



Vorna Valley Residents Association

working for you

VVRA Newsletter Feb 2015

Hello Vorna Valley

We trust that you are all keeping well and preparing for the fast approaching change of season.

First of all, thank you to Sue Klingenberg and Sugandree Mudely for all the time and effort they put into getting the VVRA registered as an NPO. If there is a registered accounting officer or a firm of auditors/ accountants who would be willing to assist the VVRA to submit financial statements, or if anyone knows of someone that could help us with this, please contact us at info@vvra.co.za.

Vlei / Wetland:

It was with great excitement when we had to open the gate on Le Roux avenue to the vlei area one Sunday morning for City Parks to come in and cut the grass. BUT we were rather disappointed 3 days later when we found out that the directive they were given was to only clean 5m from the main fences so most of the vlei has still not been cut. We are in communication with City Parks with respect to clearing the rest of the vlei and had a meeting with City Parks, Council, JMPD and Councillor James on the 4 March to try and get things moving. JRA didn't attend unfortunately as a lot of the work to be done falls under JRA, but the council officials that were there we quite shocked at the state of the Vlei and we really hope that they all come to the party and start attending to the huge problem we have with the Vlei and surround areas leading to the Vlei. The proposed date that we have now been given for a full environmental cleaning of the vlei is now Mid April and not March as previously reported.

It has also come to our attention that certain companies are dumping chemical waste into the wetland area going as far back as 16th road. If you do know of this happening please let us know as not only does it affect the water quality for the wild life and plants, the chemical issue contributes to the smell within the vlei area. Email info@vvra.co.za.

Recycling:

As mentioned in last month's newsletter we approached Pik-It-UP with respect to Recycling (or sorting at source) and they are more than happy to assist with this and would supply bags and collection of the bags free of charge to residents. We unfortunately need numbers to make this a feasible option for Pik It Up and had a really dismal response to the newsletter with 27 people within Vorna Valley replying to us. If you are interested please reply to incidents@vvra.co.za with a yes and then also if it would be a problem for you to put the bags out on a different day to our normal Thursday collection or not.

Security:

Sector 2 had their AGM last week with a new crime forum committee being elected and the executive is as follows.

- Chairperson – Sandile Mahlaba
- Deputy Chairperson – Sharma Sewjalal
- Secretary- Marion
- Deputy Secretary – Candice Fuller

Thank you to the residents who attended and those who have agreed to come on board with the fight against crime. Congratulations to the executive of the SCF for Sector 2 and we wish you all the best for the year ahead.

A lot of security companies operating in Vorna Valley want to get more involved in our area. We have had meetings with some of them and will report back as to how they will get involved. If any one has comments or suggestions please feel free to email us on info@vvra.co.za. Do you want to see crime stats? Do you want to know where our crime hot spots are? Did you have a break-in? We have two VVRA members on the SCF for sector 2 who can liaise with us as residents and SAPS. Colonel Moodley would like complexes to contact him regarding incidents in complexes. He will also arrange a meeting to discuss crime in secure complexes. Don't leave it until you are involved in a crime, get involved now to prevent crime. Colonel Moodley's email address is gpmidrand.

PARTIAL GRASS CUT IN VLEI



POLLUTED WATER RUNNING INTO THE VLEI



PIKITUP AND RECYCLING



SECTOR 2 ELECTED COMMITTEE



Photo from Midrand Reporter

We also have some local companies in and around Vorna Valley that are very willing to assist with CCTV's etc.

Pavements and Verges:

We appeal to all residents to keep their verges clear of garden rubbish and rubble and to regularly mow your verge. A clean and well maintained verge makes such a difference to the whole look of the area. If you are building please ensure that your building rubble is cleared off your verge on a regular basis and that after building is completed all rubble and sand etc. is removed from your verge. We also ask residents living on the verge of the Vlei, not to dump their rubble into the Vlei.

The VVRA has been issuing letters to people to have their verges cleared and if this is not attended to within 2 weeks council is then brought in either to clean up and charge the resident or issues a fine. Thank you to all of the residents that did get a letter and cleaned up their pavements. Unfortunately we have a few that totally ignore this letter and have now been handed over to council.

Choo Choo Nursery School has purchased the land next to them and is in the process of building and clearing up the land, this is just after the corner of Mozart and Anton Hartman. We spoke to Cheryl who bought that piece of land full of rubble and an enormous security risk but they are busy cleaning up the open land slowly but surely. Thank you Cheryl!!

Storm Water drains and Sewerage manholes:

The Le Roux storm water drainage system is also being looked into by council, City Parks, JRA together with the VVRA and Councillor James.

Shamrock avenue is the process of being fixed. This road has been closed due to the huge amount of erosion and degeneration of the road. This degeneration was actually brought about by rubbish from complexes being thrown into the Storm water drainage system and the systems could not cope. This rubbish backs up and in the drains and causes blockages which results in seepage. The constant moisture then weakens the tar and together with the traffic the road is destroyed. Please note that our sewerage and storm water drains are not built for disposal of solid waste at all, and if one does this it causes blockages and damage to the system. Items that were taking out of the drain range from toy dumper trucks to big plastic bottles, glass bottles, soccer balls, tupperware and other general solid waste. We urge complexes to contact info@vvra.co.za so that we can set your complex up with D&H Recycling and Waste Management Services so that we can prevent this from happening again. They come to your complex and recycle what they can and remove the recycle waste from your complex. So instead of 60 bins you are left with maybe 4 bins for Pikitup to collect. This service is totally free.

