

Knitted Blankets for disasters

St Francis Knit Wits ladies marked Mandela Day by knitting or crocheting squares for blankets to be used in times of disaster such as fire or floods and for those elderly or infirm in need.

Nearly 200 squares were made or donated on that day.

A big thank you to all Knit Wits who gathered at the Viking Bakery on 18 July.

Knitting baskets to receive squares all year round have now been placed at Viking Bakery, Nomvula's Knitters, and in Dr Malan's and Dr Jones' rooms.

The project is co-ordinated by the Rotary Satellite Club in St Francis and the squares are made into blankets by the Sea Vista Wise Care Group, a small group of pensioners and disabled folk. This group meets weekly at the Anglican Church hall to enjoy each other's company, a cup of tea and a warm lunch and to benefit from some occupational therapy.

They are assisted by volunteers from St Francis Bay Community Home Care.

For more info call Lynette on 0827775624.

Photo, right: Sea Vista pensioner Abigail Stuurman from the Sea Vista Wise Care group proudly shows off the 'Disaster Blanket' she made up with squares donated from the Rotary Knit Wit project in St Francis. Photo: Lynette Aitken



Demand for good quality homes exceeds supply

The demand for good quality homes, particularly near beaches and on the canals, far exceeds the supply.

This is according to Pam Golding's St Francis Bay's Richard Ardene, who says his franchise is experiencing a significant increase in holiday rental enquiries with the December holiday season fast approaching.

"Last year the value of our Christmas holiday rentals was R5m, comprising 65 rentals, having increased consistently over the last ten years, since we started holiday rentals. Rental periods range from 14 to 21 nights, with a few even as long as four weeks. Rentals start at

R1600 per night, up to R12,000 per night, and leases have an average value of about R65,000, with a few around R150,000, and one over R250,000 confirmed so far for the forthcoming season."

Ardene also says during the last Christmas season the local PC agency had about 10 same-day change-overs around 27 December, which kept it very busy! "These change-overs are co-ordinated to assist owners in maximising their rentals. Tenants pay their rentals (including a refundable breakage deposit) in two or three instalments, depending on when they book, and need

to have paid their last instalment by the end of November," Ardene says. "Owners are paid on the first day of the rental once tenants have taken occupation, although a R4000 retention is held back to cover emergency repairs. Most owners receive their full retention, but sometimes a small portion is used for unlocking drains and similar issues."

Ardene also says 99% of the agency's tenants have looked after the houses well, while having a good holiday. Breakages are rare, besides the odd wine glass. "We strive to build good relationships with owners and tenants, offering a good quality service throughout

to the rental experience.

In turn, we are delighted with the repeat rentals being requested for the same holiday homes," Ardene says anyone owning a home St Francis or Cape St Francis, who is thinking of reaping in the benefits of renting out their home over the coming December and January holidays should contact Emily O'Bray on 042 294 118.

SCENE AROUND Kouga Business Forum welcomes Dr Kemm to Kouga



Who's Who of Kouga Biz

The Who's Who of the Kouga businesses were at the Grill & Co in Humansdorp last night to listen to nuclear physicist, Dr Kelvin Kemm of Nuclear Africa, talk on the importance of nuclear, not only for Kouga but South Africa as a whole, plus the importance of nuclear exports from South Africa.

The restaurant in Main Street hosted 110 invited guests who were greeted by Frans van Eeden, chairman of the Kouga Business Forum. He welcomed Dr Kemm to Kouga and outlined the latter's impressive CV.

Then it was Dr Kemm's turn to speak and the business folk sat enrapt listening to a most interesting account of nuclear in South Africa and beyond.

Afterwards many business owners said, in spite of the presentation being a trifle long, they had been fascinated by Dr Kemm and his presentation. The well organised, successful event was handled by Carol Viljoen of Nuclear Africa

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