

East councillor struck by lightning [South Africa]

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Pretoria East Rekord

<https://rekordeast.co.za/156557/east-councillor-struck-lightning/>

“It felt like it was picking me up and almost compressing my whole chest and it threw me about two meters away from the tent”

DA ward councillor Ernst Botha was struck by lightning while on holiday in Kwazulu Natal with his family on New Years Day.

Speaking to *Rekord*, Botha said the incident occurred in the evening while they were camping at Kzn Wildlife.

“A terrible thunderstorm broke out while we were camping and it seemed as though our tent was going to collapse.”

Botha said he went out to try and fix it and as he was fixing it, he was struck by the lightning.

“It felt like it was picking me up and almost compressing my whole chest and it threw me about two meters away from the tent.”

Botha said he could not stand up or walk but managed to stumble inside the tent to get assistance from his wife, Natasha.