

# RV NEWS BULLETIN

**FEBRUARY 2016**

## 1. RV Security

### 1.1 Fence breach and break-in

Most of you would have seen the bulk sms regarding a recent fence breach and break-in. After 4 years of no major incidents, we had a breach in our northern fence to the end of last year and now recently, one on our eastern fence.

On Tuesday 16 February the security patrol vehicle noticed a fence breach in the vicinity of the Sandspruit River on the eastern fence, and the house closest to the fence (unoccupied at that stage) had been broken into. Three perpetrators made off with stolen items into Khaya Ndlovu. Security reported the case to the police and mobilised personnel to track the outgoing spoor. The spoor went all the way to the train tracks. Access to and from the breach in the RV fence was from the train track through Khaya Ndlovu.

Most of the stolen items were found hidden in the long grass next to the train tracks. One suspect found in the vicinity of the stolen items was detained, with suspicious items in his possession. This person has subsequently been released due to circumstantial issues. Forensics have taken fingerprints and the case is currently in the hands of the SAPS.

The fence alarm was not triggered. The RV team tested all fence alarms and found them to be in working order. The lack of alarm was probably due to poor gsm network coverage. As a result all the fence gsm units will be tested by our service provider to ensure they are 100% operational.

### 1.2 Quemic

#### 1.2.1 Name change

Neah GES Africa (Pty) Ltd has acquired 100% shares in Quemic (Pty) Ltd. The shareholders decided to change the name of Quemic to Ges Africa (Pty) Ltd, which was implemented on 13 January 2016. Some time in future the corporate branding of the company will also be changed. This will be visible on the staff uniforms and mobile vehicles.

#### 1.2.2 Personnel changes

Adriaan Bam, the Area Manager who was appointed towards the end of 2015, has resigned from Quemic, effective immediately. Karen Lotriet has been appointed as his replacement.

Li Lotriet, the Quemic Regional Manager, has also recently tendered his resignation

#### 1.2.3 Quemic contract

The current Quemic security contract expires in September 2016. We are currently looking at the best security solutions for RV.

#### 1.2.4 Quemic Medical Response.

Take note that as of 31 March 2016 the Quemic medical response unit will be dissolved in total. There are alternative medical response companies that can be contacted which provide a similar service.

#### 1.3 Risk assessment

In light of the above, we have factored in an assessment to be conducted by an "Independent Risk Assessor" who will be evaluating Raptors View Estate as a whole, including Southern Cross Schools and our current security provider. Part of the evaluation takes into account the current socio-economic situation, including the risks in town itself and how they could affect us. The assessor will then draw up a comprehensive report on our soft areas and other possible security risks, with advice on how to move forward in order to ensure these areas are adequately covered, while also giving advice on where issues lie with our current security company. This has been in the pipeline for some time, and has now become imperative. Southern Cross Schools are fully on board with this initiative. Your estate is only as good as its security.

### **2 Electrical Upgrade**

A further information evening was held on 18th February again explaining the electrical upgrade project. If you have not yet sent in your vote on the resolution to spend the funds for the upgrade of the electrical grid, please do so now on the form attached. This is necessary and vitally important to keeping our electrical grid stable. Remember that no additional funding will be required – it is all built into the R300 per month Capital Projects levy adopted at last year's AGM. Voting closes on 25 February 2016.

### **3 RVHOA Office Move**

The Raptors View Home Owners Association office has been situated at Business Suites 3, Khayagelo Village, Main Street, Hoedspruit since April 2008.

It is only 47m<sup>2</sup> in size and is utilised as administration and farm management offices. It also is used for archive storage, and the hosting of various board and sub-committee meetings. Over the last few years, the staff compliment has increased, the amount of houses on the estate has increased and the resultant archive records have increased, resulting in the current office space becoming too small as an operations center. The need for larger office facilities has now arisen which will cater for the current and future needs of the RVHOA.

The RVHOA office will be moving to number 14 Safari Junction as of 29 February 2016. Please note that the current offices will be closed on 25 and 26 February whilst we move across to the new premises.

### **4 Budget**

The Board is currently reviewing the various estate budgets in conjunction with the finance subcommittee. We intend to keep any levy increase to a minimum (if at all) and will communicate any changes to members during the month of March 2016.

### **5 Drought**

The Hoedspruit area is currently experiencing its most severe drought in decades. We have had far less rain than required, with a subsequent decrease in the estates carrying capacity for animals. We are monitoring the situation and have acquired a stock of lucerne in the event of having to supplement feed. This will only be done if absolutely necessary. RV also conducts an animal genetic

swop program every 5 to 7 years, which we shall implement this year. This will reduce the number of animals on the property, resulting in fewer mouths to feed.

## **6 Social**

### 6.1 Birding

A recent birding day in conjunction with SCS at Osprey dam has added 5 new species to the current bird list on the estate. A similar birding day is planned on 22 April. If you would like to join this birding day, please notify Byron on [byron@raptorsviewhoa.co.za](mailto:byron@raptorsviewhoa.co.za).

### 6.2 River braai

We are planning another river braai soon. Watch this space.