

THE OLIVE CRESTER

NEWSLETTER NO. 23

FEBRUARY 2013

INTRODUCTION:

Welcome to another year, even though you might have already shattered all three of your new year resolutions by now. Our summer is well advanced and the rain has really made the common areas on the Estate grow lush and green. When last did you walk to the waterfall after an afternoon downpour, in time to see a spectacular sunset above the stunning North Riding horizon? Maybe make this your resolution for this year, to walk around the Estate in the evenings or mornings? Try it, you'll love it.

So, even though we are already into February, already had a great January Happy Hour (were you there?), it's not too late in the year to reach for the stars. Heavens, if dung beetles guide themselves by the Milky Way, surely so can we!

And talking about stars, look at what our Olive Cresters have been up to, with thanks from all of us....

- ★ Many thanks to youngsters **Cameron #49** and **Liam #76** for providing the residents with the recent hands on and personalised postal service – not only sorting the incoming post but hand delivering it all too! (Suzanne is so grateful to you lads, as she now has less clutter in the office). Well done!
- ★ Before Christmas we had a stray dog in the Estate and **Nikhara** and **Shiriyah Govender** from **#43** very kindly fed and looked after it until they were able to contact the owner. There was a collar on the dog, but the telephone number on the disc was very worn. It was only by looking very carefully in a bright light that they were able to decipher the number. Thank you for your caring and helping to re-unite this dog with its extremely grateful owners.
- ★ At the end of 2012 **Jon-Jon Jenks** (15 yrs old) from **#49** graded successfully and received his Karate Black Belt. What a fabulous achievement!



- ★ Below are some of the awesome photos taken around Olive Crest by **Samantha Bacon #81**. Samantha attended a photographic course which we ran at the Clubhouse in 2011 and she really has applied everything she learnt. Great stuff and may your skills be rewarded in the future.



Nature Photographs In Olive Crest

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS:

Helene and Brendon Hausberger had a special little visitor that decided to come and live at **#95** on their veranda for a while in December. Unfortunately it died a few days later, despite their attentions. Anyway, good to know that the bats are breeding and living around Olive Crest.



Bat of Type Unknown



Rain Spiders Coming To A House Near You

Rain Spiders

Samantha also took a photo of the Rain Spider nest above. We are not telling you where she took the photo in case you are an arachnophobe, (but it is very near your house). There are between 50 and 300 eggs in this web and they are growing into full blown Rain Spiders as we speak. But relax. These spiders, are docile, hairy, very large, but absolutely harmless. See below.



Finger Showing Spider Where Your House Is



Guineafowls Scratching Up Our Garden

Guineafowls

We are pleased to announce that Olive Crest's resident Helmeted Guineafowls, (see photo above), have had another successful breeding season. Most evenings you will encounter the six adults, shepherding nine (at last count), chicks, around the Estate. It looks like the teenage youngsters, are now sufficiently grown to avoid falling prey to owls or cats, and all going well, will be pulling out seedlings for many years to come.

African Paradise Flycatcher

Another photo from Samantha, of a female Paradise Flycatcher at Olive Crest, where we have at least one pair flitting in the forests. The male is also shown below, has the long tail, and he is much more beautiful, as is generally the way of the world. These birds build a tiny cup of a nest somewhere deep in our common area and lay 1 to 4 eggs. Hopefully, they also raised a successful brood.



Estate Waterfall

The waterfall area is now looking great, being especially delightful towards the end of the day, when the sun sets over the valley. The intention is to place a bench seat on the rocks next to the magenta bougainville bush, for people to sit and enjoy Nature's daily spectacle.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:

From Brendon Hausberger: “We are delighted to have finally received the proposal from the Telkom Technical Team for a wired solution to provide lines in the estate. They have also presented an alternative solution that would rely on the LTE infrastructure that Telkom has in place or is establishing. Their coverage maps for the LTE indicate a slight degradation of signal under current usage and this could be exacerbated by further users coming on-board in the residences on the Northgate side of Northumberland. On questioning it is clear that their technical team is not convinced this wireless solution will provide an ADSL or equivalent speed. The Olive Crest HOA directors are considering the proposals and will communicate their recommendations shortly.”

From Sue Frankland: “The booms on Quorn Drive are an eyesore – I have someone who is willing to remove them free of charge and cart them away. I am also in contact with City Parks and have asked to meet again to discuss an upgrade along Olievenhout, as the electric power station is also an eyesore and brings the area and property prices down. If we take the booms out I am wanting to foliate the island at no cost to OC. We also need to remove the farm sign as people come down and expect it – so more traffic. I have been told by the people involved that Northgate is about to start a serious upgrade – bad side is they have brought in Wal-Mart so this could be detrimental to the area – or not?”

ADVERTS:

AFFORDABLE SHUTTLE SERVICES OFFERED to schools in and around Northgate areas. Please contact: SANDRA 079 695 0447

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| <p><u>MUSIC CLASS FOR LITTLE ONES</u> ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ Contact : Ronel Schreuder at 083 454 5464</p> | <p><u>DOMESTIC HELP REQUIRED</u> Full time, good with small kids, must have references, preferably in late thirties. Contact Sandra : 079 695 0447</p> |
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Need to have an hour or two to yourself but have no one to watch the kids?

♥ Been putting off “Date Night” because there’s no one to keep an eye on the kids? ♥
Samantha @ #81 would be happy to come to your home and be with your children while you catch your breath and catch up on life.
Call Nicky 082 77 33 417 (Samantha’s mom) to make arrangements.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

“Only two things are infinite - the universe and human stupidity. And I’m not too sure about the universe”. – Albert Einstein