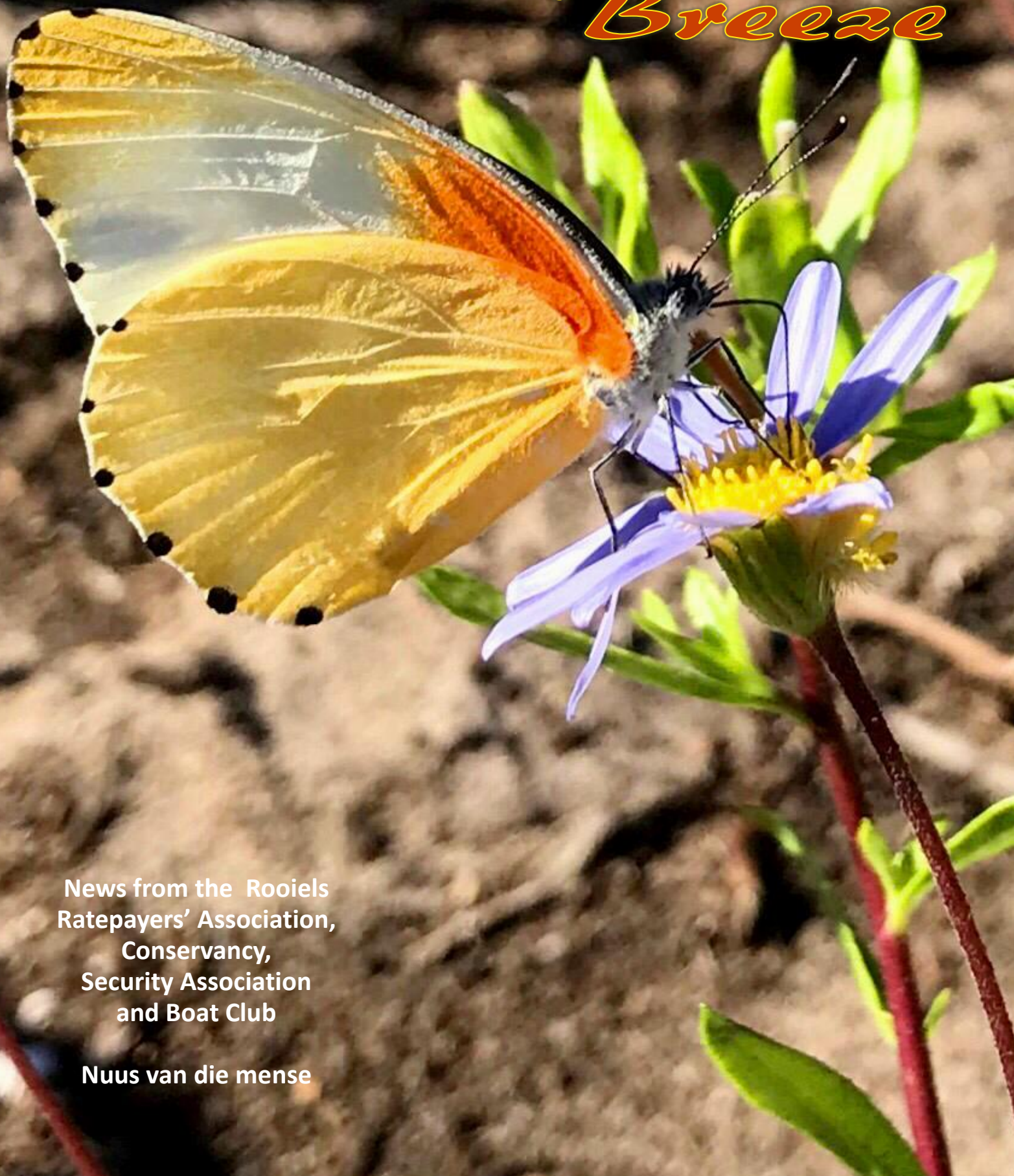


DESEMBER/DECEMBER 2020

# Rooiels Bries

## *Breeze*



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

Nuus van die mense





*Front page photograph by Gordon McIntyre.*

*Read more on our mylothris agathina (common dotted border butterfly) on page 11.*

*Die mylothris agathina (voëlentwitjie) darter deur die fynbos tydens die warmer maande. Lees meer op bls. 11.*

## Redaksioneel

Redakteur: Dine van Zyl

Engels teksversorging: Gordon McIntyre

Samestelling en uitleg: Dine van Zyl

Produksie: Graham McClelland

Fotografie: Rooiels gemeenskap

Proeflees: Linda Hiles, Veronica Jacobs,  
Allison Vienings.

