



Wilderness Ratepayers and
Wilderness, Western Cape,

wrra@tiscali.co.za

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Residents Association,
South Africa, 6560

WRRRA NEWSLETTER – April 2015



What do we call ourselves?

In George, people call themselves **Georgians**; Cape Town's folk are called **Capetonians**.

Living in Wilderness, besides calling our selves "Lucky", "Blessed", "Privileged" and a host of like minded adjectives, we should have a generic term to identify all of us who live in this paradise called Wilderness.

"Wildernarians" has a distinct classy descriptive ring about it. What do you think ???

(The) Wild Ones, (The) Wild Bunch, Forest Folk, Wilders, Wildlanders, Wildies," Incredibly Lucky"

Email your opinion to wrra@tiscali.co.za and let us create a unique name for us lucky folk that live in

"Wilderness the place to be".

Ward News

Budget Road show: George Municipality wants to make the community part of its strategic planning process and would like you to join our Ward for an Integrated Development Plan/Budget Road show meeting.

Here is the opportunity for our ratepayers to take part ownership of the planning process in our community and be informed.

Ward 4: Monday 20th April 2015 IDP/Budget Feedback meeting.

:First meeting : at the Wilderness Hotel at 17h30
: Second meeting : at Touwsrante Community hall at 19h00

Wilderness Improvement Program

“Become a part of the Wilderness success story – join up now.”

www.wrra.co.za

Wilderness has an impressive amount of intellectual capital and ability quietly resting amongst our almost 5,000 residents. It is time that some of you unleash some of that potential and help your WRRRA Committee in improving and keeping



“Wilderness the place to be”.

Please share your ideas of what the WRRRA can possibly put on our WIP wish list. Email the WRRRA at wrra@tiscali.co.za and share your idea and become more involved in what is happening in your community.

Don't leave it up to this small committee to come up with ideas to improve your Wilderness. **How smart can the Committee be? After all, we volunteered for this job ☺ !**

- **A WRRRA Lecture series? Or Not?**

Would there be any interest from WRRRA members in attending an occasional WRRRA organised guest speaker to address our members and guests on topical and interesting subjects?

Drop us a line (wrra@tiscali.co.za) and tell us what you think.

- *A good idea?*
- *Not such a good idea, a waste of time, too many more important issues for the Association to deal with; you'd never get good speakers; no one would come.*
- *Good idea, here are some really interesting topics.*
- *Other comments and suggestions most welcome.*

- **Wilderness Police Station Project.** This project is moving forward slowly due to cash flow constraints. If you would like to assist financially or become involved in the upgrade, please contact the WRRRA at wrra@tiscali.co.za and you will be contacted. Become involved in the community and help us improve our Wilderness.
 - **Can someone help to cart away the tree trimming refuse?**
 - **We need a donation of roof paint to paint the SAPS office roof.**
 - **Anyone have a floor standing kitchen unit to donate?**
 - **Electrical and Plumbing Contractors, we need some discounted services. Please 😊 !**
- **Sands Road.** Many thanks to Clare Scott of “Wilderness on Sea” and Lucy Rautenbach of “Baharini Self Catering” who are both enthusiastically involved in getting Sands Road Residents involved in this Wilderness community project.

“What are you doing to make a difference? “

Contact us on wrra@tiscali.co.za and get involved.

Proposed New Developments in Wilderness

1) **"Riverhill Estate " Part of the remainder of erf 1275 .** This development consists of 17 Erven and a fairly large remainder (not included in the development), which had been approved a couple of years ago, but was recently re-submitted for approval as a "Retirement Security Village". This application was recently approved both by the George Municipality and Environmental Affairs. We at the WRRRA did not submit any objection.

The owner has offered to donate the remainder to Wilderness Christian Fellowship to build a church, if approval can be obtained from Environmental Affairs. (George Municipality has already stated verbally that they would not have any objection.)

2) **Consolidation & Development of Erven 824 - 831, Grant's Place & Eighth Ave.Kleinkrantz**
Application has been submitted to have the above erven re-zoned to General Residential, and then consolidated, in order to establish a Townhouse Development, in which the density will be 50 units per hectare, and coverage of land will be 50%. (The WRRRA is taking advice on how to respond to this application and will advise members in due course).

Pet owners in Wilderness

NEW GEORGE MUNICIPALITY BY-LAW RELATING TO THE REGULATING OF THE KEEPING OF DOGS AND CATS AND OTHER ANIMALS



The By-Law relates to provide for the control over the number of dogs and cats that may be kept, the breeding with dogs and cats, control over dogs and cats and other animals by their owners, impoundment



of stray dogs and cats and other animals, the prevention of nuisances and to provide for incidental matters.

Dog owners are specifically advised to read this new by-law, especially regarding the clauses relating to the number of dogs per property, removal of excrement in public places and the use of leashes and barking.

See a short summary of the salient points at the end of this Newsletter.

