

Glen Austin Residents Association Weekly Newsletter



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eNewsletter

Sunday, 11 November 2012

Dear Members & Residents

GARA receives many requests from non-members for free advertising.

Sorry, we have to run the office and pay for bandwidth so only fully paid up members can have free advertising via the Newsletter and on the Website. As I often say, you cannot expect to use Virgin Active if you are not a member.

The new membership year will be from 1st January 2013 and we hope that you will join again. A Membership Form will be sent out towards the end of the year.

Last year with the Billing and Valuation crisis, GARA helped hundreds of residents, many of whom were not members, trying to help sort out their bills and delivering objections to Council. It is hoped that you appreciated all our efforts in 2011.

trying to help sort out their bills and delivering objections to Council. It is hoped that you appreciated all our efforts i.e. I was spending 12 hours a day sitting with people at my house and the phone never stopped ringing from 6 am to very late evening.

Remember your committee are all volunteers.

Click here to download the GARA Membership Form Now to renew your membership for 2013 or to become a New Member!

Useful Links:

[Midrand Sector 1 CPF Website](#)
[Midrand Sector 1 CPF Facebook](#)
[Midrand Forum Website](#)
[Midrand Forum Facebook](#)
[Mix 93.8 FM Website](#)
[Mix 93.8 FM Facebook](#)
[LookLocal Midrand Website](#)
[LookLocal Midrand Facebook](#)

Useful Numbers:

Medical
Carstenhof Clinic : 011 655 5500

Midrand Medical
Centre : 011 315 2512

Waterfall City
Hospital : 011 304 6600

Safety & Security
SAPS Sector 1
Patrol Vehicle 1 : 071 675 6108

COMMUNITY POLICE FORUM (CPF) HOLIDAY NOTICE

The Festive Season is upon us and unfortunately crime is on the increase, [click here](#) to read the CPF Holiday Notice.

Steven Johnstone
Chairman Sector 1 CPF.
GARA Safety and Security
082 850 6344
Email: stevenjo@webmail.co.za

SECURITY – COMMUNITY POLICING FORUM

NEXT PUBLIC CPF MEETING



This will take place on **Tuesday 20th November at 1900 hours** at the Midrand Police Station. Our police need our input to help fight crime.



Click the  next to the meeting to view it on the Website and to set a reminder.

SAPS Sector 1
Patrol Vehicle 2 : 071 675 6109

SAPS Sector 1
Manager : 079 877 6528

SAPS Midrand : 011 347 1601
: 011 347 1602
: 011 347 1626

COJ
Enquiries &
complaints : 0860JOBURG

Fire & medical
emergencies : 011 375 5911

JMPD Midrand : 011 256 7806

eClassifieds:

This could be your ad, send
your request to
info@glenaustin.co.za

GATED COMMUNITIES

GARA does not have any
involvement with the operations
of the Gated Communities but we
can inform you that:-



Glen

CHANGE OF BANK FOR CITY OF JOBURG AND LETTER FROM MR. T. FOWLER – CITY MANAGER

[Click here](#) for details for the new City of Joburg Bank Account. [Click here](#) for
the Letter from Mr. T. Fowler.



INVITES




Groenvoer Christmas Country Market, 24

November 2012



Freeme Invitation, 16 November 2012



Click the  next to the meeting to view it on the Website and to set a
reminder.

LIONS CLUB CAKES

If anyone needs Lions Christmas cakes I have stock
here (9 van Riebeeck).

Rad Handfield-Jones
(9 van Riebeeck Road)





Austin Estates

Previously named "Block 5", Will be going forward with their next stage of cameras and will be sending out a communication soon. (George Road in the North to Donovan Road in the South and Rosies Place in the West to Allan Road in the East).



Block 4 & 6

(Olifantsfontein Road in the North to Dale Road in the South and Allan Road in the West to Van Riebeeck Road in the East)

If you are within this block please send an email to gcblock46@gmail.com and send her your full details or visit the Block 4 & 6 website - www.gcblock46.co.za as they

(Glen Austin)

Cell: +27 82 557 8459



DA's tips to avoid water and electricity disconnections by Joburg Municipality

Over the last few weeks there has been a steady increase in water and electricity disconnections by the City of Johannesburg municipality. History seems to be repeating itself with many ratepayers suffering termination of water or electricity supply as experienced in the last few months of 2010 and 2011. Very few of the terminations are due to default payers, but are rather the result of arrears accumulated due to unresolved billing errors.

