

Name and Shame to be rolled out nationally

THE DRUNK-driving Name and Shame campaign, of which the Cape Argus has been a partner since its inception in 2010, is going national.

Name and Shame is a partnership between the Western Cape Transport Department's Safely Home Campaign, the Cape Argus and LeadSA. The names of all those who are convicted for drinking and driving are published in the Cape Argus.

Now the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development has announced that it will partner LeadSA on a campaign to name and shame drunk drivers.

LEADSA

A call for robust citizenship - join the dialogue on the Cape Argus SMS line at 32027 (each SMS costs R1) or on the LeadSA website at www.leadsa.co.za

Justice Minister Jeff Radebe made the commitment while he was speaking to Redi Tlhabi on Talk Radio 702 yesterday.

The drive, which has the blessing of Transport Minister S'bu Ndebele, will be rolled out nationally.

Under the Name and Shame campaign, a list of drivers sentenced for drunk driving in the Western Cape's courts is published in the Cape Argus.

Their names are also handed to the provincial Transport Department for its eNatis database.

The campaign has also been extended to Durban.

Towards the end of last year, 664 drivers were sentenced in the Western Cape, 47 of who were sent to jail without the option of paying fines or serving an alternative sentence.

Justice Project SA and LeadSA have also joined forces to appeal

against a Brits Magistrate's Court ruling in which a driver was given a suspended sentence after being caught at 200km/h on the way from Sun City to Pretoria. The fine, or 12 months in prison, was suspended on condition he didn't commit a similar offence in the next five years.

The minister said the hierarchy of the court system in SA made it possible for the state to appeal against the "ridiculous sentence by the magistrate".

He added: "There's nothing wrong in commenting on judgments by our presiding officer." - Staff Reporter

Government must deliver, Zille told

STAFF REPORTER

CAPETONIANS want the government to deliver on their promises, create more jobs, provide proper public transport, address social ills and corruption and improve the education system.

These were the concerns shared with Premier Helen Zille's who went on a walk-about in town yesterday asking ordinary people about the state of the nation.

President Jacob Zuma will officially open Parliament and deliver his State of the Nation address on Thursday.

Zille started her walk-about in Trafalgar Place, where the Adderley Street flower sellers were given an opportunity to voice their concerns. Among their biggest was the government making promises, but not delivering.

"The president must do what he says he will," said one vendor.

They also urged the government to not forget small businesses and give them a chance at getting big contracts.

Crossing Adderley Street, a

man who works in the city said he was concerned about drug trafficking.

"Drugs are sold openly on the streets of Cape Town," he said.

Zille then made her way into St George's Mall, followed by a group of singing people in signature blue DA t-shirts.

Luleka Ngqandu said she wanted to see a bigger effort made in education and job creation, and in giving those who dropped out of school a second chance.

A woman from Khayelitsha said the youth were suffering because while there were programmes in place, they could not access any venues to host them.

Zille said it was important to hear the views of the people, as they were the ones the government was accountable to.

She said the strongest message to come out of the walk-about was that people wanted to know how the government planned to deal with corruption, unemployment and the provision of proper public transport.



MEET AND GREET: Premier Helen Zille listens to the concerns of ordinary Capetonians during a walk-about in the city yesterday ahead of President Jacob Zuma's State of the Nation address in Parliament next week.

PICTURE: THOMAS HOLDER

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Eviction fight over unsafe building

Occupants claim they have nowhere to go

FATIMA SCHROEDER
High Court Writer



SMS the Argus
SMS your views to 32027
Each SMS costs R1

THE PROVINCIAL government has turned to the courts in an attempt to evict a group of people squatting on a piece of land it owns in Woodstock.

The Human Settlements Department is seeking to remove the group occupying a dilapidated building on the corner of Perth and Cambridge streets.

The department said in papers before the Western Cape High Court that the structure of the building on the property is not safe.

It has been battling with the occupants since the beginning of 2009.

In an affidavit before the court, Lionel Esterhuizen, of the department, said the provincial government had not given the occupants consent to live on the property and that their occupation was therefore unlawful.

Most of the occupants have been living at the property for more than three years, while one moved in last year.

According to Esterhuizen, the property was not safe for human habitation and posed a health and safety risk to current and future occupants.

