



Wilderness Ratepayers and
Wilderness, Western Cape,

wrra@tiscali.co.za

082 895 6317

www.wrra.co.za

Residents Association,
South Africa, 6560

WRRRA NEWSLETTER – September 2015



"Wilderness the place to be". Wilderness Beach –Austin Graves

NEW WRRRA BANK DETAILS :

Please change the banking details to pay WRRRA to the following with immediate effect.

Account Name : WRRRA / Bank : NEDBANK –Garden Route Mall / Branch Code : 153614 /

Account Number 1110522444 / Please use you Stand/erf Number and name as a reference to WRRRA

Wilderness Improvement Program

- **Wilderness Police Station Project.** Please contact the WRRRA on wrra@tiscali.co.za if you are able to contribute in any way .
Current Project Staus:
 - The concrete wall at the Police station has been heightened and the new sliding gates installed
 - Painting the roof has started and will be completed this week. Thank you all for the generous donations.
 - Tree felling and pruning will begin next week.
- **Services**
 - Two pine trees on Whites Road at the small wooden footbridge at erf 329 were perilously close to falling, risking injury to people and damage to vehicles and the road itself. After the WRRRA reported the situation, the Eden District Municipality acted expeditiously, removing the trees in August.
 - A WRRRA member called our attention to a dreadful scent of raw sewage along the sand road to Langvlei and Rondevlei past Island Lake Caravan. At our request, George Municipality staff took a look, found it to be coming not from municipal sewerage, but rather from an overflowing conservancy tank. The municipality did some detective work to find the property owner's representative, who immediately arranged for the tank to be emptied
 - Another WRRRA member reported sewerage seepage at Waterside and Limberlost Roads. Our request for attention to this languished a while in a municipal office, but when we pursued the matter a bit, it ultimately was quickly attended to by a repair and maintenance team.
- **Leilas Lane.** Inconsiderate drivers still insist on driving down the one way at Leila's Lane. Sadly many of the culprits are locals. The fine if you are caught WILL be R1,500.
- **Sands Road: Obstruction of pavements.** During the last few weeks, the WRRRA has received many complaints regarding the vegetation that is preventing the public from walking on the pavement along Sands Road. Before raising this with the George Municipality, we conducted an inspection of the main causes and it is evident that the vast majority of obstructions are caused by plants, shrubs or trees that are growing from within private property and are therefore the responsibility of the property owner. With the Festive Season not too far away and the safety of pedestrians being paramount, you are kindly requested to take appropriate steps to ensure that pedestrians passing your property have a completely unobstructed pavement.

• **DECEMBER SECURITY INITIATIVE** As with last year, SAPS have



asked if we can fund additional security for the village. W/O Bennie Boshoff has highlighted Peak Security Days as 25th, 26th December and 1st of January. To prevent petty theft in and around the Village, especially parking areas, SAPS will need extra security personnel to be available. W/O Boshoff has correctly trained and equipped staff available, but there is a cost attached. The WRRRA can absorb some of this cost, but

we again appeal to you all to please make a contribution towards this Holiday Security Fund. We will ALL benefit out of the extra security over this busy time. We need to raise R6,000 by 1st December in order to implement this initiative.



© Can Stock Photo - esp/7343801

Please bank your contributions directly into the **NEW** WRRRA bank account, reference “Security Fund”.

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Account Number 1110522444 / Reference: Security Fund

• **General Information**

- **Rubbish and Recycling Collection Holiday Schedule.** The Municipality does not collect rubbish or recycling on public holidays. Rather, your rubbish and recycling will be collected the day following a public holiday. If however the public holiday falls on a Friday, rubbish and recycling will be collected on the Thursday before the holiday.
- **Rubbish Black Bags:** The Municipality distributes packs of 26 black bags every three months. Call Wessel Robertson at 044 802 2904 at the Municipality.
- **Recycling Blue Bags:** InterWaste distributes a blue bag for every blue bag they collect, on the day of collection. Kirsty Hofhuis at 044 878 0688 at InterWaste.
- **RECYCLING BIN FOR BULBS/BATTERIES: UPDATE :** Interwaste evidently has the bin but Spar are awaiting permission from Spar Head Office before they can place it.
- **Ratepayer’s first port of call must be** to the relevant authority that is responsible for the utility or function, (potholes, street lights etc) that is causing you the trouble. Relevant contact numbers on the website. Obtain a “case number” and date that the case was lodged.

