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**HOA**

Dear Homeowner

### HOA OFFICE PHONE LINES

The HOA office phone lines are currently connected to the hotel switchboard and we have unfortunately been experiencing problems for some time. We are in the process of installing our own PABX system and this will result in the HOA being independent of the hotel. Until the installation has been completed, you can contact the HOA staff on the follow numbers:

Lawrence Manser	064 874 1495
Michelle Wood	082 564 3311
Lida Louw	072 513 8237
Riaan de Lange	071 284 3697
William Lane	082 600 7265
Control room	072 869 4977 or 028 284 9966

### MEMORIAL PLAQUE

We received a request from a homeowner regarding the placement of a memorial plaque on the estate in remembrance of a loved one. This was discussed at the Fauna and Flora Committee where it was agreed that this would be allowed with conditions i.e. material, size and placement to be discussed with the HOA. This was also mentioned at the Q2 Homeowner Information Session. Should anyone be interested in placing such a plaque, please contact the estate office for details.

### DOMESTIC WATER

Should you be away from home for an extended period of time, please ensure that you run all your taps for a short period of time to flush your system of any stagnant water that may be in the pipes.

## HOMEOWNER TESTIMONIALS

The Marketing Committee worked with Mustard Seed for some time and developed a Marketing Strategy in order to provide a clear brief to the potential website and social media service providers. Three companies were approached for proposals, and the committee unanimously agreed to appoint Brave Media as our service provider.

As part of the new website, we would like to include resident testimonials that can also be used on other media platforms. Should you be happy to provide a testimonial i.e. why you enjoy living on Arabella, why you chose Arabella, lifestyle, etc. It would also be helpful if you could provide insights into aspects of the lifestyle that you would recommend to others.

## LIMO – 6 SEATER GOLF CART

We wish to advise that the golf cart (limo) used to transport domestic workers is up and running but we have had to limit the number of passengers to four.

## ENVIRONMENTAL

ATTRACTING BIRDS AND OTHER WILDLIFE TO YOUR GARDEN CAN BE SIMPLE!

*Reference: Gardening in South Africa – The Art of Gardening*

“Many indigenous plants can be used to attract wildlife, and it doesn't matter how large or small your garden is; if you follow a few simple guidelines you will soon be rewarded with the delightful sound of birdsong and the fleeting beauty of a flitting butterfly or busy bee.

Naturally, indigenous plants play a vital role in every wildlife garden and will attract birds and butterflies. If you already have an established garden there is also no need to rip everything out! Incorporating water and feeding trays into the garden will dramatically increase the number of bird species which visit your garden.

Wildlife gardens should never be sprayed with harmful poisons. It may be a bit of a battle at first, but with the right choice of plant material and a little patience, nature herself will create a balance between insects and their natural predators. Many insects and small animals like frogs, spiders, ladybirds, lacewings and praying mantis are beneficial in the garden, eating large quantities of insects; and if the garden is left un-sprayed, it won't take long for them to appear. Insect-eating birds like the Cape white-eyes will also soon be on the scene for their daily meals.

A truly successful bird environment should ideally incorporate a variety of habitats and to create a truly three-dimensional garden it must include three levels. The canopy level is created by planting trees and large shrubs; the intermediary level consists of medium-sized plants, and lastly, the small plants and ground covers. Planting carefully selected plants on these three levels will create a haven for birds, butterflies and other wildlife. Open areas of lawn, ornamental grasses and groundcovers will attract birds like the Hadeda who love to search for delicacies in the lawn, or herons who need a runway to take flight.



An exclusion area will provide privacy and shelter for shy and nervous birds like robins and thrushes. A few creepers trained up a wall or trellis can provide valuable nesting sites for wagtails and robins. The canopy habitat ties the whole bird garden together, providing valuable perching and nesting sites for birds as well as food and natural ground litter. Birds love to take a sand bath occasionally to keep their feathers in peak condition and to help keep parasites at bay. Choose a secluded site away from dangerous pets etc and where the soil is well-drained or the sand bath could turn into a mud bath. Dig out a pit and line it with coarse-washed river sand before filling in the rest with a fine, dry, powdery soil mixture.

### Canopy Habitat

The canopy habitat is the area occupied by the tops of trees and large shrubs and is a vital component of any bird and wildlife garden. Look at it as the framework of the bird garden, upon which all the other elements are balanced. If carefully planned it will provide birds with a safe place to roost and nest, and can also provide a valuable food source.

Thorn trees are perfect for bird gardens. Another very important aspect of garden design is to incorporate movement into the garden, and many plants such as grasses are implemented into the design because they sway gently in even the slightest breeze, and will also attract seed-eating birds. A water bath will also attract dragonflies and birds of all kinds. Birds and butterflies bring the most beautiful and unexpected movement to the garden, bringing it to life with brilliant colour and sound. Sound is so important in the garden and shrubs with large leaves make a wonderful rattling sound in the wind. Grass species make a gentle rustling sound, and trees each have their particular sound. Nothing compares to the noise large tree branches make when they creak and bend in a thunderstorm. Flowering and fruiting trees and shrubs form an integral part of the bird garden. Brightly coloured flowers will attract many insects, which will in turn attract insect-eating birds such as flycatchers and shrikes. Fruiting plants will attract fruit-eating birds like the Redfaced Mousebird and the Streakyheaded Canary. Nectar-bearing plants will attract birds like the Cape Sugarbird, the Malachite Sunbird, the Lesser Double-collared Sunbird and the Black Sunbird. Choose plants that do well in your area and group them according to their watering and sun requirements."

*Please always remember when establishing or refreshing your garden to take into consideration the approved plants for the estate as well as the estate Landscaping Guidelines. Also, be considerate of your neighbours by not blocking views. Should you need guidance, please always remember that the HOA and the estate landscaper are always willing to assist and advise. If in doubt call the estate office.*

Fine Living!  
HOA

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**Let's Connect**

### REMINDER: EVENTS

Dear Neighbours,

For those of you who are interested, **Meet & Greet** will resume during winter time, every second Friday of the month from 17h00 on at Barnabas' Bar in the Hotel:

14<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
11<sup>th</sup> August 2023  
8<sup>th</sup> September 2023



We also encourage the permanent residents to join the **Ladies' Tea** every third Tuesday of the month, 14h30 at the Hotel lobby:

18<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
15<sup>th</sup> August 2023  
19<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Kind regards,  
Let's CONNECT ...  
Engagement Committee



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## Trust

Dear Home Owner

Due to the wonderful response related to the request for jars, the Trust now has enough to keep them going for some time and there is no need, at this time, to drop off your empty coffee jars.

To everyone who contributed towards the "Jar of Love" project, thank you. This continues to be a very successful project.

Kind regards  
Diane Nurse and the Arabella Homeowner Community Trustees

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## Hotel/Golf

### ***From the Golf Course***

Dear Home Owners

Arabella Golf Course allows Homeowners to walk their dogs on the course outside of golfing times. This is a friendly neighbour's agreement which is dependent on homeowners cleaning up after their animals.

We have made this request on multiple occasions and although the majority do as requested, we still find dog faeces on the golf course daily. Please take this request to clean up after your animals as a friendly request. Should we continue to find that dog owners are not cleaning up after their dogs then we will be forced to review access for dogs on the golf course.

Many thanks for your continued support,  
Mike Munro