

# Get to know: Bashnie Ramasamy, Project Accountant



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**Bashnie joined the HDA in 2009 and is a Project Accountant.**

"On the accounting and finance side of the Zanemvula Projects, I manage the flow of claims and payments to service providers. I am also involved with procurement and subsidy issues."

**"For me, the most enjoyable part of my job is that every day in the office is different."**

Bashnie says she is humbled by the work of the HDA, in particular to be part of an organisation that gives back to those who really need roofs over their heads.

She is inspired by many people and many sayings.

"Mother Theresa said: 'Not all of us can do great things, but we can do something with great love.' She was such a humble person and I live by humility. I always tell my children that by just being humble we can achieve great things in life."

## Fireworks By-Law

Diwali and Guy Fawkes may have passed, but many people like to ring in the New Year with fireworks.

The Metro's Fireworks By-Law regulates where fireworks may be discharged so that people and property are not endangered and that the effects on animals and pets are limited.

The municipality must inform the public of where fireworks can be discharged and of any additional rules or regulations. Conditions may include dates and times during which fireworks can be let off in any designated area.

Fireworks may only be sold by and bought from a dealer who has the required license in terms of the Explosives Act.

Breaking the terms of this by-law is punishable, either with the payment of a fine or imprisonment or both.

**To find out more about areas designated for the discharge of fireworks, contact the Municipality's General Enquiries line on 041 506 3111.**

### 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: (From cell phone): 112  
 Childline: 08000 55 555  
 Eskom Customer Care: 0860 037 566  
 Public Transport Information: 0800 656 463  
 Land Invasion:  
 Macdonald 082 410 5066  
 Hlela 079 490 0531  
 Fire: 041 585 2311  
 Water leaks, Power outages etc. 0800 205 050  
 General Emergencies: 041 506 2735

### Clinics

Chatty Clinic in Dullisear Street: 041 481 2111  
 Veeplaas Clinic in Kani Street: 041 464 1529  
 Zwide Clinic in Johnson Street: 041 464 1732  
 Soweto-on-Sea Clinic in Mbanga Street:  
 041 464 6021  
 Booyens Park Clinic in Auburn Road:  
 041 506 2700  
 Booyens Park Clinic 2 in 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



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# Zanemvula

Bringing the Rain

Community Newsletter • November 2014

issue 32

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.

## Working for themselves and their community

Many shopping centres and other services are situated quite far from the Zanemvula projects and a number of residents have started businesses that they run from their homes. These range from shoe and vehicle repair services, to barbers, crèches and spaza shops.



Amanda Ganya, the owner of MAYG Sewing and Embroidery, moved into her home with her child in 2012.

We visited two such entrepreneurs who live in Chatty; they explained that they took the decision to start their own home-based businesses not just to earn an income to support their households but to also assist their neighbours.

Amanda Ganya moved into her home with her child in 2012. She is a seamstress and the owner of MAYG Sewing and Embroidery.

"People from my community, and from as far away as Motherwell and Queenstown, come to me to sew for them. Many of my customers want clothes made – including traditional wear and church uniforms – and others want curtains. I make to order. I also fix items and do alterations."

**"The design of the uniform of the Alfonso Arries Primary School here in Chatty – that was my idea."**

Amanda says she enjoys what she does.

"My machines are set up in my child's bedroom. I do have a small problem when she wants to sleep and I need to work. I don't think anyone else in Chatty offers a sewing service; the closest is in Korsten and that is about 25 kilometres away."

Mathabo Ngcolomba is a hairstylist who lives near Amanda. She moved into her home about two years ago.

"When I was 13-years-old I started doing people's hair. These days I operate from my lounge and my customers are from the community and the surrounding locations."

Mathabo says she cuts and styles hair for women and men.

"Braiding is my speciality. Some days, business is quieter than on others and you can never really tell what kind of day it's going to be."

When asked if there are any services that are missing from the community, Amanda and Mathabo agreed that there is a need for a vendor to sell electricity.

Find out more about the rules and regulations that apply to running a business from your home on page 2.



Mathabo Ngcolomba is a hairstylist

# Running a business from your home – the do's and don'ts

Running a business from your home may be a means to support your household, and to provide much-needed services to your community. Spaza or house shops may be allowed subject to Council provisions. The Zoning Scheme of the area you live determines whether you require Special Consent from the Metro to run one from your home. To find out which Zoning Scheme your area falls within, the processes that you need to follow in terms of an application, and whether or not you need consent, contact Town Planning Enquiries on 041 506 2432 or 041 506 2150.

