

DESEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

# Rooiels Bries

## *Breeze*

A vibrant green and orange bird, likely a nectar feeder, is perched on a large, yellow, spiky flower. The bird has a long, thin beak and is looking towards the right. The flower is composed of many small, yellow, tubular florets. The background is a solid, light grey.

News from the Rooiels  
Ratepayers' Association,  
Conservancy,  
Security Association  
and Boat Club

Nuus van die mense



Front page: ***Anthobaphes violacea*** is endemic to the fynbos habitat of southwestern South Africa. People come from all over the world to photograph this beautiful little orange-breasted sunbird in Rooiels.

Photograph: Graham McClelland

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## Rooiels: dis ons plek dié

Tussen die berg en die see lê die dorp. Hier woon 'n hegte gemeenskap met 'n passie vir die omgewing.

Baie van die eiendomme behoort aan vakansiegangers of swaeltjies wat met verlange na die foto's en skrywes op die Whatsapp-groep *Village People* kyk.

Gedurende die somers word ons oorval deur besoekers en kreefduikers. Hulle kyk na ons huise in die fynbos, hulle stap deur ons stowwerige strate en vra, hoekom het julle nie straatligte nie?

Die kinders slenter winkel toe, die honde baljaar in die see en die baaiers swem tussen die dolfyne.

Dit raak herfs en winter en die sonlig weerkaats silwer op die see. Die walvisse kom uit die Suidpool en kalf in die baai.

Ons het robbe en otters, bakkies, muishonde, dassies en rooikatte en daar is luiperds op die berg.

Ons het bobbejane waarmee ons in harmonie probeer saamleef – hulle probeer ook soms.

Daar is altyd iets interessants wat uitspoel op die strand, of 'n witkruisarend wat draai om Klein-Hangklip.

In die lente verander die kleure in die veld van geel na pers na blou en pienk. Orals tjier en tjir die voëltjies wat uitbroei. Die skilpaaie stap rond in die warm weer.

Ons kyk uit oor die see, die veld en die berg en weet: ons is gelukkig hier.— *Red.*

# RERA: Make the circle bigger

## Message from Allison Vienings, chairperson of Rooiels Ratepayers Association (RERA).

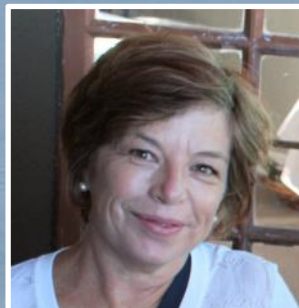
As we approach the end of 2019, it is with a sense of satisfaction that we can look back on a year that has in many respects been challenging, but positive and certainly well worth the effort.

In going about its work RERA strives, at minimum cost, to foster a healthy, constructive communication and community ethos, the leverage of its networks, to act as a custodian of community values such as harmony and respect for nature and to work co-operatively with key stakeholders.

Therefore, we adopted the slogan "Make the circle bigger". Residents are successfully working with each other rather than against each other. The overwhelming sense of community spirit became evident with the fire in January and developed as the year progressed.

The most prominent issues and challenges in the village that keep us busy are:

- Zoning issues, which calls for a balance between individual freedom and community interests, spirit and aspirations;
- Baboon management and living in harmony with our troop;
- The implications of living in the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve and the responsibility this brings to Rooiels residents as custodians of our environment.



*Allison Vienings*

## The rest of the RERA team

*Top: John Charalambous (Environment and REC); Gavin Lundie, member and Lee-Ann Becker, communication.*

*Bottom: Linda Hiles, secretary; Veronica Jacobs, meeting scribe and Ward 10 secundus; Ivan Becker, treasurer and Hilgard Müller, vice-chair and Ward 10 representative.*

## Samewerking

RERA probeer om die beskermers te wees van gemeenskapswaardes soos harmonie en respek vir die natuur.

Ons wil saamwerk met die hoofrolspelers, daarom is ons leuse:

**“Maak die sirkel groter”.**

# Rooiels Heritage Protection Overlay Zone (HPOZ)

In anticipation of the publication of the Overlay Regulations, a working group was formed to look at the Proposed Draft Rooiels HPOZ Regulations, focusing on matters which could affect Rooiels.

An overlay district (or overlay zone) applies an additional layer of standards to all areas within a defined overlay boundary, regardless of the underlying base zoning district.

Overlay zoning supplements or supersedes existing regulations within an underlying base zoning district.

Overlay zones are intended to add additional protection to the underlying area.

The most common types of overlay zones are intended to protect heritage areas, neighbourhoods or buildings with unique characteristics or environmentally sensitive areas.

Thank you to the participants who volunteered to take on this task and spent many weekends in meetings and many hours compiling documents.

A workshop was held in November to discuss and address concerns around zoning.

## The village gardens

With the willing assistance and cooperation from many volunteers the Rooiels public gardens have had a facelift. The gardens were revamped to make them conservation and water friendly, whilst providing colour and attraction to birds, insects and other creatures – for all to enjoy.

To all those who worked so enthusiastically and hard on this project – thank you.

## Kees Kordaat

*“Ek hoor die mense van Rooiels werk nou saam.”*

*“Seker te moeilik om jou eie vlooie te vang.”*



# Community spirit and contributions

Rooiels residents contributed to the RERA activities organised to build community spirit and cohesion via their participation in the Fun Walks, the Silent Wine Auction and other events. You also gave generously to enable RERA to buy plants and install new noticeboards – thank you.

Your contributions in time, effort and money have made a noticeable difference to the village.

In addition to all the fundraising events the ladies of Rooiels formed a crafters group. We are hoping that the December Festive Market will continue to grow and become a regular event for people to display and sell their crafts.

Another exciting and well-received initiative is the December Creative Walk where resident artists, poets, writers or musicians can bring their art and their talents to the public. Visitors and locals alike can stroll through the village and enjoy the range of fine art and crafts.

Wishing you a new year filled with optimism, rich with blessings of love, joy, good health, warmth and laughter – and a good glass of wine.

– Allison Vienings



*Hier woel dit:*

*Regs: Allison Vienings het heelwat verborge talente.*

*Regs onder: Rina Thompson en Magdalene van der Westhuizen werk met toegewyde konsentrasie.*

*Onder: Sonet van der Merwe, die sameroeper, haar ma, Ina Vermeulen en Karin Steinbach.*

Die Rooiels dames  
het 'n  
handwerkgroep  
begin. Hulle  
fantastiese ware sal  
by die Desember  
Feesmark wees –  
van naaldwerk tot  
bakwerk tot  
heerlike eetgoed.



## Lekker by die Wynveiling



## Kees Kordaat



*"Ek laaiks dit skoon uit die bottel."*

*Kloksgewys van bo: Tom Jacobs en Allison Vienings; Sonet en David van der Merwe; Toppie en Marais Stofberg; Monique Stals, Jackie en Johann de Jager; Veronica en Leon Jacobs; Lesley en Gavin Lundie; Denise en Willie Boltman en Wimpie Stals; Alison Scott en John Charalambous; Kevin en Heidi Andersson; Ruth Mattison en Gerda Smit.*

# The Silent Wine Auction

## Food and wine

Following the success of a Rooiels wine auction some years ago, it was decided to have a silent wine auction to boost the funds of RERA.

How can one have wine without good food? This is where Something Els raised the bar. A superb venue and delicious food, together with the community spirit set the stage for a marvellous evening.

Together with Linda Hiles, Wolfgang Steinbach and Izak Smit, we got together and planned the “silent” wine auction, with a call to our fellow Rooiels wine lovers to donate a bottle or two of wine. The response was overwhelming. We thank everyone for the success stemming from that.

*“He who has not seen the Rooiels sunset through a glass of wine, has not lived.”*

## Making up the lots

With expert advice from Izak, the wines were grouped together in bidding lots and buyers were each given a form to cast their bid.

Later in the evening the successful bidders were announced and an open auction was held for the remaining wines.

Wolfgang and Izak showed their auctioneering skills, cajoling fellow Rooielsers to purchase the remaining lots.

## All in the right spirit(s)

Wolfgang, ever the master of persuasion, outmaneuvered some slow bidders and before they could blink, the gavel had been hit with a solid SOLD.

They had unintentionally been successful bidders of some great wines – and in the spirit of the evening, they generously accepted the bid that the auctioneer had decided upon.

A heartfelt thanks to every Rooielser who participated.

– Ivan Becker



*Wynlegende Nicky Krone (links op die foto) het op die wynveiling stories van sy lewe as wynmaker in Tulbach vertel. Sy vertelling van die ervaring wat hy by die wynmeesters van Europa opgedoen het, was fassinerend. Hier is hy met Hilgard Müller en Karin Steinbach.*



Izak Smit and Ivan Becker



Linda and Duncan Hiles



Wolfgang Steinbach



As the most westerly village of the Overstrand, Rooiels is not only the attractive entry point from the Cape Town side for municipal residents and visitors (at the end of one of the world's most beautiful coastal drives), but also a shining example of how the balance between sustainable development and environmental conservation can be achieved in the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve.

However, a quick look at events and developments of the past year in the region indicates that all is not well in paradise: Wildfires burning for longer and causing greater devastation (climate change?), pressure on water resources, immigration from the eastern and northern parts of the country leading to expansion of informal settlements and increased building activities, illegal economic activities, such as poaching and a worsening of the safety and security situation.

Although Rooiels is spared most of these changes by proactive initiatives, it is still part of the municipality and must (and do) play a role in the governance of Overstrand to find solutions and/or managerial strategies to address these challenges.



