

BUZZ

NEWSLETTER



CREATING A COMMUNITY MINDSET

INTERVIEW WITH BSRA'S
GRANT ROBINSON

A WORD FROM WARD 102
BY CLLR. LUCINDA HARMAN

**COMMUNITY
HEROES**
WE SHINE THE SPOTLIGHT ON
OUR LOCAL HEROES

BORDEAUX RECYCLING
WITH RECLAIMERS PROGRAMME

BSR
BORDEAUX SOUTH
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Autumn is here, and with it comes a fresh season filled with possibility. This season, we celebrate the heart of Bordeaux South: our community.

Our cover story (p.21) features BSRA Chairman Grant Robinson, who reminds us that building a great neighbourhood starts with having a community mindset, each of us plays a part in shaping the place in which we live.

That same spirit is rippling through Randburg too. Our ward councillor recently launched **Reimagine Randburg (p.25)**, an inspiring call to **action for local businesses to step up** and be part of the clean-up and renewal of our shared spaces.

We also shine a light on our very own local heroes: the gardening team keeping our green spaces flourishing (p.7) and our dedicated security crew going the extra mile to keep us safe (p.9). Their efforts are often unseen, but they make a big difference in our daily lives.

This issue is packed with more stories of community in action - and we're so grateful for the residents who continue to share their time, stories, and ideas.

Happy reading,
The BSRA Buzz Team

Amandla
Editor



COMMUNITY SPIRIT



Editor-in-Chief

Amandla Kwinana

Contributors

Cllr Lucinda Harman; Grant Robinson; Sue Atkinson; Kate Kenny; Angela Schaerer; Gerlinde Wilreker; Chad Cloete; Fiona Reid; Claire Prince; Roger Hislop; Keziah Marais; Amandla Kwinana

Special Thanks

Caroline Smith

Editorial

Nina&Nola 2020/657299/07
Bordeaux, Johannesburg, 2194
hello@ninaandnola.com
www.ninaandnola.com



Published by and for BSRA

buzz@bsra.co.za
www.bsra.co.za

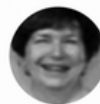
Your BSRA Committee



Grant Robinson
BSRA Committee Chairperson
and Environmental



Susan Atkinson
BSRA Secretary



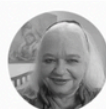
Sheila Conquest
BSRA Treasurer
and Payments



Hilary Baker
BSRA Faults Escalations and Membership
Management



Kate Kenny
BSRA Events and
Bordeaux Park



Caroline Smith
BSRA Communications



Jonica Brown
BSRA IT



Chad Cloete
BSRA Security



Fiona Reid
BSRA Security

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A WORD FROM WARD 102



Lucinda Harman is the Ward 102 councillor. Ward 102 includes Bordeaux, Blairgowrie, Bryanston and other neighbouring suburbs.

GREETINGS FELLOW RESIDENTS

This year has certainly gone off at a fast pace with three months already in the past tense. The much-needed rain was a blessing after the intense heat and I am sure your gardens and open spaces are smiling and bountiful.

Ward 102 was sorely tested by water outages and power related breakdowns from early December 2024.

Loadshedding stepped back into our lives as an uninvited guest with Eskom woes. Scrambling from no loadshedding with an abrupt stage 3 and even more abrupt stage 6 certainly turned City Power upside down and inside out. When a region such as ours sits daily with over 500 open calls, you know this entity is not in control.



I launched the
'RE-IMAGINE RANDBURG'
project which I created to inspire businesses, residents and community organisations to take part in uplifting our beloved ward.



Grass cutting across the ward has continued even though it started three weeks late into 2025, due to the rain.

On 20 February I launched the 'Reimagine Randburg' project (read the story on p.25) which I created to inspire businesses, residents and community organisations to take part in uplifting our beloved ward. This project has received a lot of media attention and has attracted a positive response from within and outside our ward. I truly believe that this will be a blue print for other wards to use and follow on from.

Other exciting wins for Ward 102 were the following:

- Craighall Residents Association was given permission to fence off the Delta Park section around the weir from City Parks. They are now fundraising to be able to do so.
- I successfully facilitated a partnership agreement between Blairgowrie Community Association (BCA) and City Parks, the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture & Recreation and Johannesburg Property Company. BCA can now manage, oversee and uplift these 3 facilities by fencing off the park (clearing out vagrants), revitalising the pool and the Recreation Centre.



A WORD FROM WARD 102

This has already had an incredible domino effect across this suburb with other projects being implemented. The swimming pool will reopen on 1 September 2025.

As you can see it has been a busy and exciting 2 months with a number of significant wins in ward 102. I hope to see projects in Bordeaux South and this community actively taking part in 'Re-Imagine Randburg'.

It has been a while since holding a 'meet your Councillor' event in your suburb. I look forward to your invitation and meeting up with you soon.

Remember, together we are stronger and together we can Re-imagine Randburg!

Your Councillor,
Lucinda Harman

JOIN THE BSRA *today*



JOIN US

Become part of our vibrant community by contributing just R275 per month. Simply email buzz@bsra.co.za to start supporting the beautiful gardens, enhanced security, and family-friendly events that make Bordeaux South a fantastic place to live! Plus, enjoy support with reporting issues such as electricity and water outages to the relevant authorities.

