

Klein Slangkop Home Owners Association Newsletter

The Oystercatcher

OCTOBER
2024



Fri 29 Nov – Sun 1 Dec
Open daily 10am–5pm

Kommetjie’s vibrant creative community is opening its doors again for all to get an insight, not only into the artists’ private creative spaces, but also how the solitary hours of creative processing and distilling, the lines, colours, shapes, tones, and textures of nature are alchemised into artworks.

As many of you know, we have two of this year’s ‘Open Studios Kommetjie’ participating artists on the estate, **Laurel Holmes** and **Kim Black**. Kim will be showing her work in her studio in Orca Close. Laurel will exhibit her work outside the estate at 25 Protea Avenue, together with Kristen McClarty and Jenny Chadwick.

Pick up a map of the participating studios at the guardhouse in December or sign up for the interactive map on the website www.openstudioskommetjie.com now.



Klein Slangkop Halloween Party

For those who would like to join this year’s Klein Slangkop Halloween Party, note that it will take place Saturday 2 November, 16.00 – 19.30.

If you are participating, please decorate your house so the children know they are welcome.



2024 Trustees

- Chairman/ Environment : Peter Blersch 082 567 7689
- Vice-Chairman/ Compliance : Philippa van Aardt 082 863 0257
- Finance : Chris Steward 082 904 8685
- Building : Ben Langbridge 082 772 3957
- Sewage : Isaac February 0812 216 0602
- Roads : Julie Phillips 081 271 0574
- Safety & Security : Ian Cowie 074 177 5502
- Pets : Ross Reuvers 082 904 2670
- Communication : Katrien Heere 072 771 5046

WhatsApp Groups KSL

- Klein Slangkop Estate: formal messages from the estate management. Admin Don du Toit (084 515 3436).
- Klein Slangkop Security : interactive platform to share information around KSL security breaches. Admin Don du Toit (084 515 3436).
- KS Environment Group: sharing of environmental issues on the estate. Admin Philippa van Aardt (082 863 0257).
- Klein Slangkop Community: informal virtual notice board from and for residents who want to reach out to others on the estate. Admin Philippa van Aardt (082 863 0257).
- Klein Kiddos: tips and recommendations specifically for those homeowners with children. Admin Claire Austin (081 324 7964).

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'The delicate balance between waves, wind and dunes' Join Paul Lee for a 'walk and talk' November 16th

How do natural forces and climate change shape our shoreline? Join climatologist and environmental practitioner Paul Lee for a guided walk on the beach on Saturday November 16th, as he gives a talk about 'The delicate balance between waves, wind and dunes' that influences the beachfront of our estate. More details about what time and where to meet will be posted on the Klein Slangkop WhatsApp groups closer to the time. Please WhatsApp Mallorie Lee if you want to join: 081 364 5871.



Our guards: Introducing Themba Ngcwama



We are lucky to have so many guards who have been with us for a long time. It enables them to work as a tight team, something they really value, a win-win for all of us. Something shift leader Themba also emphasizes when he talks about working at Klein Slangkop since 2016. As well as a feeling of being taken good care of by the estate.

Born 10 January 1984 in the Eastern Cape he was raised solely by his grandmother. She was his everything, taking on the role of the mother and father who were both missing from his life from the beginning. Themba had a rough youth, as a 9-year-old he was already doing all the cooking and the cleaning. No time for schooling. Unfortunately, his grandmother died after a 6 months sickbed when Themba was only 17. In 2005 he came to Cape Town looking for work and went to live in Masiphumelele. That same year his house in the Masi wetlands burned down but he managed to find materials and rebuild it. Before starting at Klein Slangkop, he was a cleaner and worked in security elsewhere.

When asked what his big dream for life was, he said it was having a family. He realized that dream when marrying his wife Akhona in 2013 and raising their 2 girls, Sibongile (14) and Athandiwe (7) and their boy Kamualetu (9). With both him and his wife having full-time jobs they take care of their children and household as a team, splitting the chores and responsibilities.

Wanting to build his own legacy for his children he has bought a house in the Eastern Cape where he wants to retire one day and do what he loves to do, farming.

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Zooming in on the Security Portfolio and its holder: Ian Cowie

A Klein Slangkop resident since 2006, Ian Cowie has headed up the Security Portfolio since 1.5 years. His main endeavour is to ensure that all the security measures the estate has in place are fully functional.

Ian liaises regularly with Komwatch. One of their big frustrations is that people don't lay charges after having attended a crime incident. Ian has ensured that charges are being laid against intruders on our estate.

A good example thereof is an incident from last year December 20th. Ian apprehended 5 youths in the firebreak outside his house at the end of Southern Right Circle after his dogs alerted him to their presence and cornered them. According to the Komwatch Facebook group, the youths had been roaming Kommetjie the whole day. Various residents had reported trespassing and theft. Thanks to Ian laying charges, two 18-year-olds were detained. The other 3 were minors and released into their parents' custody. The following day, the 2 eighteen-year-olds were identified by our guards as the same 2 who were caught in the Estate earlier in the year on the 25th of January and handed over to SAPS.

Ian met with the station commander of the Ocean View SAPS, who, when presented with the security report of the 25 January incident and the Komwatch Facebook description of the youths' exploits, made sure that the case went ahead. During the trial at court, Ian agreed with the prosecutor to a mediation process that turned out to be very successful.

The two adult boys were present with their parents, their cocky attitudes gone after the two court appearances in the lead-up to this process. Their parents had organised employment for them which would have been threatened if they had criminal records. With their parents' support they are hopefully on the path to rehabilitation.

Another liaison with Komwatch is around their camera system. The Komwatch system will monitor our newly approved security camera on the Southern boundary as well as the Komwatch camera at gate 3.

It is Ian's intention is to update our access control and he has called a SGM (special general meeting) to discuss the security solution over weekends and public holidays.



Recommended plants and not permitted plants

To find out which plants are endemic, which are recommended, and which are not permitted on our estate, the 'Current Plant List' on our Klein Slangkop website serves as a guideline. Sometimes new insights a/o the outcome of our environmental audits, make it necessary to amend the list.

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A recent example hereof is the Rhus Crenata or Dune Crow-berry. When the estate was established the Rhus Crenata was a recommended plant, however, if not kept in check, it tends to dominate the area it is in at the expense of natural strandveld and fynbos plants. Even though it is indigenous to the False Bay area it is not indigenous to the estate or the greater Kommetjie. This is why Gael, our environmental auditor, has now recommended Rhus Crenata should not be planted on verges and should be removed where it has invaded public open spaces. It can be planted in gardens as long as its spread is controlled. It is easy to prune.

A few weeks ago Mallorie Lee, a curator from Stellenbosch Botanical Gardens, and a group of Klein Slangkop homeowners and staff cleared a patch in the Island next to Southern Right Circle where Rhus was taking over and replanted rescue plants from a nearby development. The Stellenbosch curator was very impressed by how our estate manages its plant life.

The KRRRA (Kommetjie Ratepayers and Residents Association) has also picked up on what we are doing at Klein Slangkop and has asked Tara Dalton to create a similar plant guide to the one she has created for us for the whole of Kommetjie.

The outcome of our most recent environmental audit has been sent to all by our estate manager Don. We are currently working on a summary that lists the most important outcomes, changes and new recommendations. As soon as the summary is ready, Don will distribute it.



Welcome in Klein Slangkop

Suzanne & Brendan Schekman (7 Fin Whale Way, after renting for years now the official owners)
Lizi & Rob Wagner (1 Pilot Way)
Tara & Brad Hale (9 Baleen Drive)
Judith & Marc Teusch (11 Baleen Drive)

