



Wilderness Ratepayers and Residents Association, Wilderness, Western Cape, South Africa, 6560
wrra@tiscali.co.za 082 895 6317 www.wrra.co.za

WRRRA NEWS November 2016



Sunset walk on our wonderful Wilderness beach. Photo courtesy Andrea Paarman

Pg 2

**Nowhere near the
end of the road!**

Pg 3

**Please be there
SATURDAY!**

Pg 4

**Is that 'car guard'
official?**

ROADS UPDATE



Heights Road: Work is progressing at full steam on the Heights Road project. Although an inconvenience, the end result will make it well worth while! The goal is to have the road temporarily re-opened from mid December until mid January when the upgrade will recommence. **This too shall pass....!**



On the road to nowhere...

A Toyota Fortuner got stuck in the mud at the roadworks in Heights Road. It had to be towed out with the help of road workers. (Editor's note: A Land Rover would have aced this challenge, but then we Landie drivers obey street signs!)

Whites Road: Dangerous enough in normal times, but now with more traffic, the road itself is in worsening condition, with sharp curves and odd drivers. It requires attention and care.



Not sure which part of **SLOW** some drivers down Whites Road do not understand ?

WRRRA thanks the responsible drivers who have shown patience and tolerance.

Dates to Diarise:

Come and support the SPCA and give your doggie/s a BIG treat!

This year, the WRRRA is fully behind this event and it promises to be the biggest and best WOOF-athon ever!



Wilderness
WOOF-athon!

and summer
FUNFEST

SAT 26 NOV

Wilderness Village Green
8.00 am – 1.00 pm All dogs to be on leash!



8.00 Registration R5 per foot/ paw

9.00 Mass doggie BEACH walk

10.00 Enter our Fun dog shows

STALLS BARGAINS ARTS CRAFTS

GAMES DOG AGILITY DISPLAY

YUMMY TREATS & DRINKS

Please come and support the
GARDEN ROUTE SPCA



Hoekwil



A Country Market will be held on the **1st Saturday of every month** at the **Hoekwil Primary** from **9 till 1pm**. The next one is on the **3rd December**. This is a platform to sell ANYTHING (except alcohol, guns, ammo and fireworks)! Dogs on leashes are also welcome! Contact Mariëtte Künkel on 082 472 0922 or 044 850 1058 or mmk692@gmail.com

Wilderness Improvement Program and Services Updates



The overhead lights at the parking in front of the Spar are working again. **It wasn't a simple matter of changing globes**, but rather some cabling that had to be replaced. After the Milkwood Village folks first reported the matter in September, the WRRRA kept at it. And now we can now report success.

Where we have had less success is in the placement of a COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD to keep residents and visitors up to date with Wilderness info and events. The

notice board is ready, but it seems the Milkwood Village management body is not allowing its erection on the railings at the base of the entrance ramp.

Below is the sort of info that we need visitors to know so would be on the community notice board if only we could get it up!

Meet your Monitors

From left to right:
Bennet Bartmaan, Julian Ruiters, Gavin Vokerodt, Piet Janse and Garth Vokerodt.



OFFICIAL WILDERNESS MONITOR



Garth Vokerodt



Please note:

ONLY WRRRA Monitors wear OFFICIAL WILDERNESS MONITOR IDENTITY CARDS on their jackets.

The WRRRA (Wilderness Ratepayers and Residents Association) established its 'Wilderness Improvement Programme' some years ago. One of its greatest successes is the WILDERNESS MONITORS PROGRAMME where local businesses help fund the employment of trustworthy locals to keep our village safe and clean.

Previously, the village had to wait on the Municipality to pick up litter and empty rubbish bins... now the village is kept litter-free on a daily basis!

Our monitors also watch over parked cars. Please do **not support 'self-appointed' car-guards**. They are often drunk and have been known to break into vehicles!

Although tipping is not required, the monitors obviously appreciate any recognition.

Be Aware : Drownings can happen!!

You and your family and friends are not immune. PLEASE read this article.

Be wary of RIP Tides and Currents
Bathers caught in a RIP current should not panic. Simply stay afloat by treading water. DO NOT try and swim against the current as this will only tire you out, but at your first opportunity swim PARALLEL to the beach front until you are free of the rip current. Then use the incoming waves to get back to shore.

This is what a rip tide looks like !



