

# WRRRA NewsBites September 2019

*Wilderness Ratepayers and Residents Association*

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**October 2019**

**GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR ARTISTIC SIDE: *Friday, 4 October* (and first Friday of every month)**



**Wilderness Art Association active art fair.  
This is not just static art displayed – it is artists busy  
with their latest work, art for sale and interactive  
workshops.**

**WRRRA TALKS: *Wednesday, 16 October 18:00 for 18:30 at the Wilderness Hotel***

***Dr Enrico Gennari: Shark Conservation along the South Cape Coast***

Sharks tend to be at or near the top of the food chain and play an important role in regulating numbers of the prey animals on which they feed. But they are facing man-made threats.

Their removal from the ecosystem can have drastic and unpredictable consequences.



**Dr Gennari**, a world-renowned marine researcher and Director of Research at Oceans Research in Mossel Bay, will present research insights and the multipronged approach to this ever increasing sensitive and challenging topic.

November 2019

**ANNUAL HOEKWIL OPEN GARDENS EVENT: 2 & 3 NOVEMBER**

*Spoil yourself with a day in  
nature and  
Get inspired by the  
beautiful gardens on show!*



**WRRRA TALKS: Wednesday, 13 November, 18:00 for 18:30 at the Wilderness Hotel**

**A TRIO OF PRESENTATIONS**

*Dr Chloé Guerbois : Human / Baboon interactions in the Wilderness area*



*Melissa Dalton: The Precious Tree Project*



*Andre Hacquebord: Wilderness Fire Forum update*



**REMINDER: WILDERNESS COMMUNITY – YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!**

**Do you have any suggestions for future speakers or topics?**

**Please email the WRRRA secretary using the [WRRRA Talk suggestion](#) link on the WRRRA website.**

**2020**

**WILDERNESS ART FESTIVAL: 27 – 29 February 2020**

***Get creative in support of the Seven Passes Initiative!***

The "Night of 1000 Drawings" needs your participation – submit a doodle, sketch or painting on A5 canvas, cloth or paper. All artworks will be displayed and sold at R100 each on Friday 28 February 2020 17:00 – 20:00 at the event on the Wilderness Common.

Drop Boxes are at **Cabesa Gallery**, Palm Garden Square and **The Little Art Shop** at Paddegat Centre, Knysna Road George.

**Closing date for submission of your masterpiece is the 25 February 2020**

***It's Time to "Give a Doodle!"***

**OUR COUNCILLOR'S SUPPORT**

**A TRIBUTE TO NELSON MANDELA - The Association of Woodturners South Africa**

As part of the 2019 National Woodturning Symposium which was hosted in Wilderness, a formal handing over ceremony of a Pyrographed platter celebrating the Centenary of Nelson Mandela (2018) took place. The platter was turned by our own world-renowned woodturner, John Wessels, using Yellow Wood recovered from a fire which took place in the area close on 100 years ago. The artwork and pyrography was crafted by Lindikhaya Ndlovu, a Masters Degree student at Nelson Mandela University, George Campus.

Thanks to our Councillor, Marlene Barnardt who was instrumental in facilitating the housing of this artwork, it will be on permant display at the George Museum.



*Colleen Simons (George Museum Chairperson); Cllr Marlene Barnardt, Lindikhaya Ndlovu (Artist), John Wessels (Master woodturner), Roy Marcus (AWSA Committee)*

## **SAFETY and SAPS LIAISON**

The monthly Police/Community meeting held at the Wilderness Hotel on 30 September saw a record turnout. Whilst there has been an increase in attempted robberies, it is gratifying to see the commitment of WO Bennie Boshoff and his team to enhancing the security of our community.

The audience was assured of an intensified programme aimed at apprehending the perpetrators who are currently operating in the Greater Wilderness area.

The good news is that in terms of national crime statistics, we are living in the safest area in South Africa.

**We again remind you that you are only as safe as the security measures YOU have in place – your home's security is your responsibility and must not be neglected.**

## **WRRRA FIRE FORUM**

*The WRRRA Fire Forum is an amalgamation between WRRRA and the seven Fire Management Units (FMUs) to expand communications and to enable the Greater Wilderness area to speak with one voice on this troubling issue.*

### **The Seven FMUs**

- Diep Rivier
- Hoekwil
- Langvlei Dunes
- Rondevlei
- Wilderness
- Wilderness Heights
- Wilderness Lakes

Contact details for these FMUs can be found on the WRRRA website, [wrra.co.za](http://wrra.co.za)

**ALL** residents are urged to join their local FMU to be kept updated and encouraged to 'firescape' your properties. Don't forget to pick up the booklet, "**Wilderness, Living in a High Fire-Risk Area**", which addresses issues on Fire Management and Prevention for homeowners, and is available at R20.00 per copy at **RE/MAX** office on George Road and **The Girls** at Palm Garden Square.

A Fire Risk Assessment form is available on the WRRRA website to all residents, as well as from the respective FMUs. We encourage you to access this form and conduct your own assessment to ascertain your own personal fire risk. Also available for downloading are insurance tips and advice on insuring your property adequately in a fire loss situation.

A first in South Africa! George fire Department recently unveiled a 30 000 litre Water Trailer Tanker custom made for the Fire Department. This trailer was designed to be towed by a truck to access remote, water scarce areas during wildfires.

Coupled with the water tanker is a specially designed collapsible dam, which holds 14 000 litres and can be used for refilling helicopters carrying water bags. This is a huge boost in minimising long turn around times in water scarce areas during wildfires.

For further information please contact [fireforum@wrra.co.za](mailto:fireforum@wrra.co.za).

## VILLAGE TALK:

### VILLAGE MONITORS

Please remember all our Village Monitors have a "specific" dress code, which includes their name tag on their "bibs". If you encounter any problems where the monitor is involved ensure you take their name and if possible a photo of the specific monitor and send it together with your request/complaint. We are finding it difficult to "resolve" certain issues as we cannot identify the monitor in question.

### VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

We are in the process of "upgrading" all our wooden bins in the area and will be making them available to Business Owners for advertising on. Pricing and contact details will be posted on the **WRRRA website** as well as in **NewsBites** during October.

### GAS INSTALLATIONS

Please note that gas installations over 38kg require a George Municipality Certificate for Flammable Substances – a certificate of conformity (COC) issued by the gas installer is NOT SUFFICIENT. You may not store flammable gas in excess of 38kg, or any flammable fluid in a danger group of more than 200 litres without a Certificate for Flammable Substances. It should be noted that failure to have this certificate could result in insurance companies not paying out for damage or loss following a gas fire.

**For further information, contact George Fire Department on 044 801 6300**

### TIDES IN WILDERNESS

Tired of 'hitting the beach' for a good walk, run or cycle only to find that the tide is too high?

Go to [swell.co.za/wild/tides](http://swell.co.za/wild/tides) on your mobile or the WRRRA website for easy-to-read, graphical but comprehensive information – you need never again be unprepared!

## Smiles and kindness

*Life is not made up of great sacrifices and duties, but of little things; in which smiles and kindness given habitually are what win and preserve the heart*

*Sir Humphry Davy (1778 – 1829)*