

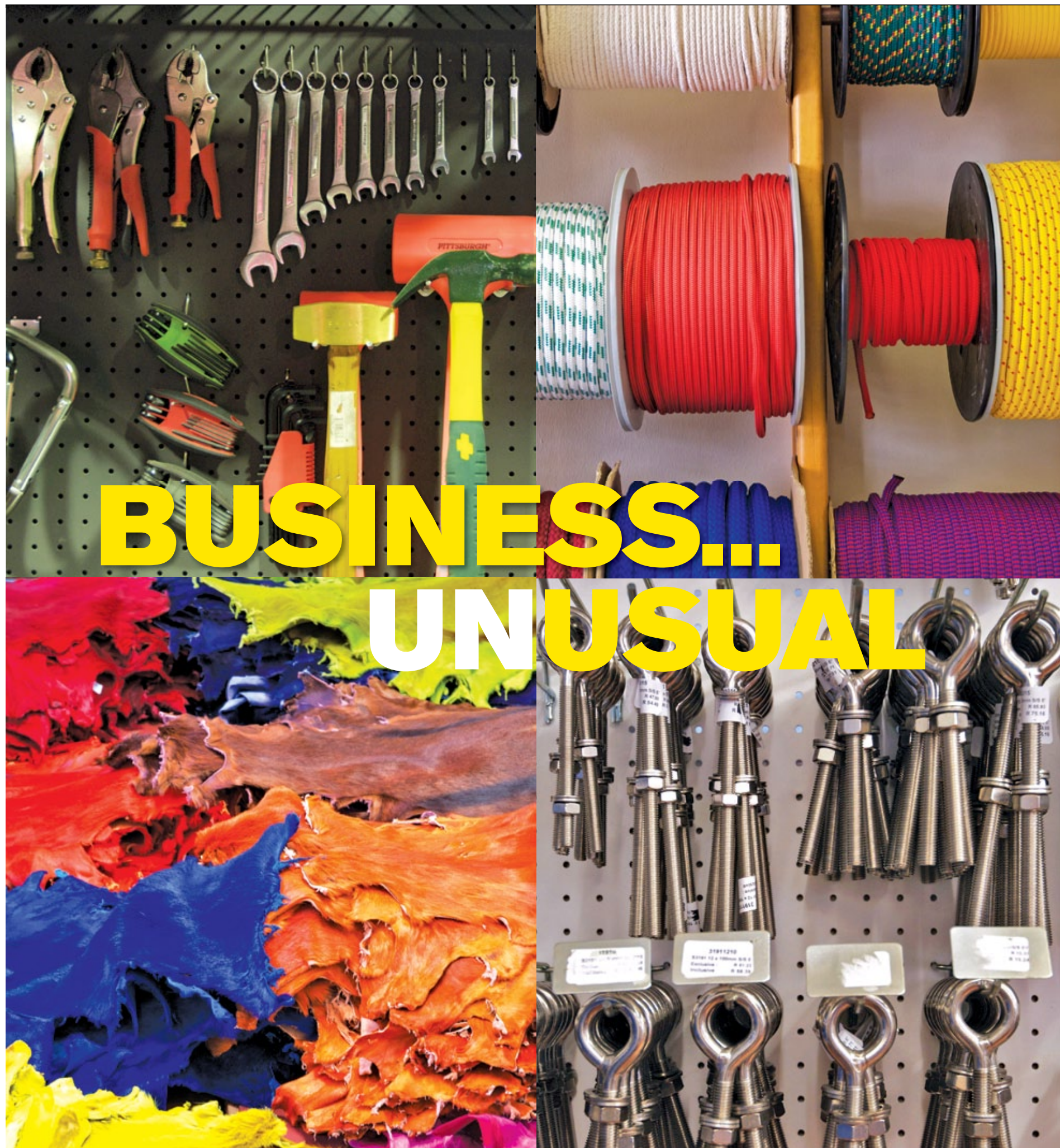
CITY VIEWS



www.capetowncid.co.za

YOUR FREE CAPE TOWN CENTRAL CITY PAPER

April / May 2014



**Businesses OUT OF
THE ORDINARY in the
Cape Town CBD**

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**Taj Cape Town
RESCUES AND REVIVES
the old ABC Building**

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**A host of EVENTS
for April & May
in the Central City**

>> page 8

SAFE, CLEAN, CARING AND OPEN FOR BUSINESS

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Business unusual in the CBD

Along with the many companies, entertainment venues and retail outlets that one would expect to find in a vibrant downtown, the Cape Town CBD also has a number of businesses that could be considered to be “out of the ordinary” or who offer services you would not expect them to offer outside their usual operations.

In this issue, we bring you an example of these “unusual” businesses - for example, a **yachting shop** that's been here for more than 30 years catering for those who have lost their hearts to the sea; a well-known **leather goods warehouse** and a design support centre, each with **3D laser printers** available for the public to use; a techie operation that makes the uncool feature phone cool for millions across the

world, bringing internet access and content to many who would otherwise not have it or could not afford it. Or how about a **recording studio** that goes the extra mile to support new talent, and a **rope and packaging shop** that's been around for more than a hundred years. Plus a **bicycle shop** that quite literally unfolds fitness in the most innovative of ways along with a **motorcycle maintenance and repair shop** that doubles as a bar and restaurant.

