



Finkenstein Estate *Newsletter*

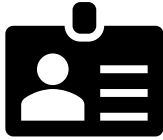


Photo by
Claire Hobbs (222 Wildebees Street)

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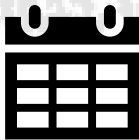
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From the Trustees

Dear Members

The year started with a bang, and we are very excited about the changes Johan and his team will be making to security. We have had zero incidents over the festive period, and we believe with all the enhanced measures we are well on our way to restoring the tranquillity we crave. With the new measures being rolled out, we ask all members to be patient and supportive and to treat our staff with kindness.

We are truly thankful for the rain and look forward to many more rainstorms over the next couple of months.

We are also in a continuous process of keeping our Estate in pristine condition. You will see the trails are being cleared after the rain and new boards are being erected. One of our members, Mr Hanso Diehl has kindly volunteered to assist in setting out new trails and scoping the existing ones.

We are also happy to report our debtors are under control - there are just a few bad apples left. The Erf 100 legal matter will hopefully be finalised in this year. We are awaiting a date in the Supreme Court.

Barking dogs remain a headache for our staff and your neighbours. Please do the responsible thing and don't leave them unattended for long periods of time. It drives people barking mad (sic!)

With all the new roads around us and Heja potentially being developed, it sure will add value to our properties.

Members are reminded they are so welcome to join any of our trustees' meetings and to give their input into any Estate matters. Roberto's will no longer do pop-up shops, so if you have any ideas, vendors or suggestions whom we can ask to step in, please contact Dewald.

Wishing you all a (late) prosperous and blessed 2025!

FHA Trustees

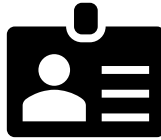
Hellmut von Ludwiger (Chairman, Security, Village/Manor Liaison, CoW, FDT)

Anri Parker (Deputy Chair, External Affairs, Legal and Governance and Human Capital)

Pieter Reyneke (Strategy and Building)

Sirk Krugel (Finance)

Andre de Jager (Infrastructure, Services & Nature)



Security Matters

Dear Members

After the spate of incidents last year and lengthy discussions at the AGM and at trustees' meetings, we would like to inform you of the following changes we are making to security to ensure our Estate remains the most sought-after residential estate in Namibia.

We will be erecting an electric fence around the north, east and southern borders, starting in February. The western side will remain open for game. We will however install hi-tech cameras that will have human detection, and patrols will be increased on that side.

We will test electric quad bikes to make sure they are suited for our tough terrain. Further to that we will test canine support over a few shifts.

Our guards will be trained in gun handling, and we will have armed guards on patrol. The current armed guards will remain on site until all the plans are rolled out and tested.

Access to the Estate will be controlled by palm scanners starting February. Contractors with long-term workers on-site must present police clearance certificates for their staff. Regular service providers, such as pool companies, electricians, and plumbers, may be added to a preferred supplier list if they provide police clearances for their employees

This by no means is the end of it, neither the final answers cast in concrete. We believe, we will continue to grow our security organically with safety of our members, children and staff front of mind and also keeping a careful eye on the budget. Members are assured the above measures will fall inside the N\$2m security budget approved at the AGM.

Lastly, members will only be able to grant access to friends, family, visitors etc via the EstateMate app and will no longer be able to use the phone number to phone the gate open. This will keep us all accountable as to whom we grant access to. This will come into effect on 1 March 2025. So, please download the app if you have not yet done so. It's quick, free and you can grant access from anywhere in the world without any hassle.

If you have any suggestions or ideas, feel free to share same with Johan who will gladly table it at our next trustee meeting.

