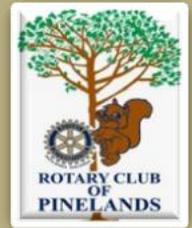




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Meeting Time
17h45 for 18h15

Face book page
Pinelands Rotary, Cape
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THURSDAY
11th JUNE
15th Edition

Editor:

Tanya Stone
Rotary Club of Pinelands



Fellow Rotarians

Wow, the news has been overwhelming on George Floyd. The funeral procession was televised live yesterday on most channels around the world.

“This is going to go in the history books as being one the largest grass roots, social movements not only in the history of the United States but in history of the modern world,” says *Andrew Barbero, history professor at Pensacola State College.*

The Cape storm has arrived, heavy rains and winds predicted up to 100km per hour.
No doubt, you have become used to staying indoors, so no worries there.

Snuggle up, keep warm, keep safe and take care.

Tanya



**Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak situation
THURSDAY 11th JUNE 2020**

Statistics from Worldometer on COVID-19

PLEASE NOTE: Figures are time of publish and fluctuate constantly

7,516,258

Confirmed cases
Updated: 11th June

420,517

Confirmed deaths
Updated: 11th June

3,815,337

Recovered
Updated: 11th June

UPDATE



SOUTH AFRICA THURSDAY 11th JUNE 2020

South Africa now has **58,568** confirmed cases.
South African statistics from Worldometer and Department of Health SA
on COVID-19

58,568
Positive Cases Identified
Updated: 11th June

1,210
Deaths
Updated: 11th June

31,505
Recovered
Updated: 11th June

UPDATE AFRICA



THURSDAY 11th June 2020

Africa now has **210,613** confirmed cases.

Statistics from **African Arguments**

210,613

Positive Cases Identified

Updated: 11th June

5,709

Deaths

Updated: 11th June

96,028

Recovered

Updated: 11th June



5 important things happening in South Africa today

Staff Writer
BusinessTech



Coronavirus: Global coronavirus cases have climbed to 7.07 million, with the death toll rising to over 405,000. In South Africa, the country experienced another big leap in cases and deaths, rising to 52,991 and 1,162, respectively. Recoveries have also increased to 29,006, leaving a balance of 22,823 active cases in the country.

Covid data: A swathe of new data published by the Western Cape government has revealed more information about the Covid-19 outbreak in South Africa – who it affects, and who is most at risk. The data reflects what has been generally known about the virus, but reveals things like the fact that those with diabetes and hypertension are far more likely to die from the virus than those with HIV or TB, and how the chances of death increase drastically with age. [\[TimesLive\]](#)

Unfair: Cogta minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma says that the High Court ruling declaring lockdown level 3 and 4 restrictions invalid overreached, was unduly vague and did not provide her with a fair hearing. The department has filed for urgent leave to appeal the ruling, which the minister says went beyond the pleading of the case. Government wants the application to be heard on an urgent basis, saying that it believes another court will reach a different conclusion. [\[Business Day\]](#)

Students return: Higher Education minister Blade Nzimande says the universities can decide for themselves which students can return to class under lockdown level 3 – as long as they stick to government's restrictions on numbers, and prioritise the fields that have been gazetted by the department. This loosens up a [recently gazetted directive](#) from the department that listed specific degrees that could return – most of which were from final year and post graduate students. [\[Mail & Guardian\]](#)

Health clubs: Government has not declared any re-opening of health clubs in South Africa, but groups like Virgin Active and Planet Fitness are already preparing strategies to welcome members back while adhering to hygiene and social distancing protocols. Measures include slot bookings, limiting interactions, increased sanitisation of equipment and reduction of class sizes. Gym members have not been charged their monthly gym fees during lockdown. [\[MyBroadband\]](#)

Markets: South Africa's rand ended the local session largely unchanged on Tuesday, pausing its rally as traders took profits after a strong advance by emerging currencies spurred by global economic recovery hopes. Investors are looking ahead to Wednesday's US Fed announcement following the two-day meeting. On Wednesday, the rand was at R16.60 to the dollar, R21.16 to the pound and R18.84 to the euro. Commentary by Reuters. [\[XE\]](#)

Gauteng teacher, who allegedly threatened to put knee on pupils' necks, to face hearing this week

NEWS24

By Jeanette Chabalala



The artist Celos paints a mural in Downtown Los Angeles on May 30, 2020 in protest against the death of George Floyd, an unarmed black man who died while being arrested and pinned to the ground by the knee of a Minneapolis police officer.

The Pinnacle College Kyalami teacher, who was suspended after she allegedly threatened to re-enact the move that led to American George Floyd's death, if her pupils did not submit their assignments, is expected to face a hearing on Thursday.

This is according to Gauteng Education MEC Panyaza Lesufi, who met with school management and parents on Monday afternoon.

During a briefing in Midran, Lesufi said he received a report from the school indicating that it has taken further action to suspend the principal.

"The entire school community issued an apology to learners affected and all learners that were affected were taken through a session on anti-racism, and they [the school] believe the situation is now under control. We accepted the report and the parents also accepted the report, and we indicated that we will monitor the situation very closely," he said.

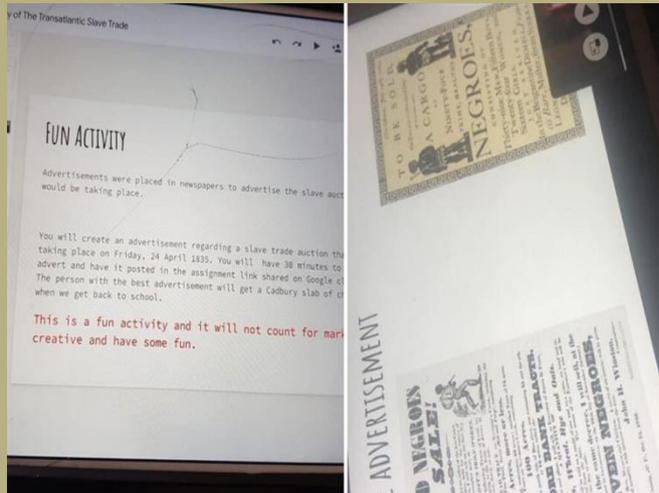
The Life Orientation and Art teacher, identified by SowetanLive as Sonya de Vynck, was reported to have been suspended on Friday.

De Vynck allegedly told the pupils during a conference call: "If you don't hand in your practice drawings when we get back, then I will give you something to protest about, and maybe sit on your necks."

She later apologised.

Cape Town school apologises after Grade 7s asked to make slave auction poster as 'fun activity'

By Jenni Evans and Ntwaagae Seleka
NEWS24



Parklands College in Cape Town has apologised after Grade 7 pupils were asked to make a poster advertising a slave auction in the 1800s as a "fun activity" in history class.

According to the assignment - titled "Fun Activity" - pupils were given the following instructions:

"You will create an advertisement regarding a slave trade auction that will be taking place on Friday, 24 April 1835. You will have 30 minutes to create the advert and have it posted in the assignment link shared on Google class today.

"The person with the best advertisement will get a Cadbury slab of chocolate when we get back to school. "

"This is a fun activity and it will not count for marks. Be creative and have some fun."

An outraged mother drew attention to the project, and also posted a picture containing two sample advertisements the children were given.

Midstream College in Gauteng also had a similar assignment.

Principal Carel Kriek told News24 that the assignment, in which grade 7 pupils were asked to create a poster for an upcoming slavery auction in 1614, was withdrawn by the school after parents raised concerns.

Kriek said the school had launched an internal investigation into the matter.

"The assignment was issued before lockdown and pupils were expected to hand it last week. We have explained to many people and apologised to those who are offended. I don't think the intention of CAPS for slavery topic is to put anyone in a bad light to play one race against the other.

"It is something that we are supposed to do as a primary school. We removed it three years ago and Umalusi forced us to put it back in our curriculum," said Kriek.

Gauteng Department of Education Steve Mabona said they are aware of the matter and have also launched an investigation.

[READ MORE](#)

7 children in Covid-19 ward at Cape Town's Red Cross Hospital

By Murray Williams
NEWS24

The Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital in Cape Town on Wednesday unveiled the first "child-friendly" Covid-19 "Testing and Triage" centre - resplendent in brightly-coloured murals to ease children's anxiety.

Seven children are in a dedicated Covid-19 ward at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital in Cape Town.

This was reported to News24 on Wednesday by the hospital's head of paediatric emergency care, Dr Heloise Buys. And the hospital also confirmed that two of the minors who have died of the virus so far since the pandemic hit the country, were also patients at Red Cross.

The Covid-19 unit treats children who are 13-years-old and younger, she explained. They also treat some older teens when required.

"Sadly, we have lost two children, who had very complicated underlying medical conditions. One was a 15-year-old, and one was a one-year-old," the doctor reported.

"The ward has seven positive children, at the moment. But there are also children who are under investigation. They have been swabbed, but we are awaiting their results. So there may be more coming up (for admission).

"We've seen children under the age of a month, who have been positive."

According to the SABC, a total of 37 positive tests have been recorded at the hospital since the start of the pandemic.

Children are known to experience milder symptoms of the virus than adults, and are considered low risk, [various studies have shown](#).

A recent study published by [Health24](#), showed that 77% of children who contracted the virus, still had normal chest CT scans.

When a chest CT scan or X-ray is referred to as "negative", this means that the lungs present as normal and that no damage is found, the report said.

According to a recent [BBC report](#), children are at "extremely low risk" of becoming ill from the virus.

The report said that children have so far only accounted for between 1% and 5% of all diagnosed cases in the UK, according to a paediatric infectious diseases specialist at the University of Exeter.

They often have "milder disease than adults," the report says, pointing out that deaths have been rare.

The hospital on Wednesday unveiled the first "child-friendly" Covid-19 "Testing and Triage" centre - resplendent in brightly-coloured murals to ease children's anxiety.

Buys said: "All children need their care-givers, or parents. So we will allow one care-giver to accompany the child. Right through this entire journey, the parent is at the child's side."

Parents or care-givers would also be tested, before they walked this journey with their young one.

UIF coronavirus payouts: 700,000 applications have not been paid due to this error

By Business Insider SA



Almost 700,000 applications for special Covid-19 payouts from the UIF failed because employers didn't register their employees.

The UIF says it is concerned about the high number of undeclared workers.