Albertus de Wet

# Rooiels

## The entrance to the Overstrand Message from the Ward Councillor





*Fanie Krige*

Rooiels lê aan die suidekant van een van die mooiste kuspaaië in die wêreld.

Van die Kaapse kant af is dit vir inwoners en besoekers 'n aantreklike ingang tot die res van die Overstrand.

Boonop is dit 'n skitterende voorbeeld hoe die balans tussen volhoubare ontwikkeling en omgewingsbewaring in die Kogelberg Biosfeerreservaat bereik kan word.





*Hilgard Müller verteenwoordig die REBV in die wykskomitee van Wyk 10. Hier oorhandig hy die boek "Rooiels" aan Princess Sibutha van die Hermanus-biblioteek. Langs haar is alderman Dudley Coetzee, die burgemeester van die Overstrand Munisipaliteit en Fanie Krige, raadslid.*



*Die agteruitgang van grondpaaie word tans aangespreek. Anemoonstraat is 'n bietjie verder plavei. Dit word deur die "padingenieur", Regardt Stals inspekteer.*



*Die Buffelstaldam waar ons water vandaan kom, het meer as een keer oorgeloop vanjaar.*

## Beskerming van die omgewing

Die langtermynvisie van die munisipaliteit is om ons kosbare omgewing te bestuur, te beskerm en om die natuurlike hulpbronne op volhoubare manier te gebruik in vennootskap met toepaslike gemeenskappe; om die voortdurende bestaan van ons ryk biodiversiteit te bewaar en die gepaardgaande ekologiese prosesse en dienste te verseker.

Dit sien sy missie om die ryk biodiversiteit, diverse natuurlike ekosisteme en kulturele erfeniskarakter van ons omgewing te bewaar deur die implementering van bestuursprogramme wat deeglik gedefinieerde doelstellings en oogmerke het vir die inligting, genot en voordeel van teenwoordige en toekomstige geslagte.

## 'n Volledige brandbestuursplan

'n Meer volledige benadering en langtermyn beplanningsvoorlegging vir die vermindering van brandstoflading en brandpadbestuur in die Overstrandgebied word tans ontwikkel. Dit sal ekologiese brande, identifisering van gevaargebiede, brandpaaie en gebiede waar brandstoflading verminder moet word, insluit.

Die plan sal die behoorlike bestuur van natuurlike areas in 'n mosaïekpatroon ondersteun om die risiko en brandstoflading te verminder, insluitende die bewaring en beskerming van gebiede waar daar kommer heers weens hoë biodiversiteit.

## Major challenges

### Water

We experienced a notable increase in burst pipes in our ward, mainly due to ageing infrastructure. A pipe replacement programme is currently underway.

### Roads and storm water

The inadequate storm water network received an increase in capital expenditure for storm water infrastructure.

The deterioration of gravel roads was also addressed.

### Tourism

Tourism has yet to reach its full potential in Overstrand to attract investment and help small, medium and micro enterprises to participate in this growing sector of our economy. Positive factors are the region's proximity to the City of Cape Town and the natural surroundings which lends itself as a scenic backdrop to the many adventure and arts events being hosted here.

The region is accessible and offers many roads to day-trippers, holidaymakers, group tours and professionals doing business here.

## Achievements

- Working for the Coast Programme is an ongoing project.
- The Green Good Deeds Programme was launched nationally by the Department of Environmental Affairs.

- The Municipality assists the Oceans and Coastal coordinators in their conservation duties by providing office space. The Department provides computers, protective clothing and tools.
- The document for Environmental Management Overlay Zone Regulations is in its final draft form after comments from the public.
- The Alien Clearing Management Plan is being implemented.

## Environmental protection

The long-term vision of the municipality for our precious environment is to manage, protect and sustainably use the natural assets of our areas in partnership with the relevant communities, to preserve the continued existence of our rich biodiversity and to ensure its associated ecological processes and services.

It sees its mission to conserve the rich biodiversity, diverse natural ecosystems and cultural heritage characteristics of our environment through the implementation of management programmes that have clearly defined management goals and objectives for the enlightenment, enjoyment and benefit of present and future generations.

This is done by the Environmental Management Section, which is divided in two units: Biodiversity Conservation and Environmental Planning.

## Integrated Fire Management Plan

A more integrated approach and long-term planning proposal for fuel load reduction and fire break

management in the Overstrand Area is being developed. It will include ecological burns, identification of risk areas, fire breaks, fuel breaks and areas for fuel load reduction.

The plan will assist with the proper management of natural areas within a mosaic pattern to reduce risk and fuel load, including the conservation and protection of areas with a high biodiversity concern.

– Fanie Krige



*Die verskriklike vuur van 2019 in die Kogelberggebied.*



Submissions were made to the police Ombudsman by RESA and RERA about the impact of poaching. We hope that policing in our area will improve and curtail this blatant crime.

## Perlemoenstrophy

### RESA se beleid

“Die stroop van perlemoen het aansienlik vererger die afgelope tyd,” sê Mark Butler, die voorsitter van RESA.

Ons het nou nie meer te make met opportunistiese stropery nie, maar met misdadige sindikate.

Die stropers maak inbreuk op ons persoonlike veiligheid en vryheid en hul blatante houding het ’n negatiewe invloed op ons dorp.

“RESA se beleid is om nie die stropers te konfronteer of met hulle in verbinding te tree nie. Dit is ter wille van die veiligheid van elke individu en ook van die dorp,” volgens Mark Butler.

Hy sê wanneer stropers opgemerk word, word dit aan die owerhede oorgedra; met beperkte resultate.

“Ons sal voortgaan om inligting aan die owerhede op ’n diskrete manier oor te dra sodat die dorp nie die teiken van vergeldingsaksies van die stropers word nie.”

Voorleggings is deur RESA en RERA aan die Polisie-ombudsman gemaak oor die invloed wat perlemoenstrophy het.

“Ons hoop dat polisiëring in ons gebied sal verbeter en dat hierdie blatante misdaad gekortwiek word.”



# Rooiels Security Association (RESA)

## Achieving objectives in a difficult environment

RESA's objective is to make Rooiels a safer place for all.

This has broadened beyond the reduction of crime incidents against homeowners, due to a severe fire situation at the beginning of the year.

Support was provided by volunteers and the RESA infrastructure once again played a significant role in the management of support activities.

We need to have a degree of self-reliance and a first response capability and so the Rooiels Disaster Incident Management (REDI) was formed. Our primary objective is still to reduce crime incidents against Rooiels homeowners.

## Reducing crime

Our crime statistics are significantly better than that of our neighbouring villages, but we are not crime free.

There has been theft of property from vehicles and storerooms, as well as from homes with people present.

There have been break-ins, some were foiled and some were unfortunately not.

Our security initiatives, infrastructure and regular patrolling are a key factor in the reduction of crime in Rooiels.

During the year Rooiels had a night time response at the RESA office, as well as a daytime security response presence.

This has also helped with keeping crime down.

## Thank you

There are many people to thank for the efforts that are put into the RESA activities and efforts in making Rooiels a safer place.

Patrollers: You are doing a really good job of keeping a visible patrolling presence in the village.

Blockwatch: The Blockwatch group is an active forum providing alerts about unwanted activities.

Cameras: The cameras are very important security tools and are monitored.

The Committee: Thanks go to the RESA Operations Committee, Peter Koning, Wessie van der Westhuizen, Hilgard Müller, Ernst Thompson, Diarmuid Baigrie and Willie Boltman for all of their time and valuable inputs.

The members: Finally, a big thank you to all the RESA members and contributors. Without your financial support none of what has been achieved would be possible.

– Mark Butler



Mark Butler  
Chairman

## Toets gereeld jou alarmstelsels:

Toets die  
panieknoppie en  
die batterye;

Aktiveer die alarm  
wanneer niemand  
tuis is nie—

En ook wanneer daar  
mense in die huis is.

Dit is moontlik met  
moderne  
alarmstelsels.

# Rooiels Patrol and Neighbourhood Watch

## — an evaluation by Peter Köning

Churchill at the end of the Battle of Britain said, “Never was so much owed by so many to so few.”

These same words can apply to members of our RESA patrol group that loyally go out night after night with a flashing strobe on the rooftop. This is often done in terrible weather conditions. Many people have questioned this tactic but it has been based on firm military and policing principals of “be seen and deter”. Research by ZINN from Unisa 2008 has shown this is one of the many factors that deters criminal activity.

The Department of Community Safety, working with the Crime Intelligence Unit of SAPS have come to similar conclusions. That is why they give active support to the formation of NBW in all areas where there are eager

volunteers. Note: they issue flashing lights and high visibility vests.

So yes, we are not solving the crime issue, but rather pushing it into another unfortunate zone.

### What patrollers do

Patrollers help to monitor movement at night and their presence hopefully deters cars from entering and stopping off. The patrollers are backed up by a small group of CCTV camera monitors who respond to patrol information. They also survey the village at random times. All of the above would come to zero without background volunteers and financial supporters – we thank you.



Peter Köning  
NHW Operations Coordinator

house breaking.

In the past year we have had half a dozen incidents, but in July and August we had four confirmed house breakings. These all appear to be over the holiday season. It was probably done by people

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*Criminals acknowledge that where they see active NBW and patrol systems in place they will defer to another area.*

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Die veiligheid van elke individu en van die dorp kom eerste—

Moenie perlemoenstropers konfronteer of met hulle kommunikeer nie.

The crux of the issue is that everybody needs to see to their security as if it was in concentric circles or barriers that act as deterrents to any potential burglar.

Churchill also said, “We will fight them on the beaches”. Well that’s another story of how we as a community come up with constructive ideas to deter poaching.

