

KLIPRIVIERSBERG CONSERVANCY

NEWSLETTER NUMBER 3

MAY 2009

NEWS ITEMS

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MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

It is important to increase the number of members. It is also important that we reach as many people as possible within the area of the Conservancy. For this reason we would ask you to forward this newsletter to anyone who you feel should be informed and become part of the Conservancy. Contact details for people to become registered with the Conservancy are provided at the end of the newsletter.

We would also ask those who are already receiving this newsletter and wish to be recognised as members of the Conservancy to contact Clem Kourie and request an application form to be sent to them. We want to establish a database of members and require certain information to be provided. Your assistance in this will be greatly appreciated.

SUBMISSIONS TO MUNICIPALITIES

Every year municipalities have to undertake a review of their Integrated Development Plan which is essentially the business plan for the city and determines their financial priorities as well as setting out their spatial, transportation, economic and environmental plans for the coming years. This year we have made submissions to Johannesburg, Ekurhuleni and Midvaal municipalities requesting recognition of the Conservancy and an opportunity to participate in future development processes.

In addition we have identified a number of specific issues relating to the Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve and its surrounds, development pressures on the ridges and rivers, illegal development in smallholding areas which we hope to discuss further with the municipalities in the future.

DID YOU SWITCH OFF ALL LIGHTS AT 8.30PM ON 28 MARCH 2009?

If you did, thank you for your contribution and here is an email received from the World Wildlife Fund:

First, we wish to thank you most sincerely for your valuable personal support of WWF's Earth Hour campaign, and in taking a stand against climate change with us.

On 28 March, Earth Hour swept across the planet. It will be some time before we know the full measure of its success. But we know that with countless partners we created a compelling global voice - millions of people, in nearly 4 000 cities and towns came together in a powerful call for action against climate change.

In the words of Yvo de Boer, head of the UN climate convention, "Earth Hour was probably the largest public demonstration on climate change ever".

The global participation in Earth Hour 2009 was overwhelming; 18 000 companies took part. We were joined by football clubs and the Scouts and a dazzling roster of celebrities took up the cause, including Archbishop Desmond Tutu, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Cate Blanchett, Edward Norton, Alanis Morissette and Coldplay.

Earth Hour was visually stunning – 1 000 of the world's best-known icons went dark, including the Great Pyramids of Egypt, the Acropolis, the Eiffel Tower, Rio's Christ the Redeemer, and Cape Town's Table Mountain

In South Africa more than 100 000 people signed up their support. Further, based on the reduced electricity consumption over Earth Hour, ESKOM estimates that the equivalent of 1 million South African households participated. Consequently, we estimate that between 1 and 4 million South Africans participated in the event.

Earth Hour 2009 was only the beginning of a more sustained effort to create awareness and understanding of the consequences of unabated climate change.

It also signalled the start of WWF's high profile VOTE EARTH campaign to tackle climate change. The results of this year long election will be presented at the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December. We want 1 billion votes for Earth, thus urging world leaders to take action against global warming. Therefore we will be campaigning throughout 2009 to add even more names.

We trust that you will consider it worthwhile to continue your relationship with us in our joint mission to stop the degradation of the earth's natural environment, and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

Please visit [our flickr group](#) and [Youtube channel](#) for Earth Hour visuals and also add your own 'on the night' pictures. If you are not familiar with the above, send your visuals to info@wwf.org.za and we will ensure it is uploaded.

Thank you once again for supporting WWF South Africa in this ambitious undertaking. May we not lose sight that we are ultimately acting to rectify mistakes of the past and the present so that our children have improved prospects for their future.

*For a living planet,
The World Wide Fund for Nature"*

For further information, go to: <http://www.wwf.org.za>

MANAGEMENT PLAN - PRESENTATION TO THE BUSINESS SECTOR

The first presentation and workshop for the preparation of the Management Plan have been held. The management plan is a critical document which has to be prepared to guide and manage the activities of the Conservancy.

The next presentation and discussion on the management plan to the business sector is being arranged through **SOJO Business & Tourism**. The details of the event are provided below and you are welcome to attend and bring along any other business colleagues to hear what the ideas and thoughts are regarding the Conservancy.

