PLETT TOURISM ASSOCIATION

APRIL 2025 MONTHLY REPORT

TOURISM DESTINATION MARKETING

STATISTICS / WEBSITE ANALYSIS



1. WEBSITE CONTENT LISTINGS

a. MEMBERSHIP LISTINGS

- i. APRIL: Total of 206 Accommodation + 73 Restaurants + 138 Activities + 77
 Services = 494 listings on the website. 6 Accommodation Specials, 3 Restaurant Specials
- ii. **Q3 Jan/Feb/Mar 2025:** Total of 206 Accommodation + 75 Restaurants + 138 Activities + 76 Services = 495 listings on the website.
- iii. **Q2 Oct/Nov/Dec 2024:** Total of 205 Accommodation + 73 Restaurants + 135 Activities + 73 Services = 486 listings on the website.
- iv. **Q1 July/Aug/Sept 2024:** Total of 204 Accommodation + 74 Restaurants + 133 Activities + 71 Services = 482 listings on the website.

An average of 495 pages for member listings were featured on the Plett Tourism website during Q3. This will change during Q4 as we launch the Membership Drive for the next fiscal year.

a. GIG GUIDE

i. APRIL: Total of 6 event listings published. Gig Guide: A total of 17 Gigs (smaller, pop-up events) were listed as taking place in April (but a total of 28 were present on the Gig Guide in the month of April for events happening in April and in the upcoming months).

An average of 7 dedicated event page listings and 10 individual Gigs were published each month during Q3.

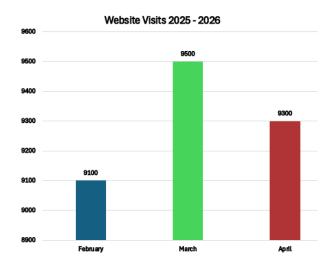
- b. NEWS BLOG / ARTICLES
 - i. APRIL: Total of **11 articles** published.

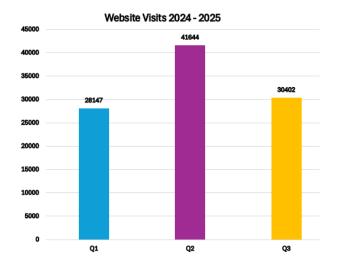
An average of 13 articles were published each month during Q3.

2. WEBSITE VISITS

- a. APR 2025 = 9.3 K
- b. Q3 = 30,402
- c. Q2 = 41,644
- d. Q1 = 28,147

An average of 10.5K visits to the website was reported for each month during Q3.





3. WEBSITE GOOGLE ANALYTICS

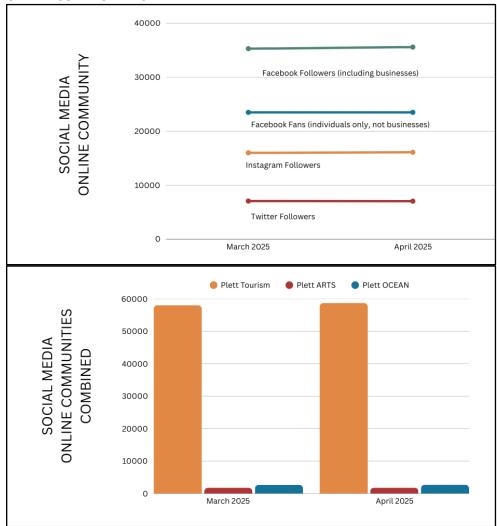
- A total of 9,312 total visits to the website for Apr 2025) (Visits in same period in 2024 = 9,229) = Up on last year
- b. Average length of time of visit for April 2025 = 67 seconds (up on last year)

Website visits over April are up on last year.

STATISTICS / DIGITAL MEDIA ANALYSIS

Our digital media focus during Q4 (April, May & June 2025) is on Adventure & Nature Marketing pillar as March & April herald the harvest season in the Plett Winelands and a shift to autumn. The busy Easter and long weekend season, for which the calendar was very busy, is coming to an end. We look towards the Plett Ocean Festival in July. Promotions have included Easter and holiday specials, news and resharing Plett's restaurant and winelands news, the Plett Wine & Bubbly Festival, exploring Plett like a local and luxury travel.

ONLINE COMMUNITIES



The social media community 'Fan' growth is following the same historical increase, slow and steady. It is important to note that Plett Tourism does not 'buy' followers, and limits advertising. The result is committed friends/fans/followers.

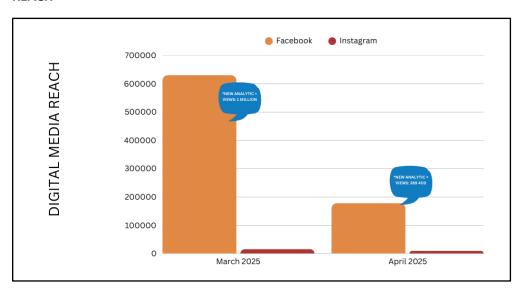
1. OPERATIONAL COMMENTS

The Plett Tourism digital team has pivoted from Plett Summer into the autumn and harvest seasons with exciting events promoted over the easter holidays including the Plett Wine & Bubbly Festival and promotions beginning for the winter, Plett Ocean Festival. Plett Tourism's accounts have continued with medium - high reach. Additional focal points during this period have been luxury travel, harvest season in the Plett Winelands, food and wine news, exploring like a local and Plett's exciting marine attractions.

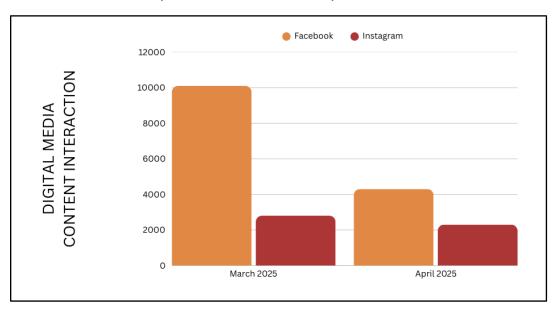
2. DIGITAL MEDIA STATISTICS

Measured by Reach & Content Interaction (previously Engagement). *New analytic - VIEWS.

REACH



CONTENT INTERACTION (PREVIOUSLY ENGAGEMENT)



Notably, our digital media reach escalated to more than 1 Million views during the month of February, and again in March. Each time, there was a post that went 'Viral' (content that spreads rapidly through social media), thanks to photos featuring a visit to Plett with Springbok Captain, Siya Kolisi and a repost of a leopard up Whiskey Creek for International Day for Rivers. The Facebook digital media reach has a wider user-base across our actual target market demographics, which allows us to reach a more diverse audience based on those market demographics - age, interests and location. We are growing the younger market, this target demographic is more imagery focused and uses Instagram.

