Drag is semi-formeel, geen kortbroeke en plakkies. Verskeie orkeste tree op. Skakel Theo by 083 645 3931.

Sunday 4 March

• Die NG Gemeente Birchleigh-Noord nooi u om te kom deel in hul aanbiddings- en lofprysingsgeleentheid om 9vm by Esselen Park. Die prediker is ds Danie van Niekerk. Skakel Hester Marais by 083 564 7462.

• The 4th annual East Rand

District Scout Open Water Swim, a Benoni Sea Scouts initiative, takes place at Homestead Dam at 9am. The events include a cub swim of 250m for swimmers 7-11, a Scout swim of 750m for those aged 11-18 and a family fun swim of 400m for all ages. There is also a challenging super Scout swim of 1km. Those not eager to swim can take part in the "dry swim" and just make a donation. All funds raised will go to Arrowe Park. Register online at sites.google.com/site/erdscoutswim/. Call Karin on 082 555 6339 or Mike on 082 451 2815.

• Dr Hannetjie Edeling praat oor om bejaard te word en steeds sinvol en met vreugde te leef tydens die NHN-byeenkoms om 9.30vm by die MBA Konferensiesentrum in Midrand. Skakel Johan by 083-556-8711.

• Bakgat Boeremark takes place

at Marechelle Country Estate, 185 High Road, Bredell, from 10am to 3pm. Cash bar, arts and crafts, variety of food stalls and craft beer. Call René Molony on 076 331 6941.



Tuesday 6 March

• H.E.A.L. (Healing, Educating, Addicted Lives) meets every Tuesday at 7pm at Maranatha Church, offering support for families/people suffering from the consequences of addictions and provide support through recovery. Contact Mark on

079 509 9525.

• Edleen CPF meets at 6.30pm at Laerskool Edleen, entrance Floria Road. Contact Ian Luyt on 072 570 3868 or Raoul Otto on 082 456 7513.

• The Friends of Kempton Park Libraries hosts a card-making group every first Tuesday of the month from 9am at Birchleigh North Library. All materials supplied. Funds raised from selling these cards at libraries go towards the libraries. Residents are welcome to join. Call Marieta Barnard on 076 266 0307. Wednesday 7 March

• Boksburg Hiking Club meets at Atlas Bowling Club, c/o Denel North and Atlas Road, at 7pm. Braai fires will be ready from 5.30pm for a bring-and-braai. Find out about and book for upcoming hikes. Cash bar available. Call Emily Delport on 082 456 4946.

What's on in the area?



Musiekgilde hou sy nasionale fees

Die Witwatersrandtak van die Boeremusiekgilde bied op 3 Maart die nasionale Boeremusiekfees aan.

Die geleentheid vind plaas van 8.30vm tot 10.30nm by die NG-kerk Kempton Hoogland, De Wiekusweg 85, Van Riebeeck Park. Almal is welkom om die funksie by te woon. Van die land se top musikante tree op.

Vir meer besonderhede skakel Marius by 082 447 3831 of Ilze by 072 610 4913.

Basaar by NG-kerk

Die NG Gemeente Bonaero Park hou op 2 Maart vanaf 5nm tot laat 'n basaar by die kerk.

Daar sal koeldrank, lekkergoed, pannekoek, kerrie-enrys, sosaties, jaffels, mielies, boereworsrolle en potjiekos te koop wees, asook rou vleis. Daar is lekker musiek, vermaak vir die jongklomp en

vermaak vir die jongklomp en kunsstalletjies.

How are Men saved from Hell?





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1**Cor15:1** Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel2 By which also ye are saved,.....3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures. 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: 5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: 6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once: of whom the greater part remain unto this present.

Are there any other ways to heaven?

Acts4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.





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Pienaar Fourie conducting the orchestra.

Learners enjoy orchestra visit

The East Rand Youth Orchestra (ERYO) put on two demonstration concerts at Solid Foundations Primary School on February 23.

The orchestra was conducted by Pienaar Fourie, who entertained the young audience with interesting facts about the various instruments and their orchestral functions.

The concerts included an exciting repertoire with pieces like Shosholoza and The Lion Sleeps Tonight. ERYO is a non-profit organisation and has 40 young members this year.

They inspire learners and adults alike with their fresh talent and sheer enjoyment of music.



Aparajita Kumar, a Grade Four learner at Solid Foundations, 'conducts' the youth orchestra.



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NEWS



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Oud of nuut, skenk daardie boeke aan jou biblioteek

Die Vriende van die Kempton Park Biblioteke is deurentyd besig om biblioteke te ondersteun deur te help met fondsinsameling en ander maniere om nuwe boeke vir hulle aan te koop.

Dit word al hoe belangriker aangesien die metro se begroting vir die aankoop van nuwe boeke besnoei word. Die Vriende se fondse stel biblioteke in staat om hierdie gaping aan te vul.

Die Vriende se doel is

dus tweeledig van aard. Eerstens om die biblioteke in die streek aan die publiek bekend te stel. Tweedens om fondse in te samel om nuwe boeke vir biblioteke aan te koop.

Om hierdie doelstelling te bereik, kan die gemeenskap betrokke raak deur tweedehandse boeke aan die biblioteke te skenk. Hierdie boeke word vir biblioteke waar dit nodig is, opgeneem of dit word vir 'n nominale prys verkoop. Hierdie

projek is die grootste enkele bron van hul deurlopende inkomste.

Indien jy in tweedehandse boekskenkings betrokke wil raak, nader enige biblioteek in jou omgewing vir inligting.

Hulle sal jou in kontak bring met 'n persoon wat die boeke by jou sal kom haal of jy kan dit self by die biblioteek inhandig.

Vir meer besonderhede skakel Magdel van Tonder by 083 3103 693.





Homeless get meal on Valentine's Day

Berry Food and Events from Norkem Park extended love on Valentine's Day when they handed out meals and personal care hampers to homeless people on the corner of Monument Road and CR Swart Drive.

For all your breaking news and more, visit www.kemptonexpress.co.za













Thank U Rewards Programme is not available in Mozambique.

NEWS

Woman (67) dies in accident

A 67-year-old woman was killed in a head-on collision between a car and a bakkie on Pretoria Road on Wednesday morning last week.

ER24 paramedics, along with another emergency service, arrived on the scene to find a light motor vehicle and bakkie with a trailer on opposite sides of the road, Russel Meiring of ER24 said.

"Upon closer inspection, paramedics found the woman's body trapped inside her car. Paramedics assessed the woman and found she had sustained numerous injuries and showed no signs of life,' Meiring said.

