

The Bugle

MAGAZINE

email: thebugle@mweb.co.za

BOTHO: I AM BECAUSE WE ARE

Five Days of African Heritage, Art & Celebration



The 12th Botho Heritage International Festival comes alive at Wushwini Pan African Centre, alongside Inanda Dam in the Valley of 1000 Hills, from 23 to 27 September. Under the powerful theme "Botho: I Am Because We Are," the festival celebrates African creativity, heritage, memory, culture and community, bringing together artists, elders, young people and visitors for five vibrant days of connection and celebration. Entry: R50 at the door. Full programme online.

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THROUGH
My Eyes
BY KASIA YOKO

• Choosing Happiness over Chaos •

Choosing Happiness Over Chaos

As we edge closer and closer to division, I find myself overwhelmed by just how much negativity is being thrown at us.

When we tune into the mainstream narrative, it can feel as though we are constantly being fed messages of anger, hatred, fear and separation. Even when that division does not touch my little circle of friends, it is out there, like a big bad wolf lurking in the shadows.

And I wonder why we allow it to take up so much space in our minds. Your friends should not care what religion you follow, what political party you vote for, or what your personal stance is on Palestine, immigration or any other deeply complicated issue facing our world. Those things may be important to you. They may form part of your personal convictions. But they are not the entirety of who you are.

They are certainly not the only things that make us friends.

Our religions can be different. Our politics can be different. Our understanding of the world can be completely different from that of the person sitting across the table from us, and yet we can still share a meal, laugh together, help one another and respect each other's right to think differently.

Surely that is what being human is about.

Life will throw us fakery, delusion, outrage and endless things designed to pull us into an argument. We do not have to engage with all of it.

We can recognise it. We can see what is happening. And we can simply move along. There is enormous power in choosing not to be pulled into every battle placed in front of us.

As I age sweetly into my twilight years, I feel privileged to finally be the woman I have always wanted to be. I know myself better now. I know what matters to me. And I have learned that somebody else's judgment does not have to throw me off my path.

So, lovely readers, if someone in your life disagrees with your views or opinions, perhaps we can learn to leave room for that difference.

And if a friendship becomes impossible because every conversation has turned into a battlefield, you have the freedom to move along and find your tribe. Find the people who can support your journey without requiring you to think exactly as they do.

But let us not mistake disagreement for hatred.

Let us not allow people who want division to decide who our friends should be.

As we enjoy this long Heritage weekend, and the scented start of Spring, perhaps we can pause and reflect on our

ancestors, on the journeys they made, the challenges they faced and the mistakes from which we can still learn.

Our heritage is not meant to keep us trapped in old divisions. It should help us understand where we have come from and perhaps give us the wisdom to choose a better way forward.

We are awake. We can see the noise. We can see the manipulation, the anger and the endless invitations to choose sides. But we also have a choice. We can choose kindness. We can choose friendship. We can choose respect. We can choose to disagree without destroying one another. And most importantly, we can choose happiness over chaos.

Perhaps that is our little rebellion in these trying times.

To remain human, to remain open, to remain curious about one another and to recognise that beneath our politics, our religions, our histories, our skin colours and our personal convictions, there is still a human being standing in front of us. Ubuntu. I am because we are. And perhaps, in a world determined to divide us, remembering that is more important than ever.

Your true friends should not need you to think exactly as they do. They should simply want you to be you.

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The new TATA Osprey from TATA Springfield makes so much sense and the pricing defies rationality, especially when considering the level of tech and its stunning good looks. Call and book a test drive on 031 822 8950

There's a new name on the car buyer's shortlist, and it arrives with a reputation already built in. The Tata Osprey has just landed at TATA Springfield Motors, and if the styling looks familiar, that's because underneath it is the internationally acclaimed Tata Nexon, rebadged for South African roads and priced to make rivals nervous.

Power comes from a turbocharged 1.2 litre three-cylinder petrol engine, 88kW and 170Nm, paired with either a slick 5 speed manual or a genuinely impressive 7 speed dual clutch automatic depending on the derivative. It is a compact SUV built for the daily commute, 208mm of ground clearance to shrug off a pothole-riddled back road, and 382 litres of boot space for everything from school bags to a weekend's worth of beach gear.

Spec climbs quickly through the range. Entry models get a 7.0 inch touchscreen with wired Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, while the Creative trim steps up to a 10.25 inch

display, rear air vents and a 360 degree camera system for painless parking. The range topping Creative+ PS adds wireless smartphone charging, wireless CarPlay and Android Auto, keyless entry with push button start, and a panoramic sunroof that turns the cabin into a genuinely special place to sit. Six airbags, ABS with EBD and electronic stability control come standard across the board, no compromises on safety to hit the price point.

Pricing starts at R249,900 for the entry Smart+ manual and runs to R329,900 for the fully loaded Creative+ PS, every derivative backed by a 5 year, 125,000km warranty and a 3 year, 45,000km service plan.

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‘The quieter you become, the more you are able to hear.’ Rumi

Together for Tereza: To Complete Cancer Treatment



Support Tereza on BackaBuddy
www.backabuddy.co.za/campaign/together-for-tereza-to-complete-cancer-treatment

Tereza has spent much of her life being the person who steps forward when others need help. She is a wife, mother, daughter, friend and a woman who has always cared deeply for those around her.

Today, we are asking her community to stand beside her.

Earlier this year, Tereza's life changed when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Since then, she has faced a difficult journey filled with challenging decisions, emotional moments and the physical demands of treatment.

Tereza underwent a double mastectomy and began chemotherapy. There have been exhausting days, difficult side effects, fear and uncertainty, but through it all she has continued forward with remarkable courage and determination.

