

# WDHOA

WILD DOG ESTATE HOME OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

## CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

The dream was born in 2000. I was standing knee deep in mud looking at my prize and joy potato crop that had just been decimated by hail (5<sup>th</sup> year in a row), thinking that there had to be a better way to make a living. The idea sprang to mind:- "What about farming people?", and from there *Wild Dog Estate* (WDE) was born.



People always ask me why we called it Wild Dog. We did not. The property was registered as WP3 in 1919 and as far as we know was named Wild Dog Farm since the twenties. We bought the farm in 1995 from the previous owner who had owned the property for fifteen years and had named it "Sharon". Nobody knew where "Sharon" was, yet everyone knew where "Wild Dog" was so we adopted the old adage:- "if you cannot beat them, join them", and so *Wild Dog Estate* it is.

Marketing started in earnest in 2003 and in September 2003, *Mr Andries Diener* became the first *WDE Pioneer Land Owner*. We owe this young man a special tribute because without him, or someone like him, there would be no Wild Dog Estate today. This young "boere seuntjie" from Port Elizabeth purchased the first stand - sight unseen - from London and paid cash upfront without having a piece of land registered in his name. That takes guts and faith in the *WDE* vision and his smile when he saw his "piece of heaven in the berg" was really something to behold.



In quick succession six other brave buyers joined the rank of *WDE Pioneer Land Owners*. These men and women had the vision and courage to buy a Stand and pay cash up front which enabled the development of this Estate. A special thank you to these courageous people for their belief in me personally, and in sharing the vision of creating a prestige development.



By mid 2005 Wild Dog Estate had obtained all the necessary approvals from the relevant authorities and after three years of intense negotiations our main financial backers, the **Industrial Development Corporation** (IDC) came on board. Again we owe a big thank you to the **IDC Tourism SBU** for their belief and faith in this project. In June 2006 the construction commenced on **Wild Dog Estate** and that was the point of no return.



The **Wild Dog Estate** dream has always been, and will continue to be: *“the creation of a prestige premier lifestyle development nestling in the Mzimude Valley, surrounded by stunning views of the mountains, rivers and rolling valleys lying next door to the uKhahlamba Drakensberg National Park, which is a renowned World Heritage Site”*. Taking into account the ecological diversity of the area, the philosophy is to integrate a quality of life development with nature in a harmonious and balanced way. No expense has been spared in ensuring that this objective will be achieved.

**WDHOA’s** intention is that all of its members can make use of the total Estate, and that they are able to cohabitate in peace and harmony with each other, thus enjoying the wonderful gift God has given us to the fullest. To achieve this simple objective **WDHOA** must unfortunately impose many complex laws and rules to ensure that the property is protected, not only for all concerned now, but also for the Members’ heirs and all the generations to come.

These Rules should hopefully not be seen to be restrictive and obstructive, but rather be seen as a tool to safeguard our quality of life and interaction with one another. **“Good neighbourliness”, “friendliness”, “consideration for others”** and **“willingness to help”**, should be the key principles we all abide by in this Estate. This extends to our neighbours outside the **Wild Dog Estate** property. We live in a farming community which relies on each other in both good and bad times, and as we do not have the luxury of having efficient emergency services, as one would find in a big city, neighbours rely on each other for immediate assistance. All members of **WDHOA** automatically become members of this greater community and the Board would expect all its members to help in times of need.

In conclusion, a hearty welcome as a member of this magnificent Estate. May God bless you and your family with fun, lots of laughter, joy, peace, tranquillity and quality family time during your sojourn at **Wild Dog Estate**.

Yours faithfully

**ROB SANTINI**

