

# Looking back at what made the headlines

As 2018 draws to a close, **MIKA WILLIAMS** looks back at the stories that made the headlines in Northern News over the past year.

**P**arow and Goodwood police stations underwent a shake-up at the start of 2018. Colonel Sibusiso Mntambo was elected as the head of Goodwood police station and Colonel Teboho Jacobs was named the new station commander of Parow police station (“New chiefs at cop shops”, January 17).

At the end of January Cape Town braced itself as the City voted to implement Level 6b water restrictions that came into effect in February this year (“Water worries”, January 24).

Problem buildings continued to plague the area and one such house situated in Mossel Street in Parow North drew the ire of residents (“Mossel Street mess”, January 31).

At the time, Willem Botes, chairman of the Parow Park Neighbourhood Watch, said the state-owned house in Mossel Street, that used to house police officers, had fallen into ruin, following a fire that ravaged the property.

Residents called on the national Department of Public Works (DPW) to intervene and sort out the property.

As the water crisis continued, schools, residents and businesses brainstormed various ideas to save water.

Goodwood Park Primary was one such school that implemented an array of water-saving measures (“School saves water with Coenie’s contraption”, February 21).

The school marked a milestone anniversary in March when it celebrated its 50th anniversary (“Goodwood Park Primary celebrates 50th,” March 7).

In February, Goodwood Ratepayers’ Association also elected Faizel Petersen as its new chairman after former chair Brian Lawson stepped away from civic duties (“Ratepayers elect new chairman”, February 28).

Residents living around the Tygerdal dumpsite wanted answers from the City as to why the dumping site had not been moved as had been promised in 2014.

At the time, the City had indicated it would move the dumping site to Beaconvale, which was supposed to open in November 2015.

However, in March last year the plans were stalled due to concerns about a flood risk at the Beaconvale site (“No end in sight for dump”, March 7).

Goodwood residents were up in arms about the installation of cell masts close to their homes. They felt that the City had not taken their concerns into account during the public participation process (“Ire over approval of cell mast”, March 21).

At the end of March, residents living in Bach Street in Kaapzicht, were up in arms about the development of townhouses close to their homes. About 27 people living in and around the development sent their objections to the City (“Residents oppose townhouse”, March 28).

A prison fight in April left two warders seriously injured at Goodwood Prison, when they were stabbed in their chests during a gang-related incident. The perpetrators were prisoners who belonged to the 26s gang and had been transferred from St Albans Correctional Centre in the Eastern Cape (“Warders hurt in prison fight”, April 11).

Plans to spruce up the Goodwood and Parow CBDs were unveiled in May after the City announced that it had approved and revised its Municipal Spatial Development Framework (MSDF). Its aim was to “bring people closer to jobs, and jobs closer to people” (“Plans to spruce up CBDs”, May 2).

At the end, of May, Parow police experienced a surge in crime and police said that residents were also not reporting some incidents (“Crime up in Parow”, May 23).

The tragic murder of Edwina Thomas at the hands of her son shocked the community when Ms Thomas was found strangled to death in the storeroom of her Cook Street home in Goodwood. Her son and an accomplice were arrested and appeared in the Goodwood Magistrate’s Court on a charge of murder (“Man in court for mom’s murder,” June 6).

Other major news included the announcement that Tygerberg Hospital would be replaced by a better health facility and not “closed” (“Hospital in sick state”, June 13).

During the annual winter rains residents became fed up with the amount of flooding in the area due to blocked drain and questioned why the City did not conduct “planned maintenance” before the start of the heavy rains (“Residents fed up with flooding,” June 7).

Residents bid a sad farewell to former mayor of Goodwood Louwtjie Rothman in July when he died at age 85 following a short illness (“Farewell to former mayor of Goodwood,” July 4).



■ Goodwood Park Primary celebrated its 50th anniversary. Principal Juan Rossouw is pictured at the school’s celebratory breakfast.



■ Residents are upset about the issues at Tygerdal dumping site.

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