



COWIES HILL ESTATE GAZETTE

HELLO MEMBERS! WELCOME TO
THE COWIES HILL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

DEAR MEMBERS,

As we find ourselves galloping at pace through this year, we realised that our journey as CHE has progressed just as quickly. It is important to pause and reflect on how far we have come as a community in the efforts to unite under common goals, namely to ensure the ongoing safety and security of our families and keep looking to improve and preserve the beautiful elements of our suburb.

Just 3 short years ago, we had a rampant wave of violent crime that tore through our suburb one family at a time. This December, we were proud to report a virtually crime free December by comparison.

This is testament to the effectiveness of the CHE Model implemented, and we are eager to continue improving.

IN THIS ISSUE

- 01 COWIES HILL OVERVIEW VIDEO
- 02 BIODIVERSITY PROGRAM UPDATE
- 03 FEEDBACK ON FEB SPECIAL OFFER
- 04 UKRAINE DONATION

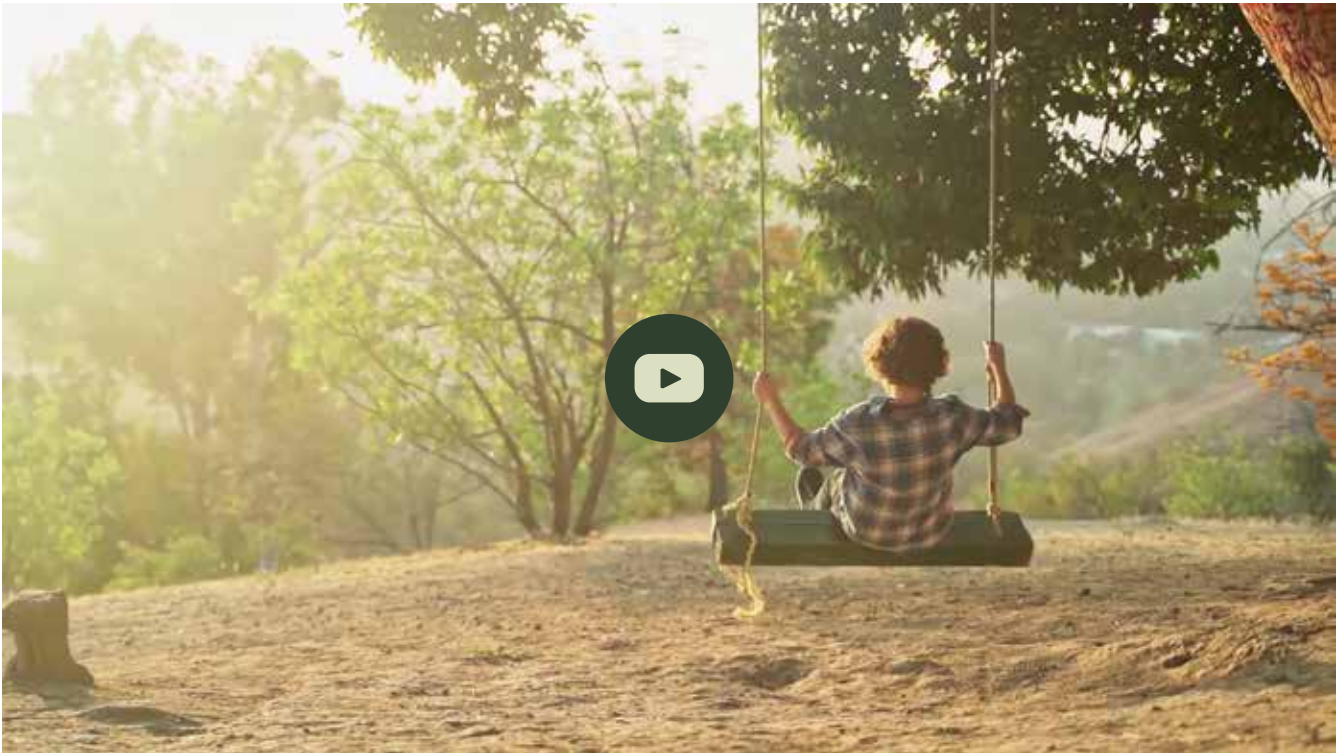


**WANT TO KNOW THE VALUE OF
YOUR COWIES HILL ESTATE HOME?**

WWW.SHELLEY.CO.ZA/SELL

Shelley
RESIDENTIAL

COWIES HILL OVERVIEW VIDEO



By now most of you will have seen the video of our success story of CHE. We encourage you to send this on to your neighbours and informal groups surrounding the Estate who have not yet signed up to join us. We believe that as increased membership gains traction, we will enable our teams to become even stronger in their endeavours to clean up and secure our beautiful home.