The building was constructed in 1930 and became unfit for occupation in 2008/2009 when the City of Cape Town issued a notice to the Department of Human Settlements.

However, the department could not demolish the building because there were about 10 families living there.

The city addressed a memorandum to the department in April 2010, after receiving a complaint from a neighbour that roofing sheets had blown off the building.

"It was discovered that the buildings on the property were potentially dangerous and in a state of disrepair," he said.

A large part of the building was unstable, the department said.

Attorneys representing the department asked the families to vacate the property, but most of them complained that they were unemployed and could not afford alternative accommodation.

Eventually, some of them took up an offer from the city for alternative accommodation in Delft.

However, five adults and a two-year-old child are still living there and have refused to move.

Some live in a caravan parked on the property while others live elsewhere on the property.

Esterhuizen said that there was a potential land claim against the property for that reason, the MEC of Rural



DILAPIDATED: People have been ordered to leave this house but don't want to move.

PICTURE: DAVID RITCHE



DARK DAYS: Eric Sampson says the eviction feels like the forced removals under apartheid.

Development and Land Reform has been cited as a respondent.

Heritage Western Cape had also been cited as a respondent because the Heritage Act provided that a structure might not be demolished without a permit if it was older than 60

years. The department had applied for such a permit.

He said the building posed a risk to the occupants, passers-by and neighbours.

He said the city had offered the occupants alternative accommodation and asked the

court to order the occupants to leave or be formally evicted.

Judge André Blignault (corr) this week ordered the occupants to show why they should not be ordered to vacate the property by February 22.

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Resident says eviction is like forced removals

SIBUSISO NKOMO
Staff Reporter

THE RESIDENTS of the condemned house on the corner of Cambridge and Perth streets in Walmer Estate have likened their impending eviction to the forced removals of District Six during apartheid.

"This takes my mind back to the 1970s to District Six. We are being evicted just like they did then," said Eric Sampson, 50.

"We fought for this ANC government. I left school in Standard 6, then the schools were closed and we were shot at. Now they do this to us?"

Sampson said his work and family was in Walmer Estate.

"I need a place near here to work. If we have to live in Blikkiesdorp, it is going to cost us a lot of money. How will we survive," he said.

Earlier Enver van der Schyff, who was a wildlife photographer in Malawi for 15

years, said he grew up in the area.

He returned in the late 90s and moved into the house he is being evicted from.

"I grew up in Worcester Road and went to the Moslem school in this building. It is a mystery who owned the building at the time. There were plenty of people living in the building," he said.

Van der Schyff said the building deteriorated rapidly after people were first evicted and sent to Blikkiesdorp.

"The government said people could take whatever they wanted, so the people stripped the building (of all its fixtures)," he said.

He said the building had historical significance because there was a slave dungeon underneath the structure with chains. The provincial government has said the house was built in 1930.

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DA inherited Chappies fiasco

CYRIL Farr's letter ("Stop the DA's toll road outrage", Cape Points, January 31) demands an answer. He accuses the DA of collaborating in trashing Chapman's Peak and for the lack of consultation with the public concerning the "hare-brained scheme which threatens to decimate the local economy". Mr Farr should have got his facts straight before blundering into an unfair attack on the DA-led provincial government.

Let's face it, the tolling of Chapman's Peak Drive, the construction and consequent toll booths, are a fiasco which should never have happened. There were better alternatives which could have opened the road at a fraction of the cost with no toll necessary. The road has been closed for longer under this costly system than in its previous 80 years of existence.

The DA-led provincial government inherited this mess on gaining power in the Western Cape. The contract was awarded by the ANC administration. This was a one-sided contract and

ANC premier Lynne Brown admitted that mistakes were made. The ANC administration was taken to the cleaners by the contractors.

Ninety percent of the trashing was already done before the DA took power. The toll, concrete structures, half tunnels, hideous catch fences and the shotcreting of the rock faces are a desecration and cannot be undone. The rocks still fall and you proceed at your own risk, despite all the expense.