### Focus

Currently RESA focus is still firmly on the criminal element to deter

who hired a house in Rooiels to use as a base for housebreaking activities.

This analysis is on face value at present.

We have still much to do and so few to do it with. So once again the clarion call goes out to take up a patrol slot of one hour every fortnight or month – and become one of the few, so the few may become the many.

– Peter Köning





# Rooiels Disaster Incident Management (REDI)

Rooi Els Disaster Incident (REDI) is a broad community initiative and is supported by RERA, REC, RESA, REBC and non-affiliated individual villagers.

It was formed by a team of volunteers that will manage disasters of any type in our village.

It often happens after a disaster, that fingers are pointed in all directions but yourself. Furthermore, everyone then seems to be an expert. "Yes, but in 2005 so and so said this".

According to the real experts on wildfires, the frequency and ferocity has changed dramatically over the last couple of years.

The increase is a result of a combination of population growth,

alien vegetation and gaps in fire management policy.

Plant fuels accumulate on an annual basis and have reached disastrous levels in some urban areas.

The whole programme of managing vegetation to reduce the fuel load has all but disappeared in our area.

Reducing fuel loads are not at odds with conservation and biodiversity and should be managed hand in hand.

Restoration has become a useful concept in vegetation management.

– Hilgard Müller



*Hilgard Müller:  
Rooiels Fire Coordinator*

Volgens die kundiges het die frekwensie en tembaarheid van veldbrande dramaties verander die afgelope paar jaar.

*Firewise is not only a concept but also an attitude;*

*Defendable space is not only a slogan; you have to live it;*

*Being Firewise can save your life and property and also that of your neighbours and our Village.*

– Hilgard Müller



*Regs: Ernst Thompson en Hilgard Müller ondersoek die megafoon wat gebruik kan word tydens 'n noodgeval.*

*Regs onder: Hierdie wa is deur Johann de Jager van Gossip Corner geskenk en lede van die REDI-span ondersoek ingenome hoe dit aangewend kan word as 'n waterkar.*





# Being REDI: What to do during a fire emergency

The situation during a wildfire can change drastically within a few minutes.

Your REDI team will constantly evaluate the fire and will inform you when to evacuate.

When the fire is close, visibility is very poor and one can become disorientated, so leave immediately when told to evacuate.

For the safety of yourself and others, always be prepared for an emergency.

## Your vehicle

- Park your vehicle ready for evacuation.
- Have your house and car keys at hand.

## Grab-and-go kit

You might be evacuated to a parking area along the road and will need essential supplies while you wait till it is safe to come back.

- Water, food, blanket;
- Personal toiletries and medication;
- Torch with fresh batteries;
- Toilet paper;
- Cash and credit cards;
- Warm jacket.

## Papers, copies and documents

- Driver's license;
- Title deed of your house;
- Insurance documentation;
- Medical records and medical aid card;
- ID cards and passports;
- A list of personal contacts, should you lose your phone.

Take hard copies of the documents and also save them electronically in Cloud or Dropbox.

## Safeguard pets

- Pets may panic if there is a fire. Do not let them out of the house without a leash.
- Pets may go into hiding during a fire. Keep them in a safe place — you do not want to go searching for them in the smoke.
- Just like humans, pets may die of smoke inhalation. If it is not safe for you in the house, it is not safe for your pets.

## Pet grab-and-go kit

Leash, collar, medication, bedding, water and food bowls, water and food.

## Stay informed

- REDI will keep you informed on Village People Whatsapp Group.
- Emergency related messages will be on Blockwatch.
- Minimise the use of social media to avoid message overload.
- Keep phones charged.
- If networks fail, radio owners will keep you informed.

## Before evacuating

- Close the gas cylinder and uncouple it. If you can, put the cylinder on a clearing on your property.
- Leave water on – firefighters might need it.
- Take curtains off and pile in middle of the room.
- Lock the house and arm alarm system.

## Evacuating

Follow the instructions of the REDI officials in yellow jackets with REDI logo.

# The Firewise Day

A Firewise Day was held in March, where we were informed by experts in the field.

As a community we were shocked after the fire in Rooiels in 2017.

This was followed by the horrendous fire in January 2019, which ravaged through the whole Kogelberg area, burning down 42 homes in Betty's Bay.

Veldfires in a fynbos area are a given and we have to be ready. We must make sure that what happened in our neighbouring village, will never happen here.

## What starts a fynbos fire?

Fynbos fires are started by lightning, flares, careless smokers or irresponsible people having a braai.

It can be started by some mechanical spark or fireworks and it can be deliberately started by criminals with bad intentions. It can also be started accidentally.

The fire might start small, but the rate it spreads and the intensity of the fire can increase at a frightening speed, depending on the weather, the terrain and the fuel available.

*"If we don't get to the fire within five minutes in a strong wind, that fire is out of control". – Overstrand Fire Chief.*

Attending the Firewise Day, were, in the top photo: Jenny Dewey, Ruth Mattison and Stephanie Milne.

2nd photo: Back: Dick Lockley, Angel Shaw and Jill Lockley. Front: Lee-Ann Becker, Mary Comrie.

3rd photo: Back: Hans and Hester Schmidt. Front: Dave de Klerk, Margie and Peter Gibb.

4th photo: Ral Meredith, Lesley Lundie and Linda Butler.



## The Crayfish Competition

The crayfish competition took place on crayfish competition day. This is no given as it does not always do so. It sometimes takes place on the reserve crayfish competition days.

Some years it doesn't take place at all as we run out of reserve days before the wind drops and the Cape of Storms morphs back into the Fairest Cape that Sir Francis Drake ever saw.

There were quite a few losers this last competition, but I won't name and shame them all; it'll be much quicker to tell you who the winners were, as that list is much shorter.

However, I do have to tell the readership who won the bottle of Cape Beach wine.

This particularly named wine is awarded to the skipper who should save petrol and stay on the Rooiels beach next year rather than win the booby prize for the smallest crayfish.

Next year he should stay in the shade where he won't Melt.

## Uitslae

Die wenners van die Kreefkompetisie was:

Willie Rossouw  
(Kreefkoning – 0.59 kg);

Derek Esterhuyse  
(Grootste 4 – 2.07 kg);

John Biesman-Simons  
(G8 - 3.76 kg);

Derek Esterhuyse

(G12 – 5.41 kg) en  
Johan Els (G16 - 5.86 kg.) Dit

is kommerwekkend dat hierdie kategoriesweners die minste geweeg het as ooit voorheen.



*John Biesman-Simons en Stephanie Bisschop by bekerweners Derek Esterhuyse en André Brink.*

## Kreefdag

*Kreefdag is gesinsdag,  
wanneer vakansiegangers  
na al die opwinding by die  
sleephelling kom kyk.*

*Kreefdag is ook bootdag en  
dit is ernstige sake. Gee pad  
voor! Hier kom 'n wenner.*

*Foto: Maryke van Heerden*



# Rooiels Boat Club

## Message by John Biesman-Simons

The Rooiels Boat Club (REBC) continues to exist, but the future of the Rooiels slipway (endangered slipway) is less certain.

The current status of the “endangered slipway” is that it remains open, with membership a key criterion to gaining unlimited access.

Non-members may use the slipway based on certain interim provisions agreed with the Overstrand Municipality. These include various safety features and a limit of ten non-member skippers allowed to launch their boats per day, with five of the ten reserved for residents of Overstrand.

Overcrowding is the issue and applies not only to safe use of the slipway but also to parking. The latter has been negatively impacted by non-members parking on the private property reserved for members. This is despite a sign indicating it is reserved.

A further risk to the future of the REBC and the slipway could come about as a consequence of the current initiative to merge the Kogelberg Buffer Zone to the sea.

Nope, you can't blame Trump and global warming; this is a conservation goal that RERA and REC has set, to preserve the natural resources and beauty of our small village. It is important that the Boat Club gets involved in the conversation about conservation.

## Support for the NSRI

We again suffered a net loss in respect of our financial relationship with the NSRI (National Sea Rescue Institute). We won nothing, they won the price of 13 tickets in their annual lucky draw competition, plus we have purchased a couple of pink buoys to help save lives. At last count, 46 rescues, of which 12 involved children, have been effected and some lives have certainly been saved in our waters with this clever initiative. We propose purchasing further pink buoys, one of which we'll donate to the Kleinmond community in recognition of the opening of a new NSRI base there.

On a more serious note, we are substantial winners with the NSRI as they rescued one of our members and his crew member recently when their boat capsized. This is tangible reason for the club's ongoing support of the NSRI. Without doubt, a capsized boat is much worse than a baboon

raid on a shop. – *John Biesman-Simons*



*John Biesman-Simons  
Chairman*



## *Wil jy visvang of wil jy swem?*

*Die NSRI het twee van ons  
mees ervare vissermanne te  
hulp gesnel toe hulle boot in  
'n fratsongeluk omgedop  
het. Hier is Flip de Klerk en  
Wimpie Stals terug in die  
boot, terwyl die NSRI hulle  
terugsleep strand toe.*

We are very fortunate in Rooiels to live as close to nature as possible and we are passionate about conserving biodiversity. Although we have to adapt the way we live, and may at times get frustrated, it is one of the privileges of living here to be able to interact with wild animals and have them as part of our lives.

– Kay Leresche



*There are Agama atra (koggelmander) in all our village gardens, benefiting from the insects visiting the plants.*

## Leipoldt se koggelmannetjies

Koggelmanders is ratse reptiele wat veral tussen rotse hou. Hulle vreet insekte en kan in 'n mate kleur verander om by die omgewing aan te pas.

