

Wilderness Ratepayers and
Wilderness, Western Cape,

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www.wrra.co.za

Residents Association,
South Africa, 6560

WRRRA NEWSLETTER – February 2015

WRRRA AGM 2015

Looking forward to a Interactive AGM 😊 !!



The WRRRA needs your support. Wilderness needs your support.

Some people want it to happen. Some wish it would happen. WRRRA makes it happen.

Please come to the AGM and let's continue to make "*Wilderness the place to be*".

The 2015 WRRRA AGM will be held at the Wilderness Hotel on **Monday 23rd February 2015 at 17h30 pm.**

Your WRRRA subscription is now due for payment. The WRRRA Committee has recommended that the Subscription be increased to R150 for the 2015 year. This will be discussed and ratified at the upcoming AGM. Members who do not have a problem with the proposed increase could go ahead and make their 2015 payment of R150 in advance of the ratification at the AGM.

Thanks to the almost 200 members who have already paid their R150

R 1,500 Fines

The Traffic authorities have warned that they will be policing Leila's Lane to enforce the one way traffic. Sadly some drivers have blatantly been ignoring the one way signs and it is a matter of time before we have an accident and heaven forbid an injury to someone.

Wilderness Improvement Program



Our Wilderness Police Station is already starting to look better. The gardens and undergrowth have already been cut back and various other low cost improvements are in progress. The generator has been connected to ensure that the Police Station has power during load shedding. **NO WRRRA funds will be used in the upgrade project.** The WRRRA Committee has secured limited funding from the Municipality to begin the project. The balance of the

funding will come from The WIP income and from private donations.

The Wilderness Police Station (WPS) was identified as a potential improvement project that would satisfy the following criteria.

- ✓ Positively impact a broader community
- ✓ Deliver long-term sustainable benefits
- ✓ Funding of a minor capital nature with little or no on-going costs
- ✓ Can be broken up into sub projects for ease of delivery and funding

That Sinking Feeling



SANPARKS decision to impose substantial increases in several of its license fees for boats, canoes and even mountain bikes has raised the ire of many outdoor enthusiasts throughout the Western Cape. The Committee has met with SANPARKS to address the issue, but with no success. It remains to be seen what the impact and ramifications of these unrealistic fees will cause. Licensing a mountain bike to use SANPARK trails cost

about the same as licensing a motor car.

Whereabouts in Wilderness



Many WRRRA members were quite shocked to see the state of the police station in pictures in last month's newsletter. And a few have suggested that they would assist by contributing towards the upgrade programme. Colin and Dorothy Bernic have donated a GPS to the WRRRA for our SAPS patrol vehicle to use to help speed up response times. Wilderness needs our member's involvement. Become involved, help the WRRRA WIP improve Wilderness. Please contact us on wrra@tiscali.co.za if you want to help make ***Wilderness the place to be!***

GIPTN : Go George



Visit the website for more information
www.gogeorge.org.za

There are still some challenges to overcome on the Go George bus project which have unfortunately delayed the roll out to Wilderness.

Watch the Press for details

How can you Help ?

- Wheelie Bins : It's time to get one



OR



- **[The WRRRA committee needs help](#)**

Various vacancies exist on the WRRRA Committee and anyone interested in coming on board to assist would be most welcome. Please contact Neville Ewing on wrra@tiscali.co.za

We are specifically needing people prepared to head up the Roads Portfolio and Services Portfolio (water, sanitation refuse and electricity).

[ABOSOLUTE PROOF THAT THE WORLD REVOLVES AROUND WILDERNESS](#)



Don't just wonder what it's like up there. Pluck up courage and go for a tandem paraglide.

[Village Ambassador Program](#)

Wilderness experienced one of its most successful seasons, from a visitor perspective - be it bed nights, restaurants occupancy or retail trade. The good weather contributed to the popularity of the new "pavement dining experience" offered by the restaurants on the Main Street. Wilderness was transformed into a Mecca of good food and casual dining in a safe, clean and friendly village environment.

