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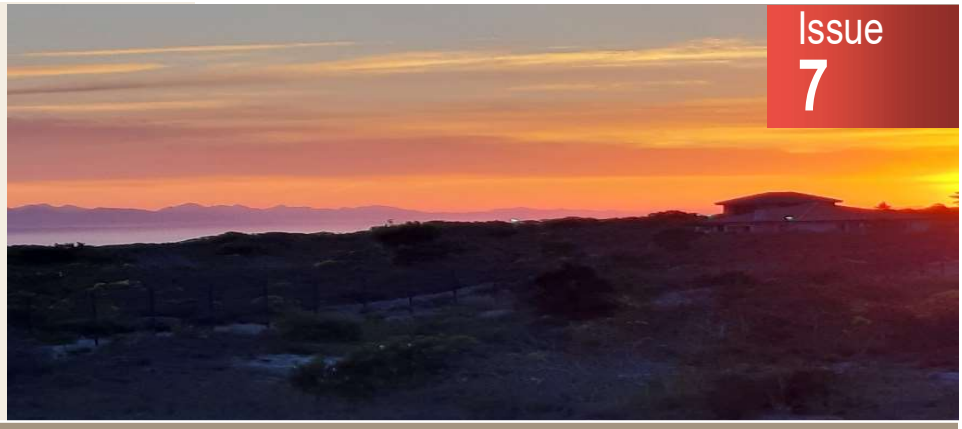

Issue 7

An insight into what is happening in Fijnbos Paradijs

Fijnbossie



Dear Fijnbos Paradijs Owner

We are now in the second half of 2023. Fijnbos Paradijs is now almost full with only a few building projects still to be completed.

Ons doen 'n beroep op eienaars om asseblief moeite te doen met hul tuine en om altyd te verseker dat die areas rondom hul eiendomme netjies en skoon is.

The fence project is now complete. Please let us know if you have any suggestions towards future projects for the complex.

Regards,

Fijnbos Paradijs Committee

Ben Joubert, Deon Unterhorst, Jerrie Coetzer, Frans Weyers, Kobus Smit



Important Matters

FENCE PROJECT

It gives us great pleasure to announce that the fence project was successfully completed. Since the completion of the fence no crime related incidents were reported.

We would like to thank each and every owner for the contribution and cooperation during the installation of the fence. The many positive comments received, are greatly appreciated.

The total cost of the project was ± R400 158.

Herewith some before, during and after photos :

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Fynbos

What is fynbos



Fynbos (/ˈfeɪnbɒs/; Afrikaans pronunciation: [ˈfɛinbos] lit. 'fine plants') is a small belt of natural shrubland or heathland vegetation located in the Western Cape and Eastern Cape provinces of South Africa. This area is predominantly coastal and mountainous, with a Mediterranean climate and rainy winters. The fynbos ecoregion is within the Mediterranean forests, woodlands, and scrub biome. In fields related to biogeography, fynbos is known for its exceptional degree of biodiversity[1] and endemism,[2] consisting of about 80% (8,500 fynbos) species of the Cape floral kingdom, where nearly 6,000 of them are endemic.[3] This land continues to face severe human-caused threats, but due to the many economic uses of the fynbos, conservation efforts are being made to help restore it.

Fynbos is a unique type of vegetation found in the Cape Floristic Region of South Africa. It is a diverse and endemic shrubland ecosystem characterized by a distinct combination of evergreen shrubs, small trees, and herbaceous plants. The term "fynbos" is derived from the Dutch words "fijn" meaning fine or delicate, and "bos" meaning bush or vegetation.

Key features of fynbos include:

Plant Diversity: Fynbos is known for its remarkable plant diversity, with a high number of species adapted to the Mediterranean climate of the region. It is estimated that there are around 9,000 plant species in the Cape Floristic Region, and over 6,200 of them are found exclusively in fynbos.

