



# Sunshine Coast Tourism

APRIL 2012

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## PORT ALFRED WINS BID AGAINST WESTERN CAPE FOR MAJOR INTERNATIONAL EVENT



In a major coup, Port Alfred has won the battle against the Western Cape to host the International Expedition Africa Extreme Challenge. The organisers of the event spent time in Port Alfred over December and were persuaded to host their event in Ndlambe.

Fifteen teams of extreme athletes will compete for a place in the world championships to be

held in France later this year. Two of the teams are South African and the balance are international teams from Russia, Ecuador, Peru, France, Belgium amongst others. This event will be covered by local and international television crews and will be shown on Supersport, Discovery Channel and ESPN.

The international TV crews arrive in Port Alfred late April and will be hosted by Sun-

shine Coast Tourism. They will be filming tourism attractions in Ndlambe prior to the race, which is due to start on 5<sup>th</sup> May.

The race itself is spread out over 500km and will take place over 5 days. The route is secret at this point, for obvious reasons, but will highlight many of the beautiful spots in Ndlambe.

If all goes well, Port Alfred is set to host the world championships of 80



## Our Rhinos capture the imagination of the world as Thandi fights for survival

People are drawn to the Eastern Cape, and the Sunshine Coast in particular, by the breathtaking beauty and the wonders of nature that abound.

The world was shocked by the latest Rhino tragedy to hit our shores in the form of not 1 but 3 Rhino poached at our very own Kariega Game Park earlier this month. The surviving Rhino, Thandi, has captured the imagination of thousands, and as a result, the Kariega Game facebook page rose from around 1,000 members to over 4,000 in a month as people followed the daily reports given by an impassioned Dr Fowlds on his treatment of Thandi and Themba, who sadly gave up his fight for life after 24 days. At a talk given by Dr Fowlds in Grahamstown earlier this month, he expressed his

gratitude towards the public for their overwhelming response and encouragement. Visibly moved and distressed by this tragedy, Dr Fowlds asked that each and every member of the audience do just one thing a day to create awareness about Rhino, no matter how small.

We at Sunshine Coast Tourism are proud to endorse our support of Rhino Conservation and preservation by dedicating the total proceeds of the upcoming Kenton Xtreme Festival's fringe activities (tug of war, Kiddies survivor challenge, crafters and Time out play centre) towards this worthy cause.

### Kenton Xtreme Festival

All fringe activities in aid of Rhino Conservation  
19—20 May 2012 @ Kariega Main Beach, Kenton

- Triathlon (4km Beach run, 750m swim and 20km MTB)
- Craft Fair
- Touch rugby
- Beach Soccer
- 50km BTM ride
- 10km MTB ride
- 20km beach run
- Tug of War Competition
- Kiddies Survivor Course
- Time Out Play Centre

YOU can help Thandi's fight for survival - join us at the Kenton Xtreme Festival on 19-20 May

Enter the tug of War

Display your crafts

Visit the festival



## Nemato Cultural Experience....

Stenden, in conjunction with Sunshine Coast Tourism, have developed an exciting Nemato Township Tour. Students from Stenden approached the tourism office in Port Alfred some months ago with a view to developing a meaningful product for tourism in the area. One of the experiences lacking in our area is a township tour and with the local knowledge of Lungisile Sinqe and Sintetemba Mabona combined with the backing of Stenden it was an ideal opportunity to launch such a meaningful and exciting tour.

The tour is a fascinating journey into the history and future of South Africa and is not to be missed. There is no actual recorded history of Nemato Township, but there are rich stories to be told by residents of the area. The first township in Port Alfred was in the vicinity of the Golf course, and was moved to its present position just before World War II. It was unique in that both 'coloured' and 'black' people lived together, however, during the Group Areas Act of 1950's Station Hill was born as a traditional 'Coloured township'. In 1993, Nemato, an acronym for "Nelson Mandela Township" held its first anti-apartheid march to the City Hall.

This fascinating and eye-opening tour is a must and includes:

- The Nemato monument
- Dumpsite
- Ingubo Project visit
- Mama Mathew's Spaza Shop, including a traditional meal and cultural dance
- A walking trail
- Wally's Place, a traditional tavern
- Visit to a traditional healer (Sangoma)
- Station Hill School

On the tour you will be able to interact with friendly and welcoming locals and includes transport in a minibus taxi.



## Business on the Move.....

**RELOACTED**



### **Pam Golding Properties**

made the move to consolidate their office in Port Alfred and to make Rosehill Mall their home. At the launch of their new offices, Isobel Meyer, principal of PGP in Port Alfred thanked everyone for their hard work in making the franchise a success and pledged her support of the property industry in Port Alfred.

**Top Carpets** has moved from Main Street, Port Alfred to the Rosehill Mall. Derek Kleinhans, proprietor of Top

Carpets is delighted with the move.