Now, we have reached an unexpected and frightening obstacle.

Tereza's available medical funds have been exhausted, but her treatment is not yet complete.

She still needs four rounds of Taxane chemotherapy and three weeks of daily radiation therapy as part of her treatment plan.

Our goal is to raise R350,000 to help Tereza complete the treatment she needs and continue receiving the medical care and support required along the way.

Funds raised will assist with:

Four Taxane chemotherapy treatments, including medication, infusion costs, oncology support and treatment-related requirements.

Three weeks of radiation therapy, including planning, consultations and daily treatment sessions.

Medical support, including blood tests, medication, consultations and other treatment-related expenses.

Medical scans, including a PET scan, related medication, consultations and any additional scans required during treatment.

Asking for help does not come easily to Tereza and her family. They have always tried to face challenges together and find solutions wherever possible.

But cancer brings not only a physical battle, it also carries an enormous emotional and financial burden.

Today, they are allowing their community to walk alongside them.

Every contribution, no matter how small, can make a difference. If you are unable to contribute financially, sharing Tereza's story can also help reach someone who can.

Please help us give Tereza the opportunity to complete her treatment.

Support Tereza on BackaBuddy
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Learning from a Durban Waterman



ESA Junior Team had the opportunity to spend time with Jason Ribbink

There is nothing quite like learning from someone who has spent a lifetime reading the ocean.

This afternoon, the ESA Junior Team had the opportunity to spend time with one of South Africa's true watermen, Jason Ribbink, a big wave charger, SA Open and Longboard Champion, former SA Team Captain and one of the pioneers of South Africa's big wave surfing scene.

Jason shared his experience, knowledge and plenty of wisdom from a career that has taken him from national titles and World Championship success

to some seriously heavy waves.

But perhaps even more importantly, Jason has always had a passion for helping the next generation of South African surfers find their feet in the water.

For our young ESA surfers, having someone of Jason's experience on hand is a wonderful opportunity to listen, learn and soak up the knowledge that only years in the ocean can bring.

With the SA Junior Championships taking place in Jeffreys Bay later this month, the timing could not be better.

After more than two decades at the helm of one of the North Coast's much loved shopping destinations, La Lucia Mall Centre Manager Vanessa Blevins is preparing to say goodbye to a place that has become far more than just a workplace.

Vanessa joined La Lucia Mall in May 2003, initially seeing the position as a career opportunity. Twenty three years later, she leaves with a lifetime of memories, friendships and a deep connection to the community that has grown around the mall.

"What started in May 2003 as a career opportunity became so much more," Vanessa says. "La Lucia Mall has been a place of growth, friendship, community, and countless special memories for my family and I."

During her years at La Lucia Mall, Vanessa has been part of the many chapters that have shaped the centre and its relationship with the surrounding community. From celebrating milestones and welcoming new tenants to navigating challenges along the way, her journey has been closely intertwined with the people who make the mall what it is.

Her farewell is therefore not simply about leaving a job, but about saying goodbye to a community she has come to know so well.

"To our shoppers, tenants, stakeholders, service providers, and everyone who has been part of this journey, thank you," she says. "Your support, loyalty, and partnership have helped make La Lucia Mall the exceptional place it is today."

Now, Vanessa is heading south to begin an exciting new chapter in Cape Town. While there is understandably sadness in saying goodbye, there is also gratitude for everything the past 23 years have brought.

"I leave with immense gratitude, wonderful memories, and many valued friendships," she says.

And perhaps most importantly, Vanessa leaves knowing that the mall she has helped nurture is in good hands.

"Our dedicated Centre Management Team, supported by committed service providers remains passionate about this mall and its future," she says. "I have every confidence that La Lucia Mall will continue to grow from strength to strength."

For Vanessa, 23 years at La Lucia Mall may be coming to an end, but the friendships and memories created along the way will undoubtedly travel with her.

The La Lucia community wishes her well as she turns the page and begins her next adventure in Cape Town.

A Fond Farewell After 23 Years at La Lucia Mall



La Lucia Mall Centre Manager Vanessa Blevins is preparing to say goodbye

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'We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars.' Oscar Wilde



Apparently, War Is Still on Special. There was a time when politicians talked about peace. Remember peace?

That quaint old-fashioned idea where countries tried to solve problems without first calculating how many people they could kill, how many billions they could spend doing it, and whether the taxpayer would notice.

Ah. Those were the days. Donald Trump's America is now planning a 2.8-billion Dollar munitions sale to Israel, including 40,000 2,000-pound bombs. Forty thousand. That is not a shopping list. That is an industrial-scale reminder that, when diplomacy gets difficult, our leaders always seems to find the weapons catalogue.

The UN has accused Israel of genocide in Gaza. Whatever your position, the civilian death toll and destruction are undeniable. And the proposed bomb package raises the obvious question: at what point does supplying the hardware become part of the problem rather than simply supporting an ally?

Then there is the mess in Ukraine. Western governments continue supplying weapons to Kyiv as if Putin won't notice. Attacks have increasingly reached infrastructure and targets far from the traditional front lines. The argument is that more weapons are necessary for security. Apparently, if one weapon doesn't solve the problem,



War Is Still on Special...

the solution is another weapon. And another. And another.

Meanwhile Britain has decided it would like another small slice of the Middle Eastern action. The UK government has announced that it will provide Saudi Arabia with an RAF Voyager air-to-air refueling aircraft following renewed Houthi attacks. London says the support is defensive and aimed at protecting Saudi Arabia, regional stability, trade and energy supplies. They certainly have a penchant for war over there.

Wonderful. Because nothing says "de-escalation" quite like helping

military aircraft stay airborne longer.

