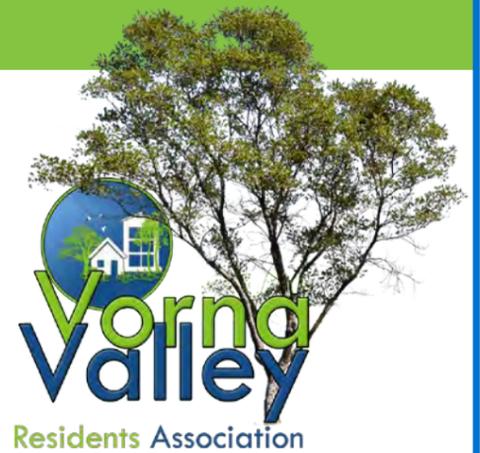


Working for you

# Vorna Valley Residents Association

# Newsletter



August 2019

## VVRA Committee

- Marianne Nel - Chairperson
- Carol Thornton - Secretary
- Hein de Kock - Treasurer, Infrastructure
- Paul Veltman- Infrastructure
- Mark Straw - Illegal Signs/Greens
- Varushka Singh - Liaison

Facebook Twitter Email Website



Whatsapp your details and email address to 082-460-8662 to join the VVRA council issues

**Contact details for Sector 2:**  
**Sector Commander - Sergeant Benji 082 888 7731 (Office Hours)**  
**Sector 2 Vehicle 071 675 6110 (24/7)**  
**Areas:** Vorna Valley, Waterfall Park, Carlswald, Halfway Gardens, Kyalami Hills.



**VICTIM EMPOWERMENT**  
**076 445 2451**

The Victim Empowerment Centre comprises of volunteer counsellors who assist victims with debriefing and trauma counselling. If you need counselling after a traumatic violent crime, please contact the VEC on 076 445 2451 to set up an appointment. All counselling is confidential and no charge!



We would like to let residents know that the **The Courier Restaurant** at the Swiss Country Club on Moerdyk Street is not just for members. Anyone can go there for a good meal. They support the VVRA and it would be wonderful if residents supported them.

Email: courier@hot.co.za  
Cell: 082 561 0063 (Wolfgang)



**NETCARE 911**  
 24HR EMERGENCY MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

## Vorna Valley AGM discusses licence plate recognition cameras



Vorna Valley Residents Association members. Back: Hein de Kock, Marianne Nel and Paul Veltman. Front: Carol Thornton, Carol Barnes and Mark Straw. Photo: Ofentse Ditlopo

**OFENTSE DITLOPO**  
ofentse@caxton.co.za

The Vorna Valley Residents Association held their 2018/19 AGM on 21 August at the Swiss Club in Midrand.

The meeting highlighted the finances of the association and the chairperson's report as well as the introduction of new association committee members Varushka Singh, Paul Veltman and Mark Straw.

Carol Barnes and Paul Mann had resigned from the committee.

One of the discussed topics was the proposed installation of licence plate recognition cameras in the suburb. Committee member Hein de Kock explained how the system would work.

He said when a car passed in front of the camera, it read the number plate and if the vehicle's registration number was listed on the police database, it would generate an alert that the Community Policing Forum and police could pick up.

De Kock added that there had been delays in implementing the system due to procedures that had to be followed but the equipment

had been bought. After the meeting, *Midrand Reporter* approached committee member Benita Young to share her thoughts on the meeting. "The meeting was great."

"The fact that people from the area come together to discuss the issues that are of importance to them is welcomed... a warm and healthy discussion is great."

Regarding the installation of the cameras, Young was not convinced.

She said the intention was good but the way the information provided was used made her question them being installed in Vorna Valley.

"Worldwide there are examples of how the information gets misused to target people or figure out loopholes in the systems, so I am not comfortable at all for anybody to know about my whereabouts or my movements," she added.

"I think SAPS needs to have a bigger presence within the area. I think they are totally under represented within Midrand and that is maybe due to the growth that was not planned for, but I do think the police service should really be more widely represented in the area."

Midrand Reporter Week ending 30 August 2019

Sadly the Midrand Reporter published that Benita is a committee member, which is not true.

### Dear Vorna Valley Residents

Thank you to those residents who made the effort to attend our AGM this year. Thank you to Carol Barnes and Paul Mann, who have resigned from the committee, for your work done over the past few years. Thank you to Carol Thornton, the secretary, and Hein de Kock, the treasurer, who will remain on the committee, as well as myself, Marianne Nel, who will remain on as Chairperson.

We would like to welcome on board, Paul Velman, who has assisted the VVRA of the last few years, and is now a committee member.

