

THE PAMUN POST

Photo:
Luana Laubscher

OUT OF THIS WORLD

In the vast, velvet embrace of the Karoo sky, where the stars seem close enough to touch, a group of passionate photographers turned Prince Albert into their personal observatory for a weekend in September.

Members of the George Camera Club, led by chair Ben Schoeman, visited our town to capture the rare sighting of the so-called "double Milky Way arch". The rest of the group included Alan King (chairman of the Knysna Camera Club and regional director for the Southern Cape of the Photographic Society of South Africa), Luana Laubscher, Lorraine Blackwell and our own resident landscape photographer, Péru van Niekerk.

This celestial spectacle appears just once a year in each hemisphere, around the vernal equinox and new moon. It is a pursuit that blends art, astronomy, and a dash of fanaticism – demanding late nights, early mornings, and fumbling with gear in the cold dark. First came the scouting trip in May to find the ideal spot for photographing the double arch. Permission was secured to shoot on municipal grounds, where a weathered windpump stands sentinel—its silhouette a perfect Karoo icon against the cosmic backdrop.

On the day of the shoot, the group examined the location and selected the exact Karoo bossie that would serve as the prime vantage point, marking it with some reflective tape for easy detection later that night. (No bossie or reflective tape was harmed during the process.) Ben planned the photo sequence to the last minute and precise elevation angle, as each member had strict 10-minute slots that needed to be followed if the two arches were to align in their final images.



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Photo: Ben Schoeman





MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear residents of Prince Albert,

I am very proud of our Municipality's eighth place in the Ratings Afrika Municipal Financial Sustainability Index out of 257 municipalities nationwide. This result reflects our focus on sound financial management and places Prince Albert alongside municipalities like Stellenbosch.

We recently opened our new Municipal offices at the Thusong Centre, funded by the Provincial Regional Socio-Economic Programme with Municipal co-funding. This one-stop service hub now houses departments from finance to social development, making services more accessible to residents across Prince Albert, Klairstroom, and Leeu-Gamka.

Water management remains a priority. We have completed cleaning of raw water reservoir number 3 to ensure compliance with SANS 241 standards. With the dry summer season approaching, I ask all residents to conserve water through shorter showers, repairing leaks, and reusing greywater where possible. Please read the article in this newsletter for more on water-wise practices.

Illegal dumping continues to be a concern. The article in this issue addresses this problem in detail. Please work with us in keeping our town clean.

I want to acknowledge the Prince Albert Skills School that is making a positive difference for young people in our community. Our recent FASD awareness activities on International FASD Day, including the planting of olive trees by FARR, also highlight our commitment to community well-being.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation. Your contributions make these achievements possible.

Warm regards,

Linda Jaquet
Executive Mayor



PAMUN IN THE TOP 10

Prince Albert Municipality has been ranked eighth out of 257 municipalities nationwide in the Ratings Afrika Municipal Financial Sustainability Index (MFSI), announced on 7 October 2025.

Mayor Linda Jaquet welcomed the achievement. "These ranking places our small municipality among South Africa's best-governed and most financially stable, alongside municipalities like Stellenbosch and Mossel Bay," she said.

Ratings Afrika is an independent research organisation that assesses municipal financial health. The MFSI evaluates six pillars: operating performance, liquidity management, debt governance, budget practices, affordability, and infrastructure development. The ranking indicates that Prince Albert is well-positioned to manage economic challenges while maintaining essential services and investing in infrastructure.

Prince Albert serves approximately 17,000 residents in a rural economy supported by agriculture and tourism. Nine of the top ten municipalities are from the Western Cape - the only province deemed financially sustainable by Ratings Afrika.

Mayor Jaquet thanked the Municipal Manager and his senior managers, the Director, Financial Services and his team, for sound financial management. She also recognised councillors for their oversight of budget execution and debt management and commended all municipal officials for their hard work and commitment.

Mayor Jaquet noted that financial stability supports investment and service delivery. "Strong infrastructure attracts private sector partners, while maintaining clean and safe public spaces creates a welcoming environment for residents and businesses."

The municipality acknowledges that challenges remain and is committed to continuing to improve service delivery. The mayor thanked all residents for meeting their obligations to the municipality. "This ranking is thanks to everyone," she said.