And then in Germany, where the political establishment has discovered that voters can be remarkably stubborn. The AfD won 44% in Saxony-Anhalt earlier this month, its biggest state-election result, and subsequently made major gains again in regional elections in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania. Other German parties continue to maintain a political "firewall" against cooperation with the AfD.

Thousands have protested against the party. Politicians have warned about its ideology. Debate over whether it should be banned or simply defeated politically

continues. Yet the voters keep turning up.

That does not tell us that everybody voting AfD believes the same thing. It tells us something more uncomfortable: a substantial number of Germans are dissatisfied enough with the established political parties to vote for a party those parties have spent years trying to isolate.

You can condemn the AfD. You can oppose it. You can build a firewall around it. But eventually somebody has to ask why it keeps getting bigger. Because telling voters what they should think has never been quite as effective as politicians imagine. And perhaps that is the real issue.

Governments have become extraordinarily good at explaining why another war, another weapon, another military commitment or another multibillion Euro bill is necessary.

What they seem less good at explaining is when any of it ends. War has become an industry. Weapons have become policy, and taxpayers remain the world's most reliable source of ammunition money.

So perhaps we should stop asking who is winning these wars and start asking something rather more awkward: When exactly does peace become the objective again?

Because at the moment, we seem to have confused peace with simply running out of things to blow up.

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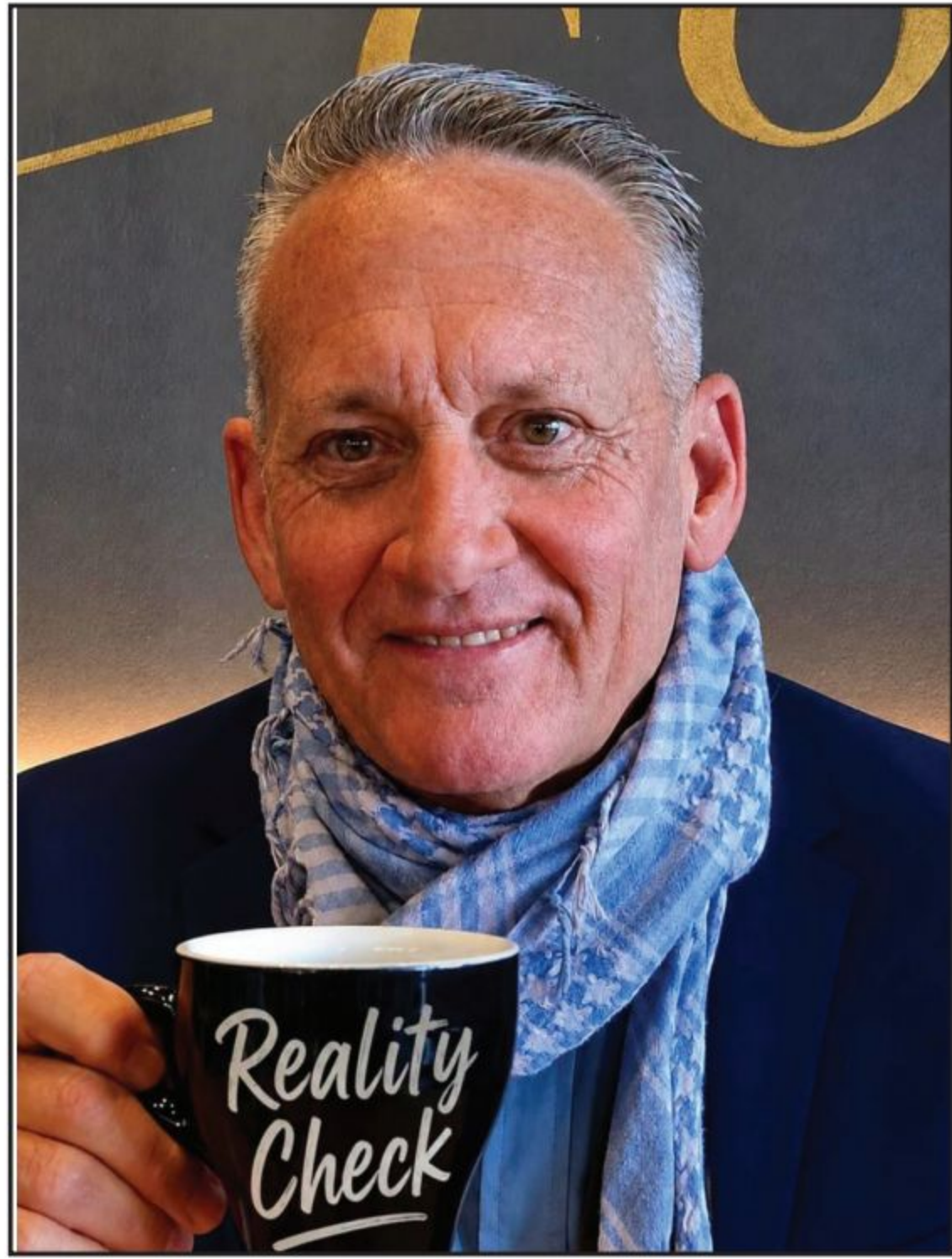
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‘Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart.,’ Rainer Maria Rilke

Reality Check

By Brad Nathanson - Private Investigator



Kafe Karma Coffee

Kafe Karma Coffee, the brew of good karma

By Kasia Yoko

Pankaj Doorgaparsad, a long time friend, local restaurateur and entrepreneur, recently gave us a flavourful coffee experience at my bestie's (Jo Rushby) bookstore, Ike's Bookstore on Florida Road.