Last month, almost 700,000 applications from companies for special Covid-19 payouts from the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) failed – because their employees were not registered with the fund.

More than 113,000 businesses submitted Covid-19 Temporary Employer/Employee Relief Scheme (TERS) claims for 697,418 employees who are not on the UIF data base.

The companies need to register the employees with the UIF before they can claim. The employees would have received R3 billion if they were registered.

The UIF says it is concerned about the high number of undeclared workers on whose behalf employers are putting in claims.

"For us to pay any claim we must find the employee on our system and it is the employer's duty to declare the employee to us," says Makhosonke Buthelezi, director of communication and marketing at the UIF.

The applications for [May's TERS payments opened two weeks ago](#), and so far there have been unsuccessful applications for at least 76,599 workers who do not appear on the database.

Last month, the rules changed for who is eligible for the TERS payments. While at first only companies who paid UIF contributions could get the payouts for their workers, now employees whose employers didn't register for UIF can also apply for payments, directly from the UIF. Employees who are registered for UIF, but whose employers didn't apply for the TERS payments, can [now also apply directly with the UIF](#).

The UIF has paid out more than R20 billion in TERS payments to 3.5 million workers since the start of April. Prominent companies received money, including Sasol, Mr Price, Damelin, a number of Bidvest businesses, some Protea hotels and Engen service stations, as well as individual Spur, Wimpy and McDonald's restaurants.

Workers who are put on leave, have been laid off temporarily, or whose employers can't afford to pay their full salaries due to the coronavirus crisis are entitled to the TERS payouts. The maximum a worker will get is R6,730 a month (if you earn more than R17,700) – while the minimum amount is R3,500.

[READ MORE](#)

Eastern Cape pushes for alcohol ban as crime, trauma cases spike

By Malibongwe Dayimani
News24



MEC for Health Sindiswa Gomba and Minister of Health Dr Zweli Mkhize after a meeting in Port Elizabeth in April.

In the space of seven days, more than 3 000 violent criminal cases were opened at the Eastern Cape's 197 police stations, with the province's Health MEC saying trauma units are under increased pressure due to alcohol-related injuries since the move to Level 3.

The Eastern Cape provincial coronavirus command council revealed in a report on Monday that there has been a significant spike in serious, violent crimes since the country moved to Level 3 lockdown on 1 June, which allowed for the sale of liquor.

This, as Eastern Cape Premier Oscar Mabuyane announced that he would be petitioning the national government to reinstate the alcohol ban in his province to contain the spread of Covid-19.

A total of 3 145 cases were reported in the province since June.

Among the crimes are:

- 77 reported rape cases;
- 94 murders;
- 354 assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm; and
- 25 culpable homicide cases.

There were also 354 cases of attempted murder opened at the province's 197 police stations. The report noted that the crimes coincided with the opening of the liquor trade.

"The total number of cases reported during the same period is 3 145 but the above is of a serious nature [and] can be directly or indirectly linked to the abuse of liquor," the province's report revealed.

There were also 51 drunk driving cases opened; 25 cases of driving under the influence where someone was injured, while there were 26 cases where no one was hurt during the accidents.

On Monday Eastern Cape Health MEC Sindiswa Gomba reported a surge in a number trauma cases at the province's 91 hospitals and more than 700 clinics, saying this was due to alcohol-related accidents.

"Unfortunately, with the sale of alcohol allowed again, we have seen a surge in the number of trauma cases at our hospitals. At Frere Hospital alone there were 67 trauma cases over the weekend. These are all related to the sale of alcohol. It is the same in all other facilities as well."

"This is why I want to make a plea to the people of the Eastern Cape to drink responsibly. When they over-indulge, that has been proven to result in car accidents, stabbings, and general violence which adds more pressure to our already over-stretched doctors and nurses," said Gomba.

"We all need to be responsible and not abuse alcohol or else our healthcare system might be overwhelmed because of the number of trauma cases and Covid-19."

Covid-19 parole dispensation: More than 1 800 prisoners already released



By News24 Team

A month after President Cyril Ramaphosa authorised the parole of 19 000 inmates as a measure to combat the spread of Covid-19 in prisons, over 1 800 parolees have been released.

Department of Correctional Services spokesperson Singabakho Nxumalo confirmed to News24 on Tuesday that a total of 1 894 parolees as of 10 June, have been placed out under the under Covid-19 parole dispensation.

[READ MORE](#)

Homeless people in Observatory have been left out in the cold after law enforcement removed tents erected for them by a local resident.

By Qama Qukula
Cape Talk

On Tuesday, Observatory resident Terna Gyuse put up two marquees to shelter homeless people from the heavy rains. Gyuse is a member of the Obs Community Action Network (CAN) and he set up two marquees at the Village Green on Tuesday afternoon.

The marquees were erected on land owned by the City of Cape Town without a permit, [according to GroundUp](#).

The City's law enforcement officers took down the tents shortly after they were put up.

Gulam Pietersen says the City feels no remorse for leaving homeless people exposed to the elements. Pietersen is a homeless transgender woman living near Obz Plaza in a makeshift structure that's vulnerable to strong winds.

She has questioned the lack of humanity shown by municipal officials when Gyuse and other volunteers tried to help homeless residents in the area.

She says homeless people are at risk of falling ill without any proper shelter.

Pietersen has slammed the City of Cape Town for disregarding the lives of homeless people who are forced to share wet blankets and sleep under plastic sheets in this cold.

She says there's so much privately-owned land that is lying vacant in Observatory that could be used to protect homeless people - who are also human beings.

[LISTEN TO INTERVIEW](#)

Enock Mpianzi death: Family suing Gauteng education Dept for R10m



By Jeanette Chabalala
News24

The family of Grade 8 Parktown Boys' High School pupil Enoch Mpianzi is suing the Gauteng Department of Education for R10 million.

Provincial Education MEC Panyaza Lesufi announced this at a media briefing on Monday afternoon in Midrand.

"After we released a report on Enoch Mpianzi, we received a letter from legal representatives representing the family about a potential action that they will take. Indeed, we received the formal letter last week. It was addressed to the minister and copied to us as a province.

"We have indicated that we have no appetite to oppose this matter. We have allowed our legal team to continue to engage with the legal firm representing the family, so that we use previous court cases that have ruled on matters such as this in nature as a barometer to determine an appropriate amount," Lesufi said .

Enock, 13, was swept away in the Crocodile River while attending a Grade 8 orientation camp at Nyati Bush and River Break Lodge, near Brits in North West, on 15 January. He was last seen when a makeshift raft he and other boys were on overturned, just hours after arriving at the camp. His body was found on 17 January.

Latest on Fita's bid to have tobacco ban declared unlawful

By Sara-Jayne King
Cape Talk

Arguments are being heard in the Pretoria High Court in the Fair-trade Independent Tobacco Association (Fita) case against the government over the ban on the sale of tobacco products. Fita claims the government's decision is unlawful and irrational.

The sale of tobacco products has been illegal since the start of the national lockdown back in March.

EWN's Theto Mahlakoana was in court on Wednesday.

Mahlakoana says despite President Cyril Ramaphosa being a named respondent in the case, he did not submit an affidavit. In April Ramaphosa announced cigarettes would be on sale from 1 May, but this was later rolled back when Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma said the ban would remain in place. Fita's lawyers say they want an explanation.

"They [Fita] do not find any rationality in the explanations [for the ban] that have been provided by government."
Theto Mahlakoana, Reporter – EWN

[LISTEN TO INTERVIEW](#)

Doctors Without Borders calls for donations to its Covid-19 crisis fund

By Shakirah Thebus
Cape Argus
IOL



MSF team members, in collaboration with the provincial Health Department, prepare to conduct contact and general screening in Khayelitsha.

Cape Town - Doctors Without Borders (MSF) has called on the public to donate to its Covid-19 Crisis Fund.

The non-profit, member-based organisation has had operations in South Africa since 2000 with its provision of HIV treatment.

“Treating HIV-TB co-infection and drug-resistant forms of TB became additional operational priority in the years following, as well as developing a community based medical and psychological response to meet the needs of victims of sexual violence,” said MSF Southern Africa’s head of philanthropy and partnerships, Samantha Ngcolomba.

“We help people worldwide, delivering emergency medical aid in refugee camps to people affected by conflict, epidemics, disasters, or exclusion from health care. Our teams are made up of tens of thousands of health professionals, logistics and administrative staff bound together by our charter.”

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic falling outside of the ambit of MSF’s annual project budget, the Covid-19 Crisis Fund was established.

According to Ngcolomba, about R40 million was needed for MSF’s operational plan across four provinces.

Funds would be used to assist in Covid-19 interventions alongside the Health Department.

Individuals online donations can be made via the MSF website: www.msf.org.za/covid-19-crisis-fund

For corporate donations, contact Ngcolomba at 072 198 3535 or email samantha.ngcolomba@joburg.msf.org

Education department spells out Covid-19 protocol as two more KZN schools temporarily close

BY ZIMASA MATIWANE
Times Live



Schools are not required to close, institute restrictions or send home pupils and staff who have been in contact with a suspected Covid-19 case until it is confirmed positive. This is according to guidelines provided by the department of basic education.

It is only when pupils have been exposed to a confirmed case of Covid-19 that they may not attend school, while fellow pupils who are not contacts of a confirmed case should continue attending school.

“Pupils who have interacted with a healthy contact of a confirmed case, specifically, should not be excluded from school, as a person who comes into contact with the healthy contact of a confirmed case is unlikely to result in transmission.

“The relevant public health officials will discuss the case, identify people who have been in contact with the patient, and advise on any action or precautions that should be taken,” said the document.

However, when a pupil shows symptoms, immediate isolation is mandatory, guardians should be notified and medical help sought.

For teachers who work closely with an infected employee, they are required to self-quarantine for 14 days and schools must report cases of Covid-19 and states of health of those who are in quarantine to the department of public service & administration.

“Infected staff are required to take leave and thorough cleaning and disinfection of their workspace must be conducted. They are allowed back to school only on the condition that they have undergone a medical evaluation confirming that they have tested negative for Covid-19,” the guidelines state.

As schools opened on Monday, Covid-19 positive cases reached 50,879, while more than 1,160 people have now died from Covid-19 related illness in SA.

On Tuesday two Durban high schools were forced to close after a teacher at each school tested positive for Covid-19. On Wednesday, Deccan Road Primary School in Pietermaritzburg and Savannah Park Secondary in Chatsworth both suspended lessons after a teacher tested positive at each school.

