



Wilderness Ratepayers and  
Wilderness, Western Cape,

[wrra@tiscali.co.za](mailto:wrra@tiscali.co.za)

082 895 6317

[www.wrra.co.za](http://www.wrra.co.za)

Residents Association,  
South Africa, 6560

## WRRRA NEWSLETTER – November 2015



*"Wilderness the place to be".* Wilderness –unknown photographer

### **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 and Services News

- **Wilderness Police Station Project**



Looking Spick & Span : Just like we love Wilderness to be



Neat cut back garden



Eishkom backup generator shed

**Thank you to all those who participated in this project. We still have a few things to do, but the improvement has made a huge difference.**

- **Car Guards** : A reminder to all not to hand out money to vagrants as they are a problem in the village. We have the monitors and anyone wishing to give them a tip is welcome to do so.
- **Leila's Lane** : **PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE** , if you are one of the "local" culprits not obeying the ONE WAY sign, please STOP USING LEILA'S LANE AS A SHORTCUT by driving down the wrong way. This is an accident waiting to happen and please be aware that we will now begin a **NAME AND SHAME** campaign to try and cure this inconsiderate and dangerous behavior.
- **Train Tunnel** : Please be vigilant and aware of the risks of walking on your own. Go in a big group. Please warn your guests.
- **Keep your Street neat and tidy** : Pick up your Blue bags if not collected. Also black bag if you missed the truck. Be a responsible neighbour.

- **Sanitation Charges by the Municipality :** A number of residents in Wilderness have had sanitation charges levied for the first time on their November rates account. If you are one of these residents, please check to see if this charge has been correctly levied. Some residents were obliged to initially install a septic tank and consequently only have run-off water pumping into the sewerage system via a small-bore connection and not raw sewerage. If this is the case, it is suggested that those affected by the full sanitation charge, but on a small-bore connection, should request a review of tariffs. Please let WRRRA know the outcome of any application, so that WRRRA can follow up and keep residents advised.
- **Waste Management Site update :** Various affected parties in the waste site saga have sent in petitions and letters of objection to the establishment of the site. To date, the WRRRA has not had any feedback, but we will keep residents and ratepayers informed as and when we hear.

- **Beach Cleanup :** Thanks again to another Sands Road resident Clair Scott and others who again wrote to the Municipality asking for the beach to be cleaned up. Well done!



We appeal to all Wilderness residents to help by picking up litter when they can. We all know it's not our job, but our beaches need some help and every little bit helps. Thank you.

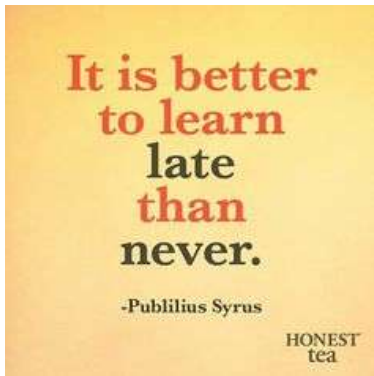
- **Retirements /Vacancy on WRRRA Exco :** We need a volunteer to join the WRRRA Exco to take over the Roads portfolio from Sue Ledger who will be travelling in the New Year. Please contact Chairman Neville Ewing on [wrra@tiscali.co.za](mailto:wrra@tiscali.co.za) if you would like to help and become part of the Team that make *"Wilderness the place to be"*.

- **Changing of the Guard :** The WRRRA Committee held its annual committee yearend function at Chairman Neville and Jane Ewing's home on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November. The event doubled as a farewell to two of WRRRA's longstanding and hardworking committee members; Paul Nicholas and Sue Ledger. Both Paul and sue are passionate about Wilderness and have contributed greatly to making Wilderness the unique haven that it has become for all of us. Thank you both on behalf of the WRRRA. We were honoured to



have Past Chairman Pieter Naude and Counselor Leon van Wyk there as well. Pictured on the left are Past Chairman Pieter Naude, Chairman Neville Ewing, Sue Ledger and Paul Nicholas.

