

Inside:
Freedom day message
Repairing vandalised houses
Procedures for extending your house
Be smart on the road

The Zanemvula housing project launched in 2006. It is an informal settlement upgrading and human settlement project in Nelson Mandela Bay. The project is located in the Chatty, Joe Slovo West, Soweto-on-Sea and Veeplaas areas and involves the relocation of residents from the floodplains of the Chatty River, backyard dwellings and other stressed areas around Nelson Mandela Bay to decent human settlements. The project will deliver 13 500 houses.

Family home at last



FAMILY TIES: Natasha Potgieter and her brother, Ashwell Kido, enjoy a a summer breeze outside her new home.

NATASHA Potgieter and her family have lived in a shack for the better part of 20 years before she finally received a home in October last year.

Potgieter lived in Riverside before receiving her home and she remembers being held at gunpoint in her shack during one of the many times they were robbed.

"I was so scared all the time. Especially when the wind was strong and the shack made a noise, I was on high alert. It wasn't safe there and I never felt like it was home; it was just some place we slept."

In her new home she is at ease,



TEA TIME: Natasha loves having running water in the comfort of her own home and often makes coffee and tea.

"Since moving here, we have not had a single problem. I even forgot to close my window one night but nothing happened."

Potgieter lives with her husband Shawn, son Jon-Diego and her brother Ashwell Kido. Potgieter was concerned for her safety in Riverside and invited her brother to stay with her, "We have been through tough times together and we have always been close. When it flooded in the shacks and all seemed lost, we had each other. I wish our mother could see that we are okay now."

Potgieter was always concerned about

flooding and explains her joy for her new home, "I could never have nice things in my house. The slightest bit of rain ruined our clothes, furniture and health. It broke my heart having to raise my son in this environment. During one of the worst floods I woke up in the middle of the night and thought I was dreaming when I saw my sandal floating next to my bed. It was a nightmare, but I wasn't sleeping."

Key to her happiness

Potgieter lived in the temporary relocation area at the time of the handover of her new house. The temporary relocation area is a place where beneficiaries are relocated to while their homes are being completed, "I started moving all the small stuff, my husband came home to the shack after work and asked if we had been robbed. I was never happier to say no.

"I felt like I was finally coming home. I got the key to my house late in the afternoon and moved in straight away; I wasn't going to spend one more night than I needed to in that shack," said Potgieter.

She had never experienced the comfort of running water of her own, "The communal tap was more than 100 metres away from my shack. It doesn't seem far, but fetching water for washing and queuing in the heat or rain wasn't easy. My life has changed so much for the better."

"I have a new job close-by, my son has a home he can be proud of and we are happier than ever. Soon we'll have electricity too. I'm home at last."



HAPPY HOME-OWNER: Another new home-owner in Chatty 1380, Cynthia Winti is happier than ever as she can now provide a real home to her children and their pet.

Reflecting on freedom



The HDA CEO Taffy Adler

AS freedom day approaches I am proud to recognise the distance we have come as a country towards building a brighter future in a democratic environment.

It is a time in which we reflect not only on our rights to freedom, but our rights as people. It is the most basic rights – such as the right to housing – that are most important to us at the HDA.

Our work at the HDA thrives on the hope that every woman, man and child should be able to enjoy the freedom of coming home to an adequate house, which offers security, community and health.

It is our mission, as implementing agent, to assist in creating such communities where dignity and peace can flourish.

I am proud to say the Zanemvula project is a leading example of the outcome of government collaboration and an aim to deliver quality housing. Delivery aside, we acknowledge the challenges in meeting the demand for housing for poor people in Nelson Mandela Bay are still great.

But with integrated development amongst all spheres of government and the support of communities in these project areas, we can overcome challenges that arise. Let us commemorate this freedom day by working together in building strong communities.

Taffy Adler
CEO, The HDA

Repair and protect

REPAIRS have finally started on the 118 homes vandalised in the Chatty 1347 project area. This follows months of searching for beneficiaries who had not claimed their homes; 24 beneficiaries have now at last been located.

With the houses standing open for so long, they were left vulnerable and open to vandalism.

“Initially we moved the beneficiaries of these houses to a temporary living facility close to site while we built their homes. Unfortunately, by the time we had finished and the homes were ready to be handed over, we found many beneficiaries were missing,” said project manager Eddie Potberg.

Some beneficiaries died, some moved to other cities and some moved back to the floodplain

areas they previously lived in because it was closer to the amenities they were used to, “This made it difficult to track each one down, a process we are still going through.”

The 24 beneficiaries who have been found, agreed to stay on the property while the houses are being repaired, “We have since made this a condition of the repairs. We need the beneficiary to live on the property and thereby serve as a deterrent due to the risk of a home being vandalised again if it is left vacant and unattended. We will not be able to secure funding if a house is vandalised again.”

If you are a beneficiary of Chatty 1347 and you have not yet received your home, or if you have information regarding any of the Chatty 1347 beneficiaries who have still not received their houses, please contact the HDA on **041 393 2600**.



FIX IT: One of the vandalised houses which will be repaired.

