



L L A N D U D N O NEWS



The Official Newsletter of the Llandudno Civic Association

Welcome all newcomers to Llandudno! Homes change hands on a regular basis; so this may be your first Llandudno News newsletter. On behalf of the Llandudno community, the LCA wishes you a happy stay in your new home – may all your sunsets be beautiful !!! Please add your contact details to the Llandudno Residents Database so that we can keep you informed of matters affecting us all. Send your name, street address, home and cell numbers to email info@llandudno.org.za ; or drop a note in the LCA Letterbox at the hut near the Llandudno entrance. We will issue you a password and ID for accessing the Community Website. Visit www.llandudno.org.za to see what's available to the Llandudno Community



I have been waiting for the muse to strike and what better hit than yesterday and today's experiences...This evening a pod of whales was rumbling and farting off shore Llandudno, yesterday morning a pair of dolphins were feeding just beyond the surf line but better than all of that...my early morning walk produced an encounter with a young Caracal...a beautiful wild cat with stunning facial and ear markings. He was not afraid of me at all ...hissed...snarled and after staring at me menacingly for a minute or two, stalked off in to the bush.

That ups my count for Llandudno wild animal sightings somewhat...Large Spotted Genet, Banded Mongoose, Cape Clawless Otter, Porcupine, all sorts of snakes and of course the flocks of Guinea Fowl and other abundant bird life...spotted a Carmine Sun Bird this evening...and action in, on and above the sea is always unfolding...we really do live in a natural paradise...

Whilst the official opening day of Spring has come and gone and we are still trying to settle in to the Summer time warp...wragtig but it has been changeable and cold and wet since 1 Sept but I suspect a change is due.

Isn't Llandudno looking great? With their limited resources, Coast Care and City Parks have really turned on the taps this Winter. I tend to see life through my pint mug and when it's at the half way mark, it's half full and NOT half empty...yes there are a number of warts lingering but we are working on them and maybe one day that elusive "agter os" will come home.

Speaking of the limited resources of Coast Care, their services are governed by how much we can afford to pay them and that in turn is governed by how much you are prepared to give. There are many Llandudno residents who give generously...the contribution asked is only R500 a year and lots of you give more...to all these, I say thank you. There is, however, a disturbingly large number of residents who do not contribute...some are cash strapped, some couldn't give a fig, some are tenants, some are owners living away, some on principle and some are forgetful. It is to the latter four groups that I wish to appeal:

- Tenants and absentee owners...you all benefit from what we do in the Valley, so please don't hide one behind the other...individually it's only 500 bucks a year so please cough up
- Those who object to paying on principle...I should love to engage with you and try and understand why? Why not call or write me...082 494 5246 or 22 Fisherman's Bend.
- To the absent minded...please reach for the cheque book now...don't put it off... or you will... what was I saying?
- We could do so much more if you all chipped in...

LCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There has been a bit of shuffling since the AGM back in April and the team looks like this:

- Clem Gutsche...Treasurer, Fire and Lifesavers
- Beryl Goslett...School
- Jillian Davis...Llandudno Security
- Jonathan Crowther...Environment
- Neil Tweddle...Neighbourhood Watch and Roads.
- Rodney Cronwright...Llandudno Building Advisory Committee
- Sue Sears...néé Papin recently married to Brent, cheers chaps...Film Shoots
- Shayne Richardson-Bayly...awaiting portfolio
- Huck Endersby...Chairman

Welcome to Shayne and cheers to Brita du Plessis...we are going to miss her cheerful energy and Clive Oliver who was involved with Council liaison but remains on LBAC. Thank you both for all your efforts.

The GOOD

- Coast Care has taken more responsibility for public footpaths and you can see the change.
- When the guilty parties failed to respond, City Parks took over the responsibility for re-constructing the steps at the foot of the path between Fisherman's and Leeukoppie...what a magic job and well done.
- The ground water subsidence behind that old wooden shack on the coast path to Sunset Rocks exposed several meters of the sewerage line which developed a distinct and menacing sag. Terry Schorn of "City Sewers" along with the owner of the house above the slip applied all sorts of pressure on the Council which has shored up the cliff and we have been spared a very smelly disaster to our beach.