3. PLETT TOURISM POPULAR POSTS, STORIES & TOPICS

APRIL

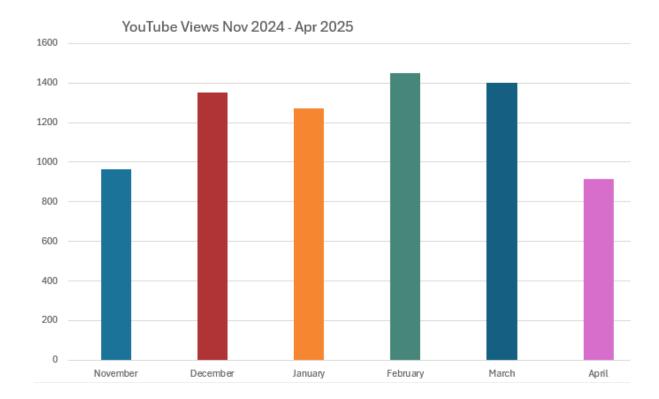
April highlights included rock star, Ronan Keating spotted eating out in Plett, the rare sighting of a pygmy right whale by Plett Shark Spotters, the launch of the Plett Wine & Bubbly Festival and the RC Gliding National Championships, and, on Instagram, news that Plett has been nominated as Africa's Leading Beach Destination.



4. YOUTUBE

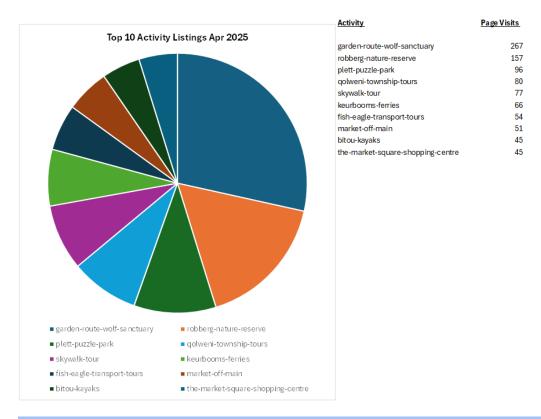
Our YouTube channel has had over 1 million views.

We are now able to earn revenue from any unique content we post on the channel. We have not had any earnings yet because we have not posted many new original content videos which can be monetized. We are strategising to include this as a revenue stream for the 2025-26 fiscal year.



STATISTICS / ACTIVITY ANALYSIS

1. ACTIVITY LISTING BY POPULARITY



There is an interesting pattern with an increase of tour/transportation requests during Q3. Additionally, the types of activities tourists are interested in while in Bitou can be seen - those are animal sanctuary experiences, shopping, hiking and boating.

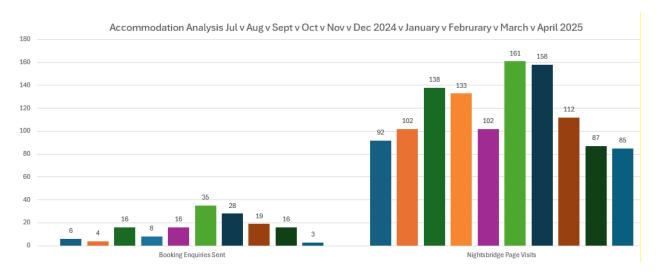
2. ACTIVITAR BOOKINGS (Real-time activity booking using the online Plett Tourism Activitar page)

ACTIVITAR	# of bookings	Commission
Q1	7	14486
Q2	13	20173
Q3	5	5920
April	2	2848

Plett Tourism is driving bookings using strategic Google Adword campaigns.

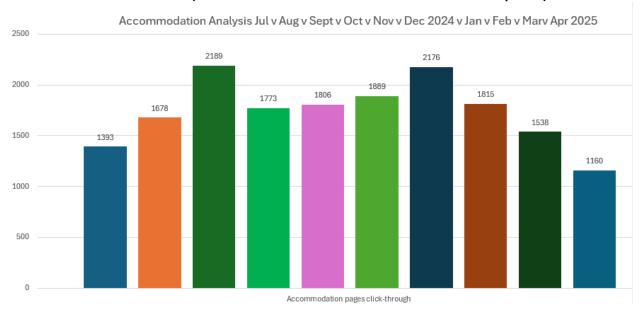
STATISTICS / ACCOMMODATION ANALYSIS

1. BOOKING STATS (Real-time accommodation enquiries online or booking online visits using the Plett Tourism website)



Plett Tourism has launched a strategic Google Adword campaign, the first targeting March/April school holidays and the second targeting Winter months.

2. ACCOMMODATION INTEREST (visitors to the website that view accommodation options)



3. DOMESTIC MARKET ACCOMMODATION STATISTICS (WESGRO/GR&KK) - Not available at this time.

- 4. INTERNATIONAL MARKET ACCOMMODATION STATISTICS (WESGRO/GR&KK) Not available at this time.
- 5. SARS International Arrival, Accommodation and Key Performance Indicators Not available at this time.

6. STATS SA

a. Tourists

- i. Overseas tourists constituted 20,8% (210 709) of all tourists. The United Kingdom (UK) (45 363), Germany (31 295) and the United States of America (USA) (25 406) contributed 48,4% to overseas tourists. Tourists from Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries constituted 77,7% (787 560) of all tourists. Zimbabwe (273 084), Mozambique (182 768) and Lesotho (176 550) contributed 80,3% to SADC tourists. 'Other' African countries (nonSADC) tourists were 1,5% (14 921) of all tourists. Kenya (3 846), Ghana (3 088) and Nigeria (2 207) contributed 61,3% to 'other' African tourists. The country of residence of 794 (0,1%) tourists was classified as unspecified.
- ii. Regional and national distribution of tourists In January 2025, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 142 786 (67,8%); North America, 30 651 (14,5%); Asia, 17 012 (8,1%); Australasia, 9 068 (4,3%); Central and South America, 8 358 (4,0%) and Middle East, 2 834 (1,3%).
- iii. Domestic versus International Travel

Table 2 - Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel

Travel	Total		Air				Road	Sea
direction		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total	Road	Sea
Total	3 088 791	323 050	29 191	675 971	2 101	1 030 313	2 020 021	38 457
South African residents	813 535	77 962	20 194	290 342	1 359	389 857	396 507	27 171
Arrivals	470 486	45 977	11 261	166 610	532	224 380	232 402	13 704
Departures	342 632	31 975	8 933	123 326	826	165 060	164 105	13 467
Transit	417	10	-	406	1	417	-	-
Foreign travellers	2 275 256	245 088	8 997	385 629	742	640 456	1 623 514	11 286
Arrivals	1 310 377	119 590	3 475	166 503	407	289 975	1 017 594	2 808
Departures	934 182	124 896	5 510	189 043	335	319 784	605 920	8 478
Transit	30 697	602	12	30 083	-	30 697	-	-
Visitors	1 274 630	116 184	2 730	159 411	249	278 574	994 328	1 728
Same-day	260 646	1 112	35	15 336	47	16 530	243 878	238
Overnight/ Tourist	1 013 984	115 072	2 695	144 075	202	262 044	750 450	1 490

