

# Fish Hoek & Clovelly Residents Association

**P.O Box 22125 , Fish Hoek , 7974**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THIS ASSOCIATION WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, FISH HOEK ON THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2003 AT 7.30pm.**

## **AGENDA**

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES
2. GUEST SPEAKER  
**Mr Mike Edwards** - Headmaster, Fish Hoek Senior High School - will address the meeting on 'Education in the Fish Hoek/Noordhoek Valley'
3. MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING held on 28 November 2002 - these are available at the Fish Hoek Library, Regal Cycles, Silverglades Pharmacy, Wakefords and Weavers, and copies will be available at the door prior to the meeting.
4. MATTERS ARISING
5. COUNCILLORS' REPORT
6. TREASURER'S REPORT
7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
8. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE FOR 2003  
Current Executive: Allen Rose-Innes (Chairman), Steve Perrett (Vice-chairman), Penny Boaden (Secretary), Bill Greenwood (Treasurer), Brenda Falconer, Tony Ive, Vic Kabalin, Peter Johnson, Clive Sieglar, Marcel Spinoy, Wallace van Zyl

Some of the exco members will unfortunately not be available for the full year. We need new members - especially younger residents. So please make yourselves available.

8. GENERAL

## **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Please note that subscriptions (R20 per household for 2003) are due and payable at the beginning of each year. Your address label indicates the latest year for which your subs have been paid. Outstanding subs (for 2002) are also payable forthwith. Subs can be paid to the postal address; at the following shops: Regal Cycles, Kommetjie Rd, Wakefords, Main Road, Weavers, Main Rd, and Silverglades Pharmacy, Vallyland; or at the meeting. Cheques must be made out to Fish Hoek & Clovelly Residents' Association.

See reverse side for reply slip.

## NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2003

### Unanswered questions as Chapman's Peak Drive work starts

Work on Chapman's Peak Drive has started. At the moment this is mainly making the area safe with catch fences and rock barring before construction on the roadway can start. Access to a particular site was denied for some time because of nesting peregrine and lanner falcons. A nice touch!

The proposals for the entrance gateways are on display at the Fish Hoek Library and comments can be made thereon until 19 February.

Our Association is involved, through our links with the NDCA, in the Environmental Management Committee.

Despite this progress, we have still had no feedback to our letter to the provincial minister of transport regarding tariffs and rebates for the future toll road. We understand the decision related to the toll fees will only be taken closer to the opening of the drive, which is scheduled for November 2003.

### Pressure on Lake Michelle - Noordhoek

Residents' associations in the Far South have been liaising on matters which affect them all, such as Chapman's Peak Drive. Another issue, which has ramifications greater than those affecting just our immediate area, is the proposed further development of some 270 houses in the environmentally sensitive Lake Michelle area. The NDCA and the National Parks are opposing the scale of this development, as it does not respect the recommendations of the environmental scoping exercise, which furthermore did not provide for adequate public participation.

### Riverine Rovers tackle Silvermine River

The municipality has completed its work on the Silvermine River flood bypass scheme that created a lovely landscaped wetland area, planted with endemic vegetation. The municipality apparently does not have sufficient funds to maintain the area and invited the public to enter into a partnership to care for the area. The result is the Riverine Rovers, an enthusiastic band of people who have volunteered to care for the lower Silvermine River in terms of a management programme drawn up for the area. The Rovers are currently busy with alien vegetation removal and are helping to keep the wetland and surrounds clean. They have agreed to monitor and report problems to the SPA and will be irrigating young plants on the Fish Hoek side of the river. Anyone wanting to join this group, which meets once a week, should phone Marichen Dawson on 782-4068.

RETURN SLIP FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS	Tick block(s)	2002 - R15	2003 - R20
Name: .....			
Street Address: .....			
Postal Address: .....			
(if different) .....			
Telephone: ..... Fax: ..... E-mail: .....			
Main concerns and Proposals for Action by the FHCRA:			
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### **Builders not very good at housekeeping over the holidays**

During the builder's holiday, builder's rubble and in some cases, even unsightly portable toilets, were left on pavements. Legally, pavements should be cleared of all building materials within 24 hours. The building inspector allows a certain amount of tolerance in certain circumstances, but tolerance lasting the entire builders' holiday is inexcusable. The onus is on owners to ensure that their builders clear up.

### **The heavens are alive with the sound of choppers**

Helicopter flights over the Fish Hoek/Noordhoek valley have been causing some concern. Following up on a report by a Noordhoek resident, our Association has ascertained that a Noise Working Group (NWG) has been established to determine a Helicopter Noise Abatement Charter for the Cape Town Waterfront and residential areas. A report to Council and an 'Aeronautical Circular' are being prepared. Minutes of NWG meetings indicate that the only crossing over the Cape Peninsula Mountain Chain will be through the Fish Hoek/Noordhoek valley.

Although mindful of the benefits of promoting tourism, we are concerned about the potential noise pollution over this valley, which is predominantly a residential area. We need to understand what specific controls will be put in place, such as number of flights, hours of operation, flight heights, maximum noise levels, etc and believe that proposals in this regard should be published in the press for public participation.