Please confirm your attendance with SOJO at info@sojo.co.za :

INVITATION

KLIPRIVIERSBERG CONSERVANCY PRESENTATION

ON 27TH MAY 2009

@ 16H30 FOR 17H00

@ THABA YA BATSWANA

KRAAL KOMBUIS

IMPALA ROAD, KLIPRIVIERSBERG NATURE RESERVE

You are invited to join us in a cocktail afternoon presentation regarding the Klipriviersberg Conservancy to be established in the southern areas of Johannesburg including the Klipriviersberg ridges through to the Klip River. The aim of the presentation is to introduce the interest shown in preserving the rural and special natural features of the area, create structured development and promote tourism opportunities and job creation.

We would be honoured to have you as our guest and to share your input on this very exciting and bold initiative.

For catering purposes, kindly RSVP (info@sojo.co.za) your attendance by no later than Friday 22nd May'09

Refreshments and a Cash Bar will be available

We are very grateful to SOJO Business & Tourism (www.sojo.co.za) and Thaba Ya Batswana (www.tyb.co.za) for organising and hosting this event.

PRESENTATIONS REGARDING THE CONSERVANCY

Presentations regarding the Conservancy are being requested by a number of organisations. We have already presented to the Eikenhof Woman's Institute (on Wednesday 13 May) and will be presenting to the Johannesburg South 101 Rotary Club at the end of the month on Tuesday 26 May 2009.

As we want to raise awareness regarding the existence of the Conservancy and what it is striving to achieve we would welcome the opportunity to make a presentation regarding the Conservancy to any organisation who wishes to invite us. Please contact Andrew Barker to make the necessary arrangements.

KLIPRIVIERSBERG NATURE RESERVE EVENTS

The Kliprivier Nature Reserve Association organises a number of events at the Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve. This includes guided walks through the reserve as well as special birding walks and taking in sunsets from the tops of the hills. These are to be held on Saturdays and Sundays through the month of May and details regarding the different events and when they will be taking place as well as the organisers can be found at www.knra.co.za.

These events are extremely well organised and provide a wonderful opportunity to venture into the Klipriviersberg hills and experience some of the beauty and surprises that the Reserve has to offer.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS - NATIONAL & GAUTENG ASSOCIATIONS

The Annual General Meeting for the National Association of Conservancies/Stewardship of South Africa (NACSSA) is to be held in KwaZulu Natal from 03 to 05 June 2009 and will be hosted by the KwaZulu Natal Conservancy Association at the Umgeni Nature Reserve in Howick.

On 6 June 2009 the Gauteng Conservancy Association (GCA) will be holding its AGM. This will be held at Plot 29 Pretorius Street Nespark, Benoni at 09h00.

One of the items to be considered in Gauteng is a change to the name of the GCA to Gauteng Conservancy /Stewardship Association. This is to align the Association with the Stewardship Programme of the National Department and GDACE and also the change of name for the National Association.

The Klipriviersberg Conservancy will be sending representatives to each of these meetings. Should there be any particular issue which you feel should be raised or any particular comments raised please contact Andrew Barker.

FUNDING AND SPONSORSHIP

The Klipriviersberg Conservancy does not raise funds through membership fees and requests sponsors and donors to make contributions.

The bank account details are as follows:

*Klipriviersberg Conservancy (Account: 086608584)
Standard Bank The Glen (Code: 00 60 05)*

Please remember that the Conservancy is to be registered as a Public Benefit Organisation and Non-Profit Organisation as soon as possible to enable sponsors and donors to receive tax advantages. As this will take some time to achieve it is suggested that any donors and sponsors who wish to assist should do so by means of a loan to the Conservancy which would later be converted to a donation for tax purposes once the registrations have been achieved.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION AND CONTACT DETAILS

The following people can be contacted to provide you with any additional information or to assist you regarding the Conservancy:

Chairman: Andrew Barker - 083 274 4424 or abarker@icon.co.za

Vice-Chairman: Clem Kourie - 082 458 2816 or clemkourie@gmail.com

Hon Secretary/Treasurer: Sue Edwards - 011 680 7367 or edwards@futurejhb.co.za

Should you wish to become a member of the Conservancy please e-mail: clemkourie@gmail.com

Apologies for any cross-posting. Please forward to your family, friends, neighbours, colleagues and networks. If you wish to be deleted from our list, please contact us.