

# SANDY PLACE

## SHAREHOLDER NEWSLETTER JUNE 2018



### Dear Valued Shareholder

As we pause for a moment to reflect - not only on the Resort, but on the greater St. Lucia area and just how special and unique these places are - and we think of what a great year we have had thus far; all we can be is grateful. Grateful that on Sandy Place's doorstep we have the wondrous ISimangaliso Wetland Park with abundant wildlife, numerous beaches and tourist attractions just down the road, as well as the magnificent awe-inspiring sights of Cape Vidal, to mention a few. Grateful that with our amazing staff we have the privilege of creating an environment for everlasting holiday memories for our valued Shareholders. Grateful for all we have achieved and grateful for what the rest of the year promises to hold. Now, we invite you to pause for a moment and catch up with us on the latest news, updates and developments at your Sandy Place.

### The Latest From Your Home-Sweet-Home:

Each year our team dutifully identifies and takes note of areas that need attention, or improvement, at the Resort; and then plans are implemented so that all our valued Shareholders always have the best stay possible at their home-sweet-home. Without further ado, allow us to update you with the latest goings-on at Sandy Place.



#### Starting with the units...

The big and bulky chest freezers have been removed from each unit to offer more space and manoeuvrability for all our guests. But fear not, if you're bringing grandma along with her stock of all sorts of ready meals to plump up the kids, or are planning on turning one little worm into a whole case of fish, the freezers are available on request. Please notify Reception prior to your arrival, if you would like a chest freezer installed in your unit for the duration of your stay.

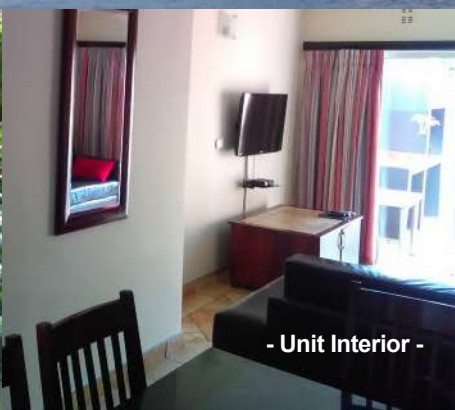
All the units are sporting lovely new linen and all patios have been furnished with new chairs. In addition, new door hooks have been installed behind all bedroom and bathroom doors. Now, it's easy for guests to hang their cozzies, hats, swimming towels, dressing gowns or jackets on the hooks, within easy reach.



- ISimangaliso Wetland Park -



- Sandy Place Potted Plants -



- Unit Interior -





## On to the rest of the Resort ...

Poolside relaxing is a big part of taking time off and nothing can be more relaxing than splashing in the crystal clear waters of the Sandy Place pool. Our pool upgrade has been completed and the pool is looking great, ready for you to cool off, or just relax at the pool on a lounge, with a good book!

For all our Shareholders and guests that just can't wait to upload their holiday selfies, or update their followers, or search the web for nearby attractions – good news! The Wi-Fi is up and running at the info-net lounge. Please enquire at Reception upon arrival for access and specifics.



## For entertainment of a different variety ...

Our little library is available for you to loan a book from while staying with us. If you are an avid reader and have read a book that you would be happy to share, please hand it in at Reception and offer a fellow-reader a good read.

*"I love second-hand books. There is something about the smell of them and the thought that someone else has enjoyed and loved it and now it is your turn."*

## From the great indoors of the info-net lounge and the library to the great Sandy Place outdoors ...

All of Sandy Place's exterior walls have been painted and are looking great.

And finally for now...

During summer our Resort stood fast against severe storms and heavy rainfall. Unfortunately, however, several of the carport awnings were torn during a particularly relentless storm. These awnings were removed, restitched and refitted in time for the Easter Holidays.

We will be sure to share the activities and news from the second half of the year in the December Shareholder's Newsletter.

- New Carport Awnings -

## Awards, Applause, Farewells, and Welcome to Your New Homes:



## Awards and Applause CONGRATULATIONS SANDY PLACE SHAREHOLDERS!

In celebration of the frontrunners in the South African holiday ownership industry, the 30th Annual RCI OSCAS Gala Awards was held on 14 March 2018. This prestigious and elegant black tie affair provided your Resort Managing Agent, VRS; with a suitable platform to ... once again ... celebrate the accomplishments of the last 12 months.

### Sandy Place:



Achieved 5th runner up position for Silver Crown Resort of the Year;

Once again, attained Silver Crown status (second highest rating a Resort can attain);

### AND...

**Belinda Rumbelow**, the then Front Office Manager, won Employee of the Year, in the RADA Business Awards.

Congratulations to all staff, both on and off site, for all your hard work and dedication to Sandy Place.