http://wrra.co.za/images/stories/PDF/Contacts/Municipal_Contacts.pdf

- **Garden Route Biosphere Reserve** ecovive@mweb.co.za

Visit www.wrra.co.za , Under “Featured Articles” and read about this great initiative. *“South African biospheres are special landscapes where socio-ecological land management is practised towards a more sustainable future for all”*

SEE FULL ARTICLE ON www.wrra.co.za under “Featured Articles”

- **TOURISM**

- September is Tourism month for George. Tourism Month is an annual celebration held in September to focus on the importance of tourism to the economy of South Africa.
- A new domestic tourism marketing campaign “Nothing’s More Fun than a Sho’t Left” emphasises the fun of a domestic leisure getaway, and it encourages South Africans to take short breaks.
- Part of the suggested programme will be to reintroduce the George Tourism Indaba last held in 2014 and also a Tourism Day launch with various activities. The new George Tourism marketing strategy will also be launched at the Tourism Indaba and we have suggested that the proposed GR Biosphere Reserve be featured as part of the workshop. Visit the following website for more information on Tourism Month at <http://www.gov.za/tourism-month>
- The very popular Afrikaans television series “Boer soek ‘n vrou” was filmed in Wilderness. Some of the local properties including the Wilderness Hotel and Views Boutique Hotel were used as venues. Our beautiful village will certainly get excellent exposure from this.

WORLD HABITAT DAY – Thursday 1 OCTOBER

Looking for some healthy exercise? Or a fun community outing? Or are you just keen to help fight alien invasives in this beautiful place we call home?

WRRRA would like to send a great hack team to the KTT COMMUNITY HACKING DAY... (see invitation



Date: 1 Oct 2015, World Habitat Day
Time: 8:30 AM—2PM, Braai and prize giving 2-3 PM
Location: George Municipal Servitude, Whites Rd, Wilderness Heights (Red star on map)
Contact: Please register your team with: Corita Loubser
Corita.Loubser@nmmu.ac.za
 044 801 5127 (9am – 1pm Mon-Fri)

Registration is free. Minimum 3 members per team. More information, indemnity forms and instructions will be distributed upon registration. Regrettably no persons under the age of 16 allowed.



Braai and spot prizes for Best Team Effort, Most Fun Team, Best Before & After photos
We hope to see you all there!

below.) If you can make it, please email your name and contact number to Chris Burlock by 25th September at (izulu@mweb.co.za) and indicate if you can arrive with a **bow-saw, panga** or **heavy duty lopper**. But, also feel free to just rock up on the day!

NB. No chain saws : legislation does **not** allow us to use them, so we will be hacking the smaller stuff while professional teams will be using chain saws.

Chris Burlock (WRRRA - Environmental portfolio)

Order your Visions of Wilderness' Calendar

Our appeal for photos for the WRRRA calendar resulted in nearly 300 stunning pictures being sent to us!!!!

The A4 calendars will be available for sale by early December at R50 each. As only 300 will be printed, we are taking orders if you would like to secure some.

Please email Vanessa Hau-Yoon, WRRRA Secretary, wrra@tiscali.co.za to place your order and send your proof of payment to the WRRRA account.

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[SANPARKS](#)

SA National Parks Week 2015

South African National Parks (SANParks) will be opening its 10th annual SA National Parks Week at Marakele National Park from **14 to 18 September 2015**. This initiative in partnership with Total SA is in line with SANParks' vision statement of 'A sustainable National Park System Connecting Society'.

<http://www.sanparks.co.za>



[Eishkom: Load shedding schedule](#)

SEE FULL LOADSHEDDING SCHEDULE ON www.wrra.co.za under “Loadshedding”

You will find this in the Top Tool Bar on the website, fifth Icon from the “Home” icon.

Seasonal Climate Watch



September 2015 to January 2016

Date: Aug 21, 2015

1. Advisory

Most models are showing the strengthening of an El-Niño episode towards the spring season with the expectation to continue throughout the summer season. The forecasting system indicates enhanced probabilities for well above normal rainfall conditions over the north-eastern parts of the country during spring. However, going towards the summer season there are certain indicators which may promote chances for extreme dry conditions over most parts of the country. The likelihood of extreme warmer temperatures over most of South Africa is high. Other international forecasting systems also indicate a tendency of drier and warmer conditions for South Africa toward the summer season.