GET UPDATES

Members gain access to exclusive WhatsApp groups for real-time updates on street captains, local issues, and community events. You'll also receive a quarterly newsletter with all the latest happenings in the neighbourhood.

STAY CONNECTED

Participate in fun community events, from spooky Halloween trick-or-treating to spring day car boot sales. Enjoy activities for the whole family while staying informed about security and neighbourhood matters.

Please encourage your neighbours and fellow residents to join!

BSRA NEWS**COMMUNITY SPIRIT****BSRA MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

We're delighted to welcome the following new members to the Bordeaux South Residents' Association.



Aysen family



Marshall family



Ramplin family



Jess Patience



Moodie family



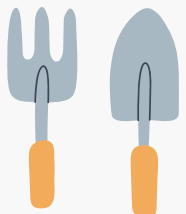
Tandree family



Keryn Kent

We hope you'll spend many happy years here with us.

BSRA Committee

BSRA GARDEN UPDATE

With all the downpours so far in 2025, gardening has not been at its easiest. The team has been focused on storm damage clearing and keeping flowerbed growth in check. Regular mowing has also been a priority. With the rains likely to extend towards the autumn months we are still expecting a bit of late season growth. This will mean a continuation of existing routines in all the green areas. We could be in for a cold start to winter given all the groundwater. So wrap up warmly, and enjoy the gardens' last blooms until the spring buds return again!



COMMUNITY HEROES

FROM POTHOLES TO PETALS

The ongoing greening of Bordeaux South

by KATE KENNY
BSRA Events and Park

Despite numerous potholes, frequent water excavations, and delayed reinstatements, Bordeaux South remains a beautifully maintained area thanks to the green thumbs and hard work of Derek Bridle and his dedicated gardening team. Every week, from Monday to Friday, this team is out, come rain or shine, ensuring that Bordeaux South isn't just another suburb but a blooming marvel that makes other Johannesburg neighbourhoods green with envy!

Derek Bridle, 48, is the man with the plan at Shape Shifter Landscape Services. He's been assisting our suburb for seven years, overseeing everything from park lawns that need mowing to the endless battle against weeds - especially after the crazy rains this year.



Bordeaux South's Gardening Heroes

Derek finds joy in the garden's growth, much like a parent would. His favourite plants, while hard to choose, he has to say: succulents! He loves how tough and adaptable they are.

Let's meet our gardening heroes...

Meet the youngest member of the team, **Godknows Sibanda**, who's just 21 with a penchant for sports. He's got a knack for growing aloes, loving that they thrive with minimal water and care, and they have the amazing natural ability to heal the body and wounds.

He loves our beautiful park. For Godknows, life is a lot like a garden: what grows in our lives, is what we plant.



“ Every week this team is out, come rain or shine, ensuring that **BORDEAUX SOUTH IS A BLOOMING MARVEL**

that makes other Johannesburg neighbourhoods green with envy!



COMMUNITY HEROES

Then there's **Ndumiso Dube** (35) who's been part of the Bordeaux South scenery for five years. His plant of choice is the Dietes, admired for its resilience and beautiful white flowers that transform the suburb for a short window of time. He says it can be effectively used in mass plantings, and as an accent plant alongside a pretty pond or some steps.

You'll often find Ndumi perfecting the gardens around the Shell Garage entrance, which is his favourite spot in the suburb. He's a nature lover at heart, and it shows in every flowerbed he tends.

Lastly, we have **Mlungisi Nkomo**, the spiritual gardener of the group, who started back in 2019. At 51, he brings a deeper meaning to his work with his favourite, the healing aloe plant. Gardening is more than just a job for Mlungisi; it's a long-term commitment to nurturing and healing, both plants and people.

So, the next time you're enjoying the tranquil paths of our suburb or relaxing in the park, remember these faces. Let's give a big shout-out to our local heroes who keep Bordeaux South blooming beautiful! 🏠



For help or advice with your own gardens feel free to **WhatsApp Derek: 082 899 1513**

COMMUNITY HEROES

KEEPING OUR SUBURB SAFE

Meet Bordeaux South's Local Hero

BY FIONA REID

BSRA Security

In the heart of Bordeaux South, where community and safety go hand in hand, there is one man who dedicates his days and nights to ensuring that residents feel secure.

Meet Bonginkosi Khothiso, one of the dedicated patrol guards working with Savika to protect our suburb. His commitment and passion for his work make him one of our local heroes.

Bonginkosi was born in the Eastern Cape but later moved to Welkom, where he grew up in a large family of six children. Life taught him resilience, especially after the passing of his father. Today, his mother remains in Welkom while Bonginkosi has devoted his career to protecting communities like ours.

His journey into security began in 2007, and over the years, he has developed a deep understanding of crime prevention and the importance of teamwork in his profession. Before joining Savika, he served as a site supervisor, gaining valuable leadership experience that he now brings to Bordeaux South.

For Bonginkosi, the most rewarding part of his job is the ability to provide comfort and reassurance to residents. He takes great pride in knowing that his presence alone can deter crime and that his swift actions can make a tangible difference in people's lives.



COMMUNITY HEROES

Bonginkosi takes great pride in explaining his job and how much he enjoys working in our suburb. He values the familiarity of the area, the well-maintained surroundings, and the strong community spirit.

He also highlights the excellent relationship between Savika and the committee members, emphasizing how staying informed about everything happening in the suburb helps him and his team perform their duties more effectively.