After consultation with the National Consumer Commission, more than 3000 billing queries were handed over by the Democratic Alliance towards the end of last week. This is described as a victory by the DA in an endeavour to bring relief to the thousands of ratepayers with unresolved queries. The ANC led administration still remains unmoved and unsympathetic towards affected ratepayers and refuse to accept the queries from the DA. The Democratic Alliance is looking forward to the assistance and accountability the NCC's relief will bring.

[Click here to Read More](#)

CHEEK!



While driving home last week, saw a gold/mucky brown car driven by a woman, pull over onto the side of Douglas Road. Her passenger door opened and empty drink bottles were deposited onto the pavement. On seeing me she drove off very quickly. Madam if you read this, you are a polluter of our area and a disgrace and in future take your empty bottles

are trying to reach the 80% of residents to agree to the closure to enable them to go forward to the next stage of the application.

home with you!

PAVEMENTS – GRASS CUTTING

It is a big guess when our pavements will be cut by the City of Joburg, and with all the rain, Glen Austin is starting to look messy. Please have pride in your suburb. It only takes about 10 minutes to cut the pavement outside your property, and not just around your gate entrance.



ClipartOf.com/440161

POSTER POLLUTION



If you see any advertising posters on traffic signs, on pavements, where that product/business is not being run and they do not have the sticker from the City of Johannesburg to prove that the fee has been paid for the advert, they can be removed.

Estate Agents signs are allowed outside the actual property for sale. Any 'AREA AGENT' signs on pavements can be removed.

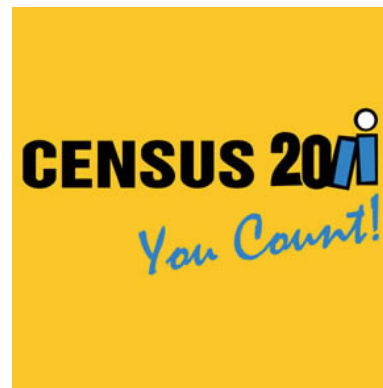
REZONING NOTICES

Sorry to keep on about these notices, but when you see one
– please read it, take a photo and send it to GARA.



The building of the 400 rooms on Austin Road is an example
– an application did go into the Council for change of Zoning and a notice would have been on the gate for 30 days. There seems to have been no objections and the application was granted February 2011 . We know that the owner is now building 400 rooms for rent. No plans seem to have been submitted to COJ, therefore the building is illegal, but the rezoning remains.

The Council inform us that they cannot accept any objections to the Rezoning at this late stage.



CENSUS 2011

GARA has asked for stats for Glen Austin only and this will be available next March.

MORE AREA INFO

Want more Information about what's happening in Midrand, [Click here](#) to Read the Midrand Forum Newsletter.

WEBSITE OVERVIEW

What went Wrong?

As you might be aware, we've been experiencing problems with the GARA Website (www.glenaustin.co.za). The site was hacked by someone who probably had nothing better to do and thought that he would just make life difficult for the poor person who has to do the administration for the site.



Yes, well... We ended up moving the site to a different host, reloading, just to be hacked again before we could even put the necessary security measures in place. As a result, we had to wipe out everything and start from scratch. After words, the site still screamed "malware" & "malicious content" by some Anti-virus softwares. We sourced a company to clean the site from all harmful malware and malicious content and were audited by companies like Google and Norton Anti-virus, who have declared the GARA website as clean and save. However, the smaller Anti-virus groups, like Kaspersky, etc. do not have an "audit" system in place, and therefore, some Anti-viruses are still blocking the site. This will only be fixed once those Anti-virus softwares has been updated again, by you the user (so basically when you update your subscription and download a new version). There are ways and means to get past this, so if you need assistance, please contact Andriëtte - the Webmaster on webmaster@glenaustin.co.za and she'll gladly assist.

Again, we apologise for any inconvenience that any of this might have caused. There as still some aspects that need to be resolved and to protect the site from harmful content, some features were removed for now.

That's all from me, so until the next time please keep your eyes and

ears open.

Remember: A friend is someone who is there for you when he'd rather be somewhere else.



Christine Robinson

WITHOUT PREJUDICE, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.