Die mannetjie se kop raak blouer in paartyd en as hy opgewonde is. Die wyfie lê haar langwerpige eiers in 'n gat en krap dit weer toe.

Al die dorpstuine lok insekte en soos Leipoldt geskryf het, “al die koggelmannetjies / kom om fees te vier”.

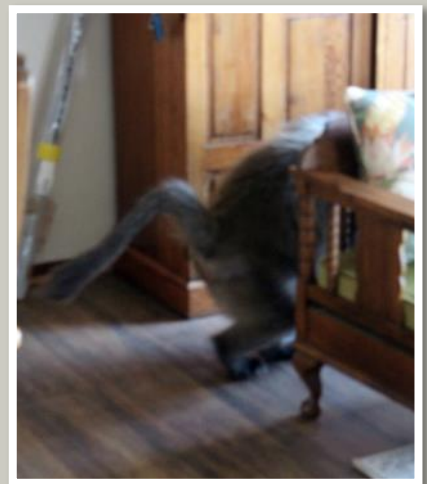
## Kees Kordaat



*“Are you talking to me?”*



*“Don’t rush me, the bag is torn.”*



*“By the way, what does voertsek mean? I hear it all the time.”*

# Rooiels Conservancy (REC) Report

by John Charalambous, chairman

## Beach Clean-up

Despite the horrible weather, the International Beach Clean-up this year was well attended by 10 locals and supported by Elzaan Olivier from MAPU and the Cape Nature team of Ziyaad Erasmus from Stoney Point.

There was an abundance of sweet wrappers, bottle tops and lollipop sticks, but the amount of tiny plastic pieces seems to be on the rise. These micro pieces become so ingrained in organic matter that it has become more efficient to simply scoop up the sand and entangled seaweed along with it.

Although we got rained out after about an hour the team managed to clean up the small beach to the left of the slipway and up to the river the other way.

The amount of rubbish that the tide delivers to the beach island between sea and estuary is truly shocking.

## Please help pick up plastic

It has been suggested that bags for picking up plastic should be made available where people go walking on the beach, so that everyone can help. To this end a dispenser needs to be designed, made and erected near beach bin points. In the meantime, plastic bags can be fetched from the village shop – thanks to Jill Lockley for delivering them.

After the clean-up we all retreated back to the house of Piet Uys for delicious boerie rolls and refreshments.

Big thank you to the Boat Club, Piet Uys, Wolfgang Steinbach and Willie Boltman for their generous hospitality.

## Fountain grass could become big problem

Fountain grass is an invasive alien and spreads rapidly. It should be destroyed completely. Unless Rooiels takes this type of action fountain grass will spread throughout the Village like it has in Gordon's Bay where it is now impossible to eradicate.

## Dune rehabilitation

Dune rehabilitation began in earnest at the beginning of the year and has been ongoing with bakkie loads of twiggy branch offcuts being dragged to fill holes. Dried seaweed layers captured and fostered new growth.

– John Charalambous



*John Charalambous*



*The cleaners, the canines and the loads of rubbish collected on International Beach Clean-up Day.*



*Fountain grass*



# The Cape leopard

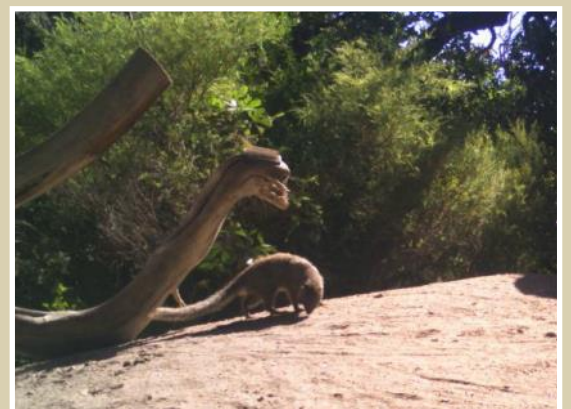
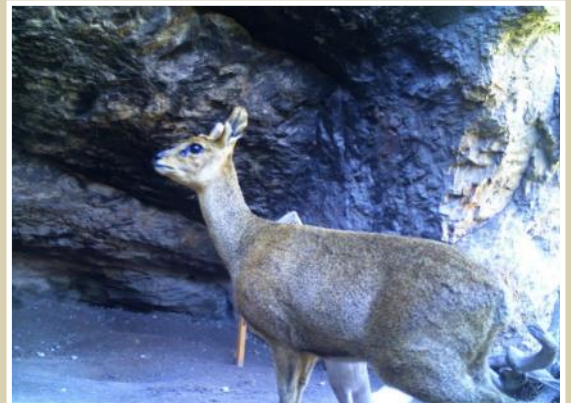
## Interesting facts

1. The Cape mountain leopards are notoriously elusive and difficult to see.
2. Cape leopards are approximately half the mass of the leopards in the rest of Africa. A male weighs around 35kg and a females weigh around 20kg.
3. The home range is 200 — 1 000 km compared to 25 to 50km<sup>2</sup> of the Kruger Park leopards.
4. They have porcupines, dassies, klipspringers and opportunistic kills on the menu.
5. Females give birth to two to three cubs in a litter, raising their young single-handedly. Conditions are harsh in the Cape mountains and there is a high mortality rate in the first six months of a cub's life.
6. Leopards in Africa are classified as 'vulnerable' on the Red List of Threatened species of the International Union for Conservation of Nature. The Cape leopards are more threatened because of urbanisation and limited suitable habitat.
7. Apart from being beautiful creatures that epitomise the wilderness, they are also the top predator in the Cape. By doing what is necessary to protect them, we can simultaneously protect all the other animals that inhabit their ecosystem. In this respect, apex predators such as the leopard play a vital role in ensuring functioning ecosystems.

Source: The Cape Leopard Trust

*The photographs are, from the top: the honey badger (our first ever), two porcupines (they have been quite frequent visitors), klipspringers (sometimes a pair), baboons*

*(frequently sheltering from the rain), grey mongoose, genet and dassies.*



## What the cameras saw

"There have always been leopards in our area," says Jill Lockley. "Eight years ago, Wolfgang Steinbach and I started The Leopard Project to monitor them and Duncan Hiles joined us later."

The initial reason for the camera in the first cave was to capture pictures of the leopard seen in the area, but since then there have been seven other animals photographed.

A camera was put up in the cave above Rooiels River, but after a leopard was sighted near the cave above the coastal tweespoor, a camera was put there as well. Chris Geldenhuys of Pringle Bay added another camera, which he monitors.

We monitor both caves for the movement of animals as the leopards tend to frequent both caves, as do the baboons.

Over the years four individual leopards have been identified that had passed through the river cave and two more leopards need to be identified.

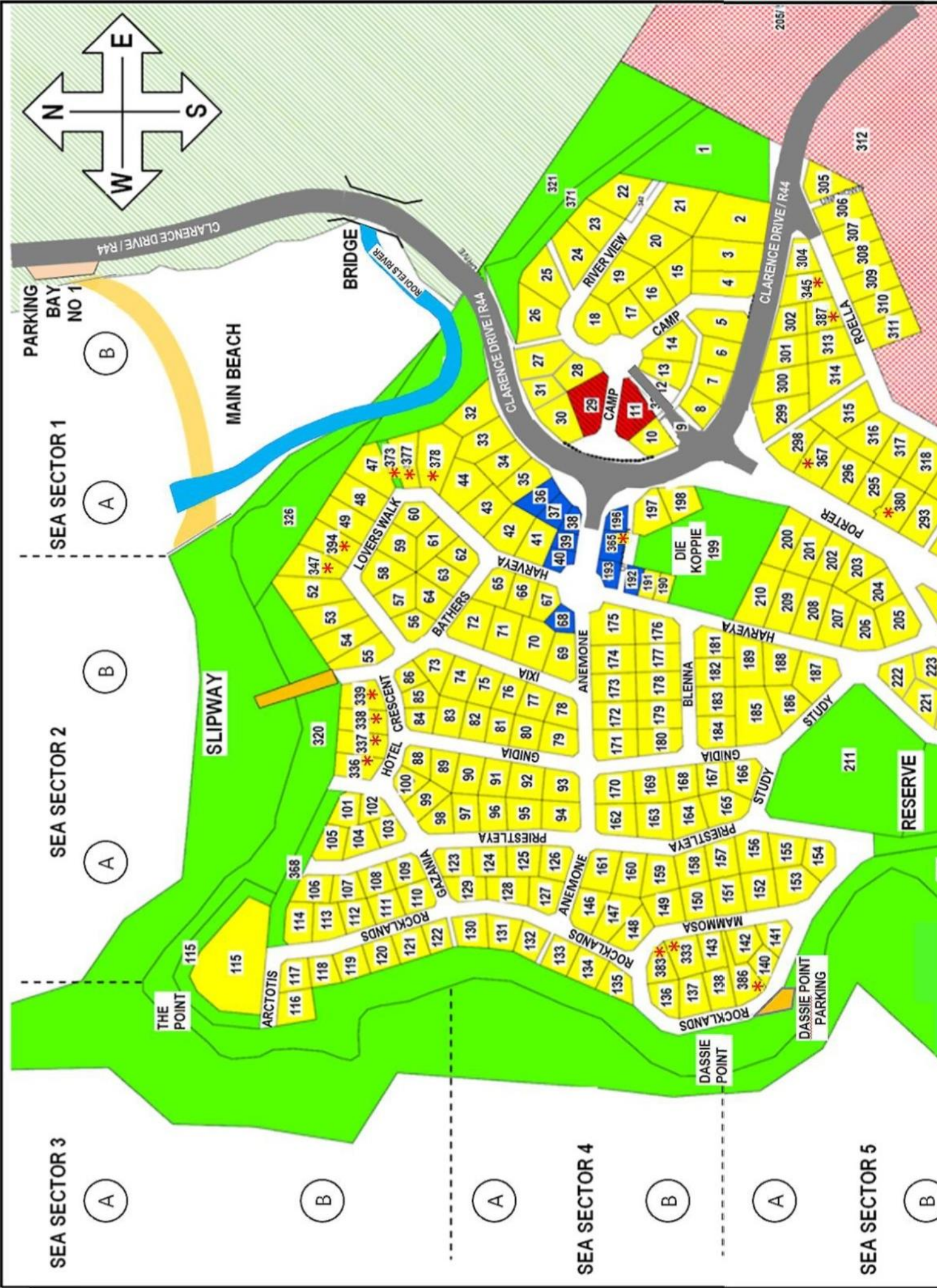
We spray perfume on the branches to make the animals linger and allow the motion camera to capture some pictures. Seeing other visitors to the cave is a bonus. A honey badger was a delightful surprise.