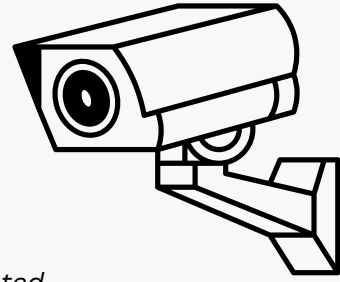
However, he stresses that safety is a shared responsibility. “80% of a resident’s safety is in their own hands,” he explains. “People need to be vigilant, ensure their doors are locked, and always be aware of their surroundings. We are here to support and protect, but the community must also play its part.”

Bonginkosi’s dedication is a reminder of the importance of the people who work tirelessly to keep us safe. Next time you see him on patrol, give him a wave or a word of thanks – after all, it’s heroes like him who make Bordeaux South a safer place for us all. 🏠



2025 SECURITY

Initiatives and Maintenance Updates



BY FIONA REID & CHAD CLOETE

The Bordeaux South Residents Association (BSRA) security portfolio is managed by dedicated volunteers Fiona and Chad. They oversee all security matters affecting our community.

As we move into 2025, the Bordeaux South Residents Association (BSRA) remains committed to enhancing security measures within our community. Several key projects are proposed as possible new initiatives, with approval pending, to ensure the safety of our residents and the effectiveness of our security infrastructure.

Proposed Security Enhancements for 2025 (Approval Pending)

1. New Boom System Implementation

The long-anticipated implementation of the upgraded boom system is under consideration. The new system aims to improve access control efficiency, reduce maintenance issues, and bolster overall security at **key entry and exit points in Bordeaux South**. A more in-depth explanation of this project will be provided at the **AGM**, and we encourage all residents to join us to hear about these exciting possible plans.

2. Installation of Barbed Fencing

Plans for the installation of barbed fencing along vulnerable perimeters continue to be a priority. This initiative is intended to further deter criminal activity and enhance the protective barriers around the suburb.

A sample mock-up is installed along Riverside Drive, and details will be presented at the next AGM.

Crime Statistics Update

Since the last newsletter, there have been four unreported break-ins within Bordeaux South. Unfortunately, specific details regarding these incidents remain unknown due to the lack of formal reporting.

We remind all residents of the critical importance of reporting all security-related incidents via the BSRA Portal Questionnaire. See below link for questionnaire.

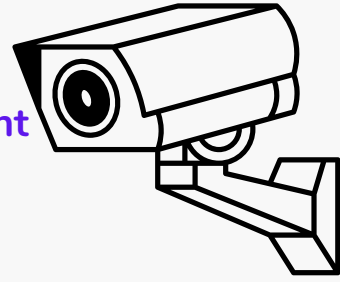
<https://forms.gle/BqrSs1tspRMxv5Ru8>

For accurate crime tracking and effective response planning, residents are urged to use the correct reporting channels:

- Emailing the BSRA Security Team
- Sending a message to Security Committee Members – Chad or Fiona

Your cooperation ensures that we maintain precise records, identify crime patterns, and implement proactive security measures effectively.





Ongoing Security Equipment Maintenance

1. Boom Gate Servicing

One of the Vega boom gates has been sent for much-needed repairs. Over the coming months, each of the boom gates will undergo long-overdue servicing to maintain their functionality.

2. In-Ground Triggers Repair

Chad, Grant and the Shomrim team are currently working on repairing the in-ground triggers at both the Shell and Vega booms. This maintenance work is essential for the continued efficiency of our security measures. We kindly request residents to exercise caution and be patient while this work is in progress, as it may take some time to complete.

Community Appreciation & Acknowledgment

We extend our gratitude to all BSRA members for their continued contributions. Your support plays a vital role in ensuring the sustainability and effectiveness of our security systems. Together, we are making Bordeaux South a safer place to live.

For any security-related concerns or to report an incident, please do not hesitate to reach out to the security team.

Stay vigilant and stay safe!

**Bordeaux South Residents Association (BSRA)
Security Committee**

SAVIKA ISSUES NEW PATROL VEHICLES TO BORDEAUX SOUTH

Strengthening Our
Community's Security!



BY KATE KENNY & ANGELA SCHAERER



HOW DOES IT WORK?



Separate all your recycling from organic and non-recyclable waste. All recycling can be mixed in one bag.



Put your recycling out in your recycling bin, a box, or clear bags (which can be purchased at PnP, West Pack, Builders, etc.) **every Tuesday morning as early as possible.** If you have a recycling bin, you can request an "I give my recycling to the reclaimers" sticker for the bin.

REMEMBER, IF EVERY HOUSEHOLD RECYCLES AND PUTS MATERIAL OUT ON A TUESDAY,

this will discourage informal reclaimer activity on a Wednesday. It will also improve our recycling and positive contribution towards looking after the environment.



ARO has a truck that collects remaining recycling not collected by Bordeaux reclaimers, from around 8am Tuesdays.



Local Bordeaux reclaimers will collect material that is useful to them using their trolleys. When you come across reclaimers, please greet and thank them – this acknowledgment means a lot!

ARO can take old furniture, e-waste such as old computers, electrical items, washing machines, etc. (See Nandipha's details below)

Ensure garden refuse, organic waste (food), nappies, medical waste, etc. are not put into recycling bags. This needs to be put into general waste bins for Wednesday Pikitup collection.