## Farewells

A heartfelt goodbye was said to the very popular and well-loved Resort Management couple, Robin and Belinda Rumbelow, who have moved on to managing a VRS Resort cluster in the Garden Route. We would like to thank them for making such a difference at Sandy Place and wish them only the best with their new portfolio.



## Welcome

We would like to officially welcome Noël Basson and Anel van Wyk to the Sandy Place team. Noël has been appointed Sandy Place's Resort Manager and Anel will be assisting with all Sandy Place's administrative duties. We wish you both all the best in your new roles and look forward to you taking Sandy Place to new heights.



## Memories in the Making:

Each new year presents us with a multitude of holidays which our team eagerly prepare for so that you can sit back, stick your toes in the sand at one of the nearby beaches and enjoy the activities at your Resort!



Sometimes the smaller things in life tell you more than 1000 words ever could. As the sun began its climb into the sky on **Valentine's Day** morning, our staff tip-toed around the Resort with cappuccinos, hot chocolate and rusks. The smell of freshly roasted coffee beans filled the air and every guest opened their eyes to the heavenly smell.



Due to the mischievous monkey crew in the area, the Easter Bunny hand delivered chocolate eggs and freshly baked hot cross buns to all the families visiting Sandy Place for the **Easter Weekend**. The children thoroughly enjoyed the surprise of opening their doors to a life-sized rabbit who suspiciously sounded like one of the Resort team members!



For check-in days or rainy days, Sandy Place has some **exciting activities for the kiddies**. From colouring-in fun, to spot the difference, to word searches and more. We can't wait for them to enjoy this first-hand!



Also for the youngsters, shell collecting! The kiddies collect beautiful shells on the beaches surrounding St. Lucia and bring them back to Sandy Place. The team collects them and sticks them on the **shell wall of fame**. Then, for years to come, the youngsters can come and revisit their treasure and add to it too!



- St Lucia Beach -

## Catch of the Day!

Many of Sandy Place Shareholders are avid fishermen! There have been some really super catches of late. Including:

**Pompano | Natal Stumpnose | Garrick**

And to make fishing even more convenient, we update our weather info and tide table daily.

Don't forget to share your catches with us!



- Jolly Rubino -

## A Day in St Lucia History –The Jolly Rubino's Final Hours:

Late in the Spring of 2002, panic struck St. Lucia as an Italian owned cargo ship caught fire off the coast of Durban, KwaZulu-Natal. The ship, named Jolly Rubino, embarked on a voyage from Durban to Mombasa, carrying fuel oil and other items of value. However, the ship had barely left the harbour when a fire sparked in the engine room. Crew members battled to contain the heat and then, disaster. The fire broke out of containment and begun engulfing the ship. A rescue mission ensued with helicopters launching from the bay and returning every single person on board.

*Continue reading p4...*

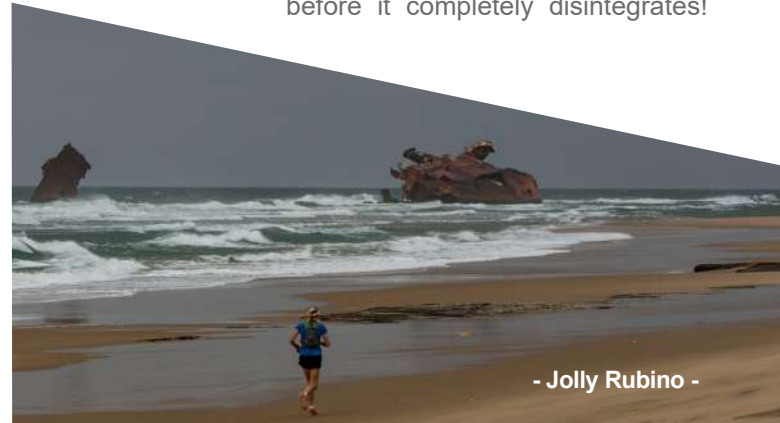


The burning ship - battered by the waves and spilling oil into the ocean - moved along the coast towards St Lucia. Local authorities quickly made the call to take action to prevent the contaminated water from entering the Estuary, which is a protected heritage site. Luckily, with the assistance of an efficient team, the oil spill was cleaned up before it could cause any serious damage to the surrounding ecosystem.

Today, 16 years later, all that remains of this once mammoth ship, is the rusted, weathered hull. It lies, just off the Elephant Coast, a ghost of a reminder of days long passed. Fascinatingly enough, the ocean accepted this alien body as a coral city established itself amongst the wreckage. Smaller fish species inhabit the ship, where men once worked; and feed off the bacteria and algae deposits, which are attracted to the rusting metal.

