

NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2020

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Well, how has the New Year been? Rather wet I hear you say? It is now Monday 25th January and we have some more heavy rain and light wind, so it is fair to say the cyclone has largely moved on. By several accounts, we had somewhere between 170-200mm during the peak of the storm.

Remember to get an accurate reading your rain gauge has to be in open ground with no big trees or bushes nearby and in a setting where there is no wind.

Incidentally I read that the Longmere Dam is up to 50% as of just after 6am this morning and Klipkopjes is at 30%. That is a welcome increase. Of course, we are all happy with the extra rain, even if it all came at once, and we now hope that the Council will quickly apply themselves to repairs where necessary.

"IF AT FIRST YOU DO SUCCEED, TRY NOT TO LOOK TOO ASTONISHED"

WRRRA MEETINGS

The regulations do not permit the WRRRA to have our usual committee meetings so I have little up to the minute items to report on. However, there is no doubt that the virus has spread at a greater rate and the new variant is not helping. What is also not helping is people not wearing their masks properly. A mask must cover your nose as well as your mouth. It is counter productive to say "I don't do that" or "My glasses steam up" In fact it is downright foolhardy and irresponsible.

ISSUES CONCERNING WHITE RIVER TOWN

Our Chairman has over the last few months written several letters to the Council on issues concerning White River. It is disappointing that he has received no acknowledgement for any of these, let alone a response. Such is our democracy today.

One issue of deep concern is the regular gatherings of people outside the Post Office, queuing for grants, The Police Minister has declared that the regulations will be enforced – in this case wearing of masks and social distancing – but are being flouted. And where are the local police? Right next door until very recently doing nothing about it.

Apparently, masks are shared so one borrows one on entering the building. It is no wonder that our case numbers have climbed rapidly. Our White River Police Commandant has a lot to answer for and so has the Department of Social Welfare for not organising that the distribution of grants can be handled in an orderly fashion.

It is not acceptable that post box holders are unable to access their boxes without running the risk of infection.

If you can keep your head while others are losing theirs, it is possible you have not grasped the situation

Another issue that our Chairman has written to the Council about is manholes and their visibility, i.e. lack of covers. These have been the subject of much discussion recently. Well, some work was done, and reported in the local press, but there are still several uncovered.

One at the T-junction of Blouberg and Impala, a route that elderly people from Macadamia take to walk to the shops, is still uncovered. We feel this one should have had some priority.

To pick up on roads again, I am sure many of you will have noticed that the big rectangular repair at the top of Tom Lawrence now has two new potholes in it. It is only a few weeks old! We are not certain who did the repair but it was clearly an inadequate job without proper compaction and probably too little tar. The Council should take note of this and get the job done properly. There are still too many long-standing potholes around town as well.

Our Chairman has also addressed the Council on the issue of proper facilities in the town. The Council is after all the managing body and issues bye-laws and other rules on such subjects as rubbish and for instance, urinating in the streets. At the same time, we have an increasing number of people trying to make a living by selling their good from our pavements. Yet these "sellers" have no public convenience in town. Nor can they wash their fruit and veggies. Nor are disposal facilities provided for their rubbish. The WRRRA has had no direct response on this issue. Surely a town of this size should be better equipped.

"If you can keep your head while others are losing theirs, it is possible you have not grasped the situation."

Please take care, keep your distance from strangers (how do you do this in the aisle of a shop?), wear your mask and hope we get a vaccine soon.

SIMON EVERED
0836596296

*Content Written By Simon Evered,
Newsletter Designed by Design Insight (Amy Rothmann)*