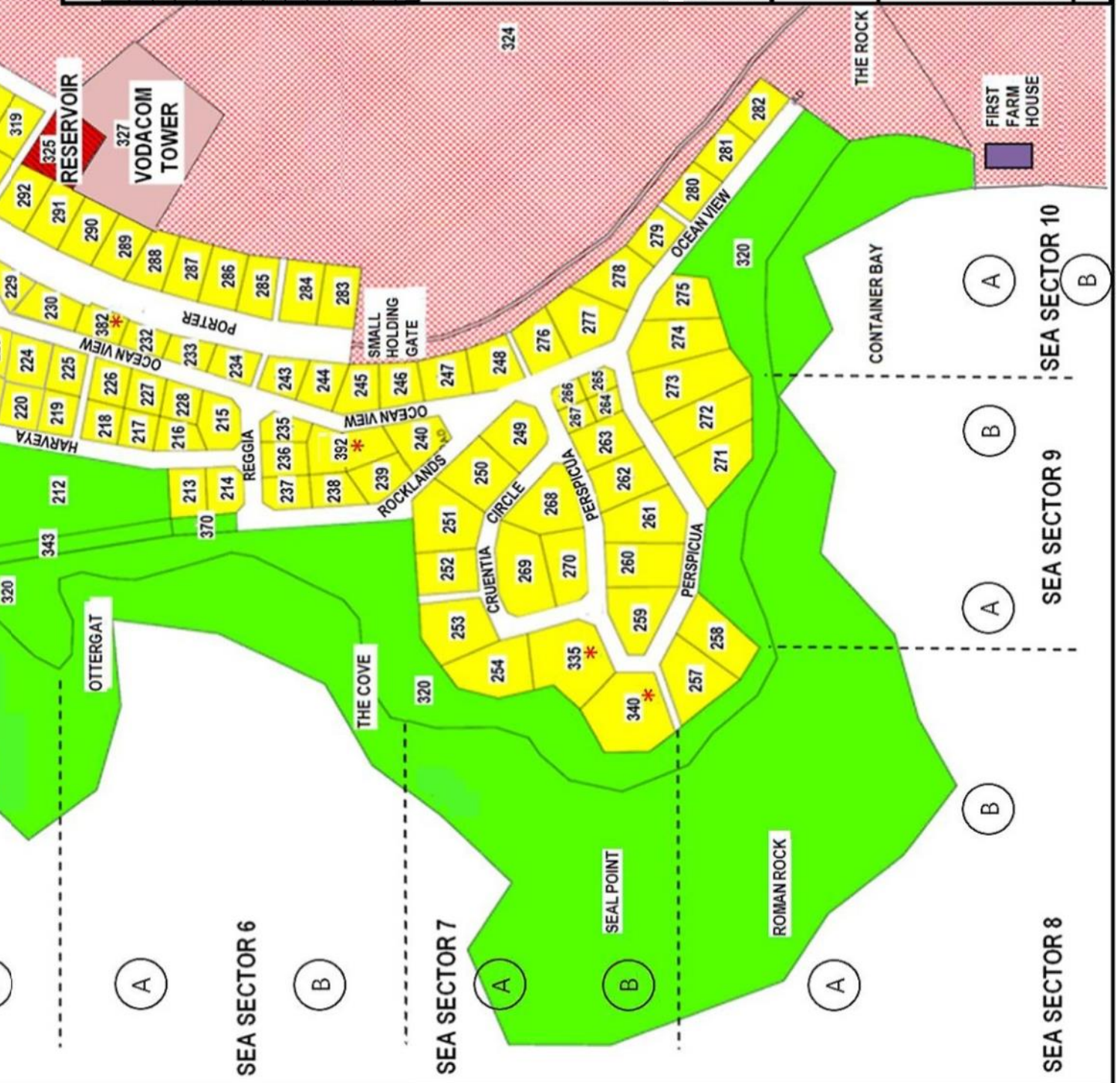
– *Jill Lockley*



*Jill Lockley*  
*Leopard monitor*







\* = Erf No. Changed

ERF No			ERF No		
NEW	OLD	ROAD	NEW	OLD	ROAD
333	144	MAMMOSA	372	45	LOVERS
335	255	PERSPICUA	374	46	LOVERS
336	87	HOTEL	377	46	LOVERS
337	87	HOTEL	378	45	LOVERS
338	87	HOTEL	380	294	PORTER
339	87	HOTEL	382	231	PORTER
340	256	PERSPICUA	383	145	MAMMOSA
345	312	ROELLA	386	139	ROCKLANDS
347	51	LOVERS	387	303	ROELLA
365	194	ANENOME	392	241	OCEANVIEW
365	195	ANENOME	392	242	OCEANVIEW
367	297	PORTER	394	50	LOVERS

**KEY CONTACT NUMBERS**

ASK RESP. ROOI ELS - 079 891 1624  
 ASK RESP. P'BAY - 072 345 3041  
 POLICE (KLEINMOND) - 028 271 8200  
 ALL EMERGENCIES - 028 313 8111  
 NETCARE - 082 911  
 ER24 PRINGLE BAY - 060 490 0874  
 NSRI - 021 449 3500

**ASK ROOI ELS NIGHT PATROL**

**079 891 1624**

**ROOI ELS PATROL**

**REFERENCE MAP**

Map 14 : G. McClelland : Nov. 2019

## Klipspringer

(oreotragus oreotragus)

The klipspringer gets its name from the Afrikaans for “rock jumper”, which describes the small antelope’s ability to jump from rock to rock, seemingly on tiptoe. It has rounded hooves, with long, narrow soles and blunt rounded tips.

## ’n Borselkop op haaipolfaais

’n Klipspringer is ’n anderster bok. Hy lyk soos ’n bok, vreet soos ’n bok, maar dans op sy tone soos ’n ballerina.

Dit is die enigste boksoort wat dit doen.

Sy hoewe is aangepas vir sy klipperige omgewing en is lank en plat van onder, met ronde punte, sodat hy ligvoets van rots tot rots kan spring as hy in gevaar verkeer.

Baie stappers het al die klein troppie klipspringers gesien wat teen Klein-Hangklip uit laat spaander. Dan gaan staan hulle êrens op ’n rots, kyk om na die mensgoed en skree nasale klanke vir mekaar – klink soos die celeb-sanger Karlien met ’n kopverkoue.

Deesdae kom die klipspringers al laer af van die berg en wei in die padreserwes en die reservaat soos van ouds.

Dit is dalk omdat die weiding aan beide kante van die berg nog nie heeltemal herstel het na die brande van 2017 en 2019 nie.

Klipspringers is nie grasvreters nie, maar peusel hier aan ’n blaartjie, proe daar aan ’n bessie. Hulle hou daarvan om die jong uitloopsels van plante te eet.

Behalwe die vreemde hoefies, het klipspringers ook ’n stekelrige pels. Pleks dat die hare plat lê, staan dit regop soos die kapsel van Mike Bolhuis.

Elke haarskag is hol, wat hom moontlik help met hitte-regulering.



Oockert van der Walt

Klipspringers in ons omgewing moet ligloop vir luiperds, rooikatte, witkruisarende, mense, bobbejane en honde.

’n Ander gevaar is veldbrande.

En tog – vir ’n bokkie wat maar 60 cm hoog staan in sy haaipolfaais, het die klipspringer ’n wonderbaarlike manier om te oorleef.





*Die swarttobie word nie meer as “bedreig” beskou nie. Dit is gered deur die wet wat voertuie op die strand verbied, asook ’n nuwe voedselbron, die Mediterreense mossel.*



*Duncan Hiles*

## Following the oystercatcher (*Haematopus moquini*)

Duncan Hiles in 2018 recorded the breeding efforts of our local population of oystercatchers, not as a formal study, but just for fun and interest.

The African oystercatcher is endemic to the coast and offshore islands of southern Africa. Its breeding season is from November to February and its “nest” is simply a shallow scrape in the sand or a few small stones placed round a hollow in a rocky shore, generally just above the spring high tide range.

This makes the eggs and chicks vulnerable to a wide range of predators: kelp gulls, white-necked ravens, genets and baboons.

Add to this dogs and domestic cats and 4X4s being driven on beaches and it comes as no surprise the species was rated as “endangered” in 1998.

Duncan approached the oystercatchers slowly. If they had a nest nearby, their behaviour was distinctive: they would give loud alarm calls, walk with one wing extended as if injured and generally try to look more vulnerable and palatable than their eggs.

He also looked for oystercatcher footprints in the sand.