Do not put recycling out on a Monday night as this encourages reclaimers to forage in the evenings and often results in a mess.

CONTACTS



- **General programme queries** can be directed to Angela Schaerer via WhatsApp 083 308 5190
- **To coordinate any additional recycling** please contact Nandipha at 067 230 7155
- **Please report any suspicious activity** to Savika Special Ops security



HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT HAPPENS TO THE RECYCLING YOU PUT OUT ON TUESDAYS?

The recycling from Bordeaux and approximately 60 other locations gets taken to a sorting area that has been established by ARO in Selby, Johannesburg, for sorting and compressing.

Due to the volumes they have managed to gather, ARO has formed partnerships with various organisations who buy recycling materials for reuse directly from them, reducing the supply chain, and ensuring reclaimers benefit as much as possible from the hard work of collecting and sorting. The team meets every morning to review and refine their processes and explore new ideas.

The warehouse is spotless! Considering they are dealing with waste, this is quite a feat. All safety measures are in place, and overall, this group of entrepreneurs could teach many corporates a thing or two.

“ If you are part of the Recycling with Reclaimers programme in Bordeaux, YOU ARE CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS THE WELLBEING OF NUMEROUS RECLAIMERS while also protecting the environment!



IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

The recycling collected in Bordeaux generates approximately R3500 each week, reaching between 15-20 people and their families in the collecting and sorting process.

This means our “rubbish” provides approximately R175 per week per family to buy food and supplies. For some, this bit of income provides capital to start small businesses selling food and supplies to neighbours.

Every piece of material is used - either sent for recycling, fixed to be sold on, or recreated into something for a new purpose. Not one scrap of paper is left behind and unaccounted for.

See photos of the ARO sorting warehouse in the link below:

<https://share.icloud.com/photos/0c5Ymv23sKS5k577G8udDZXSQ>

See the next page for our interview with ARO truck driver, Nazi Makamo



Tell us a little about ARO?

ARO was formed in 2012 because they saw that Pikitup was taking recycling materials to landfills. So an organisation was formed to collect recyclables separately.

Please explain how the ARO team and trucks work in Bordeaux?

Reclaimers pulling trolleys first collect the light, valuable materials. The ARO truck collects the heavier material such as glass bottles and newspapers.

What happens to the recyclable materials?

The truck takes the materials to a sorting area in Selby, Johannesburg. They then get sorted and baled and sold on for recycling.

Who gets money for the material?

The funds received when the recyclable material is sold are shared equally between the ARO team.

How do you feel about the work you do?

My children are at school because of this job. I can put bread on the table. I am very happy with this job. Thank you to Bordeaux for supporting us with the material.



Nazi Makamo, ARO truck driver

Click on the image or follow the link to watch the video interview: <https://bsra.co.za/aro-interview/>



See more photos from our Global Recycling Day event with ARO and Petco in the next page!





GLOBAL RECYCLING DAY - RECYCLING WITH RECLAIMERS PARTNERSHIP

19 March 2025 | Bordeaux South Park

This year we celebrated Global Recycling Day with ARO and Petco, working together to make recycling easier and more effective. The event introduced new recycling bins, info flyer and shared stickers. Residents also won themselves recycling bins!





Small Classes, Big Impact

At **The Willows**, we believe in fostering a lifelong love of learning through the Montessori method. Our experienced teachers guide children from 18 months to Grade 7, providing a nurturing environment where they can explore, discover, and grow.

Co-curriculars



Music



Sports



Drama



Yoga



isiZulu

Schedule a tour today!



011 787 8293



thewillows-school.co.za



Bordeaux, Randburg

SERVICE DELIVERY ISSUES



Thanks to all residents who report service delivery issues, including those spotted about the suburb that don't affect them directly.

BSRA membership means we offer you assistance with escalating issues after they are first reported. To help us escalate, please supply information in the form of this template.

Template to use:


- ▶ Name:
- ▶ Contact Number:
- ▶ Address of Issue:
- ▶ Date of Occurrence:
- ▶ Reference Number:
- ▶ Brief Description:


If this format is not followed, it is not possible to escalate issues.

Here is a list of the entities and their contact details:

Joburg Water (Water & Sewer Issues)


 https://customer.forcelink.net/joburg_water/login

: (011) 375-5555


: customerserviceemails@jwater.co.za

City Power (Electricity)

: City Power - <https://citypower.mobi/login>

: (011) 490-7484


City Parks Issues

: (011) 375-5555 or 0860 562 874

JRA (Road Issues)

: hotline@jra.org.za

JMPD (Bylaw Issues)

: (011) 375-5911

Source: Ward 102



PIKITUP QUERIES AND REPORTING

Two ways to report directly to Pikitup

- via their call centre on 010 055 5990 or 087 357 1068 or
- via email on info@pikitup.co.za

You can also reach out directly to our councillor on 083 440 7901, she has indicated in the media that she is taking this cause up personally, directly with Pikitup.



REPORTING EXCESSIVE NOISE

After some months of quieter revelry, we have again started receiving reports of excessive noise from Amigos. Please, if you hear them, take the time to report them to

- JMPD on 0113755911 to log and
- 011 375 5918 for dispatch to see progress of the call

Please get a reference number and keep records of reference numbers and numbers of times you have called. All of this will assist in the ongoing attempt to find a more permanent solution for this challenge.