While the Central City these days seems to be a hive of eventing activity, this issue's “What's on” calendar for April and May takes this to a new level, even as we start to head toward a colder climate. The CCID team itself set out as a group to experience “**First Thursdays**” together so that we

can speak with true conviction when we say that the CBD is truly becoming a 24/7 downtown with a vibrant day and night life. See our team member Kerry Harwin-Nunes's account on pg 3.

April also sees the launch of the second edition of our very popular investment guide, the **State of Cape Town Central City Report: 2013 – a year in review**, now also available as an e-book on our website at www.capetowncid.co.za/our-work/communications/state-of-the-cape-town-central-city-report/.

Finally, keeping up with the best cities in the world, free wi-fi around town is fast becoming a hot item. A new, navigable map that enables you to find venues offering this across the Central City can be found



at www.htxt.co.za/2014/03/19/how-to-find-free-wifi-in-cape-town/. So unpack your winter gear, pull on your warm boots and join us on the streets for an exciting April and May.

TASSO EVANGELINOS
COO of the CCID

What have we done for you lately?

A dashboard outlining just some of the work of the CCID over the past two months since our last edition.



Stay SAFE SECURITY

ISSUED MOTOR VEHICLE
RELATED FINES TO
THE TOTAL OF
4 068



RENDERED MOTOR
VEHICLE ASSISTANCE
34 times
AND AT ACCIDENTS
120



RENDERED PUBLIC
ASSISTANCE
130 times



RESPONDED TO MEDICAL
AND RESCUE CALL OUTS
84 times



ARRESTS MADE
TOGETHER WITH OUR
PARTNERS
655
DRUG RELATED ARRESTS
100



CRIME
PREVENTION
INITIATIVES
CONDUCTED
11 193



WARNINGS
ISSUED
2 405



ILLEGAL TRADING
OFFENCES DEALT WITH
20



Show your CARE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

23 adults
were assisted/referred
to shelters

5 adults
visited at home or in
health care facilities

4 adults
assisted to health
care facilities

7 adults
referred to Straatwerk for an
employment opportunity

6 adults
assisted back home

4 mothers with children
assisted

1 child
referral to the Department of
Social Development

Hot Spots
ongoing assessments
conducted

3 Boxes
of clothing distributed from
Taj Cape Town donation

COMMUNICATIONS

CLOSE TO **R1 million** IN PR VALUE GENERATED IN THE
FIRST THREE DAYS FOLLOWING THE LAUNCH OF
**THE STATE OF CAPE TOWN CENTRAL CITY REPORT: 2013 - A
YEAR IN REVIEW** WITH OVER
6 million exposures



URBAN MANAGEMENT

GARDEN REFUSE
REMOVED FROM
LANDSCAPED AREAS
148 bags



ROAD MAINTENANCE
REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN
167



MUNICIPAL DRAINS
CLEANED
1 525
removing
24 bags clothes

AND

STORMWATER DRAINS
CLEANED
1 683
removing
2 457kg litter

AND

**10 pipes
and 29
broken lids**
repaired



IMPROVEMENT OF
HARRINGTON STR
FOR WDC 2014 WITH
INSTALLATION OF
NEW BENCHES



279 CCID CIGARETTE
BINS CLEANED
924kgs
of cigarette butts



INCIDENTS OF
GRAFFITI REMOVED
264



PLANTS DONATED
BY LOBSTER
TREE PRODUCTIONS ON
DF MALAN DRIVE



ILLEGAL POSTERS
IDENTIFIED
1 118



WASTE REMOVED BY
J&M CLEANING TO
LANDFILL
65 700kg



STRINGS & STICKERS
REMOVED
2 153



CITY VIEWS

City Views is a free community paper published by the Central City Improvement District. It is our vision to ensure that the Cape Town CBD is Safe, Clean, Caring and Open for Business for all who use the Central City, whether they live, work or play here, or are passing through.

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INFESTATION

Tell us your news as well as your thoughts

Are you a new business or retailer in the Cape Town Central City? Are you planning an event or an exhibition? Would you like to write a letter to the editor or let us know what you would like to see in *City Views*? We would love to hear from you so email Aziza on aziza@capetowncid.co.za

Distributing City Views

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SAVE THESE NUMBERS ON YOUR PHONE

If you live or work in the Central City Improvement District, be sure to save these numbers on your phone.

CCID 24-hour hotline number:

082 415 7127

SAPS Control Room: **021 467 8002**

CCID Social Department: **082 563 4289**

You can also Tweet us:

@Cape TownCID

or Facebook us
 www.facebook.com/CapeTownCCID

and follow our “Give Responsibly” campaign

www.facebook.com/GiveResponsibly

Taj Cape Town transforms old ABC building into premier events venue

Known to many Capetonians as the original African Banking Corporation (ABC) building and a site for many years of a Standard Bank at 111 St Georges Mall, this landmark has seen a few transformations in its days. But the latest marks a new beginning for it, with

neighbouring Taj Cape Town having taken it on in March this year as a premier events venue.

Says Michael Pownall, General Manager of Taj Cape Town: "This building exudes a sense of style and permanence that is impossible to replicate in

modern times. Given its proximity, it was the perfect choice for our hotel to establish a banqueting and event venue par excellence.

"As with the development of Taj Cape Town in the Board of Executors (BOE) building (previously Temple Chambers) and SA Reserve Bank headquarters, the extensive renovation needed to be meticulous, yet careful in preserving the heritage of this building."

A total of 330m² on the ground floor allows up to 400 guests to be hosted in a cocktail party, or up to 230 guests at a banquet. Alternatively, the venue can seat 300 delegates in cinema style, or up to 200 delegates in a school room format.