Llandudno Lifesavers want to meet and greet us and have invited all residents to visit their club house on Tuesday 7 November at 7 pm. Why not pop down for a sun downer and support the club.

The BAD ...

and the UGLY

The City Amenities Department have been in the news over the furore concerning the closure of the public toilets on Llandudno Hout Bay beaches. You will remember that we had the same treatment last Winter and roll me over, they are locked again. The limp wristed reply to my complaints is that they do not have budget to keep them open. What a load of wallys...I have kept up the pressure and you may have read the berg wind replies in the Hout Bay Sentinel...I cannot let this one go...

And ...

THE REALLY GOOD NEWS?

I like most of you, I was horribly out of pocket over the last municipal property OVER valuation debacle and it took some eighteen months to have my property properly valued and for the rates to drop to a reasonable amount. It then took more months for an appropriate credit to my rates account.

I am sure the Council will claim that they were going to do this any way but after a series of stern letters to them on the question of interest due me on the resultant overpayment of rates, they have at last come up with a letter agreeing to pay me interest under section 55 of the Rates Act.

The euphoria at first getting the credit and now the interest fizzled when I realised that it was my money in the first place...



Thank you to Sue Maude who edits and sets out my ramblings. Her reward is a plug for The Life of Llandudno, a stunning coffee table book you have to have. Details in the Life of Llandudno advert later.

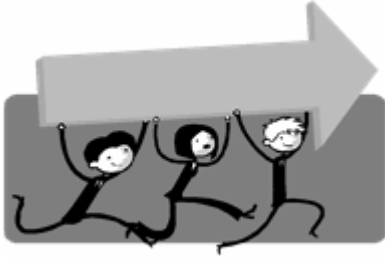


Also a big thank you to Office National for sponsoring this letter. They too have an ad commending their wares and services.

Huck Endersby

LLANDUDNO SECURITY COMMITTEE [LSEC]

Jillian Davis



Firstly, thank you to the dedicated team of volunteers who are working on solutions to security in Llandudno.

A helicopter view of some of the action taking place

- Watchcon Radio Pilot and Launch – to get a radio and become part of the Llandudno radio network email info@llandudno.org.za
- Llandudno Neighbourhood Watch (yes, a core team continues to patrol the streets) – to join email info@llandudno.org.za
- Llandudno Security Strategy – want to do something and get involved? email info@llandudno.org.za
- Car Guards – currently working with ADT to card and manage car guards – want to do something and get involved? email info@llandudno.org.za
- Sunset Avenue – there is a resident's initiative to install beams, major improvement to dog patrols, high tech camera solutions – thanks to the residents who are busy with making a difference – Do you live in Sunset and want to do something and get involved? email info@llandudno.org.za
- Initiative to start Daylighters in Llandudno - – want to do something and get involved? email info@llandudno.org.za
- ADT liaison and constant working with ADT to improve the service to Llandudno residents
- Hout Bay Neighbourhood Watch Liaison and alignment with Hout Bay Neighbourhood Watch
- Ongoing Llandudno Security Strategy workshops

SUNSET ROCKS SECURITY UPDATE

Ian Mc Pherson

What started out as a simple intervention to improve the security of Sunset Rocks 8 months ago, eventually uncovered a significant deviation in the service delivery of both ADT and the dog handlers.

After reporting these findings and hundreds of emails, both ADT and G9 (new dog handlers) have submitted revised Standard Operating Procedures and implement regular monitoring and training.

