

Commodore's Report - 2022

Dear Members

I am actually writing from Quaggas this year and can report with pleasure that the warm, sunny days are easily outnumbering the overcast cool days now. The past school holidays also kickstarted the camping season and has brought some welcome activity and vibe. It is great to see some old faces returning as well as the new families discovering and enjoying Quaggas for the first time.

We also hosted the first "Quaggas Fitness Festival" over the weekend of the eighth and ninth of October which saw close to 120 athletes competing over the two days, including a number of our own members and children. Well done to Britt, Kelly and their teams, as well as Tobie for a very well run event!

A warm welcome also to our newest members who've joined in the last year:

Johan & Yolande Smit

Christiaan Groenewald

Colin & Yolandi Mitchell

Christiaan & Genevieve Marx

Hannes & Dalene Botha

Johan & Lita Botha

Arthur Peace

John & Brigitte Trollip

We trust you and your families will make loads of happy memories and enjoy Quaggas with us for many years to come.

Hannes Cook, one of our longest standing Life Members unfortunately passed away this year, as well as Mary Ann Rietoff, Boetie's wife. Our sincerest condolences to their families and loved ones.

Projects wise we've had a busy year behind the scenes. The Vodacom tower was completed towards the end of last year and, after some adjustments from their side, we've had reports of super download speeds. Time will tell whether they

can provide sufficient bandwidth during the truly busy periods, but for all intents and purposes all corners of Quaggas now has cell reception on Vodacom. Our new electric fence around the garages has also been completed. This area was identified as the primary access point for criminals entering our grounds and was our next step in our phased approach to our security challenges. The keen eyed will notice that we opted for the fenced poles option rather than a precast wall topped with electric fence as discussed last year. After the AGM, two members came forward and offered to contribute to the poles and energizers if we were to carry on with the electric fence to the end of the club. We thus have some of the original budget to contribute to fencing the rest of Quaggas. We are also hugely grateful and pleased to report that we have had no break-ins since our last AGM, which can largely be attributed to the very visible and consistent patrols by APS. Thank you to Roger and his teams for the sterling work they do. If there are any members that still haven't connected their alarms to the APS control room I encourage you to try them.

We have had some constructive meetings with Leon van Rensburg from Water Affairs. He has agreed to peruse and approve building applications and plans on an ad hoc basis. Please contact Tobie if you are planning any alterations or know your existing plans are out of date while we still have this arrangement with him. We have also applied for custodianship of the Water Affairs land behind Quaggas (above our paved road) to prevent anyone else from leasing or squatting there. Custodianship differs from a lease in that we accept responsibility for the land including clearing alien vegetation. We cannot develop on it, but neither can anyone else. For a nominal annual fee, compared to a lease, we therefore have a degree of control over the area. All Water Affairs lease agreements are still being processed so we have no new news on the club's lease but the status quo remains and we will report any progress as we receive it.

Our finances and reserves are looking good considering the pressing economic times. Many thanks to all of you, our loyal members, who pay accounts and levies timeously. Thanks are also due to Bester and Tobie who work very hard to keep us within our budget (yes we have one now...) and keep our finances clear and transparent. An independent tax opinion was obtained from a tax advisory firm, BVSA Tax Services (PTY) Ltd, to get clarity around the issue of non-compliance in the past. Our eFiling profile is now operational with all SARS returns done timeously. The club does not owe any Income Tax to

SARS. After consultation with Adv Marx, the SARS Voluntary Disclosure Program (VDP) documentation for historical non-compliance was prepared and will be submitted during October 2022. The club is liable for historical VAT. Our VAT registration will follow the VDP case registration and should be completed before the end of 2022, after which the club will have to submit regular VAT returns. The VDP is a lengthy process and the outcome is only expected next year.

In closing. My sincere thanks to every member that contributes to make Quaggas the unique place that we all love and enjoy together. Thanks are also due to Tobie who has embraced his job with enthusiasm and is making his presence felt. We appreciate your attention to detail and strict enforcement of the rules Tobie, and enjoy your regular newsletters keeping us up to date when we can't be there. To my fellow committee members, each of whom bring their own unique energy and experience to the table and sacrifice precious time to help grow and sustain Quaggas, a huge, huge thank you! John van Niekerk is unfortunately leaving our team due to mounting work obligations. Thank you John, for your time with us, notably for your effort around the security and Vodacom projects. The rest of the committee are prepared to serve for another year and we are happy to keep our numbers at seven if the members have no objections.

Quaggas greetings from the Premier Family Friendly Watersport Destination in the Western Cape.

Jim