Or Click the link below to see the **full detail** (in English, Afrikaans and Xhosa) on the Feb 2015 new By-law

<http://wrra.co.za/images/stories/PDF/Newsletters/dogs%20and%20cats%20by%20laws%20feb%202015.pdf>

Interesting place to visit.

Visit the **Point of Human origins Experience** at Pinnacle Point, Mossel Bay. Take the “field” trip taking 175 steps to discover 162.000 years of our origins visiting Cave 13B, which was initially identified by Jonathan Kaplan and Peter Nilssen during an archaeological impact assessment for the broader EIA for the golf course and casino development.



Bookings and info Cell : 079 640 0004
Email : info@humanorigin.co.za

Tel: 044 691 0051
Web www.humanorigins.co.za

GIPTN: Go George



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

The Roll out to Wilderness and Touwsrante is
scheduled for August 2015

Hold Thumbs !!
Watch the Press for details

Village Ambassador Program

Get to know your Village Ambassadors.

The Ambassador Team does our Village proud. Please greet them when you see them . Thank you ☺ !



Rolano Prins



Alfredo Funani



Mario Solomons



Mervin Veldman

(Picture next month ☺ !)

Embrace Technology



Security and Safety issues

PROMINENTLY DISPLAY YOUR STAND NUMBER ON YOUR HOUSE.

Help SAPS and Emergency vehicles to find you. This may well save a life!

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

SANPARKS (24 hrs) : 044 877 1197

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

- [Community Police Forum](#)

- **WILDERNESS SECURITY POLICE FORUM : NEW MEETING VENUE in 2015 at The Views Boutique Hotel, Wilderness, TUESDAY 28th April at 17h30. Please attend. This is in all our interest.**

Neighbourhood Security



Have you set up your Street WhatsApp groups yet?

Please take responsibility for our own street security.

Start your own street's WhatsApp Street Security Group.

W/O Bennie Boshoff advised that one of the main stumbling blocks to getting successful prosecutions following burglaries is for the owner of the stolen items to be able to prove that items are indeed theirs. The following guide will assist the SAPS with their task.

1. Make a list of all you're your electronic, computer and photographic equipment.
2. Record the make, description (model) and serial number of each item.
3. Take a digital photo of each item clearly indicating the serial numbers.
4. Store all the above information and photographs on a **separate** memory card or memory stick and **not** on your computer.
5. Keep the storage card in a safe place and update it whenever you purchase a new item.

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. Over **2,000** magazines were delivered to Hope Church on Wilderness Heights, Rosemore Old Age Home, Bethesda , Thanda Jesu, Imizamo Yethu and 250 books were delivered to the RLR Retirement centre and the Imizamo Yethu school library. Thanks to all of you who have been and keep donating your old books and magazines.
3. **Local Pet database.** Please register your pets with Wilderness Vet Shop 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: wrra@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:



It is always exciting to see new developments as this is a good indicator of economic activity and hence prosperity in Wilderness. However, with each and every “development” comes risks that need to be identified and considered before WRRRA is either supportive or not. At WRRRA, this is possibly one of the most important tasks we have in endeavoring to represent our members’ diverse views.

Just for interest sake, we are called upon to approve or reject a range of items and events such as beach competitions, beer festivals, fund-raising activities etc not to mention roads, building regulation relaxations etc. Not that our voice has the final

say, but WRRRA is regarded as a key stakeholder formally representing the interests of our members.

Now we all know that we want to see Wilderness blossom (I’m choosing my words very carefully) but for the right reasons. How wonderful would it be if every development only had positive outcomes with no incentives other than to “do good”? Unfortunately, all “developments” aren’t necessarily a good thing. It’s relatively easy to identify these when they have blatant negative impacts on areas such as the ecology and existing infrastructure. However, and more often than not, the impacts appear subtle, even positive in the short run, but may have severe long-term negatives.

One has to ask oneself: “Why are there building regulations and standards?” The most obvious is one of safety and we’ve witnessed too many building disasters in SA in the last few years to warrant a reminder. Now I’m no architect or engineer so I can’t comment on the technical aspects of buildings. But what I do put a price on is the impact that the development has on the not only the immediate surroundings including neighbours, but also the greater community. A development which offers employment to say 100 locals might be viewed as positive in the “bigger scheme of things” but may have a severe negative impact on those next to the development in terms of noise, increased road usage, services such as water and electricity, devaluation of property etc. The list is endless.

Each and every application for a building regulation deviation is firstly, unique and secondly, has its merits and de-merits. The task is made more difficult by the situation that if WRRRA does not object to the application, in its silence, WRRRA will have been deemed to have tacitly supported the application.

Whilst most applications for a building regulation deviations have little impact on other than perhaps neighbours, the proposed new development of 50 townhouse units per hectare (200 square metres footprint per unit including garden with a nil boundary limitation) is the type of proposed “development” I personally believe we can do without. However, the WRRRA committee is a democratic one and this specific proposed “development” with all its building regulation deviations, will receive the extreme scrutiny that it warrants.

And so to bed – may the hamster in my head also please have a good night’s rest.

Neville Ewing

Chairman WRRRA Committee

“Wilderness the place to be”.