Behind the scenes, the ability of the Village Ambassadors Program, mandated to deliver a safe, clean and welcoming village was severely put to the test. In our post-season review of the role that the Village Ambassadors played and the performance of each member of the team, we came to the following conclusions.

1. On the surface, the program delivered successfully on its mandate, as was evidenced by the feedback from residents, visitors and the business community.

2. The unreliability of certain individuals to report for duty and their on-the-job performance placed unnecessary pressure on other members of the team, requiring them to work long hours at short notice.
3. To better manage the "unreliability" factor on a sustainable basis, we redrafted the performance criteria of the Ambassadors and their Supervisor, and re interviewed prospective candidates.
4. A new Ambassador team (some old some new) and a new Supervisor was appointed, effective February 1.



It is our pleasure to introduce our members and the public to the team that will help us to maintain and enhance the image of Wilderness as a safe, clean and friendly village.

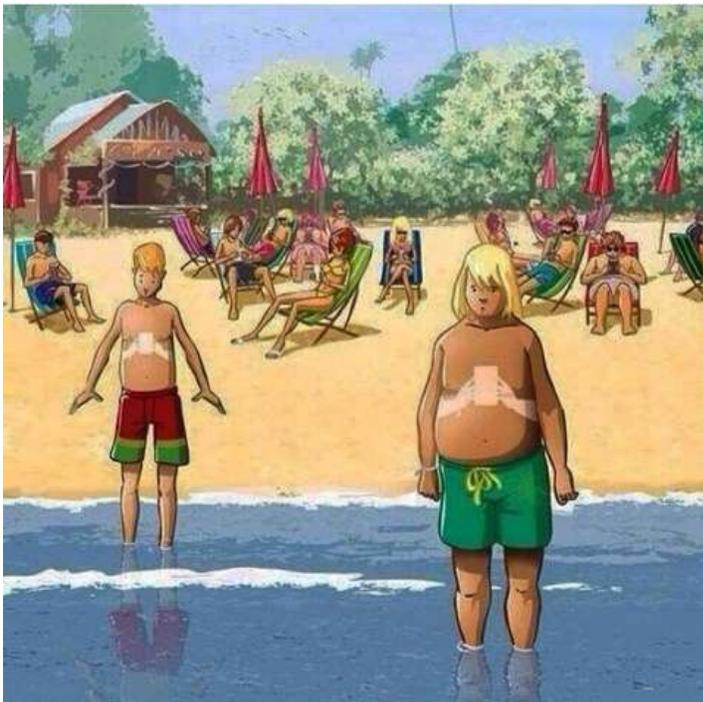
Program Director - Ian van Rooyen (WRRRA - Safety & Security)

Program Supervisor - Dawie Ackerman (based at the Wilderness Hotel)

Village Ambassadors - Gladwin Booyesen (Heights), Rolano Prins (Heights), Alfredo Funani (Heights), and Mervyn Veldman(Whites Road).

Pictured from left to right: Gladwin Booyesen, Dawie Ackermann, Rolano Prins, Alfredo Funani. Absent : Mervyn Veldman

Embrace Technology



Strange tan patterns noticed on Wilderness beaches this holiday season.

Seemed to affect all age groups.

Any ideas what causes these strange patterns?

Broken LOW ENERGY lamps are dangerous !

Low energy lamps contain Mercury and Phosphor and if these lamps go into landfill, the gases and toxic material contaminate the soil and water table. Go to www.mabone.org , they have a solution.

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environmental affairs
Department of Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Security and Safety issues

Put these important numbers into your cell phones and stick them on your fridge NOW!