While the department conceded that temporarily closing a school is a possible strategy to prevent or slow the continued spread of the virus, schools closure guidelines indicate that closure should be considered only after recommendations from the accountable public health official.

[READ MORE](#)

Durban old age body levels 'elder abuse' accusation against residents flouting lockdown rules

BY SUTHENTIRA GOVENDER
Times Live



The Association for the Aged (Tafta) in Durban has accused some of its residents of putting others at risk of contracting Covid-19 by not wearing masks or restricting their outings to only essential trips.

The NPO, which looks after about 2,000 elderly residents in 13 care homes throughout greater Durban, said on Tuesday that elder on elder abuse had "reared its head in the context of rights infringement, as elders determined to exercise their constitutional freedoms bring risk to others", in these facilities.

"The virus has unleashed a new set of rights issues the organisation has never had to deal with before," said Tafta CEO Femada Shamam.

Despite a directive from the government for SA's elderly to remain at home because they are regarded as vulnerable and prone to the virus, some of Tafta's healthier residents, it is understood, want more freedom of movement.

Last month it was reported that elderly residents who live in a Tafta-owned building on Durban's beachfront accused the organisation of violating their human rights by not allowing them to exercise between the designated 6am to 9am time slot during level 4 of the lockdown and restricting their shopping trips to once a week.

"When we were informed of the national state of disaster being declared, we took every necessary precautionary measure to ensure our elders, recognised as the most vulnerable age group, were protected from exposure to the pandemic," said Shamam.

"While some of those lockdown rules did translate to a loss of and infringement of some constitutional freedoms, the context of a life threat was understood by all."

She said in recent days with the constitutionality of the lockdown being brought into question, "we've started to face a new reality: that in fact perpetrators of abuse could be the elderly themselves, as those living beside frailer, less fit elders choose to doggedly pursue their personal freedoms whilst potentially exposing others in our buildings to risk."

Shamam said there have been instances of Tafta residents leaving their homes, "only to return to facilities hours later without taking the necessary precautions to minimise risk of coronavirus exposure", such as the wearing of masks or restricting outings only to essential grocery and medical needs.

[READ MORE](#)

Winde warns Western Cape residents to drink alcohol responsibly... or else

By Theolin Tembo
Cape Argus



Cape Town - While the Western Cape has indicated it will not be banning alcohol again, Premier Alan Winde has warned if residents don't drink responsibly, the province may have to "explore alternative steps".

On Monday, several voice notes surfaced in community WhatsApp groups claiming the sale of alcohol will be banned again from Wednesday.

However, the Presidency denied the claim and said government has no plans to reinstate the ban on alcohol. According to Presidency spokesperson, Khusela Diko, no such calls have been tabled before the National Coronavirus Command Council at this point.

Eastern Cape Premier Oscar Mabuyane made headlines after saying that he will lobby the national government to prohibit the sale of alcohol again in the province should its people continue to break lockdown regulations while queuing to buy alcohol.

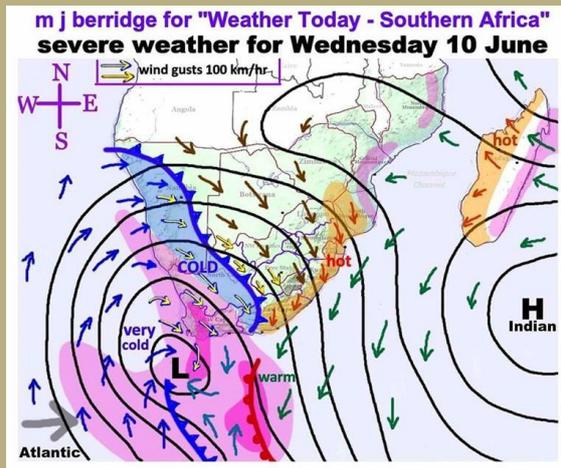
Winde said the province had seen an increase in the number of alcohol-related trauma cases since the unbanning of alcohol, and this had left him concerned as "the healthcare system is already under pressure as a result of Covid-19".

"We have not made any announcements regarding the banning of alcohol again and we have not received any communication from the national government in this regard either. I want to be very clear with the people of the Western Cape: this abuse of alcohol is taking away beds from people who need it during this very serious pandemic," Winde said.

"It could be your grandmother, or brother or sister, that may need these beds. Every single one of us has a role to play in making sure our health system has the capacity to respond – please drink responsibly and play your part. If this doesn't happen, we will have no choice but to explore alternative steps to ensure that this happens."

Cape predicted to receive 50mm rains

By Lucinda Dordley
Capetownetc



High pressure continues to dominate with sunny skies and warm days over nearly all areas. Off shore wind flow from the overland High cell "HD" continues to generate warm or very warm berg winds for all southern and western coastal regions (orange shading with red wind arrows).

A fairly pronounced low pressure trough in the Mozambique Channel will enable humid air to enter central Mozambique where shower prospects are indicated with pink shading. The pressure gradient will carry cloud also to Zimbabwe and east Botswana. More showers are expected for central Zimbabwe. The upper atmosphere is unstable in these eastern regions.

Along the eastern coastal regions of Madagascar, copious continuous rain will fall owing to a very humid on-shore flow into the low trough from the Indian Ocean. The western side of the island will be clear and hot as the same wind descends and heats adiabatically, as is typical of their winter season.

In Namibia, the coast north of the Swakopmund - Walvis Bay area will be sunny and quite hot as the berg wind from inland crosses out to sea at times. South of Walvis Bay, dust levels from the dunes is likely to be high.

According to the forecaster, the cyclone will not be able to drift eastward towards the sea.

"The intense upper wind can be followed by a powerful upper level Low trough which will stall the cyclone and draw very cold air inland. This is currently expected to lead to heavy week-end rain (13 and 14 June) for the eastern and central eastern regions of the Republic with heavy snow over Lesotho. This will be clarified as the system develops," Berridge said. Capetonians can expect rains for three days this coming week, with downpours falling on Tuesday [June 9], Wednesday [June 10], and Thursday [June 11].

On Tuesday, precipitation of 70% is predicted, with temperatures ranging between 18°C and 13°C. There is a storm predicted to make landfall on Wednesday, and temperatures will range between 15°C and 11°C, along with 100% precipitation. Temperatures will range between 8°C and 13°C on Thursday, with 100% precipitation.

Western Cape dam levels to get boost from heavy rains forecast for week ahead

By Mwangi Githahu
IOL



Cape Town - Heavy rains are expected in the Western Cape this week, according to forecasters at the SA Weather Service (Saws).

Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) spokesperson Sputnik Ratau said: "Western Cape dams will get another boost. However, given that heavy rains sometimes lead to localised flooding, communities are urged to exercise due care when crossing low-lying bridges and water systems.

"The DWS hydrological weekly report of June 8 suggests that the Western Cape state of dams combined is at a stable 36%. "The Stettynskloof Dam in the Breede Valley area has seen a notable increase of almost 5% and is standing at 55.33% as compared with 50.78% last week. The Misverstand Dam is still overflowing and is at 105% compared with 115% last week," he said.

Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning MEC Anton Bredell said: "The latest seasonal forecast for winter rainfall for the province has come back more optimistic than earlier forecasts, with Saws now projecting a likely scenario of higher than average rainfall.

"We certainly seem to be getting the winter weather we were hoping for in terms of rainfall. Saws is warning of heavy rainfall to be expected from Wednesday into Thursday across broad regions of the Western Cape, including the West Coast, Cape Winelands, the City of Cape Town and the Overberg. "This will be accompanied by snow, strong wind and flooding in areas. If possible, stay indoors and off the roads. Emergency Services and disaster management across the province remain on standby," said Bredell.

On Tuesday, city council said that water levels at dams supplying the Cape Town have decreased by 0.5 percent over the past week to 54.6 percent of total capacity. In a statement, the council said water consumption was at 659 million litres per day during the week of June 1-7, up 12 million litres a day from the previous week's 647 million litres.

Mayco member for Water and Waste Services, Xanthea Limberg said the council was watching weather predictions for a sign that this year's winter season would see the break of a five year drought and the return of normal rainfall.

"Showers have been predicted for this week and it is hoped that this will have a significant effect on the dams," Limberg said. "However, residents should note that low rainfall does not mean that another dry year is on the horizon. Even if we get similarly sparse rainfall as we did in 2017 (the driest year on record), dams will still end up above 60 percent full, with significant augmentation capacity scheduled to come online over the next year."

Covid-19: Diabetes, hypertension and HIV - what Western Cape's deaths data shows

By Murray Williams
News24



- Western Cape data shows that 65% of people who died of Covid-19 had more than one comorbidity.
- Diabetes and hypertension were the most prevalent in cases where patients died.
- Age also plays a significant role in one's risk if you have a comorbidity.

Here are the most prevalent accomplices which conspire with Covid-19 to kill, according to Western Cape data: diabetes and hypertension.

Since the global pandemic arrived on South African shores, health authorities have warned that certain "comorbidities" are most-often prevalent.

Now, data compiled by the Western Cape government on deaths has broken down which comorbidities were prevalent by age, and has also given more insight into the impact of HIV and TB.

Last week, President Cyril Ramaphosa was briefed on the most life-threatening, as he visited the embattled province which leads the country by cases.

The top five are

diabetes, hypertension, HIV, obesity and asthma/chronic respiratory disease. This was part of an exhaustive 68-page presentation to the first citizen by the Western Cape government on Friday.

But it was not just single illnesses to which Covid-19-infected succumbed: A full 65% of the patients cited had more than one comorbidity. And two out of five had three or more.

Only 12% - or one in eight people who died – had no apparent comorbidity, with some at risk due to age or other factors. Despite the high infection rate of the virus, the vast majority of people survive.