CONTAINER HEROPENING

Prince Albert Dieresor (PADS) het op 20 Augustus 2025 'n belangrike mylpaal gevier met die amptelike heropening van hul opgekanpte container in Noord-Einde. Die geleentheid is bygewoon deur 'n klein groepie vrywilligers en donateurs, insluitend burgemeester Linda Jaquet en waarnemende direkteur van korporatiewe dienste, me Gwynnefer Harding.

Die container, geleë langs die EE Sentrum op Toegangspad, is 'n lewenslyn vir Noord-Einde se troeteldiereienaars. Na maande van uitdagings, insluitend vandalisme wat die container se deure, vensters en lugverkoeling herhaaldelik gebreek het, het PADS die ruimte suksesvol opgeknip. Die munisipaliteit het 'n deurslaggewende rol gespeel deur 'n beskermende heining rondom die container op te rig om dit teen verdere vandalisme te beveilig. Plaaslike inwoners het ook aansienlik bygedra deur 'n tuin aan te lê, diefstaling te voorkom en die container se binne- en buitekant op te knap om 'n verwelkomende en veilige omgewing te skep.

Elsabé Koen, 'n toegewyde PADS-vrywilliger vir meer as agt jaar, het in haar toespraak haar dankbaarheid teenoor die munisipaliteit en vrywilligers uitgespreek vir hul ondersteuning en mildelike bydraes, wat toegesien het dat die fasiliteit in 'n funksionele, veilige en vriendelike ruimte omskep word. Elsabé het ook spesiale dank uitgespreek teenoor PADS se vrygewige donateurs, wie se finansiële ondersteuning deurslaggewend is om die organisasie se werk te onderhou.

"Hierdie container is meer as 'n tydelike struktuur – dit is 'n simbool van hoop vir Noord-Einde se diere en hul eienaars," het Koen gesê. "En nou is die dienste weer beskikbaar daar waar dit die gemeenskap tot grootste voordeel sal strek." Burgemeester Jaquet het die lint geknip om die fasiliteit amptelik te heropen en het Elsabé se onvermoeide toewyding geloof en haar waardevolle bydrae tot PADS se missie uitgelig.



MESSAGE FROM THE MM

Dear residents,

Our eighth place ranking in the Ratings Afrika Municipal Financial Sustainability Index reflects the dedicated work of our CFO and his teams and the commitment of all officials. Sound financial management enables us to maintain essential services and infrastructure while managing our budget responsibly.

We have made progress on several infrastructure projects. In August, we completed a thorough cleaning of raw water reservoir number 3, removing sediment, servicing valves, and inspecting lines. This restores full capacity to 1.003 million litres and ensures compliance with licensing requirements. As we enter the Red Zone water period, when yields may drop to 30,000 litres daily, we will continue monitoring supply and communicating with residents to manage consumption effectively.

Our new Komatsu D85 EX dozer, funded through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant with municipal co-funding, improves landfill management by levelling waste more efficiently and reducing environmental impact. We have also acquired a Hyundai H100 utility vehicle for Community Services, improving their operational capacity.

The new municipal offices at the Thusong Centre are now operational, bringing corporate, technical, and community services together in one accessible location. The offices are open weekdays from 07:30 to 16:00.

I want to recognise two long-serving employees: Jephta de Wee and Mervyn Maans, who each received awards for 15 years of service in roads maintenance and sanitation. The reopening of the PADS container facility at our EE Centre also demonstrates what we can achieve through community partnerships.

Please continue reporting water leaks and illegal dumping. Your vigilance helps us maintain our infrastructure and keep Prince Albert clean.

Sincerely,

Thys Giliomee
Municipal Manager





Photo: Luana Laubscher



There were apps, calculations, star trackers and some friendly bantering (or is that bickering?) about settings, cameras, lenses and approaches.

Prince Albert boasts some of the darkest and most pristine skies on the planet, thanks to its remote location and low light pollution. On this particular weekend, however, the team met with clouds and less-than-ideal weather conditions for stargazing. Although disappointed, they persisted, and at 22:00 sharp Ben took the first photo. The end result is an image dense with stars, painterly brushstrokes of clouds and palpable atmosphere. Even North End's high mast lights became a feature. It's all about working with what you have.

