

Rustenburg Herald's Bonus

30 JANUARY 2023

25 500
FREE

The gaping mouth of what seems like a gorge washed out only metres from the Rockcliff Estates main entrance in Cuckoo Avenue after Rustenburg was soaked in a cloudburst with devastating damages on Friday, 9 December, last year. The eastern section of Cuckoo Avenue some 30 meters from the Rockcliff Estates' main entrance was subsequently closed for more than a month. After a lengthy delay, the site was inspected by a local engineering company after which a considerably narrowed Cuckoo Avenue was declared safe for normal traffic late last week - albeit with safety precautions in place. At this stage little is known about the rehabilitation of the area. Motorists were advised to pass the Rockcliff Estates "crossing" with extreme caution. (Photo: Waldie Volschenk).

Cuckoo Ave released from gorge's grip



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Chase on for cash robbers



The scene after robbers fled with cash.

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - Police are searching for a gang who bombed a Cash-in-Transit (CIT) vehicle early Monday morning. The attack happened near Marikana.

According to unofficial information received, three vehicles were involved in the attack - a white Mercedes Benz, a white Lexus and a red VW Polo. The CIT van was bombed and the unknown number of attackers opened fire on the guards. Sources stated that one guard was injured, as well as a passer-by before the robbers fled with cash. By 11:00 Monday morning (30 January) police were still on the scene and following up on leads.

Robbers kill security officer



BONUS - RUSTENBURG - A group of armed robbers shot and killed a young security officer here early on Sunday morning.

According to Northwest Police spokesperson, Col Adèle Myburgh, the security officer, Rudi Smith (photo), responded to a panic alarm at a supermarket in Zending Street at around 09:00. As he arrived on the scene, the group of men exited the supermarket, saw the security vehicle and immediately attacked, firing at Smith. He was fatally injured. "There is a possibility that he managed to wound one of the robbers, but if that happened, the gang took him with them," Col Myburgh said. Police are investigating cases of murder, robbery and business robbery.

More of Stage 4

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - Eskom says that all-day stage 4 load shedding will be implemented this week - until further notice.

While the group managed to reduce load shedding over the weekend, even reaching as low as stage 2, continued losses of generating units at its power stations necessitate higher stages during the week. Over the weekend, a generating unit each at Camden, Grootvlei, Lethabo and Majuba power stations suffered breakdowns and are undergoing repairs, while a unit each at Kriel and Lethabo power stations were returned to service. The return to service of a unit each at Duvha, Matla and Tutuka power stations have been delayed. Planned maintenance is sitting at 6,049MW, while breakdowns currently amount to 17,163MW of generating capacity. To reduce load shedding to stage 2, Eskom needs to keep breakdowns under 13,000MW, however, the utility has not been able to do so. Eskom is struggling with a highly volatile and unpredictable grid, which has resulted in several changes and escalations to the load shedding schedule in recent weeks. South Africans should expect the load shedding stages to fluctuate at short notice for the foreseeable future. Eskom said that it will issue a notice if anything changes. Late last week, ANC secretary general Fikile Mbalula announced that president Cyril Ramaphosa and the national government were working on an "emergency package" of measures to mitigate load shedding – details of which are expected to be revealed in the coming week. According to CEO Andre de Ruyter the utility has been hit by the perfect storm of issues. On top of the well-reported challenges to the group's coal fleet, the power utility has had to address the refurbishments and upgrades of the Koeberg Nuclear Power Stations, critical failures at Kusile and Medupi, as well as the lack of liquidity and constrained finances at the company that prevent it from operating things like the open-cycle gas turbines (OCGTs). The group has also had to deal with widespread criminality, which station managers have described as "rampant".

Family attacked at home

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - A man is being treated in a local hospital after he was shot by home intruders.

The incident happened early on Monday morning (30 January) at a residence in Kroondal. According to information, the family - a mom, dad, grandmother and children - was asleep when the dad was woken by a noise coming from the kitchen. He went to investigate. He surprised the robbers, who then turned a weapon on him and shot him before fleeing. No official information was available at the time of going to press.