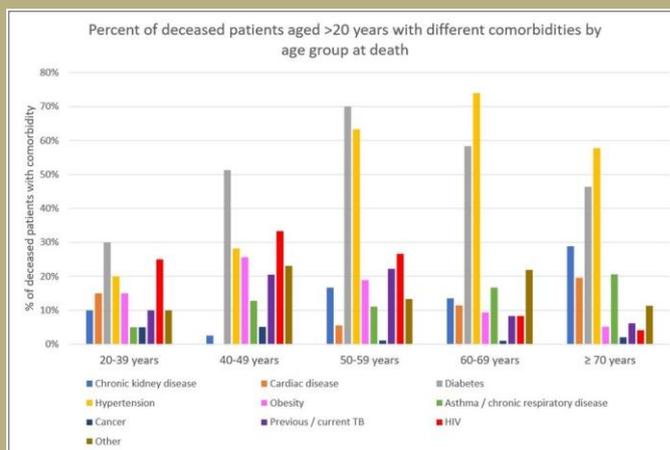
The national health department says South Africa's death rate [is still only 2% of all positive cases](#). The vast majority of people recover.

The Western Cape government says 90% of people who contract the virus will not need any hospitalisation, and will recover from the virus within two weeks.

By age

In the two youngest age groups listed – 20-39 and 40-49 – of those who died, hypertension and HIV topped the danger list as accompanying comorbidities. Then, from 50 and older, hypertension was joined by diabetes as the top co-killer.

Below is a graph representing the comorbidity breakdown in those who died by age groups older than 20:



Hospitals

When Ramaphosa was presented with these statistics on Friday, there had been a total of 2 226 hospital admissions in the Western Cape.

- The average stay in general hospital wards had been five days;
- The average stay in critical care units had been 8-10 days;
 - 18% in hospital had died;
 - 11% had been admitted to intensive care units (ICUs);
 - 66% of those in ICUs had died

It's not only patients taking the toll, but healthcare workers - a total of 6.3% of cases in the Western Cape.

The provincial experts told Ramaphosa that 1 662 healthcare workers had been infected so far. Of all patients hospitalised, 8.3% were healthcare workers. This South African figure was higher than China (3.8%), but lower than the USA (11%), Spain (19%) and British Columbia, Canada (21%).

By Friday, 15 healthcare workers had died.

This represented 0.9% of all healthcare workers infected.

The Western Cape health department presented the president with a complex matrix, which explained "Standard Operating Procedure for Hospital Staff Members with exposure to Covid-19 individuals".

This calculated their potential exposure, and detailed the steps all staff had to follow, post-exposure. The province had also adopted a "Buddy Screening System", by which healthcare workers assessed peers.

On Sunday night, the national health minister updated the national death statistics. **Of all deaths so far:**

- 27.2% were aged 60-69,
 - 25% were aged 50-59,
 - 18.6% were aged 70-79,
 - 11% were aged 40-49,
 - 8.2% were aged 80-89,
 - 5.3% were aged 30-39,
 - 2.2% were aged 90-99,
 - 1.1% were aged 20-29,
 - and 0.5% were aged 0-19.
- Just over 47% were women.

The number of tests conducted so far is edging towards the one million mark, at 920 064 - just under 30 000 in the past 24 hours.

Of all Covid-19 cases so far, a total of 50.5% are no longer active, recorded as "recoveries".

The Western Cape retains a total of around two-thirds of all cases.

Shell has exciting plans for Nkosikho Mbele - the petrol attendant who went the extra mile

By Jenna Etheridge

News24

A simple act of lending R100 to a customer in need has multiplied beyond petrol attendant Nkosikho Mbele's wildest dreams, as the customer's crowdfunding campaign has seen her raise almost R440 000 for him in return so far.



Nkosikho Mbele

Cape Town petrol attendant Nkosikho Mbele went the extra mile when he helped a customer who forgot her bank card at home. He should prepare to travel many more miles, as Shell has exciting overseas plans for him.

The company told News24 on Tuesday that it had nominated Mbele to represent South Africa at the next Shell Global Service Excellence Awards, which would take place at an international location next year.

He is also expected to travel to Zanzibar next month to be celebrated at their Regional Service Excellence Awards. "His story will be shared with the Shell global community to inspire others further. We will also donate R500 000 to a charity organisation of his choice to pave [the] way for many more others," it said.

"Shell is very proud of Nkosikho's act of kindness and willingness to go an extra mile in assisting a customer pay for much needed fuel. We believe that this is a true spirit of Ubuntu and a commitment from our people to make our customer's journey better."

'It's because you did the right thing'

Mbele was overwhelmed and shocked when the company's chairperson in South Africa, Hloniphizwe Mtolo, phoned to congratulate him and give him the news personally.

He had to ask twice whether he was actually going to go to the awards and said someone needed to splash him with water.

"Yes brother, it's because you did the right thing," Mtolo replied with a smile.

At least R460 000 has been donated for Mbele, 28, following his kind act last week.

He paid for Monet van Deventer's petrol from his own pocket when she stopped at a petrol station on the N2 near Makhaza on her way to Cape Town, having realised she had forgotten her bank card. "He saw my petrol light and looked so worried and stressed," Van Deventer said.

'I didn't care about the money. I saw gratitude'

In a video interview with News24, Mbele said that Van Deventer returned later that day with the R100 he had loaned her, and some chocolate.

Fourways man takes bath in sinkhole caused by pipe burst

By KGAUGELO MASWENENG

TimesLIVE



A Fourways, Gauteng, resident took a bath in a huge sinkhole in the middle of the street at the weekend.

The man, who asked to be referred to only as Nicholas*, said he wanted to humorously expose the extent of the problem of a dilapidated pipe system in his neighbourhood. So he took the plunge on Sunday, with tea kettle and shampoo in hand.

"On Monday last week there was a huge water burst on the shoulder of my property leading to a river of precious water wasted, flowing through the garden and flooding the next houses down," he told TimesLIVE.

"City of a Joburg arrived two days later after losing tonnes of litres of water. [The crew] worked through the night, fixed it — only to realise that the pressure on the water system is too high, causing at least three pipe bursts further down the system, including the one in the road with the sinkhole," he said.

"It was a stressful week for Fourways residents battling limited-to-no water supply, [along with the] uncertainty of kids going back to school and terribly managed and executed school start," he said.

He said the water pipes are old and not well maintained. After intermittent water supply for seven days, he decided to make a stand.

"What a beautiful morning enjoying my tea in the morning sun, being able to wash after enduring a week of no water and no open gyms to shower at like in the past. This beats any gym backup shower, basking in the morning sun and watching the joggers and cyclists at the same time," he quipped.

Nicholas added, "The photos were taken by my amused neighbour. They were shocked to see me in the water."

Despite the water being so cold his toes felt frozen, he said the idea was to make light of a very serious situation in the hope of shining a spotlight onto the failing water system in the suburb.

"On top of this, Fourways keeps building more and more complexes, adding onto an already old and failing water system. Where are we heading?" he asked.

Chris Santana, ward 106 councillor, said they were not sure when the water would be fully restored.

"For the past seven days, there's been a burst in the area. I have reached out to the City of Joburg to get a sense of when we can get the water up and running. People here haven't had water in a week. The water keeps bursting and taking the process backwards," Santana said.

Johannesburg city officials have been contacted for comment.

[READ MORE AND WATCH VIDEO](#)

After 226 years, Sturk's Tobacconists closes its doors

By Kirsten Jacobs
Cape(town)etc



Sturk's Tobacconists in Greenmarket Square is the latest Cape business to close its doors due to the negative effects of lockdown regulations.

Sturk's Tobacco shop has been an iconic Cape Town institution for 226 years. The store was established in 1793, selling cigarettes, tobacco and any other related items to Cape residents. Over the centuries, the store survived many moments in South African and world history, including both World Wars, the Spanish Flu and Apartheid.

The tobacco ban under lockdown regulations, however, has tremendously affected this renowned business.

The sale of cigarettes and tobacco-related products has been banned since March 27, when the lockdown first began. As a result, this business has been unable to operate at all. Owner Diane Chakim is not willing to pay rental fees if she cannot legally operate her business, and with no end in sight for this ban, she has decided to close the store's doors.

Owner Diane Chakim is heartbroken that the store must close. She believes that the ban has had far reaching implications, not only on cigarette smokers but for South African society in general.

"This is not just about the smoker and/or the shop owner – this is about an industry that employs thousands of people, from the tobacco farmer to the factories to the cigarette companies and, finally, after going, through many more channels, to the consumer.

Shame on Dlamini-Zuma and her cronies. Shame on Cyril for kowtowing to these unscrupulous people," she wrote on Facebook.

Chakim also spoke on the rise of illegal cigarettes, saying: "The government of our country has caused this illegal, corrupt and exploitative situation. Poor people are being robbed while small businesses like mine, are losing income and, in many cases, their livelihoods. "

While the Greenmarket store is closed, Chakim plans to still service Sturk's loyal customers after lockdown.

"The minute we are allowed to trade, we will be ready to fill your orders. Please let us know exactly what you need, specific items and quantity and we will get them ready ASAP," she wrote on Facebook. "Please be patient and allow us to rise again and service you, our customers, from a different platform. Keep watching this space."

Sturk's is not the only Cape institution that has closed down due to lockdown regulations. Some restaurants have also had to shut their doors amid financial strain, including popular Mother City eateries such as The Kitchen, Brownies and Downies, and smak.

Health officials in the Cape Metro will now only test for Covid-19 in people with comorbidities that are older than 55.

by Kabous le Roux
Cape Talk



Health officials in the Cape Metro will now only test for Covid-19 in people with comorbidities that are older than 55.

Everyone who accesses a health facility will get screened but only those who have symptoms and fall in the following categories will be tested:

- People already in hospital with Covid-19 symptoms.
- Health care workers with Covid-19 symptoms.
- People who are older than 55 with diabetes or hypertension and Covid-19 symptoms.
- People who are younger than 55 with underlying conditions and Covid-19 symptoms.
- People who live in a care home or an old age home with Covid-19 symptoms.

Pippa Hudson asked Dr Keith Cloete (Head of Health at the Western Cape Department of Health) why the approach to testing has changed.

"We want to reduce mortality... our focus turns away from people least at risk... we want to preserve tests for where it makes the most difference..."

Dr Keith Cloete, Head of Health - Western Cape Department of Health

"If you're younger than 55 and you have symptoms, assume you have Covid-19... After 14 days, you'll be fine... There's no purpose in getting a test."

Dr Keith Cloete, Head of Health - Western Cape Department of Health

"Screening is vital..."

Dr Keith Cloete, Head of Health - Western Cape Department of Health

"In other areas, you can still get tested. In the Metro, we're at the point that we're [only] looking at the vulnerable."