COVER STORY

CREATING A COMMUNITY MINDSET

BY GRANT ROBINSON & AMANDLA KWINANA

Bordeaux South is a community shaped by the dedication of its residents. As a long-time local and active leader, Grant Robinson, Chairman of the BSRA, has played a key role in strengthening the neighbourhood. We sat down with Grant to know the person behind the title and his vision for Bordeaux South.

I hurried into Tipu Café, umbrella in hand, on a slow, rainy Saturday afternoon. A friendly waitress greeted me at the door and quickly pointed out Grant, who was already waiting with a warm smile at one of the tables. It was no surprise that we were meeting at Tipu, nestled within the Old Parks Sports Club - undoubtedly Bordeaux South's beating heart, where young and old alike gather.

While many residents, myself included, regularly engage with the BSRA committee through our neighbourhood WhatsApp groups, it's not often that we get the chance to meet them in person. I had the opportunity to sit down with Grant Robinson, the BSRA Committee Chair and Environmental Lead, to learn more about the person behind the role and the work that helps our community flourish.

Can you tell us a little about yourself and what brought you to Bordeaux South?

We moved into the neighbourhood 22 years ago, when my kids were young. We wanted to get them into schools in the Northern suburbs so we decided to start looking for houses in the area.

We also did some investigations and found that Bordeaux is actually very central. You've got Sandton on the one side, you've got Blairgowrie on the other side, you've got the M1 on the one side, and you've got the N1 on the other side, which are about 20 minutes away each way, which makes it very centralised. It's actually a very well situated suburb. And so we bought our house.



Grant Robinson, BSRA Committee Chairman and Environmental Portfolio

When and what inspired you to get involved with the BSRA?

It must have been three years ago. BSRA's then chairperson, Trishana Moodley, approached me to help with certain things around the neighbourhood, which I did.

One thing led to another, and when Trishana left the suburb and resigned as chair, it was agreed by the rest of the committee that I would be chairperson.



COVER STORY

What do you love most about living in this community?

I've enjoyed the community. We have a very active committee, and we've got very active community members, which makes it nice, very friendly. And you know, it's like just one big family. If I monitor the groups and I see what happens on the groups, it's actually a pleasure to be here.

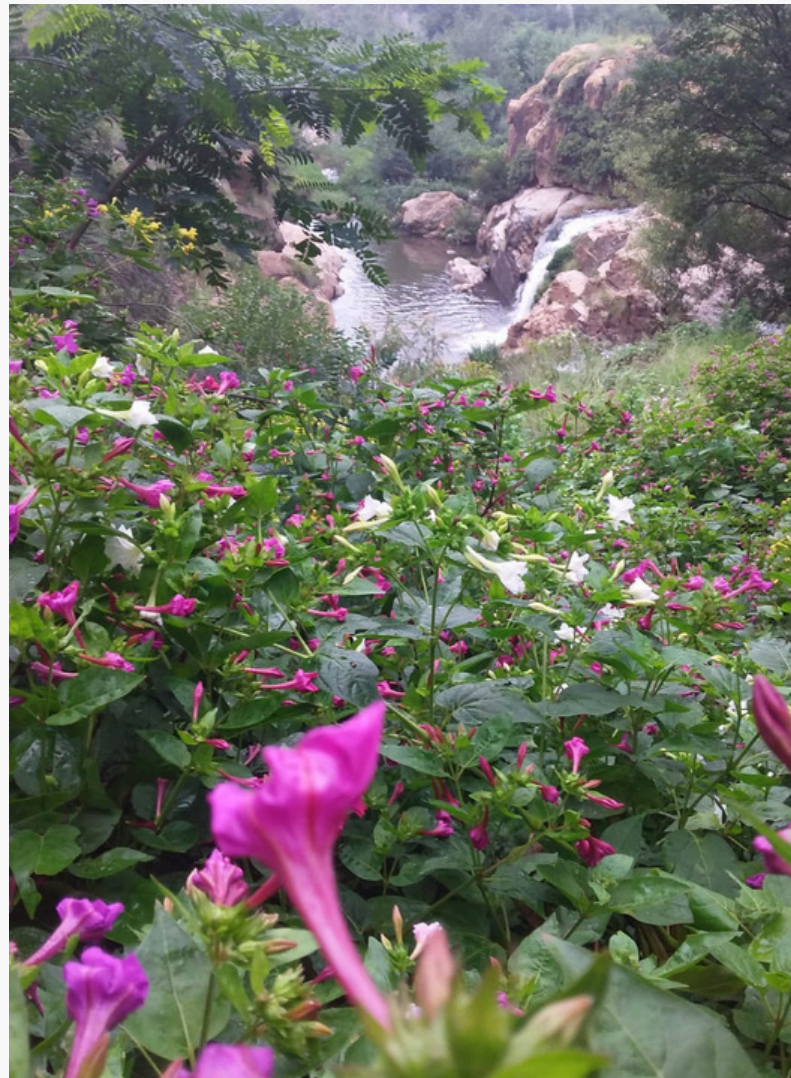
As the chairperson and environmental lead, what does your role entail?

Each committee member does their own management of their portfolio, and I don't interfere with them. They all are responsible people. But I do tend to keep everything together and assist privately where I have to, and in that way, it's working well. And I'm also responsible for looking after the environmental portion of the gardens portfolio.

