



Hogsback Times [hbt]

Hogsback Times Is an interactive, participatory, information distribution service available to all the residents of Hogsback by annual subscription. The subscriptions pay for the running costs.

The aim of service is to distribute information to the 200+ subscribers on a daily basis.

The means of distribution is by plain email twice per day.

There is a sister website where graphics and pictures can be placed for the subscribers to fetch if they wish. There is a page for Public Notices.

It is felt that [hbt] is a useful and very economical service to our local readers, it seems very well accepted and is widely read.

Note that the Daily Dispatch is no longer delivered to Hogsback so that is no longer a valid method of delivery of Public Notices to our residents

Most of the information for the [hbt] comes from our own Hogsback residents and is mostly of a newspaper "smalls" sort :

Adverts of special commercial events in Hogsback, such as pub lunch specials, music events.

Public meeting announcements such as call for public participation in the Xmas in July and for and celebrations.

Church announcements such as the special Christmas and Easter outdoor services.

and also **notices** such as births, deaths.

Lost and Found pets, visitors, keys, cameras etc.

Requests for lifts to out of Hogsback destinations, eg to the East London airport.

Requests for **pickup** or **delivery** of parcels such as chronic medication.

Visiting service suppliers such as TV and Frig repair, and veterinary surgeons advertise their visiting hours to our community.

The **Hogsback Community Police Forum** use this service to advise of CPF meetings, and also occasionally they distribute warnings and useful crime and criminal related information.

Our Hogsback **Saturday Morning Market** will often advertise specials on sale.

Jobs Offered Jobs wanted, Library Hours, Thank You messages, Menus, Fire Warnings, Recipies, Road Hazard warnings.. The list of types of useful, local messages goes on and on.

From the beginning of [hbt] (2005) the intention was to include getting and distributing institutional information such as Municipal and Governmental public notices, EIA notices etc. However, up to now the flow of information from Nkonkobe municipality seems to have been sporadic and unreliable. The flow of info from ADM was good for a while but seems to have stopped completely. The inconsistency makes me nervous because I get the blame for the lack of communication.

I am open to suggestions of how to make this an acceptable, equitable, viable, reliable, mutually satisfying, two way flow from institution to our local "newspaper" and on to all of our local community

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