- **Recycling (Blue Bags) for the 16<sup>th</sup> December** : If your blue bags are collected on a Wednesday, please note that NO BLUE BAGS will be collected on the 16<sup>th</sup> December. Hold the bag over until Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, when it will be collected.
- **WRRRA Lectures** : What a great turnout for Jonathan Britton's talk on Nature Conservation in the Wilderness Section of the Garden Route. Thank you to John Miller for organising the event and the Wilderness Hotel for supplying the venue. Well done Jonathon for a most informative talk. Jonathan's talk was the first of a series of presentations sponsored by the Wilderness Ratepayers and Residents



Association on subjects of particular interest to Wilderness residents.

These talks are open to the public and will be widely announced in the George area. For its part, the WRRRA was very pleased with the event. Chair Neville Ewing said "We were very gratified by the good turnout and instructive presentation, and look forward to providing similar relevant talks in our lecture series."



- **Potholes** : Please call the Municipal Roads & Engineering department directly, speak to Lionel Daniels on 044 801 9496 and report the pothole. Please remember to get a reference number. If there is no action after a week or so, please drop Sue Ledger an email quoting your reference number or write [wrra@tiscali.co.za](mailto:wrra@tiscali.co.za) and we will follow up.
- **Sands Road, Obstruction of pavements** : Have you trimmed back the bushes along your property yet? Please take responsibility for your pavement and please clean up.
- **Heights Road Closure** : Please all be advised that Heights Road will be closed on 25 and 26 November, 8 am to 5 pm, next week Wednesday and Thursday for "geotechnical investigation of potential slips". So with a bit of luck, the long awaited repairs needed on this stretch of road may be beginning. Not a day too soon.
- **Erica Road, Wilderness Heights** : The Municipality needs to be commended for arranging for the repair of the last section of Erica Road, Wilderness Heights. Parks and Recreation of the Department of Community Services sent out a team to cut away the overhanging foliage and the road was then graded and repaired. Thanks to the persistent efforts by committee member Ronnie Board for persevering and following up with the Municipality. Proof that the squeaky wheel gets the oil!

- **Water pipes on Waterside Road :** In late October, for the sixth time in the last couple of months, residents and businesses on Waterside Road suffered the consequences of broken water pipes. The WRRRA has been engaging the municipality on the matter and held a meeting last week with Municipal officials and two of the residents/business owners. The Municipality committed itself to replacing 1.5 km of old, sad pipes with new, modern ones in the first half of 2016. Stay tuned
- **No Renewal Notices for George motor vehicle licence disks :** Motorists in George and the rest of the Western Cape are advised that renewal notices for motor vehicle licences will not be sent via the South African Post Office. When you do go to renew your licence, you **MUST** now take proof of residence and proof of postal address in order to fulfill the newly imposed FICA requirements. If you are renewing a licence for your spouse or partner, you will need a letter from that person authorizing you to apply on their behalf and you will need a copy of either their ID or drivers licence. Good luck! Call 044 801 9311/044 801 9310 for more info.
- **Waterside Derelict Garage :** George Municipality Legal Services are pursuing the matter of the derelict garage on Waterside Road. No news yet, but stay tuned.

- **Flower Pots on Milkwood Village Bridge :** Thanks to Deidre Marcus for organising the attractive and colourful planters on the bridge. Well done!



- **Dogs Dogs Dogs Dogs on the Beach :** Please be a responsible dog owner over the December holidays. Let us try and avert the nasty clashes and incidents that we witnessed on our beaches last year between dog owners and beach goers. It is fully understood that this is always an emotive issue and that there will never be consensus on this – only compromises from all parties.



Please obey the Municipal signs that the Municipality says it will be erecting on the beaches this December. It seems that they are gearing up to fine people who do not obey the beach No Dogs allowed signs and fine dog owners that do not “Poop Scoop” . So be warned. The WRRRA is working with the

Municipality on implementing more dog friendly regulations, but they have said this will only happen in the New Year. We will keep you all posted.

- **FIREWORKS—BE AWARE AND BE FAIR!** (Extract from SPCA Nov. Newsletter)



Guy Fawkes and Diwali has come and gone. New Year is around the corner. The National Council of SPCAs calls for restraint, responsibility and consideration from all quarters.