Two men from the bakkie were assessed and found to have escaped injury.

Suspect killed in shoot-out on the R21

Three men were spotted in a car hijacked in February.

A late-night shoot-out between police and three men in a hijacked car on the R21 on Wednesday night last week resulted in one suspect being killed and another arrested.

A third suspect managed to escape.

Capt Jethro Mtshali, spokesperson for Kempton Park SAPS, said vigilant members of Benoni Flying Squad spotted a suspicious-looking white VW Polo with three men inside on the R21 near the R25 around 10pm while doing normal patrols.

'The officers checked the vehicle's status, which revealed the car was reported hijacked in Delmas in Mpumalanga in February. They tried to pull the car over. However, the suspects fired shots at the officers, who returned fire," Mtshali said.

The driver lost control of the vehicle and it hit the barriers.

One suspect made a run for it. His one accomplice was fatally wounded in the upper body, while a second was arrested unharmed.

"A firearm was discovered next to the deceased suspect," Mtshali added.

The car was impounded and the 30-yearold suspect will face charges of possession of a hijacked motor vehicle, possession of an unlicensed firearm and ammunition and attempted murder in Kempton Park Magistrate's Court.

Join the Walk for Jesus on



March 4

THE community is invited to the Walk 4 Jesus event on March 4.

The annual walk will start and finish at Laerskool Concordia on Rietfontein Road in Boksburg.

All are welcome to join. Participation in the walk, also known as the prayer walk, is free.

Praise and worship songs will be sung and over 1 000 small Bibles will be handed out to bystanders during the walk.

The walk started in 2010 and there are three walks every year: in March, in July and in October.

Community members are encouraged to bring along their family members, friends, neighbours and dogs.

Participants will gather at the school hall and the walk will start at noon.

For more information call 082 492 7702.



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Aero Heights, Long Street	P/PAID	2	1	LOCK-UP	NO	NO	R 4950
PG PARK, Boksburg	CONV	2	1	CARPORT	NO	NO	R 5300
Pamula Park, Bonearo Park	CONV	2	1	CARPORT	NO	YES	R 5300
Belvedere, Brentwood Park	P/PAID	2	1	CARPORT	YES	YES	R 4950
Portofino, Rhodesfield	CONV	2	1	LOCK-UP	NO	NO	R 5000
The Image 1, Akkedis street	P/PAID	2	1	CARPORT	NO	NO	R 5000
araes Corner, Birchleigh	P/PAID	2	2	CARPORT	NO	YES	R 5500
Sheffield II, Terenure	P/PAID	2	2	CARPORT	NO	NO	R 5800
Westbrook, Glen Marais	CONV	2	1	CARPORT	NO	NO	R 5508
Cazablanca, Bonaero Park	CONV	2	1	CARPORT	NO	YES	R 6500
Blue Crane, Birch Acres	CONV	2	2	TANDEM	YES	YES	R 5600
The Image 2, Glen Marais	CONV	2	1	CARPORT	NO	NO	R 5800
Caza Blanca, Bonearo Park	CONV	2	1	CARPORT	NO	YES	R 6000
araes Corner III, Birchleigh	P/PAID	2	1	CARPORT	NO	YES	R 6000
ludor Village, Norkem Park	CONV	2	1	CARPORT	NO	YES	R 6500
aura Court, Norkem Park	P/PAID	2	1	CARPORT	NO	YES	R 6500
Dunhurst, Brendwood Park	CONV	2	1	CARPORT	NO	YES	R 5695
3on Villa, Bonaero Park	CONV	2	1	LOCK-UP	YES	YES	R 6950
Bunku Heights, Norkem Park	P/PAID	2	1	LOCK-UP	NO	YES	R 7 500
Fugela Manor, Bergrivier drive	CONV	2	1	2 x C/PRT	NO	YES	R 7700
Caza Blanca, Bonaero Park	CONV	2	2	CARPORT	NO	YES	R 6500
Costa Ricca, Norkem Park	P/PAID	3	2	TANDEM	NO	YES	R 7000
.izurma Gardens, Norkem Park	CONV	3	1	LOCK-UP	NO	YES	R 7800
zandri, Aston Manor	CONV	3	2	2 x L/UP	NO	YES	R 8380
lzehof, Birchleigh Noord	CONV	3	2	2 x L/UP	NO	YES	R 8912
Gwarrie street, Glen Marais	CONV	3	2	2 x L/UP	YES	YES	R 8100
Boekenhout street, Birchleigh	CONV	3	2	LOCK-UP	YES	YES	R 8950
Watertraper, Birch Acers x 3	CONV	4	2	4 x PKNG	YES	YES	R 9500
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Naterfall Park, Benoni	CONV	3	2	PARKING	NO	YES	R 6500
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The Parks, Monument Road	P/PAID	3	3	CARPORT	NO	YES	R10 000
5t Kitts, Rynfield, Benoni	CONV	3	2	2x L/P	YES	YES	R10 000

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Surprising factors that devalue a home

Apart from the usual factors which determine how much your home is valued at, there are some commonly overlooked things to consider. The most common factors that go into the valuation of a home are things like location, square footage, nearby schools and the number of bedrooms and bathrooms.

However, whether you're buying or selling a home, it's important to be aware of all contributing factors that could impact the home's value.

Neighbourly love

Bad neighbours can be a huge deterrent to potential home buyers, particularly if the seller has unresolved disputes with their neighbours. If it is apparent that you have a dispute with your neighbour, buyers may be put off, so it's a good idea to make sure that your disputes are resolved. Neighbours who don't look after their homes and gardens can make the neighbourhood look untidy, which could take away from the value of your home, even if your garden is immaculate.

What's in a name?

Living in a particular street can increase or decrease the value of your home. Therefore, the reputation of these streets will increase the value of your home. This concept works the opposite way around for a particularly dangerous street or one with a bad reputation. **Unlucky number 13**

Believe it or not, studies show that odd and even numbers fetch different house prices among those who are superstitious. Certain people may avoid a home that is number 13. and it may put your home at a value lower than that of your neighbours' with different house numbers.

Negative history

Many buyers are put off by a home with a negative history. Things like a death on the property, a crime having occurred in the house

or a fire or flooding on the property in the past can devalue your home. Buyers may not want to inherit a home that has had a negative history and could be considered "bad luck". Pets not welcome

If you have a large number of pets, pets that smell or intimidating pets, this can be a large deterrent for buyers. It could devalue the price of your home by a few percent even. Make sure to clean thoroughly before show day and get rid of pet odours as far as possible. When selling your home, make sure to consider the above factors, as well as the most obvious ones, in order to get your home priced right and sold fast.