Getting the shots is just one part of the story. Next is the careful stitching together of these photos to create one striking image of the galaxy. "The Karoo doesn't just give you stars," Ben reflected. "It gives you stories." Their enthusiasm indeed reminds us why Prince Albert is a beacon for stargazers and soul-seekers alike. Here, the Milky Way isn't just a band of light – it's a roaring river of stars, dust, and dreams. Prince Albert may not be the centre of the universe, but for these photographers, it was the whole world for one enchanted night.



VAR'S BEGIN

VIR ROUWATERRESERVOIR

Die toneel is amper anderwêrelds. In digte oorpakke en maskers loop manne rond soos ruimtevaarders op die stowwerige bodem van 'n reservoir wat net 'n rukkie terug vol water was.

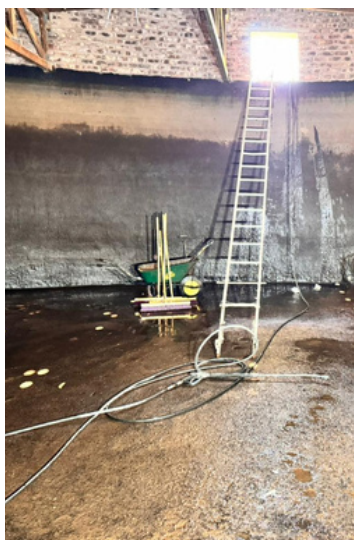


In die hart van die Karoo tel elke druppel water. En dis hier waar die munisipaliteit van Prince Albert 'n stil oorwinning behaal het in die beskerming van sy mees kosbare hulpbron. Tussen Julie en Augustus 2025 het die tegniese dienste-span die reuse taak van die skoonmaak van rouwaterreservoir nommer 3 onderneem. Hierdie reservoir vorm deel van ons watervoorsieningstelsel en het 'n kapasiteit van 1.003 miljoen liter.

Dit was nie net roetine-onderhoud nie; dit was 'n diep duik om aan SANS 241-watergehaltestandaarde en ons munisipale waterlisensievereistes te voldoen. Opgehoopde modder van die reservoirvloer is verwyder, skuurkleppe onderhou en herstel, uitlaat waterlyne geïnspekteer en gediens, en 'n deeglike skoonmaak het die reservoir tot optimale toestand herstel. Alhoewel hulpbronbeperkings die tydlyn uitgerek het, is die projek op 27 Augustus 2025 voltooi, met die hervullingsproses wat op Saterdag 30 Augustus 2025 begin het. Die reservoir is nou ten volle operasioneel en dra by tot ons watervoorsieningstelsel.

"Ek wil ons span opreg bedank vir hulle toewyding om hierdie projek suksesvol af te handel," sê burgemeester Linda Jaquet. "Deur hierdie werke te prioritiseer, voldoen ons nie net aan vereistes nie, ons verseker die langtermynvolhoubaarheid van ons waterinfrastruktuur en beskerming van openbare gesondheid vir die somer seisoen wat voorlê." Hierdie is die eerste fase van die munisipaliteit se breër plan vir sistematiese skoonmaak en onderhoud van ons ander waterbergingsfasiliteite.

Munisipale bestuurder, Adv Thys Giliomee, het ook sy opregte dank uitgespreek aan direkteur Zolile Nongene en die tegniese dienste-span, bygestaan deur EPWP-deelnemers wie se deeglike werk dit moontlik gemaak het. Hierdie inisiatief onderstreep Prince Albert se onwankelbare verbintenis: betroubare, veilige waterdienste vir almal.



'N VIERING VAN WOORDE

In die elegante Showroom-teater het Prince Albert se jaarlikse Leesfees van 29 tot 31 Augustus ontvou. Hierdie jaar se geleentheid, 'n groot sukses, het baie te danke aan die onverskrokke pogings van Prince Albert se biblioteekspan – senior bibliotekaresse Reinie Smit en assistent Jeanetta Nel – wat beplanningsvergaderings gehou en kaartjieverkope bestuur het.