It was a morning of reconnecting, reminiscing and a flavour extravaganza. Kafe Karma Coffee, the brew of good karma, is Pankaj's new venture and it's a tasty one.

At the moment Pankaj is doing pop up events, serving his fragrant coffee sourced locally from reputable roasters. But the dream is big. He wants to eventually travel to far away places and source beans that will change the coffee culture.

From restaurant kitchens to barista counters, Pankaj has a beautiful big dream, with his eyes wide open to the ever growing market of coffee culture.

There is something special about sitting down with an old friend over a good cup of coffee, sharing stories,

remembering the past and talking about what lies ahead.

Pankaj has always been an entrepreneur with a passion for people and his new coffee venture is another chapter in his journey.

When Pankaj is not training and delivering coffee to his fast growing clients, he lectures at Varsity College, making a difference to his students' lives.

It is clear that coffee is more than just another business for Pankaj. It is about bringing people together, creating experiences and, of course, serving a really good cup of coffee.

Kafe Karma is still growing, but the vision is already there. From local pop ups to the possibility of travelling the world in search of interesting coffee beans, Pankaj is looking at where this journey can take him.

So, when you see Kafe Karma Coffee at a pop up event, stop and have a cup.



Pankaj Doorgaparsad, local restaurateur and entrepreneur



Kafe Karma coffee experience at Ike's Bookstore on Florida Road

Ken Price Deserved Better

In 2021, I was appointed to investigate the murder of Ken Price. What followed was one of the most demanding investigations I have ever undertaken.

It took seven months to put the pieces together, follow the evidence, identify the suspects and build a case strong enough to facilitate the arrests of four men. Among those arrested was Julio Nobrega.

My investigation led me to the conclusion that Nobrega was the mastermind behind the planned murder of Ken Price. Ken Price was an elderly former Navy man who lived next door to Nobrega.

According to the evidence gathered during my investigation, Nobrega was operating what appeared to be a chop-shop operation from his property, involving stolen vehicles and the alteration of engine/VIN numbers. Ken was watching.

He was taking photographs of what was happening next door and providing information and photographs to the police, repeatedly asking them to investigate. And, according to the evidence presented during the investigation that made Ken a problem. A problem that, I believe, Nobrega decided had to disappear.

Ken was murdered inside his own home. The investigation established that Nathan Padayachee, who was subsequently arrested and later died, was alleged to have attacked Ken with a hammer. The two Pillay brothers were also arrested.

During the investigation, Julio Nobrega confessed to me and admitted his involvement, although he attempted to minimize his own role and placed the blame for the actual killing on the others.

The Pillay brothers subsequently turned State witnesses against Nobrega and gave evidence implicating him in the events surrounding Ken's death. Ken's decomposed body was eventually found dumped in the sugar cane near Richards Bay.

But the murder was not the only part of this story.

According to the investigation, after Ken was killed, his property was looted. His motorcycles, cash, tools and other personal belongings were taken. Money was withdrawn from his bank account using his bank card and PIN. Some of Ken's belongings were subsequently recovered from the homes of the accused.

Ken wasn't simply murdered. His life was treated as though it meant nothing. I testified in this matter approximately 18 months ago. I stood in that witness box and gave my evidence. That evidence was subjected to cross-examination. It stood. And it thoroughly implicated Nobrega in the case that I had investigated.

Now, after more than eighteen months of delays and court appearances, Nobrega was due to face the next stage of the criminal proceedings. He did not appear. Julio Nobrega has disappeared. A warrant has now been issued for his arrest. And that is where we, the public, can play a role.

I am asking anyone who knows where Julio Nobrega is, or who has information that could assist the police in locating him, to come forward. If you have information about his whereabouts, provide it to the South African Police Service or contact me directly via inbox or call 0832502007.

Ken Price was someone's brother. Someone's friend. Someone's Uncle. Someone who had spent his life serving his country. He should have been able to grow old in peace. Instead, according to the evidence in this case, he was killed because he was trying to expose what was happening next door to him.

Julio Nobrega needs to be found. Ken Price's family deserves the opportunity to see this matter concluded in a court of law. If you know where Julio Nobrega is, speak up. Let's get him back before the court. Let justice take its course.



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AMAKHOWE MUSHROOMS

Nature's Little Giants on a Plate

By Kasia Yoko



Amakhowe mushrooms are finally in season, and if you see these beautiful giants for sale on the side of the road, stop and buy them. Just make sure you have a little patience when you get home.

Before you embark on this culinary discovery, prepare yourself for the rather tedious job of cleaning them. These mushrooms have usually come straight from the earth, carrying plenty of mud and sand with them.

Take your time and clean them properly. If you don't get all that sand out, you could end up with a bowl of delicious mushrooms accompanied by an unpleasant mouthful of crunchy grit!

There is something quite magical about amakhowe. They seem to arrive almost overnight, often after a good electric storm when the earth has been soaked. And then, almost as if by some secret underground agreement, they pop up around ant hills. One day there is nothing and the next, these magnificent fungi are standing proudly above the

grass. And they are not just beautiful. Mushrooms, these mushies are naturally nutritious, providing protein, fibre, B vitamins, minerals and antioxidants, while being relatively low



in calories. Amakhowe are a wonderful food from the earth and, in my humble opinion, deserve far more attention on our dinner tables.

You Will Need:

Amakhowe mushrooms
Butter
Shallots or onion
Fresh garlic
Fresh thyme
Celery salt

Direction:

Once your mushrooms are beautifully clean, slice

them into generous pieces.

Here comes the important part. Dry pan fry the mushrooms first. No butter, no oil, nothing. Let them cook slowly until they release all their beautiful liquid and that liquid has completely evaporated.

Keep going until the mushrooms begin to caramelise slightly around the edges. This is where the magic starts.