Information courtesy of Private Property.



Odd and even numbers fetch different house prices among those who are superstitious.





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R1 530 000	House	4	3 Gar	Glen Marais	R11 040	House	4	2 CP	Imm	Van Riebeeck Par
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How to enhance your home's kerb appeal

Regardless of whether or not you're planning on selling, kerb appeal can do a lot for your home. This aspect of the home becomes even more important when it comes time to sell.

When people arrive to view your home they generally observe two things: the house itself and the landscaping in front of the property. Unfortunately, if your kerb is a mess the home will appear to be less attractive.

One tip that will make yours stand out from the pack is to raise the flower beds with topsoil. The good news is that plants tend to thrive in raised beds.

Plant placement for kerb appeal is vital. An attractive feature of corner beds is a centrepiece. Usually, this is a large shrub or tree that provides a suitable background for more colourful plants. Brightly coloured evergreen plants can be used in front of the centrepiece and you won't require too

many of them to make a good show.

You should be trying to create contrast with colour, and when this is used sparingly, beds tend to look better and make more of a statement.

With a little money, some hard work and a bit of creativity, you'll find that you can really enhance the value of your home by creating the right impression from the get-go.

 Information courtesy of Private Property.



When people arrive to view your home they generally observe the landscaping in front of the property.



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NEWS

KEMPTON EXPRESS March 1, 2018





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Impies se 2018 prefekte

Laerskool Impala se 2018 prefekte. Daar is 44 prefekte (36 prefekte en agt hoofleiers). Voor: Marete du Plessis (hoofleier akademie), Miike Kruger (hoofleier kultuur), Charné Strydom (hoofleier sport), Ashleigh Doster (hoofmeisie), Lukas Janse van Rensburg (hoofseun), Tjaart Mentz (hoofleier sport), Bernu du Plessis (hoofleier kultuur) en Neil Neumann (hoofleier akademie). Tweede ry: Juan Schlebusch, Kyle Preston, Jeandré Dobson, Brandon Olckers, David Marchall, Megan Prinsloo, Keanan van der Merwe, Richardo du Plooy, Gerhard Boonstra, Erwee Maas, Stiaan Harmse en Rueben Jordaan. Derde ry: Anja Putter, Simoné Swanepoel, Andrea Janse van Vuuren, Justine Nel, Isabella Milhano, Tanya Richards, Chante-Lee Kruger, Cheyanne Luus, Jay Cee-Lee Ansell, Megan Simpson, Isabella Abrie en Megan Lourens. Agter: Leandri Reyneke, Carissa Coetzee, Jada Gerber, Amy Kotze, Timoné Botha, Nikita van der Merwe, Erin Jordaan, Leané Channing, Bia Nortier, Erika du Plessis, Cortez Barnard en Nadia Crous.



Hoërskool Birchleigh's top achievers in 2017

Duratec Batteries

Kempie se sportuitslae

Hoërskool Kempton Park se muurbal- en hokkie-uitslae van die afgelope week is:

Muurballiga: Kempies 1 verloor teen CBC 1 - speel gelykop, maar verloor op punte, Kempies 2 wen CBC 2 11-6, Kempies 3 verloor teen CBC 3 6-9, Kempies 4 wen CBC 3 12-1, Kempies 4 wen Shangri-La 3 12-0.

Hokkie: Die eerste span het die afgelope naweek aan 'n voorseisoentoernooi deelgeneem: wen Maragon 2-0, wen St Andrews 2-0, speel gelykop teen Parktown 1-1, verloor teen Beaulieu 0-4.

Contact us: 126 Monument Road, Kempton Park Tel: 011 970 3030 Tel: 010 492 4449 Fax: 011 970 4083

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The top academic learners at Hoërskool Birchleigh (Grades Eight to 11) in 2017. They are Willie Kruger (deputy principal FET), Kwezi Masuku, (Grade 11), Rutendo Mukurunge (Grade Nine), Maxine Pillay (Grade 11), Zantré van Wyk (Grade 11), Monique Botha (Grade 11), Anthony Makibela (Grade 10), Khanyisa Mashimbyi (Grade 11), Kabelo Nchabeleng (Grade 10), Mihle Makaula (Grade Nine), Sithembiso Nyandeni (Grade 11), Lebogang Mohlabeng (Grade 11, top achiever) and Veronica Murray (deputy principal GET).

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Promotion side loses by one wicket

The promotion side of the Avion Park Cricket Club lost by one wicket against the Benoni Northerns at the weekend.

Avion was bowled out for 148. In reply, Benoni scored 149/9.

The junior teams' results were:

U-8 Sun League: Avion beat Boksburg by 160 runs. Avion 203/3. Boksburg 43 all out. Juan Coetzee 53, Gerrie Beetge 42, Thinus Smit 3/2, Rikardo Wills 1/3.

U-8 Carnival League: Avion 1 beat Benoni by 29 runs. Avion 67/4. Benoni 38/6. Evan Mulligan 18, Peet van Deventer 0/2 and two run-outs.

U-8 Carnival League: Avion 2 lost by 110 runs against KwaThema 2. Avion 25 all out. Kyle Rodger 6 and 0/9.

U-10 Impala League: Avion beat Benoni by six wickets. Benoni for 151/5. Avion 154/4. Wian Riekert 61, Keagan Pretorius 3/24.

U-10 Sun League: Avion 1 lost by eight wickets against Alberton. Avion 73/8. Alberton 74/2.

U-10 Sun League: Avion 2 lost by three wickets against Alberton 2. Avion 96/7. Alberton 101/7. Driaan Swanepoel 24*, Louis Pieterse 19* and 3/7, Joshua Marx 2/15.

U-12 Impala League: Bedfordview 165/6. Avion 72/9. JP Pienaar 3/34.

Kempton junior cricket results

Kempton Park Junior Cricket Club's results for the past week were:

U-8 Sun beat Alberton by 14 runs. Man of the match was Pasca Mutekwa with 24*. Lincoln Casais 21*, Joshua van Rensburg 1/1.

U-10 Carnival Yellow lost to Etatwa by 19 runs. Etatwa scored 92/6 and in reply Kempton fell short with 74/6.

Man of the match was awarded to Kyros Stavrides for his 10* and 1/2.

U-14 Impala played against Tsakane, winning by 56 runs. Kempton won the toss, decided to bat first and scored 177/3.

Tsakane replied with 122/8.