Anyone with an animal is requested to be responsible and to ensure the animal's safety and comfort. The hearing of animals is far more acute and sensitive than the hearing of a human. If a dog can hear a grasshopper eat, imagine what a firework sounds like. Stay with your pets. Keep them indoors. If an animal is sensitive by nature, then consult your Veterinarian for advice. Do not give medication intended for humans to animals and above all, ensure that animals are not in

danger of harming themselves if they bolt – even indoors - or react when a firework is discharged in the area. Despite regulations and appeals for calm, this can occur.

This opportunity is taken to ask everyone to ensure that animals have identification

- **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>

- **Wilderness Dune Erosion Control** : If you have been to Wilderness beach recently you will have noticed the heavy attrition of the beach and the measures currently (legally) underway to stabilise the dunes....

**Here a few photos taken on 25 & 26 November 2015 ....( Thanks WESSA)**



- Have you ordered your

# Visions of Wilderness

2016 Calendars? There are still some available from WRRRA.

With some people ordering 10 copies for Christmas gifts, secure yours soon! To place your order, simply email WRRRA Secretary, Vanessa at [wrra@tiscali.co.za](mailto:wrra@tiscali.co.za) with your proof of payment of R50 per calendar made to the WRRRA bank account.

The A4 calendars will be available by early December. Only 300 will be printed.

Over 300 stunning photos were received, but obviously not all of them could be used!

Please use you Stand Number and your name as a reference to WRRRA

**If you have already ordered: Calendars are available for collection from Vanessa. Call her on 082 895 6317**

## 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 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> December and 1<sup>st</sup> 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 too 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 1<sup>st</sup> December in order to implement this initiative.

Please bank your contributions directly into the **NEW** WRRRA bank account, reference "Security Fund". **Account Name: WRRRA / Bank: NEDBANK –Garden Route Mall / Branch Code: 153614 / Account Number 1110522444 / Reference: Security Fund**



## Eishkom: Load shedding schedule

SEE FULL LOADSHEDDING SCHEDULE ON [www.wrra.co.za](http://www.wrra.co.za) under "Loadshedding"

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

....this gives food for thought....

### Decomposition times of waste & items

#### Here's the lifespan of your average household waste:

- Train Tickets: 2 weeks
- Paper Towel: 2-4 weeks
- Orange Peel: 2-5 weeks
- Newspaper: 6 weeks
- Apple Core: 2 months
- Cotton Shirt: 2-5 months
- Cotton Gloves: 3 months
- Waxed Milk Cartons: 3 months
- Thread: 3-4 months
- Ropes: 3-14 months
- Canvas Products: 1 year
- Plywood: 1-3 years
- Wool Clothing: 1-5 years
- Non-Waxed Milk Cartons: 5 years
- Cigarette Butts: 10-12 years
- Lumber: 10-15 years
- Painted Board: 13 years
- Plastic Film Container: 20-30 years
- Leather Shoes: 25-40 years
- Nylon Fabric: 30-40 years
- Foamed Plastic Cups: 50 years
- Rubber Tires: 50-80 years
- Rubber Boot Soles: 50-80 years
- Foamed Plastic Buoys: 80 years
- Batteries: 100 years
- Hairspray Bottle: 200-500 years
- Plastic Beverage Holders (Six Pack Rings): 400 years
- Plastic Beverage Bottles: 450 years
- Engine Blocks: 500 years
- Sanitary Pads: 500-800 years
- Monofilament Fishing Line: 600 years
- Polyurethane Seat Cushions: 1,000 years
- Automobile Windshield: One million years or longer
- Tinfoil: It does not biodegrade.
- Toxic e-waste materials cause brain damage as well as heart, Liver, lung, and spleen damage. Nickel and silver cause a range of medical problems including birth defects, brain damage, heart, liver, lung and spleen damage, and nervous and reproductive system Damage. Cadmium causes everything but brain damage a And causes harm to the skeletal system.
- Banana Peel: 3-4 weeks
- Paper Bag: 1 month
- Cardboard: 2 months
- Wool Sock: 1 year
- Tinned Steel Can: 50 years
- Aluminium Can: 200-500 years (But if recycled, it can be reused within 6 weeks!)
- Disposable Diapers: 550 years
- Plastic Bags: 20-1000 years
- Plastic Jug: 1 million years



## PROMINENTLY DISPLAY YOUR STAND NUMBER ON YOUR HOUSE.

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

- **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. **Ideally black bags are collected by the municipal rubbish truck and blue bags by the recycling company. If this is not happening, please let the Municipality know.**
- **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 is 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](http://wrra.co.za/images/stories/PDF/Contacts/Municipal_Contacts.pdf)

### Need something to do???

#### **Kammanassie Geology Tour – 28 November**

Our geologists are champing at the bit for another geology tour– and many of our readers too! So we are off on the Kammanassie Circuit again. An all day, self-drive guided tour starting in de Rust and.