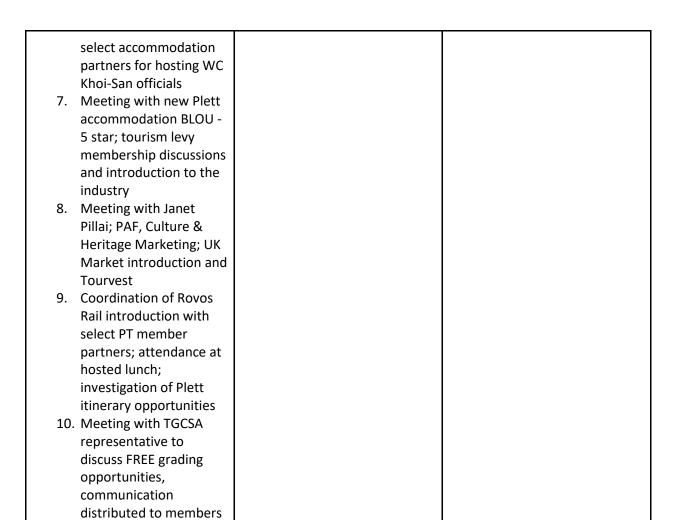
TOURISM & TRAVEL TRADE MANAGEMENT & PARTICIPATION

1. TRAVEL TRADE CAMPAIGNS / JOURNALIST AND INFLUENCER ENGAGEMENT

	MARCH	APRIL	
1.	Request for trade with Lynn Scott - TBC	 Request for partnership from Kamogelo 	
2.	Request from Timeless Trends Magazine - TBC	Kgaswane - still under review.	
3.	Janet Pillai request for Plett Marketing Materials and Fact Sheets		
4.	Laticia Pavim; Wesgro/GRKK influencer meeting		

2. TRAVEL TRADE ENGAGEMENT

	MARCH		APRIL	
1.	Representation of Plett Tourism at the Regional Tourism Organizations meeting held in Mossel Bay.	1.	Representation of Plett Tourism at the Garden Route & Klein Karoo stand at WTM Africa 2025.	
2.	Representation of Plett Tourism at the Garden Route & Klein Karoo WTM Africa 2025 Regional Tourism meeting	2.	with participating local tourism business who attended WTM.	
3.	Indaba 2025 investigation fro LED		at WTM.	
4.	Meeting with Beyond Experience Cape Tours owner; opening in Plett			
5.	World Karate Beach Games; meeting with regional organiser to discuss options and introduction to stakeholders to host the event in 2026 at Central Beach			
6.	Kranshoek / Khoi-san event; introduction to			



MEDIA SPONSORSHIP AND JMI ANALYSIS

MEDIA PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT (NOT FUNDING, A QUID PRO QUO TO PLETT TOURISM)

We continue to engage with local businesses and other avenues for sponsorships in the form of Joint Marketing Initiatives and Media Partnerships. The negotiations and value;

APRIL

- Bayview Hotel; R7 500
- Robberg Equestrian Centre; TBC
- Straughan Attorneys; TBC
- Dr Evil; TBC
- Garden Route Express Shuttle; TBC

TOTAL PROCURED: R7 500

Q3 R224 000

Q2 R15 000

Q1 R148 120

2. MARKETING FUNDS PROCUREMENT (DIRECT FUNDING FOR SPECIFIC JOINT MARKETING INITIATIVES)

APRIL

NA

TOTAL ADDITIONAL MARKETING FUNDS PROCURED: 0

Q3 R0

Q2 R12 750

Q1 R10 000

3. SPONSORSHIP PROCUREMENT

We continue to engage with corporates and institutions for sponsorships. The negotiations include;

APRIL

- Ocean Blue Adventures (TBC)
- Barrington's (TBC)
- PicknPay (TBC)
- Woolworth's (TBC) Plett Ocean Festival
- Strauss & Co. (TBC) Plett Arts Festival
- Chas Everitt (TBC) meeting to discuss opportunities

TOTAL SPONSORSHIP PROCURED: RO

Plett Tourism has appointed a Sponsorship Liaison to assist with procurement and administration of sponsorships. This is a commissioned-based position.

Q3 R25 000

Q2 R7 000

Q1 R5 000

5. JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH BEACH ACTIVATIONS

Q3 0

Q2 R117 000

Q10

MEDIA MANAGEMENT

1. NICHE MARKETS

Our communications include direct to the public, business to business to our local tourism industry, engaging the tourism industry and stakeholders across South Africa and the world. We are focusing on niche markets that are desirable by both domestic and international markets. This includes **niche markets** (and communities to market to) for Food & Wine, Adventure & Nature, and Arts & Culture, including the Plett Ocean Festival and Plett Arts Festival social media accounts and the niche mailers: Plett Adventure Chronicles, Plett on a Palette and Through the Grapevine (previously weekly sips) and those have provided our best open rates for mailers to date.

This autumn our focus continues around the Food & Wine marketing pillar including the upcoming Plett Wine & Bubbly Festival, luxury travel, local recommendations for activities, adventures and restaurants and promotion of the upcoming Plett Ocean Festival in addition to autumn and winter special deals. With international visitors escaping their winter months, our content is centred around Plett's unique selling points: nature, beaches, activities and small group travel (couples), and families - independent travellers. Our message is a reinforcement of that "Plett feeling.

We are actively engaging on Facebook groups for Plett's various neighbourhoods/villages to ensure that all of the Bitou communities are aware of our news and goings-on.

The Plett Tourism Whatsapp groups include public "Plett it's a feeling!" for general news, industry groups for accommodation, restaurants, activities, events, township tourism and tourism services which we use to communicate relevant information. Due to Plett Tourism's 2024/2025 strategy to focus on digital excellence and training, copywriting, blogs and media releases have declined as resources are diverted for this period.

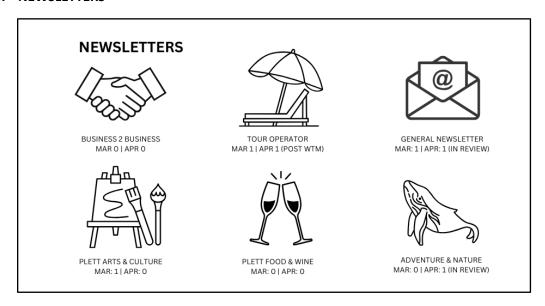
2. COPYWRITING, PRINT & RADIO CREATIVE AND MANAGEMENT

- 1. News articles and blogs: January 15/ February 3/March 18/April 11
- 2. Media Releases: January 1/ February 1/March 2/April 4
- Media contributions (info requests): January: JM 1 / February: JM: 2 / March: JM 5
 April: JM 1
- 4. Print adverts placed: January: 0 / February: 0 / March: 1 / April: 0
- 5. Radio contributions: January: 0 / February: 0 / March: 1 / April: 0
- 6. Google Adwords Campaigns: January: 0 / February: 0 / March: 0 / April: 1

7. FB/Insta Advert Campaigns: January: 0 / February: 0 / March: 0 / April: 0

The majority of the Plett Tourism advertising campaigns are done out-of-season and quarterly with a focus on our anchor events - Plett Wine & Bubbly (April), Plett Ocean Festival (July) and Plett Arts Festival (September).