1. Two sets of perimeter beams (activated between 21h30 and 05h00) have been installed, one across the entrance of the path down to Sandy Bay and the other across the stairs going up to the upper SANDY Bay parking:
 - a. When set off, a signal will be sent to the ADT control room, who in turn will contact both the ADT car and the Sunset Rocks dog handler, without the intruder even knowing.
 - b. Cost of beams and the conduit was R5,259.27 and R3,450 respectively.
2. A new, real time method of monitoring the dog handler has been purchased, i.e. the NECO Active Guard trail system and a report on the nightly patrol is being received.
 - a. Refer to www.necosecurity.co.za for more technical information and even a movie clip.
 - b. Cost of the baton was R5,563.20 and Group9 dog handlers (G9) have been persuaded to pay the rental of R789/month (24 month contract).
 - c. ADT supplies 3 radios, one for the ADT guard at the top hut, the second for the Llandudno dog handler and the third for the Sunset Rocks dog handler.
3. An overwhelming response was received from the majority of the Sunset Rocks residents and a total of R27,850 was received and R14,272.47 paid, leaving a balance of R13,577.53 for future security improvements.
 - a. All monies have been deposited and kept separate in the LCA bank account and are managed by the LCA treasurer, Clem Gutsche.
4. Giaco Angelini is at present researching the option of Thermal CCTV solutions for the whole of Llandudno.

- a. To view the footage taken on the demo, go to:
http://www.timetech.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=127&Itemid=405
5. John Barbe continues to supply and pay for the total ADT Sunset Rocks electricity bill.
6. Car guards are being managed by means of police clearance and issuing of ID cards and red coloured bibs.

- This requirement includes the payment of the annual LCA subscription which is used towards the installation, maintenance and licence costs of the radio network and of a booster station which provides comprehensive network coverage for all of Llandudno; and to defray the cost of managing Llandudno's attempt to supplement the City's shortfall in its service delivery to Llandudno.



LLANDUDNO WATCHCON RADIO LAUNCH

Llandudno has a radio network!

A successful Radio Pilot has been taking place in Llandudno since April 2009 by a small bunch of volunteer residents who have pioneered the Llandudno radio process and have been actively monitoring and responding to threats to our valley.

Llandudno Residents who wish to join the Llandudno Radio Network should email info@llandudno.org.za for full details.

There are necessary legal and administrative imperatives to control the distribution and administration of the radios and to ensure the usage of proper radio usage protocol:

- The Radios are supplied by the Hout Bay Neighbourhood Watch network and the price is in the range of R1,900.00.
- A by product is the introduction of the requirement of each potential Llandudno user/owner of such a radio on the Llandudno network to subscribe/register to/with the LCA to facilitate the operation of the radio network.

The Llandudno resident can and very often does take the view..."Shit, I pay exorbitant rates, why the hell should I cough up more for this bunch of puffed up waffling Berg wind morons? The bottom line answer to that view is simply, exit the LCA and the work it does for Llandudno from the equation and watch this valley degenerate into the sub standards we see every day we venture into the greater peninsula area.....hey it's your valley...

FINANCE: TREASURER'S REPORT

Clem Gutsche

Funds tend to trickle in at this time of the year and we need to push quite hard for residents to respond!

Of the 300 odd households in Llandudno, we have received contributions from 51 households since March – the start of our year.

So **85% are currently 'Freeloading'** if I can coin an unpopular term used in relation to ADT non-subscribers in the past!

For a small proportion of 1 month's rates paid annually, residents can finance the LCA for the whole year. For this they receive:

- Monitoring and liaison with ADT
- Investigation and implementation of upgrades to security (cameras, motion detectors, radio network infrastructure etc)
- Public open space gardening, general cleaning and tidying of verges and public pavements and paths – Coast Care
- Constant liaison with CTCC service providers – water leaks, potholes, broken steps and paths etc.
- Beach cleanliness and housekeeping – campaign to upgrade, service and maintain paths, public ablution facilities etc
- New building monitoring and liaison with authorities and owners concerned

- All other matters that concern or involve the community – derelict buildings, rates problems, fires, lifesavers etc.