Embrace our Environment



"Yes, the planet got destroyed. But for a beautiful moment in time we created a lot of value for shareholders."

WRRRA Environmental Feedback

Its not on, guys!



Here we are trying to keep the village clean, but some folks seem not to be on board!

10 bags of garden refuse stood **for weeks on North Road...** and when the Municipality did re-move them, they only took the allowed 7 bags leaving 3 bags for an additional week!

And this pile of garden refuse has been piling up on the verge outside on Peters Road for months. Its now over a metre high and not only unsightly but a fire hazard as well!

Please, folks, LETS ALL DO OUR BIT TO KEEP WILDERNESS BEAUTIFUL!

SANParks - **damned if they do and damned if they don't!**

As a result of the August fire, many Lake Road residents demanded that SANParks create a fire break between the reeds and the road. A grader has created the break and it is now being planted with fire resisting plants such as wild fig. (The team doing the back-breaking work is pictured below.)



However, SANParks have been met with a barrage of complaints for this action from some other residents!

Living in a natural fire-prone area will always be a risk—so we ALL need to take those steps necessary to reduce that risk as much as possible.

Those steps include removing dead branches and undergrowth, removing fire-loving alien plants like Rooi-kans and Black Wattle.

We ask the Municipality to do so on their land too!





Council News
Ward 4
Councillor :
Marlene
Viljoen

KNOW YOUR OSCA

OUTENIQUA SENSITIVE COASTAL AREA

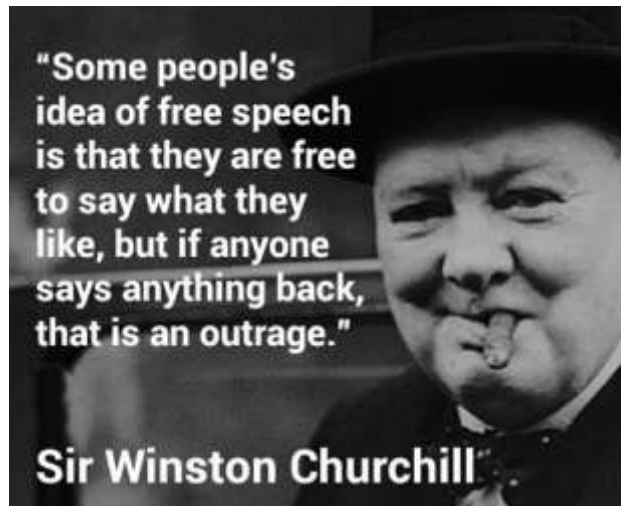
There are many questions and uncertainties regarding applications for OSCA permits in the Wilderness area. The following information should assist potential buyers, contractors and estate agents.

The purpose of the permit is to protect the natural environment in the said area whilst at the same time allowing development to take place. Often, it has been found that when residential properties are sold, the OSCA limitations and regulations are not given to the new buyer, complicating matters for the latter.

Applications for OSCA permits are handled by the Planning Section of the George Municipality. There is an application form that the applicant needs to complete and it must be submitted together with a report from a private environmental consultant as well as comments from concerned parties like the Department of Forestry, Sanparks and Cape Nature. **The Municipality maintains a list of local private environmental consultants that an applicant may want to employ for this purpose.**

The application is then considered by the Planning Section and the report submitted by the private environmental consultant is instrumental in reaching a decision. **In most cases, municipal approval will be accompanied by a set of conditions that the applicant and/or the builder must follow.** If residents suspect that OSCA regulations are not being adhered to, they are welcome to report this to the Planning Section. However, full details of the suspected transgressions must be provided so that the complaint can be followed up.

The pressure on environmental management is increasing daily and the Directorate hopes to appoint an official dedicated to this function. Detailed information regarding OSCA regulations is available on the municipality website – <http://www.george.org.za/resource-category/application-forms>.



A doctor that had been seeing an 80-year-old woman for most of her life finally retired.

At her next check-up, the new doctor told her to bring a list of all the medicines that had been prescribed for her. As the doctor was looking through these his eyes grew wide as he realized Grandma had a prescription for birth control pills.

"Mrs. Smith, do you realize these are birth control pills?"

"Yes, they help me sleep at night."

"Mrs. Smith, I assure you there is absolutely nothing in these that could possibly help you sleep!"

She reached out and patted the young doctor's knee and said, "Yes dear, I know that. But every morning, I grind one up and mix it in the glass of orange juice that my 16-year-old Granddaughter drinks. And believe me ,it definitely helps me sleep at night."