The NWG has agreed to include our Association in the further deliberating process.

### **Ups and downs of the beach over the season**

We would like to thank the municipality for putting in so many cleaners over the holiday season. These cleaners were there every morning by 7am keeping the beach clean, clear of kelp and keeping the change rooms clean. However these extra cleaners have now been withdrawn. Maintaining the beach can obviously be done. Why can't it be done all year round, using some of the parking money?

We also warmly thank the volunteers who painted the benches and the SPA for painting the change room on Jager walk and the subways to remove the graffiti. Incidents of graffiti generally occur at night although recently a teenage boy was seen defacing the benches during daylight hours. This led to his arrest by a law enforcement officer.

There has been some publicity about the poor quality of the water on Fish Hoek beach and, particularly, at Clovelly beach by the river mouth. There have been extraordinarily high faecal coliform counts, particularly after rain. The Cape Metropolitan Coastal Water Quality Committee – a group of officials from all levels of government - have advised that if you are worried about water quality you should not swim near a stormwater outlet (or a river mouth into which storm water drains) for a day or two after rain.

It is a continuous battle to improve the beach but the only way it can be done is if the authorities are committed as we are to having a first-class beach. It can only work as a partnership. We have sent a letter in this regard to the SPA, together with the results of a survey regarding people's attitudes and perceptions of the beach, and a meeting has been set up for early February. Anyone wanting to join the proposed Friends of Fish Hoek Beach should contact this Association.

### **South Peninsula Community Forum to be formed**

The municipality is required by the Municipal Structures Bill to have a ward committee for each ward. Pending the formation of such ward committee(s) in our area, there has been an initiative by two Far South residents to form a ward forum to facilitate the liaison between civic bodies and the local authority. The idea, from the civic associations' point of view, would be to liaise with the municipality in an informed and co-ordinated manner on matters such as service delivery, budget priorities and land use. Because the Far South Peninsula is

split into two wards, it has been decided that wards 69 and 70 should form a single forum. The first meeting will be on 13 February, which this Association will be attending as will the ward councillors who support this initiative.

### **Peers Hill bush must go**

It was reported at a recent Police Forum meeting that there had been a raid on the squatters living in the bush in Zone C alongside Peers Hill. Two people were arrested and some stolen property was recovered. It is vitally important for the safety of residents and for the alleviation of fire risk that Zone C be cleared of alien vegetation. The site is also an important tourism venue with its proximity to Peers Cave. The municipality should ensure that whoever is responsible should clear the bush and that the clearing be completed in time for the pre-winter burn.

### **Metrorail fails to impress**

Besides the issue of security on the trains, as an ongoing court case against Metrorail attests, the rolling stock is in an appalling condition. Metrorail needs to adopt a positive attitude to encourage people to use the trains. The trains should be part of a community service, as the roads cannot handle the volume of traffic. It appears that there is more security on the stations themselves, but Metrorail is tardy when it comes to responding to direct requests for any improvement to facilities.

Metrorail's recent removal of sleepers shoring up the dunes at Glencairn and Clovelly have resulted in huge swathes of sand blowing across the road and additional costs to the SPA to clear the sand.

### **Which alien plants are the real bad guys**

Legislation has determined three categories of alien plants according to how they spread and where they are growing. The following categories relate to the Western Cape.

**Category 1** covers those plants with few redeeming features, which suck water and spread rampantly. Even if they look good, they have to be destroyed. You may not buy, plant or transport them.

They are: acacia longifolia (long-leaved wattle); Chromolaena odorata (Triffid weed); all seed-bearing lantana species; single-flowered oleanders; spider gum; prickly pear species; water hyacinth; Australian myrtle; silver wattle; pampas grass; stinkbean; Cystisus; three hakea species; four cestrum species; two broom species; red sesbania; queen of the night; kudzu vine; potato creeper; red water fern; parrot's feather.

**Category 2** plants may not be grown in suburban gardens and may only be grown in demarcated areas with the permission of the Department of Agriculture. They are: rooikrans; Port Jackson; black wattle; Australian blackwood; sisal hemp; beefwood; gum tree species; pine species; poplar species; commercial guava; weeping willow.

**Category 3** are only tolerated if they are already planted. They are: loquat; Australian silky oak; morning glory; syringa; New Zealand Christmas tree; manatoka; Brazilian pepper tree. Fines of R5000 can be issued for non-compliance.

Pamphlets will be available in the Fish Hoek Library.

### **Volunteers are a shining light in the valley**

There are many people who selflessly do community work in our valley who deserve our gratitude. Among them are the Fish Hoek Alien Vegetation Group who have over the past three decades diligently been clearing Elsie's Peak of alien vegetation.

We also commend the efforts of all people involved in charities. In December the organisers of the Mardi Gras raised considerable funds for the Fish Hoek Home Nursing Services and the False Bay Emergency Medical Services and two volunteers raised R4200 for the Rainbow Crèche in Masiphumelele.