"For smaller parties or different streams of delegates, the main hall can be sub divided into

separate spaces, while the original teak panelled bank manager's office can be an opulent break away room or an elegant cigar lounge," comments Willie Williams, Director of Sales and Marketing for Taj Cape Town.

The basement is made up almost entirely of an original 120m² walk-in vault, accessible only via a winding staircase or the classic-style open lift.

Explains Pownall: "This subterranean venue lends itself as a multi-function space that is ideal for intimate banquets, unique corporate events, art installations or whatever the host's creativity may demand."

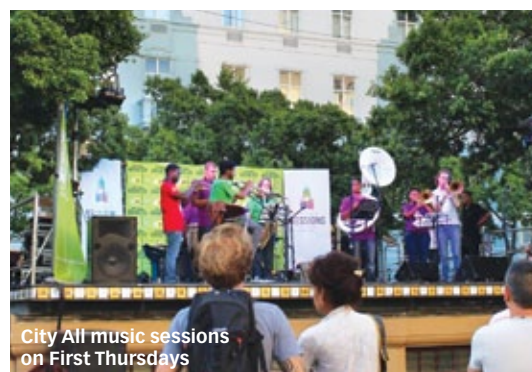
For more info, contact Taj Cape Town at banqueting.capetown@tajhotels.com or 021 819 2000.



Exterior of the ABC Building

The success that is First Thursdays

For the past year the First Thursdays concept has been drawing people to town to experience art galleries, entertainment and a variety of culinary experiences. Kerry Harwin-Nunes of the CCID took to the streets for the first time and gave us this insight.



City All music sessions on First Thursdays

First stop: Greenmarket Square, where the music from the "City All" sessions and clanging of poles as the informal traders break down their stalls for the night, fill the air. I listen and observe as people enjoy it. I sit at Baran's watching people drink brightly coloured cocktails and hot coffees after a long day. I make my way along Shortmarket Street, seeing all the small bars and little eateries that I've never noticed before. Walking up to the food trucks at Riebeeck Square, my appetite

quickly grows as I scan the scrumptious menus: "What to eat?" I take that first bite, my senses heighten and I can't get enough of my chicken wrap with all its flavour. As I sit there eating, I watch as more and more people from all across Cape Town fill the open space, conversing with one another. With laughter and chatter coming from across the road, I want to see more.

So I walk up Bree: people everywhere, enjoying the night. Standing in the street outside restaurants, glasses full. I've never seen the

Central City like this and I can't wait to come back with my friends and family to show them what the CBD has to offer. As I make my way down Church Street, a small shop stops me dead in my tracks. Filled with uniquely African inspired key rings, earrings and necklaces, I have to go in. I admire the small creations and choose my proudly South African-made purchases. Leaving Church Street, I return to Greenmarket Square. As the band packs up their equipment and the air filling with laughter, bells ring out

from the Central Methodist church and I realise that I've experienced my 1st First Thursday, and the CBD, with a different set of eyes and ears.

This CBD, for me, is not one just filled with tall buildings, where people come to work and then leave. It's a CBD filled with life, where all Capetonians and visitors can come and experience a "safe, clean and caring" environment.

For more information on First Thursdays, visit www.first-thursdays.co.za

New in town

The CCID would like to welcome the following new retailers to our CBD



Isola

Isola is a new pizzeria that's opened in 72 Wale Street. Tel 021 422 0800, email acrovetto@hotmail.com



Sakura

Sakura Restaurant (sushi and Chinese food) has opened at No 6, 109 A Plein Street. Open Mon – Sat, 9 am to 8 pm, www.sakurarestaurant.co.za.



I Love my Laundry

Welcome to the third of Cape Town's most unique laundromat/art gallery/eating & drinking experience. Open 7am-7pm at 59 Buitenkant St. Tel 084 660 0777

The Lunch Depot

The Lunch Depot has opened in Christiaan Barnard St, right next door to the Reeds Delta Dealership. Tel 021 418 0248.



Singh's

Singh's Home of Durban Curries has opened in Shop 3, Vogue House, Thibault Square, Hans Strijdom Ave. Tel 021 421 4433.

Useful numbers in the Cape Town CBD

Here are the numbers for services offered by the CCID's partners in the Central City (namely SAPS and the City of Cape Town), as well as our own 24-hour number. Be sure to put these into your phone or scan the QR codes directly.

Alcohol & Drug Helpline



0800 435 748

Adult Social Development



0800 872 201

Disaster Risk Management



080 911 4357 / 021 597 6000 (24 hrs)

Child Social Development



0800 220 250

SAPS Central City



021 467 8001/2 (24 hrs)

Traffic Police



0860 765 423

Emergency Ambulance, Health, Noise & Fire



107 (landlines) / 021 480 7700 (24 hrs)

Traffic Signal Faults



0860 001 948

Metro Police



0860 765 423

Law Enforcement



021 596 1999 (24 hrs)

Cable Theft



0800 222 771

Prepaid Electricity Meters



0800 220 440

CCID Safety and Security



082 415 7127 (24 hrs)

Refuse Collection, Water Issues, Street Lights and Electricity



0860 103 089



Unfold your freedom

When the person selling you a bike explains that they have traversed much of the Cairo to Cape Town route on that same model, it's impressive stuff. No surprise, then, that the US manufacturers of Dahon collapsible cycles got in touch with Jo Charnock and Jan Wouters when the company wanted to enter the South African market.