WILDFIRE INITIATIVE FUNDS HANDOVER

After the fires that blazed through Wilderness recently, the WildFire Initiative has been in action to raise funds and items for the family in need.

Initiated by Shannon Smith and with the help of the **Wilderness' community and businesses, the WildFire Initiative** has been collecting items, accepting cash donations, selling raffle tickets and also hosted a fundraising event in Sedgfield last month.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

SPECIAL DECEMBER SECURITY INITIATIVE

Thanks to all those who have already made a contribution toward the WRRRA December Security Initiative. This initiative will help fund additional SAPS-trained and equipped personnel to be in the village over the holiday season especially peak security days: December 16th, 25th and 26th plus January 1st.

We are almost there! We still need approximately R5,000 more to provide the necessary additional security.

If you can contribute, please bank your contributions directly into the *NEW* WRRRA **bank account, reference "Security Fund"**.

WRRRA, NEDBANK Garden Route Mall Branch, Code 153614, Acc No 1110522444

Wilderness Neighbourhood Security: WHATSAPP Groups

Does your Street have a WHATSAPP Group Yet??
Take responsibility. Start your street's WhatsApp Street Security Group.

If you live

On Constantia Kloof	Join ConsKloofSecurity	SMS Donald	083 251 8401
On Sands Road	Join SandsRoadSecurity	SMS Lucy	076 903 0257
In Wilderness Heights	Join HeightsWatch	SMS Roy	082 060 7474
In Wilderness East	Join 'WECAN' Wilderness	SMS Estelle	083 292 1190
In Kingfisher Close	Join KingfisherWatch	SMS Peter	060 985 9113
On Southside/10th	Join Lagoon Watch	SMS Sigi	083 626 3475

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

If your WhatsApp Group is not listed, please send the name and cell number of your street's Security WhatsApp Group administrator to wrra@tiscali.co.za to add to this list of administrators.

The Last Word



Since launching the Wilderness Improvement Programme almost four years ago (can you believe it?!) the program has had many on-going loyal supporters who have helped finance the programme, in particular the village monitor programme. These contributors deserve our support in whichever way we can so **I've decided to list them for you all to see.** There are others who make ad-hoc contributions as well and of course there are the advertisers on the "Village Wall".

Our sincere thanks go to: The George Municipality, Wilderness Resort Hotel and Spa, Milkwood Village (sponsor of the parking area), The Girls, Flava, Wilderness Pharmacy, Wilderness Kwikspar, Wilderness Mini Mart, Peter Pharoah Art Gallery, Dr R Vos, Blue Olive, Boardwalk Lodge, Nano Evenhuis, Pomodoro, Serendipity, Waterside Lodge, Lew Geffen Southerbys, Brunis Guest House, The Tops Guest House and Inn2Wilderness Guest House.



We have now entered the detailed planning stage for additional holiday season security **and I'm so pleased to see the support we are receiving from our members.** **Please don't stop now!** The more we receive the more we can and will do over the season.

Since the work on Heights Road started we have been inundated with complaints about when and how this is being done. WRRRA is not in control of any of the upgrades but we do have contact with the consultants and engineers via **Doug Wilcox who heads our "Roads" portfolio.** Doug also regularly posts updates on the WRRRA web site with any relevant information. The powers that be have been accommodating where they can but there is not too much they can do especially as both Heights and Whites Roads carry an enormous amount of traffic given their rather fragile structure. However, an URGENT appeal to all who are now having to use Whites Road as the alternative route to drive with extreme caution. We do not want a tragedy because of reckless driving. You will not make up the minutes lost at the Stop/Go section so plan ahead and allow for that extra ten minutes that you may need.

I'm delighted to see that the Palm Gardens Square has officially opened with great support. Our best wishes to all involved for a successful season.

With the massive increase in the number of vehicles in the village, parking is at a premium. I appeal to all motorists to observe the parking rules and restrictions and to be considerate of other motorists and home owners. Please make us of the open parking area in the village if needed. Consideration is being given to opening the bottom of the village green for parking when needed. We have some **fun parking fine "tickets"** that will be used to get the message across in a typical "Wilderness friendly" manner.

Enjoy the fantastic weather and our beautiful surrounds – Wilderness is SUCH a special place.

Cheers Neville