Wilderness Police Station : 044 877 0011 Wilderness Roving Police Van : 082 444 4326

Commander Bennie Boshoff : 084 300 1151 Fire Station : 044 801 6311

Wilderness Life Guards : 044 801 6311 NSRI : 082 990 5955

- **Report any suspicious looking individuals or activities you may see in our community.**

Take proper care and precautions:

- Ensure that your house doors and windows are locked when you are out or when you go to bed
- Ensure that your garage doors are closed when not in use
- Don't leave toys, bicycles, etc. on your driveway or on the roadside
- Lock your vehicles while parked, even in your driveway
- Jamming devices have been used over the festive season, so make sure that your car doors have locked properly before you leave your car.
- Do not leave cell phones, handbags, iPads, laptops, etc. visible in your car, even when locked. Rather place them out of sight in the boot of your vehicle, especially at the start of the Hiking Trails and at the Bird Hides.
- Keep key emergency numbers nearby
- Always be aware of your surroundings

Neighbourhood Security : Implement a street WHATSAPP Group



The Kingfisher Close community has implemented an excellent communication network using a [WhatsApp Group](#) on their smart phones. **WhatsApp** Messenger is a cross-platform mobile messaging app which allows you to exchange messages without having to pay for SMS. It is really simple security measure to implement and use. All it takes is a community minded individual on your street to start the [WhatsApp Group](#) . Add the neighbourhood cell phone numbers to the group and send out the first message. Thereafter, anyone on the Group can alert the entire group by simply sending out a Whatsapp message to the group that will be of interest to your specific group. Anyone who needs help setting this up, first try your grand children to set it up for you and if that does not work, drop an email to wrra@tiscali.co.za and we will see if we can assist.

Great idea, take responsibility for our own security.

Community Police Forum

WILDERNESS SECURITY POLICE FORUM : NEW MEETING VENUE in February 2015 at The Views Boutique Hotel, Wilderness, Tuesday 24th February at 17h30. Please attend. This is in all our interest. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE TO ACCOMMODATE THE WRRRA AGM.

Other News

1. Are your neighbours WRRRA members ??? If not, please recruit them !!!
2. **WRRRA/Rotary Magazine Harvest** Please drop all your old magazines and books at the Tourist office and Rotary will do the rest.
3. **Local Pet database.** Please register your pets with Mandy Mandy on 044 877 0629 or wildernessvetshop@gmail.com Your name and contact details, Pet's name, breed, description and a picture.
4. **Have you been receiving the WRRRA SMS Alerts ??** (Power outages, Security Alerts etc.) **If not**, please send/update your contact details by sending an email to: wrrra@tiscali.co.za : Erf Number, Surname, First name and cell number.

Good Reasons for joining WRRRA

- Early warning SMS system to inform of road closures, water and electricity supply issues, weather alerts and security news flashes.
- WRRRA engages and petitions relevant providers in Wilderness on behalf of us all.
- WRRRA drives the Wilderness Improvement Program. Village Ambassadors Project, Project Dolphin, Keep Wilderness Clean campaign, Wilderness Wall, sorting out signage issues and campaigning for parking are just few of the successful ongoing WRRRA projects.

Useful Links

Simply click the link below:

Wild News Facebook page : https://www.facebook.com/WildNews?ref=br_tf

Wilderness Tourism Facebook page

:https://www.facebook.com/search/str/wilderness%20tourism/keywords_top

The Last Word:



The WRRRA Committee looks forward to giving our members comprehensive feedback at the upcoming WRRRA AGM to be held at the Wilderness Hotel on **Monday 23rd February 2015 at 17h30 pm.**

Wilderness extends a **Warm Wilderness Welcome** to Riana Scheepers , a well known South African author of short stories , poetry and children's stories and her partner Johann Loubser, newcomers to Wilderness.

As Always

Pieter Naude

Chairman

As a reminder, you are receiving this WRRRA Newsletter because either you are a WRRRA member, a Wilderness landowner or have interacted with WRRRA in the past. Should you not wish to receive our Newsletter in the future, simply email wrra@tiscali.co.za and your email address will be removed from our mailing list immediately.