Three expert geologists, **Paul Rixom, Peter Ginn and Colin Ralston**

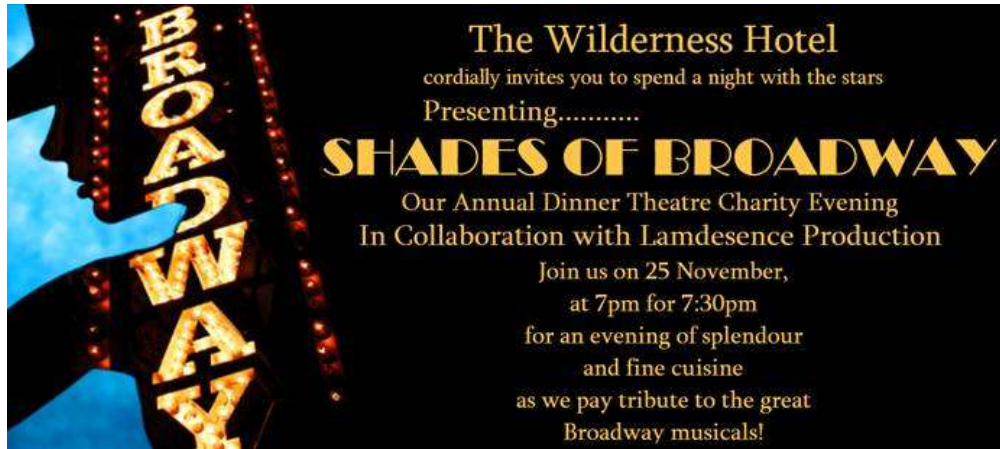
Will lead a small groups of about 20 participants. A full daytrip, Commencing in de Rust, the route basically circumnavigates the Kammanassie Mountains which lie between the Swartberg to the north and the Outeniquas to the south moving east towards Uniondale, south to the Langkloof and ending just before Herold. It is definitely a case of roadside-geology, mostly driving with stops at geological features en route.

R 100 for WESSA members (students and pensioners too),

R 120 for non-members is for our Enviro & Education Fund. The geologists

contribute their time and expertise at no charge. Bookings now open [wessageorge@isat.co.za](mailto:wessageorge@isat.co.za)