From a weak legal position, Robin Carlisle has re-negotiated the contract with Entilini. The eggs could not be unscrambled, but we are in a better position now. It seems a second toll booth will not be built at Noordhoek and we have been spared an N1-type plaza at Hout Bay. What we have now are unsightly offices and temporary toll booths. The new building and booths might just be an improvement

**GH Tinker
Cape Town**

Politics-free crime-fighting

CAPE ARGUS

3 FEBRUARY 2012, P.12

I WISH to inform MEC Albert Fritz (“ANC plays dirty in its desperate efforts to regain the Western Cape”, January 30) that the Community Police Board (CPB) of the Western Cape is an apolitical organisation.

It is insulting that the MEC associates the views expressed by Hanif Loonat in a Cape Argus report of January 18 as being those of the ANC. As a provincial CPB member, I reiterate the statement that gangs must surrender their weapons and drugs before treaties will be accepted as serious. We respect the initiatives of MEC Dan Plato and welcome any programme that will reduce gangsterism. This is also the view of many of the community and members of the board. We will not negotiate with gangsters, thus giving them prominence.

Our organisation, which has 70 per cent DA membership, does not discuss party politics in our quest to assist our communities to become more vigilant and act in a civil manner in

reducing crime.

Our relationship with the Department of Community Safety has grown strong over these past months despite our different views. But the provincial CPB definitely is not a voice for the ANC. Maybe MEC Fritz should concentrate on partnering his department with the CPB instead of portraying this board as a mouthpiece for the ANC. As a political party the ANC introduced many programmes and positive initiatives which have continued under Helen Zille. After all, why fix something if it isn't broken?

I trust the views expressed in the article are not those of the DA. The article refers to MEC Dan Plato and he should have responded – unless MEC Fritz is his self-appointed spokesperson, or the DA is using dirty tactics to discredit Community Policing Forums and the Western Cape CPB.

**Faisal Abrams
Western Cape CPF**

Peak of folly

FINALLY we hear from Helen Zille. She is "very annoyed". Now both sides are very annoyed.

If only she would listen, this annoyance would go away. Turn the toll into a prepaid system and the need for the desecration of the crown jewel can stop. It is a win-win for everyone. And it is oh-so green.

Does she think being in a relationship with Murray & Roberts on a pristine mountain is a good idea? It is a bad idea and the people have spoken. The noise will grow louder.

It's called public participation, Helen. You still have time to do the right thing. You will never be able to convince the public if you do not hold the moral high ground.

Remember – fools rush in where angels fear to tread.

Stewart Walker
Fernwood/Newlands

CAPE ARGUS
3 FEBRUARY 2012, P.12

CAPE ARGUS

3 FEBRUARY 2012, P.13

How the mighty fall

GENERALLY speaking, politicians are reluctant to admit defeat.

It's the one thing they probably share with the rest of us.

After all, you don't have to be mighty to fall and feel bad about it.

But Western Cape Premier Helen Zille proved herself a sporting exception this week.

It's fair to say the Iron Lady of Leeuwenhof does not take defeat lying down, but she had little choice when she was hounded, and run to ground, in a bruising encounter in Sea Point.

Well, as it happens, it wasn't

A BIT OF *Skelm*

quite as grim as it sounds.

Zille is keeping in shape by riding a bike, it appears, and, according to a tweet from the Premier herself, met her match on the promenade.

She wrote: "First bicycle encounter with a pampered Sea Point pooch this morning. The dog

won! Added insult to injury barking at me on the ground #fb"

Take your pic

Zille was up and running soon enough, though.

Exchanging pedal power for people power, she went walkabout in the central city to find out what the good people of Cape Town think of the state of the nation.

Some of the repartee is unprintable. One man was heard saying to another: "*Die's mos* (expletive deleted) ... *kom ons gaan Hungry Lion toe.*"

Mostly, though, bemused shop-

pers were keener on posing with 'Yelen' for happy snaps.

The cellphone has revolutionised politics in more ways than one.

Why the paranoia over our summit?

We cannot call for a politics of the commons without looking at ourselves within the movement, writes Jared Sacks

RATEPAYERS feared the possible introduction of poor black shackdwellers to their neighbourhood. Friends of Rondebosch Common feared the destruction of their open space and their fynbos. Cape Town mayor Patricia de Lille feared the transformation of the DA's discourse on service delivery into a more, challenging and authentic conversation about racism, inequality and segregation.