Are there any other environmental projects or initiatives that are currently underway? How can residents support?

We continue to tend to the Braamfontein Spruit which runs alongside our neighbourhood. We are happy to report that the spotted-necked otter is still around. Two new raptors were also spotted, an Ovambo Sparrow hawk and a Black Sparrow hawk.

We currently have waste issues. On Wednesdays we have the recyclers coming and throwing out bins and taking the recycling. Part of the reason for that is because many residents have not joined our recycling programme with African Reclaimers Organisation (ARO).



Maintaining the Braamfontein Spruit is one of the environmental initiatives Grant oversees.



The spotted-necked otter (above right, Wikipedia) and a foot print seen at the spruit



COVER STORY

The more we can encourage the residents to start being part of this project and putting out their recycles on Tuesday mornings, the less they'll be in the bins to waste.

With all this rain we've had, you have a lot of curbs that are overgrown. We know that the curbs belong to the municipality, but we would like to encourage the residents to keep their curbs tidy. I drive through the suburb on a regular basis, and I know where the problem areas are, and it's just with this rain, it is much worse.

We also have a lot of damaged water pipes, which have become dangerous in some areas, and the infrastructure is not what it used to be any more. It has taken local authorities too long to have them repaired but Hilary Baker who oversees BSRA Faults Escalations, is assisting.

What is your vision for the future of Bordeaux South?

I've been in the service management business my entire working career, so looking after customers, looking after their needs, and keeping them happy as a customer, is what I know. And what we are doing as a committee is actually serving the people. And I would like to carry on creating that mindset - that we have to serve the community and also for the community to be there for one another.



I would like to carry on creating that mindset - that we have to serve the community and also

**FOR THE COMMUNITY TO BE THERE
FOR ONE ANOTHER.**



MY LOCAL FAVOURITE

TIPU CAFÉ

Whether it's a lunch, drinks or casual hangout, my local favourite is Tipu Café at Old Parks.



**BSRA'S ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING**

**14
MAY
2025**

Please mark this
important date in
your calendar and
**join us online to
discuss important
suburb issues.**

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

The Bordeaux South Resident's Association Annual General Meeting will take place on the evening of Wednesday May 14th, online. More details, including the registration link and the AGM information pack, will be made available closer to the time.

STORY

TREES, TREES, TREES

BY KATE KENNY
*BSRA Events and
Bordeaux South Park*



Michel De Marigny at home with some of the trees

In our last newsletter, we celebrated the magnificent trees that earned us the nickname "Garden Suburb." Inspired by this, Michel De Marigny, a former committee member living on Pierre Avenue, generously decided to donate numerous trees to the BSRA and residents of Bordeaux South.

These trees, included species like River Bush Willows, Spekboom, and Wild Pear, among others, housed in 10L to 60L bags and reaching up to three meters in height, are ready to further beautify our suburb. Many trees have already found new homes in gardens and other key spots around the neighbourhood. While many are earmarked for prime spots in our park and other areas.

However, there are still beautiful species available. After the final plantings, the BSRA will share any remaining trees so more families can enjoy this green gift.

We are so grateful for this chance to enhance our private and public spaces, continuing to nurture the natural beauty and community spirit of Bordeaux South. A big thank you to Michel for this wonderful contribution to our community's environment! 🏠

“ Michel generously decided to
DONATE NUMEROUS TREES
to the BSRA and Bordeaux South
residents.



A Call to Action for Local Businesses

SUPPLIED

As a resident of Randburg, you've likely noticed the steady decline in the infrastructure, appearance, and safety of the CBD. Thankfully, a transformation is underway with the 'Reimagine Randburg' initiative, launched by our Ward 102 Councillor on 20 February 2025. This ambitious project is not just a rallying call but a strategic move towards revitalising our community.

Inspired by the successful transformation of Springs CBD, which followed a similar model, 'Reimagine Randburg' aims to empower local businesses to lead urban renewal. Randburg has faced challenges from maintenance neglect to water issues that have tested our infrastructure's resilience. Yet, with adversity comes opportunity. 'Reimagine Randburg' is more than a project; it's a blueprint for future community-led initiatives and a call to action for local businesses to enhance and maintain the area.

"We're asking every business owner in Randburg to step up by maintaining the pavements and areas around their establishments, including painting, cleaning, and weed control.

Taking ownership of your immediate environment contributes to a broader movement towards sustainability and urban pride.



Imagine walking through a Randburg CBD with clean pavements, freshly painted sidewalks and bins, and every corner free of litter.

**THIS VISION STARTS
WITH ADOPTING THE
AREA SURROUNDING
YOUR BUSINESS.**

Cllr Lucinda Harman

The goal is to transform Randburg into a safe, inviting, and thriving destination for residents, businesses, and potential investors. Clean pavements and well-maintained surroundings reflect community pride and collective effort.

A shining example of community leadership is Lite-Glo, which recently cleaned up in front of their new premises on Bram Fischer and challenged McDonald's Randburg to do the same. Despite the deadline passing without action from McDonald's,



Lite-Glo showcased true community spirit by stepping in to clean up themselves. "Don't worry, LiteGlo is here to save the day! We're rolling up our sleeves and making sure our community stays clean -because when others don't show up, we do!" This act of civic pride sets a high standard for other businesses.