The LCA only requires R500 per annum - but every owner and every long term tenant needs to contribute! We cannot continue to operate with only part of our community bearing the load.

Certain 'pockets' of Llandudno contribute generously for their own particular requirements - whether its specifically for Sunset Rocks security or a security guard with dog for their own street – and often forget that the LCA is here to attend to the broader Llandudno community, dealing with issues that benefit everyone.




Included in this newsletter is an invoice which includes LCA bank details.

Please take the trouble to pay the LCA now !!!

A SOUTH AFRICAN STORY

the life of llandudno

Do you own one yet?



Copies of our very own coffee table book are for sale in Llandudno ...
Contact Carey-Ann on 082 404 0990

For more information visit our website
www.lifeofllandudno.co.za

Or email book@lifeofllandudno.co.za

environment report

Jonathan Crowther

What's happening on the environmental portfolio?

- Investigation of the "Blue Flag" status for Llandudno beach continues. Some feedback has been received from the City of Cape Town; however, further investigation is needed into the criteria for registration and whether this would in fact provide any benefits to the community of Llandudno. This is really a balance of possible benefits versus any restrictions that such a status may impose on the use of the beach.
 - The concept of a "Conservancy" for the suburb is still being investigated but has fallen back a little on the priority list. A Conservancy is about doing something "in your own backyard" and is the entry-level to community-based conservation and can be applied to urban areas. Please let us know if there are any activities besides those listed below that you think we should consider:
 - Monitoring river and catchment pollution
 - Invasive alien plant control
 - Education and awareness programmes
 - Identification, monitoring and protection of rare and endangered species
 - Mitigation of pollution
 - Erosion control
 - The committee continues get involved and/or monitor "general environmental" related matters:
 - Pressure was applied to the City to ensure that the slip and exposed sewage pipeline above the "Shack" was dealt with as a matter of urgency. The repair work was completed a couple of months ago and involved the placement of gabions baskets to retain the pipeline. The work has been satisfactorily completed and is not visible from any part of the beach.
 - We continue to monitor the issue of construction material that has been placed onto the river bank next to Maori Road.
 - Meetings are being planned with SANParks and "Sol's" estate in order to establish the exact boundaries of the national park, various SANParks/private/City responsibilities for alien vegetation clearing and the responsibility of each party in and around Llandudno.
- If you wish to provide any input in this regard, please contact Jonathan on 082 777 1477 or email jonathan@ccaenvironmental.co.za**

A church in Llandudno



The United Congregational Church
Fellowship meets for worship
Every Sunday at 9.00am

Members and visitors of all or no church
backgrounds are invited to attend.

The Church meets in Roberts Avenue
(Left after the boom on the way to the beach).

For further information contact:
The Acting Minister Dave Wanless at
davidjoy@i-junction.net
tel (074) 476-0003



LLANDUDNO BUILDING MATTERS

Rodney Cronwright

- Towards minimizing the negative impacts of building activity on neighbours, the community and the environment – Llandudno has introduced “Guidelines for Building Contractors”, which can be viewed on Llandudno’s website.
- The City of Cape Town has been requested to ensure that the guidelines are applied.
- Residents are urged to familiarize themselves with the Guidelines, and when appointing a building contractor to make compliance with the Guidelines a condition of their contract.
- Thanks to Jonathan Crowther, and the staff at his environmental consultancy, for compiling the Guidelines.

A Clem Gutsche Interlude

INTRUDER!

One day in July, I arrived home to a locked house and burglar alarm signifying unauthorized entry! On entering the kitchen I discovered we had been burgled! The fridge door was wide open with an empty yogurt container on the floor along with thoroughly licked tin foil lid!

There were also a number of broken eggs on the floor – just the shells – contents eaten.

I tiptoed nervously into the house, believing I had interrupted a burglary and they were still on the premises! No burglar in evidence but another broken and eaten egg in the passage! Some fruit had been eaten at the dining room table, peels lined up neatly next to the fruit bowl!