Initially, Jan and Jo (who self-published a book, *A Hitch-bikers Guide through Africa* on their 2007/8 journey) focused on bike distribution. Working on an appointments-only basis, they originally operated from a first-floor sublet in Bree Street, but when they got notice to move, the couple decided to venture into retail too. They snapped up a ground-floor space in a multi-use building across the road when it became available and officially opened a retail and service outlet in October last year.

"We are not aiming to be a typical bike shop," says Jo. "It's not R50 000 mountain bikes; rather it is people getting onto a bike for the first time. It's also about funky accessories, moving away from lycra."

So who would be a typical buyer, investing about R3 500 to over R9 000 in one of the five models available? So far they've included sailors wanting a lightweight cycle for their yachts, a camper who wanted quick transport from a quiet corner of a camp site to the ablution blocks, participants in the Midnight Mass monthly cycling event and a Hermanus-based couple

who keep the bikes in their car boot to explore areas when out travelling. Jan also completed the Cape Argus Pick 'n Pay cycle tour on his Dahon.

Weighing between 10.7- and 13.5kg, the bikes also suit commuters needing to travel from their homes to public transport stops. Unlike non-folding bikes, the collapsible bikes are allowed on all buses and trains during peak hours. This means Jan and Jo, who live in Blaauwberg, can easily cycle to a stop for the MyCiTi bus – then decide to travel home via bus, or cycle the full 20km home.

Even if cycling hasn't been your thing, the locally made gear in the shop might convert you. The shorts and shirts sport padding and air vents, but are made in funky colours with natty styling. Helmets double up for skateboard use and bags are made from recycled sails. The shop also offers service support, a guide on Cape Town biking routes and publications such as the photographic book, *Bicycle Portraits*.

Dahon showroom, 177 Bree St. For more info visit www.sa.dahonbikes.com or call 082 268 0559



Jo Charnock in the Bree Street shop.

Business UNUSUAL

CITY VIEWS takes a look at a handful of Central City's businesses that sell goods and services out of the ordinary

Rewing up the retail experience

At House of Machines the aroma of freshly roasted Arabica coffee in the front mingles with the smell of fine leather and engine oil at the back, where a customised bike is being painstakingly hand-assembled in the motorcycle workshop.



"A lot of stuff happens here," say Drew Madacsi and Brad Armitage, two of the four-man team behind this quintessential lifestyle store, that opened last August.

With experience honed by highly successful start-ups, these guys have packed a lot of punch into a compact, specialist space that once formed part of an 18th century warehouse.

It all harks back to an older USA era, in Philadelphia or Brooklyn, with the kind of exposed brick interior and moody lighting that whisper liaison and allure rather than dingy and dark. Modern technology in the background makes for a seamless process – from receipts that pop up in your email inbox to motorcycle technology from

the Orlando, Florida-based La Macchina Speed Shop.

"We wanted a store of high quality, a purveyor of fine goods," says Drew. "A retail concept where you feel at home and have the opportunity to sample the best."

Adds Brad: "We've taken the business approach of sustaining the store from relatively small mark-ups on all our offerings rather than one main line."

This formula seems to be working as House of Machines attracts a wide clientele – from tourists to loyal locals. They range from the naval architects across the road who drop in for restorative coffees three times a day, to the women who catch up in the evenings over classic cocktails such

as a New York whisky sour or rum daiquiri.

The lifestyle offerings, beautifully laid out in old wooden cabinets and lit by lights imported from New York, include men's grooming products, handcrafted wallets and notepads, and fine quality Japanese cotton clothing. House of Machines also supports local designers – the owners have commissioned vintage-style T-shirts, and 14 local artists and illustrators have just created bandannas that will be sold to raise funds for a cancer patient.

From Thursdays to Saturdays, cocktails are created by Nick Koumbarakis, a mixologist also known as The Alchemist. Nick calls this venue "cool, edgy and fun" and it's no surprise that it has become the in place for official launches of select brands like the oddly named Monkey Shoulder Whisky (apparently named for the injury suffered by whisky malting men who turned barley by hand.)

Multi-tasking has never been so easy or such fun...

House of Machines, 84 Shortmarket St. Open Mon-Fri, 7am-4pm; Sat-Sun, 9am-2pm. Bar open Thurs-Fri, 5pm-11pm. For more info call 021 426 1400 or visit www.thehouseofmachines.com



TOP: Inside House of Machines with its motorcycle workshop at the back. ABOVE: Serving everything from coffee to cocktails.

Content for the continent

With its HQ in Sydney, Australia cloud-based mobile specialist company biNu chose the Cape Town CBD to base its Africa operations. biNu is not your run-of-the-mill internet company.

In fact, straight out of Rhodes University, software developer, Kyle Lindeque, was warned during his interview with Tim Wightman, technical director of biNu Africa: "The stuff we do is not cool."

Tim elaborates: "It's not perceived as cool because it's not related to the latest technology. But when you explain that we're helping millions of people who don't have access to smart phones and have a poor experience of the internet, then suddenly what we do becomes cool."

Jeremy George, Vice President of biNu Africa, explains: "Our technology is aimed at emerging markets globally and enables us to deliver content very quickly and cheaply to feature phones and low-end Android devices."

"At the top, you have smart phones and smart phone apps and browsers, which are very expensive and out of the reach of most people. At the bottom, you have very simple devices with voice, SMS and Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD). We sit between the two: our content is richer than an SMS or USSD, but not as much as a high-end smart phone."