RERA	4
Rooiels Community Outreach	7
Reflections on Covid-19	8
The free Masketeers	9
Ward Councillor	10
Photographic competition	11
The Rooiels Eco-Corridor	12
The RESA report	16
Rooiels Patrol & Block Watch	18
REDI	20
Rooiels Conservancy	22
Rooiels map	24
Beach clean-ups	26
Record Hack attack	28
Rooiels Nature Reserve	30
Die betowering van plante	32
Rooiels Boat Club	34
Crayfish Derby	36
Chats (and other bird tails)	38
Die robbekolonie by Robbe-rots	40
Die mangaanmyn	41
Paddling with a pod	42
The Cape Leopard Project	44
Getting to know you	46
In memoriam	47
The Rooiels Vision	48





## Rooiels: Dis ons plek dié

Rooiels is die eerste dorp wat mens kry as jy kus-om ry vanaf Gordonsbaai. Die pad is 23 km lank en dit duur 27 minute om die panoramiese roete om die koppe af te lê.

As mens oplettend is, mag jy dalk beloon word deur bakkies, bobbejane, muishonde en selfs 'n rooikat of luiperd te sien. Snags loop die ystervarke en op warm dae moet jy oplet vir slange of skilpaaie.

Hier waai die wind dikwels en ons hare lyk windverwaaid. Ons gee nie om nie. Ons is gewoond aan die wind wat vars en skoon oor die see aankom sonder enige besoedeling.

Rooiels het nie straatligte nie, want dit sal in die diere se oë skyn wat snags in die dorp rondsluip. Buitendien wil ons na die sterre kyk.

Ons dorp lê tussen Klein-Hangklip en die see en elke eiendom het 'n uitsig op die berg of die see, of oor albei. Hier is nie teerstrate nie en die telefoonpale word binnekort verwyder.

Ons het 'n passie vir die dorp met sy fynbos, kleinwild, paddas, vlermuise, insekte en slange – om nie eens te praat van alles wat die see bied nie.

Ons sien verskeie soorte walvisse en dolfyne, ons sien hoe die pikkewyne jag en die robbe op die rif slaap. Soggens volg ons verwonderd die otterspore op die strand.

Rooiels lê langs die Kogelberg Biosfeerreservaat en ons wil die dorp natuurlik en omgewingsvriendelik hou. Ons is die poort na die Overstrand en ons is trots daarop.

– *Dine van Zyl*





Hilgard Müller  
Chairman

*“Ons sal meer selfstandig moet wees en ons Biosfeerreservaat beter moet beskerm. Ons moet volhoubare ontwikkeling ondersteun en biodiversiteit bevorder en beskerm.”*

## 2020: Sjoe, what a year!

### Message from the RERA chairman

A new reality! A new norm! Our health and livelihoods were compromised, but Rooiels humans and nature weathered the storm, so to speak. Or are we just human beings and nature adapting to an ever-changing environment? We don't know what the future holds, but I am sure many of the challenges experienced by Rooiels in the past will repeat themselves in the future. To confirm this, you only have to read the last 20 editions of The Breeze.

We will have another devastating fire, another pandemic, another drought. We will have to become more self-reliant, better-protect our Biosphere Reserve, support sustainable development and advance and protect biodiversity. We will have to protect our marine resources and we will be required to better share our landscape with others.