FHA Trustees

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Hello & Goodbye



Hello to

NEW OWNERS

PTN 47, Eland Street – Eugene Pretorius

NEW TENANTS

PTN 144, Zebra Street – Martin & Vera Dzeik



Goodbye to

PREVIOUS OWNERS

PTN 47, Eland Street - Grant Muller



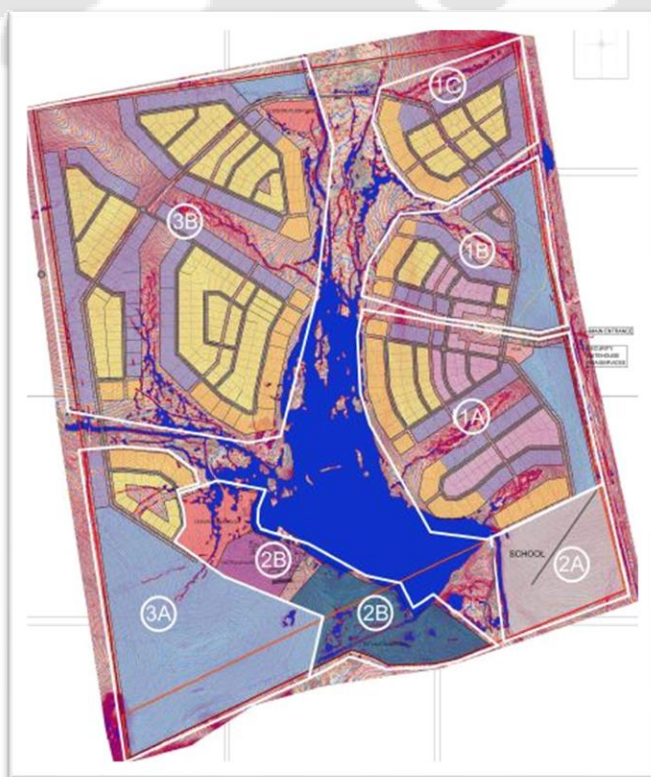
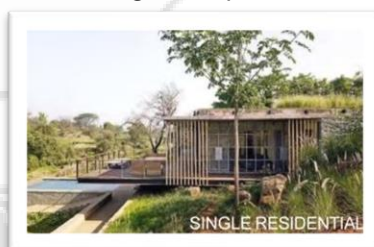
Estate News

Possible development at Heja

According to the website <https://eccenvironmental.com/download/heja-lifestyle-and-country-estate/> the proposed Project area was previously used as a popular game viewing lodge located on the eastern outskirts of the city of Windhoek, until the lodge was closed on 15 July 2023. The approximate 320 hectares (ha) of land is ideally positioned for development into a mixed-use development that will benefit both Namibians and international visitors. Whether for ownership or rental by local residents, or for use by tourists and expatriates, this large property offers significant residential potential. The development will be undertaken in a responsible, phased approach to ensure sustainable growth and long-term success. The proposed Project will involve the construction of approximately 2000 residential erven, including single residential, townhouse, apartment and mixed-use structures in a 3 phase development to meet the growing demand for diverse types of residential housing in the greater Windhoek area. It should be noted that the Project masterplan may change over time as market demands could potentially change. Commitments will be made to ensure construction and operational activities of the development align with best environmental practices and will be stipulated in the environmental and social management plan.

For more information or to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the proposed project, kindly follow the attached link :