Four nests were found, but out of a total of 7 eggs, there were no successful hatchings recorded.

### Pitter-patter of little feet

In late summer Helen Jones at last observed a single juvenile, but by that time Duncan had stopped monitoring them.





*Klonksgewys van links bo: Heather Hartwich, Diarmuid Baigrie en Andries Brink bring almal hulle kant.*

**Sluit aan by die toegewyde kapgroep.**



*The Hackers: Paul Hartwig (getting to grips with a Port Jackson), John Charalambous, Donald Gibbon, Linda and Mark Butler (back), Margie Ellis, Alison Scott, Anuta Scholtz, Andries Brink, Dave de Klerk, Gavin Lundie, Geoff Harris, Gilbert Nampanda, Riel Buys (back), Heather Hartwig, Jill and Dick Lockley, Koos Smit and Fraser Shaw.*



*John Charalambous*

# The Rooiels Hack Group

## Message by Dick Lockley, convener

The Rooiels Hack Group have had a successful and productive 2019, meeting monthly and taking out alien vegetation. Areas that we tackled include the burnt-out smallholding at the top of our pass, which is infested with Port Jackson. This remains a “work in progress”. We also took out isolated rooikrans and manatoka in the village and outcrops of aliens in vacant erven.

### Teamwork

Without the help and assistance from many people in Rooiels the job of convener would be very onerous and unpleasant.

I would like to acknowledge the following people for their help:

- Gail Voigt has sourced ladies in the village to host the monthly Hack tea. We all look forward to the social gathering at the end of the hack and we have always been well looked after by the many hostesses;
- Ernst Thompson donated a drum of poison and the new poison gel called Kaput, which we have used successfully;
- Mark Butler provided the hack store on his property;

- Riel Buys sorted out the hack store – the tools are now neatly displayed, easy to count and to maintain;
- Elisabeth Moss provided the shelving for the upgrade to the hack store;
- Gavin Lundie helped with the mixing of the poison, dye and water in the correct proportions needed for the hack;
- John Charalambous sent out the Hack notices and reports;
- And finally, to all the hackers who have enthusiastically made Rooiels a better place

***“You can help by  
spending 10  
minutes a week  
weeding out  
rooikrans seedlings  
before they become  
a major problem.”***

by eliminating alien growth around the village.  
We will continue to be vigilant and welcome reports or requests for the Hack group to tackle tasks around the Village.

*– Dick Lockley*



*Dick Lockley*

“Our highest number at one hack was 19 and our lowest turn-out was 11; all exceeding the turnouts we achieved last year. I am encouraged that numbers are steadily increasing as more and more people see the value that the Hack Group brings to Rooiels.”

Some aliens to look out for in Rooiels: rooikrans, spider gums, Port Jackson, pine trees, black wattle, manatoka.

*Right: Alison Scott applies poison to the stumps.*





### *Erica brachialis*

Groenheide groei nooit ver van die see nie. Hoewel die plant as bedreig beskou word, groei daar heelwat plante vanaf die Rooiels reservaat na die suidekant, tot by die ingang van die kleinhoewes.



### *Protea compacta*

Die Botrivier protea (suikerbos of suikerkan) kom al langs die kus voor vanaf Rooiels, Houwhoek, Hermanus tot by Struisbaai. Hulle groei in kolonies aan die voet van die berge op seevlak tot 100 m. Dit word as "byna bedreig" beskou.



### *Orothamnus zeyheri*

Die vleiroos kom net in die Kogelberg en Kleinrivierberge in ses verspreide kolonies voor en die plante loop nie weer uit na 'n brand nie. Die saad word deur miere na hul neste onder die grond gedra, waar dit vir jare kan lê. Dit ontkiem na 'n brand.



### *Mimetes stokoei*

"Mace pagoda" is in 1922 ontdek en daarna nooit weer gesien nie, tot in 1960. Daarna is dit as uitgewis verklaar, tot die herontdekking van enkele plante in die Kogelberg in 2001. Dit is nou krities bedreig.



### *Erica thomae*

Dit is skaars en kom volgens kenners net op enkele plekke in die Kogelberg voor. (Dit is ook in die Klein-Hangklipreeks by ons, as jy weet waar om te kyk).



Jenny Stark

### *Erica patersonii*

Mielieheide groei in vleiagtige grond. Weens ontwikkeling word dit as bedreig beskou; daar is net 4 bekende kolonies oor. Erica patersonii is onlangs ook by Rooiels opgemerk.

# Buffer Zones and the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve

Rooiels is situated in the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve. The KBR is a World Heritage site and part of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Programme set up to safeguard natural ecosystems and their services and to integrate them with sustainable development.

There are three zones within a biosphere reserve: the Core zone which is focused on conservation, the Buffer zone to protect the Core and an outer Transition zone where sustainable human activity is encouraged.

## Why the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve?

The Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve houses the richest biodiversity in the world – 1,880 different plant species, many of which are endemic;

Climate change and encroaching development pose a significant risk to this species diversity – and biodiversity is essential for our survival and future;

The KBR is a significant biodiversity hotspot with a wild undeveloped Core;

It is also a beautiful tourist attraction of untamed nature;

It provides important ecosystem services.

## What are buffer zones?

Buffer zones aim to minimise the negative effects of activities outside the Core so that they can protect biodiversity hotspots and ecosystem services.

They are designed to enhance the compatibility of resource use along the core.

Buffer zones are not only sites of active biodiversity conservation, but are also used for research into the effects of increasing utilisation and pressure on the protected ecosystems.

Although they do not normally include any residential footprint, they can, especially where this inclusion is able to provide an additional layer of protection to the Core and a better understanding of adaptability.

– Kay Leresche

Rooiels het aansoek ingedien om by die KBR Bufferzone ingeskakel te word. Dit sal ons in staat stel om meer aktief betrokke te wees by die beskerming van die Kerngedeelte van die KBR en by te dra tot die beskerming van hierdie waardevolle nasionale erfenis.





**Erica regia** . Elim heath (Eng.); belletjieheide (Afr.) kom op verspreide kolle voor in die Elim fynbos. Die voortbestaan word bedreig deur padwerke, bloekom en rooikrans. Erica Regia is bedreig in sy natuurlike habitat en sy voortbestaan kan moontlik deur tuiniers verseker word.



Wie's jou pa? **Erica gengold** het ontstaan toe E. patersonii en E. nana naby mekaar geplant is in die Harold Porter. Een ding het gelei tot 'n ander en die nuwe plantjies was 'n hibriede van die twee. Die ouerpare kom in ons berge voor en ons is nou die voogde van die kjênders.



**Erica verticillata** was uitgeroei in die veld teen 1950. In 1984 word dit in 'n park in Pretoria ontdek en daarna ook in Kew Gardens en die tuine van die keiser in Oostenryk. Dit is te koop by Kirstenbosch en sommige kwekerye.

## Wat groei in die tuine?

**Leucospermum patersonii** (onder) kom in alkaliese grond teen die kus voor vanaf Kleimond tot Agulhas. Dit word as kwesbaar beskou, omdat die habitat vernietig is deur ontwikkeling en uitheemse plantegroei.



Die mal-mier *Anoplolepis custodiens* versamel die saad voordat die muis en voëls dit kan bykom en vat dit diep ondergronds, waar hulle die buitelagie vreet. Die saad is beskerm teen vuur, maar kry steeds die hitte wat nodig is vir ontkieming. Daar is een by die Drummondtuin en een in die middel van die sirkel. Die blomme is oranje en verander na pienk wanneer dit ouer word.



**Leucospermum reflexum** (perdekop (Afr.); red rocket (Eng.) kan hoog word en 'n heining of windversperring wees. Ons het 'n ry hiervan geplant om die lelike bokse by die ingang te versteek. (Dit gaan nog lank duur). Dit word as bedreig of byna-bedreig beskou. Die nektarvretende voëls is gaande hieroor.



**Mimetes splendidus** (pragstompie) word as skaars geklassifiseer. Dit word nou deur kwekers vermeerder en is soms verkrygbaar. Ons het een in Gossip Corner se tuin geplant om te toets. Dit groei steeds!



**Mimetes cucullatus**. Rooistompie (Afr.), red pagola (Eng.) groei wydversprei in die fynbosbiome en ook in ons streek. Dit groei van saad, soos die ander mimetes-soorte, maar kan ook hergroei na 'n brand; die enigste mimetes wat dit doen.



**Leucospermum veldfire** is 'n Leucospermum glabrum x conocarpodendron hibriede. Ons ken die conocarpodendron as kreupelhout en dit groei orals teen die berghange. "Veldfire" is die lieflike speldekussing wat al jare lank in die tuin voor die Drummond groei. Daar is meer hiervan by die dorpsingang geplant. Mag dit net soveel plesier verskaf.

# The Village gardens

This year it was decided to give our village gardens a facelift and it was my great pleasure to be involved in it.

We were inundated by people wanting to make contributions financially or to give some plants from their gardens.

What an amazing community. We asked for rocks and Malcolm Hunter donated rocks, bringing them to the garden in his bakkie.

We asked for agapanthus and Chris Malan arrived with a load of agapanthus.

Graham McClelland did the drip system for all the gardens and he and Gilbert Nampanda rebuilt all the retaining walls.

Lee-Ann Becker planted the Gossip Corner garden and I did the rest, always with the willing Gilbert.

When we moved onto the entrance gardens, I got three guys to help me. I wanted to do the job in one week.

They cleared the area and packed the rocks. Then we started digging and planting. The soil was hard and uncooperative.

During those five days, we had all the different types of weather that one experiences in Rooiels. We started off on a freezing cold day, with the wind blowing the sand in our faces. We kept on working.