Dr Keith Cloete, Head of Health - Western Cape Department of Health

[**LISTEN TO INTERVIEW**](#)

The 46th edition Of the National Arts Festival will be going digital for the full 11 days from 25 June to 5 July.

by Barbara Friedman
Cape Talk



The 46th edition Of the National Arts Festival will be going digital for the full 11 days from 25 June to 5 July.

The Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in the decision that this year's Festival will be held completely online.

John Maytham chats to CEO of the National Arts Festival Monica Newton.

Work for the festival is still being produced at theatres such as Artscape and the Market Theatre

"80 days ago we took a very big decision. We didn't have a festival at all and now we have something really incredible to show the world on 25 June."

Monica Newton, CEO - National Arts Festival

"We are using our quiet theatre spaces to produce work for the festival."

Monica Newton, CEO - National Arts Festival

"We are ready to show the world how innovative and creative the South African arts community, and some international artists who are joining in, actually are."

Monica Newton, CEO - National Arts Festival

Lockdown has provided a learning curve for people to watch live performances online and while it is not the same as being in a theatre, audiences have adjusted to this new form.

"It has been an enormous adjustment for the arts community as well because you can't just translate one piece of work designed for one medium into another."

Monica Newton, CEO - National Arts Festival

She says they have worked with artists to completely reconceptualise the work they have created.

[LISTEN TO INTERVIEW](#)

SANParks closes Lion's Head trails due to 'non-compliance by users'

by Paula Luckhoff
Cape Talk

Hikers are banned again from popular Lion's Head after Table Mountain National Park was re-opened under Level 3 lockdown.



Cape Town hikers were overjoyed when they heard that they could head for their beloved mountain again when Level 3 lockdown regulations kicked in on Monday.

South African National Parks (SANParks) announced that Table Mountain National Park would re-open on 1 June, with the exception of Cape Point and Boulders Beach.

Now, the popular trails on Lion's Head are out of bounds again, due to hikers' "non-compliance" with Level 3 rules.

The Lion's Head section of the Table Mountain National Park has been closed indefinitely, with immediate effect, says SANParks. Signal Hill though, remains open.

The initial announcement did not specify which rules were breached on Lion's Head but in response to a question posted on Facebook, SANParks said the decision was due to "the nature of the trail and users not adhering to alert level 3 regulations re wearing masks and social distancing etc."

VIA TWITTER



Dear Visitors@TableMountainNP management has made t/ decision to close t/ #LionsHead section of Table Mountain with immediate effect, until further notice. @SANParks

Due to the nature of the trail, recreational activities are no longer permitted in these areas due to none compliance by users in accordance to the Alert Level 3 regulations of the Nationwide Lockdown. #SANParks #LiveYourWild #tablemountainnationalpark #tablemountain #LionsHead

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE WORLD



George Floyd is 'going to change the world' - but how?

By The Guardian



The murdered man's family pay tribute in Houston, as the movement inspired by his death enters uncharted territory.

George Floyd was “an ordinary brother” whose death made him the “cornerstone of a movement”, the Rev Al Sharpton told Floyd's family and the massed crowds of mourners at his funeral service in Houston on Tuesday. With his case being hailed as a landmark moment in the struggle against police brutality and racial prejudice across the US and beyond, Floyd's brother Rodney predicted: “He is going to change the world.”

As protests continue for a third week without any apparent loss of momentum, Ed Pilkington asks what's next – and whether changing the national conversation will be enough to change American society. Alex M Johnson suggests ways to help make sure it does:

We are our brother's and sister's keeper and each of us has a role in this fight for black lives.



[Watch 5 minute video](#)

'Gone with the Wind' removed from HBO Max

By Aljazeera



"Gone with the Wind" has been removed from the HBO Max streaming platform, as mass protests against racism and police brutality prompt television networks to reassess their offerings.

The multiple Oscar-winning US Civil War epic released in 1939 remains the highest-grossing movie of all time adjusted for inflation, but its depiction of contented slaves and heroic slaveholders has garnered criticism.

"'Gone With The Wind' is a product of its time and depicts some of the ethnic and racial prejudices that have, unfortunately, been commonplace in American society," an HBO Max spokesperson said in a statement to AFP.

"These racist depictions were wrong then and are wrong today, and we felt that to keep this title up without an explanation and a denouncement of those depictions would be irresponsible."

Statues fall as global anti-racism protests spread

By Jennifer Glasse, Scott Norvell & Elizabeth Melimopoulos
Aljazeera



The protests that started in the US have spread, leading to the removal of statues with racist legacies.

The police killing of George Floyd has triggered anti-racism protests around the world. A number of monuments with links to colonialism and slavery have either been defaced or pulled down in Europe and the US as protests continue for racial justice.

New York's state legislature is moving forward with police reform measures as the US Army, Navy as well as a number of other states look at measures they can take to address racial inequality.

Floyd's death, after an officer who has now been charged with second-degree murder knelt on his neck for nearly nine minutes, has triggered a US-wide debate on the future of law enforcement.

Reddit names Michael Seibel to board after Ohanian's call for black candidate

By Aljazeera



Michael Seibel

Social network company Reddit has named venture capital investor Michael Seibel to its board, days after co-founder and former director Alexis Ohanian resigned and called for the company to replace him with a black candidate.

Ohanian's resignation came as the death of Floyd reignited the debate of diversity in America's corporate boardrooms.

Responding to Ohanian's request, Chief Executive Officer Steve Huffman said on Friday, "the unacceptable gap" between Reddit's content policy and values has reduced the company's effectiveness in combating hate and racism, and slowed down its response to problems.

US dictionary to change its definition of racism

By Aljazeera



The American reference dictionary Merriam-Webster will change its definition of the word racism at the suggestion of a young black woman, who wanted it to better reflect the oppression of people of colour.

Kennedy Mitchum, a recent graduate of Drake University in Iowa, contacted Merriam-Webster, which has published its dictionaries since 1847, to propose updating the term.

"I basically told them that they need to include that there's a systematic oppression upon a group of people," she told the local CBS affiliate KMOV. "It's not just, 'Oh, I don't like someone.'"

Merriam-Webster's editorial manager Peter Sokolowski confirmed to AFP that the definition would be modified after Mitchum's request.

Adidas pledges to hire more black and Latino

By Aljazeera



German sportswear brand Adidas has pledged to invest \$20m in the black community in the US and make sure that at least 30 percent of all new US jobs are filled with black and Latino people at its Adidas and Reebok brands.

The Adidas managing board said in a statement it recognised the contribution of the black community to its success, but admitted the company must do more to fight racism and improve company culture to ensure equity, diversity and opportunity.

"While we have talked about the importance of inclusion, we must do more to create an environment in which all of our employees feel safe, heard and have equal opportunity to advance their careers," Chief Executive Kasper Rorsted said.

Death of George Floyd: who was Edward Colston, the British slaver whose statue was torn down during protests against racism in the UK

By En24 News



For several years, activists in the city of Bristol in western England have been campaigning to remove from public view the controversial statue of Edward Colston, a 17th-century and early 18th-century businessman who amassed his great fortune with the slave trade.

But on Sunday, demonstrators who held one of the multiple protests in the UK against racism – generated by the death of African-American George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police – ignored any petitions that existed and they themselves tore down the monument and threw it into the bay.

The forced removal of the statue has been as controversial as Colston’s own figure. Bristol’s conservative councillors listed what happened on Sunday of “criminal damage,” while the city’s mayor, Afro-descendant Marvin Rees, declared no feeling a “loss” for the fact, though he is in favour of rescuing the statue of the bay and placing it in a museum.

The issue is complex because of Edward Colston’s legacy and its meaning for Bristol, a city whose fame and wealth was built on the slave trade.

Edward Colston managed to accumulate his fortune with human suffering. Between 1672 and 1689, his ships are estimated to have transported some 80,000 men, women and children from Africa to the Americas.

However, his hometown has honored his memory for centuries. When he died in 1721, he left his wealth to various philanthropic causes and his legacy is remembered in Bristol’s streets, buildings and monuments.



Statue was dumped in Bristol harbour

The statue that was demolished on Sunday was in the city centre, on Colston Avenue. He made no mention of his notorious past but had a plaque that read, “A commemoration of one of the most virtuous and wise sons in the city.”

Colston was born in Bristol in 1636, into a prosperous merchant family and, although he conducted most of his business in London for many years, he was always closely linked to Bristol.

After his studies in London, he established himself as a successful textiles and wool trader.

In 1680, he joined the Royal African Company (RAC), which at the time had a monopoly on the slave trade. The company was run by King Charles II’s brother (later King James II). By 1689, Edward Colston had risen to the position of deputy director of the company.

Slaves buying in West Africa were marked with burning irons with the initials RAC and stuffed as cattle in the boats that would take them on a tortuous journey to the Americas.

[READ MORE](#)

Edward Colston statue is secretly hauled from Bristol Harbour in early-morning operation and will now be taken to museum - four days after it was dumped in water by BLM protesters

By MARK DUELL FOR MAILONLINE



Statue of slave trader Edward Colston is fished out of Bristol Harbour today.

It was then taken to a secure location before it will be placed in a city museum

THE OTHER SIDE.....



Robert Cohen  @kodacohen 

A #Ferguson police captain joins protesters and a few other officers taking a knee in memory of #GeorgeFloyd.



©Robert Cohen/ST. Louis Post-Dispatch



Lung transplant saved life of US coronavirus patient, surgeons say

Chicago woman in her 20s is first known lung transplant patient in the US during pandemic but option is not for everyone

By Coron[Kenya Evelyn](#) in Washington
The Guardian



Dr Ankit Bharat, the transplant surgeon, at Northwestern Memorial hospital in Chicago, Illinois.

A Chicago woman who survived the [Covid-19](#) pandemic has [received a double-lung transplant last week](#) at Northwestern Memorial hospital, the medical facility confirmed Thursday. The woman, who is in her 20s, is the first known lung transplant patient in the United States during the outbreak resulting from lungs being destroyed by the [coronavirus](#).

“She’s awake, she’s smiling, she FaceTimed with her family,” Dr Ankit Bharat, chief of thoracic surgery and surgical director of [the lung transplant program](#) at Northwestern Medicine, told the New York Times.

Bharat added the woman had no serious underlying medical conditions. She has a long way to go, but is recovering.

The 10-hour surgery took several hours longer than expected because inflammation left the patient’s lungs “completely plastered to tissue around them, the heart, the chest wall and diaphragm”.