**Furnmark** was purchased by a delighted Mark Kiek and business partner, Dererk Birch, who currently own Home Inn, on the Eastern side of Port Alfred. Home Inn will continue to trade, as will the two Furnmark stores in the CBD and Rosehill Mall.

**Taste** has also moved from van der Riet Street to the Piazza at Wharf Street Trading Post. Bev

offers delightful lunches and themed dinner menus.

**Begin with the end in Mind** has moved from van der Riet Street to a front store at the Wharf Street Trading Post, and offers Indonesian teak furniture, speciality gifts and unique décor items.

**Woosh** has moved from van der Riet Street to Bathurst's 'The workshop'. A special section has been created in the art gallery of the workshop to accommodate Woosh.

## Hiking in Alexandria's Woody Cape

The most popular activity that visitors to our area ask about is, without a doubt, hiking. There are many stunning trails in and around the Sunshine Coast, requiring various levels of fitness. One of the spectacular trails is the Alexandria Hiking trail, which takes in the beautiful indigenous forest, spectacular shifting dunes, breathtakingly beautiful unspoiled beaches and offers the hiker magical glimpses of fauna and flora. This trail is now part of Addo National Park and offers the hiker 3 choices:

(a) The Woody Cape Tree Dassie trail—a 7km morning's hike through the

beautiful forest where you can observe a myriad of butterflies and orchids at this time of year—you need to be moderately fit to do this hike and can expect to see the spectacular Knysna turaco and charismatic trumpeter hornbill amongst other unique birds.

(b) a morning's hike starting at the top of the dunes, a climb down to the pristine beach hugging the sandstone cliffs and dunes, followed by a hoist up a rope ladder back to the top of the dunes and back to your car where you can expect to see oyster catches possibly dolphins and whales along the way and on a clear

day, bird island is visible (you need a fair level of fitness for this hike); and

(c) a 2 day hike through the forest, along the dunes, down the beach, up the rope ladder and back to starting point in the forest. There is an overnight hikers hut at Woody Cape forest which you can use as a base camp with beds, showers and braai facilities. The midway overnight stop is at the ranger's hut and does not allow for any fires to be made. There is also no shower facilities at this midway stop. I

Question: Is this hike worth it—and the answer is a resounding Hell YES!!!!

## Riparian Craft Fair in Port Alfred—28 April

On 28th April, Port Alfred is set to host what will hopefully become a regular event. For one day, traffic will be closed to Wharf Street and traders will bring their wares out onto the pavements.

Crafters are set to set up stalls along the banks of the river and a similar thing will take place on the opposite bank of the river with crafters plying their wares along the towpath.

The traders on both sides of the river have welcomed this initiative and weather permitting it is set to become a fun event with all sorts of fringe activities taking place throughout the day. If any crafters would like to join in this event, please contact the Tourism Office in Port Alfred—the more the merrier.

## International Museum Day Fair—12 May

The Kowie History Museum plans to run a awareness campaign, kicking off with a craft fair in the parking lot of the museum in Pascoe Crescent on Saturday, 12th May. Various activities will take place during the following week to promote the museum. The Innovative curator, Dick Schuurman is keen to have the museum become a greater attraction in the area. Valuable in interesting records are kept at the museum as and the exhibits are fascinating. The museum is also looking at expanding it's exhibits to include a wider variety of subjects, and hopefully more information on the frontier wars fought in the area.

[www.sunshinecoasttourism.co.za](http://www.sunshinecoasttourism.co.za)

Did you know that more than **3 million** people googled the words **SUNSHINE COAST** in the last year?

Quarterly stats for YOUR website  
3,178 unique visits to the site  
11,316 page views  
4'53" average visit duration

YOUR **facebook** page **Sunshine Coast Tourism** as well as YOUR group **SUNSHINE COAST TOURISM** is available for you to inform other members of your special events or offers, or just to comment.

Please check our webpage for local events and things to do:

[www.sunshinecoasttourism.co.za](http://www.sunshinecoasttourism.co.za)

WHAT'S ON FOR THE EASTER WEEK-END....

6th April : A night with Frank at My Pond Hotel performed by Dale McCann. Tickets 140pp available at My Pond and includes a 3 course dinner. Dress Smart.

7th April: Crafters market at the Library Lawns, Port Alfred

7th April: Morning Market at Kleinemonde 8.30—10.30am in community hall

7th April: Helping Hand flea market at Boknes 9am—1pm

7th April: Port Alfred Entrepreneurs' local market at Rosehill Mall 9am—4pm

8th April: Giant Easter Egg Hunt and craft market at Pig and Whistle

For more information on anything contained in this newsletter, please contact our office on: 046-624-1235 or email: [tourism@sunshinecoasttourism.co.za](mailto:tourism@sunshinecoasttourism.co.za)