The best performers were Tiaan Haywood 80* and 1/12 (man of the match), Zack Smith 53*, Nathan Kemp 3/26, Jacques van der Merwe 2/17.

Local conquers Dusi marathon

number of members of the Ekurhuleni Kayak Club (ERK) based at Homestead Dam in Benoni successfully finished the FNB Dusi 2018 marathon. Although the water levels

were still low and there was quite a bit of getting stuck on rocks in certain sections, increasing the portaging requirement (carrying boat and walking/running), they all finished.

The race of some 120km took place between Pietermaritzburg and Durban on February 15, 16 and 17, in extreme heat and humid, overcast conditions, which is common in the area at this time of year. While the river is frequently in flood between December and March, the last few years of drought have had a huge impact on the river water levels, making it tougher than before.

Many of the portages are based on the original Dusi of 1965 where the participants had wooden/canvas boats and no dams, no water releases and no choice other than to carry and walk with boats for kilometres around rocky, tricky rapids.

Leon Maritz, who partnered up with Kempton Park's Bob Harvey, finished in a time of 16 hours 22 minutes over the three days.



Leon Maritz and Kempton's Bob Harvey enjoyed the tough endurance event and finished the 2018 Dusi.



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Avion bowls teams

impress in finals

Avion Park Bowling Club hosted the Ekurhuleni Bowls league finals on Saturday.

Avion Park had a women's first division playing in the finals against Brackenhurst Bowling Club.

Some good bowls was played by both the opposition and Avion. Unfortunately, one side lost 18-24. The other side won 28-17. With great teamwork, the women pulled through and won the finals.

The women's first division side members were Meisie Rheeder, Nellie Pretorius, Christelle Pringle, Gail Marais, Amanda Perks, Liezl George, Grace Beech and Grete Brown. Avion also had a men's premier side playing in the finals for the third year running. With a nail-biting game and great bowls, Avion came a close second to Edenvale Bowling Club, making them the runners-up in the league with scores of one side 22 all. The other side lost 17-16.

The men's premier side members were Cobus Galloway, Grant George, Deon Labuschagne, Joe Cruz, Johannes Botes, Ginger Jacobs, Tommy Visser and Louise Cronje.



Young fencer reaches quarter-finals

Wenzel Coetzer won a bronze medal at the second **Gauteng Fencing** Association competition in Soweto. He competed in the u-11 épée category. He then went on to the nationals where he reached the quarter-finals in the u-13 épée category. He is a Grade Five learner at Curro Serengeti.



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Advertising Consultants: Kim Cass • 084 694 6178 • Lindy Babnik • 083 644 5335 • Shirley Dickson • 062 893 3140 A supplement to Benoni City Times, Boksburg Advertiser, Kempton Express. Distribution: 139 450 copies.





Most affordable Lexus updated

> SEAN NURSE

T'S NO secret that hybrid vehicles haven't really taken off in South Africa, but if we're looking towards mobility in the short to medium-term, these types of cars might just be the solution.

One of the very first hybrid models to reach local shores was the Lexus CT 200h back in 2011. The hatchback then received a mild update in 2014 and now in 2018, the smallest Lexus within the range has been refreshed again. I had a chance to drive this revised model briefly in Johannesburg.

→ UPDATED LOOKS

I'll be honest, the changes made to the range are rather minor, but do help the CT retain some relevance within the local market. The front grille gets an F-Sport-like honeycomb-look, there are new headlamps, a reshaped bumper and relocated LED daytime running lights, while at the rear, there is a newly designed bumper too.

Viewed from the side, the updated model retains its rather small 16-inch tyres albeit with newly designed alloy wheels, while a new two-tone option has been made available. This means that one can specify the car with a Titanium and Quartz (white/silver roof), Mercury and Morello (red/black roof) as well as Titanium and Black (black/silver roof) colour combination.

→ UPDATED INTERIOR

The interior has been mildly updated with a newer 10.3-inch infotainment system complete with navigation replacing the previous seven-inch item. There are also new colour options, but overall, the interior remains very similar and is starting to look dated when compared to more modern Lexus products such as the NX.

→ **POWERTRAIN AND DRIVING IMPRESSION** At the business end of the CT 200h is the familiar 1.8-litre naturally aspirated petrol motor mated with an electric mater. Output is rated at

mated with an electric motor. Output is rated at 73kW/142Nm for the petrol motor and 60kW for the electric motor with a combined output of 100kW. The claimed fuel consumption is impressive at 4.1-litres/100km which, if driven gingerly, is likely achievable.

With the two motors working in tandem, it gets off of the line rather well, with a 0-60km/h sprint that surprised. It's at higher speeds where the powertrain still feels a bit strained, but if driven as an urban commuter, the CT works well.

Fiddling with the drive mode selector, I found 'Sport' mode to be the easiest to live with, while 'EV' and 'Eco' modes place more emphasis on the use of the electric motor; they also dull the throttle response and make progress more laboured.

I suppose the biggest compliment I could pay the CT in terms of its driving experience is that you're quite isolated from the process. There is a slight drone from the petrol motor coupled to the CVT gearbox when pushing on, but other than that, it's rather silent.

If you utilise the car in EV mode, it will only use the electric motor, although driving range is limited, which necessities the petrol motor being activated to charge the battery again.

→ SERVICE PLAN AND WARRANTY

The CT 200h comes with a four-year/100 000km maintenance plan as well as a four-year/100 000km warranty, while the hybrid battery comes with an eight-year/195 000km warranty. • ad \rightarrow **PRICING**

Lexus CT 200h S - R529 300.



Grand i10 ups the value factor

> CHARL BOSCH 🔯 @charl_bosch 🛛 🖸 @Charl Bosch

WHILE IT is a known fact that the Hyundai Grand i10 has been one of the Korean automaker's top sellers in South Africa, the exact figures have largely been withheld until the company's surprise decision last year to reveal individual model numbers as part of the monthly NAAMSA sales states.

Rarely out of the top 15 with some months seeing it recording four figures, a total of 1 134 Grand i10's have already been shifted this year, making it a serious contender in the lucrative A-segment of the local market.

→ MORE MODELS AND UPDATED SPEC

Now less than a year after receiving a mid-life update, Hyundai has not only expanded and further refined the Grand i10 range, but also confirmed it as the official replacement for the i10 that had been its entry-level model until now.

Visually, telling the Grand i10 apart from the previous model takes some fine eye-tuning, with the biggest difference being new LED daytime running lights. In stark contrast, the interior and indeed standard specification has been re-jigged, not only at base level to replace the i10, but also the sharp-end with the introduction of the new Glide trim level.