3. NEWSLETTERS



4. BULK MAIL / NEWSLETTER STATISTICS

- April: Mailing list increased to 9,872
- April: On average 28.7% of recipients opened the newsletter
- April: On average 10.5% of them clicked on a link
- April: 6 industry-related bulk mailers sent out
- April: 10 bulk mailers sent out in total

5. HIGHLIGHTS/PT MEDIA FEATURES

APRIL

- GQ Magazine Online, VISI Magazine Online, MSN, Getaway Magazine Online.
- Capetown Magazine; meeting to discuss key points for POF and for PAF.
- SABC 'Following the Sun' programme for Nov/Dec 2025; meeting to discuss opportunities with features of Plett for the series

6. COMPREHENSIVE MEDIA FEATURES NOTED

APRIL 2025			
PUBLICATION	ARTICLE TITLE	ARTICLE LINK	
GQ	Plett's finest: two distinct stays along South Africa's Garden Route	<u>Article</u>	
Knysna Plett Herald	Old Rectory in the Spotlight	<u>Article</u>	
News 24	4 Ways to save money when travelling this Easter holiday	<u>Article</u>	
Travel People	Plett nominated as Africa's Leading Beach Destination	<u>Article</u>	
Herald Live	Plett's annual bubbles & wine fest is back	<u>Article</u>	
LinkedIn (CapeTown Magazine)	Plett Tourism tackling seasonality through activity	<u>Article</u>	
Africa Travel Week Connect	Plett Tourism tackling seasonality through events impact partnership	<u>Article</u>	
Getaway Magazine	Exploring Plentiful Plett	<u>Article</u>	
Visi.co.za	Plett's a playground	Article	
Condé Nast Traveler	At a Wellness Retreat in South Africa, Learning the art of doing less	<u>Article</u>	
KnysnaPlett-Herald (PRINT)	Path cleared for new urban nature park	<u>Article</u>	
Knysna Plett-Herald	Be on the lookout, it's turtle hatchling season	<u>Article</u>	
South African Tourism (Online travel magazine)	What to do and see while visiting Plettenberg Bay on the Garden Route	<u>Article</u>	
Business Tech	These small towns in South Africa are kissing the rand goodbye	<u>Article</u>	
KnysnaPlett-Herald (PRINT)	IN FOCUS: Rare Plett Pygmy right whale sighting	<u>Article</u>	
News24	Gary Player has found love again with an American Widow who shares his passion for golf	<u>Article</u>	
Getaway Magazine	Chasing some final fun in the sun before the colder months	<u>Article</u>	
Luxuria Lifestyle International	Head to Plett for barefoot luxury at The Plettenberg	<u>Article</u>	
NSRI	Stay safe on the trails: NSRI's guide to hiking preparedness	<u>Article</u>	

HeraldLive (PRINT)	Win tickets for the Island Wine & Olive Festival	<u>Article</u>
KnysnaPlett Herald	Plett nominated as Africa's leading beach destination	<u>Article</u>
Travel and Tour World	Plettenberg Bay emerges as South Africa's new Crown Jewel with Global beach destination nomination and Ocean Festival showcasing unmatched marine beauty	<u>Article</u>
The Herald	Plett nominated for leading beach destination award	<u>Article</u>
Caxton Network News	Rare sighting in Plettenberg Bay could have been a Pygmy right whale	<u>Article</u>
South Africa Today (and MSN)	Ten reasons why you must visit Plettenberg Bay	<u>Article</u>
Good Things Guy	Travel blogger's "If South African spots were your ex" has us cry-laughing	<u>Article</u>
Cape Town etc	How NSRI's camera network protects swimmers	<u>Article</u>

7. NEWS ARTICLES AND MEDIA RELEASES WITH A TOWNSHIP & VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOCUS

Plett tourism focuses on 4 x marketing pillars, and each marketing pillar includes a media strategy that also includes an 'iKasi Life' township focus. We commissioned and/or wrote, edited, facilitated and published articles that were focused on the township community: individual entrepreneurs, events and businesses. The process is ongoing as we seek out the best stories from and for our local communities. The process is sometimes delayed by unavailability of those to be featured, however, we persevere.

New community journalist engagement to commence in the new fiscal year following strategising.

8. MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS (LEADS FOLLOWED)

Opportunities to contribute to publications (online and in print); this may include contributions of a photograph, article, comment, or itinerary for an article to be written.

APRIL 2025

PUBLICATION	JOURNALIST / CONTACT	COMMENTS
Herald Live		Responded to enquiries on the Plett Wine & Bubbly Festival
WTM Africa	Media Team	Contributed an article and collateral on

		the Plett Trails to WTM as part of Plett Tourism's Media Partnership with WTM Africa.
Herald Live	Freelance	Comment regarding World Travel Awards
Now Media	Kiran Molloy	Plett Airport Comment
News24	William	Plett Airport Comment

TOURISM DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

1. PLETT TOURISM ASSOCIATION SUCCESSES

- The Plett Tourism Association continues to contribute to the public/private sector
 Marketing Steering Committee with the Garden Route District Municipality, Western
 Cape Department of Tourism, Wesgro, FEDHASA, SATSA and SA Youth Tourism will be
 assisting the Garden Route Development Agency with the placement and strategy for
 Regional Tourism Marketing.
- Membership of the Plett Tourism Association has grown steadily, from 677 to 701.
- Plett Tourism managed a successful Plett Summer Festival, the public service education and awareness on the Rabies Epidemic and the facilitation of successful beach activations during December.
- 2. PLANNING & 3-YEAR STRATEGY: The Association is focused on the Business Strategy objectives to increase desirability of greater Plett as a tourist destination visitation, increase the competitiveness of greater Plett as a tourist destination, provide communication to members on matters relating to local and regional tourism, process enquiries regarding local and regional tourism, and provide input into local tourism development of policy plans and programmes that impact local and regional tourism.

STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS

PT meets with key stakeholders; including:

- Bitou Municipality and political stakeholders
- Plett Ratepayers Association
- Plett Businesses
- National, provincial and regional tourism stakeholders

1. Bitou Municipality and municipal stakeholder involvement

January

- 1.1 Submission of Draft 2: Bitou Township Tourism Development Strategy (27/01/2025)
- 1.2 Submission of Invoice 2 / Year 2: Bitou Municipality & Plett Tourism SLA (27/01/2025)

February

- 1.1 Follow-up meeting (L Jacobs, A Mbali, W Sebezo) (14/02/2025); Additional tasks presented for discussion (14/02/2025) confirmation of deadlines and descriptions to be distributed ASAP.
- 1.2 Submission of Invoice 2 follow-up required (28/02/2025)
- 1.3 Mayoral Golf Day: meeting with J Kamkam regarding Sasfin sponsorship (12/02/2025); Sponsorship procurement and administration meeting (20/02/2025)
- 1.4 WTM and Indaba invitation for LED (A Mbali); PT to facilitate invitation from GRDM
- 1.5 LED Forum: stakeholder meeting engagement (19/02/2025)

March

- 1.1 Mayoral Golf Day consolidation request (04/03/2025); communication to Mayor's office regarding final consolidation
- 1.2 Administration of the funds with email directive, internal memorandum and proposal (ongoing)
- 1.3 Meeting to discuss WTM attendance with Plett Tourism (A Mebali, W Sebezo) (11/03/2025)
- 1.4 Meeting to consult regarding bike path on Longships, Land Art at Signal Hill, Green Urban Trail on Piesang Valley (A Taljaard) (13/03/2025)
- 1.5 Kwano Tourism Forum meeting (11/03/2025); discussed formalisation of the Forum, request for Forum to submit plans with the clean-up programme, monthly market and art space; official email is visitkwano@gmail.com; PT committed to assist with the printing of a route map

April

- 1.1 Communication to C Schliemann (16/04/25); Plett Conversations proposal to include BM accommodation sector compliance rules and regulations; scheduled for June 2025.
- 2. Plett Business Chamber no meetings held Jan/Feb/Mar

April

1.1 Meeting with Bill Scotcher and Nicole Tunmer (SATSA and PT Board Member) to discuss PT's current SLA and how the business community can assist going forward.

3. Plett Ratepayers Association -

January

1.1 Telephonic meeting to discuss Plett Airport issues (09/01/2025)

February

1.1 Meeting to discuss agenda items for a public meeting to address service issues with future development; water, sewerage and waste management (scheduled for 05/03/2025); telephonic meeting to discuss Bitou Council Agenda Item C/1/292/02/25 pertaining to a proposed Correctional Facility and the procurement of property (26/02/2025)

March

- 1.1 Meeting 'Water Risk Assessment'; stakeholder engagement with PRA (05/03/2025)
- 1.2 Meeting with Plett Historical Society to discuss plans with the Timber Shed (D Jerling) (20/03/2025)

April - no meeting held

National, provincial and regional stakeholders January

- 4.1 SASTRA (SA Short Term Rental Association) meeting with SATSA and FEDHASA
- 4.2 WESGRO comments on White Paper / Short Term Rentals
- 4.3 SA Tourism survey and contributions to SAT strategy White Papers
- 4.4 Department of Tourism contribution of Bitou/PT membership database

February

4.1 Provincial LTO Meeting in Hessequa (27/02/2025)

March

- 4.1 CapeNature engagement regarding parking area/information centre signage (03/03/3025)
- 4.2 WTM Responsible Tourism application submitted (04/03/2025)
- 4.3 SA Tourism online meeting (13/03/2025)
- 4.4 SATSA and FEDHASA enquiry for incubator programs (14/03/2025)
- 4.5 Klein Piesang Valley launch attendance (18/03/2025)
- 4.6 SANRAL engagement regarding N2 signage for 'Welcome to Plettenberg Bay' (20/03/2025)
- 4.7 Western Cape AirBnB meeting with PT Board Member (self catering); discussion regarding statistics, advertising platform opportunities

April

- 4.1 Mossel Bay Tourism; meeting to assist with their Tender Application (17/04/25)
- 4.2 Western Cape Provincial meeting with DEDAT, GR&KK, SATSA to discuss rabies outbreak in seals and how Plett operators are managing their protocol
- 4.2 WTM Africa attendance and representation
- rsa.AERO nothing for January; meeting with Fireblade Aviation (18/02/2025); nothing for March or April

6. General

January

- 6.1 Plett Student Beach Week engagement with local stakeholders; Surf Cafe / Moby's / Flashbacks / Plett Rage
- 6.2 Straughan Attorneys; Gold Membership / Media Partnership / Workshop discussions

February

- 6.1 Straughan Attorneys; Gold Membership / Media Partnership / Workshop discussions; meeting with client liaison Sarah Prins (12/02/2025)
- 6.2 Cape Town Arts Festival; discussion regarding PT role and LED role (18/02/2025)
- 6.3 Garden Route Shuttle Service; meeting to discuss Media Partnership and other opportunities (24/02/2025)

6.4 Meeting with Lifeguard Director and PT Activity Board member to discuss independent funding opportunities for Plett Ocean Smart projects

March

- 6.1 Plett Tourism Board Meeting (12/03/2025)
- 6.2 Meeting with Roberta Cocci; Signal Hill / Site Specific sculptural bench (13/03/2025)
- 6.3 Meeting with Greg Bertrame; guest house owner; concerns for short-term rental industry (14/03/2025)
- Draft Letter of Motivation for introduction to alternative transportation options (Uber, Bolt, etc.); submitted to PT Board Chairman and Board Representative (B Richardson, A Olivier) (31/03/2025)
- 6.5 Meeting with Emily Moon regarding WTM Africa and Indaba 2025 (26/03/2025)

April

- 6.1 Mazaars meeting; NPC follow-up
- 6.2 Plett Deliveries new business in Plett
- 6.3 Dr Coci and the new Plett Dialysis Centre; ideas to engage with the tourism community
- 6.4 Roberta Coci regarding the land art proposal
- 6.5 Dion Jerling; meeting to discuss fundraising for the Old Timber Shed revamp project
- 6.7 AviaReps; meeting with organiser regarding additional promotion opportunity with Plett Tourism
- 6.8 Consulting with the Plett Foundation Project
- 6.9 Cruise the Crags map; permission granted for the project to be reinstated with new ownership

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT

1. VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

- a. Two personnel members man the Visitor Information Office and continue to provide telephonic, electronic and walk-in communication for visitor enquiries.
- b. Management of brochure displays and assistance with use of the hotdesk, and third party boardroom bookings.

2. GENERAL OFFICE OPERATIONS

- a. Weekly consultant status and planning meetings every Monday.
- b. Weekly status meetings with office staff every Monday.
- c. Front of House management, shifts and office hours: 9 am 5 pm on weekdays and 9 am 1 pm on Saturdays. (Until after Easter)
- d. The hot desk a workspace and wifi.
- e. House-keeping, recycling, maintenance and upgrading of equipment, signage and collateral is on-going.
- f. The asset list update took place in February
- g. Backup of laptops is ongoing.

h. The Entrepreneurs & Youth Business Development webpage is updated regularly with training, funding and business opportunities, marketing tips and interesting articles.