While asserting that those who participated in the actions were dividing and destroying everything she has been working for, De Lille was really asserting a politics of anti-commons. Like the member of Friends of Rondebosch Common who said, "This is our common, not yours", De Lille was fighting for injustice in the name of peace, for inequality in the name of progress, and for a common that is its opposite.

Yet despite the fact that the People's Land, Housing and Jobs Summit never materialised – prevented by the actions of the police who disrupted and violently arrested marchers en route – residents and activists have managed to alter the way we think about the commons in our city. We have asserted a politics of decolonisation and immediate equality. And we are building a new way of organising.

What is a politics of the commons? Marco Deserlis and Jodi Dean, in an influential Occupy article, defined it as such: "A politics of the commons acknowledges division in that it begins from the shocking recognition that the commons does not exist. Destroyed and privatised by over two centuries of capitalist enclosure and 'accumulation by dispossession'... the idea of the commons asserts the primacy of collectivity and the general interest".

Still, we cannot call for a politics of the commons, of equality, of anti-racism and of anti-patriarchy, without looking within ourselves and at one another within our movement.

Take Back the Commons began with its own challenge. Many of us have been in the struggle for decades and while this experience is important to the movement, it also forces us into older and often more stagnant and hierarchical ways of organising.



GOLIATH: Several dozen people were arrested when they attempted to 'occupy' Rondebosch Common. The writer argues that one reason for the city's heavy-handed response was the fear that the legitimacy of the government would be challenged. PICTURE: ZACH LEVENSON

In particular, here in SA, we have a culture of hero-worship. From Mandela to Tutu to Zilla, there is an expectation that those within an organisation must unquestioningly defend not only the person but also the role of the leader.

And because our movement is a reflection of society at large, many of us remain stuck in that same mindset. Even though we recently, as a movement, adopted a set of guiding principles which claims, for instance, that "we are all leaders", we have sometimes allowed individuals to push forward and claim central roles and responsibilities.

Thus, even as we work day in and day out towards building a non-hier-

archical decision-making structure within our movement, it is often the most charismatic and articulate person that people gravitate towards – he or she provides a safe space where members don't need to think critically and take responsibility.

This has been exacerbated by the media and by the mayor herself who have placed Mario Wanza as the central figure in our movement, even though we have no elected leadership and decisions are made collectively in our meetings. Mr Wanza has been called our "chairperson" and our "spokesperson" by newspapers and radio stations. This has left him extremely vulnerable to attacks on his character and is arguably the

reason he was specifically targeted by police halfway through our 20km march to the common.

This has also left the movement vulnerable to being hijacked by other groups and political parties.

For instance, because some of our perceived leaders have a political history and even an ongoing relationship with the ANC, we have been labelled as a pro-ANC movement. Confusion over what our principled "we are non-party political" stance means in practice, has also led individual members to invite party-oriented groups and people to come and support the movement.

Tony Ehrenreich, leader of Cosatu in the Western Cape and the

ANC in Cape Town, was invited by a member to support us after 42 of our protesting activists were arrested. However, when he arrived, he unilaterally took control of our meeting and attempted to change the direction of our actions and guide us towards a Cosatu-controlled occupation the following week.

As a result, we went back and resolved in our general meeting to distance ourselves from Mr Ehrenreich and make very clear that he is not welcome as a member of the ANC or Cosatu but may participate in our movement only as an individual without the special treatment that his role often engenders.

So what led to the overblown

response by De Lille and the city to our attempt to hold a People's Summit on Rondebosch Common?

While we were expecting at least a thousand people to march to the common, we had clearly stated our intention to not build shacks on the land, to be non-violent, to protect the environment – it was, after all, the police Casspirs that crushed indigenous plants and birds' nests while roaming the area – and to be engaged in constructive rather than destructive behaviour.

Yet, on the orders of the mayor, the city deployed hundreds of police throughout the Cape Flats and on the common itself. Even while the summit was called off, a dozen

police remained the entire weekend "guarding" the common.

It seems the paranoia came from elsewhere:

● The fear that a rogue community leader would use the event to deliver our communities into the hands of the ANC;

● The fear that putting racism, inequality and segregation on the political agenda would refute the DA's "Open Opportunity Society for All", and

● The fear that we would become another Occupy movement challenging the legitimacy of the government with regard to their ability to divide, manage and control people and space.

The DA's ability to govern Cape Town is contingent upon these three key points, without which they are nothing.