Avid divers are welcome to visit the wreck to explore the ecosystem which has encapsulated the remains of the Jolly Rubino. If diving is not something you enjoy, then you can still walk along the beach and see the rusted ship.

Either way, be sure to visit the Jolly Rubino remains before it completely disintegrates!



- Jolly Rubino -

## Sandy Place's Love for Hippos Started with Huberta's Hefty Adventures:

The story of Huberta, the wandering hippo, takes us way back when to the year 1928. Resting in the lazy lagoon of "Zululand" became mundane for this huge hippo and so she made the decision to travel 1600km South to the Eastern Cape. This monumental road trip took Huberta a total of three years to complete.

The Natal Mercury was the first paper to publish a story on this incredible creature. Huberta very quickly became famous, as other journalists and the press attempted to snap pictures of her on her commute. Tourists, both local and international, would flock to see her and leave her tasty treats of sugar cane and fruit. Biologists were dumbfounded as to why Huberta made the journey as no other hippopotamus had ever been recorded travelling the same distance.

The Natal Provincial Council dubbed Huberta as royal game, which made it illegal to hunt or attempt to capture her. Unfortunately, Huberta's status did not protect her as she was poached by three hunters who claimed not to know who she was. The hunters were each penalised with a £25 fine; a hefty fine for the time.

Huberta's legacy lives on at the Amathole Museum in King William's Town, Eastern Cape.

Today, approximately 800 hippos inhabit the St Lucia area and wetlands. Sometimes, a bold hippopotamus will venture into the town and residents gardens to enjoy a midnight snack.

On one other occasion, a male hippo was documented embarking on a similar journey to that of Huberta, but no others have achieved the marathon Huberta undertook all those years ago. But the love for Hippos was sparked and continues to this day!



- Huberta at Amathole Museum -




- Freshly Painted Walls -



## Sandy Dandy Seasoning

The nearby beach presents the opportunity for beginner and veteran fishermen to cast a line for the freshest seafood St Lucia has to offer. Our mouth-watering fish seasoning is perfect on just about anything and kicks your culinary skills up a notch!

### You will need:

-  1 Tsp. Bay Leaves
-  ¼ Tsp. Nutmeg
-  1 Tsp. Cracked Black Pepper
-  2 Tsp. Salt
-  1 Tsp. Paprika
-  1 Tsp. Mustard Powder
-  1 Tsp. Celery Seeds
-  1 Tsp. Cayenne
-  ¼ Tsp. Cinnamon Powder
-  ¼ Tsp. Cardamom Powder
-  ¼ Tsp. All Spice
-  ¼ Tsp. Ginger Powder

### Method:

Use a mortar and pestle to grind the bay leaves, cracked black pepper and celery seeds into dust. Mix in the remainder of the ingredients and transfer into an airtight container to keep all the moisture out (especially when you are at the coast). Season the filleted fish generously with the mixture before cooking. This spice mix is delicious on spuds and roast veggies too!

Alternatively, purchase all the ingredients in their powder form to skip the "hard labour".



## Important Notices

### Checking in Procedures:

In the interest of safety, security and ensuring that only confirmed guests are allowed at the Resort, you will be required to produce both the Reservation Confirmation/ Guest Certificate and your ID; and also to complete the Indemnity Form when checking into the Resort.

### Guest Certificates:

In the event you are allowing a guest to occupy your timeshare week, the guest must be in possession of a valid Guest Certificate which is obtainable from Head Office prior the guest's arrival.

### Levy Payments:

Levies must be paid in terms of the Use Agreement and no occupation or usage of any form is allowable until the levies have been paid. (This applies to usage, spacebanking, renting etc. of the timeshare week.) For alternative payment arrangements, please contact Property Admin: [propertyadmin@oaks.co.za](mailto:propertyadmin@oaks.co.za)

### Spacebanking and Rentals:

Please note that a request for spacebanking or rental, must be submitted to Property Admin a minimum of five months prior to the occupation date, to enable us to process. Please contact Property Admin at: [propertyadmin@oaks.co.za](mailto:propertyadmin@oaks.co.za)

### Communication:

To enable us to communicate effectively, please ensure that you keep us updated regarding your current contact details, and most importantly, your email address.