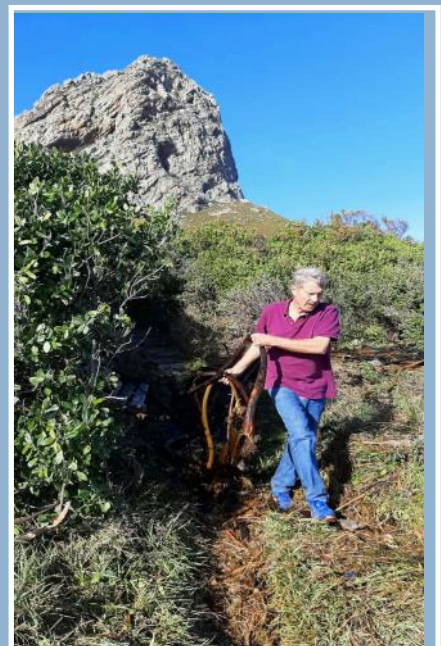
### During this “Year of Lockdown,” we have achieved a lot:

- Our community outreach programme, including donations, masks, Rooiels library and much more, are activities and outcomes to be proud of.
- Our long awaited environmental and heritage overlays were approved by the Overstrand Municipality and our Environmental workgroup started its work.
- Projects such as our community gardens and dune stabilisation efforts, beach and estuary clean-ups and Mandela day were well attended and supported.
- Our hack-group, wildlife (baboon) management group and steps for the continuous preservation of our reserve are equally well supported and well managed by REC.
- The support and overall security through RESA, together with the support of the Rooiels Boat Club, made this year a very worthwhile experience, even if difficult at times.

### **RERA COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Linda Hiles delivered some delicious eats prepared by the Ladies No 1 Social Club to the Kleinmond Clinic. Linda and Allison Vienings are responsible for “Projects and Workshops”.

RERA treasurer, Ivan Becker, removed kelp that had washed into the freshwater pool of the otters at Ottergat.





# The future isn't what it used to be

## Walking the talk

Liaison with Overstrand Municipality (Town planning, Budgets, Operational Services), Councillors, Ward Committees, Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve Company, CapeNature, Marine Action Group, Baboon Action Groups, the Community Police Forum and others, are sometimes tedious and tiring, but absolutely necessary to forward the viewpoints, frustrations, wants, contributions and expectations specific to Rooiels.

I use these platforms to form positive and mutually respectful relationships to benefit the greater community.

As a Ward committee member one often needs to support the greater good, even if this means your specific area has to take a backseat.

Therefore, I truly believe, advocate, live and insist on the following:

Meaningful participation requires that affected individuals participate in decisions that directly affect them, including in the design, implementation and monitoring of these interventions. This must include the development of alternatives and the identification of solutions.

## Our social contract

And to our community. What a privilege it is to be part of this community, warts and all. During the past 3 years attending a fair number of meetings in the Overstrand, one thing always stood out and that is the quality of

every individual in our community. We are a resilient, caring, exemplary community with integrity – traits that will continue to be needed in the future.

Izak Smit said the following during lockdown: "Shouldn't we all have to learn what it entails and takes to live in a small but ideally coherent community? If we do, we should know that it calls for insight and maturity of some sort and no less, for mutual respect".

To me, the above speaks to the Rooiels vision, as without sound relationships there is bound to be chaos.

The challenge, however, is how to find a balance between the common good and individual freedom, when most of our vision and Biosphere rules are voluntary.

This brings me back to our social contract as a community which must surely be inclusive, voluntary, supportive, cohesive and for the greater good which extends to the environment we live in.

How do we get this right? With open, real and respectful conversation, dialogue, information sharing, education and workshops.

*Betekenisvolle deelname vereis dat individue aan besluite moet deelneem wat hulle direk raak. Dit sluit in die ontwerp, implementering en monitering van hierdie ingrypings. Dit moet die ontwikkeling en identifisering van alternatiewe oplossings insluit.*



### **RERA COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

*Lee-Ann Becker (digital communication) organized a very successful Art Route in Rooiels during the holiday season.*

*Heather Hartwig (general communications), was a regular at the monthly hacks.*



## RERA COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Veronica Jacobs, vice-chairperson of RERA did her bit on International Beach Clean-up Day.



Allison Vienings shares the portfolio "Projects and Workshops" with Linda Hiles.

Right: Piet van Rensburg is part of the Overstrand Municipality Working Group. Far right: Margie Ellis (in white) does the archiving of old Rooiels Breezes on the Rooiels website.

Gavin Lundie (Chairman, Rooiels Conservancy), with friend Indy at the back, and Ian Milne (REC).