Hospital authorities said the young woman is still on a ventilator. Although the transplanted lungs are healthy, the virus has left the patient’s chest muscles too weak for independent breathing.

Bharat said the transplant was her only chance for survival. However, the medical team emphasized that even though the operation could save some desperately ill coronavirus patients, the transplant option “is not for every Covid patient”.

“We are talking about patients who are relatively young, very functional, with minimal to no comorbid conditions, with permanent lung damage who can’t get off the ventilator,” he said, noting that other medical centers had been calling to find out about the operation.

Some expressed wanting to send Covid-19 patients to the hospital for lung transplants. For those patients, Bharat added, the news of a successful transplant “absolutely could start something”.

It’s not the first time doctors have used lung transplantation to save a Covid patient. Doctors in Vienna said a 45-year-old woman whose lungs were “damaged beyond repair” became the first European patient to survive that operation.

According to a statement by the hospital, the woman developed severe respiratory failure eight weeks after contracting the virus.

Walter Kleptko, who leads the Medical University of Vienna’s department of surgery, said thanks to a “highly complicated” lung transplant, the woman survived “an otherwise hopeless situation”.

In Italy, a patient who had just turned 18 two weeks before the pandemic first broke out, spent a total of 58 days hooked up to life support machines before receiving a double lung transplant. Doctors later confirmed she was fully “awake and fully cooperative”.

SPORT NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

'I was proud to have my dad there' - Springbok captain Siya Kolisi

By Kamva Somdyala
NEWS24



Fezakele Kolisi, father of the Rugby World Cup champion captain Siya. (Theo Jephtha)

"I'm sure that was my dad's dream – to take me to all these places (across the world), but he never had the means. That's why I'm so grateful to rugby because it allows me to do such things".

This was Rugby World Cup-winning captain Siya Kolisi's response when asked how much it meant to him having his father, Fezakele Kolisi, in the stands of the Yokohama International Stadium in Japan as he led the Springboks to a 32-12 victory over England.

Addressing a packed media room on Tuesday at the OR Tambo International Airport upon his arrival, a visibly overjoyed Kolisi said he was proud to have been able to share the moment with his father.

"I am very proud right now and I was actually proud to have my dad there. I'm really proud that he could be there to share the moment. The team loves him [and] they welcomed him and it was really special for me and the rest of my family," the 28-year-old said.

Seated in the media room, the broadcasting camera turned to Fezakele as Kolisi spoke, who in turn gave the camera a wave, acknowledging his son's words.

Kolisi added that it was an opportunity to show his children "that family is really important".

"We had a great time and hopefully it wasn't the last one," he added.

Going into their World Cup campaign, the Boks adopted a #StrongerTogether slogan, coupled with their continued theme of having people's selfies on their match jersey playing numbers – to give literal effect to carrying a nation's hopes on one's back.

"The people back in South Africa know exactly what it feels like to have your back against the wall... people might be learning from us, but everything we took and did there, we got it from the people in South Africa," Kolisi said of the support.

And in keeping with Kolisi's well-documented rise from Zwide to World Cup winning captain, he said: "Anything can be overcome with opportunity. My drive when I was younger was just going to training every day. I was preparing myself for an opportunity just in case it came."

ICC RATIFIES INTERIM BAN ON SALIVA ON BALL

By Eye Witness News

International cricket will resume next month when West Indies face England in a three-match test series.



LONDON - Players will be banned from the age-old technique of using saliva to shine a ball when cricket emerges from the shutdown caused by the [COVID-19 pandemic](http://LONDON - Players will be banned from the age-old technique of using saliva to shine a ball when cricket emerges from the shutdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the International Cricket Council (ICC) said on Tuesday.

Several other interim measures designed to ensure the safety of players and match officials were ratified by the ICC Chief Executives Committee (CEC) - including allowing home umpires in international series.

International cricket will resume next month when West Indies face England in a three-match test series.

The series will take place without fans and with strict health protocols, including a ban on wiping saliva on the ball — a method employed to help impart swing.

"If a player does apply saliva to the ball, the umpires will manage the situation with some leniency during an initial period of adjustment for the players, but subsequent instances will result in the team receiving a warning," the ICC said.

Two warnings will result in a five-run penalty to the batting side. If saliva is applied to the ball, the umpires will be instructed to clean it before play recommences, although no details were provided as to how that would be done.

Other interim measures ratified by the ICC include replacing a player displaying COVID-19 symptoms during a test match. Any replacement must be like-for-like switch and approved by the match referee. Replacements will only be allowed in test matches and not be applicable to ODIs and T20Is.

With experienced overseas umpires unable to stand in the forthcoming series between England and West Indies, teams will be allowed one extra unsuccessful DRS review in each innings, up from the usual two to three.

"The requirement to appoint neutral match officials will be temporarily removed from the playing conditions for all international formats owing to the current logistical challenges with international travel," the ICC said.

Code of conduct breaches will be partly overseen by a remote neutral match referee in liaison with the actual match referee via a video link., the International Cricket Council (ICC) said on Tuesday.

Several other interim measures designed to ensure the safety of players and match officials were ratified by the ICC Chief Executives Committee (CEC) - including allowing home umpires in international series.

International cricket will resume next month when West Indies face England in a three-match test series.

[READ MORE](#)

World Rugby unveils qualification format for 2023 World Cup

By Reuters



World Rugby has announced the qualification process for the 2023 Rugby World Cup in France aimed at promoting a "genuine opportunity" for all unions, the game's global body said on Monday.

Twelve teams -- the Springboks of South Africa, England, New Zealand, Wales, Japan, France, Australia, Ireland, Scotland, Italy, Argentina and Fiji -- have already qualified by virtue of their top three finishes in their respective pools at last year's World Cup.

Seven of the eight remaining spots will be finalised via regional and cross-regional qualifiers, while a four-team round-robin tournament will determine the final qualifier.

"The process that has been developed via full consultation with our regional associations and member unions will provide a genuine opportunity for full member unions to qualify for our showcase men's 15s event," World Rugby chairman Sir Bill Beaumont said in a statement.

The Americas and the Rugby Europe Championship will deliver two direct qualifiers each, while Oceania and the 2022 Rugby Africa Cup will deliver one apiece.

A playoff between Oceania and Asia will determine the final direct qualifier.

The third-best team in the Americas, the third-placed finisher in the Rugby Europe Championship and the runner-up in the 2022 Rugby Africa Cup will occupy three of the four spots in the final qualification tournament.

The loser of the Asia-Oceania playoff will take up the final spot in the repechage tournament, scheduled for November 2022.

South Africa are the world champions, having beaten England 32-12 in last year's final in Japan.

No limit on crowds at New Zealand Super Rugby, say organisers

BY AFP



Fans will be allowed in unrestricted numbers when Super Rugby resumes in New Zealand this weekend, organisers said on Monday, hailing the move as a world first after professional sport's coronavirus shutdown.

"We're incredibly proud, and grateful, to be the first professional sports competition in the world to be in a position to have our teams play in front of their fans again," New Zealand Rugby (NZR) chief Mark Robinson said.

"It's going to be a very special and unique competition and it's fitting that New Zealanders now have a chance to be part of it."

Super Rugby Aotearoa involves New Zealand's five teams and has been established as a temporary domestic replacement for the southern hemisphere club tournament, which is suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

While many other sporting competitions around the globe have announced plans to restart, the vast majority will be played either with no crowds or with numbers severely restricted.

It was initially slated to start without spectators but the New Zealand government on Monday announced it was lifting all domestic restrictions due to the country's success in containing the virus.

While border controls remain in place -- preventing Kiwi teams competing internationally -- measures such as social distancing will no longer be required, allowing crowds to attend sporting events.

The Highlanders chief executive Roger Clark said the club was "buzzing" at the prospect of hosting the Chiefs in front of packed stands for the competition opener on Saturday. "The world will be watching and we will be ready to put on a show," he said.

"Our players, coaches and staff have been working overtime to get Super Rugby Aotearoa ready and to now be able to share the competition with our members and our fans will be a very special occasion.

Finally! Relief from lockdown as live sport returns to SA small screens

BY KHANYISO TSHWAKU
TIMES LIVE



Former footballers and now TV pundits Mathew Booth (L) and Jimmy Tau (C) during a live broadcast at Orlando Stadium in Soweto with SuperSport anchor Carol Tshabalala. The trio may soon back on TV screens.

The novel coronavirus-enforced lockdown will be easier to deal with as pay-channel broadcaster SuperSport has announced that live sport will be making a belated, but welcome returns to the small screens.

European football leagues had to take Covid-19 suspensions and none of them were close to completion.

Spain's La Liga, Italy's Serie A and England's Premier League will all be resuming this month and they'll be broadcast live by SuperSport.

Germany's Bundesliga has already returned to action, but it is not broadcast on SuperSport.

La Liga resumes on Thursday, June 11, with the match between Sevilla and Real Betis at 10pm.

The English Premier League's return date has been confirmed for Wednesday, June 17, with no fixtures set yet.

All football league matches are being played behind closed doors.

SuperSport's chief executive Gideon Khobane said it was thrilling to have live sport back despite the crowd restrictions in the respective countries.

"With SuperSport broadcasting three of the best soccer leagues in the world, a feast awaits fans.

"The leagues' closed-doors policy may take some getting used to, but the television product ought to be as thrilling as ever," Khobane said.

Rugby and cricket will also be broadcast soon as New Zealand's Super Rugby Aotearoa tournament that starts on June 13 will also be broadcast live on SuperSport.

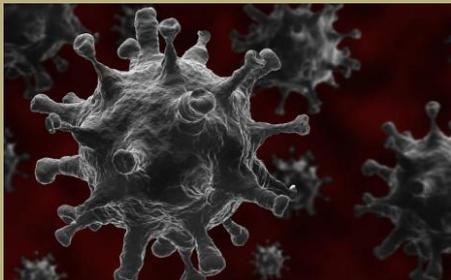
Golf and Formula One will also be making their returns but of particular interest will be cricket, when the West Indies and England contest the Wisden Trophy in the three-test series in July.

COVID-19 ARTICLE

WHAT ARE ANTIBODY THERAPIES AND WHO IS DEVELOPING THEM FOR COVID-19?

By EWN
(Eye Witness News)

For COVID-19 treatment, researchers are studying the use of convalescent plasma and other treatments made with blood from recently recovered patients.



