

March
2019

WILDERNESS NEWSBITE

NEWSBITE will be circulated monthly to give our community feedback on interesting matters relating to our beautiful village and surrounds.

**The body heals with play
The mind heals with laughter
And the spirit heals with JOY**

Vegetation Control Programme

Starting on Monday 11th March 2019 the programme will cover the Wilderness Heights and Hoekwil areas over a 3 week period. Focussing on the main electricity lines, this will start on the main streets, then the side streets. There could be associated power outages. Further information is available on the Municipal website as well as press releases etc. Leaflets will be distributed as soon as possible.

Dam Wall

The Tender for the dam wall has been approved and will commence in June/July 2019. Refer to previous newsletters.

Go George

Thembaletu will be rolling out soon, with Wilderness being next in line. National Government has set the programme with regard to the order in which each area will be on the rolled out. Training of bus drivers for Tembalethu is currently taking place.

Dogs on Beaches

The notices at each beach should be adhered to, and leashes should be used where indicated. Dogs running free must be controlled by owners and any "leftovers" must please be cleaned up straight away. We are asking all our "fur baby" lovers to be aware that the mess that gets left behind make it an unpleasant experience for tourists and beach lovers alike. To be equipped with a poop scoop and plastic bag would of course be cool!

Extra ablution facilities on beaches over busy periods

This problem was addressed, but unfortunately the Municipality are unable to assist in this regard. Perhaps more signage should be made and be more visible at ALL parking areas.

Hitchhiking on the N2 is illegal

Wilderness taxis are parked at Station Road and these should be made use of. So kindly refrain from picking up hitchhikers – rather advise them to use a local taxi instead of standing on the N2.

Mexicans were asked what they thought of Trump's proposed wall,
They replied "We are very upset.... but we'll get over it!"

FMU (Fire Management Units)

An Executive Meeting is being scheduled (date to be advised), as well as important workshops.

Gardens/Business Signage

The WRRRA Gardener works 2 days per week around the village.

The Wilderness history notice board panels and the map of Wilderness behind the Caltex garage are faded and unclear. Eden Adventure has offered to refurbish and upgrade these and this is most welcome. Solar panels in the area are old and will also be removed.

Membership

The great news is that the website is getting 2000 hits a month and that the invoices sent out last month brought in excellent responses when compared to 2018. Almost 200 members have already paid their subscriptions. We need as many members as possible so that we can keep our lovely Wilderness village spick and span and safe for tourists as well as ourselves.

Traffic/Roads/Pavements and Road Signage

It is hoped that the Kingfisher Close noise problem will be solved in time with wear and tear on the road. Speeding on Waterside Road (40kmph) is a concern due to pedestrian traffic. Standard speed bumps are being considered. Illegible road signs will be attended to, but re-naming of roads is a formal process through the Ward Committee system.

Safety and SAPS

Very few house breakings reported in February. Be on the lookout for jaywalkers handing out leaflets between cars. **ALL incidents must be reported to SAPS and the Wilderness Police Station number 044 877 0011/082 444 4326 was recently confirmed.**

Kaaimans River Restaurant

Several WRRRA members have raised concerns about the restaurant – environmental, commercial use of a river front, parking access to and from the N2, liquor license, sewage disposal, etc. Town Planning advised that the restaurant complied with all these requirements. The Municipality also confirmed that there is an OSCA permit in place. As part of their application process, George Municipality took an independent EIA, sanitation, refuse, traffic safety into consideration. You are invited to write directly to Town Planning's Clinton Peterson at cpetersen@george.gov.za should you wish to pursue the matter further.

Treasury

Wall advert income is looking good with more to be invoiced. Ward funding from the Municipality has been received and is earmarked for Ward projects including fixing the wall at the Wilderness Police Station, refuse bins in Kleinkrantz etc.

Let go of your cup of yesterday so you may drink the glory of this moment. *Rumi*

Talks

Peter Leppan's talk was well attended and the next talk is scheduled for 12 June and will cover Shark Conservation on the Southern Cape Coast. Other talks may be organised before then. Suggestions are welcome.

Tourism

There are currently many European Tourists in the Village so the season seems to have extended longer.

The Fairie Knowe Hotel is apparently in the process of possible share ownership change. Affected residents should watch this space.

Hoekwil/Rondevlei/Langvlei Dunes/Kleinkrantz

Crime has dropped. LED lights are being installed. *Please report incidents.*

Chairman

Get well soon Donald and many thanks to the outgoing 2IC. You will both be missed. Good luck to the new chair! Watch this space.