March items added: 2 | April items added: 3

3. EDUCATIONALS AND UPSKILLING

MONTH	ACTIVITY
March	Google Drive workshop for all staff Presentation on trade travel by Ms Nkcita to all staff
April	Somila Nkcita is interning at Bayview Hotel Office personnel attended the Jukani Boma experience

4. INFORMATION OFFICE VISITOR STATS

MONTH	SA VISITORS	INT VISITORS	TOTAL
March	12	30	42
April	7	21	28

FILM PRODUCTION PERMITTING AND ENGAGEMENT

MONTH	NAME OF PRODUCTION	CONTACT	
March	Yoh! Bestie (series)	BBZee Films	Recced beaches and airport. Await applications
April	Yoh! Bestie (series)	BBZee Films	Processing location applications

EVENTS & ACTIVATIONS MANAGEMENT

NOTE: One of Plett's anchor events, not celebrated since 2018, the Plett Wine & Bubbly Festival, has made a comeback, hosted by the PWGA at Kay & Monty, and partnered by Plett Tourism.

1. MARCH & APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND DAILY DIARY

- **a.** The annual calendar is updated daily and distributed weekly to stakeholders including Bitou Municipality departments.
- **b.** The Daily Diary is distributed monthly to media stakeholders.
- **c.** Event pages are created on the PT website, and the events are included in the PT social media and digital marketing platforms.
- d. There are 60 events on the calendar for 2025, as at the end of April.

MARCH EVENTS:

The Autumn Fair	2 Mar	Raphaeli Waldorf School
Get Back - Tribute to the Music of the Beatles	2 Mar	St. Peter's Church Hall
Strauss & Co Lecture and Valuation Days	5 - 6 Mar	Piesang Valley Community Hall
The Drakensberg Boys Choir	11 Mar	St Thomas Methodist Church
Western Cape Adult & Youth Showjumping Champs	14 -16 Mar	Robberg Equestian Park
Weekend Tournament	14 - 16 Mar	Kurland Estate
Memories of Keurbooms	20 Mar	Formosa Garden Village
African Indigenous Renaissance (AIR) Festival	21 Mar	Kranshoek Community Centre (Multi Purpose Centre)
Weekend Tournament	21 - 23 Mar	Kurland Estate
Plett Surf Lifesaving Carnival	21 - 23 Mar	Surf Lifesaving Club, Central Beach
Plett Polo 10 Goal & 4 Goal	24 - 30 Mar	Kurland Estate
Simply Gospel	27 Mar	The White House Theatre

Konco Sports Tournament	29 Mar	Kwanokuthula Stadium
Plett Polo 8 Goal & 2 Goal	31 Mar - 6 Apr	Kurland Estate
SA Open	31 Mar - 13 Apr	Kurland Estate

APRIL EVENTS

Plett Doodle Hunt	1 - 30 Apr	8 different locations around Plett
Hip Hop vs Amapiano Bash	5 Apr	Prime Shine Car Wash (NH)
SA Open Polo	5-8-12-13 Apr	Pavilion, Kurland Estate
Plett Polo 8 Goal & 2 Goal	7 - 13 Apr	Kurland Estate
WTM Africa	9 - 11 Apr	Cape Town
Sand-sculpting Workshop for the love of OUR oceans	12 Apr	Robberg 5
Plett Polo 8 Goal & 2 Goal	14 - 20 Apr	Kurland Estate
Kurland Park Test Match	19 Apr	Tafika Farm, Redford Road
Buco Adventure Weekend	19 - 20 Apr	Cairnbrogie and Royston Farms
Island Wine and Olive Festival	19 - 20 Apr	Stanley Island, Keurbooms River
Plett Wine & Bubbly Festival	26 - 27 Apr	Kay & Monty Vineyards
Kranshoek Sunday Chillas	27 Apr	Kranshoek Sports Ground

SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS

EVENT DATE	EVENT	CONTACT	CONTRIBUTION
21 March 25	Konco Sports Tournament	Athenkosi Konco	Advertising barter with Robberg Deli for trophy purchase: R2500
March 25	Plett United Rugby Club	Plett United Rugby	5 hats, 5 t-shirts, 4 rugby balls
29 April 25	National RC Gliding Championships 2025	Chris Sharp info@glidingrcplett.co .za	12 hats 5 t.shirts

MEMBERSHIP

1. MEMBERSHIP STATS

MONTH	PAID MEMBERS	FREE MEMBERS	АССОММ	REST	ACTIVITIES	SERVICES	TOTAL
MAR	100	602	255	150	174	123	702
APR	101	610	258	151	175	125	709

We engage weekly with in-person or online meetings, with potential new members and existing members. The objective is to familiarise them with the Plett Tourism website, to highlight their member benefits and to answer any questions or concerns. Several restaurants have changed ownership and/or closed - new owners are being engaged.

2. MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

MONTH	MEMBER	IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL
March	1. Greenfern Lodge	1. Virtual
April	 Crags Country Lodge Offshore Adventures Idinga Tours Emily Moon river lodge 	 In-Person In-person In-person In-person

TOURISM DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT

STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESS (what we have done and areas that we are struggling and/or it is not working)

PROJECT 1: PLETT BEACHES AND VIEWPOINTS OVERVIEW

This project looks to continue the promotion of beaches and waterways as a primary selling point for the town. It is crucial that the municipality provides quality assurance of existing nature-based attractions, including viewpoints, Central beach precinct, public beaches, and public natural attractions. Our greatest assets need to be reviewed with a focus on the upkeep / maintenance and security of these attractions. There is opportunity to identify nature-based tourism offerings associated with key regional waterways that have the potential to be future tourism drivers. The marine life, waterway adventure and nature products will be promoted under the Plett Adventure & Nature marketing pillar, with exposure enhanced with a high-profile PT anchor event (the Plett Ocean Festival and Marine Science Symposium).

NAME	APR	MAY	JUN	STATUS
Cetacean Whale Heritage Site promotions	X			STRENGTHS: PT continues to promote the status of the area as a WCA location. WEAKNESS: Local Committee would like PT to be more focused on the accolade and to put funding towards promotions.
Signal Hill community engagement				STRENGTHS: A proposal for a sponsored "Art Bench" is being investigated. WEAKNESS: Complaints about the cleanliness and mowing of the grass to be investigated.
Blue Flag Beach promotions	х			STRENGTHS: PT continues to promote the Blue Flag beaches as a USP for the area. WEAKNESS: NA