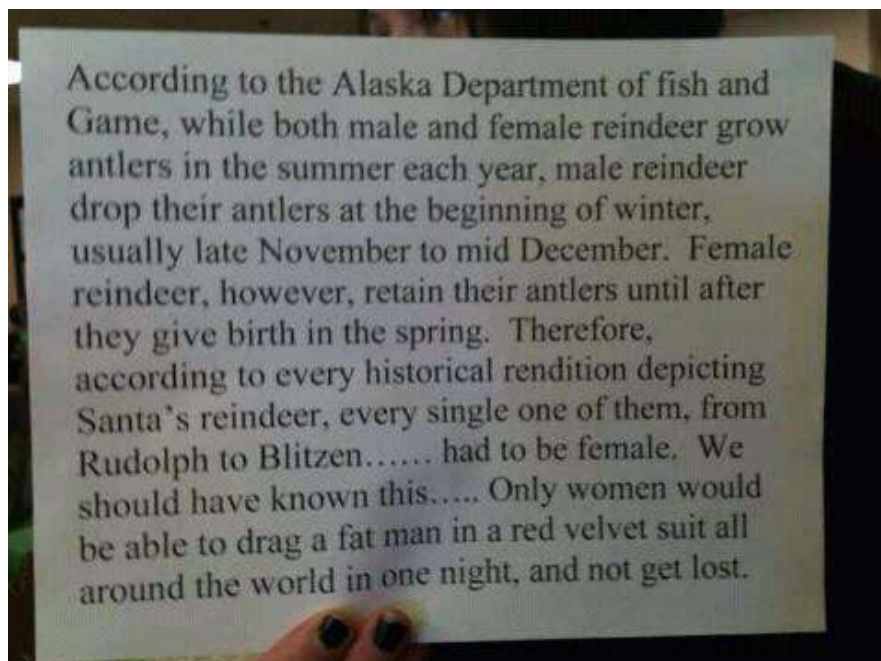


**INTERNATIONAL BIOMIMICRY EXPERT IN KNYSNA-29 November** : Dr Dayna Baumeister, Biomimicry expert from the US, is doing a presentation on the topic at Knysna Hollow Country House on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November at 18:00.

Sue Swain, Executive Director of BioWise, said this is a major coup for the area. “Dr Baumeister is in South Africa presenting on Biomimicry in Limpopo and Johannesburg and we invited her to share her passion with us. We are extremely fortunate to be able to listen to her on our own doorstep. It is an exclusive opportunity to gain insight into how the evolution of nature is driving revolutionary new thinking.”

Tickets cost R100 per person. For more information contact Cherie Bester on [cherie@biowise.org.za](mailto:cherie@biowise.org.za) or 083 259 2685.

### Isn't this the Honest Truth



## GIPTN : Go George

Visit the website for more information [www.gogeorge.org.za](http://www.gogeorge.org.za)



### The Roll-out to Wilderness and Touwsranteen delayed to 2016

At the IDP meeting, we were advised that the Go George roll-out to Wilderness would **not be before the first quarter of 2016**. This was primarily due to the sabotage and unrest in recent months. Hold thumbs, the roll out is progressing well in George.

Watch the Press for details

## Security and Safety issues

- Please Report Crimes. Assists SAPS in seeing patterns and recognising modus operandi.
- Theft from Cars. Keep your valuables hidden in the boot.
- Remote blocking on the increase, especially malls, large parking areas. Even here in Wilderness.
- Keep your car doors locked when driving, especially in George.

**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.**

## Neighbourhood Security: WHATSAPP Group success



**Does your Street have a WHATSAPP Group Yet ??**

**Please take responsibility for our own street security.**

**Start your own street's WhatsApp Street Security Group.**

**If you live**

On <b>Constantia Kloof</b>	Join ConsKloofSecurity	SMS Donald	083 251 8401
On <b>Sands Road</b>	Join SandsRoadSecurity	SMS Lucy	076 903 0257
On <b>Wilderness Heights</b>	Join HeightsWatch	SMS Roy	082 060 7474
In <b>Wilderness East</b>	Join 'WECAN' Wilderness	SMS Estelle	083 292 1190
In <b>Kingfisher Close</b>	Join KingfisherWatch	SMS Peter	082 552 1060

**Contact your streets administrator and join your street's Security WhatsApp Group.**

Please send the name and cell number of your streets Security WhatsApp Group administrator to [wrra@tiscali.co.za](mailto:wrra@tiscali.co.za) to add to this list of administrators.

**If your street does not yet have s WhatsApp Security Group,**

**WHY NOT !!!! Your security starts with YOU!!!!**

## Community Police Forum

**WILDERNESS SECURITY POLICE FORUM: NEW MEETING VENUE in 2015 at The Views Boutique Hotel, Wilderness, Monday 30th November 2015 at 17h30. Please attend. This is in all of our interest.**

## 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.

## WILDERNESS VILLAGE MONITORS

THE VILLAGE MONITORS, IDENTIFIED BY THEIR UNIFORMS AND BRIGHT YELLOW CAPS, ARE HERE FOR YOUR SAFETY AND CONVENIENCE.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO SUPPORT THEM IF YOU SO WISH.

**PLEASE DO NOT** SUPPORT THE LOCAL SELF-APPOINTED CAR GUARDS. THEY ARE A NUISANCE AND HAVE LED TO THEFTS FROM CARS, SNATCHING OF SHOPPING ETC.