COWIES HILL ESTATE OVERVIEW
[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE VIDEO ON YOUTUBE](#)



**SUBSCRIBE TO THE
COWIES HILL ESTATE
YOUTUBE CHANNEL
TO SEE MORE VIDEOS
IN THE NEAR FUTURE**



BIODIVERSITY PROGRAM UPDATE

As a conservancy, our environmental portfolio has become an area of focus for the board. In recent months we have registered as a conservancy with the KZN conservancies and have commenced a Biodiversity Restoration Project.



CONSERVANCY AREAS

The following Public Open Spaces and focus areas have been identified for intervention as Conservancy, and these areas are now underway.

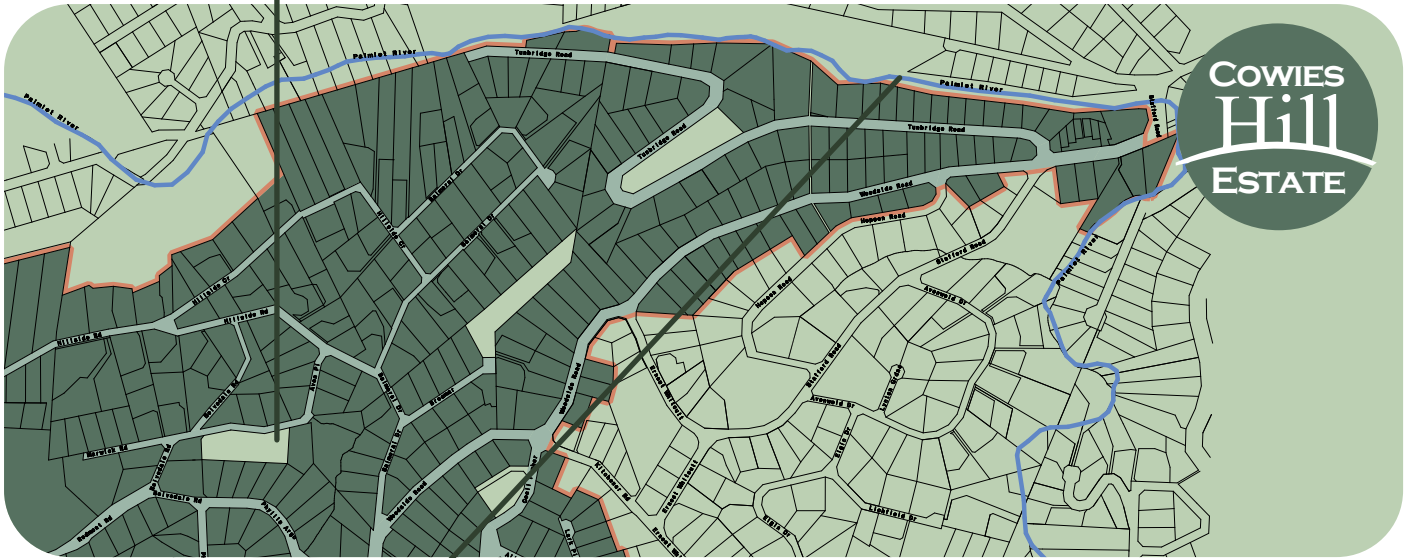
- Avon Place Conservancy Park
- Tunbridge Conservancy Park
- Comrades Corner
- MacDonald Rd Wetland Area

Additionally, CHE has undertaken the removal and control of various invasive alien plant (IAP) species. Herbicide was applied to IAPs in December 2021 and a maintenance sweep was undertaken again this month.

AVON PLACE CONSERVANCY PARK



A bridge has been constructed over the stream utilising recycled street poles and 19mm stone. We have procured a brush cutter and the trail pathway will be cut along the contours of the Conservancy Park soon. The trail will provide access to walkers and bird watchers, and also facilitate ease of access for IAP maintenance.