Fire-Adapted Ecosystem: Fynbos has evolved to thrive in a fire-prone environment. Many fynbos species have specialized adaptations, such as resprouting from underground storage organs after a fire or having seeds that require the heat of a fire to germinate.

Ericoid Leaf Structure: A prominent feature of fynbos plants is their ericoid leaf structure, which refers to small, needle-like leaves with tough, sclerophyllous characteristics. This leaf structure helps plants conserve water and survive in the nutrient-poor soils of the region.

Endemic Species: Fynbos is recognized as one of the world's biodiversity hotspots, hosting a significant number of plant species that are found nowhere else on Earth. It has a high level of endemism, with many species being highly specialized and adapted to the specific conditions of the Cape Floristic Region.

Fynbos is not only ecologically important but also culturally significant to the people of the region. It supports a variety of animal species, provides habitats for pollinators, and plays a vital role in water catchment and soil conservation. Conservation efforts are in place to protect and preserve the unique biodiversity of fynbos and its associated ecosystems

Source : Wikepedia, Garden Route INaturalist






Estate Living and Being Neighbourly

There's a Czech proverb that says "A good neighbour increases the value of your property".

It's always great to have neighbours who you get along with, especially in estate living. It is even better, though, to be a good neighbour yourself – even more so when living in a security estate.

Living with difficult neighbours

Within the estate, you will probably have more interaction with the people living around you than in a suburban property. The need to be considerate of those around you is even more important when there is a governing body in an estate and upsetting the guy next door could lead to issues with others. Of course, sometimes the neighbour may be the problem and not you.

How to deal with difficult neighbours

Firstly, be reasonable. If this person is regularly making noise through loud music, shouting, unruly pets or renovations then that's one thing. But if your generally quiet neighbour one day has a party with music that is a little loud, then surely you can let that go?

However, if the noise is of such nature that you just can't deal with it, you can follow these steps:

- Approach your neighbour personally and have a calm discussion. Perhaps this person isn't even aware that they are making so much noise.
- Alternatively, a polite letter can be written and handed to the person in question.
- If these steps don't work then you can discuss the matter with the HOA.

Always try to resolve matters peacefully because this person will still be living next door tomorrow.
Being neighbourly

We sometimes forget when we live in an estate that with great power comes great responsibility. Don't wait for other homeowners to show the example of how to be a good neighbour.

- **Get to know the people around you**. Knowing that Susan in number 45 bakes delicious cakes may be a lifesaver when you've planned your kid's birthday party and remember the night before the big event that you forgot to order the birthday cake!
- **Lead by example.** If there are neighbourhood issues – like waste for instance – get a group of residents together and form a cleaning squad.
- **Get active.** Many people would love to work out but they don't have someone to motivate them. Or perhaps there are kids that get left out of sporting activities at school. This is a great opportunity to start a community activity. Arrange exercise classes like yoga or a bootcamp. If there's space then get the kids to join in a rugby game or soccer match on Saturdays.
- **Look after them.** Often your community becomes your family and family takes time to help each other out. Even if you aren't family, there's no reason why you shouldn't help your neighbours. Remember when you and your spouse brought home your newborn baby and the women in your street got together to make you a few meals for the first week so you don't have to cook? Pay it forward! Help the elderly gentleman across the road to put up new cupboards or the people next-door who need a petsitter while they are away on holiday.
- **Support them.** Do you know that Mike two houses down lost his job recently and is now doing carpentry from home to earn an income and look after his family? Help him out by referring people to him, perhaps go with him to a market day and help him sell his products because you are more a smooth-talker than he is.
- **Be considerate.** There will be a time when you will want to host a party at your house and you just know it's going to be a bit noisy. Give those living around you a heads-up that you are hosting and it may be a little loud. You could even invite them over for the party.

Always remember ..... It's not that hard being a good neighbour. A little consideration and friendliness can go a long way

Source : www.centraldevelopments.co.za

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