Then it rained – and we kept on working.

On the fourth and fifth day it was very hot, but cooldrinks and food were donated by the businesses and Rooielsers to keep us going.

How these guys worked. Sometimes I thought I could really do with a break, but they were putting me to shame, so I kept on digging and planting.

Friday afternoon at 17:20 we downed tools and put on the sprinkler. Mission accomplished. *Finis en klaar.*

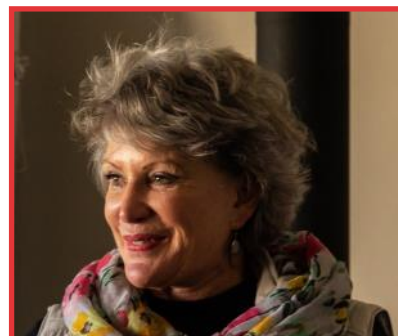
The plants were purchased from the nursery that supplies to Kirstenbosch and the cost was covered by the community.

Thank you, Rooiels. Thank you for the contributions, the food, the cooldrinks, the help and above all, the support.

– Dine van Zyl



*From the top: Aloe succotrina in the entrance garden is one of the few aloes found in the fynbos; Drummond garden; circle garden.*



*Dine van Zyl*





Helen Jones

## Rockjumpers

Birders come from all over the world to see rockjumpers in Rooiels. Recently there has been an alarming increase of people trespassing to get closer to these birds

and even setting up speakers to call them up. This has raised concern amongst Rooiels locals, birders, guides, scientists and conservationists.

“Our” rockjumpers are unique in being the only known sea-level population of an otherwise strictly alpine species. They inhabit an equally unique remnant patch of alpine fynbos, which is a hold-over from when sea levels were substantially lower during the last Ice Age.

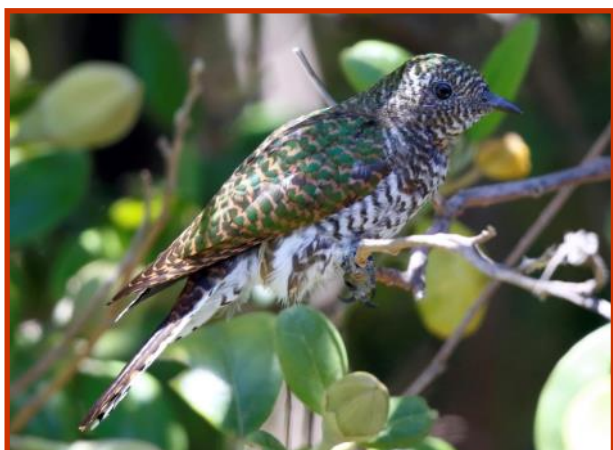
The Cape Bird Club, Birding Africa and Rooiels Conservation (REC) are currently spearheading action to safeguard the site and its rockjumpers, working with landowners etc. Check out the new signage.



Please respect the highest ethical standards of behaviour and please, if necessary, interact with and try to educate all who do not adhere to the signage. From a birding standpoint, Rooiels is the best site for local and international birders to see and appreciate this species and other endemics.

– Helen Jones

Source: Vince Ward of the Cape Bird Club for Promerops July 2019.



## A bird with a history

**Klaas's cuckoo:** Klaas's cuckoo male (top) and female (bottom). The female lays her eggs in a host's nest – in Rooiels usually in the nest of a Cape robin, batis, apalis or sunbird. The explorer and ornithologist, Francois le Vaillant, named the cuckoo after his worthy Khoikhoi servant, Klaas (right). Klaas used to collect birds for him and was his guide.

**Meitjie:** Bo is die mannetjie, onder die wyfie. Die naam “meitjie” is 'n onomatopoeie van hul roepgeluid, “mei-tjie, mei-tjie”.



## Bird Chat: about climate change

Climate change occurs when changes in Earth's climate system result in new weather patterns that last for at least a few decades, and maybe for millions of years. There is no doubt that life in general has and is affected by this, but how does it affect birds?

Increases in climate variability and climatic extremes are impacting both water quality and availability through changes in rainfall patterns, with more intense storms, floods and droughts; changes in soil moisture and runoff; and the effects of increasing evaporation and changing temperatures on aquatic systems.

Climate variations in Africa have been a fact of life throughout history and geological time and have been a powerful instrument in the shaping of its bio-diversity.

Birds are excellent indicators of climate change as they are very sensitive to climate and weather. They are also very important indicators, because large amounts of information on their behaviour and migration patterns have been collected over at least a hundred years.

Unlike birds from temperate climes, such as those in Europe, many bird species in Africa breed in response not to rising temperature, but to rainfall and most climate models foresee reduced and less predictable rainfall over most of Southern

Africa.

But let's get more parochial: in Rooiels variations in seasons have Southeasters into May and wintry blasts into November, but these are still cyclic variations.

Breeding migrants do so to coincide with their food variant needs, such as excesses of fish or insects, to raise their offspring.

Seabirds are especially vulnerable – Cape gannets, once a common sight in False Bay in the cooler winter months are not so now. This is partly because of changes in the cold Benguela Current off the West Coast that used to bring huge fish stocks to the area.

Non-breeding long haul fliers, Arctic terns and non-breeding summer visitors here are affected by changes in the Arctic itself.

There is strong evidence of irruptions also being the result of climatic variations, one being an unwelcome influx of pied crows to the Western Cape – and a pair in Rooiels itself in September.

As far as the effect of climate change on birds is concerned, there are no certainties but the strongest possible evidence suggests in the words of Bob Dylan that "The times they are a-changin'".

Happy birding

– *Alison Ayre*



*Alison Ayre*

In 2005 Phoebe Barnard and Rob Simmons quoted in an article that the most vulnerable biomes in Southern Africa were the Succulent Karoo and Fynbos. Therein they speculated that birds at the highest risk were Cape rockjumper, Victorin's warbler, protea seedeater, orange-breasted sunbird and Cape siskin – regulars on the tweespoor from Rooiels to Pringle Bay.



*Orange-breasted sunbird, still wet after a bath.*



“Daar is baie  
natuurkennis  
opgedoen en dan  
eers besef mens  
hoeveel diere-,  
plante- en  
voëllewe daar  
verskuil lê op  
hierdie mooie  
berg wat waak  
oor Rooiels.”

*Veer Daya (11),  
Nishka Daya (11)  
en Linda Butler.*



Wolfgang Steinbach



# Wolfgang klim berg 150 keer

Wolfgang Steinbach het homself voorgeneem om Klein-Hangklip 150 keer te klim – en het sy doelwit binne 161 dae bereik!

“Wat ’n mooi dag was dit nie!” sê Wolfgang.

Hy het van die eerste stap af op 18 Oktober 2018 noukeurig boekgehou wie saam geklim het, hoe die weer was, aan wie die betrokke stap opgedra is, watter roete gevolg is en watter diere, voëls, plante en ander natuurverskynsels gewaar is.

Wolfgang het ’n plastiekbottel onder ’n rots naby die baken op die berg weggesteek. Hierin is met elke klim ’n gekleurde albaster ingesit, afhangende van die weersomstandighede.

Daar was goud vir mooi windstil dae (46); blou vir winderige dae (57); rooi vir stormsterk wind (26); groen vir reën of mistige dae (21).

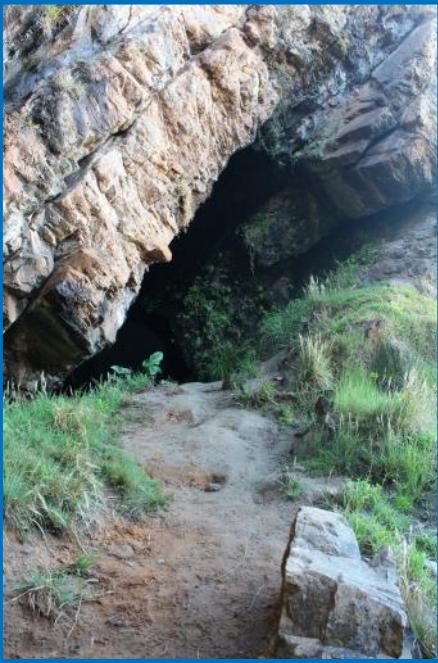
“Die verandering van die natuur binne 23 weke het elke stap die moeite gemaak,” sê Wolfgang, “maar ek het ook die mooiste herinneringe van die glimlagte van oud en jonk wat ’n nuwe roete teen die berg op- of afgeklouter het.

“Dankie aan elkeen wat saamgestap of net die foto’s geniet het – dit was ’n besondere belewenis!”

*– Wolfgang Steinbach*



*Wolfgang helps  
Joselyn Mormile  
reach dizzy  
heights.*



*The first cave.*



*Entrance to the big cave.*



*A cave with a view.*

*'n Stapgroep van Rooiels en omgewing het in Maart Dappat se gat besoek.*

## Dappat se Gat

### Wie was Dappat?

'n Bietjie navorsing in die slaweregister van 1817 wys die slaaf Dappat van Boegies (of Bougies) was 'n slagter in diens van Godfried Alt.

Daarna lees ons van ene Dappat van Bougies wat in 1826 weggeloop het van 'n boer van Palmietrivier. Durf ons glo dat dit “ons” Dappat was?

Daar is vars water by Dappat se gat. Daar is seekos. Daar is wild. Daar het beeste gewy aan die ander kant van die Palmiet. Daar was dus genoeg kos en water.