## How do we envisage the Rooiels of tomorrow?

Do we long for what *was* and are we preserving the Rooiels for ourselves as it "used to be," or should we be taking Rooiels to the future in order to function in a new South Africa? Do we keep Rooiels for the older folk, or should we ensure that new generations inherit a Rooiels that is sustainable, unique and relevant in the 21st century? Should they not be giving us direction and guidance as to what *they* want and see for the future? How can we involve this younger generation?

### Thank you

They say a manager is as good as his team. Well, then I must be excellent, because RERA has an excellent team. It is a pleasure to be part of such a dedicated group of energetic, enthusiastic, hardworking, principled and experienced people. To them, I say thank you. Your dedication is much appreciated.

And lastly, I want to thank my wife, Michele, for understanding my commitment to Rooiels.

– Hilgard Müller

***Make the circle bigger!***

***Excellence is not a skill, it's an attitude.***

***Live today with the intention to make tomorrow better for others.***





# Rooiels Community Outreach

Lockdown exposed all sorts of needs that the Rooiels Outreach group identified within Rooiels as well as in the surrounding areas.

While many of us were able to weather the lockdown as a novel inconvenience, it had a devastating effect on the less fortunate – both within our village and surrounding areas. Where there was a need, the Rooiels Outreach Group was quick to take up the cause. People were approached directly for donations, and requests for contributions were placed on the WhatsApp groups.

Our unfailingly generous Rooiels residents responded with cash, food and clothing. They filled, and kept filling, the trolley in the Rooiels

Village Shop. They bought and donated food buckets – all of which were distributed to people in Rooiels and Kleinmond, the Hangklip Community Care Centre, Pikkewyntjies and Kidscan.

*In a world that can so often appear cruel, selfish and uncaring, it is a testament to our community spirit and our humanity that so many stepped forward to help those in need. Well done to all who gave.*

The Rooiels Outreach group is an ongoing initiative.

*Clockwise from top right: Patricia Ackerberg and Edith of the Hangklip Community Care Centre receive food, spices and cleaning products to ensure their preparation of meals for the people in need continued throughout the lockdown.*

*The children of Kleinmond Welfare Centre were grateful and happy with their bags of warm clothes.*

*Rooiels Outreach received a donation of blankets from Foschini, which were presented by Hilgard Müller, chairman of RERA to children at Kleinmond Child Welfare.*

*Griet Odendaal and Wimpie Stals show the trolley and Mandela box, which will remain at the Village Shop for donations from the Rooiels community.*



*In 'n wêreld wat soms so wreed, selfsugtig en ongeërg kan wees, is dit 'n bewys van ons gemeenskapsgees en ons menswees dat soveel mense na vore getree het om behoeftiges te help.*





## COVID-19

# Reflections on Covid-19

When looking towards the new year of 2020, who would have imagined that SARS-CoV-2 (as it is officially called) would rock our entire world.



This devastating virus seemed to come from nowhere and has managed to entirely change the way we live our lives and how we connect with each other – for work, social and prayer purposes.

We went from being able to dictate where and when we could travel, to being confined in our own spaces.

It seemed that nature itself was throwing us a curveball, as the natural environment was given a breather and allowed to thrive while we were immobilised.

I'm sure that we will all remember the '5 Golden Rules' for a long time – it has been drummed into our heads:

1. Wash hands and wear a mask
2. Don't touch face
3. Keep apart (social distancing)
4. Cover your cough
5. Sick? Stay home

However, it has been an ambiguous time for us with rules changing all the time. First no alcohol, then yes to alcohol and then no to alcohol again.

The same happened with regards to children returning to school and various other issues. All these changes indicate that no one knew just how to manage this crazy period as we learnt more about the virus and how to fight it. How do we keep people safe in a country with such vast extremes of resource availability?

This experience has certainly taught us to never take anything for granted. We value the simple things in life like being able to comfort someone with a hug, celebrate a birthday, or to mourn the death of a loved one.

Along with all the negatives, there have been some positives. It has been a time for many to rise in their communities and really reach out to give a helping hand.

During this period, Rooiels has remained a sanctuary of peace and beauty, reminding us of what nature intended.