<https://eccenvironmental.com/download/heja-lifestyle-and-country-estate/>

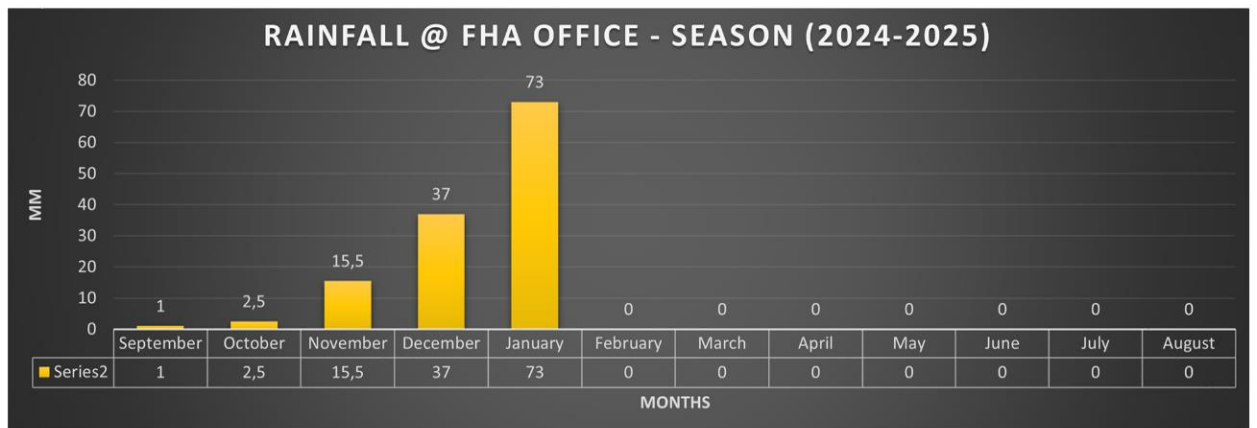




Estate News

Rainfall

Over the past few weeks the Estate has been blessed with good rainfall. See graph below indicating the amount of rainfall received since the start of our rainy season in September 2024. A total amount of 129mm have been recorded at the FHA Office.



The rain has also increased the water levels in our dams, providing some much needed water security to our region. On 27 January 2025 the dam water levels in the Central Region were as follows:

Swakoppoort Dam (24,5%) / Von Bach Dam (24,8%) / Omatako Dam (5,3%) – Sub Total for Central Region = (19,2%)

We encourage Members to continue to use water sparingly.





Estate News

New Highway

Construction on the new highway through Finkenstein, as well as the Otjihase interchange and new access road to the west of the Manor, which then turns east towards the entrance gate of the Estate, has been progressing steadily over the past few months. Unfortunately we cannot reliably report on the expected completion dates to the different components of this project.

View towards Windhoek from new bridge at the Otjihase interchange



Permanent tunnel structure being built to pass underneath highway



New permanent access road between Estate & Manor



View towards Airport from temporary bypass over the new highwal





Fauna & Flora

Marbled Emperor (*Heniocha dyops*)



After the first good rains from December to February they suddenly appear – in their hundreds. They are seen especially in places where strong sources of light remain switched on all night. For just a few days each year, travellers at Hosea Kutako International Airport east of Windhoek are amazed by the large, mostly white and grey moths which are sitting everywhere on the outside of the building. Their wings measure 6.5 to 9.5 centimetres. Both the front and the rear wings have a grey-brown pattern and a brownish-yellow jagged line. Each of the front wings bears a so-called eye, a circular mark that resembles an eye to scare off predators. In the rainy season the striking marbled emperor moth (*Heniocha dyops*) is a typical occurrence for a very short period of time.

During the few days of their moth life the males are looking to mate with the slightly larger females. They are attracted by the females' pheromones (scents). Both genders of this nocturnal species are particularly attracted by strong sources of light.

After mating, the females look for a species-specific forage plant, mainly the black thorn (*Acacia mellifera*), and deposit their eggs in rows of six to ten. The tiny caterpillars hatch after just a few days and then eat continuously until they have grown to a length of about 6.5 cm. The quite colourful but nevertheless well-camouflaged caterpillars are fully developed in March or April, when they pupate in the ground where they turn into moths during the next few months. Come December to February, the next generation of adult marbled emperors hatches after the first good rains and a new cycle begins. Moths and caterpillars are a protein-rich food for countless animals.



Fauna & Flora

(...from previous page)

According to moth expert Dr Rolf Oberprieler the caterpillars pupate in the ground at a depth of about 10 cm, but it always depends on the condition and the moisture of the soil. The caterpillars bury deeper in soft, moist sand. Dr Oberprieler attended the DHPS in Windhoek, studied and worked in Pretoria and now lives in Australia. In 1995 he published the reference book *The Emperor Moths of Namibia* and is currently working on a “larger book”.

In some years there are so many caterpillars that they strip entire bushes down to the last leaf. Although the black thorn, or hook thorn acacia, is their main source of food, caterpillars are sometimes found on the mountain thorn (*Acacia hereroensis*) and the blue thorn (*Acacia erubescens*) as well.

In Namibia the marbled emperor, colloquially dubbed the *hakkie* moth, occurs from Keetmanshoop in the south to Etosha National Park and the Kavango regions in the north and to Gobabis in the east. Dr Oberprieler says that they are particularly common around Windhoek and Otjiwarongo. They belong to the order *Lepidoptera* and the family *Saturniidae*. There are 27 species of marbled emperors in Namibia.