I realized with relief that I had interrupted a burglary but the starving culprits had fled before stealing anything important ... I was really disturbed by the fact that thieves in our country could be so hungry that they would endanger their lives for a meal: few eggs, fruit and yogurt were more important than our sound system/ TV set etc!

My wife, Sue then arrived home and thought that our neighbour’s car might be able to shed light on the incident as our alarm must have gone off while she was working. To our enormous relief and amusement we were informed that she had seen nothing untoward but she had noticed a baboon on our roof eating a packet of rice! We ran upstairs to inspect and discovered that the baboon had definitely overeaten downstairs! He had attended to his ablutions in quite a big way on our roof and then spent an hour or so nibbling rice and amusing Llandudno Primary School children on their way home!

Sol (as we discovered he had been named after moving through Sol Kerzner’s property in Hout Bay) went on the next day to destroy Roger and Rose Johnson’s garden burglar alarm beams and then found his way to Camps Bay and Lions Head. I believe he was caught in the City Bowl and returned to a troop somewhere beyond Somerset West!



LLANDUDNO SURF LIFESAVING CLUB

Summer is just around the corner, and Llandudno Surf Lifesaving Club has already been making preparations for the start of the 2009/ 2010 season.

You may have noticed some increased activity on the beach on Sunday mornings, as our lifeguards and nippers have come out of hibernation and started training again.

Voluntary duty squads will be patrolling Llandudno beach on weekends and public holidays from 31 October 2009 to 5 April 2010.

Last season was a particularly busy one for the lifesaving club, and our members performed a total of 44 rescues, 37 first aid treatments and over 4,500 duty hours!

Llandudno Surf Lifesaving Club is always looking to recruit new members in order to keep the beach safe:

New clubbies will be trained in first aid and water safety and will be required to pass an exam in order to qualify as a lifeguard.

Lifesaving is also an exciting sport that encompasses various disciplines. So if anyone over the age of 14 is interested in keeping fit and performing community service within a club that offers an exciting social environment – Llandudno Surf is the place to be.

The club also offers a nippers programme, where kids from the ages of 8 to 14 are introduced to water safety and the sport of lifesaving, which will equip them with valuable life skills. Nippers training takes place on the beach on Sunday mornings from 10am. Families are welcome.

Llandudno Surf would like to keep our beach both beautiful and safe – so please remember to pick up your litter and swim between the flags!

**For any further information, please contact
Llandudno Lifesaving Club 021 790 6303
or email llandudno@intekom.co.za**



Llandudno Primary School **Recycling initiatives**

Beryl Goslett

Llandudno Primary has been involved in a recycling drive initiated by the 3R's group in Hout Bay for the past 2 years. To date we have collected 5,00 cans for the national collect-a-can campaign, participated in numerous artistic recycling drives and emerged clear winners in the Hout Bay Enviro-Quiz competition.

Currently we are involved in what could be seen as a joint venture with the Cape Town City Council's 'Think Twice' recycling campaign and with the promise of a worm farm project in the near future are rapidly approaching our objective of zero waste status.

At Llandudno Primary we strive to imbue our children with a strong sense of community and it is our goal that they become leaders in a world where every thing and every one is valued.

To this end we appeal to all Llandudno residents to assist us in our recycling drive and request that you deposit your Waste plan recycling at the clearing in front of the sub station next to the school gate in Gully road, ready for collection each Tuesday morning. Your active support will not only help sustain our vision but send a message to our children, very clearly, that we are not acting in isolation.



INVOICE

LCA CONTRIBUTIONS For the year to 28 February 2010

Annual contribution..... R 500

Special additional contributions

- Security equipment..... R _____
- Conservancy..... R _____
- Coast Care work..... R _____
- Neighbourhood Watch..... R _____
- **TOTAL** R _____

Banking details:

Standard Bank...Branch Code 02 09 09...Llandudno Civic Association...Account No 07 085 6907