SEE FULL ARTICLE ON www.wrra.co.za under “Featured Articles”
(You will find this on the Left Hand Side of the Home page.)



18th & 19th September



PROMINENTLY DISPLAY YOUR STAND NUMBER ON YOUR HOUSE.

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

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

In view of the current circumstances, Go George are unable to confirm this date at this time. But the Busses are coming..... ! Hopefully by December 😊 !

Hold Thumbs !!

Watch the Press for details

Dog Ordinances

Please refer to the full Bylaw on the WRRRA website by clicking this link :

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

NO! NO! NO!

Not picking up your dog's poop in a public place is in contravention of municipal by-law !

The by-law is clear: All dogs must be on leash in public places, and owners must not only bag and bin their dogs' droppings, but must carry spare bags as well!



Itching and scratching again?

Are you tired of hearing that familiar tap tap of your scratching pet every evening? We find that the most common cause for itches in dogs and cats are fleas and as we all welcome the warmer weather, so are these dreaded parasites! Luckily the pharmaceutical companies have been busy developing some fantastic new products that we find are working well to prevent flea and tick infestations. It is very important to maintain regular treatments as per their instructions to ensure that these products work optimally. Fleas can cause mild to serious skin conditions, sometimes leading to painful infections requiring antibiotics and other treatments. Fleas are also the carriers for a common tapeworm that grows in the dog and cat intestine and can affect children too!

We are all familiar with Biliary from ticks, often with severe complications, sometimes leading to death in dogs and cats. So in our area that is rife with both fleas and ticks, it is advisable to keep on top of these nasty creatures. Other commonly seen parasites usually in younger dogs are skin mites, which can cause severe hair loss and itching with eventual thickening of the skin.



Allergies

Something we see very frequently in dogs and cats are allergies. There is a very long list of potential allergens ranging from food ingredients, things in the environment and even to the skin parasites (mostly fleas) themselves.

Article courtesy of Knysna Veterinary Clinic who will be giving a 10% discount during Sept on skin related consultations and workups. They hope that this gives your animal a chance to have some relief from the itches this Summer.

PAWS PUSHES ON!



It's not always advisable to be in an informal settlement after dark, but when a dog owner heard that Estelle (PAWS) was still in Kleinkrantz helping to offload the 8 sterilized animals she had arranged with the SPCA, he appealed to her to look at his dog. It had been badly bitten. Despite the growing gloom, Estellerushed

back home to fetch her wound kit and went back to treat the savaged dog. She has now made 29 trips in just 3 months!

All the animal owners are being asked to pay *something* towards the cost of sterilizations, deworming tablets, etc. Many do. But many just cannot afford the R70 minimum contribution for a sterilization or even R2.00 to dip their dogs. (5 litres of dip costs over R3 200) which has been privately funded at present!

So to the few that have contributed to PAWS, -THANK YOU! Know that whatever you have sent though to 'WRRR PAWS', is working hard for those animals that need our support!

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 Staion : 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.**

Neighbourhood Security : WHATSAPP Group success



On 3rd Sept , thanks to a Wilderness Heights Security Whatsapp Group , two suspects were arrested in a house they were busy burgling on Silver Rd. Quick thinking Heights residents saw and reported two suspicious characters on Whatsapp. WO Bennie saw the message and dispatched a SAPS team and the suspects were caught red handed. Thanks to all, especially SAPS and Whatsapp !

Please take responsibility for our own street security.

[Start your own street's WhatsApp Street Security Group.](#)

If you Live in Wilderness East. Please join

'WECAN' Wilderness East's WHATSAPP GROUP

WRRRA and Warrant Officer Bernie Boshoff of the Wilderness police station have urged us to start up neighbourhood 'WhatsApp' groups to quickly notify each other of potential security threats. Estelle le Roux has started one for residents of Wilderness East: "WECAN" (Wilderness East Community Action Network).

To join, please simply "WhatsApp" your cell number to Estelle 083 292 1190 with your property number.

Should anyone see a suspicious people or car, simply "WhatsApp" the details to the WECAN group and it will be instantly relayed to all the group and Warrant Officer Boshoff.

