

WELCOME!

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF LOVE HOWICK
MARCH/APRIL 2023

MATT'S MESSAGE: EMBRACE 'BIG'

After growing up in the idyllic Cape Town and spending a year working in Australia, my entry to the KZN Midlands was anything but positive. I was looking for the 'BIG', the 'vibe', the 'pulse' of city life. So, when I found myself visiting family in Howick I didn't plan to stay. In fact, before anybody could ask about my plans for the future, I would blurt out, "I'm only staying three weeks before I move to the city." Well, it's been 19 years and either I've changed or our beautiful corner of the world captured my heart.

In my pursuit of 'BIG' I realised that it's not in the size of a place, how many trendy restaurants I can go to in the evening (*this is still a dream - note to all Midlands restaurants!*), or the population size that defines 'BIGness'. What I have learnt is that 'BIG' lives in the quality of the people around us. It's found in the sense of community we share, the freedom of wide-open spaces and extreme natural beauty, the shared sense of ownership we all have for our community where, when the chips are down, we step into the ring and fight for our BIG Midlands dreams. It is in watching BIG numbers of volunteers who come out during our Love Howick Green Week (*I hope to see you at the next one from 17-22 April - see below for more*), seeing countless lives impacted by skills training, development social services and Entre-preneurial support.

Love Howick is about helping everyone find their place in the 'BIG vision' we have for all in our community. That is what makes this place 'BIG'.

As we look to the future, we are just plain excited - in a BIG way! We see BIG dreamers forming strong and dynamic partnerships, and collective social investment laying the foundations for a thriving community that we believe, no.. we KNOW, will become a leading destination for those looking to leave the small and embrace the BIG.



GREEN WEEK IS BACK!

Green Week runs from 12-22 April and we are challenging all businesses, schools and community groups to join us as we work towards becoming SA's cleanest town. During the week, participants will spend a little time tidying and beautifying their assigned zone. All you have to do is form a team, choose a day/s to participate and register online. Once we confirm your spot it's time for you to get ready... and then GO! On the day, you log your data online and upload photos of your work (these will be shared online). Register at: <https://forms.gle/TPzIEwCVV4iyjQH56>

Questions? Email info@lovehowick.com



CELEBRATE:

Dreams come true

Earlier this year, Siphesihle Mnikathi took the plunge and enrolled in our Beginners Sewing Course. Despite never having used a sewing machine before, it turned out that he had a talent for sewing and produced beautiful items. Sphe also has a natural sense of design - he made tracksuit pants for himself on day three and a beautiful, heavy-duty tog bag out of recycled jeans on the final day of the course. He ended the course with a big plan! Having discovered how talented he is, he now plans to enter the local #informaleconomy as a micro-entrepreneur and sell items he makes.

Our sewing facilitator, Linda Ambler, was so impressed with his natural aptitude that she offered him the use of our machines until he could one day afford a sewing machine of his own. Naturally, this while a welcome solution, would also limit his output and incur transport costs as he does not live near our centre.

This is where Love Howick Marketing stepped in... Linda sent the team his story and this photo. Within a couple of hours of being shared on Facebook, we received a message from a business, that wished to remain anonymous, which sent R3000 for us to buy a sewing machine and/or supplies for his budding enterprise.

Linda Ambler is one of our dedicated volunteers who was recognised as the Volunteer of the Year at our recent banquet, an award sponsored by Nashua Midlands. She is a talented sewing course facilitator with a tremendous heart and a passion for seeing people succeed. She runs the course every month, for no pay, we just cover her costs and has become an integral part of the Love Howick family. She does all this because she knows that if we all do what we can, when we can, we can transform our communities for the better!

Thank you to the anonymous donor who read about Sphe on Facebook!



HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT OUR JOB CENTRE?

Students who attain a high level of excellence in our courses are listed in Job Centre. Businesses who are hiring part-time or full-time staff contact Job Centre and for a small admin fee, we shortlist and supply the CVs of three appropriate candidates.

For more email: dreamcentre@lovehowick.com



MIDLANDS BUSINESS
NETWORK

MIDLANDS BUSINESS NETWORK!

