

**FISH HOEK VALLEY  
RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION  
(FHVRRRA)**

**CHAIRPERSON, FHVRRRA: Janet Holwill, P.O. Box 22125 Fish Hoek 7974  
Tel: 021 785 1328 Cell: 082 920 7306 Email: jholwill@iafrica.com**

**Newsletter for February 2015**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Venue: FISH HOEK CIVIC CENTRE.**

**Date: WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2015. Time: 19h30**

**MEETING AGENDA**

- 1. WELCOME, Introductions and Apologies.**
- 2. GUEST SPEAKER: DR ALISON KOCK – MARINE BIOLOGIST (SHARK SPOTTERS)**  
**TOPIC: SHARING THE OCEAN EDGE WITH AN APEX PREDATOR**
- 3. MINUTES of the Quarterly General Meeting held on 27 November 2014 & matters arising**
- 4. COUNCILLOR's Report**
- 5. TREASURER's Report**
- 6. CHAIRPERSON's Report**
- 7. ELECTION of EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXCO) for 2015**
- 8. GENERAL**

**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING.**

**FHVRRRA SUBSCRIPTIONS**

**Annual Subscriptions (R70 per household) became due on 1 January 2015**

**Your address label / e-mail letter indicates the current status of your subs.  
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(Tel: 021-785-1328), in full confidence and no obligation, to discuss a reduced fee.

Details of our bank account for Bank deposits or EFT payments:  
**A/C Name: FHVRRRA. A/C No: 374203091. Bank: Standard – Fish Hoek.**  
**Bank Code for deposits: 036009. Bank Code for EFT payments: 051001.**  
Indicate: "subs-your initials-your surname" in the payment reference.

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## **Newsletter for February 2015**

**Firstly, very good wishes for a prosperous and happy new year to all our members.**

### **Our Guest Speaker:**

Our speaker is **Dr ALISON KOCK**, who is a marine biologist and the research manager of the City of Cape Town's acclaimed Shark Spotters programme.

Alison completed her PhD at UCT and her thesis is the first on great white sharks in Africa. Her thesis identified the behavioural and spatial ecology of white sharks in False Bay. With her strong background in shark behaviour, ecology, predator-prey dynamics and human-wildlife conflict resolution, she has published her work widely.

Alison is project leader for the Save Our Seas Foundation and a scientific advisor for the Shark Conservancy. Alison is also currently working as a scientific advisor for the BBC's new blue chip documentary series 'SHARK'. CNN, BBC, National Geographic and the Smithsonian Institute have featured her work prominently.

### **Load shedding**

The City of Cape Town has published a schedule effective from 1 February, which is available on [www.capetown.gov.za](http://www.capetown.gov.za). Allen Rose-Innes has transcribed this into a user friendly format for the Far South Peninsula. This is attached to this Newsletter.

### **Roads and Transport**

The Far South Peninsula Community Forum, together with the FHVRRA, had a meeting with City officials in January to discuss the very congested state of the roads in the Far South Peninsula, in particular Kommetjie Road from the 4 way stop to Kommetjie.

However, there never seems to be money for infrastructure in the Far South Peninsula. A report some 10 years ago recommended that the road between the 4 way stop and Capri be upgraded by 2010! At the January meeting it was reported that to upgrade from the 4 way stop to 200 metres beyond the Capri traffic lights will cost R30 million. The City has allocated R17.5m towards this project and is waiting for the contribution by the developer of Kompantjiesuin for the remainder. The developer's levy is a common way to raise money for infrastructure but is unreliable as it need only be paid once the development takes off. Of course, if the developer delays his development the upgrade will not happen as the City has only half the money!

It was also pointed out that Ou Kaapse Weg from the 4-way stop to the Noordhoek Drive turnoff is hopelessly congested. This is on the cards for future upgrading after the Capri Road section. But no doubt waiting for another developer's contribution! The faulty reasoning in all of this is that to get the money one has to approve large developments eg 350 houses. Once these are developed the upgraded roads become just as congested as before with all the extra cars from the new developments and the chaos returns!

Another thought to ponder is that even if they sort out all the roads in the valley there are only two roads in/out (with Chapman's Peak being unreliable) and that is a problem that the City says is unsolvable. Main Road is being improved to its limit and any major upgrade of Ou Kaapse Weg would be extremely if not prohibitively expensive. SANParks approval of any major roadworks through Silvermine is also required.

There have been proposals for four large developments in the Kommetjie area. The village of Kommetjie has taken about 100 years to reach 900 houses and some of these developments are seen as entirely inappropriate as they will do much to destroy the Kommetjie village environment, never mind overload the Far South Peninsula infrastructure. The Kommetjie Ratepayers & Residents Association is opposed to these developments and is seeking financial contributions to support their legal opposition. Bank details are: KRRRA, Standard Bank, Fish Hoek, account number 374 221 065 and send confirmation with an email to [info@kommetjie.org](mailto:info@kommetjie.org)

### **Stop complaining and do-it-yourself**

On pondering the solutions to "our civic problems", Janet Holwill, our chairperson, has included an article by Max du Preez published in Moneyweb.

This article says that we should behave as if the government is not going to deliver services and if it does that is a bonus. He points out that in the Security Industry there are some 445 000 registered private security personnel in South Africa employed by 9 030 private security companies compared with 158 000 police members and 6 000 Metro Police officers. In addition there are the neighbourhood watches, car guards and others. Certainly the public have organised themselves in this respect.

Max mentions potholes. Last year he got fed up with the potholes in his street and went out and bought 2 x 25kg bags of Ready Mix Hot Tar for R50 each and fixed the road himself. Now he notices this is being done in other neighbourhoods too. Max du Preez admits it is really the job of local government but you can either moan and sulk or do-it-yourself.

