

Newsletter



GROTTO BAY PRIVATE NATURE RESERVE

Beautiful one day — Perfect the next

Hello to all our Residents.

Here follows our 2nd Newsletter of 2020. We were pleased to receive good feedback after our first attempt and look forward to your comments this time around. We are more than willing to add items requested by you or make changes based on your recommendations.

Guests in Grotto Bay

Please keep in mind that Lockdown regulations have not been lifted on unregistered, unaccredited short term home rentals for leisure purposes e.g. Airbnb. Though many of us have started to receive requests, we are unfortunately not able to take them up. We are watching this space with every new gazette that is published by the SA Government.

AGM - Details will be sent to members soon.

Trimming of the Gate Milkwoods

As you may all know, Milkwood trees are protected and may not be cut down or trimmed. However the Milkwoods at our estate entrance pose a problem for our security as they block the camera path between cameras there.

Les Nel, our conservation director, approached DAFF and has been granted a licence to remove the offending branches. This will be done sensitively under his supervision with our estate manager and security director in attendance .

Blockburn Update

We drew your attention to our Block burn in our last newsletter. This is something else that had to be placed on the backburner as a result of the lockdown, as this involved coordination between various departments e.g. the WC fire department and ourselves. Our EMP however dictates a 20 year plan during which we would burn a mosaic section every two years. Our original plan meant we would have completed the cycle within 18years. Thus we had a two year leeway. This means that even though we have to wait till next year for the next opportunity prior to fire season to do this, we will still complete the cycle within the required 20 years.

Thank You Estelle Bekker

A few weeks ago, Estelle found a young turtle in the shallows in the corner of Long Beach that had been trapped in nylon rope and fishing gut. She called the Cape Town Aquarium who gladly assisted her. The turtle she had named Marcel was operated on and then placed in a rehabilitation tank and was gently nursed. Sadly he died a few days later of internal gangrene, unsuspected by the experts at the time.

Many thanks to Estelle who always concerns herself with conservation issues in our estate and willingly shares her knowledge and the items of interest that she stumbles upon.



Ask your Board WhatsApp Group

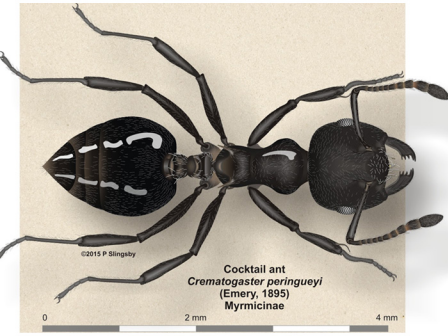
The GBHOA directors are launching a new Question and Answer WhatsApp group. The purpose of this group is to facilitate faster responses to pertinent questions that members or residents may have, thereby preventing false or inaccurate information spreading. It may also be used to introduce Board Directors to the GBHOA.

Rules will apply to ensure orderly, transparent and informative communication:

1. Joining this Whatsapp group is entirely voluntary, and is open to all members, as well as tenants formally registered with Browmann.
2. Our managing agent will administer the group and will send out a letter of consent for your signature, should you wish to be added.
3. This is a platform that can be used to submit questions to and receive answers from the Board.
4. The GBHOA Board of Directors are bound by the MOI, rules and regulations and thus answers will be purely factual. No discussions or debates will be permitted.
5. Any questions relating to the GBHOA's procedures, policies, rules and legal aspects are welcome.
6. Our managing agent will apply the rules strictly and if transgressed, will send a first warning to stop inappropriate behaviour. If continued, the member will be removed from the group for a cool down period of 2 weeks.
7. Should the member transgress continually, the managing agent will remove the member permanently.

We aim to better serve our community and simultaneously protect your investment. We look forward to hearing from you.

Fun Facts



The Black Cocktail Ant (*crematogaster peringueyi*)

This ant got its name from its ability to “cock its tail” and not from the beverage! They do this when alarmed. At the same time they extrude a stinger, but do not sting their prey or enemies but instead exude volatile defensive and offensive chemicals.

Source :

<https://antsofthecape.blogspot.com/p/myrmicinae-coctail-ants.html>

Biodiversity Crime

Please read the flyer from Cape Nature, link here (PDF 4,1MB). There has been concern expressed regarding the increase in poaching across SA. This encompasses more than just poaching of abalone, as the flyer explains. We all need to be on the alert in this regard as it could potentially impact on fauna and flora within our estate.



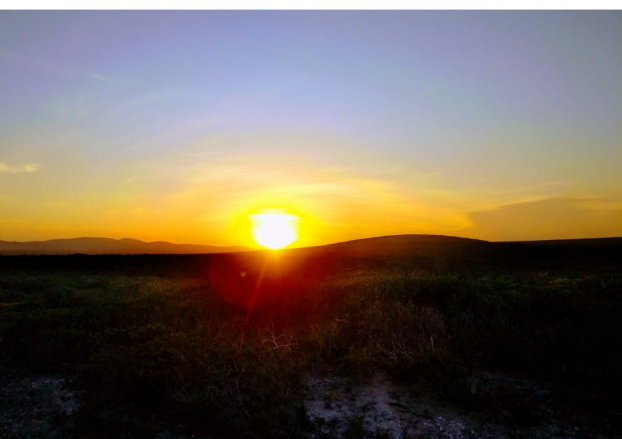
BEWARE OF BIODIVERSITY CRIME

Biodiversity Crime involves the illegal collection or exploitation of indigenous wild animals and plants.

It can destroy our natural resources, habitats and biodiversity.

It compromises our natural heritage and the ecological integrity of the Western Cape.

It contributes to general criminal activity with all its negative social consequences.



Times have been difficult for many of us through recent months. We all share in the trials and tribulations of members of our Grotto Bay Community.

Rise above the Storm
and you will find the Sunshine

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