The pervasive violence by police last Friday and the baseless arrest of 42 peaceful demonstrators therefore were part of De Lille's plan of vilifying the movement through the person whom she appointed as its leader. What she did not expect, however, was that her public relations exercise would backfire and the DA's violence and authoritarianism would be exposed.

We would be lying to ourselves and to others if we claimed that our movement speaks with one voice, that we all agree on everything and that there are not internal conflicts. However, as with the Occupy movement and other new movements that organise horizontally without a leadership clique, confusion, divisions and disagreements are part of the process of building consensus.

As Deserlis and Dean have written, "rather than a liability to be denied or avoided, division becomes a strength, a way that the movement becomes powerful as our movement, the movement of us toward a common end".

While we, as a young movement, try to build radically new forms of direct democracy within by challenging the old guard, we will also be able to strengthen accountability and the authority of the decisions we make as a collective.

● Jared Sacks is an activist with the Take Back the Commons Movement and works at the Children of SA. He writes in his personal capacity.

Making black people feel at home in the Cape

WESTERN Cape Premier Helen Zille tweeted the following this week: #HelenZille: "I accept that some black people feel marginalised in the Cape. We want to change this." We asked her:

You wish to address this – whether this perception is widespread or not?

I think there are people who feel marginalised in every place in the world. There is, as we know, a narrative about the Western Cape that has many strands. It obviously suits some people to drive this narrative. But where this perception genuinely exists, I would like to address it.

In my Twitter engagements, there have certainly been some strong underlying feelings, so it's important that I hear those voices.

Do you believe that "black people" in the Western Cape have legitimate reason to feel marginalised – any more than poor people, in particular, in other provinces?

Sadly, there is racism everywhere in the world and across our country. We must never be complacent about it. But it is not useful to attribute every uncomfortable incident to racism.

The Western Cape has a different demographic composition from many other parts of South Africa, and I've come to understand the concept of "demographic discom-



MURRAY WILLIAMS

The Friday Grill

fort" which can make a place seem alienating. But I do not think this can be automatically equated with racism.

Some say this perception is held because the ANC does not govern in the province. Any merit to this?

This is undoubtedly one of the strands in this narrative, and the ANC actively drives it.

Some say, also, that this perception is itself racist, because it hinges on "black" not including "coloured". Any view on this?

Any generalisation about any category of people is the root of racism. I also do not believe you can generalise about a place, as if all the people living there are the same. We



DISCOMFORT: Helen Zille

need to allow people to define their own identity. No one has the right to impose an identity on another person, particularly not when it is based on an arbitrary criterion like the colour of their skin. Let people attribute a significance to their melanin content that they want to and not what others decide on their behalf.

Or could it be a language thing – Afrikaans and English being the most-spoken languages?

I have never heard language being mentioned as a factor.

Some say the "black people" referred to should accept that the Western Cape's demographics are different from other

provinces, and that's just the way it is.

As we seek to build one nation with one future, we have to celebrate diversity and not do a mental racial census every time we enter any space. That applies in every direction. We need to be considerate to others and interact in a way that reflects respect. Then it is very difficult to read racism into any situation. We have to take great care to interpret our actions and words through the eyes and ears of others. We should all affirm the Cape's unique diversity. That makes it "better together".

Could it be that white and coloured racists in the Western Cape are emboldened by the fact that the "black ANC government" does not govern here – and hold more overtly racist views than elsewhere in the country.

I don't think this narrative is about overt racism, which is – ironically – much easier to deal with. In fact, the people who drive this narrative generally refer to "covert" or "subtle" racism in the Western Cape. However, there is a reality of strained black-coloured relations and a black-white divide in our province which cannot be ignored or forgotten. It is the result of our tragic history, particularly the "labour preference policies" under apartheid. And we as a democratic government are determined to face and address this legacy.

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**ZILLE IN
THE PINK
AFTER
FLOWERY
RECEPTION**

DAHLIA DAY:
Western Cape
premier Helen Zille
accepts a bunch of
flowers from Cape
Town flower sellers
— Gairoenisa
Spannenberg,
Sharon Growes and
Delia Gamildien —
during her
walkabout through
the city's central
business district
yesterday. Picture:
SHELLEY
CHRISTIANS