Plett Shark Action Group Season Readiness	х	STRENGTHS: PT sits on the Board to represent the Tourism sector; other stakeholders include the Bitou Municipality, NSRI Plett, Plett Shark Spotters, CapeNature and private business. WEAKNESS: Lack of resources to raise additional funding.
Cape Fur seals rabies epidemic	х	STRENGTHS: Standard protocol investigated and sent to Bitou Comms and shared with stakeholders. WEAKNESSES: Reporting structure is flawed.
Plett Ocean Smart / Plett Shark Spotters		STRENGTHS: PT launched an advertising campaign to assist the Plett Ocean Smart NPC to assist with raising funds for the Plett Shark Spotters and signage on municipal beaches. PT has negotiated free digital screen promotion at Market Off Main. WEAKNESSES: There is nobody dedicated to assist with the fundraising; lack of resources.
Shark Flags		STRENGTHS: No additional engagement to date WEAKNESS: LED is not familiar with the Plett Shark Action Group activities, and will be speaking with the MM to discuss future involvement for LED.
Plett Ocean Festival	х	STRENGTHS: PT has been securing additional funding for the event with individual brands. WEAKNESS: Additional funding is required to grow the youth education aspect of the festival - the platform to engage with local youth about the sustainability of our most unique selling point in Bitou - our coastline, waterways and marine life.
Nature's Valley Trust Marine and Coastal System Programme Report	х	Strengths: Nature's Valley Trust has done an in-depth programme report which is focused on our Marine Economy. Four main categories have been identified: fishers, bait collectors and marine harvesters; beach and water users; land-based nature users; and boat-based tourism operators. (please reference the attached report). WEAKNESSES: NA

PROJECT 2: CULTURE, HERITAGE & ARTS INVIGORATION OVERVIEW

Plett has a diverse cultural heritage and is trying to assist cultural and experiential products with marketing opportunities. This project aims to reinvigorate the region's arts and culture tourism experiences.

NAME	APR	MAY	JUN	STATUS
Plett Goes Paleo promotions				STRENGTHS: PT engagements with Wesgro and the Robberg Coastal Corridor project is ongoing.

			WEAKNESS: Additional funding / sponsorship is required to expand this project.
Plett Arts Festival	Х		
Tshisa Talent			Tshisa Talent has closed down. Lunchbox Theatre continues and we continue to engage
School participation in Plett Arts Festival	х		STRENGTHS: Murray High, Plett Sec, GBC and Oakhill engagements have commenced to include them for the 2025 festival.
			WEAKNESS: Difficult to get buy-in from the schools. They have busy schedules
Community cultural groups	X		STRENGTHS: On-going engagement with the Kranshoek Riel Dancers and the marimba section of the PPFF. PT continues to support promotions.
			WEAKNESS: Additional funding / sponsorship is required to assist with the marketing collateral needed for this project. We have difficulty identifying who these groups are.
Tshisanyamas & craft	Х		STRENGTHS: On-going updating of the Kasi Lifestyle videos and engagement with food and craft offerings in the townships. PT purchases local beaded items for gift bags. PT continues to support promotions.
			WEAKNESS: NA
		GENERAL O	BSERVATIONS
Community Hall upgrades	Х		STRENGTHS: They are perfectly placed for events in the different communities and the infrastructure and furniture are available.
			WEAKNESS: Attention to the community halls is long overdue. There is no adequate booking system, double bookings occur regularly. There is a lack of furniture in the halls, toilets are broken and dirty.
Kwanokuthula and New Horizon	х		STRENGTHS: They are central and adjacent to the libraries
Amphitheatre			WEAKNESS: A clear and concise strategy needs to be developed to identify the best way to use the theatres, possibly in collaboration with the libraries and volunteer reading and storytelling programmes.

PROJECT 3: PLETT TRAILS NETWORK - HIKING TRAILS & MTB TRAILS OVERVIEW

Plett features a network of iconic hiking trails that will be collectively recognized as one of the best nature trail networks in South Africa, acting as a major regional and national tourism driver.

This position will be achieved through promoting Green Flag trail status in Plett, encouraging new trail installations to receive Green Flag status, and by delivering a thought-out promotional plan.

NAME	APR	MAY	JUN	STATUS
Plett Trail App promotions	Х			STRENGTHS: PT continues to promote the Plett Trails App. Investigating consolidating all info onto a more mobile-friendly website rather than the app.
				WEAKNESS: Additional funding / sponsorship required to list the app on an official App Store and to add functional value to the app platform.
Trails billboard on the N2	X			STRENGTHS: No additional engagement to date.
INZ				WEAKNESS: Additional mural / signage opportunities need to be explored to strengthen the attractiveness of the town to visitors.
Plett Trail Stakeholder meetings				STRENGTHS: PT working with the consultant to schedule the next meeting.
				WEAKNESS: The Trail Stakeholders are not proactive with each other to foster better relationships and regular communication.
Galeo Saintz: World Trails Network and Green Trails Accreditation	Х			STRENGTHS: PT meeting to discuss registration on international platforms and converting app to a dedicated website. Stakeholder meeting scheduled for Q4.
. i.c. caractor				WEAKNESS: Additional funding / sponsorship required to include township urban trails within the Green Flag accreditation process.

PROJECT 4: TOWNSHIP TOURISM GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW

Township tourism products need to be identified for each ward. It is essential to evolve the township tourism offering to ensure they continue to appeal to the visitor market and drive visitation and help create job opportunities throughout Bitou. This will only be achieved through commitment and participation by the BM LED department. Possibly investment in new infrastructure to improve the customer experience, grow the demand, and enhance access to and around the townships. This approach will see infrastructure investment complemented by the attraction of new businesses who have the capacity to offer new tourism attractions that appeal to a broader tourism customer base. The BM will need to commit to the personal safety of guests, security and quality assurance of the designated area (lights/road access/debris/potholes) for identified projects.

NAME	APR	MAY	JUN	STATUS
WTM Africa 2025 SMME Candidates	X			STRENGTHS: PT assisted with marketing materials printing, accommodation and transportation. Additional mentorship

		with meetings and post-follow up commenced.
		WEAKNESS: NA
Intern Job Placements	X	STRENGTHS: PT Continues to engage with Misuyolo PTY LTD for venues, facilitators and hosts to place 150 guide and food and beverage learners. Venues and facilitators have been confirmed.
		WEAKNESS: LED requires a formal written agreement between the BM and Misuyolo to formalise the relationship. This has not been facilitated. Formal agreement has yet to be completed.
Media Tour for Township & Village		STRENGTHS:
Tours		WEAKNESS: NA.
Township & Village Tourism Public		STRENGTHS: PT submitted a full Public Participation Report.
Participation meetings		WEAKNESS: NA.
Kwanokuthula Township Tourism Whats App Group	X	STRENGTHS: This is an ongoing WhatsApp group gaining new members and growing weekly.
whats дрр агоар		WEAKNESS: NA
Kwanokuthula Township Tourism Forum Meeting	Х	STRENGTHS: The Forum is formalising as a registered entity. PT has met with the forum, PT awaits further information.
		WEAKNESS: The first meeting was not attended by LED; the 2nd meeting was cancelled - no new date as of yet.
'Sew Plett' Project	X	STRENGTHS: PT continues to work with the project for procurement of gift bags (for Plett Tourism) and shoe bags and laundry bags (for the local accommodation industry). Proposal has been sent for sponsorship request.
		WEAKNESS: NA
Plett Urban Birding Trails Project		STRENGTHS: Friends of the Piesang Valley Trail has been established to upgrade the area and trail which will be included in the 2025 Plett Bitou Birding Festival.
		The trail in Kranshoek is being developed for inclusion in the 2025 Plett Bitou Birding Festival.
		WEAKNESS: Additional funding / sponsorship is required to assist with the marketing collateral needed for this project to commence.
Cape Town Arts Festival - Bitou artist and event organiser workshops	Х	STRENGTHS: PT has engaged with owner Yusuf Ganief, CEO of CT Arts Festival; and continues to assist with the promotion of artist and event organiser workshops that will commence in March 2025. Engagement continued with marketing assistance from PT for the March AIR Festival

