

Curry night special



7
Goan Beef Curry
Chicken Tikka Masala
Cape Malay Veg Curry

21
Peanut Pork Curry
Indian Butter Chicken
Spinach & Potato Curry

28
Beef Bhuna
Bengali Chicken Korma
Onion Bhaji Fritters

R130 for 3 curries incl
naan, sambals & poppadums

Wednesday
14 February 

OPEN WEDNESDAY
GOLF DAY

VISITORS MOST WELCOME

R245 greenfee
+ R35 competition fee

Monday Easy Dinner

R99pp for over 65's & R105pp under 65's
plus an optional table starter

5
Optional Starter:
Shrimp cocktail with thousand island
dressing, apple and lettuce R25
Main Course:

Bangers & mash with caramelized
red onion & red wine gravy or
Fish Goujons, mushy peas &
hand cut chips

Dessert:
Tresacle Tart & Vanilla Ice Cream

12
Optional Starter:
Melon & Goats Cheese Salad R20
Main Course:

Cou au Vin with fondant potato or
Hake Bon Femme with roasted
courgettes & duchesse potato
Dessert: Crêpe Suzette

19
Optional Starter:
Melanzane Ai Forno R25
Main Course:

Spaghettini Carbonara with bacon &
mushrooms or Saltimbocca with Ham
and onion butter, served
with roast potatoes
Dessert: Tiramisu

26
Optional Starter:
Creamy Cauliflower Soup R20
Main Course:

Elbshein with sauerkraut, mash
& mustard or Chicken Schnitzel
with spätzle & cheese sauce
Dessert: Kaiserschmarrn
with vanilla ice cream



COUPLES GOLF

Wed 14 February 2018
R245pp Greenfees | R175pp golf cart sharing
R35 Competition fee | Visitors Welcome
Prize Giving Snacks Included

FRI 16 FEB 2018

Pizza Special from 4pm

**1 Pizza +
1 Margarita**

and 10% off beverages



THE LINKS VALENTINE'S Dinner Dance

14 February 2018
live music by Pete the Greek
4 courses | dancing | romance
bookings now open

Bubbly on arrival
Amuse bouche
and
4 Dinner Courses
R320 p/p

TEL 042 200 4500

BOOKINGS

ESSENTIAL

info@sfrancislinks.com

Gamtoos approaching Day Zero in April

Residents in the Gamtoos River Valley are bracing for the possibility the region's biggest supply dam running dry by the end of April, for the first time in its history.

Should no decent rains fall in the catchment area in the coming weeks, the towns of Hankey and Patensie could be faced with an epic health crisis as most of their water is sourced from the Kouga Dam which dipped to an all-time low of 7.15% last month.

This is according to Gamtoos Irrigation Board chairman Tertius Meyers, who said rain at the end of January saw the dam level rise to 9.3% with further inflows expected to bring it up to 10% but the situation still remained extremely serious. He said the Gamtoos area which falls under Kouga Municipality is at similar risk to water-strapped Cape Town, where major dams are set to run dry on 'Day Zero' in mid-April.

"When the dam dries up, there will be no water for drinking, no water for personal hygiene and no water to flush toilets," he said.

He maintains only substantial rain can save the Gamtoos communities. Both the Kouga and Nelson Mandela Bay municipalities needed to cut back on water losses as a matter of urgency, he maintained. "Kouga Municipality also needs to manage what little water it has as conservatively as possible, although this has not been the case in the past." At this critical stage even boreholes are not a viable solution to the crisis, Meyer maintained. "Those who do have boreholes must use what water they have wisely to make it stretch as far as possible."

"While more affluent households may be able to keep the crisis somewhat at bay by purchasing drinking water shipped in from other areas, poorer communities in the two towns – which share an estimated population of 300 000 – cannot afford to

buy bottled water. "The only thing the municipality can do is to bring in water in tankers, but this is prohibitively expensive, costing an estimated R1-million a month," said Meyer.

Meanwhile, the area's substantial farming community will also be stripped of its main source of crop irrigation when the dam runs dry, leaving the farming sector, which is a major employer in the region, crippled. "A dry Kouga Dam could lead to crop failures and possible stock deaths on farms in the area, with knock-on implications for already hard-hit consumers."

"While the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality has adhered to the restricted access imposed on them when drawing from the Kouga Dam, Kouga has continued to use water in excess. This is a luxury they no longer have," Meyer said. Although the dam running dry also has serious implications for Mandela Bay residents, the situation is not as dire as the crisis facing residents of Hankey and Patensie. "The Kouga Dam is not the only source of water for the Port Elizabeth area," Meyer said. "The metro also gets water from the Orange River, which is purified at the Nootgegedacht Water Treatment Works. Phases one and two to expand that project are already online, with phase three expected to be implemented next year."

"The Gamtoos Irrigation Board has restricted its water losses to 7%," he said. "But while the metro claims that up to 35% of supply is lost through leaks and wastage, we believe that figure to be closer to 50 to 60%." This has to be tightened up and leaks need to be fixed, while there also needs to be a lot more done to make use of grey water wherever possible.

"The reality is that we are facing a crisis worse than Cape Town's. Day Zero, with all its implications, is looming closer and

Kouga dam end January 2018 at 8.84%. Photo: Anneke Heyns.



Below: Kouga dam photo by Yolande Whitehead Vuurbaak taken end January



Pumping water from Klein river solution

Kouga Municipality indicated that Hankey only had 9% of its quota left and Patensie 36%," Kouga's Executive mayor, Elze valin Lingen said.

Hankey and Patensie receive their bulk raw water from the Gamtoos Government Water Scheme, which is administered by the Gamtoos Irrigation Board. The scheme includes the Kouga Dam and the downstream canal system.

The mayor said alternative water supply

sources were being explored such as pumping water from the Klein River to the Hankey Water Treatment Works. Water will also be trucked in should it be necessary.

Testing will also be done in the vicinity of the Kouga Dam to identify other potential drilling sites. These processes, including the installation of the necessary infrastructure support, are only expected to be completed towards mid-2018.