### Occupation Dates:

Please note that Resort Calendars are linked to school holidays, and it is therefore vital that you check the Annual Calendar to ensure that you occupy the correct week. Please refer to the 2018 calendar available on the following link: [www.vrs.co.za/docs/2018/calendar/SandyPlaceCalendar2018.pdf](http://www.vrs.co.za/docs/2018/calendar/SandyPlaceCalendar2018.pdf)

Please refer to the 2018 instruction letter available on the following link: [www.vrs.co.za/docs/2018/instruction/SPLL\\_InstructionLetter\\_2018.pdf](http://www.vrs.co.za/docs/2018/instruction/SPLL_InstructionLetter_2018.pdf)

### VRS Website:

Our new website has launched with a dedicated owners page for our valued Shareholders where you can download Calendars, Instruction Letters and Use Agreements. Be on the lookout for more exciting features, coming soon!





## Taking you back to your childhood...

R T S E R                      N B M X Q  
 E S C A P E E                B N Y I I R P  
 P A R T Y L R F P P S H E L T E R  
 T O U    E N A O U L M V C X N    K L M  
 C O U Z    S Y H D T S A E F    R G O E  
 T Y Y K N    T S G G Y C P    A N U X C  
 P E R F O R M A N C E A W P I N P O R  
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ANNIVERSARY	FEAST	OUTING	RESTAURANT
BEACH	FESTIVAL	PAMPER	RETREAT
BISTRO	HAVEN	PARK	SANCTUARY
BREAK	HIDEAWAY	PARTY	SAND
BROADWAY	HIKING	PEAK	SEASHORE
CAFE	HOLIDAY	PERFORMANCE	SHELTER
CELEBRATION	HOTEL	PLAY	SHORELINE
COAST	INN	POOL	TOUR
CONCERT	JOURNEY	REFUGE	TRIP
ESCAPE	LODGE	RESORT	VACATION
EXCURSION	MOUNTAINS	REST	VOYAGE
EXPEDITION	MUSEUM		

## Until We Speak Again...

With the second half of the year upon us and much to look forward to, we leave you, for now, with some inspiration: "When obstacles arise, you can change your direction to reach your goal; you do not change the decision to get there."

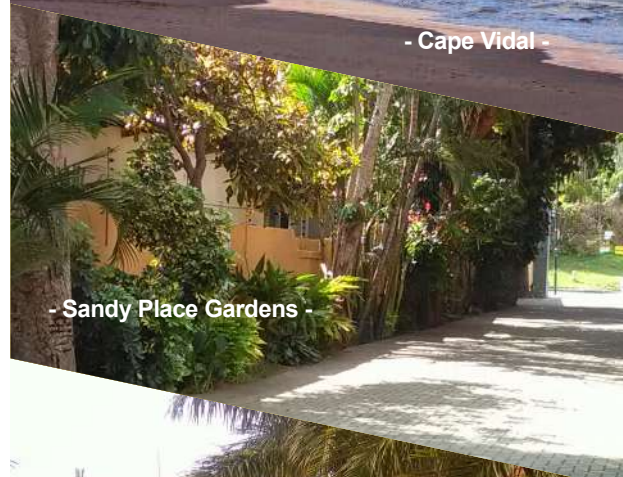
Until we speak again...

*Marjorie Forssman*

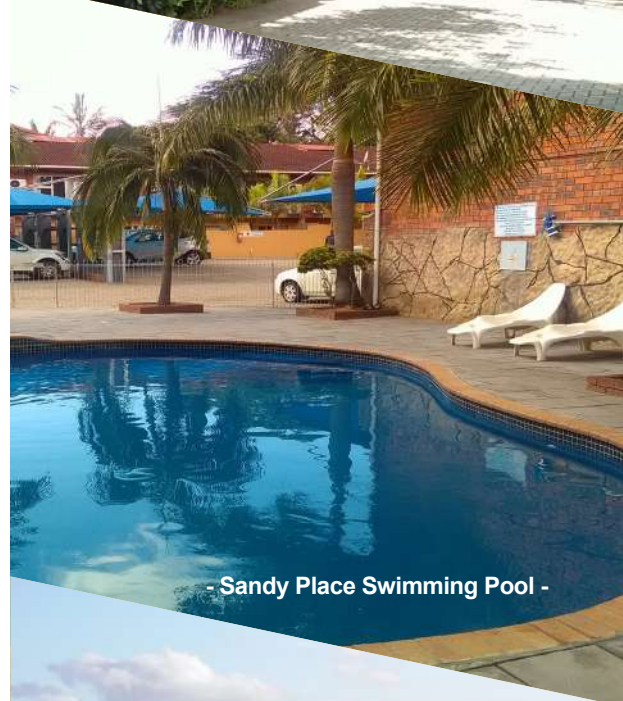
VRS Managing Director



- Cape Vidal -



- Sandy Place Gardens -



- Sandy Place Swimming Pool -



- St Lucia Wetlands -



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