Also a big thank you to Varushka Singh and Mark Straw who have come on board as well.

Hein de Kock presented the LPR cameras to the residents with questions and answers. One resident was against putting up LPR cameras, of the 39 residents that were present.

All the paper work is ready for submitting our wayleave to JRA, bar a letter from the ward 132 Cllr, on a letterhead, and the engineers report on the camera poles.



# Harcourts

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The VVRA has still not had feedback regarding the open power boxes and contractors continue to break open these boxes when having to working inside them.

4 Aug 2019 - Resident reports open box beeping at 20h36 and City Power attend to the matter and report that the issue was resolved by 07h34.

4 Aug 2019 - Several residents without power due to JWater digging and hitting the power cable.

15 Aug 2019 - Residents have power coming through their water system in GustavePreller.

20 Aug 2019 - Another resident has power coming through their water system in Gustav Preller.

1 Aug 2019 - Several residents without power since midnight due to several cable faults. City Power had to test to find the faulty cables and then dug up the cable to be repaired.



Watering of gardens is **NOT** allowed between 6am and 6pm in summer months (1 Sept to 31 March) and furthermore, all consumers are prohibited from using a hose-pipe to clean paved areas, wash cars, roofs and driveways with municipal water.

3 Aug 2019 - Major water leak on Sangiro.

5 Aug 2019 - Sewerage still running down Smuts

7 Aug 2019 - Water leak on Elizabeth Fry

8 Aug 2019 - Sewerage leak on Albertyn

9 Aug 2019 - Sewerage leak still on Albertyn

15 Aug 2019 - Sewerage blocked again on Pierneef

19 Aug 2019 - Sewerage running down Smuts in two areas.

19 Aug 2019 - Sewerage blocked Pierneef

20 Aug 2019 - Major Sewerage or Water leak on Berger

20 Aug 2019 - Water leak in Caradoc

21 Aug 2019 - Sewerage leak Anton Hartman

21 Aug 2019 - Sewerage leak in Eton Close on le Roux

22 Aug 2019 - Sewerage or water leak on Berger

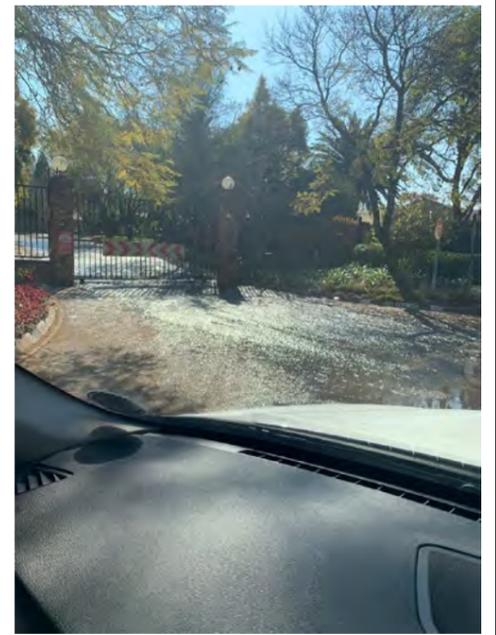
22 Aug 2019 - Major sewerage leak le Roux/Berger

22 Aug 2019 - Sewerage leak still in Eton Close on le Roux. This was unblocked but became blocked again within hours

23 Aug 2019 - Sewerage leak in Eton Close on le Roux was unblocked but became blocked again within hours

24 Aug 2019 - Sewerage still leaking on le Roux/Berger

27 Aug 2019 - Water overflowing from Car wash in Vorna Valley Shopping Centre



Major damage to road on Rudi Neitz still waiting to be repaired. (more than a year later)

Damage to roads due to water leaks still waiting to be closed and repairs. le Roux/Janadel, le Roux/Bekker, Anton Hartman/Harry Galaun, Berger/Elizabeth Fry, and now also Moerdyk/Harry Galaun.

Several Potholes have been reported but not fixed yet.

Most stormwater drains are still blocked after being reported several time.

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**WHAT IS YOUR HOME WORTH?**

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Many road users do not understand the concept of a STOP sign nor that the red light on a traffic lights means "STOP". Taxis have a total disregard for all rules of the road, riding on pavements, nearly driving over pedestrians, driving on the wrong side of the road when traffic is backed up and stop to off load and pick up passengers where ever they see fit.

Unfortunately JMPD can not be everywhere to catch these culprits. Residents are urged to report such cases to JMPD via the number in red below. Send photos or videos with detail of why, when, where and how.

Shamroc is a one way down to Langeveld. Many motorist use it to go up to Pretorius illegally. This lady was reported to JMPD.