(<https://namibian.org/news/nature-and-environment/marbled-emperor>)



© Dirk Heinrich



Fauna & Flora

Devil's Thorn (*Tribulus Terrestris*)



Devil's thorn (*Tribulus terrestris*) is a herb that is widely distributed throughout southern Africa. It is a weedy, sprawling creeper and its small yellow flower is a familiar sight in Namibia. Neatly arranged, small leaflets compose of between 5 and 10 leaves and it bears a spiny fruit, hence the common name.

Unfortunately, Devil's Thorn can cause 'geeidikkop', a complex disease caught by sheep, probably due in some way to it being common in disturbed areas such as road reserves. There are 6 *Tribulus* species recorded in Namibia, present in almost all habitats.

([https://namibian.org/nature/plants/herbs/devils-thorn#:~:text=Devil's%20thorn%20\(Tribulus%20terrestris\)%20is,fruit%2C%20hence%20the%20common%20name.](https://namibian.org/nature/plants/herbs/devils-thorn#:~:text=Devil's%20thorn%20(Tribulus%20terrestris)%20is,fruit%2C%20hence%20the%20common%20name.))

Description : A prostrate creeper, which flowers annually. Compound leaves are composed of 5-10 leaflets (occasionally more). Flowers are bright yellow and small, approximately 1cm in diameter. Radiating branches may be up to a metre long. The spiny fruit has given it its common name.

Habitat : *T. terrestris* occurs in all kinds of habitat, being a pioneer it is often found in disturbed ground, particularly places that have been overgrazed or trampled, or roadsides.

General Information : *T. terrestris* can cause a complex disease in sheep, called "geeldikkop". There are 6 *Tribulus* species in Namibia. *Tribulus zeyheri* also grows on NamibRand, the most obvious difference being the size of the flowers, which are much larger in the latter species.

(https://www.namibrand.org/NRNR_Herbarium/PDF_files/Tribulus%20terrestris.pdf)



Pictures from Members



Piglets – by Claire Hobbs of 222 Wildebees Street



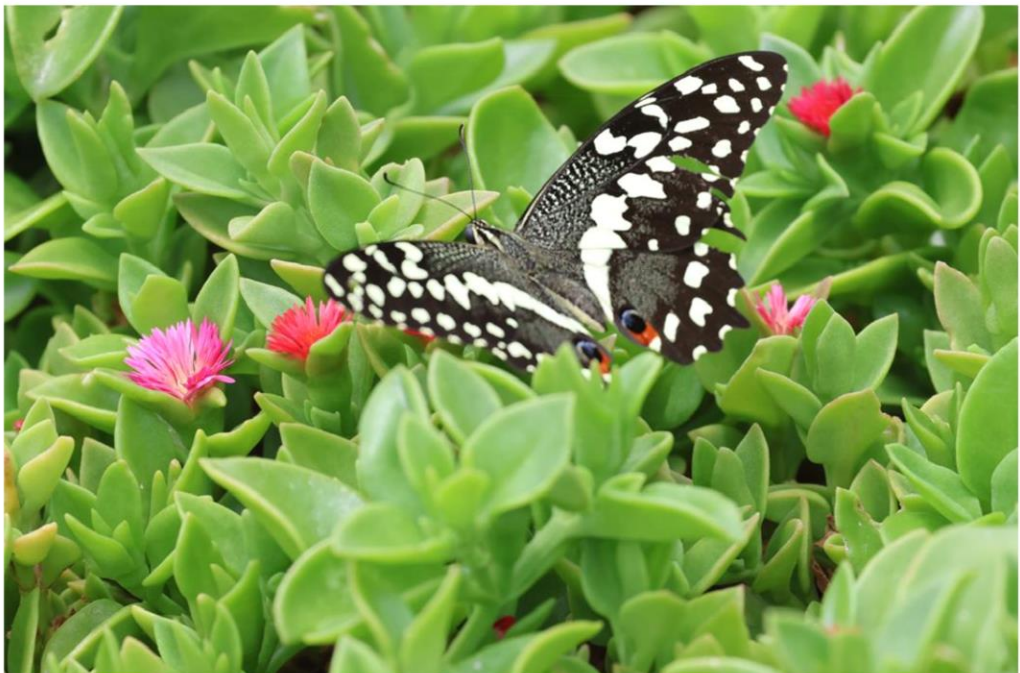
Flying Lovebird – by Claire Hobbs of 222 Wildebees Street