– Dr Anita Parbhoo

*Dr Anita Parbhoo, Rooiels community member and medical manager at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital was a great help during the worst of the lockdown. She constantly kept us informed and warned us about fake news.*

### Getalle in Rooiels

*Hier is:  
110 permanente  
volwassenes;  
9 kinders van baba tot  
matriek.  
6 inwoners het positief  
getoets vir Covid-19,  
waarvan 4 volwasse en  
2 kinders.  
Almal het herstel.*



### Maskers is nou deel van ons lewe

*Dit het verpligtend geraak om masker te dra in die openbaar, maar daar was nêrens maskers beskikbaar nie. Rooielsers het materiaal geskenk en die flukse dames van die No. 1 Ladies Social Club het aan die werk gespring onder die bekwame leiding van Sonet van der Merwe. Hier wys Dale, Mike and Fiona Christelis hulle nuwe maskers.*



# The free Masketeers

The question came to me during the night after the successful distribution of masks to the Rooiels residents. Should we not be trying to help those in our greater community? The ones who, given the choice between feeding their family or buying a mask, would have to choose food.

An appeal was made through the Village People WhatsApp group for donations of fabric of any type, and for volunteers to help in the making of masks – be it cutting, ironing, pinning or sewing.

Donations of fabric arrived on the day of the appeal and a band of willing helpers was readily formed.

We called our group the Masketeers. The idea was that, by division of labour, we could be more productive. With each volunteer putting forward their own particular skill, we quickly established a work roster and got to work.

Each day completed work was collected and new work distributed to the Masketeers.

## One person's trash

Malcolm would call around to those with work completed or ready for a new batch. One day, Denise Boltmann left a bag of freshly ironed fabric on her gate. The refuse men arrived and, thinking it was something to be thrown away, tossed it into their truck.

Malcolm set out in hot pursuit to

retrieve the bag but, by this time, it was buried under a mountain of refuse. The refuse truck driver promised they would retrieve and return the bag the following week. Nobody held out much hope, but they did. Denise Boltman rewarded them for their kindness and the fabric got back into the manufacturing loop.

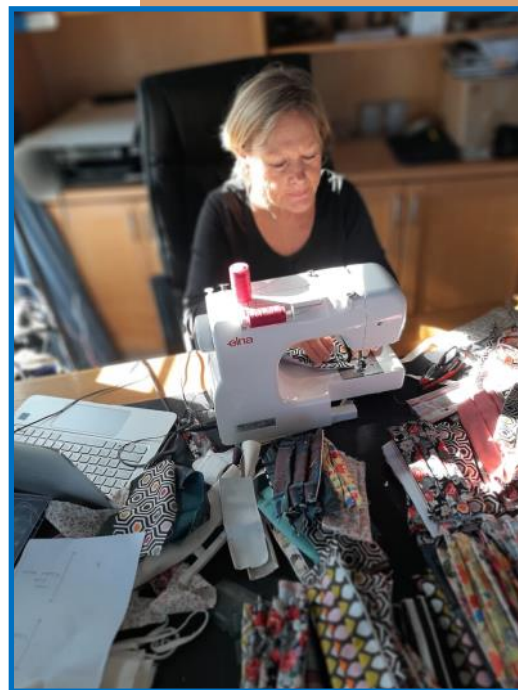
At various times other bags left out for collection were inspected by roaming baboons, but fortunately they found nothing to their taste.

All in all, the mask-making exercise went smoothly and with hardly a glitch, proving once again that, when help is needed, Rooielsers can always be counted upon to step forward to donate their time and skills. We're a small town with a big heart.

## The Masketeers were:

Diana Hunter (cutter, sewer, organiser), Malcolm Hunter (cutter, ironer and distribution), Linda Hiles (cutter, ironer, pinner); Shamilla Gool (cutter, ironer, sewer), Stephanie Milne (sewer, pinner), Jenny Dewey (cutter, pinner, sewer), Mary Comrie (pinner, sewer), Marina du Plessis (cutter, pinner, sewer), Enid Phillips (cutter, pinner, sewer), Geoff Harris (cutter, scissor sharpener), Tanya Goodman and family (ironer), Denise Boltmann (ironer), Fiona Christelis (ironer).