Now add a generous knob of butter, followed by your chopped shallots or onion and fresh garlic. Let everything cook together until the onions are soft and golden and the kitchen smells absolutely irresistible.

Finish with plenty of fresh thyme and a little celery salt.

I love serving these earthy, buttery mushrooms piled generously onto creamy mashed potatoes, with a fresh, crunchy salad on the side.

Simple food. Good ingredients. A little patience.

And perhaps the best part is knowing that these magnificent mushrooms appeared after a storm, right out there in the earth, waiting for someone to



CMH Volvo Cars Umhlanga is making it easier than ever to make the switch to electric

Electric, Effortless, Yours:

CMH Volvo Cars Umhlanga's EX30 Speaks A Younger Language

There's a new kind of Volvo buyer walking into CMH Volvo Cars Umhlanga these days, younger, sharper, and refreshingly unbothered by the badge's old reputation for sensible station wagons. The Volvo EX30 is exactly the car built to meet them.

At under 4.24 metres, the EX30 is the smallest and, arguably, the boldest thing Volvo has ever built. It doesn't try to out-size its rivals, it out-thinks them, with a cabin that swaps clutter for calm, recycled materials worked into genuinely premium finishes, and a minimalist 12.3 inch central display that runs Google built-in for navigation, voice control and apps without a single unnecessary button in sight. It is quick off the mark too, punchy in traffic and genuinely fun through the sweeping bends along the coast, the kind of car that makes a short trip feel worth taking the long way round.

The real headline is choice. The Single Motor starts from R735,500 with up to 344km of range, while the Single Motor Extended Range stretches that to an impressive 476km from R868,400, more than enough for a Durban commute with room to spare for a weekend up the coast without hunting for a charger. Want performance instead of range? The Twin Motor Performance brings all-wheel drive, 315kW, 543Nm and a

genuinely startling 3.6 second sprint to 100km/h, from R1,014,000.

Every derivative comes loaded with adaptive cruise control, collision avoidance and mitigation, and wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, safety and connectivity that no longer cost extra just because the car happens to be electric.

For a generation of motorists who grew up worrying about their carbon footprint before they worried about their first car payment, the EX30 offers something rare: genuine Scandinavian luxury, real-world range, and a price of entry that doesn't require a lottery win. It's electric motoring without the compromise, and without the pretension, proof that going green and going fast were never mutually exclusive.

CMH Volvo Cars Umhlanga is making it easier than ever to make the switch. Right now the dealership is running a service special for those out of warranty Volvos, priced at R700 per hour, alongside a generous 20% discount on genuine Volvo parts, a combination worth confirming directly when you book, since exact terms and inclusions can vary by model and visit.

Pop into CMH Volvo Cars Umhlanga at 1 Wilton Crescent, Umhlanga, or call 031 571 2600, and find out which EX30 fits your kind of drive.

CMH VOLVO CARS UMHLANGA



Automatic - Diesel - 78,903km

2020 Volvo XC40
D4 AWD Momentum
R399,900



Automatic - Petrol - 54,479km

2021 Volvo S90 T5
Geartronic Inscription
R469,900



Automatic - Hybrid - 24,399km

2025 Volvo XC40 B4
Geartronic Plus Dark (Mild Hybrid)
R699,900



Automatic - Hybrid - 22,931km

2025 Volvo XC40
B4 Geartronic Plus Dark
R699,900



Automatic - Hybrid - 1,500km

2026 Volvo XC40 B3
Essential
R769,900



Automatic - Hybrid - 18,591km

2025 Volvo XC60 B5
Geartronic AWD Plus Dark
R829,900



Automatic - Electric - 2,000km

2026 Volvo EC40
Recharge Twin Motor Ultimate
R1,239,900



Automatic - Electric - 1,500km

2026 Volvo EX90
Ultra Twin Motor Performance
R2,099,900



Automatic - Diesel - 42,143km

2025 BMW X3
xDrive 20d (G45)
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Andre Natasadu
073 904 1476

Alaistair Thaver
062 063 3844

Brenton Mthethwa
074 910 7875

Lee Dale Folkard
068 639 6948



‘There is a crack in everything. That’s how the light gets in.’ Leonard Cohen



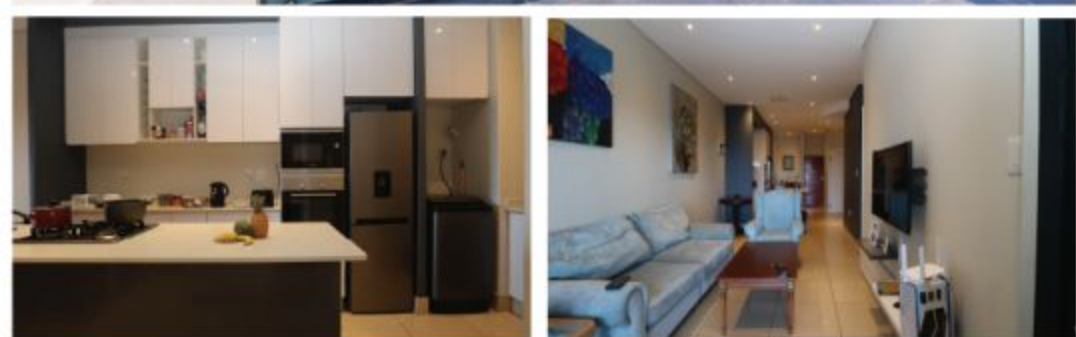
Property Talk

By:
Andreas Wassenaar

Right House. Wrong Price. No Sale.



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The latest FNB Property Barometer offers an important message for North Coast homeowners: the market is moving, but buyers remain selective — making accurate pricing more important than ever.