Last month, over 100 Midlands business people gathered for the first Midlands Business Network meeting, held in partnership with Love Howick

The response was unexpected but indicated a clear need in the region for a platform where business people can meet, connect, engage, share and inspire one another.

**THE NEXT MEETING IS ON
FRIDAY 21 APRIL. THERE ARE
ONLY 150 SEATS AVAILABLE!**

This network was established to create a platform where business owners, entrepreneurs, and stakeholders from different sectors can, meet and develop networks, encourage business collaboration, learn of opportunities in our area, and develop the Economic future of the Midlands.

The meeting is open to all emerging and established businesses and entrepreneurs. The meeting format will include a meet and greet, a light breakfast, and three speakers, as well as networking and opportunity-sharing sessions.

The Midlands Business Network, Love Howick/Love Cities are partnering to bring businesses together to stimulate the local economy and support business growth. A portion of the meeting fee will benefit the economic development projects of Love Howick.

BOOK:

<https://forms.gle/ZupbQ7qmp2yATxYE9>

COST: R150 per meeting, which includes breakfast.

**Questions? email
info@lovehowick.com**

MEET OUR SPEAKER



At the next Midlands Business Network Breakfast, Kevin Barnsley will be speaking about the local agriculture sector and what opportunities it provides for local businesses and entrepreneurs. **Join us as we help local business people and entrepreneurs connect, grow and share opportunities.** We will also have an informative session on **Making the Most of Your Marketing.**

REGISTER at:

<https://forms.gle/C9gYcf9X5HRZQEfc7>

Kevin and his brother, Rob, are partners in Barnsley Farming which primarily produces and distributes eggs across KZN and into the Transkei/Eastern Cape. Kevin is the Chair of the Howick District Landowners Association, is a member of the committee of Conservancies in KZN and the board of trustees of Future Farmers Foundation.

Friday 21 April from 7 to 9am, Oasis Campus, 72 Main Road, Howick. Light breakfast served. Contact Desrae Coventry at desrae@maketheshift.co.za or 082 570 5737. **Booking essential. Payment confirms the booking.**
NO PAYMENTS at the door.



PROJECT: Potholes



Last month, the Love Howick Renoverge team took to Harvard Street and started to eliminate potholes. A big thank you must to the Great Ambers' community who contributed R12500 to this project from funds they raised at the annual Valentine's Day Walkathon.

Questions?

Email info@lovehowick.com

GET INVOLVED

CONTRIBUTE IN ANY OF THESE WAYS:

1. **A financial contribution** to purchase materials and equipment.
2. **Donation of PPE and fuel.** We need to stock up on PPE (work boots, gloves, ear plugs, safety goggles, sunhats, more RED overalls) and large traffic cones. **FUEL** is needed to run the machines and transport the team, as is a trailer (or use thereof) which is capable of carrying the weight of a large pedestrian roller.

CONTRIBUTE

DONATE VIA ZAPPER

(SCAN THE QR CODE) OR EFT:

Love Howick NPC,

FNB Cheq Acc 62774727039,

Ref: POTHLES

Email: projects@lovehowick.com



TEAM LUNCH!

In March, the amazing team of Misty Falls Spur Steak Ranch treated Love Howick to lunch!

We had a great time and enjoyed the opportunity to sit down with team members from all of our departments and share our individual moments of gratitude from the last financial year.

It was a quality moment, where for an hour there were no deadlines and projects, just good conversation, laughs and friendship... And the realisation of just how much value we unknowingly contribute to each other's lives! Thanks, again to Misty Falls Spur Steak Ranch, you are amazing hosts and we value your support of our team... And the burgers and ice creams.

Questions? email info@lovehowick.com





WELCOME *Thembeke*

Thembeke (31) hails from Pietermaritzburg and holds a Bachelor of Technology in Public Management from the Durban University of Technology. Thembeke is a self-taught baker with a flourishing baking business called Baked by Tk. She is joining our team as the new Baking course facilitator. Congratulations on your new role!!! Welcome aboard!

Questions? email info@lovehowick.com

BARGAIN HUNTERS... ARE YOU READY?