Replacing the Fluid as the new flagship model with the Motion staying put as the range starting point, the Glide comes equipped with sporty looking alloy wheels, the aforementioned LEDs, leather

seats, a new leather wrapped multi-function steering wheel, rear parking sensors and a standard two year / 30 000km service plan.

The biggest change though is the fitment of a new touchscreen infotainment system on the Fluid and Glide, which features both Bluetooth and USB connectivity, although forking out an extra R2 500 adds a SD card with navigation.

Elsewhere in the range, the Motion now gets a passenger airbag as standard as well as the aforementioned steering wheel, but loses out on rear electric windows. Relegated to mid-range status, the Fluid nonetheless gets alloy wheels, rear electric windows, keyless entry, heated and electric mirrors, chrome grille and the same service plan as the Glide.

→ A FAMILIAR BUTTWEAKED ENGINE RANGE

With its replacing of the i10, Hyundai has kept the existing 1.0-litre three-cylinder and 1.2-litre four-cylinder petrol mills, but tweaked the former with outputs dropping from 50kW/99Nm to 48kW/94Nm, while the latter again produces 64kW/120Nm. A five-speed manual gearbox is standard across the range with a four-speed automatic optional on the 1.0 Motion and 1.2 Fluid.

At launch, only the Glide was available to drive, where it proved to be in its element as a city roundabout with a light clutch action, responsive steering, slick shifting manual 'box and surprisingly sharp brakes.

→ ON THE ROAD

It was a different story out on the highway as the launch route headed out of Bedfordview onto the N12 and along the back roads to Pretoria. At the national speed, the little engine felt strained and badly in need of an extra ratio, with the amount of engine and wind noise also proving to be a hindrance.

Despite having to traverse a series of surface changes ranging from smooth to badly patched tar, the Grand i10's combination of MacPherson struts at the front and a torsion beam axle at the rear made for a soft but complained ride that didn't warrant much complaints. In spite of its tiny dimensions, boot space is rated at an impressive 256-litres

→ CONCLUSION

Although it has already established itself as a



for all.

Grand i10 1.0 Motion

Grand i10 1.0 Fluid

Grand i10 1.2 Fluid

Grand i10 1.2 Glide

Grand i10 1.2 Fluid AT

Grand i10 1.0 Motion AT

local favourite, the Hyundai Grand i10 is set to widen

its appeal further by attracting buyers who originally

had to settle for the admittedly well-equipped, but

smaller and older i10. With good levels of spec,

a solid drive, impressive levels of fit-and-finish

and a six model line-up, there is now a Grand i10

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Haval Edenvale biggest in the Southern Hemisphere

> AUTODEALER

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GREAT WALL MOTORS (GWM) and its recently launched luxury focused SUV division, Haval, have been making strong strides within our market strategy.

We here at Autodealer have driven a few of these new Haval models and have been impressed with the value for money that customers can expect. In fact, the cars have been impressing a host of media. We decided to sit down with the team at Haval Edenvale to find out why their cars are becoming so desirable.

→ NEW BEGINNING

For starters, Haval Edenvale now finds itself at a new address. It is now at 104 Van Riebeeck Avenue. Not only has this building been completely refurbished, but the dealership also happens to be the biggest Haval showroom in the Southern Hemisphere.

It is an achievement that dealer principal and owner, Roy Obery, is extremely proud of. The road to such an achievement has not been easy. He and his dedicated team have invested a lot of time, effort and money into their success.

→ A FAST MOVING GLOBAL JUGGERNAUT

So why would anyone put such effort in for a brand such as GWM or indeed a newcomer like Haval? Well, Haval might be a new brand to many South Africans, but on a global scale, it is

fast becoming the biggest luxury SUV manufac- ishes and feels premium. The layout is spacious tures a new service and parts department that is turer

This Chinese automaker is determined to offer customers a quality luxury SUV at affordable prices. Within our time at the dealership, two vehicles were collected by their new, excited owners. Mr Obery also said that many of their lately with a more aggressive market and product new customers seem to be moving out of seemingly more premium brands because they are getting the same features for far less at Haval. → THE CUSTOMER COMES FIRST

Haval Edenvale has also taken it upon them-

selves to not only offer good quality vehicles, but also top quality customer service.

The dealership features top class fit-and-fin-

with a host of new cars on display. The pre-owned great prices. Another nice element is the customer waiting area. It is on the second level and features a lounge setup with a coffee bar and a massive television.

→ THE SERVICE SIDE

their cars to be serviced when an Express Service is done. This is a quick basic service on cars where customers can expect to wait for an hour or less. as quickly and effectively as possible.

Talking about servicing, the dealership also fea-

able to handle many cars at any given time. Their division is also full of a variety of cars on offer at highly trained mechanics are able to effectively maintain your GWM and Haval in order to keep it at its optimal performance levels.

→ GET MORE FOR LESS

If you are looking for a quality alternative to the SUV options out that won't break your bank ac-This is the area where customers can wait for count, then you best get down to Haval Edenvale, which incidentally took the prize for top volume dealer in SA for 2017.

The team is ready to assist you with trade-ins as This means that you can get back onto the road well as a variety of finance solutions to suit your needs and budgets. Give them a call on 011 452 4410.



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Haval H6 C 2.0T Premium (A)	R369 900
Haval H6 C 2.0T Luxury (M)	R359 900
Haval H6 C 2.0T Luxury (A)	R389 900

Ranger FX4 a Wildtrak alternative

> CHARL BOSCH
© @charl bosch
© @Charl Bosch

DESPITE having played second fiddle to the Toyota Hilux in terms of overall sales last year with 32 811 units moved versus 36 422, the Ford Ranger, despite now being older than its Japanese rival is set for an interesting few months with a rumoured facelift coming later this year, followed by the debut of the much awaited Ranger Raptor next year.

→ LOOKS INSPIRED BY RAPTOR

Prior to the latter's arrival though, and inspired by the iconic F-150 Raptor, the hugely popular trend of buyers fitting what has commonly become known as Raptor styling kits to their Rangers regardless of it being single, super or double cab models powered by the 2.2-litre or 3.2-litre TDCi engines, eventually resulted in Ford making the aesthetically enhanced FX4 available in South Africa last year.

Initially limited to Australia, the FX4 offers the halfway point between the XLT and Wildtrak in the Ranger line-up, using the former as a base and adding exterior paraphernalia such as a black grille, roll bar, side steps, door handles, mirrors, roof rails, fog light bezel, side steps and decals on the bonnet and tailgate, black 17-inch alloy wheels, bin-liner, FX4 badges and a choice of four colours, which in the case of our tester, was the striking Moondust Silver hue.