Die fees het Vrydagaand met 'n aangrypende huldeblyk aan die geliefde skrywer Annelie Botes (1957-2024) geopen. Hannes Visser het gesels met haar man Chris, die 'Ou Gryse', oor wie sy so baie geskryf het, en het lag en stille tranes ontlok. Haar laaste boek, Laastegoed, wat postuum verskyn het, is te midde van applous bekendgestel. Dit is opgevolg deur 'n vertoning van die flik geskoei op haar boek Raaiselkind, Saterdagdaand.

Gewilde krimi-skrywers op die fees was Sidney Gilroy, Martin Steyn, De Wet Bischoff en Erla Diedericks. Die welbekende Mike Bolhuis het uittreksels uit Valskerm bataljon-verhale gedeel, saam met oud valskermssoldate wie se teenwoordigheid die sessies in lewende herinneringe omskep het.

Ander hoogtepunte het ingesluit professor John Parkington se insigte oor Karoo rotskuns, Andrew Wilson se The Fourth Boy, saam met Karina Szcurek, Alex Hamilton se Arting, Tom Dreyer se Nou in Infrarooi, en plaaslike skrywer Cobus Buys met As Stilte Praat en Weersiens verby Emmaus. Sondag se Poetry @ Sunrise by die Kritikomkoppe het oggendvars verse onder die uitgestrekte hemel gebied.

Die jeugprogram, gelei deur die Slimlappies-groep, het leerders, onderwysers en ouers betrek deur sessies met Christien Naser (gewilde kinderboekskrywer), Chareldine van der Merwe (VVA en kinderboekskrywer), Dokka Swart (Doen en Leer) en Beverley McKelly (ATKV). Hierdie werksinkels het jong skrywers aangevuur en ons herinner aan lees se rol in die koestering van toekomstige storievertellers. Die Slimlappies leerders het ook hul eie gedigteboek bekend gestel by die Leesfees, wat onder leiding van Maruanda Wynne saamgestel is.

Die fees is op 'n hoogtepunt afgesluit met 'n heerlike middagete by die Swartberg Hotel met kos gemaak uit die resepteboek van dr. André Hattingh van De Rust, Cooking with Doc, gepaard met vertellings van sy liefdadigheidswerk. Die Prince Albert Leesfees het ons lewendige kulturele pols bevestig, en die passie waarmee ons biblioteek dienste lewer belooft om nog vele woord generasies op te lewer.



MEET THE DOZER

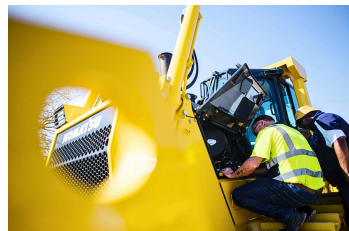


In a boost to our community's infrastructure as well as the municipality's waste management yellow fleet, Prince Albert municipality has procured a brand-new Komatsu D85 EX crawler dozer, funded mainly by the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) along with a co-funding contribution through Council's own funding.

This powerful machine will primarily enhance operations at our local landfill site, clearing and levelling waste to create additional airspace. By extending the site's capacity, we ensure sustainable waste management for years to come, reducing the need for new facilities and minimising environmental impact.

The acquisition marks a milestone in our commitment to efficient public services whilst aiming to ensure regulatory compliance. With its robust 190kW engine and advanced features like the KOMTRAX monitoring system, the D85 EX promises reliability in tough conditions. Backed by Komatsu's extended warranty options, including coverage that can span up to 20 years for key components, this investment safeguards our resources long-term.

Mr Elmar Minderon and Mr Johannes Bronkhorst from Komatsu South Africa, gave a quick overview of the dozer's operations, controls and safety features during the handover on 11 September. The two chief operators of this new addition to our yellow fleet are Mr Richard Arries and Mr Josef van Rooi, who will receive training from the Komatsu team before operating the 28 tonne beast. Forged for relentless duty, the D85EX-18 model boasts tailored waste-handling blades, powering through cluttered sites with the quiet confidence of Japanese precision engineering.