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 end your email address will be remove from our mailing list immediately.

Extracts of some important points from the document available on:

See below:

GEORGE MUNICIPALITY

BY-LAW RELATING TO THE REGULATING OF THE KEEPING OF DOGS AND CATS AND OTHER ANIMALS

Please Read the FULL version on our website.

Please be a responsible Wilderness pet owner.

<http://wrra.co.za/images/stories/PDF/Newsletters/dogs%20and%20cats%20by%20laws%20feb%202015.pdf>

1.1 Definitions

“**vicious dogs**”, means

- (a) a dog that without provocation has bitten or caused injury to a human being or to a domestic animal, but does not include a dog that has bitten or injured a trespasser; and
- (b) a Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Bull Terrier, Pit Bull and any dog generally recognised as such breeds and includes a dog of mixed breed with predominant characteristics of these breeds;
- (c) any other dog which causes a threat and / or disturbance / nuisance to the public;

3. NUMBER OF DOGS AND CATS

3.1 The maximum number of dogs and cats that are allowed to be kept, depending on the size of the dwelling/property, are as follows:

Type of Property	Size of Property	Maximum Number of Dogs / Cats
Dwelling Unit	E.g. Flat/Duplex	2 Dogs / 2 Cats*
Dwelling House	Less than 600 m ² erf	2 Dogs / 2 Cats*
Large Dwelling House	More than 600 m ² erf	2 Dogs / 2 Cats*
Agricultural Property or smallholding	Land of no less than 2.5 hectares or zoned for Agricultural use	4 Dogs / 4 Cats*

* over the age of four (4) months

- (d) a person who, at the proclamation of this by-law, already has more than the allowed number of dogs and such person may not replace any dog exceeding the allowed number without the prior written consent of the Municipality in terms of section 3(1), if such dog die or has been disposed of;

. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS WITH REGARDS TO DOGS

4.1 Restriction on number of dogs

4.2 Sterilization of dogs

4.2.1. All dogs (male and female) over 6 months of age must be sterilized;

4.3.1 Any person or breeder wishing to keep an unsterilized dog, with or without the intention to breed, must obtain a permit from the Municipality.

4.4 Permits to keep more dogs than the prescribed number

4.9 Fencing of property. No person shall keep a dog if his or her premises are not properly and adequately fenced to keep such dog inside when it is not on a leash unless the dog is confined to the premises in some other manner, provided that such confinement is not inhumane in the assessment of the authorised official.

4.10 Designation of public places as free-running, on-leash or off-limits. The Municipality may designate public areas, with appropriate signage, as one or more of free-running, on-leash or off-limits and the designation may vary according to time of day and season.

4.11 Removal of excrement

(a) If any dog defecates in any public street, public place or public road, any person in control of such dog, excluding a person assisted by a guide dog, shall forthwith remove the excrement, place it in a plastic or paper bag or wrapper and dispose of it in a receptacle provided for the deposit of litter or refuse.

(b) No person shall walk a dog, other than a guide dog, in a public street, public place or public road, without carrying a sufficient number of plastic or paper bags or wrappers, within which to place the excrement of the dog, in the event of the dog defecating.

13. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

13.1 A person who, at the commencement of this by-law, owns a larger number of animals than the number contemplated in section 3, or operate a business as contemplated in section 8, may continue to keep such larger number of animals or keep operating the business; but may not replace any animal in excess of that number should one or more of the animals die or be disposed of, or extent ,change, move, letting, subletting or sell the business, unless permission is obtained from the Municipality for exceeding that number, or inform the Municipality of such extension change, move, letting, sub-letting or selling.

- 13.3 Owners of unsterilized dogs and cats are granted a 6 month period (from 1 April 2015) in which to register their dogs and cats.
- 13.4 Cat owners are granted a 6 month period in which to ensure that their cats have micro-chips or collars with the details of the owners.
- 13.5 The provisions relating to the sterilization of dogs and cats takes effect 6 months after 1 April 2015 i.e. on 1 October 2015.

14. PENALTY CLAUSE

14.1 Any person who continues to commit an offence after notice has been served on him or fails to cease committing such offence after he has been convicted of such offence, is guilty of a continuing offence.

14.2 Any person who contravenes any provisions or fails to comply with any provisions of this By-law, a notice issued or a condition imposed under this By-law, furnishes a false statement, or false, incorrect or misleading information, shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction to-

- (a) a fine or imprisonment or to both such fine and such imprisonment;
- (b) in the case of a continuing offence, to an additional fine or an additional period of imprisonment or to such additional imprisonment without the option of a fine or to both such additional fine and imprisonment for each day on which such offence is continued; and
- (c) a further amount equal to any costs and expenses found by the court to have been incurred by the Municipality as result of such contravention or failure plus the cost of sterilising the animal.

14.3 In addition, any court convicting any person of not keeping any animal, which is kept under control in accordance with the provisions of this by-law, may order that animal be put down.

Please Read the FULL version on our website.

Please be a responsible Wilderness pet owner.

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