This initiative is supported by local security forces, community policing forums, hotels, and the media, all dedicated to ensuring these efforts succeed.

Please consider reaching out to business owners you know in Randburg to join this movement.

Together, we are stronger and can truly reimagine and reshape Randburg CBD for the better.

For more information or to get involved, contact at reimagineandburg@gmail.com



Reimagine
Randburg



Some businesses that are reimagining Randburg. Laerskool Fontainebleau cut grass at Silverpine Park and the McDonald's clean up by Lite-Glo.

RANDBURG COMMUNITY POLICE FORUM

BY SUE ATKINSON
BSRA Secretary



The Randburg Community Police Forum (CPF) Exco team has had a very active start to the year, with a number of initiatives underway. CPF representatives are regularly invited to attend SAPS events, which can range from provincial multi-stakeholder security operations, to graduation ceremonies for new police officers.

The communications team has set up a WhatsApp channel for Randburg residents to follow for regular updates. Please use the link below to subscribe, and we would welcome feedback on which of the content shared you find most useful. Much of this content takes the form of short videos covering topics relating to safety, security and legal considerations – recent examples include a video explaining how to install a bar to prevent your gate from being lifted off the rail; safety tips for online dating; and safety tips for parents of teenagers during the holiday season.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE RANDBURG CPF WHATSAPP CHANNEL:

[https://whatsapp.com/
channel/0029Vaa4iAPA2pLACEKL5Z2B](https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029Vaa4iAPA2pLACEKL5Z2B)

Another key initiative has been to work with the Randburg SAPS station to compile a list of items and services needed to make the station more functional, accessible, welcoming and comfortable.

The needs primarily relate to improvements in the customer service centre, which is the area of the station that the public generally sees, and the accommodation provided for officers and their families.

SAPS may not accept donations from the public, but part of the role of CPF is to source such donations and oversee that they are appropriately utilised.

Below is a high level list of the needs – if you are able to assist with any of these, please contact me at susan.m.atkinson@gmail.com for more details.

URGENT	IMPORTANT	NICE TO HAVE
Gardening equipment	Electronic equipment	Outdoor accessories
Coffee and tea supplies	Gardening equipment	Outdoor furniture
Light bulbs and fittings	Electrical equipment	Pool maintenance supplies
Plumbing supplies	Cleaning supplies	Household goods
Auto electrician services	Painting supplies	Building services
Plumbing services	Furniture	Printing services
Electrician services	Stationery	
Locksmith services	Printing services	
Handyman services	Security supplies	
	Tree felling services	
	Wheel alignment and balancing services	
	Vehicle maintenance tools	
	Windscreen repairs	

GAUTENG RAPID RAIL INTEGRATED NETWORK (GRRIN)

BY GERLINDE WILREKER

*The Gautrain is back in the news with further planned extensions.
These extensions however do not affect Bordeaux South.*

Gauteng Management Agency (GMA) CEO Tshepo Kgobe has reported that much of the initial work for Phase 1 has been completed, with the GMA aiming to be “on the ground” within the next three to five years, but not before undertaking all statutory design and consultation processes with all affected stakeholders.

Part of statutory requirements will include obtaining Environmental Permitting. This will involve having to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). This will include extensive specialist studies and public consultation and is a process that usually takes one year before Record of Decision is granted.

This process has not yet commenced. It will be imperative for Bordeaux South Residents to get involved at this stage. This is one of the stages where we as residents are at the strongest to get our voices heard and where we can ensure negotiations are in favour of our suburb.

Our dedicated team is regularly following up on Phase 1, but to date there has been no communications from the GMA. We commit to providing residents with any news we might receive.

JOIN THE GAUTRAIN WHATSAPP GROUP FOR UPDATES

[https://chat.whatsapp.com/
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LITTLE BORDEAUX

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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The Willows: the evolution of a
suburb's school

Celebrating Founder's Day

HEAVY METAL

BY ROGER HISLOP

My mountain bike weighs a little over 10kg, and I weigh 85. The various bicycles my daughter has had, starting with a little 12" that weighed probably around 10kg, then 14, 16 and now 18" all weigh 12kg and more (for a 15-25kg child).

So do the maths. If my bike weighed in proportion to my weight like a kid's bike does to a kid's weight, my cheery whip would weigh 50 or 60kg.

It's insane, but that's how it is – even if you buy your little one something costing R5000-R6000, they're still stupidly heavy things for little legs to get moving.

You can make it lighter by ditching the training wheels (look for "Berm Peak training wheels" on YouTube), getting rid of the back-pedal brake aka coaster brake (look for "Berm Peak dumbest law" on YouTube)... but that's it. It's heavy. Damned heavy.

So what else can you do?

There is a problem on most bikes I see that is very, very fixable. The wheel bearings and bottom bracket (pedals) bearings are very stiff.

I set up my little bicycle workshop (www.bordeauxcycleworx.com/bc) at the tail end of last year because I like fixing bicycles, and I like even more seeing that they work well, are safe, and above all are fun to ride.

I was relentlessly horrified to see kids on bikes at the little park with brakes flapping in the breeze and wobbly wheels.



Roger Hislop, Bordeaux South resident
and owner of Bordeaux Cycle Worx

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LITTLE BORDEAUX

I can count on the fingers of one tentacle the number of bikes I've had in to the workshop that didn't have at least one bearing that was very slack, or more often, way too tight (and inevitably with filthy caked grease inside).