TUNBRIDGE CONSERVANCY PARK

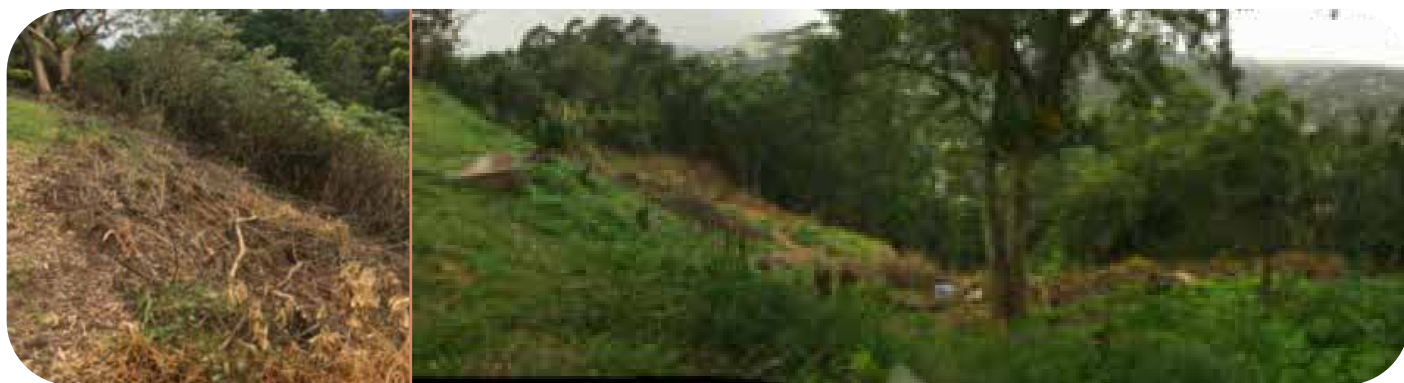
Initial clearance of very heavy invasive alien plant infestation over the full length and breadth of the park including the verges was undertaken in December 2021. As with Avon Place Conservancy Park, a bridge was constructed over the stream utilising recycled gumpoles and 19mm stone. A trail will be cut to open the park up for easy access.

Once these respective trails have been prepared, tree identification tags will be fixed to various indigenous tree species. Signage for environmental education will be instituted.

COMRADES CORNER

The Comrades corner is the western entrance point into the Cowies Hill Estate. A comprehensive invasive alien plant (IAP) removal and control sweep was carried out over the full width of the North verge up to the junction with Kloof View Road (about 400m in length). This is a healthy belt of wonderful indigenous bush and forest along the residential boundaries. In some places this belt of bush is 30m deep.

An IAP removal and control sweep was also carried out along the South verge working west to east from the pavement down to the residential boundaries and thereafter 20 to 30m deep. More than 60% of the area was extremely heavily infested with mature undesirable plants.



The IAP team also removed about 27 filled-to-capacity black refuse bags of litter were disposed of and 4 sacks of glass and cans which were recycled.

We are attempting to revive this corner, as it seems that with the location of the municipality bin collection point, that this becomes a dumping ground for refuse bags. It is our hope that we will be able to rehabilitate this area and plant a surrounding garden to make this an undesirable place to dump excess garbage bags.

MACDONALD RD WETLAND AREA

The site includes the reed filled wetland, the Berm and strips of land on both sides of Morewood Crescent. This month, MacDonald Rd wetland area was treated for IAPs.

PALMIET RIVER & TRIBUTARIES

Eradication of IAP's and clean-up of the river catchment will be done under the auspices of the Public Employment Programme (PEP) within the Palmiet River & Tributaries .

Individual members of Cowies Hill Estate have however privately commissioned the removal of undesirable plant species along the cul-de-sac end of Tunbridge Drive on the banks of the Palmiet that is heavily infested with IAP. This is the also the site where our resident bushpigs, Kevin and Frank, were caught on camera.



KEVIN
&
FRANK

BEAUTIFICATION SITES

Beautification continues to occur at Gate Entrances and formal gardens.

The three beds of Agapanthus planted out on the east side of Old Main Rd between Ernest Whitcutt have been weeded and plants have rooted well. Sadly, the bed under the Ernest Whitcutt sign was decimated by municipal weed-eater contractors. Further reason for us to be working closely alongside municipality in order to ensure that we maximise our efforts.

FEEDBACK ON FEBRUARY SPECIAL OFFER

We are pleased to report a positive response to the February Special Offer to become a member of CHE. Considering the on-going challenge of making contact with non-members, compounded further now with the stringent new requirements of the POPI Act, we are pleased to welcome 8 new families to CHE as a result of our special offer promotion.



STANDING
IN
SOLIDARITY

UKRAINE DONATION

We would like to take this opportunity to thank every one of you who has contributed to Inna and her family in the Ukraine.

We have been running this fundraising campaign for little over a week and are moved by the generosity of our community. Donations to date have totalled R18641, and we are aiming to distribute this weekly to the family.

It was a short time ago, that the KZN unrest week had rocked us all to our core. There were days early in the upheaval where we weren't sure what the future held for us as a community. Feeling safe in our homes became a relative statement from previous months. The world is an uncertain place, this we know more now than ever to be true. In circumstances such as the Ukraine finds itself, these citizens are relying on the kindness of strangers in the global community to simply survive the day.

CHE we thank you for being a part of positive change, once again and for pioneering a way forward to be better together.

Thank you.