While nowhere near as eye-catching or indeed completely over-the-top as some of the Raptor creations, the FX4 does give the Ranger a more

muscular and dare I say it, sporty look in the form of those roll bars and black wheels, although we would suggest the Panther Black paint option for the full blacked-out effect.

→ INTERIOR MORE FUNCTION THAN FORM Sadly, the FX4's interior has been kept unchanged and despite it mirroring that of the XLT, it does feel well put together with solid, robust feeling plastics, satin silver inlays at the base of

the steering wheel and on the gear lever and faux aluminium detailing around the air vents. What continues to look out of place though is the almost slab-like black plastic facia housing the heat and ventilation switches as well as the CD

heat and ventilation switches as well as the CD receiver, especially with the eight-inch touchscreen infotainment system now incorporating SYNC 3 perched above it.

Part of the upgrades applied to the Ranger and Everest ranges last year, the new system now offers satellite navigation as standard, in addition to Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, Tracks4Africa and mapping for 20 countries in Africa, and rates as one of the easiest to navigate through despite some of the icons appearing a bit dated. Another big addition are dual USB ports and the always easy-to-use voice command system.

While it loses out on some of the Wildtrak's safety tech, equipment levels in the FX4 are still high and includes the 4.2-inch TFT instrument cluster, rear parking sensors with reverse camera, six-speaker sound system with Bluetooth, dual-zone climate control, auto on/off headlamps, electric windows all around, cruise control, ABS with EBD, hill descent control, traction control and seven airbags. → POWERTRAIN STILL IMPRESSIVE

Soon to be replaced by the Raptor's 2.0-litre twin-turbodiesel engine as the most powerful engine option, the stalwart 3.2-litre Duratorq TDCi five-cylinder mill, while not the quietest on the market, still rates as an impressive piece of kit in the way it delivers its 147 kW/470Nm.

With its distinctive five-pot growl, the unit pulls strong from low down and despite the first gear slipping sensation associated with the otherwise slick-shifting six-speed automatic gearbox, the entire drivetrain felt more up-to-date than the similar setup used in the Mazda BT-50 driven last year. Of course, this can be reactivated by slotting the gear lever into Sport mode and changing gear manually, which made each shift a bit more



Although the FX4, a badge denoting off-road focused versions of the F-150 and US-spec Ranger remained in two-wheel drive mode throughout its weeklong stay, the ride felt comfortable and despite the power station up front, fuel consumption came to a best of 10.1-litres/100 km.

\rightarrow CONCLUSION

The crunch factor of the Ranger FX4 though is its price. At R616 900 for the 3.2 TDCi double cab 4x4 auto tested here, it commands a price tag hike of R15 000 over the equivalent XLT. Combine this with the fact that the Wildtrak retails for R624 900 but comes with more standard equipment, and you would really want to have the FX4's aesthetics additions in spite of it not offering any extra kit when compared to the XLT.



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>LETTERS AUTOLETTER **OF THE WEEK**

BE HARSHER ON DISTRACTED DRIVERS Dear Editor

I agree whole heartedly with Colin Inglis' letter on distracted driving (Put the phone away when you get into the car; Autodealer Week 6).

All these perpetrators who blatantly disobey the law must be severely punished. In addition to fining them and confiscating their phones, why not confiscate the vehicles of those drivers who are caught for driving under the influence (DUI) and excessive speeding?

For first offenders, apart from hefty fines, confiscate their vehicles for three months and for

YIELD AT MINI-ROUNDABOUTS

Dear Editor

I would like to respond to the letter of David Roberts in the week 7 edition of Autodealer regarding the mini-roundabouts (Mini-roundabouts are not four-way stops).

He mentions that you should give way to the right which is not correct. This applies to roundabouts only, mini-roundabouts should be seen as yield signs with the first person arriving having the right of way.

One thing that bothers me however is that sometimes a mini-roundabout does not clearly have the yield sign painted on the road surface, and on does not know if it is a mini-roundabout or a full

them to retrieve them, let them pay bail and give those monies to the traffic cops who caught the offenders. Then there will be no need for them to take bribes to supplement their salaries.

Letter of the week

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LANDWIND

For those miscreants who continue to blatantly DUI or speed excessively, increase the period or even auction off those vehicles and let them still pay them off to the financial institutions

John Rowland

Congratulations on winning R250 courtesy of Re-nault the Glen. Phone: 011889 0722 to collect. Wings not collected within 30 days of publication will be donated to charity. Winners need to pro duce a valid form of identification to claim prize

roundabout and that is where the confusion starts. In general, very few motorists know the rules regarding these type of roundabouts, so I am always very cautious when approaching any intersection.

There is a robot in Nick Diedericks Road that works for a few days and would then not work for weeks at a time. As soon as it is out of order. it should be treated as a four-way stop but 90% of motorists do not even slow down and I was almost rear ended on numerous occasions when I dared to stop.

Some motorists will even blow their horns as if I am in the wrong every time the robot is out of order. I wish that I was a traffic officer fining everybody that does not stop. The council will make a lot of money.

Concerned motorist

NEWS Subaru Outback updated > AUTODEALER

LANDWIND

🖾 @autodealersa

WITH BOTH the new Impreza and facelifted XV already out in the open, Subaru South Africa has now revealed pricing and spec details for the updated Outback.

Viewed on first glance, the Outback now takes after the US market Ascent and features changes in the form of redesigned front and rear bumpers, more cladding around the wheel arches, down the side and on the bumpers, Subaru's now trademark hexagonal grille with integrated camera, updated Hawkeye headlights with integrated LEDs, a side view camera and 18-inch alloy wheels in two designs.

In addition to improved noise, vibration and harshness levels, a more powerful air-conditioning system and tweaked electric power steering as well as brakes, Subaru has reserved most of the updates for the interior with pride of place going to a new seven-inch touchscreen infotainment system incorporating satellite navigation, Apple CarPlay, Android Auto and Bluetooth.

Building on this is a new dashboard housing the same vehicle information display screen as the XV. a new multi-function steering wheel, two additional

USB ports, a digital climate control display with new graphics and on top-spec models, an eleven

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speaker Harman Kardon sound system. As for safety, the Outback joins the XV in getting Subaru's EyeSight driver assistance system, which consists of Adaptive Cruise Control, Lane Departure Warning, Pre-Collision Braking, Blind

Spot Detection, Pre-Collision Throttle Management, Steering Responsive Headlights, Rear Cross Traffic Alert and Sway Control.