The latest FNB Property Barometer suggests that South Africa's residential property market is moving in the right direction — but that does not mean every property will sell simply because it is on the market.

House prices continue to rise, with the FNB House Price Index recording annual growth of 4.9% in August 2026. However, this represents a moderation from 5.3% in July, and the stronger growth rates recorded earlier in the year. FNB describes a market where prices remain supported, but broad-based buyer demand remains constrained.

For the North Coast, the picture is particularly interesting. KwaZulu-Natal recorded a residential market activity rating of 5.8 out of 10, with homes taking an average of nine weeks and one day to sell. FNB notes that activity in the province is likely being supported by tourism-related demand on the North Coast.

Nationally, the average time a property spends on the market has improved to 10 weeks and one day — the fastest selling pace recorded since 2022. On the surface, this is encouraging. But there is another statistic sellers should take seriously: around 75% of transactions are still taking place below the original asking price, with the average discount at approximately 8%.

This is where pricing becomes critical. A property that enters the market significantly above its realistic market value may attract attention, but attention does not necessarily translate into offers. Over time, an overpriced property can lose the valuable momentum that comes with being a new listing, while buyers become increasingly aware that the seller may eventually need to adjust expectations.

The FNB data also highlights a clear divergence between price segments. Properties above R3.6 million are currently recording some of the strongest market conditions, with an activity rating of 6.3 out of 10 and an average selling time of nine weeks and four days. FNB attributes this resilience partly to financially stronger households and the greater role of cash buyers in this segment.

The middle market, however, faces greater pressure. Household income growth is not keeping pace with property values, while debt-servicing costs remain elevated. This creates a particular challenge for mortgage-dependent buyers and limits demand growth in the middle and lower portions of the market.

For North Coast sellers, the lesson is straightforward. The market is active, but buyers are discerning. A well-presented property, positioned at a realistic price from the outset, has a better opportunity to convert interest into a transaction.

In today's market, getting the price right is not about leaving money on the table. It is about understanding where the market is, where buyers are, and positioning your property so that the right buyer can recognise its value.

Because ultimately, it may be the right house — but if the price is wrong, there may simply be no sale.

When Infidelity Affects the Division of a Joint Estate

Can a spouse lose part of their share of the joint estate because of infidelity? A recent Gauteng High Court judgment illustrates that, in certain circumstances, serious misconduct during a marriage can have financial consequences on divorce. In this case the parties had been married in community of property for more than 27 years.

They had separated in 2019 and the main dispute at trial concerned how their substantial joint estate should be divided. The husband asked that the normal equal division of the joint estate be applied. The wife, however, asked the court to order forfeiture of benefits in terms of section 9(1) of the Divorce Act 70 of 1979.

What is forfeiture? When spouses are married in community of property, the general position is that the joint estate is divided equally when the marriage ends.

However, section 9(1) allows a court, where the statutory requirements are satisfied, to order that one spouse forfeit the whole or part of the benefits that would otherwise arise from the marriage. The court does not simply punish a spouse because the marriage ended badly. It must consider three statutory factors:

the duration of the marriage; the circumstances which gave rise to the breakdown of the marriage; and any substantial misconduct by either spouse.

What happened in this case? The wife presented evidence of numerous extramarital relationships over a prolonged period. The evidence included allegations that the husband had concealed children born from relationships outside the marriage and had used resources connected to the joint estate in circumstances associated with those relationships. The court

accepted that the husband's prolonged extramarital conduct and concealment of children amounted to substantial misconduct.

Importantly, however, the court did not accept every allegation made by the wife as constituting substantial misconduct. The court considered the evidence relating to the various financial transactions and assets separately. The court also emphasised that the fact that a marriage is long-standing does not automatically prevent forfeiture. The quality and circumstances of the marriage must also be considered.

The court concluded that an equal 50/50 division would result in an undue benefit to the husband. It therefore ordered partial forfeiture. Instead of receiving 50% of the net divisible joint estate, the husband was awarded 25%, inclusive of the wife's pension interest. The judgment demonstrates that forfeiture is highly fact-specific. Infidelity does not automatically mean that a spouse forfeits their share of the joint estate. However, where the evidence establishes prolonged and serious misconduct that materially contributed to the breakdown of the marriage, the court may consider whether an equal division would result in an undue benefit.

For spouses contemplating divorce, particularly where substantial assets are involved, the financial consequences of the breakdown of the marriage should therefore be considered separately from the emotional issues surrounding the divorce.

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‘The only journey is the one within.’ Rainer Maria Rilke

Dashing By Name, Dashing By Nature:

The Jetour That Refused To Give Me A Complaint

I'll admit it, I went into this road test expecting to write a polite, forgettable paragraph about another budget Chinese SUV. Instead I spent a week trying to find something to complain about in the Jetour Dashing Core, and came up embarrassingly short.

Under that sculpted, borderless grille sits a 1.5 litre turbocharged engine putting out 109kW and 230Nm through a slick 6 speed dual clutch gearbox, enough shove to make Field's Hill feel like a small triumph rather than a chore. It pulls cleanly, shifts smartly, and never once left me wishing for a diesel option I hadn't even considered asking about, nor for a bigger badge on the bonnet.

Step inside and the Core trim throws a genuine curveball, twin 10.25 inch displays for the instrument cluster and infotainment, wired Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, voice command that actually understands a Durban accent, and a rear parking

camera that saved my bumper at least twice outside the Gateway parkade. For a car wearing this price tag, it borders on being cheeky.

Safety isn't an afterthought either, front and side airbags, ESP, ABS, traction control and hill hold all present and accounted for, doing their quiet, unglamorous job of keeping you upright on the windy stretches up towards Salt Rock.