It's MARKET DAY on Saturday 6 May at the Dream Centre. Come and find pre-loved donated clothing, home and decor items, and even furniture on sale at seriously low prices! Funds raised at this market are used to provide seedlings for our community vegetable garden and food for the parcels our Street Store clients "buy" using the tokens they receive from collecting recyclable litter from the CBD or helping tidy and maintain the verges and public spaces in the CBD. Do you want to help at the market or drop off items to sell?

Contact 061 533 1669 or send an email to info@lovehowick.com

Last year we helped 73 families keep warm during winter. This year, we're aiming for 100!

Winter IS COMING

As winter rolls in and temperatures plummet, there is a huge need to help people keep warm and healthy.

Join us and donate a blanket to the **Love Howick Winter Blanket Drive**. Drop off your blanket at one of our drop-off points before TUESDAY 16 MAY for distribution the following week.

1. **Love Howick Dream Centre**
19 Morling Street, Howick
2. **Love Howick Admin Offices**
72 Main Street, Howick
3. **Oasis Church**, 72 Main Street

Questions? email info@lovehowick.com

SAVE THESE

Dates

APRIL

17-22

GREEN WEEK: Join businesses, schools and residents in cleaning our

town! For more info contact projects@lovehowick.com

24

POSTER COMPETITION: Closing date for schools' poster competition. Contact projects@lovehowick.com

MAY

6

STREET STORE MARKET DAY: Amazing bargains on pre-loved clothing, home, decor & furniture. Starts 9am at the Dream Centre, 19 Morling St, Howick.

JULY

14

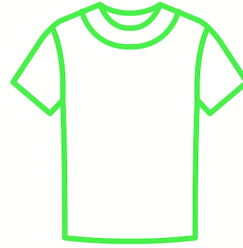
CORPORATE GOLF DAY: To be played at Bosch Hoek. To book your fourball early, please email projects@lovehowick.com

MARCH IMPACT!

83



People graduated from courses at the Dream Centre



255

Items of clothing donated to the Street Store

27357.25

Square metres of grass cut in public spaces



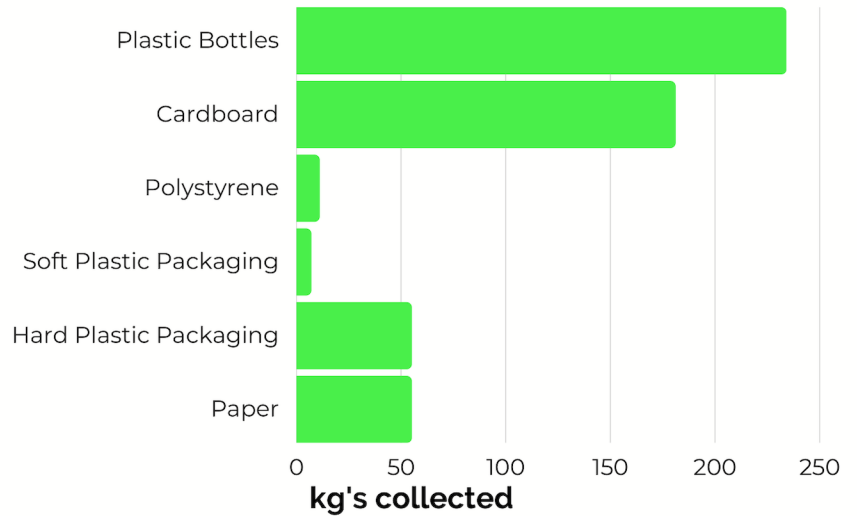
52.5

square meters of potholes repaired



Our recycling initiative includes more than 40 local businesses & organisations. Total recycling collected in MARCH: 543 kgs

Types of recycling collected



EMPOWERING YOUTH

In 6 months, 181 youth living in the uMngeni Municipality have received bursaries for Love Howick courses, namely Work Ready (Job Readiness), Baking L1, Baking L2, Sewing L1, Entrepreneurship 101, Nail Technician and Agriculture (Crops).

This Youth Empowerment bursary programme is sponsored by uMngeni Municipality.