With over three million users worldwide and the

potential to base their new Africa operation anywhere across the continent, biNu opened its Loop Street office in the Cape Town CBD in January after looking at cities such as Lagos, Accra, Nairobi and Johannesburg. "We chose Cape Town," says Tim, "because we were advised that it was becoming a bit of a tech hub and a good place to find strong technical people because a lot of our team will be developing software."

While biNu develops the apps that puts content "out there" it works closely with (and is constantly looking for) new partners to produce the actual content.

"News is our most popular app," says Jeremy. "We curate local news, so whatever country you're in, we automatically give you news from your own country. We also work with other content partners like Worldreader, a global literacy charity, and we now have 10 000 books streaming on the biNu platform. Another partner is Africor, an African music specialist that makes a wide range of African music available on biNu, much of it free of charge."

The biNu football app is also huge, as is its one for *The Bible*. Says Jeremy: "In certain countries, we see massive

spikes on Sundays as people take their mobiles into church to access *The Bible* during services."

Sourcing content is another reason for basing biNu Africa in Cape Town, says Jeremy: "There are a lot of amazing digital agencies that we can work with who generate content associated with brands and for whom we develop apps for promotion and customer engagement. Market research is particularly important to us as well because it is a key way that biNu generates revenue, because biNu is itself a free application to the end user."

Kyle's first project, however, is set to become one of biNu's community content projects – an app that downloads Metrorail's timetables, currently being built on spec as a pilot (the beta version is available on m.binu.com/metro/).

"This is a great example of how content can help the man in the street," says Tim. "He can get information on the trains on his feature phone, quickly and cheaply."

Meanwhile, for Kyle, designing feature phones apps has given him a completely different outlook: "I'm working with markets that appreciate the internet far more than I ever have,



ABOVE: Kyle Lindeque of biNu demonstrates the timetable app (seen on the feature phone right below) to Metrorail users.

because I've had it my whole life and they're only just getting it now. It's mind blowing."

For more info call 021 418 3009 or visit www.binu.com

"With over three million users worldwide and the potential to base their new Africa operation anywhere across the continent, biNu opened in the Cape Town CBD after looking at cities such as Lagos, Accra, Nairobi and Johannesburg."



Roping in business

CD Fox is a one-stop emporium for anyone in search of all manner of paper, twines, ropes and packaging materials.

"You don't get expertise like this anymore," says John Bold, manager of the third generation, family-owned business CD Fox, now under the directorship of Stephen Fox. Some natural fibre products like cotton and jute twines have been stocked since the very early 1900s when Charles Davis Fox, a young Polish immigrant, set up shop. Other

goods incorporate man-made fibres and technologies, but "every material we sell, we are specialists in," says John.

Representatives of all trades and professions have rung the rope-operated old bell at the shop entrance and opened the safety gate topped with metal silhouettes of foxes. Parliament calls in for its rope barriers; Greenmarket Square traders stock up on bags; church



clergy buy cords and tassels for ecclesiastical wear; yachtsmen from all over the world buy rope; and abseiling window-cleaning teams rely on their webbings, safety lines and harnesses as they dangle off high buildings. Framed old black and white family photographs and



For decades, CD Fox has been a treasure trove for Capetonians in search of everything from twine, ribbons and rope to hammocks and webbing.

newspaper cuttings on the walls, as well as time-worn measuring and cutting tools, make shopping for ordinary household items like bubble wrap and tissue paper a colourful journey into Cape

Town's past. Whether you're a large clothing business requiring paper for clothing patterns, or a family buying a hammock to enjoy outdoors in the summer, it's worth taking the time to linger and

look about in this old-style store.

CD Fox, 80 Hout St.
For more info visit www.cdfox.co.za or call 021 423 5206

Doing business in 3D

Most people, when discussing a good set of basic tools, will list items such as a hammer, chisel and utility knife. Old-school engineers would consider lathes, drills, stamping presses and moulding machines. Many of us are quite unaware of how much has changed in tool technology, and how accessible extremely high-tech tools have become in the Cape Town CBD.

One of the main buzzwords now is 3D printing, also called additive or rapid manufacturing. The 3D printer works in a similar way to a standard printer, but instead of printing with ink, it “prints” a thin layer of melted ABS plastic. Layer upon layer is added, with each one contributing towards building up a three-dimensional shape.

By using a 3D printer, you can create a physical prototype to work with very early in the design process. You could, for instance, make a working example of a piece of jewellery by casting it from a mould made by a 3D printer, and then work on personalising each piece. Or spend more time on modifications, redesigns and testing. So if you can improve your design early, you can get to the market sooner, and with a much better designed product.

Some large Cape Town companies have invested in 3D printers for their own in-house use in order to launch new products relatively easily and cheaply. But two CBD-based operations have now also made 3D printers available to the public – important for empowering



The exterior of Woodheads on Caledon St. RIGHT: A full range of leather goods is available.

small firms and individual entrepreneurs with access to new technology.

One of these 3D printers was installed in September last year at Woodheads, a family owned leather goods enterprise in Caledon Street that has a proud heritage dating back to 1867. Woodheads aims to provide a sophisticated prototyping service to customers such as industrial designers, jewellers, animation companies and engineers. You provide

3D drawings in a .stl format and the job is costed according to factors such as materials required and the time it will take to build up the item. Alan Cuba, who studied multimedia design and has knowledge of 3D software, manages the printer and its wash station. One of his first customers was designer Aidan Bennetts, who worked on a prototype for a cutlery set from which he made a mould for casting into metal.