Pictures from Members



Lovebirds at feeder – by Claire Hobbs of 222 Wildebees Street



Butterfly – by Claire Hobbs of 222 Wildebees Street



Events



Important Dates

- 14 Feb - Valentines Day
- 21 Mar - Independence day
- 18 Apr - Good Friday
- 21 Apr - Easter Monday



Running & Cycling

- 8 Feb – Spar Oceanview Marathon, Swakopmund
- 15 Feb – Captain's Run, Windhoek
- 20 to 23 Feb - Tour de Windhoek
- 1 Mar - Hollard G&D, Okajo MTB
- 9 Mar - Cape Town Cycle Tour
- 15 Mar - Hollard G&D, Vegas MTB
- 29 Mar – NMC & WCRC Social Run, Windhoek
- 5 Apr – Totalsports Two Oceans Marathon, Cape Town
- 13 Apr – Nedbank Cycle Challenge, Windhoek



Meetings *(Contact Tiffany van Wyk @ 081-143-4820)*

- 19 Feb 2025 - Trustee Meeting, 17h30 @ FHA-Office Boardroom
- 19 Mar 2025 - Trustee Meeting, 17h30 @ FHA-Office Boardroom
- 23 Apr 2025 - Trustee Meeting, 17h30 @ FHA-Office Boardroom



From the Manager

Welcome back!

I would like to start by welcoming all of our Finkenstein families back to the Estate and trust that everyone enjoyed the much needed rest. The December holidays saw the beginnings of promising rain that has already made a significant impact on our environment. The greenery is indeed a blessing to our environment and to the animals that depend on it.

I look forward to a year that will be marked with changes to the Estate, Finkenstein and its surroundings. The new highway is nearing completion with promising signs that it might even be done by the middle of this year. This, together with the possible re-development of Heja into a country lifestyle estate, with indications of mixed-used developments and other amenities, might bring about change to our context on this side of Windhoek in the future. Changes to our fence around the Estate, as well as new security protocols at the gate will also bring about change, the aim being to improve security measures around and inside the Estate.

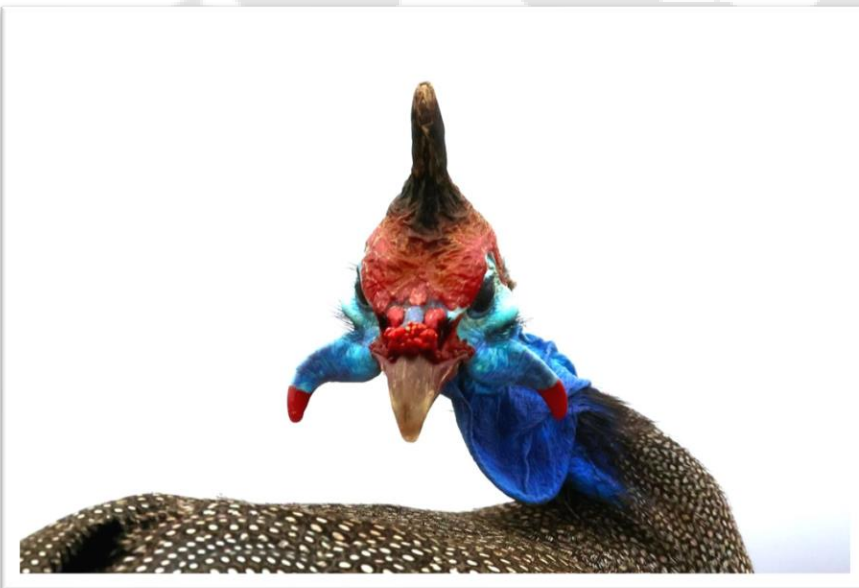
May this year be a successful year to each and everyone in the Estate, I look forward to accompany you on the journey that is 2025!

"I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past." – **Thomas Jefferson**

Kind regards

FHA Estate Manager

Dewald du Plessis





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Enjoy our Namibian Summer!

*Photo by
Andre de Jager (175 Koedoe Street)*