### **Water**

Use it sparingly, buy a 1000litre plastic rainwater tank and if possible use grey water for the garden.

### **Electricity**

With loadshedding a reality everyone is looking for alternatives to Eskom. A small generator costing R16 000 will suffice for short power outages of about 2 hours and try gas for cooking. "Every power outage I feel smug I had a gas hob put in last year. If you have a bit of spare cash go completely off the grid. A moderate household using a gas geyser and stove and LED lights needs no more than a solar power system of about R70 000. Up your generating ability a bit and soon you can sell electricity back to Eskom. What is more it's cool to be green."

### **Education**

If you are lucky you may have a former Model C school near you which will provide a good education. So support it with your interest and involvement. However, there are about 1500 private schools, not all of which require you to be in the Fortune 500 to pay the fees. He recommends assisting your workers, helping them build their own homes with solar panels etc. and get involved with their childrens' education. Many workers are not aware of the opportunities that are available for their childrens' education, especially tertiary, and the importance of it.

Certainly Max du Preez has some practical and entertaining ideas. He goes on to say that if the middle class takes more care of themselves there will be more money to spend on the poor and the better off the poor are, the more stable the country is likely to become. We know you say you pay rates and taxes but at least you have enough to pay them. We have got

to stop all this overwhelming negativity and paralysing pessimism. He finishes off reminding us that we are the nation of "maak 'n plan" people and we have a culture of perseverance and innovation.

Our chairperson fully agrees with the article. She bemoans the number of people who complain that the City has not done something to fix a problem and then to find out that they haven't even notified the City about it. Generally we are lucky with the services we get from City but you have to go some way to assist them. The easiest way is to email the Sub-Council manager, Desiree Mentor, at [desiree.mentor@capetown.gov.za](mailto:desiree.mentor@capetown.gov.za) or fax 021 782 1185. The complaints are tracked and you will be given a reference number.

### **Dogs on beaches**

Last year we had a meeting with City officials to discuss important items and one of them was dogs on the beaches - always a hot topic. So hot that it was decided to postpone any decisions until there was more public participation. The public meetings will be announced.

### **Appeal for Exco members**

On behalf of the FHVRRA, our chairperson is again appealing for support from the community. The work we do affects everyone – planning issues, roads and transport, amenities such as sports fields, parks, the beach, the library, input on policies the City draft every year which affect us all, rates issues and the many environmental issues.

If you have an area of expertise or of particular interest, your input would be extremely valuable to us. We meet once a month, except December, from 6-8pm on the third Thursday of the month. Please consider joining our Exco committee and give a little to help make this the sort of community you are proud to live in.

### **E-mail addresses**

If you are presently receiving our correspondence (newsletters, etc) by post but do have an e-mail address which could rather be used, please advise Helen O'Regan by e-mail or return the form below. The post is becoming more expensive and unreliable. It is sad to think that in the not too distant future the post office may become obsolete.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** Membership: Helen O'Regan - Tel: 021 782 4268 E-mail: [hnoREGAN@axxess.co.za](mailto:hnoREGAN@axxess.co.za)  
Postal Address - PO Box 22125, Fish Hoek, 7974

RETURN SLIP FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS		Tick box	2014 – R60	2015 – R70
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Street Address: .....				
.....				
Postal Address: .....				
(if different to street)				
Telephone: ..... Cell: ..... E-mail: .....				

# SUMMARY REPORT OF THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

## BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2014 (Rands)

	2014	2013
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Prepaid expenses/Deposits	515	515
Savings Account	34 261	32 425
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>34 776</b>	<b>32 940</b>
<b>Equity and liabilities</b>		
<b>Capital and reserves</b>	<b>31 396</b>	<b>31 170</b>
Designated third party funds	-	-
Accumulated funds	31 396	31 170
<b>Current liabilities</b>	<b>3 380</b>	<b>1 770</b>
Sundry creditors	-	-
Subscriptions in advance	3 380	1 770
Provision for legal fees	-	-
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>	<b>34 776</b>	<b>32 940</b>

## INCOME STATEMENT for the year ended 31 December 2014 (Rands)

	2014	2013
<b>Gross revenue</b>		
Subscriptions (including arrear subs recovered)	15 060	15 261
<b>Other income</b>	<b>1 291</b>	<b>410</b>
Donations received	1 116	240
Interest received	175	170
<b>Total income</b>	<b>16 351</b>	<b>15 671</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>16 124</b>	<b>15 889</b>
Bank charges	142	121
Consulting fees	1 000	5 000
Gifts and donations	593	145
Hall hire	570	303
Leal expenses	-	-
Membership subscriptions/contributions - civic associations	800	1 000
Postage and telephone	3 739	2 779
Printing, copying, computer & stationery	3 231	1 964
Advertising & promotions	-	1 000
Secretarial Services	3 500	1 525
Sundry expenses including meetings	2 549	2 052
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>(219)</b>

### Notes on major expenditure variances

1. Consulting fees in 2013 included a contribution to the traffic impact study supported by the FSPCF.
2. Postage and telephone in 2014 higher due to postage of newsletters rather than hand delivery.
3. Printing, etc in 2014 higher due to envelopes for newsletters and cartridge costs for home printing.
4. Secretarial services on a fee basis since mid 2013.
5. No advertising/promotions cost in 2014 as contribution to Scenic South was waived.
6. Items in 2. and 3. above will decrease as members move from hard copy to e-mail.

**Allen Rose-Innes**  
**Honorary Treasurer**