– Diana Hunter



*Baie mense het hulle werk verloor tydens die inperking en kon nie maskers bekostig nie. Diana Hunter het 'n fantastiese projek geloods waardeur die Rooiels-gemeenskap gratis maskers gemaak het. Regs bo is Diana agter die naaimasjien en onder is haar man, Malcolm aan die stryk.*





Fanie Krige

## Ruim skenkings

*"Reg aan die begin van die Covid-19 inperking, het dit duidelik geword dat daar voedselvoorraad aan die mees kwesbare mense in die Kleinmond-Hangklipgebied voorsien moet word. Rooiels het gereageer op 'n oproep van mnr. Masizole Mngasela, die hoof van die Overstrand kiesafdeling en ook die Speaker van die Wes-Kaapse Wetgewer en binne een uur 'n versamelingspunt by die Rooi Els Shop aangebring.*

*Twee dae later het Hilgard Müller, voorsitter van RERA, my laat weet die trollie is vol, ons kan maar kom haal. Dit was die begin van verskeie bydraes en die totale waarde van bydraes word geskat op R20 000.*

*"Dankie, Rooiels, dat julle ander gehelp het ten tyde van nood."*

# A year of challenges and new ways of doing things

## Message from the Ward Councillor

### The new normal

At the time of writing this I am astonished at how extremely the pandemic has affected our lives and I fear the worst in terms of the economic impact is still to come.

Life must continue, however. Our Council managed to approve a budget on time, and Overstrand is now in the process of drawing up a new one – with the help of the ward committees that met in September for the first time since lockdown.

The 2020/21 Budget was drastically adjusted in view of the anticipated economic impact of the Covid-19 Lockdown and at a later Council meeting more relief measures were brought in, such as an extension of the date on which retired and disabled persons can apply for special rebates, the lengthening of extended terms of payment agreements in terms of the

Overstrand Customer Care, Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy in terms of payments of accounts and the temporary exemption of administration fees on accounts in arrears.

### Projects for Rooiels

Capital projects in the pipeline for Rooiels are the continuation of the paving of Anemone Street (R150 000), the upgrading of a path through the nature reserve to make it wheelchair friendly (R26 000) and the provision of a storm water culvert in Perspicua Road, all from the Ward Specific Budget.

From the Overstrand Budget, R12 million will be provided for the planning, environmental assessment, and construction of a replacement for the main water line from the Buffels River Water Purification Works to Rooiels.

*– Fanie Krige*



*Rooielsers het hulle harte oopgemaak en binne twee dae genoeg voorraad geskenk om 'n trollie te vul. Hier ontvang Masizole Mngasela en Fanie Krige die skenkings van Wimpie Stals, die eienaar van die Rooiels Shop, waar die versamelpunt vir die skenkings was. Die winkel het self heelwat vars voorraad soos aartappels, uie en appels geskenk.*



# Lockdown photographic competition

Gordon McIntyre.  
Winner, Nature Category

## The butterfly effect

*Mylothris agathina, the common dotted border butterfly, is of the family Pieridae, which is native to sub-Saharan Africa, particularly East and southern Africa. In South Africa its range has spread south and westwards around the coast in the late 20th century. (Wikipedia).*

It seems that, like us, this butterfly only recently migrated south to Rooiels. And, like our family, it is now perfectly at home and happy to stay in this beautiful, beguiling nook at the edge of the ocean.

On windless days throughout the year

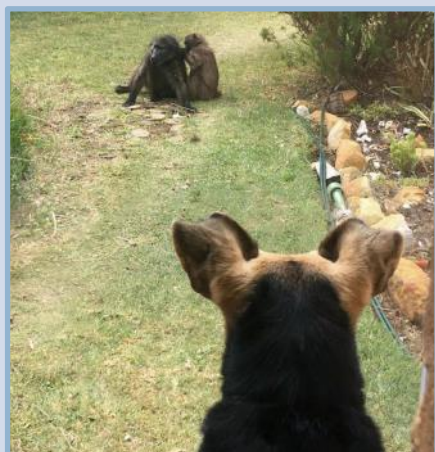
we often see large numbers of these butterflies flitting about our gardens on yellow-petal wings.

Yet as common as the common dotted border butterfly is, it is uncommonly beautiful when viewed up close in detail. Only then can we truly appreciate the delicacy of design and the rich depth of colour on display. And having now witnessed the extravagant beauty of this small creature we can no longer see it as common at all.