“Woodheads aims to provide a sophisticated prototyping service to customers such as industrial designers, jewellers, animation companies and engineers.”

The other 3D printer is in the Product Support Space of the Cape Craft & Design Institute (CCDI) in Harrington Street. Here, the approach is to offer a comprehensive, user-friendly environment where craft producers and designer makers can experiment and progress from idea conceptualisation to physical manifestation. People can book for a one-on-one consultation and receive free assistance with the appropriate support, infrastructure, tools and equipment. A 3D printer can be particularly useful towards problem-solving a development or design process, believes CCDI Product Support Facilitator Pieter Cilliers.



Alan Cuba with the 3D printer at Woodheads

More about

Woodheads Leather for Africa

Sir John Woodhead, who not only founded a successful tannery, boot and shoe factory, was also a prominent Cape Town citizen who served as mayor for three terms and was knighted for his extensive contributions to the City of Cape Town and its social issues.

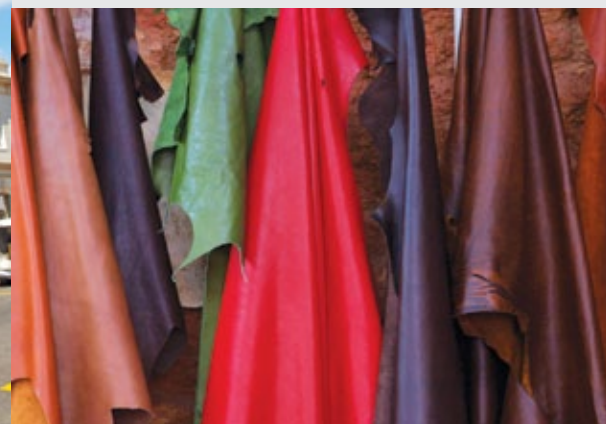
Woodheads is today run by the Harris family, which collaborates with local tanneries and overseas sources to maintain a large range of expertly tanned leather for all kinds of users. There are regular ranges as well as limited editions of exotics, African game skins, craft, riempie and upholstery leather.

But Woodheads is not only a one-stop shop for leather. It also offers items such as foam,

solvents, tools, needles, machine accessories, fabric and even cosy footwear and stylish belts. You can also bring in leather items for repair.

As an industry leader, Woodheads has invested in the latest computerised design and cutting equipment, which provides customers with a turnkey production service. It also has a tradition of social responsibility with various outreach programmes, training and donations that allow the disadvantaged in society to invest in themselves and become self-sufficient.

Woodheads, 29 Caledon St. For more info visit www.woodheads.co.za or call 021 461 7185 www.woodheads.co.za



CCDI

The Cape Craft & Design Institute (CCDI) is one of the provincial government's leading Special Purpose Vehicles. Its mission is to develop people to build profitable enterprises, with marketable products, for global markets in an enabled environment.

The CCDI's job is to help entrepreneurs find their own vision for their creative enterprise, and help them take the right steps towards realising it.

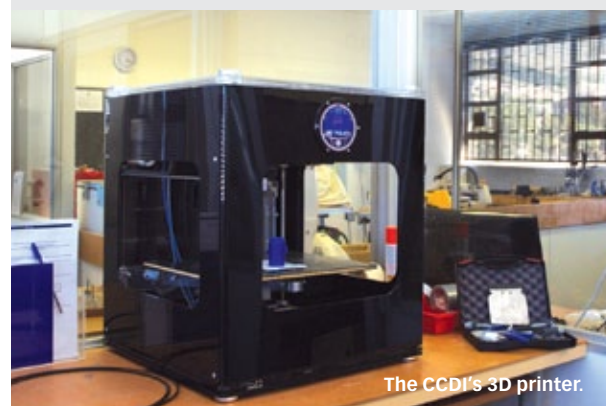
Its programmes, therefore, are multi-layered and modular: as an entrepreneur you can pick

and choose “what” you do as well as “when”, as it suits your phase and pace of development.

This is done through a range of initiatives grouped under “Business, Product and Market Support”.

The CCDI has helped enterprises with everything from mentoring to marketing, and from business plans to budgeting.

CCDI, 75 Harrington St. For more info visit www.ccdi.org.za, call 021 461 1488, or email product.support@ccdi.org.za



The CCDI's 3D printer.

Grabbing the beat bull by the horns

Cape Town is currently in the musical spotlight, with even New York hip-hop star and Hollywood actor Yasiin Bey (formerly known as Mos Def) setting down in the city. So it's with great timing that Red Bull recently opened the doors of its state-of-the-art Cape Town Studio in Bree Street.



Manager Richard Rumney, also known as DJ and producer Richard the Third, explains that Red Bull is not only about motor sports, surfing, bikes and skateboarding. For the past 15 years, it has supported musicians by holding an annual Music

Academy in cities ranging from New York (2013) to Cape Town (2003), were lectures, discussions and performances are held. The infrastructure then becomes an ongoing city legacy project as a working Red Bull Studio.

Richard, who first visited Cape Town as a child,

attended the Red Bull Music Academy in 2004 in Rome. With extensive experience in sound engineering and lecturing in digital music technology at Damelin and Wits, he was the right man for the job when Red Bull realised the potential of music and culture in South Africa.