Matters are however unchanged underneath the bonnet where the Outback is again offered with a choice of two petrol engines, mated to a Lineartronic CVT gearbox, with drive going to all four wheels via Subaru's rally-derived Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive system.

Serving as a base engine, the 2.5-litre flat-four Boxer mill churns out 129kW/235Nm, while the flagship 3.6-litre flat-six produces 191kW/350 Nm. On both models, ground clearance is rated at 213mm with an off-road specific X-Mode, which activates the Hill Descent Control and ups the Vehicle Stability Control, also standard.

A five year/150 000km warranty and threevear/75 000km service plan are included in the sticker prices of both models, which kicks-off at R579 000 for the 2.5 and ends at R649 000 for the 3.6.



> PICTURE: QUICKPIC

Send your letter to autodealer@caxton.co.za. Winning contributions are chosen at Autodealer's discretion. Concise letters are preferred. Letters may be edited for space. A nom de plume may be used but please include your full name and area.

LOOKING TO BUY OR SELL YOUR CAR?

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Latest Kia Picanto does city car right

> CHARL BOSCH 🔽 @CharlBosch 🛛 💆 @charl_bosch 🚽

ONE OF the original models that kick-started South Africa's love affair with the Kia brand, the Picanto has morphed from being a cheap, nofrills city car into a sleek and elegant A-segment contender many first time buyers can no longer ignore.

→ IT HAS THE RIGHT NUMBERS

Launched in July last year and not long after announced as a finalist for the 2018 South African Car of the Year (COTY) awards, the arrival of a rather eye-catching top spec Picanto Smart in a colour dubbed Celestial Blue made for a erm...smart sight the equally impressive vehicle that preceded it, the funky Suzuki Ignis.

→ A STYLISH AESTHETIC STATEMENT

While it might compete in a totally different part of the market compared to is fellow COTY finalist, what could not be ignored was how much the Picanto had gone from an already good looking little car into something you would want to take a second glance at.

Although claimed to be more youthful than the old Picanto, the newcomer's interpretation of famed designer Peter Schrever's signature tiger nose is all out aggressive with a bulging front bumper, bold wraparound headlights with an LED daytime running light strip, slightly flared wheel arches, integrated roof spoiler and a set of stylish 15-inch alloy wheels wrapped in Nexen HD Plus rubber.

→ MODERN YET COMPACT INTERIOR

Step inside and you are met by arguably one of the best looking and indeed modern interiors in the sub-R200 000 segment.

Highlighted by a new seven-inch touchscreen display with Bluetooth, voice recognition, USB, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, perceived quality is excellent for a vehicle of this type with soft touch plastics on most surfaces, sporty satin silver inset on the steering wheel and gear lever, faux aluminium strip underneath the aforementioned display and even drilled driver pedals.

In addition to being ergonomically pleasing, scrolling through the new infotainment system proved easy with the Bluetooth connection to my smartphone being fast and without much hassle. Unfortunately, the biggest gripe of the Picanto

still prevails despite the new model benefiting from a 15mm increase in overall wheelbase.

While spacious up front with comfortable seats, head and legroom in the rear is best described as tight and really only suitable for children or young adults for short trips.

The same applies to the boot which despite growing from 200-litres to 255-litres with the rear seats up, looks small on first glance, although lowering them results in a rather capacious 1 010-litres.

→ FEATURES GALORE

As with most Kia's though, it is the Picanto's list of standard equipment that wins it back some ground. On the Smart, this includes electric windows all around, auto on/off lights, four-speaker sound

system, multi-function steering wheel, reverse camera with rear parking sensors, heated folding mirrors, a 2.6-inch TFT instrument display, dual front airbags and ABS with EBD.

→ FRUGAL AND PEPPY POWERTRAIN

In addition to its new looks, the Picanto has also seen revisions underneath the bonnet, albeit not the 1.0-litre T-GDI mill offered in Europe. Instead, the top flight naturally aspirated 1.2-litre Kappa unit in the Smart has had its power output reduced from 65kW to 61kW and torque oddly upgraded up from 120Nm to 122Nm.

With a maximum kerb weight of 961kg however. the drop in power does not translate into ponderous progress even up here on the Reef, as the Picanto feels spritely and eager to get on without feeling underpowered or top heavy.

Taking it on the highway was just as impressive with a well insulated cabin and a engine that remained quiet even at the national speed limit. A big delight was the five-speed manual gearbox

which apart from being slick and well matched to the engine, featured a rather sporty shifting action whether going up or down.

Despite verging on the firm side, the ride remained comfortable with the suspension coping well and only throwing the white flag on really badly patched surfaces. Another surprise was fuel consumption which came to 5.2-litres/ 100 km, some way off the claimed the 4.6-litres/ 100 km, but still impressive after a week and some 280 km.

→ VERDICT

Already a star performer as evident by the monthly NAAMSA sales figures, the new Kia Picanto has more than what it takes to remain the class leader of a segment where value-formoney speaks the loudest. While the Smart's asking price of R199 495 appears somewhat pricey, it does come packed with features and a zippy drivetrain some of its cheaper rivals are sorely missing out on.

🔁 ISUZU



THIS ROAD TEST WAS FUELLED BY WILLIAMS HUNT THE GLEN 011 210 6000



KIA MOTORS AIRPORT

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New Car Sales Manager Dawie Steyn 061 258 0992

DIGITAL SALES CONSULTANT

Caxton AutoDealer in Johannesburg are currently looking for a digital savvy, highly motivated sales professional to join our sales team.

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unlimited mileage in this period. We also offer a

three-year/200 000km roadside assistance plan as part of the standard package," says Griffin. • ad

PRICING

Hyundai launches EX8 Mighty

> SEAN NURSE

🛛 🛂 @sean_carnut_ 💆 @seanurzz

WHILE WE'RE not regulars on the commercial vehicle scene, it is great to dabble in different segments within the local automotive market.

I was invited to represent *Autodealer* at Red Star Raceway for the launch of the Hyundai Mighty EX8, a medium-sized commercial vehicle. The reason for having the launch at a racetrack was to allow those of us without a Code 10 license the opportunity to drive the product in a controlled environment.

→ LOCALLY ASSEMBLED

As the successor to the previous HD, the EX8 is assembled locally at Hyundai Automotive South Africa's commercial vehicle factory in Apex, Benoni, alongside the popular H100.

The assembly plant began its operation in 2014 with a land area of 32 000 m^2 and 19 000 m^2 under roof. The plant is currently manned to produce over 400 units of the H100 and EX8 per month.