PLEASE NOTE: **WECAN communications are to be limited to SECURITY matters only**... no moans about potholes or whinges about neighbours putting out rubbish too early! !

Community Police Forum

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

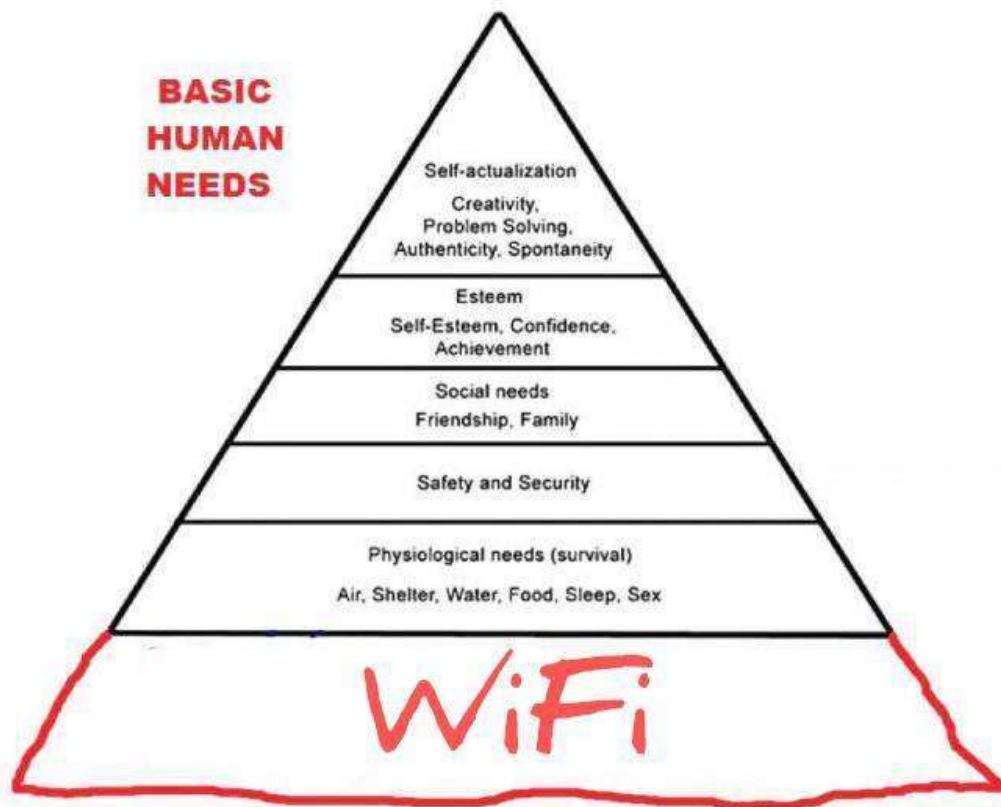
Other News

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 Lisa 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.

Embrace Technology



Shared by
 grammarly

Resident's Feedback

From: Niel Viljoen [mailto:nielviljoen1@gmail.com] **Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2015 3:30 PM

To: Donald Goldfain; Neville Ewing **Subject:** Good news

Hi Donald I almost forgot that I promised to send you the info on the excellent service stories. I reported two broken street lights in Sanctuary Lane on Thursday 13 August. They were repaired the next Monday.

During the night that we had the strong wind (27-8?) a tree fell over in Sanctuary Lane. I reported it and it was removed within an hour. Absolutely amazing! Kind regards .Niel

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 with great sadness that we learned this week of the passing of Pierre Bovet, a long time resident of Wilderness and indeed a past treasurer of the Association. Pierre passed away some two months after an accident at home. To Val and their family around the world, our sincere condolences.

Spring isn't here yet. We did have a short summer for a day or two but we'll have to wait a bit longer. However, this doesn't mean that we can put off the approaching season and the numerous family members and visitors that will descend on us. WRRRA is getting ready too and there are numerous plans being implemented to "gear up" for this. What about ALL residents making a concerted effort to make their pavements clean and attractive?

I am particularly encouraged by the reaction of the George Municipality with regard to the poor mowing of the Village Common. It was very poorly "mowed" by the contractor and once notified, the responsible municipal official saw to it that the Common was re-mowed within a week! It is such a great place to see people and pets enjoying themselves so a big thank you to the guys at the Municipal Parks Department.

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.