Red Bull Studio initially operated in Cape Town (from 2009) in Jamieson Street, but required more space and visibility. For the new premises which opened early this year, Red Bull worked with Matt Buck, a Cape Town specialist studio designer. This ensured that the space not only looks great, but is awesome to work in too. Special touches range from silent air-conditioning units to sound-absorbing diffusers that look like Red Bull logos made out of small

cubes of wood. Add metres of white walls and blonde wood floors, sexy mood lighting and custom-made small fridges stacked with cans of Red Bull, and it's a springboard to creativity.

There are two music studios – a smaller space for production work and a larger one for band recordings. These sport the latest digital music technology and recording equipment, and ensure that both studios can be used simultaneously. The space is used for everything from high-end collaborations with top musicians, to free workshops, grassroots events and the source of upcoming talent from under-developed areas. The talent discovered on Bree Street is then showcased on stage at local music festivals such as Red Bull Studio Live.

The new studio opened its doors in February during the Cape Town Electronic Music Festival's Open End

event, with a series of info sessions and discussions with music industry stalwarts, as well as some of the international acts headlining the Festival.

"While we are not open to the walk-in general public, we want to collaborate with as many people as possible through events such as information sessions and movie screenings," says Richard.

"There is great interest from across the board in local music – deep house is leading the way but there is everything from electronic to acoustic thriving at the moment. We want to create content and tell stories.

"The space also has huge potential for art and photographic exhibitions – it's open-ended, so we can do amazing things."

Red Bull Studio, 103B Bree St. For more info see the video at www.redbullstudios.com/#/video, email studio@za.redbull.com, or call 072 635 8378.

The studios sport the latest digital music technology and recording equipment. ABOVE: The exterior of the studios in Bree St.



"There is great interest from across the board in local music – deep house is leading the way but there is everything from electronic to acoustic thriving at the moment. We want to create content and tell stories."

All buoyed up

Keeping your ship afloat means you need everything from fenders and buoys to navigation systems and winches. So local sailors – and the thousands of visitors who drop anchor here annually – head for Central Boating whenever they need equipment for yachts and boats of all sizes.

The business was founded in 1972 and all kinds of customers have walked through its doors – from rugby fans in search of a premium quality warm jacket to a team heading for the South Pole. One group who stocked up on goods and paid with wads of cash later turned out to have been the

notorious Stander Gang, recalls MD David Barnes with a chuckle.

"We are a destination shop with all the brands and the technical knowledge," says David.

He lists his customers in three groups: boat owners, people needing safety equipment such as flares, and home owners and

designers investing in high grade stainless steel items such as balustrades and nuts and bolts that look good and won't rust.

Whatever the need, Central Boating has built up a watertight reputation for offering sound advice and maintaining adequate stocks of equipment that are imported from all over the world. The knowledgeable staff are yachtsmen themselves. When David joined the company as a youngster straight from a stint in the navy, he worked under rigging specialist Abdul Waggie, who still dispenses sage advice on the shop floor.

The cheery Bree Street outlet, painted in nautical colours of blue and white, is of historic interest in its own right. Decades ago, buildings were taxed on the number of

windows displayed, so a side window was boarded up and blocked off in order to cut costs. Heritage authorities have stipulated that this feature must remain intact.

David also recalls the days when Bree Street did not have a central island, so the

shop was ideally positioned when delivery vehicles offloaded large, heavy items such as anchors.

The company, which is owned by Cullinan Holdings, has grown to the extent that the Bree Street outlet represents less than 10% of

the overall stock. Over 90% of goods are now stored at a wholesale distribution point in Maitland.

Central Boating, 85 Bree St. For more info call 021 4248026, or email info@centralboating.co.za



What's on in April & May

The mercury is dropping (slowly but surely), but don't disappear under a heap of blankets just yet. There are plenty of scintillating events to keep the cooler weather at bay – from sport to culture.

16-19 April

► Two Oceans Marathon

The Old Mutual Two Oceans Marathon has earned a reputation as the world's most beautiful marathon. Push your body to the limit on Easter Saturday in the gruelling 56km ultra marathon or enjoy fun runs and the running-related Expo. International entrants are also invited to meet on Good Friday morning for a scenic 5km run/walk through the city. Runners from all over the world get into the marathon spirit with their family and friends in the Friendship Run, jogging with their countries' flags.

www.twooceansmarathon.org. Expo at the CTICC, 1 Lower Long St, 16-17 April 10am-7pm, 18 April 9am-5pm

2-3 May

► World Travel Market Africa

A key business-to-business exhibition for Africa's leisure travel industry that will bring the world to Africa and promote Africa to the world. This inaugural event is the place for anyone involved in the African travel industry.

CTICC, 1 Lower Long St. www.wtmafrica.com

25-28 April

► Decorex Cape Town and 100% Design

This popular décor, design and lifestyle expo will provide plenty of ideas and inspiration this year as it shows alongside the world-renowned design exhibition, 100% Design. With a 2014 theme of *Design Your Life*, Decorex is a showcase of the latest decor trends as well as offering loads of practical "know how" and plenty to buy.

CTICC. For more info www.decorx.co.za, www.100percentdesign.co.za, office 011 549 8300. Tickets R70p/p adults, R60p/p pensioners, students and children under 12 R10p/p. 25-26 April are trade days for industry professionals.

12 May-12 Oct

► The Story of Food

Presented by the Cape Craft & Design Institute and Iziko Museums, this traces the evolution of design through the story of food: in particular the vessels we use for storage, preservation, packaging and distribution and highlights current issues of food security and pollution. Part of the World Design Capital programme.