– Gordon McIntyre



*Die Mylothris agathina (voëlentwitjie) lê eiers teen die stam van die Kaapse pruimbos (Osyris compressa of Cape sumach). Die woelige klein wurms laat waai in die pruimbos, tot hulle papies vorm wat soos voëlmis lyk. Wat dááruit broei, is die lieflike skoenlapper wat dartel in ons tuine.*



Alison Scott.

Wenner in die Inwoners en troeteldiere-kategorie

Die beoordelaars het gedink hierdie foto vertel die storie van ons frustrasie tydens inperking. Charlie sit toegesluit agter glas en kyk na die bobbejane wat onbevange buite baljaar. En dit nogal sonder maskers.

Gavin Lundie.  
Wenner in die  
Sonsondergang-kategorie

Tydens Inperking mag ons nie wyn gekoop het nie en ons was aangewese op ons eie voorraad. Terwyl mense in die stede baie frustreerd was, kon ons 'n kosbare sopie teen 'n onbeskryflik mooi sonsondergang geniet—terwyl die voorraad gehou het.







*Veronica Jacobs  
Vice-chairperson*

*n Belangrike deel van die bestuur van Biosfeer Reservate is die vestiging van ekologiese deurgange met die doel om ekosisteme gesond te hou. Hierdie deurgange beskerm biologiese en habitat diversiteit.*

*Foto's: Dine van Zyl*

## The Rooiels Eco-Corridor





***An ecological corridor in Rooiels will maintain essential equilibrium between development and a sustainable ecosystem.***

## Connecting our precious habitat

Rooiels is described by many as the gateway to the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve (KBR).

Established in 1998, the 100 000 ha reserve was the first Biosphere Reserve proclaimed in South Africa.

An important management goal of Biosphere Reserves is the establishment of ecological corridors aimed at keeping ecosystems healthy, protecting their biological diversity and ensuring habitats remain connected. In this way, vital environmental services such as the provision of clean water, air and soil are also safeguarded. Ecological corridors are equally important as migration routes for the many forms of wildlife within living and interactive ecosystems.

This philosophy has led to the establishment of the Hangklip Ecological Corridor between Pringle Bay and Betty's Bay during the period 1998 – 2011, a tremendous step towards the protection of the KBR coastal area. However, this corridor covers only a small section of the KBR coastal region and there is urgent need for additional eco-corridors in the KBR.

Areas suitable for delineation as ecological corridors are frequently defined by catchment boundaries and river systems that carry water from the highlands to the sea. But this is only possible if natural processes characterising the catchment and run-off systems concerned have not already been excessively disrupted.

Rooiels, which has a virtually undisturbed catchment extending from the mountains to the sea, is unique in the sense that the bulk of the Rooiels catchment, approximately 20 square kilometres, falls within the Core and Buffer Zones of the KBR.

In addition, Rooiels offers:





**The River:** The Rooiels River has a length of around 9 kilometres and is fed by a number of tributaries. It has a relatively steep gradient with many small rapids and waterfalls, especially during the winter season. The Rooiels River continues to be in excellent condition, without any artificial obstructions and, as a result, no mud or silt is carried into the Rooiels estuary, even during flood conditions.

**The Estuary:** The Rooiels Estuary is unpolluted and in excellent condition.

**Vegetation:** Falling within the Cape Floral Kingdom, the diversity of vegetation is incredibly wide. It can be divided into aquatic, semi-aquatic and terrestrial components. Habitat diversity is extraordinarily high.

**Fauna:** It is not surprising that the fauna of the Rooiels region is equally rich. It ranges from zooplankton, fish and amphibians in the estuary to a great diversity of reptiles, birds and mammals which include Cape leopard and baboons.

**Archaeology:** An additional point of interest is a cave at the upper edge of the estuary. Excavations have been of great archaeological value. The cave also provided a haven for escaped slaves and parties of shipwrecked people.

#### **Plans are afoot**

CapeNature manages the Core Zone of the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve, including the Kogelberg Nature Reserve, the Hangklip Ecological Corridor and the Stony Point Seabird Breeding Colony and is represented on the Technical Committee of the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve Company, an organisation appointed by UNESCO to coordinate the management of the KBR.