It is also illegal to park trucks on pavements. Residents are urged to report such cases to JMPD immediately on 011 375 5911 and make sure you get a ref no.

**If you see anyone driving badly in Joburg, take a video or picture and send it via Whatsapp to JMPD reckless driving hotline 081 410 6338 with details of where, when and what.**



### Meeting - Vlei 13th August

I (VVRA - Carol Thronton) had a meeting at the Vlei construction site on Tuesday (13 Aug 2019) morning. Present was the CLO, site foreman, engineer, safety officer and the environmental officer. The latter is contracted and is new to the project and had his first site meeting on the previous Thursday.

I expressed the residents' concerns about the care of the vlei and all of the animals therein. The CLO is on the vlei group so had read all of the e-mails from the previous evening. The group were adamant the the monitor lizard had been killed accidentally as it had been underground when the digger went into the soil. I listed all the wildlife that we knew were in the vlei and emphasized that we did not wish to have any further animal/birds' deaths or harm.

I also discussed concerns about the vetting of the workforce as residents whose houses bordered onto the vlei were worried about security. The CLO said that they were unaware of that and had not been informed. There is a complaints/ concerns register and any such should be channeled through the CLO and entered on the register.

As there has been no effective liaison between the CLO and the community, we agreed that I would act as liaison in future, attend meetings and channel any

concerns.

The CLO stated that they were concerned that residents (maybe) were entering the vlei by the lower gates and a fire had been started by someone dropping a lit cigarette.

The safety officer is concerned about safety on the site and advised that anyone who visits need to sign in at the office and be escorted around the site. Making an appointment would be helpful. The person should wear closed shoes and will be issued with safety clothing. He pointed out that they would not be held responsible for anyone who did not stick to this.

Duties of the CLO

The CLO is responsible for recruitment of the workforce and general oversight of the site and any problems.

Recruitment of the workforce.

The workers are interviewed, complete the necessary paperwork and have the necessary health check. They have not had criminal checks done but we have all of their details and the VVRA will attend to this.

### Illegal Dumping



JOHANNESBURG - The fine for illegal dumping has gone up from R3,000 per vehicle to R20,000.

Authorities in Johannesburg say they are clamping down on those contravening by-laws.

"We have a really big problem with illegal dumping in the City. We know important areas, to us, for instance near the FNB stadium, it has become a really big problem, with rubble being dumped.

"Hence the City has taken a tough stance against illegal dumping", said JMPD spokesperson Wayne Minnaar.

Minnaar adds that it is difficult to police illegal dumping because it usually happens in remote areas.

"We now have a 24-hour hotline available, where people can report illegal dumping. We also have a Whatsapp number, so if you do see an offender and can take a picture of the offender, especially the number plate, so that we have it on record."

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Customers should note that the Region A Customer Service Centre (300 - 15<sup>th</sup> Road, Randjiespark, Midrand) is closing from the 8th August 2019 due to renovations.

A temporary office will be set up from Monday 12 August 2019 at Waterfall Wilds Centre, corner Waterfall and Country Estate drive, Midrand until further notice. Customers should note that the temporary office will not take cash and only credit/debit cards will be accepted for payments



Shared by Vorna Valley Residents Association



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[www.joburg.org.za](http://www.joburg.org.za)

## UNDERSTANDING SANITATION

Do you ever think of what happens after you flush?

“Out of sight, out of mind” is the attitude most of us have when it comes to flushing the toilet, running the dishwasher or popping the bath. But all that dirty water leaving your residence is called “wastewater” which has to end up somewhere. That “somewhere” is at the JW Wastewater Treatment Works. The JW wastewater process removes solids, dissolved solids and harmful bacteria. The treatment process last between 8 to 16 hours until water is clean enough to be used as a daily source of clean, fresh water.

Before the wastewater arrives at the treatment plant it first must travel through the pipes connected to your home, apartment, business, etc., via network, from there it enters pumping stations that “pump” the water to the next point along the way. If there are no blockages in the pipes this wastewater reaches the treatment plant.

Sewer backups can cause damage to homes, health hazards and threaten the environment. Sewer pipes blocked by grease are an increasing common cause of overflows.

What is the problem and how am I affected?

Sometimes there are blockages in the collection pipes or pump stations. These blockages may cause sewage overflows and back-ups in your home, your neighbour’s home, on public property and just about wherever water can find a way out.

Some of these sewer overflows and back-ups occur because of system failures. Sometime blockages can be attributed to improper disposal of personal items, such as diapers, feminine hygiene products, grease and fat from cooking, towels, rags, etc. into the sewer system. Everything you flush down your toilet, ends up at the treatment works (though, not in its original form).