NEW YORK - While some potential vaccines have emerged in the global race to find a way to stop the spread of COVID-19, many scientists and researchers believe antibody-based therapies hold great promise for treating people already infected with the disease.

HOW DO ANTIBODY THERAPIES WORK?

These therapies use antibodies generated by infected humans or animals to fight off the disease in patients. They date back to the late 19th century, when researchers used a serum derived from the blood of infected animals to treat diphtheria.

For COVID-19 treatment, researchers are studying the use of convalescent plasma and other treatments made with blood from recently recovered patients.

More recently, scientists have developed treatments called monoclonal antibodies — antibodies that can be isolated and manufactured in large quantities to treat diseases like Ebola or cancer. Companies, like Eli Lilly and Co (LLY.N) and Regeneron Pharmaceuticals (REGN.O) in the United States, are trying to use this approach to develop their treatments.

Unlike convalescent plasma, manufacturers do not need a steady supply of antibody-rich blood to produce monoclonal antibodies, so this approach could be easier to scale up.

HOW ARE THEY DIFFERENT FROM VACCINES?

In general, the goal of a vaccine is to generate an immune response that can prevent someone from getting ill with a disease, whereas antibody-derived products are generally designed to treat disease. And while some drugmakers have suggested antibody treatments can be used prophylactically - Regeneron's Chief Scientific Officer George Yancopoulos has said their treatment could be a bridge to a vaccine - it could be expensive.

"You might go into nursing homes or the military and use it because antibodies have a pretty long half-life," said Dr. Betty Diamond, Director of Molecular Medicine at the Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research.

"You might decide that you are going to use this as a prevention in this very high risk group, but you wouldn't do that for the whole country."

The amount of protein in antibody drugs makes the treatment more expensive than vaccines in general, Feng Hui, chief operating officer at Shanghai Junshi Biosciences, said. Antibody drugs contain hundreds, or even over a thousand times more protein than found in a vaccine shot.

WHO IS DEVELOPING ANTIBODY THERAPIES FOR COVID-19?

Eli Lilly is collaborating with Junshi and Canadian biotech firm AbCellera Biologics to develop different antibody treatments, both of which have started early-stage testing in humans. Regeneron plans to start clinical studies later this month to test its antibody cocktail treatment, which was derived from antibodies from genetically-modified mice. It aims to have hundreds of thousands of preventative doses available "by the end of the summer or the fall."

The CoVig-19 Plasma Alliance, which includes Japan's Takeda Pharmaceuticals and CSL Behring, is working on hyperimmune globulin therapy derived from convalescent plasma, which could offer a standardized dose of antibodies and doesn't need to be limited to patients with matching blood types.

The Antibody Therapy Against Coronavirus (ATAC) project, funded by the European Commission and led by Sweden's Karolinska research institute, is looking at a similar approach as well as monoclonal antibodies. Under the project, monoclonal antibodies extracted from convalescent plasma are now being tested on human volunteers in Germany and on animals in Switzerland.

Britain's GlaxoSmithKline is working with Vir Biotechnology Inc to develop potential antibody treatments which select the best antibodies out of the plasma.

AbbVie has also announced a collaboration to develop antibody therapies.

Singapore's state research body A*Star is working with Japan's Chug

ENVIRONMENTAL TOPICS AROUND THE GLOBE



Sockeye Salmon Back in Canadian Lake for First Time in Fifty Years!

Restoration efforts have successfully brought back thousands of sockeye salmon to British Columbia's Okanagan Lake.

By HILLA BENZAKEN
GOODNET



After fifty years, the Okanagan Lake has once again become home to a long lost species — the sockeye salmon. A fish with a distinctive red color during spawning (it returns from the open sea a bright blue and silver hue), it is found in the Northern Pacific Ocean and the rivers discharging into it. Sockeye salmon were once native to this lake in British Columbia, Canada, although they had not been seen in it for five decades. Thanks to the combined efforts of government and community conservation groups, however, these fish are making a remarkable comeback!

Approximately 30,000 spawning salmon have now reached the Okanagan river basin after conservation efforts helped revitalize this aquatic region. According to Global News, the Okanagan Lake and nearby rivers were historically part of the sockeye salmon's habitat until the Pentiction Dam effectively blocked them from passing through the dam 50 years ago. This happened because the dam left an existing "fish ladder" inoperable". A fish ladder, also called a fishway, provides a detour route for migrating fish to pass an obstruction on a river. It is made up of a series of ascending pools that are reached by swimming against a stream of water. Fish leap through the cascade of rushing water, rest in a pool, and then repeat the process until they are out of the ladder.

To rehabilitate the ecosystem and bring these native species back to their old stomping ground, the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada built a new fish ladder to enable aquatic species to swim through the dam.

"The fish never made it this far. They only made it to McIntyre Dam in Oliver," Herb Alex, the ONA's hatchery equipment and facilities maintenance coordinator, told The Daily Courier. "So all they're doing is putting these little jumps in, and the fish can make their way up into the Okanagan" He said, referring to the ladder.

[READ MORE AND WATCH VIDEO](#)

This incredibly rare white grizzly has emerged in Banff. Why experts hope you never see it

A very rare white grizzly has appeared in Banff National Park. Experts worry that it's going to get hounded by tourists, in an extreme version of the chances bears face in the mountain parks.

By Alex Boyd
The Star



With the click of a phone camera, the bear's life changed, probably forever.

Most of the details about the bear are murky: It's about three years old, and it left its mother last spring. No one knows whether it's male or female.

But the one thing we know for sure stands out: The fact that this grizzly bear's fur is white.

White grizzlies are almost unheard of. Polar bears roam the Arctic, and the West Coast has Kermode, or spirit, bears — though they're a variant of black bear, and their numbers are estimated to be in the low hundreds. But in the Rockies, grizzlies are sometimes darker, sometimes lighter, but always brown or black.

Buzz about the unusual animal has been building ever since late April, when it was spotted in Banff National Park as a family drove by. The photos made the local news. In the weeks since, the bear has made international headlines and locals have given it a name. Park officials say they've already encountered tourists pulling over on the side of the Trans-Canada Highway, hoping for a glimpse.

Kim Titchener, president of Bear Safety & More Inc., which teaches courses on bear and wildlife safety, is incredulous. "Of all the things to happen and of all the places it had to be Banff, where four million people visit every year? Like, really?"

[READ MORE INCLUDES VIDEO](#)

'She still lives!'

Famed Yellowstone bear emerges from winter – with cubs

By Tod Wilkinson
The Guardian



'399', at 24 one of the oldest grizzlies living outside a zoo, becomes symbol of bears' recovery in Yellowstone ecosystem.

A few weeks ago, a nature photographer who lives near Yellowstone national park sent a four-word text message to Dr Jane Goodall, the British primatologist.
"Miraculously, she still lives!"

The photographer, Thomas Mangelsen, was referring to a grizzly bear known as "399", probably the most famous wild bruin in the world. At 24, not only is she one of the oldest grizzlies living outside a zoo, she has also continued having cubs to a venerable age, becoming a poster child for the recovery of bears in the greater Yellowstone ecosystem.

And no grizzly has done more, through her own behavior, to change a perception that members of [her species](#) are temperamental menaces ready to attack people at the slightest provocation.

In mid-May, the 350lb grand dame emerged in Grand Teton national park, striding alongside Pilgrim Creek. Trailing close behind the matriarch were four cubs, born this winter in a wilderness den high in the snowy backcountry.

Mangelsen has been chronicling the life and times of 399 for nearly 15 years. Goodall counts herself among the bear's most ardent admirers, and, holed up in England, was eagerly awaiting word on whether 399 had survived the long winter. Mangelsen said she was ecstatic.

The population of grizzlies in the Yellowstone region was given protection under the Endangered Species Act in 1975 after their numbers dipped to less than 150, and scientists feared they could disappear altogether. But their recovery, thanks to habitat protection, crackdowns on poaching and a ban on hunting, is considered one of the greatest conservation triumphs in US history. Today, at least 700 grizzlies inhabit the region and, luring tourists, they have paid tangible economic dividends.

Born in 1996, 399 has demonstrated the importance of a healthy female bear to an overall population. At least 22 bears are descended from her, both cubs and cubs of cubs (in human terms, grandchildren). It's possible she could become a great grandmother – a senior citizen who is still having offspring of her own.

Generally pacific in nature, 399 has raised her broods by roadsides in view of groups of curious humans, including some who have exercised poor judgment by moving closer to take photographs of her and her cubs. She has, with one exception, demonstrated incredible restraint.

In 2007, she mauled a Wyoming schoolteacher after he strolled by a spot where 399 and three cubs were feeding on an elk carcass in the bushes. The teacher survived, and the park superintendent determined that the mother was only behaving naturally, acting in defense of the cubs and their meal.

Yet researchers note that it's not easy being a young grizzly, even with a keen parent like 399. About half of those in 399's bloodline have died. One was shot by a big-game hunter, another was killed for preying upon cattle, and a few have been struck by cars. The drama has played out in front of legions of human onlookers who, in turn, have circulated details on social media as if 399 were the star of a soap opera.

The oldest grizzly in the Yellowstone region documented with cubs was 27. Mangelsen had a hunch that 399 would emerge this year with more of her own. During the summer of 2019 she was seen in the company of a regular suitor, a huge 600lb male nicknamed Bruno who is believed to have sired some of 399's earlier infants. Mangelsen and other observers were not disappointed.

"Four-cub litters are rare," said Frank van Manen, a senior research biologist who oversees the Yellowstone region's Grizzly Bear Study Team. "We have documented females producing cubs well into their early- to mid- 20s, but a litter of four at that age is definitely unique."

Most visitors come to Yellowstone hoping to catch a glimpse of bears. There is a heated public debate about whether sport hunting of bears should again be allowed in Wyoming, Montana and Idaho, where the Greater Yellowstone population lives. That question, along with the possible removal of endangered species protections, is tied up in the courts.

To manage the throngs of bear watchers, Grand Teton national park, next door to Yellowstone, has mobilized its "bear brigade".

Apart from trying to keep safe distances between bears and tourists, it has an added coronavirus-era task of doing the same between people. Last week, it was not uncommon to see people trading information about the whereabouts of 399 through open car windows.