Op Vrydag 2 Desember 1831 word in De Zuid-Afrikaan kennis gegee van 'n verkoping wat op die plaas Grootte Zoutpan, langs die Dieprivier gehou word. Behalwe huismeubels, spieëls, bougereedskap, “opregte melkgevende koeyen”, trek-osse en dies meer, word die “Namen en kwaliteiten” van 'n klomp slawe en slavinne genoem.

Daar is 'n koetsier, bakker, skoenmaker, verskeie werkjongens en drie slagters.

Een van hulle is Dappat van Boegies.

Dit was ook die einde van die slawetydperk en daarna is alle slawe genadiglik vrygestel.

Die laaste storie oor “ons” Dappat is nog nie geskryf nie en die navorsing duur voort.

Should you wish to visit Dappat's Caves at Kogel Bay, check the tides or you might be caught in the big cave at high tide.

1826: ABSCONDED  
from Palmiet Rivier, a  
Male Slave named  
"Dappat," of Bougies,  
belonging to the  
Undersigned; whoever  
lodges him in prison  
will greatly oblige.  
G.C. GREFFRATH, Sen.  
The Cape of Good Hope  
Government Gazette





Roy Terlien



# Rooiels Secret Nightlife

Diving partners Roy Terlien and Piet van Rensburg went on a night dive round our coast. This is what they saw.

When Roy Terlien moved to Rooiels, he had done a bit of diving before. He was keen to see what Rooiels looked like underwater and was fortunate enough to meet somebody who was an experienced diver and who knew all the sites around our coast.

Roy never knew it would be so good. Since then he has been to other diving sites which are considered “best in the world”, but he always thought, it is not better than home.

The colours of the sea fan, feather stars, anemones, sea sponges, sea slug and soft coral are simply magnificent, says Roy.



## Getting to know you



### Hier is 'n mooi storie

Flip en Irene de Klerk was jare lank vriende en met Albie en Ria Stals. Hulle het naweke kom kuier en die kinders het saam grootgeword.

Toe Flip en Irene op vervroegde pensioen gaan waar hulle vir Agrimark op Wellington gewerk het, het Wimpie vir Flip 'n aanbod gemaak.

En so het dit gebeur dat Flip die Rooiels winkel bestuur, 'n "ou Rooielser" wat aan baie van ons bekend is.

Flip en Irene woon in 'n woonstel by Wimpie en Monique. "Ons trap nie mekaar se drumpels uit nie," sê Flip.

En Regardt het 'n oupa en oma bygekry.

## Kees Kordaat



*"Flip! Het die brood al ingekom?"*



### 90 Years old

*Bruce Relly turned 90 this year. Congratulations Bruce, on achieving this wonderful milestone.*



### Bruisend

*Hester Schmidt geniet al die buie van die omgewing en het hierdie foto tydens springgety geneem.*

# Die Louws van Erf 181

Anton en Elsie Louw is beide oorspronklik van Gauteng.

Anton het vroeër vir British American Tobacco gewerk. "Ons kon vele plekke in die wêreld besoek, maar het Rooiels leer ken toe Elsie se ouers, Hans en Hester Schmidt (224 Ocean View) hier kom bly het in 2017.

"Ons het gou besef dat hierdie pragtige, ongeskonde omgewing die perfekte geleentheid is om nader aan die natuur te leef."

Anton werk hoofsaaklik van die huis af as geoktrooieerde rekenmeester en Elsie het haar werk as bestuurder in Menslike Hulpbronne jare gelede laat vaar om vir Nadia groot te maak. Hulle het besluit om (met hul katte Oskar en Nemo) na Rooiels te trek.

Nadia speel graag in die modderpoele in die straat na die reën, of hardloop agter die seemeë aan op die strand. Dit is ook lekker om net drie minute se stap van Oupa en Ouma te bly.

Anton en Elsie waardeer die vriendelike en gulhartige manier waarop die Rooiels-gemeenskap hulle laat welkom voel.

"Ons sien uit daarna om nog baie gelukkige jare in hierdie spesiale deel van die paradys te geniet."

## In Memoriam

Malene Visser (1928 – 2019)

Malene Visser sal deur baie Rooielsers onthou word vir haar liefde vir die bobbejane – en



spesifiek vir Charles, die karaktervolle tropleier. Malene het navorsing oor hul families gedoen en was altyd doenig daarmee. Ons meegevoel aan die groot familie wat die liefde vir Rooiels steeds uitleef.



Anton, Elsie en Nadia Louw van Harveyastraat.

## Numba 1 Ladies Social Club

The Numba 1 Ladies Social Club is for all permanent ladies of Rooiels. The aim of the club is to get to know each other and to chat.

We meet quarterly at somebody's house and we chat.

We have no agendas or issues. We have no chairperson. We drink tea or coffee, have something delicious to eat and – did I mention chat?

For a good laugh and a brilliant feel-good morning, come to our next meeting if you are a permanent resident or swallow.

Contact Whatsapp Group Administrators Ina Coetzee 083 484 9617, Jenny Dewey 084 769 3885 or Dine van Zyl 072 183 0815 to be put on our Whatsapp Group.

Guys, you don't want to come. Too many ladies chatting.

## Kesie Kordaat

"Hallo, wie's jy?"

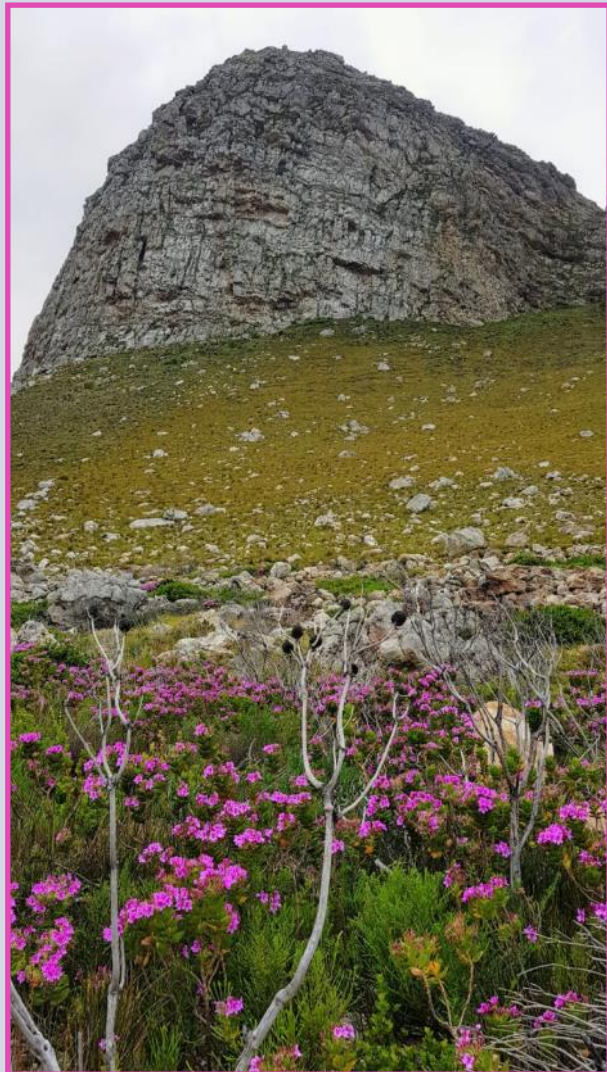


Karin Steinbach

## Dinge wat mooi is



*Dave Swanson went fishing one morning and captured this view of our village from the sea.*



*Regs: "Die kleinkinders kom kuier." Dolf Diederiks se fisant met haar kleintjies op die stoeptrap.*



*Left: Layna Swanson photographed *Pelargonium cucullatum* (wildemalva) flowering profusely after the fynbos fire two years ago.*

*Bottom: Dick Lockley caught the moon bouncing off the mountain.*





## Die passie vir Rooiels

Ons mag ons verskille hê, maar ons het almal een ding in gemeen: ons passie vir Rooiels. Hier is soveel talent op ons dorp en die redaksie is oorval met pragtige foto's en skryfsels wat getuig van die passie.



*Bo: Klein-Hangklip staan glimmend tydens die Goue Uur.  
Foto: Izak Smit.*

*Bo: Izak Smit sê 'n vissie oor die kole dra by tot die genot van 'n aand soos mens net op Rooiels kan kry.*

*Right: Geoff Harris and Ivan Becker on "sea patrol" on the kayak. Selfie by Ivan.*



*Links: Klipspringers kom elke week by die Steinbachs kuier en Karin neem hulle dikwels af.*





*Ruth Mattison*

## Poems

by Ruth Mattison

### The Spirit's Home

Here where the mountain meets the sea  
a silence  
cocooned by wind and surf  
fills my soul  
and time stands still.  
I am poised between past and future  
in the eternal present  
where the eagle soars and  
spirals upwards  
to the spirit's home.

### A New Day

The sea lies flat but restless.  
Dawn emerges from the night  
the moon fades from the sky  
A different light begins to fill the space  
as the sun peeps from behind the mountain  
touches the sea spray and turns it into rainbows  
dancing on the rocks  
A seagull swoops with joy  
The wind sighs its pleasure  
A new day is born  
and kisses me awake

## **OUR VISION**

**Rooiels is a conservation community  
caring together today –  
for tomorrow.**

## **OUR VALUES**

**We strive to be a caring community,  
united by our passion to conserve the natural splendour of Rooiels  
and keen to share our appreciation of the environment with others.**

## **OUR PLEDGE**

**United by our passion to conserve the natural splendour of Rooiels,  
we pledge that here nature will be nurtured;  
flora, fauna and marine life protected;  
our every impact on the area limited;  
our custodianship of the environment respected;  
And our community spirit strengthened,  
so that our lives and those of generations to come  
will be enriched by our care.**