Project Update as at March 2014

THE Zanemvula mega-housing project in Chatty, Joe Slovo West, Soweto-on-Sea and Veeplaas is divided into four programmes and will deliver about 13 500 houses:

- the construction of 13 327 new houses in Chatty extensions 3, 4, 5, 12, 13 and 15, Joe Slovo West and Kwadwesi Extension.
- the informal settlement upgrade of about 1 565 houses.
- the rectification of about 7 500 houses in Soweto-on-Sea.
- the erection of some 323 rental houses.

Soweto-on-Sea rectifications

- 2 500 houses to be rectified.
- 1 988 units have been rectified to date.
- 7 rectifications were completed in March 2014.

Soweto-on-Sea Multi-Purpose Community Centre

- The R22-million project was completed last year and handed over to the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. Requests to use the centre are to be made to the NMBM Facilities Caretaker on **078 662 2058**.

Chatty 1347

- The project is now complete.
- Of 118 vandalised units, an extra 10 happy letters have been secured. Repairs commenced in March 2014.
- All sites are fully serviced, but 8 could not be built on as they were too steep.

Chatty 1380

- 1 380 houses to be built.
- All beneficiaries have been identified.
- 1 008 houses have been completed and have Final Unit Reports from NHBRC.
- 1 345 foundations, 1 345 wallplates and 1 345 roofs completed.
- 1 211 households have been relocated to date.

Chatty Multi-Purpose Community Centre

- Contractors have been procured and funds have been approved. Construction will commence shortly.

Chatty 491 Services

- All services have been installed and completion certificates have been issued.
- This brings to completion Chatty 4310 services project, which commenced in 2009.

Joe Slovo West 4040

- 4 040 sites to be serviced.
- The contract is now 94% complete, with the equivalent of 3 753 sites serviced.

Chatty 1060

- 123 households have been relocated to the project.

BHODLA SAY IT ALL

How has being relocated affected you?



Zingisile Nomachiwe

Ndiyavuya ndihlala eChatty kuba zininzi izikroxo apho ndinothenga khona. Kodwa, ezizikroxo aziwuthengisi umbane nento ezifana namabisi wabantwana.



Euroy Langford

Toe ons eers hierna toe gekom het, het ons baie met vervoer gesukkel. Maar soos die gebied uitgebrei het, is dit nou beter. Taxi's ry nou al by ons buurt in om passasiers op te tel. Dit maak dit makliker vir ons om by ons werke of die winkels uit te kom.



Sylvia Klaas

I made friends very easily when I moved here, some people I already knew. I feel much safer here than I did in Kwazakhele. It was closer to the shopping centre where I lived before, but we do have some house shops here that stock necessities.



Meazo Marata

Kuthathe ithuba ikuqhela ngoba lendawo ikude kwinto yonke nabantu esibaziyo. Kodwa, ndiya vuya sazo hlala apha. Njengokuba inani lezindlu linyuka, nazo iinqwelo ezithutha abantu ziya zixhaphaka. Noko iinto zokhwela azingqabanga.



Iris Jordaan

Waar ons vantevore gebly het was dit nie veilig nie, hier is dit. Selfs al is daar nog nie krag of straat ligte nie, voel ek veilig; daar is lig van die oorkanste gebied wat lig maak in die aand. My kinders mis nog van hul ou maatjies, maar hulle het al baie nuwe vriende gemaak.

Extend your house *But follow proper procedures*

AS a homeowner you are allowed to improve your house by extending it, and the municipality encourages those who can afford to do so to go ahead with their plans. But remember, all improvements need to be legal.

This means as homeowners you should follow the proper procedures prescribed by the municipality when extending your house. If you extend your house or make any structural changes without first getting approval from the municipality, you will be fined, and the work done will be demolished.

To make sure this doesn't happen, homeowners must:

1. Apply to the municipality for permission to extend and state their intentions.
2. Make sure a qualified and registered professional, such as an architect, draftsman or building-related specialist draws the plans for the housing extensions.
3. Get the professional who is drawing the plans to send them to the municipality.
4. Remember that there are fees to be paid to the municipality for plans to be processed.

You should not view these rules as obstacles to improving your property. They are in place to make sure basic health and safety standards are in place.

Important points to remember:

- Homeowners with low incomes are given special treatment and plan approval fees are considerably reduced for them.
- Don't be caught cheating as municipal building inspectors often visit areas, checking if homeowners are making illegal extensions to their homes.
- When making these extensions, proper and durable materials should be used. This helps to create strong structures that can stand the test of time.
- Remember you want to live in your house forever and pass it on to your children.



SAFETY FIRST: Sonwabo Zinganto is sure to look twice before crossing the road.

Be smart on the road

WHETHER travelling by foot, car or taxi, we all use the road and should understand the importance of road safety. Here are some tips to follow when using roads:

Pedestrian

- Do not hitch-hike.
- Walk on the pavement, never in the road.
- Wear reflective or light clothing at night to be more visible to motorists.
- When crossing the road, look both ways.

