

Members who follow the weekly George Herald will have noted that WRRRA has got together with 4 other Ratepayer Associations to express our concerns to Province over the complete disarray in the George Council. It has also been admitted by council that although the municipality is currently financially viable, this cannot be guaranteed for the foreseeable future. Of particular concern is the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) for Ward 4, which completely ignores our combined input, and which the Ward Committee recommends should be rejected. Provincial Minister for Local Government, Mr. Anton Bredell, has granted the Ratepayers Group an appointment for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February in Cape Town. We will give feed-back to our members on the outcome of the meeting in our March newsletter, if not sooner.

We have received a complaint from a member, irate at having his vacant plot used as a garden refuse site. To quote from his letter....."Why must I use my holiday time to remove other peoples' garden refuse at my cost? Not only is it an eye-sore, but a fire hazard too." Quite right! We're sure our members would not inconvenience neighbours in this manner, but if you should spot this type of illegal activity going on, please report it to Giel Goosen at 044-801-9206. Please also note that the refuse removal truck on garbage days to remove your bundled garden refuse if it is within the 7 bag quota.

The Lake Road Action Group has met with Sanparks to discuss possible flooding in low lying areas should the drought be broken by the predicted exceptionally heavy downpours in autumn. Sanparks will look at ways of opening up known bottlenecks along the Serpentine River in anticipation of the eventual rains, and will begin an exercise to remove built-up sediment. We applaud this mutual proactive stance. While on the subject of Sanparks, please note that all complaints must in future be directed in writing to Mr. Gozongo, Sanparks Communications Officer at [zanemvulag@sanparks.org](mailto:zanemvulag@sanparks.org). The gates at Freesia Rock will be open daily from 07h30 to 16h00. Unfortunately the fencing can only be painted after a six month curing period.

One meter wide sidewalks are being constructed along Sands Rd. and should be completed within the next two weeks, and four speedbumps have been approved. However, parking will remain problematic. Bollards will therefore be placed at beach access points to prevent illegal parking.

The new owners of what was the Protea Hotel in the village have undertaken to remove the very large hotel sign on the roof, but will be erecting a rates board next to the bowling green, which we hope will be less intrusive.

Regretfully, this will be the final newsletter to be sent to the handful of members who have not yet paid their subs for 2009/2010; so if you enjoy being kept updated on Wild affairs, please pay your subs or contact us if you have a problem. Your membership is important to Wilderness.

In closing, Wilderness Police Station has a new commander – Captain Simon Davids. We wish Capt. Davids welcome and strength to his force. Community Police forum meetings are open to the public and are held at the old Civic Building in York Street. The next meeting is at 09h30 on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February.