Mayor Linda Jaquet and Municipal Manager, Adv Thys Giliomee, attended the handover with councillors and officials, who all expressed their interest for the project's potential. "This dozer is a game-changer for our technical operations," said Director of Technical Services, Mr Zolile Nongene. Mr Minderon made it clear with great enthusiasm that this is a machine that likes to work – easily moving 8.5 cubic metres of earth in a single, sweeping pass. Its blade design allows for precise material handling, optimising fuel efficiency while delivering superior pushing power. Technically, the low ground pressure undercarriage minimises soil disturbance, which is crucial for maintaining the integrity of our landfill liners and preventing contamination.

The benefits to the community are profound. Improved landfill management means better hygiene, reduced odours and lower risks of health hazards from overflowing waste. It also supports our environmental goals by promoting recycling and compaction, ultimately contributing to a cleaner, greener Prince Albert.



TRANSFORMING LIVES

ONE CHANGE AT A TIME

Jandre Maya, or 'Homie' as he is known amongst friends, struggled with drug use and was begging on the streets when he joined the Prince Albert Skills School (PASS) in 2019. And it was here that his whole life changed.

Slowly but surely his old habits started making way for new ones, like consistently showing up for school and taking pride in his work in the school's kitchen. He also secured weekly jobs in town, and this has greatly built his confidence. With 2025 marking his final year, Jandre hopes for steady employment. "He's proof that second chances can spark extraordinary change," says Rodine Jaftha, a teacher at the school since its start in 2017.

The deputy mayor, Cllr Sidney Koonthea, recently paid a visit to the school to have an informal discussion with the teachers and gain a better understanding of their needs and challenges. He extended his heartfelt gratitude for all the hard work they do in helping our children acquire the necessary skills to have a promising future. He also noted that the challenges of drug dependence and unemployment are too big to solve alone, and that community involvement is vital to provide mentoring and opportunities for these young people.

Equipping young people for the future and securing internships or full-time jobs are some of the main goals of the school. Jeandre 'Boerber' Moses's story shows how it is possible. He joined PASS in 2023, as a short-tempered young man who struggled to work in groups. But over time, and with constant support, he learned to calm himself and became a reliable student – even doing extra work during school holidays. By the beginning of 2025, his efforts paid off and he was sent for a three-month internship which blossomed into a full-time job in town.

PASS currently mentors 18 boys and 13 girls who have slipped through the cracks of traditional schooling. Under the guidance of dedicated teachers Rodine, Mariette Heskwa and Kenneth Myburgh, students dive into hands-on skills like gardening, cooking and woodworking.

Daily discussions nurture emotional intelligence and resilience and provide a safe space where vulnerabilities can be shared and turned into strengths. "These young people arrive carrying heavy loads," says Kenneth. "But here, they learn to offload and rebuild."

Some of the school's biggest needs include rotational internships at local businesses for real-world preparation. The youngsters also need tools like sewing machines, welding equipment, cement and bricks for construction, a lawnmower, pallets for woodworking, an oven and kitchen essentials like aprons and mixers, as well as sporting gear such as hockey sticks and tennis rackets.

A school minibus for transport would be the cherry on the top. According to Kenneth, "These aren't only tools; they're lifelines in equipping our youth for self-sufficiency."

"PASS doesn't just teach skills, it also restores hope," says Cllr Koonthea. "These kids deserve a fair shot at the workforce – your involvement could launch their futures." Prince Albert thrives when we uplift each other. Let's rally for PASS – because every tool donated, every opportunity extended, etches brighter tomorrows.





FARR GEE AFLOSSTOK AAN



Die Prince Albert-gemeenskap het onlangs hande gevat om Internasionale Fetale Alkohol Spektrum Afwykings (FASA) Dag te vier, gelei deur die Stigting vir Alkohol-gerwante Navorsing (FARR) Prince Albert Projek. Op die negende dag van die negende maand om 09:00 het burgemeester Linda Jaquet 'n klok gelui as simbool om die stilte rondom FASD te verbreek en bewustheid te verhoog oor hoe belangrik dit is vir 'n baba se gesondheid en normale ontwikkeling om nooit tydens die nege maande van swangerskap aan alkohol blootgestel te word nie.