	(Feb 2025). COMPLETED END APRIL WEAKNESS: PT did not receive a strategy from LED or the Mayor's office regarding the CT Arts Festival workshop programme facilitation in Bitou.
Kranshoek Culture in Civil Society Storytelling Event	STRENGTHS: PT engaging with community representative Justin Barnado, Nature's Valley Trust and Dr Sandra du Plessis; the event will take place during the Plett Arts Festival. It will include a kids storytelling programme, cultural cooking demonstrations and targeted activities for adults. 80+ Khoi-san dignitaries expected to attend. Funded through private donations and PACUMSA. WEAKNESS: NA

PROJECT 5: FOOD, WINE & AGRI-TOURISM OVERVIEW

The food, wine and agri-tourism market is changing rapidly, so it is essential that the Plett offering continues to evolve and innovate in order to meet consumer demand.

NAME	APR	MAY	JUN	STATUS
Plettenberg Bay Wine Route promotions	Х			STRENGTHS: PT continues to promote the Plettenberg Bay Wine Route and the individual services in that industry. Plett Wine & Bubbly festival is confirmed for April 27 & 28, 2025. Funded and hosted by Kay & Monty, partnered by Plett Tourism with staff and logistic support, and media. WEAKNESSES: The wine farms are not all proactive with each other to foster better relationships and regular communication.
Promotion with The Times Plett & Knysna	Х			STRENGTHS: PT to take a full-page advert in the Autumn issue; focus is on Wine & Food with promotion of events in Mar/Apr/May. Plett Wine & Bubbly to take place at Kay & Monty with the Plettenberg Bay Wine Route. PT has granted permission for all promotional collateral to be used; and will be going into a media partnership agreement. WEAKNESSES: NA
Plett Wine & Bubbly Festival	Х			STRENGTHS: PT has agreed for the Plettenberg Bay Wine Route to use the title and branding of the PW&B. This event will receive a Media Partnership Package from Plett Tourism. WEAKNESSES: None to date.

PROJECT 6: DIGITAL EXCELLENCE

Plett Tourism's website is updated daily, and is a primary site for news along the Garden Route. Our website and digital media channels are extremely popular, and have some of the highest organic traffic of all tourism websites along the Garden Route.

NAME	APR	MAY	JUN	STATUS
New PT website Strategy				STRENGTHS: Strategy meeting to present new look and feel and functionality options for the website. Updates have commenced. WEAKNESS: NA
Gecko Digital	Х			STRENGTHS: MOU with Gecko Digital signed; introduction to PT members for participation has commenced. Discussions

			held in Feb to amp up awareness with PT members (Feb 2025) WEAKNESS: NA
Plett Arts Festival 2025 website	х		STRENGTHS: Updated design with new features completed. Launched on 15 December 2024 WEAKNESS: NA
Plett Ocean Festival 2025 website	х		STRENGTHS: Updated design with new features completed. Launched on 15 December 2024 Fully populated website to go live in May. WEAKNESS: NA
Digital Media Coordinator	Х		STRENGTHS: New employee, should not require additional training from July 2025. WEAKNESS: NA

TOWNSHIP & VILLAGE TOURISM

- 1. TOWNSHIP & VILLAGE TOURISM STRENGTHS: The Plett Tourism Association has grown its strengths to assist the municipality with growing support from the local private tourism sector, including:
 - Strong Stakeholder Collaboration opportunities
 - Strong unconventional and non-traditional partnership opportunities
 - Strong Market Presence In Key Source Markets opportunities
 - Growing confidence of private sector confidence in public sector
- 2. TOWNSHIP & VILLAGE TOURISM WEAKNESSES: Throughout Bitou, there are several tourism challenges that should be addressed by the municipality to allow for the emerging township tourism businesses to flourish:
 - Skill shortages and limited capacity building
 - Limited support for SMMEs for investment projects
 - Limited marketing focus and investments
 - Limited joint marketing with private sector
 - Misalignment of key stakeholder Interest
- 3. TOWNSHIP & VILLAGE TOURISM OBSTACLES: Lack of public wifi and funding for alternatives continues to have a major inhibitory factor within the tourism sector. If we are to grow township tourism, options for battery-operated wifi services in strategic high-volume tourism locations within the townships should be considered.

EVENTS SUPPORT

1. EVENT SPONSORSHIP PROCUREMENT: We continue to engage with corporates and institutions for sponsorships. PT has appointed a sponsorship liaison to assist with sponsorship presentations, procurement and administration. The negotiations and potential value include:

JANUARY SPONSOR PROPOSALS

- Bronze Fields Sessions Corporate sponsorship for 2025 PAF: R30 000
- Plett Ocean Awehness Hub sponsorship for 2025 POF: R50 000
- Wesgro for 2025 POF: R50 000 and PAF: R50 000
- Woolworths (2025 POF): TBC
- Strauss & Co (2025 PAF): TBC

TOTAL EVENT SPONSORSHIP PROCURED: 0

FEBRUARY

• Checkers R25 000 for Plett Ocean Festival young learners programme

TOTAL EVENT SPONSORSHIP PROCURED: R25 000

MARCH

Plett Ocean Festival sponsor drive. No response yet.

APRIL

• Plett Ocean Festival sponsor drive. No response yet.

2. EVENT STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS

- On-going and continual engagement takes place with event stakeholders well over 100 stakeholders who participate in Plett Ocean Festival and the same for Plett Arts Festival.
- On-going independent events coordination and engagement takes various forms from events committee, to all kinds of advice, marketing applications, discussion and guidelines.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS | STAKEHOLDER FORUMS AND AGENCIES | ENTREPRENEURS

Community engagement by request, this includes meetings for assistance with different aspects.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PROJECT NAME	CONTACT	COMMENTS			
APRIL					
Misuyolo PTY LTD	Samkelo Majo	PT to assist with select partners. New programme for 52 learners; food and beverage and guide training and internships			
Idinga Tours	Victoria Rowe and Vuyo Kitzi	Mentorship before, during and post WTM Africa.			
Kwano Township Tourism Forum	Committee	Cancelled; PT was scheduled to present the marketing strategy on 03/04 - no rescheduled meeting has taken place			

ADDENDUMS SENT

- 1. April 2025 Financials
- 2. STATS SA Global Tourism Report

^{***}All documents to be printed and hand-delivered to Municipal Manager, Director of Economic Development & Planning, LED Manager and LED Tourism Manager (acting and/or permanent placements)