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Sport

News



Laarries boys third in relay event

The u/11 boys of Laerskool Rustenburg came third in their relay event on Saturday 28 January during the friendly athletics meeting which took place at Laerskool Proteapark. Congratulations to Tiaan Breedt, Ricardo Fourie, Liam Janse van Vuuren and Dian Nortje.

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - Gauteng runners are invited to join the fun-filled 10km AfricanX Training Run 2 that will start at 07:00 at the Wolwespruit Bike & Trail Park in Tshwane on Sunday 5 February.

The Wolwespruit Bike & Trail Park is the perfect venue for the AfricanX Training Run 2 because it is safe and easy to access from all corners of Tshwane. Runners can look forward to a well-marked 4.5km (purple boards) and 6.5km (orange boards) route.

By combining the two routes runners will get to enjoy a ±9.5km route as certain sections of the two routes do overlap. The Training Run

2 will be led out by AfricanX regulars Thabang Madiba, Nico Sterk and/or Franza Landman. Runners can look forward to enjoying trails that boast magnificent scenery and fantastic views from the top of the mountain.

For additional information please visit www.stillwatersports.com, contact Stillwater Sports on 082 991 0045 or email entries@stillwatersports.com.



Trail running enthusiasts enjoying the action of the AfricanX Training Run 1. (Photo: Adnaan Mohamed)

AfricanX Training Run 2 heads to Tshwane

Exciting Rally-Raid Championship expected for 2023 season



Giniel de Villiers and Dennis Murphy. (Photo: Century Racing, Hydro Power Equipment, Red-lined, #Team Hilux Rally-Raid, TGRSA)

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - The Dakar Rally, considered as one of the toughest in many years, is now something of the past and South African Rally-Raid competitors proved their talent while local race vehicle manufacturers and constructors showed their worth and returned from Saudi Arabia to the country with various titles and trophies in the bag.

Now it is time to prepare for the 2023 SA Rally-Raid Championship that starts in two months and an exciting season with popular venues and racing terrain are awaiting competitors. The SA Rally-Raid Championship is internationally recognised as a high-level series and is a favourite of many visiting competitors. This year will be no different and looking at the calendar, a variety of challenging terrain as well as popular events and new events are on the cards predicting an exciting season. The championship will kick off with a return to Malelane in Mpumalanga with the opening round taking place on 24 and 25 March. This event featured on the calendar between 2013 and 2016 and was twice awarded Best Event of the Year. Malelane is the hometown of the Horn family and the brothers, Johan and Werner, have been avid competitors in the Production Vehicle Category or many years. Johan Horn (senior) is again the driving force behind this event being reinstated on the SARRC calendar.

For the second round of the series, competitors will travel to the Eston and Mid-Illovo areas of KwaZulu-Natal for the traditional Sugabelt 400 on 12 and 13 May. This event, which ran in the area as a national championship since the early 1990's, was cancelled in 2022 due to the flooding disaster. After three years of not competing in Botswana, the TGRSA 1000 Desert Race will return to the diamond-mining town of Jwaneng for Round Three on 23, 24 and 25 June. This will be the only marathon event on the calendar. The Debswana Jwaneng mine is the richest diamond mine in the world and the historical Desert Race was hosted at Jwaneng from 2014 to 2018. Competitors can look forward to be welcomed back in Botswana by local supporters, and to the biggest sporting event on their calendar.

After a break of just under two months, the SARRC will then continue on 18 and 19 August when the fourth and fifth rounds will be decided at Parys in the Free State. Competitors tackled a wet and muddy event during November 2022 at Parys and fingers will be crossed for the weather gods to play along for a dry event during August. This year, a new race has been added to the calendar with Welkom in the Free State playing host to Round Six of the 2023 SARRC. This event will take place on 6 and 7 October.

The seventh and final event of the season is scheduled for 10 and 11 November and the venue will be announced soon. If 2022 was anything to go by with exhilarating racing and titles that went down to the wire, competitors, teams, supporters and enthusiasts can look forward to yet another exciting SA Rally-Raid Championship season.

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