At R359,900, the Dashing Core isn't chasing badge snobs. It's chasing anyone tired of paying more for less, and on this evidence, it's earned the right to be cross-shopped against cars twice its reputation and price. Witty styling, informative tech, and not a single moment where I felt short-changed.

Go see it, sit in it, and try to argue with the price. Jetour Umhlanga, 15 Meridian Drive, is where that conversation starts, and where I'd happily send you to have it. Call ahead on 087 008 2002.



The Jetour Dashing combines striking design with a well-equipped, spacious interior and confident road manners. It is a serious contender in the competitive SUV market, offering buyers a compelling alternative to the established brands.

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‘And now that you don’t have to be perfect, you can be good.’ John Steinbeck

Changan Hunter 4X4:

The New Kid Has Arrived



The Changan Hunter is more than a pretty face, a true 4X4 double cab in every sense of the concept.



The A-Team at Pit Stop Auto repairs are from left to right Ashvie, Samiksha, Andrew, Jeremy, Mncedisi, Kevin and Emerso

There is something reassuringly substantial about the Changan Hunter 4X4. It looks like a proper bakkie, rather than a lifestyle accessory that happens to have a load bed. Broad-shouldered, muscular and nicely proportioned, it has the sort of road presence that makes people look twice. And yes, it ticks the visual box rather convincingly.

But the Hunter isn't relying on good looks alone. Under the bonnet sits a punchy turbocharged petrol

engine delivering 171 kW and 390 Nm, driving all four wheels through a seven-speed dual-clutch transmission. The result is brisk performance, smooth gear changes and enough grunt to make overtaking or hauling a load feel satisfyingly effortless.

On the road, the Hunter feels surprisingly refined for something designed to spend plenty of time away from the tarmac. The steering is nicely weighted, the ride is composed and the cabin is impressively

quiet. There's a reassuring solidity to the way it goes about its business, while the 4X4 system gives you the confidence to venture beyond the blacktop when the road inevitably runs out.

Inside, Changan has clearly decided that bakkie buyers deserve some creature comforts. The cabin is modern, spacious and well equipped, with plenty of technology without making the driver feel as though they need a degree in computer science to operate

it. Then there's that all-important presence. The Hunter has attitude without resorting to cartoonish styling, and it looks equally at home outside a building site, at the shopping centre or parked beside the beach.

In short, the Changan Hunter 4X4 ticks the boxes for looks, performance, practicality, technology and sheer road presence. It's a serious bakkie with a surprisingly sophisticated side.

Pit Stop Auto Repair Centre:

North Coast Motorists' Trusted Name in Automotive Care

There's a particular kind of relief that comes from finding a workshop you can actually trust, and up and down the North Coast, that workshop is Pit Stop Auto Repair Centre. This isn't a business that opened its doors yesterday and hoped for the best. It's built on years of hands-on experience, the kind that only comes from turning spanners on everything from daily runabouts to weekend workhorses, and knowing exactly what makes each one tick.

Walk into Pit Stop and you won't be met with jargon designed to confuse or a quote that leaves more questions than answers. What you'll find instead is a team that takes the time to explain what's actually wrong with your vehicle, what needs doing now, and what can wait. That kind of honesty is rare, and it's exactly why customers

from keep coming back.

The technical knowledge on offer spans the full spectrum of automotive repair, from diagnostic testing and routine servicing to aircon re-gassing and the trickier mechanical gremlins that send lesser workshops running for the manual. Ford, Toyota, BMW, Mercedes-Benz, Hyundai, Mazda, Nissan, Jeep Jaguar and Porsche all fall within their expertise.

But skill alone doesn't build a reputation like this one. It's the friendly welcome and genuine helpfulness that makes even an unplanned breakdown feel manageable.

For North Coast motorists who want their car sorted properly, book your vehicle in at Pit Stop Auto Repair Centre, Unit 6. Call 032 947 0828, or Ash directly on 073 310 2632. Email info@pitstopauto.co.za.

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Kia Seltos 1.4T DCT GT-Line 60 000kms R289,950	2022 	Kia Picanto 1.2 Style Auto 49 869kms R169,950	2021 	Mahindra Pik Up 2.2 D/Cab 4x2 S6 13 211kms R344,950	2025 	Suzuki Ignis 1.2 GLX 51 184kms R179,950	2023
Suzuki Jimny 1.5 GL Auto 30 989kms R349,950	2022 	Nissan Navara 2.5D Pro-2X D/Cab 45 247kms R469,950	2022 	Mahindra XUV 3XO 1.2T MX2 42 651kms R259,949	2025 	Renault Kiger 1.0 Turbo Intens 73 000kms R169,950	2024

35 - 37 Moffat Drive, Ballito, KwaZulu-Natal

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‘Turn your face to the sun and the shadows fall behind you.,’ Mf ori proverb

New Energy at the Helm: CMH Mahindra Ballito



The CMH Mahindra team bringing you really rugged bakkies, opulent luxury SUVs and the compact SUV – the XUV 3XO. Seen above from left to right are Sales Executives Yashveer Ramluckun, Sithembiso Magubane, Nkosesha Mwali, Sales Manager Christo Saidt, Dealer Principle Nathi Mhlongo, Leadmaster Mandisa Mkwanaazi, and Sales Executive Ta-meeka Schoonraad. Call them on 087 721 5882

New Energy at the Helm: CMH Mahindra Ballito. There is a fresh buzz on the showroom floor at CMH Mahindra Ballito, and it has a name: Christo Saidt. Stepping into the role of New Vehicle Sales Manager, Saidt brings a sharp eye for product and an even sharper commitment to customers who deserve nothing less than excellence. But no manager builds a great dealership alone, and it is the team around him that truly makes CMH Mahindra Ballito shine.

