



MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 17 October 2016
EMBARGO: Immediate

Hard work and dedication restores waterflow

The Knysna Municipal Technical Department worked feverishly from Friday afternoon till late Saturday, October 7 and 8 to trace and fix a leak in the waterline that feeds the Knysna Heads and Leisure Isle reservoirs.

Knysna Mayor, Eleanore Bouw-Spies lauded the team for their dedication and hard work. "During a routine inspection of the reservoirs on Friday, October 7 it was noticed that both the Heads and Leisure Isle reservoirs were critically low. Our team immediately alerted the public and started looking for the cause. The cause could not be traced on Friday, and at first light on Saturday the team was doing all in their power to trace the cause," said Bouw-Spies.

The Leisure Isle Reservoir was found to be empty by 08:15 and a water truck was sent to the Island to assist the resident. By 09:00 the break in the system was found in lower Rexford and the team started the process of repair it.

The pipe was buried two meter deep and back-actors were brought in to gingerly uncover it and then replace it. "The team had to work carefully to ensure that only the damaged pipe was uncovered and no more damage was done," Bouw-Spies said.

By 18:00 the pipeline was fixed and water started flowing to fill the reservoirs. People were requested not to use the water until 21:00 to assist in filling the reservoirs and also to allow the pipeline to clean itself.

"We appreciate the public's patience, support and understanding while our team raced against time to restore the water to Leisure Isle. I must further thank George and Louise Kinmot from Rexford who graciously provided our team with coffee, cake and biscuits twice on Saturday. Your kindness is most appreciated," concluded the Mayor.

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