There is still a big problem with sewerage manholes leaking into the vlei area going unnoticed for months at a time. This is something that needs to be monitored on a regular basis and something that we are looking into to see how to monitor this.

Vorna Valley Shopping Centre.

The owner of the Vorna Valley Shopping Centre and the VVRA have been in contact with each other regarding the NO ENTRY exit off Harry Galaun. Many people enter this NO ENTRY exit, causing near accidents, traffic blockages and tempers flaring. The VVRA has been corresponding with Councillor James, JRA and JMPD. This exit was approved many years ago and residents have been complaining about the irresponsible persons entering the shopping complex via the exit ever since. JRA say it is a legal exit with all the correct traffic signage; it is people that are entering illegally. This has been referred to JMPD to periodically enforce the law here. We are taking this matter further and advise people entering this NO ENTRY exit to start getting their minds set to enter at Albertyn entrance. You are breaking the law by entering at an NO ENTRY exit and JMPD will be waiting for you.

RUBBLE OFFENDERS



SHAMROC



SEWERAGE MANHOLES IN THE VLEI



Thank You's:

Thank you to Pikitup for always being ready to assist the VVRA where needed. Hopefully they will get the emptying of the concrete bins and collecting of the bags the sponsored cleaners fill with litter from our streets under control shortly. Unfortunately companies pay to place a bin with their advertising where they choose and this gets approved by council without it first being looked at to see if it will be obstructive to traffic, can it be emptied easily or if there is a need for a bin in that spot and our residents have to look at the over flowing and broken bins and deal with the obstruction they cause to motorists.

Ria Sebetsa has come on board to assist with the cleaning up of our suburb and a big thank you to Danny from Ria Sebetsa for agreeing to sponsor our cleaner for a day a week from February onwards.

Once again a big thank you to our regular monthly sponsors - Wendl Redl from Harcourts Residential Properties, Platinum Residential and Mark McDonald of Leogem Properties; they each sponsor a day a week for our weekly cleaner. Our cleaner tends to the gardens, picks up litter and takes down illegal signage. Also thank you to Heavens Kitchen for assisting with the food for the cleaner.

Website and Facebook page:

Please remember to go like our Vorna Valley Residents Association (VVRA) facebook page. Here we post news and happenings continuously to keep you inform. Also visit and register on our website www.vvra.co.za where you can log an incident once you have reported it to council. Please add your ref. no when logging an incident so that the VVRA and follow up with council. You will also find the current load shedding schedule on our website and contact details of where to report faults.

QUICK LOG GUIDE

Please find below a quick guide to logging matters in the City of Johannesburg. If you have logged an issue and it hasn't been attended to in a reasonable length of time there is likely a reason for it; please let the VVRA know about such instances and we will do our best to escalate the issue.

011 375 5555 or 0860 JOBURG (56 28 74) – this is the best way to go as one gets a number automatically.

- * City Power: www.citypower.co.za and click "Fault Reporting"
- * Joburg Water: customerservice@jwater.co.za
- * Joburg Roads: hotline@jra.org.za
- * Pikitup: 0860 JOBURG (56 28 74)
- * City Parks: 0860 JOBURG (56 28 74)
- * JMPD: 011 375 5911
- * Revenue: 0860 JOBURG (56 28 74) / joburgconnect@joburg.org.za

That's all for now... and remember, "If you see something, Say something"!

Please follow us on Facebook: - Vorna Valley Residents Association (VVRA) or Twitter @valleyvorna for more updates about our suburb throughout the month.

Best Regards
The Vorna Valley Residents Association

JOBURG WATER PROMPTLY ATTENDING TO A FIRE HYDRANT KNOCKED OFF BY A VEHICLE ON HARRY GALAUN



Wendy Redl PROPERTY CONSULTANT
 FETC Real Estate
 Harcourts Midrand
 T: 011 206 5900 F: 011 206 5916
 C: 082 451 8365 E: wendy.redl@harcourts.co.za
 W: www.harcourtsmidrand.co.za
 A member of the elite Harcourts Blue Circle Group - Ranked in the top 7 performing agents in the group.

PLATINUM
 residential

Swiss Country Club
 JOHANNESBURG

Mark McDonald
 Cell: +27 84 096 1111
 Tel: +27 11 312 0148
mark@leogemprop.com
www.leogem.com

LEO GEM
 PROPERTY GROUP

HEAVENS KITCHEN

Veggie
 Divine Foods

MIDWAY PAINT & HARDWARE
 Tel: 011 805 5095 Fax: 011 315 0408
midway@midway.co.za
 Midway Manor Shopping Centre, Elm, 7th & Harry Galoan.

Marnicmel Solutions
 Computers, Servers, Networking, Webdesign, Hosting and support
 Cell: 082 460 8662
 Email: info@marnicmel.co.za

RIA SEBETSA
 SECURITY SERVICES

PAM GOLDING
 PROPERTIES

Lindsay Steinhobel
 Estate Agent
 Cell: 084 669 0148

Vorna Valley Shopping Centre
 Albertyn Road
 Vorna Valley, Midrand
 011 805 3346