Under Dealer Principal Nathi Mhlongo, and with Lead Master Mandisa Mkwanaazi ensuring

every deal runs smoothly behind the scenes, Saidt's sales floor is stacked with talent. Nkosesha Mwali, Sithembiso Magubane, Ta-meeka Schoonraad and Yashveer Ramluckun each bring their own energy and expertise, working as one unit to match customers with exactly the right vehicle for their lives. It is the kind of team spirit that turns a dealership visit into an experience worth talking about, and it shows in every handshake on the floor.

And what a range they have to sell. At one end sits the Bolero and Bolero Maxx, bakkies built for the kind of rugged, unglamorous work

that keeps KwaZulu-Natal moving, from farm gates to building sites. At the other end, the XUV700 and Scorpio N deliver genuine luxury SUV credentials, wrapped in styling and technology that would not look out of place at twice the price.

Add the compact, stylish XUV3XO into the mix and it becomes clear that with Christo Saidt leading a sales team this strong, CMH Mahindra Ballito is set for a very bright road ahead. Visit their state-of-the-art showroom at 35 Moffat Drive, Ballito or call ahead on 087 721 5882

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Nissan Tekton Arrives at CMH Nissan Ballito



The sign of things to come, NISSAN promises much more after the launch of the enigmatic compact SUV NISSAN Tekton, now waiting for you at CMH Ballito 087 724 8851

I'll admit it, I wasn't prepared for how much I'd want one. Standing in the crowd at Nissan's Festival in Johannesburg last week, watching the covers finally come off the all-new Tekton, I felt something I haven't felt about this badge in years: genuine excitement. Now that excitement has a home right here on the North Coast, in the showroom at CMH Nissan Ballito.

This is Nissan's answer to buyers who want SUV presence without SUV bulk, a compact crossover built to slot between the Magnite and the X-Trail, with Patrol-inspired styling that turns

heads on every North Coast run. Nissan Africa President Jordi Vila put it best from the stage, calling it a car designed to let South Africans fall in love again with the brand. Standing in front of it, I believed him.

Two turbocharged petrol engines back up the swagger: a 1.0 litre three-cylinder delivering 74kW and 160Nm through a six-speed manual, or a punchier 1.3 litre four-cylinder producing 120kW and 260Nm through a six-speed dual-clutch automatic. Ground clearance sits at 212mm, plenty for our coastal roads and the odd unpaved

detour. Every Tekton arrives generously equipped, six airbags, electronic stability control, hill-start assist, rear parking sensors, a reversing camera and tyre-pressure monitoring standard across the range, alongside a panoramic sunroof, powered front seats and wireless charging on the top derivatives.

Prices start from R339,999. The new Nissan Tekton is in showroom now at CMH Nissan Ballito, 35 Moffat Drive, Ballito. Call 087 724 8851 and go see what had me grinning in Johannesburg.

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‘We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars.’ Oscar Wilde

NEW MANAGER, NEW DEAL:

The Petrol Wildtrak That Deserves A Second Look

There's a fresh face and a fresh deal at CMH Ford Ballito, and both are worth your attention. Glenn Clifton has just taken the reins as the dealership's new car sales manager, and he's wasted no time putting together one of the sharpest offers on the North Coast this month.

The Ford Ranger Wildtrak 2.3 4x2 petrol can be yours from just R9,999 a month, terms and conditions apply, with a reduced outright purchase price of R779 900. That's a saving of R124 800 off the normal price of R904,700, and on a bakkie that still turns heads doing the school run in Umhlanga or the boat launch in Ballito.

Here's the part most North Coast buyers overlook. Everyone talks diesel when it comes to the Ranger, but the 2.3 litre EcoBoost turbo petrol under the Wildtrak's bonnet quietly outguns expectations, 222kW and 452Nm sent through a slick 10 speed automatic gearbox, enough for a 0 to 100km/h sprint in around 7.5 seconds. That's genuine performance, delivered in a smooth, linear surge without the clatter, vibration or diesel particulate filter headaches that come with the oil burner. It's quieter at idle, quicker off the line, and honestly a

more relaxed companion on a long Sunday drive up the coast, the kind of engine that makes you forget you're supposed to be missing the diesel torque.

Wildtrak spec means you're not compromising on presence either. Bold styling cues, a load bin built for weekend adventures, and enough tech and comfort inside to make the daily commute feel like a bonus rather than a chore. It's the bakkie that says you've arrived, without demanding you drive past the fuel pump twice a week to prove it. For buyers who spend more time in town and on tar than deep in the bush, that easy going petrol character starts to look less like a compromise and more like common sense.

Glenn's message is simple: come drive it before you decide diesel is the only way to do a Ranger properly. The petrol Wildtrak might just be the better decision for how you actually use your bakkie, and right now, it's also the smarter one on price.

CMH Ford Ballito is at 35-37 Moffat Drive, Ballito Business Park. Ask for Glenn Clifton, tell him The Bugle sent you, and find out why this Wildtrak deal won't be sitting on the floor for long. Tel: 087 723 9278



Glenn Clifton brings decades of experience with him to his new role as New Car Sales Manager at CMH Ford Ballito, bursting onto the scene with this amazing Wildtrak offer, call them on 087 723 9278



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SAVE R85 100

WAS R825 000



Ford Ranger
3.0L V6 DC Wildtrak 4x4 10A/T

MON R949 900

SAVE R126 900

WAS R1 076 800



Ford Ranger
2.0L SiT DC XLT 4x2 10A/T

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