Castle of Good Hope (Gallery), Buitenkant St. For more info email marjorie.naidoo@ccdi.org.za

22-23 May

► Fine Brandy Fusion Festival

Brandy enthusiasts and connoisseurs can attend this second annual festival that showcases South Africa's internationally acclaimed brandies through tastings, master classes and brand interactions. Experience more than 50 premium brandy brands and discover why South African brandy is acknowledged to be the world's finest.

CTICC, 1 Lower Long St, 5.30-9.30pm. Tickets R195 p/p – includes 15 beverage coupons, 2 premium coffee coupons, and a 400ml crystal brandy balloon

29 May-1 June

► Good Food and Wine Show

As South Africa's largest and longest-running interactive food and wine show, this gourmet affair is known for quality produce, innovative appliances and food theatres. Taste top-notch fare, watch renowned chefs in action, participate in a number of hands-on workshops and catch the very latest lifestyle and food trends.

CTICC, 1 Lower Long St. Doors open at 10am daily. www.goodfoodandwineshow.co.za

Throughout April & May

Wednesday Quiz Night

Sgt Pepper offers an opportunity to show what you know without Google. Every Wednesday it hosts a not-so-ordinary pub quiz, with categories that range from nature and science to naming a movie. There are prizes, and their famous pizza is served up while you rack your brain.

Sgt Pepper, 188 Long St, 021 424 5608. Email ondine.mond@gmail.com. 7:30pm for 8pm. Entrance R15p/p.

First Thursdays

Explore the art galleries and shops of Cape Town's CBD until late. The event kicks off with City All Sessions, a free concert on Greenmarket Square at 5.30pm. Enjoy gourmet restaurant fare or tuck in at a food truck, then explore over 30 participating businesses.

www.first-thursdays.co.za

Films at The Fugard

The Fugard Theatre Bioscope boasts exclusive partnerships with the Royal Opera, Royal Ballet and Bolshoi Ballet companies,

amongst others. Some of the fabulous films showing in April and May include:

Coriolanus (13 Apr)

Screened as part of The National Live Theatre Season 2013/2014, the Donmar Warehouse's production of Shakespeare's *Coriolanus* is a searing tragedy of political manipulation and revenge. It features Tom Hiddleston (*The Avengers*, *War Horse*) in the title role.

Jewels (20 Apr)

Performed live in January this year by the Bolshoi Ballet, this work is inspired by precious stones and is a tribute to three cities - Paris, New York and St Petersburg. *Emeralds* honours the French romantic school, while *Rubies* reflects the lightning-fast pace of New York. *Diamonds* pays homage to the opulence and regality of Balanchine's native Russia.

Lost Illusions (18 May)

Based on French writer Honoré de Balzac's novel, *Lost Illusions* is a new ballet created by celebrated choreographer Alexei Ratmansky, set against the backdrop of 19th century Paris and a spellbinding original score.

The Fugard Bioscope, cnr Caledon & Harrington Sts. All films at 11am, R100, www.thefugard.com or tel 021 461 4554

South African National Gallery

The following are all on at the popular venue in The Company's Garden:

A Nomad's Harvest (until 9 July)

This is a retrospective of photos by District Six-born George Hallett, covering aspects of a career spanning more than half a century. The exhibition includes, among others, images of District Six, the Bo-Kaap and portraits of exiled South African writers, artists and musicians in London and France.

Rotimi Fani-Kayode (1955-1989): Traces of Ecstasy (until 15 May)

A provocative, multi-layered photo retrospective held 25 years after the death of Fani-Kayode, a seminal figure in 1980s' black British and African contemporary art. Includes key bodies of work in colour and black & white, alongside archival material such as polaroids and contact sheets.

South African National Gallery, Government Ave. Tel 021 467 4660 or contact Shameem Adams on 021 481 3974, or email sadams@iziko.org.za

THIS IS MY STORY OF DIGNITY

BASED ON A TRUE STORY

PART ONE:

1 FINALLY, I've arrived in the city of opportunity

2 2 WEEKS LATER

I still can't find a job and I have no more money

3 THE CYCLE BEGINS:

Please sir?

Oh, you poor guy

TO BE CONTINUED ...

4

5

6

I'm not hiring you looking like that!

You again?

DO YOU...

KEEP GIVING HANDOUTS?

GO BACK TO FRAME 3 AND REPEAT THE CYCLE.

OR...

HELP BREAK THE CYCLE?

?

SMS 'DIGNITY' TO 38088 TO DONATE R10

Check your phone for the link & SEE HOW YOU CHANGE THE STORY

Read more of Smiley's stories at www.giveresponsibly.co.za

GIVE RESPONSIBLY

GIVE WHERE IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

When someone asks you for money, what do you do?

Even though your intentions are good, giving handouts actually helps people stay on the street. It's a vicious cycle.

Rather give responsibly.

Donate directly to Cape Town NGO organisations and know your money is making a real difference in the lives of those who need it most. Your donation helps improve Smiley and his friends' lives and getting them off the streets.

The next time someone asks you for money, rather SMS 38088 and give responsibly.

www.giveresponsibly.co.za

facebook.com/GiveResponsibly

#GiveResponsibly

R10 will be deducted from your account. On average R8 will be donated to the NGO depending on your service provider. Vodacom carrier fees waived to a total annual value of R40 000. SMS service fees sponsored by iTouch. Please visit our website for detailed Ts & Cs.