

NewsLetter



GROTTO BAY PRIVATE NATURE RESERVE



Beautiful one day → Perfect the next

Our First Newsletter.

The Board trusts that this is something that will be kept up by subsequent boards. Not intended as a replacement of our Whaletalks, it is a way of keeping all members of the GBHOA in the loop and promotes transparency.

Let's stay connected

Many members have been battling with W-Fi cover and cellphone reception during an Eskom power outage. We are looking into this and attempting to get permission from MTN and Vodacom to connect the GB generator to the tower. The current battery only lasts about 20 mins after the onset of an outage.



Board Meeting Minutes Update

We have undertaken to post the minutes of the latest board meeting on our website within 14 days of the meeting. However we will do our best to get it out earlier than that. Please keep in mind that this is an unsigned draft and has no legal standing. The signed copy will replace the unsigned one on our website as soon as it becomes available.

About gardening

Marijke Honig will be coming to talk to us about gardening along the WestCoast.

The date scheduled is the 18th March 2020 at 11am.

This is a weekday, so we will attempt to record it for those who work and are unable to attend.

Alien Vegetation

Some of our members are concerned regarding the alien vegetation, particularly trees, now evident in our reserve. It encourages for example an abnormally high population of certain birds which then in turn creates a disturbance of the natural ecology of our area. Our Conservation Director is currently looking into this and is putting forward a proposal so that this can be discussed at the upcoming AGM.



Awareness Campaign

We are about to launch our Awareness Campaign similar in concept to the “Zap it in the Zibi” and “Bokkie Says” campaigns some of us will remember from our childhood days. It entails a series of boards, equivalent in size to a standard estate agent board, that will have interchangeable messaging and be placed along Sea Eagle Drive. These will deal with issues of concern to all of us. We hope to include our Grotto Bay kids in getting messages across, a fun but worthwhile activity for them.
WATCH THIS SPACE.

Blockburn

In order to maintain our veld, stimulate fynbos growth and provide safety in case of runaway veld fires, a Blockburn will be carried out every second year. If a different section of our reserve is done each time, we will eventually have covered the whole of our reserve over an 18 year period (within the 20 year period as stipulated by our EMP) This requires a fair amount of co-ordination. We are obligated to approach all relevant authorities and neighbours for a site inspection in order to apply for permission to do this. Starting with Blocks 5 and 7 (the south eastern corner of our estate on the R27), the burn will take place during the 1st week in April this year. Aerial support is required in the case of a runaway fire and the Western Cape Fire Department as well as our own fire team, and helpful neighbours will be on High Alert throughout. We will advise you as to the exact date when the burn will take place. We will request all interested residents to assist us in driving out any animals and insects from the area, directly before we commence the burn.



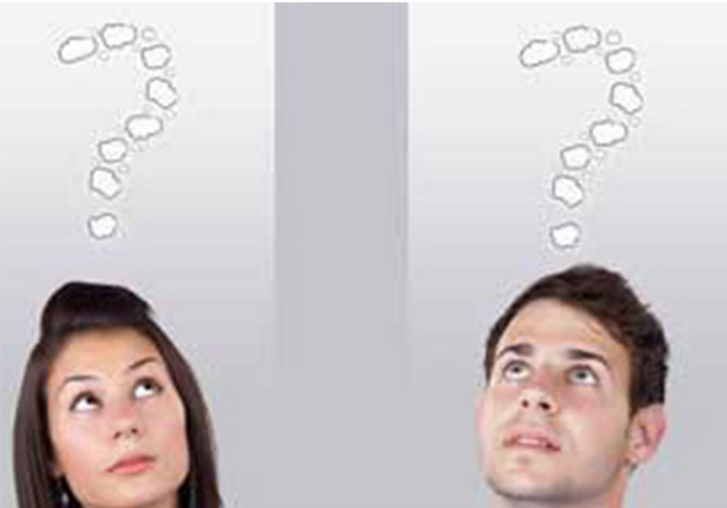
First Aid

Keep in mind that A Fully Equipped **First Aid Kit** is kept at the guardhouse for any emergency. It is checked yearly by Thomas and Dennis of Sandplover Close. We are about to arrange CPR training for our Estate Manager, Estate Staff and Reaction Team. It will be opened to all residents as well, so we will keep you updated.

Water Quality and Control

We continue to monitor our water situation, water quality and control thereof. Changing the current use of Chlorine Gas to Sodium Hyper Chloride for purification of our water is being considered for safety reasons.

Our Projects Director, in conjunction with members and consultants, who have expertise in this area, are discussing equipping our borehole for water shortage emergencies.



Off the Grid or Not

We are very aware that our Eskom electrical supply is a hot topic at the moment. This will require extensive discussion amongst all of us and investigation as to the way forward. There is no quick fix here. This will be brought up at our AGM where we can all mutually agree as to what steps we should take.

Any suggestions regarding a better format or what else you would like included in our Newsletter will be welcomed. Please send us your comments or suggestions.



“You can’t go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending” – C.S. Lewis