For instance, suppose you accidentally flush a s down something in your toilet. If it doesn’t block your system and manages to move through your pipes it eventually ends up at the treatment works where it has joined hundreds of other items that block up the pumps and prevent them from working properly.

How much waste really ends up in the system?

JW’s sewer system is not designed to collect garbage. Human waste and toilet tissue are the only products the wastewater system was designed to handle. As our customers this affects you because continued use of our sewer system as a trash can contributes to system failures, added stress and wear, and increased operation and maintenance costs.

How can you help?

Customers are urged to all contribute by maintaining our infrastructure.

Please ensure that you do not flush the following items in your toilet:

**Nappies, Food, Garbage, Hair, Personal hygiene products, Toys, Paper towels, Toothbrushes, Baby/Cleaning wipes,**  
**With everyone’s help JW can limit the number of sewer overflows due to blockages in the system thereby eliminating the need for costly clean-ups and possible contamination of our rivers/dams and endangerment of public health.**  
**If you would like more information, a tour to JW Wastewater treatment works, please contact at (011) 688 1400**

Remember, prevention is key. Keep your pipes and drains clean.



Pikitup the waste management company of the City of Johannesburg has addressed the bin shortage issue and advises residents whose bins are damaged or stolen to apply for replacements.

Pikitup has stockpiled a significant number of bins and residents who need their bins to be replaced must follow a certain process in order to have their bins replaced. The process is in line with Pikitup’s bin management policy and this is what is required when making an application for a new bin:

### **1. What to do if your bin has been stolen**

Report your bin as stolen at a police station nearest to your place of residence, obtain a case number and have your municipal account ready before calling the City’s Call Centre to make an application for a bin replacement. This process applies to domestic as well as business customers

### **2. What to do if your bin is damaged**

Report the damaged bin through the City’s Call Centre number and also be in possession of your account number when applying for your bin to be replaced

### **3. What to do when requesting for an additional bin**

Call the City’s Call Centre number and remember to have your account available and a reference number will be issued to you which will be used to issue an additional bin. However in such incidences residents will be required to pay for the cost of the additional bins.

The reference number will then be referred to a Pikitup official who will attend to a customer’s request. Customers’ should always sign the bin delivery document as proof that they have received the bin.

Residents and business should also note that no bin request will be processed without a reference number. Furthermore, in terms of Pikitup’s bin management policy, a damaged bin will be replaced at no cost to the customer but lost or stolen bins will only be replaced for free once in a bins’ useful life. The current useful life span of a bin is eight (8) years.

### **In relation to sectional title properties,**

Pikitup will provide bins equal to the lower number of units in the complex or bins equal to the space available to store bins in such properties. Residents living in such properties should note that only the property owner or the managing agent may apply for a bin on their behalf.

In the event, tenants would like to make applications for bins, their applications will only be entertained once they have a letter of authority from the owner or the managing agent of the property.

Pikitup appeals to residents to immediately place their bins inside their properties after the bins have been emptied to prevent criminal elements from stealing their bins.

The City of Johannesburg Call Centre number: 011 375 5555 or 086 0562874 and press option 4 for Pikitup.