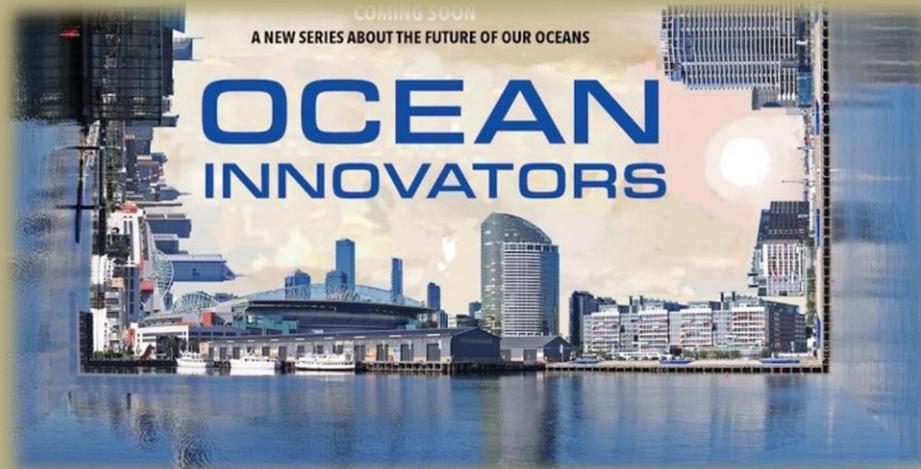
For Steve Franklin, a retired firefighter and arson investigator from Phoenix, 399 possesses a particular mystique. Franklin told the Guardian that he had just made his own contribution to the lore of this celebrity bear, having spotted her before anyone else.

"I dreamed of being the person who sees her first in the spring and gets the photo," Franklin said. "Everyone who knows the legacy of 399 wants to be that person."



Ocean Innovators Video Series Launches June 8

Published by: **ESRAG** (Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group)
May 2020 Newsletter Volume 4 Issue 11



Discover how engineers and Rotarians across the globe are working to defend and restore oceans! ESRAG Director Ludovic Grosjean, an engineer, oceanographer, and expert on environmental monitoring, will host Ocean Innovators' **weekly** video series showcasing projects to restore and protect ocean environments. The series starts on June 8, World Ocean Day.

Ocean Innovators' [website](#) profiles innovative solutions, explains the relevance of ocean and coastal projects to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, and encourages collaboration among innovators. One of the collaboration's top goals is to encourage the younger generation to "design the solutions of tomorrow."

"According to the United Nations," the founders explain, "the world's oceans – their temperature, chemistry, currents, and life – drive global systems that make the Earth habitable for humankind. Our rainwater, drinking water, weather, climate, coastlines, much of our food, and even the oxygen in the air we breathe are all ultimately provided and regulated by the sea. Careful management of this essential global resource is a key feature of a sustainable future.

However, at the current time, there is a continuous deterioration of coastal waters owing to pollution, and ocean acidification is having an adversarial effect on the functioning of ecosystems and biodiversity."

In addition to watching the new series, you can subscribe to [Ocean Innovators' newsletter](#) and follow them on [Facebook](#)

'More masks than jellyfish': coronavirus waste ends up in ocean

By Ashifa Kassam
The Guardian



A glut of discarded single-use masks and gloves is washing up on shorelines and littering the seabed

Conservationists have warned that the coronavirus pandemic could spark a surge in ocean pollution – adding to a glut of plastic waste that already threatens marine life – after finding disposable masks floating like jellyfish and waterlogged latex gloves scattered across seabeds.

The French non-profit [Opération Mer Propre](#), whose activities include regularly picking up litter along the Côte d'Azur, began sounding the alarm late last month.

Divers had found what Joffrey Peltier of the organisation described as “Covid waste” – dozens of gloves, masks and bottles of hand sanitiser beneath the waves of the Mediterranean, mixed in with the usual litter of disposable cups and aluminium cans.

The quantities of masks and gloves found were far from enormous, said Peltier. But he worried that the discovery hinted at a new kind of pollution, one set to become ubiquitous after millions around the world turned to single-use plastics to combat the coronavirus. “It’s the promise of pollution to come if nothing is done,” said Peltier.

What are you doing to protect your ocean?

In France alone, authorities have ordered two billion disposable masks, said Laurent Lombard of Opération Mer Propre. “Knowing that ... soon we’ll run the risk of having more masks than jellyfish in the Mediterranean,” he wrote on social media alongside video of a dive showing algae-entangled masks and soiled gloves in the sea near Antibes.

The group hopes the images will prompt people to embrace reusable masks and swap latex gloves for more frequent handwashing. “With all the alternatives, plastic isn’t the solution to protect us from Covid. That’s the message,” said Peltier.

In the years leading up to the pandemic, environmentalists had warned of the threat posed to oceans and marine life by skyrocketing plastic pollution. As much as 13 million tonnes of plastic goes into oceans each year, [according to a 2018 estimate by UN Environment](#). The Mediterranean sees 570,000 tonnes of plastic flow into it annually – an amount the WWF has described as equal to dumping 33,800 plastic bottles every minute into the sea.

These figures risk growing substantially as countries around the world confront the coronavirus pandemic. Masks often contain plastics such as polypropylene, said Éric Pauget, a French politician whose region includes the Côte d'Azur.

“With a lifespan of 450 years, these masks are an ecological timebomb given their lasting environmental consequences for our planet,” [he wrote last month in a letter](#) to Emmanuel Macron, calling on the French president to do more to address the environmental consequences of disposable masks.

Earlier this year the Hong Kong-based OceansAsia began voicing similar concerns, after a survey of marine debris in the city’s uninhabited Soko Islands turned up dozens of disposable masks.

“On a beach about 100 metres long, we found about 70,” said Gary Stokes of OceansAsia. One week later, another 30 masks had washed up. “And that’s on an uninhabited island in the middle of nowhere.”

Curious to see how far the masks had travelled, he began checking other nearby beaches. “We’re finding them everywhere,” he said. “Ever since society started wearing masks, the cause and effects are being seen on the beaches.”

While some of the debris could be attributed to carelessness, he speculated that the lightweight masks were at times also being carried from land, boats and landfills by the wind.

“It’s just another item of marine debris,” he said, likening the masks to plastic bags or straws that often wash up on the city’s more remote shorelines. “It’s no better, no worse, just another item we’re leaving as a legacy to the next generation.”

Still, given the likelihood that porpoises and dolphins in the region could mistake a mask for food, he was bracing himself for a grim find. “We’re constantly getting them washing up dead and we’re just waiting for a necropsy when we find a mask inside,” he said. “I think it’s inevitable.”

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT

By Stephan Pöltner

You managed starters [your BA] and you managed, Bouillon avec crêpe épaisse allemande' [your BA (hons.)] and for this I congratulate you.

Cooking Hungarian Gyulas means doing your Masters, making Wiener Schnitzel means you do your PhD.

Let's start with the Masters and deal with the Wiener Schnitzel a little bit later.

In both cases preparations and patience are the keys to success.

Gyulas is a magnificent meal and is always accompanied by fresh hand-made rolls, ice cold beer and Barack as digestive aid.

I already dealt with the delightfulness of hand-made rolls.

Now it's about beer and Barack.

Beer:

I mean proper beer, brewed according to the German Purity Law of 1615, stating that beer is to be made only of hops, malt and water.



Anything else I consider 'plastic beer' and clearly not fit to be served with Hungarian Gyulas (or any other Austrian-Hungarian-Czech-Bavarian-Italian-Croatian-meal).

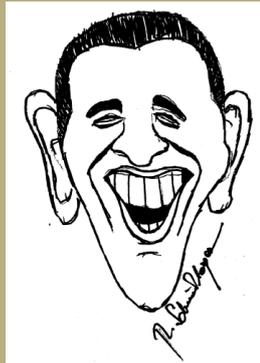
My step-daughter Christine, like her sister-in-law Monica, is totally ignorant when it comes to beer.

In a very simple-minded way she thought that the German Purity Law of 1615 was not in legal force anymore because it was simply outdated.

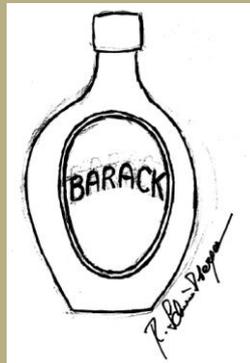
Such ignorance can cause a heart attack with law abiding people like me and seeing that I tried to snatch some air Christine promised that she would never ever again question the importance of the German Purity Law of 1615.

Barack:

No ! Not this one !



But this one:



The French people have their 'Eau de Vie' and their 'Calvados', the Italian their 'Grappa', the Russian their 'Wodka', the German their 'Underberg', the Croats their 'Slivovitz', we Austrian our 'Obstler' and the Hungarian have their 'Barack' (the most delightful Apricot Schnaps).

You feel bloated: have a Barack,

You don't feel bloated: have a Barack,

You are in a good mood: have a Barack,

You are not in a good mood: have a Barack,

Your mother-in-law is coming: have a Barack,

Your mother-in-law is leaving: have a Barack,

You feel sick: have a Barack,

You don't feel sick: have a Barack.

You can twist and turn it as you want; in connection with good food there is always a good reason to have a Barack or Eau de Vie or Grappa, or Calvados, or Wodka, or Underberg, or Slivovitz or Obstler (being proof of the multi-cultural kitchen of Vienna).

Let's investigate the art of cooking Hungarian Gyulas.

Gyulas was the very first dish I ever cooked (if I ignore boiling eggs which, despite cooking them for 20 minutes, simply did not want to become soft).

After having had a fondue with friends I ended up with a large amount of beef cubes and did not know what to do with them.

In such a case a mother comes in very handy. I asked how to make gyulas and my mother told me what to do. I simply cooked a meal for which one needs only one pot.

But me being fuzzy I used all the pots and pans and borrowed at least two other pots from my mother.

When the gyulas was cooked the kitchen looked a little bit different. It is not true that thereafter the kitchen furniture had to be replaced, but cooking took me about three hours and cleaning up a multiple thereof.

All in all, my very first attempt at converting the kitchen into an experimental laboratory produced something edible, as a matter of fact it was not bad at all despite the fact that I needed three bottles of beer while cooking and a lot more while eating my gyulas in order to calm my taste buds down because they burnt like hell due to these 'two tiny little' chillies I had also put into the gyulas.

How to download the Internet



*Stay safe, healthy and take care.
Till next time.... Tanya*