So the poor little kid has to try get this flippin' heavy bicycle moving, while working against bearings that are fighting back. It's not hard, and not expensive, to fix. Pull it apart, clean it out, regrease, reassemble and set the bearings.

So – easy test. Get the chain out the way (careful of the dirty grease on your new mohair sweater!) and spin the wheel or pedals. It should spin perfectly freely – no gritty feeling, no noise. It should also not be able to move laterally even a tiny bit. If you try rock it side to side... zero play. Zilch. 🏠

“ I WAS RELENTLESSLY HORRIFIED

to see kids on bikes at the little park with brakes flapping in the breeze and wobbly wheels.



THE WILLOWS

The evolution of a suburb's school

BY CLAIRE PRINCE



The Willows celebrates serving the Bordeaux and neighbouring communities for 50 years! Started in 1975 as a playgroup in the adjoining garage of the Pledger household by our founder and my mother, Win Pledger, the Willows became a Montessori method school in 1980 and as such is one of the oldest Montessori schools in South Africa.

As a child growing up on the school property I remember the cows from the St Stithians boarding establishment grazing in the veld opposite, where the Scout Hall is now situated. The Willows' children regularly went for forays into the veld and river as part of their day's play.

We still strive to keep children grounded and in touch with nature by taking a section of the river, adjacent to the Scout Hall, under our wing, cleaning up the litter and keeping the weeds, poplar seedlings and overgrowth at bay.

The children grow veggies and take care of their butterfly and bee garden. Our rabbits have free range of the playground and our children learn to connect with and respect nature. They are, after all, the custodians of the future.

Since the inception of our Nursery school, we have adapted to the changing needs of the community by establishing a Toddler class (from 18 months), a Primary (Gr 1 – 7), an Aftercare programme and a Learning Centre in the afternoons that specialises in Maths and Language, which is open to all children, no matter where they are enrolled.

Our ethos remains true to our roots, which is to respect the individual learner, promote integrity and independence, and to provide a low anxiety learning environment in classrooms enriched with the wonderful array of Montessori learning materials. 🏠

CELEBRATING FOUNDER'S DAY

by showing off our different heritages

BY KEZIAH MARAIS



On Saturday 22nd February, the Meerkats, Cubs, Scouts, Scouters and parents came together to celebrate Founder's Day. Founder's Day is celebrated on the birthday of Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of the scouting movement. Typically on Founder's Day service awards are given to the adult scouters, and the meerkats, cubs and scouts also received awards to recognize and acknowledge their hard work from the previous year.

1st Bordeaux Scout Group received a silver star for our Meerkat Den, Cub Pack and Scout Troop. Our Den Scouter, Keziah Marais, received her Regional Appointment Warrant for Meerkats and our new Assistant Scout Group Leader, Theresa Thompson, was invested into our group.



“EVERY YEAR, SCOUTS ACROSS THE WORLD

celebrate Founder's Day by coming together

LITTLE BORDEAUX

Every year scouts across the world celebrate Founder's Day by coming together and doing an activity that is scout related. This year, the Randburg District, including our very own 1st Bordeaux Scout Group, got together and participated in a cooking competition. This competition was designed to celebrate our vast heritages and cultural backgrounds, as that is the theme for this years National Challenge.

Each scout group created multiple teams consisting of scouts, cubs and meerkats, and each team had to pick a country or heritage and then cook a 3-course meal according to their theme. The meals were then judged, and multiple prizes were awarded.

1st Bordeaux formed two teams, one which consisted of our meerkats and the other was a mix of cubs and scouts. The meerkat team chose Italy as their heritage, and they had loads of fun cooking and preparing their meals. They also received a prize for "Focus and Attention" at the end of the event. Our other team chose France as their heritage, and they receive an award for the best dessert overall.

All in all, it was another successful Founder's Day for 1st Bordeaux Scout Group, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. 🏠



1ST BORDEAUX SCOUT GROUP

WHY SHOULD YOUR CHILD JOIN THE SCOUT MOVEMENT?

Scouts South Africa's value-based system is based on Lord Baden-Powell's Scout Principles, Scout Promise and Scout Law. Scouting is a non-formal training institute that teaches young children a real-world application of skills and knowledge.

SCOUT PRINCIPLES:

- Duty to self
- Duty to others
- Duty to God

PROGRAMS OFFERED AT 1ST BORDEAUX

Meerkats (5-7 years old)
Saturday morning meetings

Cubs (7-11 years old)
Friday afternoon meetings

Scouts (11-18 years old)
Friday evening meetings

Yearly Fee: R3200
Monthly Fee (paid over 10 months): R320
Joining Fee: R350 (once off)

For more information contact Keziah
0637768659

AIMS AND VALUES OF THE SCOUT MOVEMENT

To contribute to the development of boys, girls and young adults in achieving their full potential as individuals by:

- developing their character
- training them in citizenship
- developing their social, intellectual, physical and spiritual qualities

1st Bordeaux Scout Group

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Bordeaux South is home to a vibrant network of local businesses that keep our neighbourhood thriving. From skilled artists and chefs to trusted service providers, these businesses are run by our neighbours and play a vital role in our community.

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Bordeaux South Residents' Association (BSRA) is a group of committed residents working together as a community to create a safe, beautiful and unified suburb for all our residents.

<https://bsra.co.za>