Other rules and regulations that apply are outlined in the Metro's Municipal Health By-Law. It explains what can or cannot be done from or at any municipal land to avoid a situation that could impact on public health. This includes running businesses like a barber, hair salon, a crèche from your house or offering accommodation.

## Among other things, under this by-law:

- Anyone who looks after six or more babies or toddlers from their home must be the holder of a certificate of acceptability and must adhere to a number of other structural, hygiene and safety requirements
- Barbers or hairdressers' work areas must be fitted with the necessary facilities – such as basins, lighting, ventilation and toilets

The by-law also provides strict guidelines around the disposal of waste. Contact Town Planning Enquiries on the numbers listed above to find out more about the by-law, about certificates of acceptability or other do's and don'ts.



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# Be a smart-spender these holidays

For many, the festive season can be a tough time financially as there may or may not be a thirteenth cheque or bonus – meaning that December's pay-packet will have to last until January.

Some households may already be feeling the pressure of making sure that there will be food on the table, activities to keep the children occupied, money for school fees, uniforms and stationery and other necessities.

According to the South African Savings Institute, during the 'silly season' retailers do tend to make goods and services appear to be cheaper. Or, shoppers are given the option to 'take now and pay in February'. They can hurt the consumer who only realises the pinch early in the new year. By then there are pressing needs that cannot be paid for and that's when the borrowing cycle starts.

The Institute's CEO Elizabeth Lwanga-Nanziri says it is important to work wisely with your money throughout the holidays.

"Set priorities – make a list of what and how much your expenses will be in January and set aside that money immediately."

**"Not everything on SALE is for you; it will be only if it is on your priority list."**

"If you do receive a bonus, use it to pay off debt and save some of the money – it will come in handy in January."



## Project Updates:

### Soweto-on-Sea Rectification

- To date, 2034 of 2500 houses have been rectified

### Chatty 1380

- 1192 houses are complete and have Final Unit Reports issued by the NHBRC
- 1056 units were handed over to approved beneficiaries who have signed Client Handovers
- 1345 foundations, wallplates and roofs are complete
- "New Norms and Standards" (including internal plaster, gutters and downpipes) have been installed in 740 houses
- 145 units are still illegally occupied and this is affecting completion of the project
- Correcting site numbers and approved beneficiaries in occupation of units on the HSS system is underway

### Joe Slovo West 4040 (Services)

- All 4040 sites were serviced and the last Completion Certificates were issued on 03 September 2014

### Chatty 1060, Chatty 491, JSW 4000 (Top Structures) and 500 Soweto-on-Sea/Veeplaas Unbuilt Sites

- All of these projects are in the procurement stages

- The HDA is adjudicating tender proposals to appoint Principal Agents/Structural Engineers who will supply services that include the design, contract administration and close out processes for the construction of a total of approximately 6051 houses
- Relocations to Joe Slovo West 4000 have resumed after the ward leadership was consulted
- Serviced sites in the Chatty 1060 component project are being illegally occupied

### Soweto-on-Sea/Veeplaas 380 Toilet/Bathroom attachments

- The project is in the procurement stage; and the HDA is evaluating bids to appoint contractors
- The HDA intends to directly contract about ten SMMEs

### Chatty MPCC

- An agreement has been signed by the contractor and the HDA
- The contractor is setting up on-site
- The contract period is 13 months from 08 September 2014 to 08 October 2015 and includes the annual builders' shutdown



## November is Diabetes Awareness Month

**According to Diabetes South Africa (DSA), approximately six million South Africans are living with diabetes and two million do not know that they have the condition.**

An individual with diabetes has high blood sugar levels because their body does not produce enough insulin or it doesn't work properly.

### There are two main types of diabetes:

*Type 1* is usually diagnosed during childhood and occurs when the body's immune system attacks the cells in the pancreas that produce insulin leaving the body unable to regulate blood sugar levels.

*Type 2* or adult-onset diabetes is caused when the body's cells become resistant to insulin.

### Common symptoms of diabetes include:

- Constant thirst and tiredness
- Frequent urination
- Unexplained weight loss

- Itching
- Blurred vision
- Slow healing cuts or bruises
- Numbness of the hands and feet

DSA Nurse Educator, Razana Allie says it's important that diabetics, and those who are at risk, make the choice to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

**"If you do have a risk factor – if you are overweight, have a history of diabetes in your family or other cardiovascular conditions like Hypertension – you must test regularly for high blood glucose."**

