



Weekly Newsletter

Friday, 20 April 2012

CONSERVANCY – RESTAKING TREES ON DALE AND ALLAN ROADS

Well, a small but dedicated turn out to help tie the new trees to stakes on Saturday morning – the Conservancy Chairman, Rob Fowler, and three committee members. See this week’s Midrand Reporter for a photo.

I must ask Shirley for her autograph as she is always in the newspaper and spends hours as a volunteer for the Glen Austin Conservancy and the CPF (Colonel Moodley cannot do without her) and she stands in for me when I am on leave.

It was only from 0900 to 10.30 – so not a great deal of time out of a Saturday morning. We also picked up litter and our efforts were appreciated by passing motorists who hooted and clapped hands – at least they appreciated what we were doing.

We know it is the job of the Parks

Department, but we have had so many complaints about the trees leaning over.

The Conservancy will arrange another date and we will give members more notice this time, **but pleeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeez less bitching and more pitching to help out.**

Apparently my reference to a Dipso, not understood by everybody when letting you know of the upcoming events for the Conservancy and the probable endings of events at the Glen Austin Bird Sanctuary with a glass in one hand and a pair of binoculars in the other. To us British lot, a Dipsomaniac is a person who **really enjoys** a bottle of wine or other alcoholic drink.



Important Numbers



SAPS

SAPS Sector 1 Vehicles -
Sector 1 Commander:
Glen Austin, President Park

JMPD

Flying Squad
Fire and Ambulance
JMPD Call Centre
Midrand JMPD Station

JMPD AARTO
Email: info@jmpdaarto.org.za
Fraud Unit
Crime Intelligence Unit

Family Violence, Child
Protection and Sexual
Offence Unit

Serious and Violent
Crime (Murder and Robbery)

Report unfair conduct by
Police

Numbers
071 675 6108
071 675 6109
079 877 6528

Numbers
10111
10177
(011) 378 5918
(011) 237 5030
(011) 237 5004
(011) 314 2720
(011) 838-5401/5

(011) 932 0040
(011) 986 9498

(011) 982 7774

(011) 986 9000

(012) 320 0431

By-Law Unit

All By-Law related
Complaints

Hawkers & Street Trading

Urban Management

Waste Management

Illegal Signage

Parks Control

Illegal Connections

GAUTRAIN POLICE

Numbers
(011) 490 1630
(011) 490 1860
(011) 490 1707
082 559 3855
082 551 5374
(011) 490 1744
(011) 490 1777
082 779 1361
(011) 490 1509
082 417 5701
(011) 490 1547
(011) 490 1780
082 771 1326
(011) 490 1684
083 399 2835
072-685-8720
(011) 472 6539
082 803 1158
(011) 490 1777
072 156 4783
(011) 253 0007



93.8 RADIO PROGRAMME ON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATIONS LAST MONDAY

with prams and dogs, kids on skateboards and horses trotting by and joggers.

I commenced with the history of when GARA started in the early 1990's and the Vision then, which really has not changed. I spoke about the Glen Austin Spatial Development plan written in 1999 which is still our bible with the developments allowed in the area. Zonk'izwe was discussed and I stated I thought it would be good for the area. I spoke about our Glen Austin Conservancy. I reiterated that although Glen Austin Residents Association cannot stop development in the area, it can help to steer it in the right direction to keep the suburb rural.

My two daughters in the UK were listening on the internet and were surprised my UK Birmingham accent did not come through. Even 'him' sitting at home was impressed.

They intend to do more programmes such as this and one on Conservancies on Monday 23rd April at 1900 hours. Try and listen in.

A rather petrified Secretary along with Steve Johnstone the Chairman of Sector 1 Police, went on air with other Residents Associations. The phone in system was not working, only sms's and emails, but nobody did send in a question.. Al Karaki, who hosted the show put us at ease and the hour soon went.

I am afraid I hogged the microphone a bit, being able to contribute about an established Residents Association and the Block 5 Gated Community's experience on the procedures of establishing a Gated Community. President Park and Vorna Valley representatives are just beginning the process. I mentioned the difference now in Block 5 with the residents walking

SECURITY

Randjesfontein have had a crime free period since January until this week. They have highlighted the amount of gates left open on properties – please ensure that your gates are closed at all times whether you are in Glen Austin Block 5 or Glen Austin generally.

SPCA MIDRAND

Always remember your local SPCA if you need a little companion – there are lots of dogs and cats needing good homes. Contact Elsje Naiker on 011 265 9935 or manager@midrandspca.co.za. Please also take your old newspapers there.

GAUTRAIN

The first report of an attempted burglary into a property backing onto the track – 4 men entered a property from the track, so residents along the rail line please check on your security.

COTTAGES FOR RENT

I get a few phone calls asking if I know of any cottages to rent in Glen Austin. Remember, as a Member of GARA you can put your cottages for rent on the website free of charge. Otherwise send me an email with full details and I will pass on.

Recycle Your Old Mobile Phones

Hand in your old phones that are sitting in drawers and cupboards at MixFM – Midrand's Community Radio Station at the Carlswald Deco Centre, Harry Gulaun.

If the phone can be switched on and the screen can be read, you could donate money to a charity of your choice.

Write down your name, contact number, email and the name of your charity and wrap it around the phone. Non Working phones will be dismantled into parts.

So.... hand them in, be **GREEN** and help save our planet. You could be the lucky winner of our monthly prize!
For more info, contact: info@midrandforum.co.za

SECOND PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE 2012/2013 RATES POLICY, BUDGET, IDP, RATES AND TARIFFS CANCELLED – ARE RESIDENTS BEING DENIED THE CHANCE FOR THEIR VOICE TO BE HEARD ON THIS SUBJECT?

On 16th January 2012 the first meeting took place on the Rates Policy for 2012/2013 year at the Midrand Fire Station. There was a good turn out from Midrand. It could have been better – hint hint.

At this meeting they promised that a second meeting would take place in April (as normal) to give the public feedback on the subjects that were raised and the public was also asked to submit comments on the Policy.

As no notice received, I contacted Veli Hlophe the Deputy Director Property Rates and he has informed me that there will not be a second meeting for the public. The MMC Finance will only speak to Resident and Ratepayers Associations - date, time and venue to be sent to us later. What happens to areas who do not have a Residents Association?

Suggest that you email your objections to this meeting being cancelled to the Director of Rates and Taxes – Ms Sihle More on sihlem@joburg.org.za

I SMELL A RAT!

TIPS and TRICKS

A washing machine uses up to 100 litres of water so make sure you wash a full load every time to reduce water usage.

If it costs 50c an item to cook in the microwave, it will cost approx. R2.40 in a standard electric oven.

Men On The Side of The Road – FUNDI

FUNDI aka Men on the Side of The Road is a non-profit organisation who introduces customers to casual workers that have verified skills and are reliable and trustworthy. MSR gives customers confidence to hire casual workers because their members are part of a continuous feedback and evaluation system. They have offices in Midrand, Cape Town, Johannesburg, Tshwane, Durban, PE, and George.

To ensure that the workers are good, reliable and a fair rate for the services rendered is established, FUNDI verifies, assesses and accredits all of its workers.

Call them on 0861- 1 FUNDI (0861-1 38634). or email: info@msr.org.za website: www.msr.org.za

Information provided by:
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Glen Austin Residents Association

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FINALLY:

Never interrupt your opponent when he is making a mistake!