Dit is gevolg deur 'n bewustheidsoptog in Kerkstraat na die nuwe munisipale kantore by die Thusong Sentrum. Die geleentheid het inwoners, die munisipaliteit en lede van die SAPD, die verkeersdepartement en ambulansdienste verenig in 'n gedeelde missie om die gevare van prenatale alkoholblootstelling uit te lig. Christel Botes, Projekkoördineerder by FARR Prince Albert, het aan elke deelnemer 'n stukkie verwerde tou gegee om te dra as 'n simbool van die naelstring en hoe senuweeskade by die baba plaasvind wanneer die ma tydens swangerskap alkohol drink.

Die optog het afgesluit met 'n boomplantseremonie waar vyf olyfbome, geskenk deur FARR, by die Thusong Sentrum geplant is. Elke boom simboliseer een van die vyf gebiede wat FARR oor nege jaar bedien het: Prince Albert, Leeu-Gamka, Merweville, Klaarstroom en Seekoegat. Hierdie daad het 'n bittersoet oordrag gemerk, aangesien FARR se Prins Albert Projek ten einde loop. Die bome staan as 'n lewende verbintenis vir die gemeenskap om FARR se belangrike werk in die voorkoming van FASA voort te sit en om kinders die regte begin vir 'n hoopvolle toekoms te gee.

FARR is sedert 1997 'n baken in die Sentrale Karoo, wat FASA-syfers verminder het deur onderwys, professionele opleiding en gemeenskapsbemaatting. Hulle boodskap van geen alkohol tydens swangerskap resonansieer diep in ons gemeenskap waar die voorkoms van skade as gevolg van drankgebruik tydens swangerskap een van die hoogste ter wêreld is. Terwyl Prins Albert die aflosstok oorneem, verbind die gemeenskap hom daartoe om bewustheid lewendig te hou en te verseker dat geen kind die lewenslange uitdagings van FASA in die gesig staar nie.

“Saam plant ons hoop vir gesonder generasies,” het die burgemeester van Prince Albert, raadslid Linda Jaquet, gesê. “Met hierdie bome as 'n herinnering is Prins Albert gereed om 'n toekoms vry van FASA se skaduwee te vorm.”

NUWE MUNISIPALE KANTORE



Op 29 Augustus 2025 het die Prince Albert munisipaliteit 'n mylpaal gevier met die amptelike opening van sy nuwe kantore by die Thusong-sentrum in Adderleystraat. Die lintknipseremonie het die eerste en tweede fase van die nuwe munisipale gebou ingehuldig. Die projek is hoofsaaklik deur die provinsie se die Streek-Sosio-Ekonomiese Program (RSEP) befonds. Die doelwit van die program is om munisipale dienste nader aan alle inwoners te bring en ruimtelike klowe te oorbrug.

Die geleentheid het begin met 'n hartlike verwelkoming deur burgemeester Linda Jaquet, wat die verhuising se rol in verbeterde dienslewering en voortuitgang uitgelig het. Mnr. Francois Wüst, die RSEP bestuurder van die departement van omgewingsake en ontwikkelingsbeplanning het sy dankbaarheid uitgespreek teenoor al die rolspelers wat hierdie nuwe hoofstuk moontlik gemaak het. Dit was 'n projek wat lank in wording was maar wat uiteindelik nou verwesenlik is. Mev. Gwynne Harding, waarnemende direkteur van Korporatiewe en Gemeenskapsdienste, het die departemente van finansies, tegniese, korporatiewe en gemeenskapsdienste hartlik verwelkom. Die seremonie het afgesluit met burgemeester Jaquet en raadslid Elsabé Maans wat sertifikate van verdienste aan die bouspan oorhandig het, gevolg deur 'n lintknip en fotosessie.

In 'n weerspieëling van die gemeenskap se kulturele waardes is 'n afsonderlike seënseremonie later gehou waar geestelike leiers gebed het oor die gebou en sy mense. Die Thusong-sentrum dien nou as 'n eenstoppunt vir inwoners om toegang te geniet tot munisipale dienste, asook staatsdepartemente soos Binnelandse Sake en maatskaplikeontwikkeling. Die fasiliteit is weksdae oop van 07:30 tot 16:00 en belooft doeltreffendheid en gerief.