***HELPING TO MAKE WILDERNESS CLEAN, SAFE & FRIENDLY***



## 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](mailto:wildernessvetshop@gmail.com). Send 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](mailto:wrra@tiscali.co.za) : Erf Number, Surname, First name and cell number.



## **SPCA PUPPET SHOW GREAT SUCCESS**

As part of her crusade to inspire people to take better care of their pets, Estelle le Roux (of the WRRRA 'PAWS' project), organised the SPCA Education Unit to perform their sing-along puppet show in the Kleinkrantz informal settlement.

Some 50 excited children arrived and enjoyed learning the importance of animals having clean water, proper food, shelter, vaccinations and being sterilized.

Unfortunately Estelle's appeal for old or unwanted kennels has produced no results from Wilderness yet, but a George supporter donated one that is now providing shelter to a needy dog. Please call Estelle if you have a kennel that you no longer want and she will collect: 083 292 1190.

## **Embrace Technology**





# PET STERILISATION MONTH

## Female sterilisation benefits:

A brief summary of the health and humanitarian benefits of spaying your female dog or cat:

- >less chance of developing mammary cancer
- >eliminate the chance of developing potentially life threatening uterine infection (pyometra)
- >reduced incidence of uterine and ovarian cancers
- >eliminates the mess during heat cycles
- >eliminates the need of kenneling or stress to other household pets during heat cycle
- >reduced number of unwanted puppies and kittens

## Male sterilisation benefits:

A brief summary of the health and humanitarian benefits of dog and cat castration:

- >reduced behavioural issues such as spraying/marketing inside the house
- >reduced roaming and chance of being run over by cars
- >reduced fighting with other dogs/cats
- >reduced aggressive behaviour towards people
- >eliminates chance of testicular cancer
- >reduced number of unwanted puppies or kittens

## Useful Links

Simply click the link below:

Wild News Facebook page : [https://www.facebook.com/WildNews?ref=br\\_tf](https://www.facebook.com/WildNews?ref=br_tf)

Wilderness Tourism Facebook page

:[https://www.facebook.com/search/str/wilderness%20tourism/keywords\\_top](https://www.facebook.com/search/str/wilderness%20tourism/keywords_top)

*SAPIA News : Plant Protection Research Institute*

*Newsletter of the Southern African Plant Invaders Atlas, an initiative of the Weeds Programme of the Plant Protection Research Institute, within the Agricultural Research Council (ARC)*

SAPIA newsletters are posted at ARC website: [www.arc.agric.za](http://www.arc.agric.za) and

**Invasive Species Website:** [www.invasives.co.za](http://www.invasives.co.za)

## The Last Word:



WRRRA has recently been informed that the upgrade of the N2 between Mossel Bay and Knysna that has been in progress for some time now, will be coming to our stretch of the world around September next year.

As part of this, Qunu Consulting, SANRAL's local contractor, has requested that WRRRA collate all suggestions that our members may have regarding this upgrade. This can range from the introduction of passing lanes (past North and South Street access points), more or less islands to better signage, refuse bins, lighting – whatever you would like to see to make the N2 safer, cleaner and more attractive.

This is a golden opportunity for all of us to give our inputs to ensure that when the upgrade is done, we benefit from all the great ideas that are our members have. There will still be the normal public participating processes, but as WRRRA works in collaboration with SANRAL, we have received this “special” invitation.

All suggestions must be in by no later than Friday 11 December. These should be emailed to [wrra@tiscali.co.za](mailto:wrra@tiscali.co.za) Subject Line “N2 suggestion” from where we will collate and submit the proposals to SANRAL.

Following this, the SANRAL engineers (who already have some great ideas) will evaluate them and if feasible, practical and affordable, will incorporate them into the project. We look forward to hearing from you.

SANRAL recently installed 4 new LED lights in the most eastern of subways under the N2. Sadly, within a week, one of these was stolen. Please report any such incident to SAPS as soon as possible so that the offenders can be brought to book. The use of cell phone cameras can also be used to “capture” the necessary evidence.

Summer is now really and truly here and the holiday makers are starting to arrive. Wherever possible, do make our visitors feel welcome and at home – just to emphasis that Wilderness really is THE place to be!

Cheers

Neville

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](mailto:wrra@tiscali.co.za) end your email address will be remove from our mailing list immediately.