Passenger

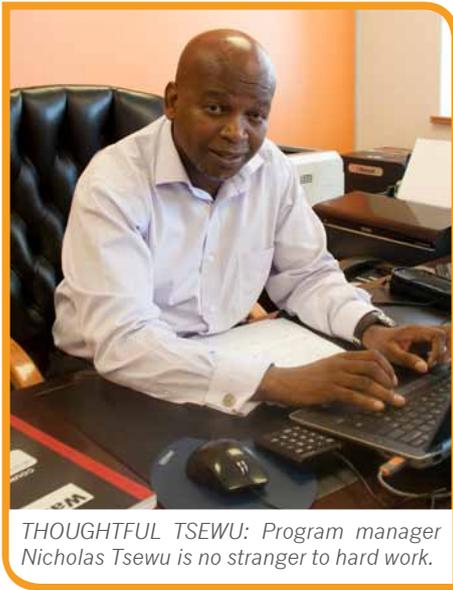
- Do not get into a car with a drunk driver.
- Do not use an overloaded taxi, overloading causes accidents.
- Put on your safety belt.

Always ensure that you teach your children the importance of road safety. Another important tip to consider when travelling is to leave valuables at home and never to carry large sums of money with you. This could put you in a danger of being robbed.

Nicholas Tsewu is hands-on

IN past months, we have profiled many individuals who have made an impact on the project or in your community. We have introduced you to some HDA staff who work directly on the projects, as well as important community personalities.

We also got to know more about the councillors presiding over the Zanemvula area – who play a vital role in the community. This month we get to know the Eastern Cape programme manager of the HDA, Nicholas Tsewu.



THOUGHTFUL TSEWU: Program manager Nicholas Tsewu is no stranger to hard work.

Where did you grow up?

I was born in a town called Whittlesea, 43 kilometres outside of Queenstown. I spent most of my younger years there before moving to Port Elizabeth in 1987.

What led you to the position of programme manager of the HDA?

I have enjoyed the opportunity to work in many different fields over my career. I've spent time teaching subjects like economics at high school level, but also worked with big construction companies. However, I think it is my experience in corporate law as a lawyer that contributes most to my ability to hold this position.

How many years have you been programme manager?

I have been a part of this project from its very beginning, five years or so. It is remarkable how the project is growing, changing and evolving as we go.

What are some of the duties that go along with this position?

Engaging with stakeholders and cultivating healthy, lasting and beneficial relationships with each one. All spheres of government need to be integrated in developing the project. Ensuring that delivery is in line with what government is looking to achieve with the project. I manage the important aspects to this project, such as the objective, time, quality and quantity.

What do you enjoy most in your position as programme manager?

Being hands-on in the implementation of our work at the HDA brings me satisfaction. One has to keep in mind that most beneficiaries are living on very little money. When they receive a property of their own for the first time, the look of joy on their faces – that is what I enjoy most.

What challenges do you face in your capacity as programme manager?

Developing and maintaining relationships with various stakeholders can be difficult. In order to meet the objectives of this project, integrated development is crucial. Also, the need to meet the demand of houses has its own set of challenges.

What are your goals for this year?

I will aspire to meet the housing targets we have made and hope to complete the Multi-Purpose Community Centre (MPCC) for Chatty. This will take hard work and perseverance, but hopefully we can achieve these two very important needs. The MPCC will bring a much-needed facility to the community of Chatty.

What is your life motto?

I firmly believe in having a plan. My motto ties in with that, my motto and plan is always, A=B+C. It means, you will Achieve if you Believe it and can Conceive it.

Do you have a message for the readers?

As we approach Freedom Day, let us work together towards building a better future. Appreciate the home you have been given by government by looking after it. Remember you are important and the government invested in you. Those of you still awaiting your house, have patience and know we are working to the best of our ability to ensure all beneficiaries receive their homes.

Useful contact numbers

The Housing Development Agency: 041 393 2600

Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality:

Customer Care (all hours): 041 506 5555
Service Delivery Centre (all hours) – for water, sanitation and all other services: 0800 205 050

Human Settlements Eastern Cape: 043 711 9500

Emergencies: Call from cell phone: 112

Childline: 08000 55 555

Eskom customer care: 0860 037 566

Public transport information: 0800 656 463

Land Invasion: Macdonald 082 4105 066 / Hlela 079 4900 531

Fire: 041 585 2311

Water Leaks, Power outage etc: 0800 205050

General Emergencies: 041 506 2735

www.yithethe.co.za

Clinics

Chatty Clinic in Dullisear St	041 481 2111
Veeplaas Clinic in Kani St	041 464 1529
Zwide Clinic in Johnson St	041 464 1732
Soweto-on-Sea Clinic in Mbanga St	041 464 6021
Booyens Park Clinic in Auburn Rd	041 506 2700
Booyens Park Clinic 2 (Booyens Park Drive)	041 483 1590

Police Stations

Booyens Park Police Station	041 404 3000 071 475 1938
Kwazakele Police Station	041 408 7743
Zwide Police Station	041 405 4712



human settlements

Department:
Human Settlements
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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EASTERN CAPE
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