There's also a truck body building facility on site in Benoni that produces various options such as van bodies, dropsides, tippers, taut liners, trailers and H100 tipper conversions.

The EX8 is the first in what Hyundai hopes to be a reasonably long line of new commercial vehicle entrants within the local market, with the larger H350 bus and panel van, as well as automatic transmissions for its medium truck currently being considered.

→ A WORD FROM HYUNDAI

"Hyundai's addition of the EX8 truck to the local commercial range is the beginning of exciting new developments. It is supported by Hyundai Automotive South Africa's commercial network that consists of 40 sales dealers and 37 servicing dealers spread throughout the country, as well as Botswana, Swaziland, Namibia and Zimbabwe. This ensures that our footprint covers all the major routes travelled by our customers," says Wade Griffin, commercial vehicle director at Hyundai Automotive South Africa.

→ EX8 IMPROVEMENTS

The EX8 benefits from improved interior space, with a cabin height of 1 490mm and an overall increase from 2.9 m² to 3.5 m² of space inside. There has also been an increase in storage space for driver and passengers to 11.8-litres. The windscreen is also larger, therefore improving visibility for the driver and occupants.

It also gets a longer wheelbase which has resulted in a longer 4 850mm deck, allowing for improved carrying ability.

The resulting Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) is now 7 800 kg versus the 7 500 kg of its main competitors. The brand also claims that this latest product has a parts basket that is some 20% cheaper than its main competitors.

→ POWERTRAIN

The model is powered by a 3.9-litre diesel motor with 103kW/373Nm and is mated to a five-speed manual gearbox. I had a chance to drive the model briefly and it exhibited a wonderfully light clutch action and proved rather easy to drive.

Since drivers will be spending extended periods of time behind the wheel, it was good to see that the cabin was comfortable and that the vehicle was easy to manoeuvre in and around the track.

The dog-leg style gearbox, where first gear is positioned where one would normally find second, is positioned as such because first gear is only there for when the vehicle is heavily loaded, therefore making second gear better

\rightarrow USP

The unique selling point of this product, from what I could surmise at the launch, is the fact that it comes with a four-year/unlimited mileage warranty,



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Suzuki making the most of 4WD



'In what felt like a scene from a movie as the tension reached its conclusion, I tried to maintain my best poker face on as the Jimny slipped over the ledge and stood still with its right rear wheel motionless in the air.'

- Charl Bosch

I MUST admit that a sense of "Why am I doing this again?" cropped up when an invitation from Suzuki to attend an off-road experience at Bass Lake near Vereeniging landed in my inbox recently. → A FAMILIAR FEELING

While going off-road and finding out what a four-wheel drive (4WD) can really do has been part of my life since the turn of the century, I really entered into the deep end by taking part in a round of the Bridgestone 4x4 Club's annual trek to the Wolwekloof off-road course near Pretoria last year.

Although I did accomplish my objectives that day, being behind the wheel for the first time in a competitive sense was nerve-wracking, especially against competitors who have been in the game for years.

This time though, there was to be no competition, but rather some educational off-roading with the chance to get to know the basics of a 4WD vehicle, and indeed, just how these vehicles can surprise when taken onto the rough stuff.

→ THE MASTER

Before getting down and dirty though, my fellow scribes and I were given a "Straight-to-the-point" talk on 4x4-ing by Bass Lake's owner Alan Pepper, who has been doing this kind of thing since 1973 and also taught countless students the craft over the last few years.

As someone who broke away from a certain meth-

od of off-roading aimed squarely at Land Rovers back in the day, Alan's wealth of knowledge, explanation of the course and the unique techniques involved when it comes to tackling obstacles, had us feeling confident and me rethinking everything I thought I knew about off-roading thus far.

→ OUR STEEDS

More importantly, our vehicles for the day consisted of Suzuki Jimny's and a single Grand Vitara, both of which would prove rather impressive. With low-range engaged and there being no sense of urgency, we headed to the first obstacle; a damp wash-out where wheel placing proved key.

\rightarrow OFF (ROAD) WE GO

With Alan guiding us through, I managed to perfect my wheel placing but failed to find the correct balance between power and not stamping on the brake. The result was that I had to take a second bite, which proved plain sailing as what I had learned, yet failed to apply the first time around, was to stand me in good stead for what followed.

Next, we were given a demonstration of going up a steep incline. Contrary to many a theory, mashing the accelerator is not always the solution as Alan showed by heading up at a far from frantic pace, while maintaining momentum.

This approach, together with precise wheel placing while avoiding the brake or clutch pedals, was to come in handy during the next test; a rut-ridden climb with a turn at the top. Needles to stay, the Jimny made going up this easy.

→ INSTRUCTOR'S REVENGE

With a number of water crossings thrown in and the drive around the rim of the former mine quarry housing the waters of Bass Lake failing to dampen our fun, the most extreme challenge came in the form of what Alan likes to refer to as "instructor's revenge" which is a sharp, deeply rutted off-chamber ledge where the outside rear wheel is lifted clean off the ground.

Despite Alan once guiding us through with the knowledge that no vehicle has ever flipped onto its side at this point, there was still a great deal of nerves and anxious faces amongst my colleagues. In spite of trying to keep a straight face, I will concede that my nerves were shot as I inched the Jimny forward.

In what felt like a scene from a movie as the tension reached its conclusion, I tried to maintain my best poker face on as the Jimny slipped over the ledge and stood still with its right rear wheel motionless in the air. Cracking probably one of the most nervous smiles of the day, my ordeal lasted a few minutes more as I gingerly coaxed the Jimny forward and waited for the reassuring thud of the wheel touching the earth once more.

→ THE SLALOM

The last bit of our trek, after a few more obstacles, was a slalom course in both high range 4WD and standard two-wheel drive (2WD). Admittedly, this was carried out with Alan behind the wheel.

Although we had a good idea of what to expect, seeing it for real was still eye-opening as the Jimny

proceeded to slip and slide around before pitching sideways in 2WD at less than 80 km/h. Switched to 4H though, the tail-happy antics were kept to a minimum and the car remained planted as Alan ended the slalom in a much less dramatic fashion. → **CONCLUSION**

It wasn't only a fun day out, but also one where a better understanding of the 4WD was gained. While it is a sad reality that very few owners would ever take theirs out of the city despite it being endowed with the highest of go-anywhere tech, those who do will gain a new appreciation for a type of vehicle whose talents extend much further than



In a world of massive, cumbersome SUVs, the Suzuki Jimny is proof that small dimensions, light weight and mechanical off-road tools make a good combination when going off-road. Picture: Autodealer



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