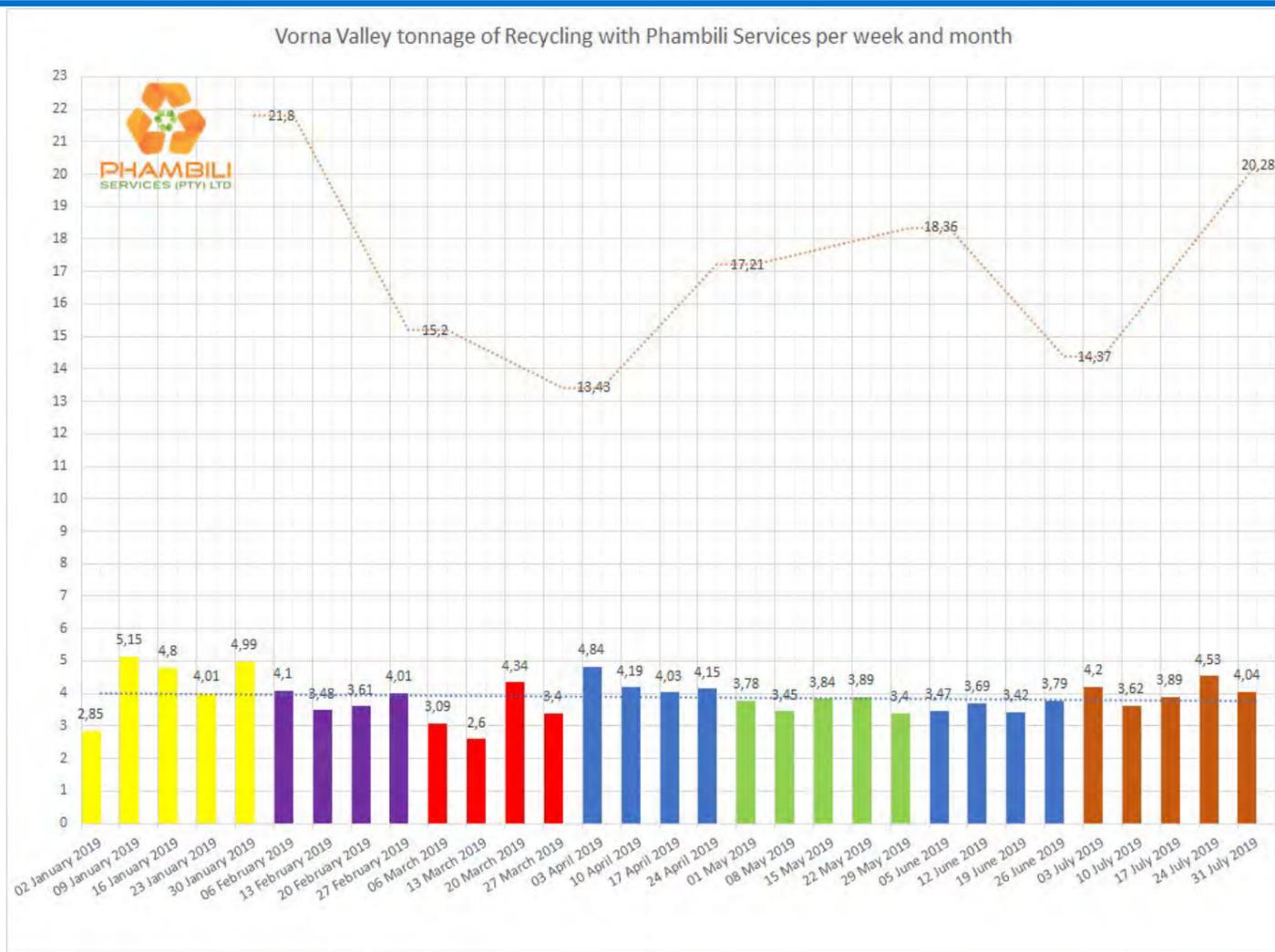
For more information contact:

Pikitup spokesperson

Muzi Mkhwanazi

087 357 1116

071 312 7757



**Please Don't Forget To Recycle With Phambili Services Each Wednesday Of The Month.**

**Recycling is Compulsory**



**Separation@Source is coming to your area**

**What is Separation@Source?**

Separation@Source means separating and placing your recyclable material into the refuse bag provided and placing non-recyclable waste into the black wheelie bin.

**Recyclables to be placed in plastic bags are:**

Paper	Cardboard	Magazines & Newspapers	Plastics	Glass	Bottles	Milk and Juice Cartons	Cans	Jars
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TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
[www.pikitup.co.za](http://www.pikitup.co.za) or call 0860 JOBURG (0860 562 874)  
 or [www.phambiliservices.co.za](http://www.phambiliservices.co.za) or 0861 767 666

An initiative brought to you by



A reminder that recycling is compulsory. Phambili Services collect recycling in Vorna Valley on behalf of Pikitup, every Wednesday.

If you are not yet recycling with Phambili, please contact [marianne@vvra.co.za](mailto:marianne@vvra.co.za) via email or via whatsapp on 082 460 8662 so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

Phambili Services supply blue bags and collect weekly.

All recycling material goes into one bag. (Paper, Cardboard, Magazines & Newspapers, Plastics, Glass, Bottles, Milk and Juice Cartons, Cans, Jars.

Phambili Services now also place informal reclaimers into complexes to do the recycling on their behalf. Phambili then buys back all the recycling they collect, taking them to the depot to weigh and pay.

This will hopefully take many of the informal reclaimers off the streets and afford them a monthly income.

If you would like your complex to join this project, please email your details to [marianne@phambiliservices.co.za](mailto:marianne@phambiliservices.co.za), so that Phambili can come and setup your complex for an informal reclaimer to start your recycling.

**Each house and complex gets given Phambili blue bags for recycling. We kindly request that residents please use these bags for recycling ONLY and not for other waste or garden waste.**

*"If you want grown-ups to recycle, just tell their kids the importance of recycling, and they'll be all over it."*

- Bill Nye

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