Hierdie verhuising onderstreep Prince Albert se toewyding aan ruimtelike integrasie en verbeterde bestuur in die Sentrale Karoo.



TEGNIES GESPROKE

MNR DANVOR SARELSE VERDUIDELIK



Somerhitte bring waterkrisis nader. Soos die temperature oor die Sentraal-Karoo styg, betree die Prince Albert Munisipaliteit – wat Prins Albert, Klaarstroom, Leeu Gamka en Prince Albertweg insluit – sy jaarlikse Rooi Sone-waterperiode.

Hierdie tyd word gekenmerk deur lae waterbronne en hoë verbruik. Van laat Oktober tot Februarie styg die vraag na water terwyl reënval skaars bly. Hierdie kombinasie lei tradisioneel tot 'n afname in ondergrondse water en dienswaterbronne soos die Voorwatersisteem in Prince Albert. Alhoewel reënpatrone in vorige jare die Rooi Sone na Februarie-April verskuif het, dui vanjaar se vroeë droogte op 'n terugkeer na die oorspronklike siklus.

Die voorwatersisteem kan tot 200,000 liter per uur lewer onder ideale toestande. Tydens die Rooi Sone kan hierdie opbrengs daal tot slegs 30,000 liter per dag – 'n kritieke vlak wat ernstige uitdagings vir inwoners en infrastruktuur skep. Prince Albert se ekonomie floreer op toerisme, veral gedurende November tot Januarie. Die toestroming van besoekers verhoog die daaglikse waterverbruik tot 2.5 megaliter – ver bo die munisipale drempel van 2 miljoen liter per dag.

Verbruik per gebied

- Prince Albert Suid: Ongeveer 1.5 megaliter per dag, hoë drukstelsels
- Prince Albert Noord: Ongeveer 0.7 megaliter per dag, laer druk maar steeds bo teiken
- Leeu Gamka: Ongeveer 0.6 megaliter per dag, presteer goed ten spyte van kabeldiefstal. Die Transnet-boorgat bly die sterkste bron
- Klaarstroom: Ongeveer 0.2 megaliter per dag, toon lofwaardige selfbeheersing
- Prince Albertweg: Onder munisipale sorg, word aangemoedig om bewaringsriglyne te volg

Die munisipaliteit het 'n daaglikse verbruiksteiken van 90 liter per persoon gestel. Oorskryding hiervan plaas druk op reeds gespanne stelsels. Inwoners word versoek om nie plonspoele te vul nie – daaglikse hervulling verspil duisende liters.

Praktiese waterbesparingstegnieke

- Stort vir slegs 2–3 minute
- Gebruik 'n emmer in plaas van 'n tuinslang
- Giet tuine vroegoggend of laatmiddag
- Hergebruik gryswater vir toilette of besproeiing
- Herstel lekkasies onmiddellik
- Bedek swembaddens om verdamping te verminder
- Hou drinkwater in die yskas – moenie krane laat loop vir koue water nie

Sekuriteitsmaatreëls word hersien om sabotasie van infrastruktuur te voorkom, veral in Leeu Gamka. Gemeenskapswaaksaamheid en die aanmelding van verdagte aktiwiteite is noodsaaklik.

Die Prince Albert Munisipaliteit doen 'n ernstige beroep op alle inwoners – van Prince Albert, Leeu Gamka, Klaarstroom tot Prince Albertweg – om water spaarsamig te gebruik, lekkasies of diefstal aan te meld, en die gemeenskap se welstand eerste te stel. Saam kan ons volhoubare toegang tot water verseker.

NEW HYUNDAI H100



We are proud to announce the acquisition of a new Hyundai H100 utility vehicle for the Community Services Department. This milestone purchase, funded through Council's capital budget, marks a significant step toward enhancing service delivery and improving operational efficiency within the department.

For several years, the Community Services sub-directorate has depended on assistance from other municipal departments to manage certain tasks. The introduction of the Hyundai H100 now enables the sub-directorate to carry out more functions independently.

This addition to our fleet ensures our teams are better equipped to maintain clean and well-kept public spaces, which directly contributes to the health, safety, and pride of our communities. The Council's investment in this vehicle aligns with its commitment to improving service delivery through resource optimisation and operational efficiency.



THE COST OF ILLEGAL DUMPING

The Municipality participated in the Clean-Up and Recycle SA Week from 15-20 September under the theme: "Clean-Up and Recycle SA Week – Make a difference where you work, live and play".

This was a time to shine a spotlight on a critical issue affecting us all – illegal dumping. This practice not only scars the beauty of our town but also has far-reaching consequences for our environment, health, and economy.

The Cost to Our Municipality

Illegal dumping leads to environmental degradation, pollution and harm to wildlife. However, beyond that, it also places a heavy financial burden on the municipality. Valuable resources are often diverted to clean up and transport waste from illegal dumping sites, often at the expense of other critical services.

Hazardous or bulky waste can also damage collection trucks and equipment, driving up repair and maintenance costs. In addition, when staff are pulled away from their regular duties to deal with illegal dumping, service delivery in areas such as water leaks, road maintenance, and housing projects is delayed. Ultimately, these expenses are carried by all of us as residents, since funds that could have been invested in community development are instead used on preventable clean-ups.

The Impact on Our Community

Illegal dumping is more than just an eyesore – it also puts our residents at risk:

- Health hazards: Dump sites can attract pests and rodents which increases the risk of disease transmission.
- Safety concerns: Waste can block stormwater drains, create fire hazards and cause accidents.
- Aesthetic degradation: Our town's charm is one of our greatest assets. Unsightly dumping harms tourism and discourages local economic growth.

What Can You Do?

Every resident has a role to play in keeping Prince Albert clean:

- Dispose waste responsibly: Always use designated waste disposal facilities.
- Report illegal dumping: Contact the municipality's Technical Services Department or law enforcement officers if you witness it happening.
- Spread the word: Educate family, friends, and colleagues about the dangers of illegal dumping and the importance of recycling.

Let us commit to protecting the place we all call home. Start small by sorting your household waste, recycle where you can, and teach your family to do the same. Together, we can reduce illegal dumping, protect our environment, and build a healthier, more sustainable community for generations to come.

MORE THAN R60 000 WORTH OF DAGGA SEIZED

In a swift operation that underscores vigilant local policing, authorities seized 16 parcels of dagga weighing 6.013 kilograms – valued at R60,130—during a routine vehicle checkpoint on Prince Albert Road on 8 September 2025. The bust, executed at 09:05 by two Flying Squad members and Municipal traffic officer Mr William Mackay, targeted a bus with a Gauteng registration number.

Officers proceeded to search the vehicle, uncovering the contraband hidden inside. One suspect was promptly arrested on charges of dealing in dagga. This collaborative effort between provincial and municipal teams highlights Prince Albert's commitment to safer roads and communities. As investigations continue, the incident serves as a timely reminder of the rewards of community vigilance.

15 JAAR SE TOEWYDING

Tydens die Algemene Raadsvergadering van 23 September het Mnr Jephta de Wee en Mnr Mervyn Maans albei langdienssertifikate ontvang vir 15 jaar se toegewyde diens by die munisipaliteit.

Mnr De Wee (Drywer: paaie en stormwater) en Mnr Maans (Toesighouer/Drywer: Riooltrok) is erken vir jare se diens wat hulle aan die munisipaliteit en inwoners van Prins Albert gewy het in hulle waardevolle rolle in die lewering van noodsaaklike dienste.





1ST THURSDAYS IS TERUG!

KOM ONS PRAAT

- Burgemeester Linda Jaquet nooi u uit na 'n Oop Regeringsessie met die Munisipale Bestuurder en sy span, raadslede en verteenwoordigers van verskeie regeringsdepartemente
- Bring u kwessie, navraag, bekommernis of goeie idee aan ons
- Wie eerste kom, word eerste bedien
- 10-minuut sessie, een-tot-een

BELANGRIKE NOMMERS

For any emergencies, service delivery queries and after-hours calls, please phone
082 220 0848.

For municipal account queries, please phone
023 5411 748 / 457 / 552.

SAPS Prince Albert **023 541 8000**

We would like to hear from you. Please send your feedback to the editor at pro@pamun.gov.za

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