Having gained the support and endorsement of CapeNature and the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve Company, the Rooiels Eco--Corridor now needs to develop a business plan that includes seeking partnerships with visionary investors in order to ensure the Rooiels Eco-Corridor becomes the conservation pulse of the Rooiels/Kogelberg Biosphere Buffer Zone.

The Eco-Corridor will include an educational eco-centre that is earmarked to be a research hub supporting the living laboratory that is Rooiels.

RERA has appointed an Eco-Workgroup to keep the momentum going and build on the **Contract Nature Reserve status awarded by CapeNature to the Rooiels Eco-Corridor**.

This is a big task that needs the support and investment of all who care about the green future of the Overstrand Coastline and the continued conservation of the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve.







### ***A man with a vision – Tim Attwell***

*On the 21st February 2020, Tim Attwell, Chairman of the Kogelberg Branch of the Botanical Society of South Africa and author of the well-known book *Your Place in the Kogelberg*, presented an assessment and motivation for the creation of the proposed Rooiels Ecological Corridor to CapeNature's Protected Area Expansion and Stewardship Review Committee.*

*The Committee received the presentation and motivation enthusiastically and have recommended that the area be designated a Contract Nature Reserve.*

*Contract Nature Reserves are legally recognised and enjoy the same status as Provincial Nature Reserves. This is the highest status that is awarded to areas of conservation value in the Western Cape.*

*Tim is also a director of the board of the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve Company where he serves with Hilgard Müller and Ian Milne, both RERA Committee members. He works closely with RERA with regard to the proposed Rooiels Eco-Corridor as well as the establishment of a Kogelberg Eco-Centre.*

*– Veronica Jacobs*





Mark Butler  
Chairman

*It is estimated that around one ton of abalone is harvested illegally on any given day, with abalone fetching prices of up to R1 700 per kilogram on the black market.*

## The RESA report

### The efforts of many keep Rooiels a safer place

Despite everything that 2020 has thrown at us, the focus on keeping Rooiels a safer place continues to prove effective. This is largely thanks to the efforts of many committed individuals in different ways and, just as importantly, the wider Rooiels community that continues to support RESA and its activities.

We have an enviable track record of having had virtually no crime in Rooiels for an extended period now. Our aim remains to keep it that way by remaining vigilant and ensuring we maintain our focus and don't become complacent.

### A combination of tech and torches

The integrated RESA security infrastructure is an important part of our crime prevention efforts. It is regularly maintained and upgraded to ensure efficiency and effectiveness. Despite the restrictive Covid-19 lockdowns the various components of the strategy have worked well.

Cameras have been monitored, Block Watch has been active, the Radio Group has been active, and the small group of dedicated patrollers are back monitoring

the village after an enforced stay-away due to lockdown regulations. Thanks to all the RESA committee and Rooiels community members who make this possible.

### Everyone can play a part

*A general level of alertness and sharing of information about unusual happenings in the village plays an important role in maintaining safety and security.*

This also applies not only to crime related activity, but also to monitoring the well-being of community members and their properties when severe weather-related events occur. This is a significant contributor to the efforts of RESA in its objective of maintaining a safe and secure village.

### Security issues?

#### Ask us or ask ASK

During the lockdown period there has not been as much opportunity to engage with ASK, the village security response service, but review meetings with them

### Alarm Systems

*We need to emphasise that servicing your alarm system is crucial, especially given Eskom's power outages. Check your batteries and settings and help to reduce the number of false alarms that detract from responses to actual emergencies and slow down the speed of response by ASK. The official response time to an alarm being activated is set out by the security industry controlling body and is a surprisingly long 15 minutes. At night in Rooiels we have a physical response time of 5 to 6 minutes, depending on where in the village the ASK patroller is.*

— Peter Köning



are now back in place. RESA is aware of some response service issues that have arisen at times and these are taken up with ASK management so that any shortcomings are rectified.

The RESA office continued to function as the night-time response base for Rooiels throughout the lockdown. It did close for its normal activity during the hard lockdown but remained accessible for emergencies.

## Thank you

Finally, a huge thank you to the Rooiels community who support RESA through payment of the annual RESA fees as well as to the Rooiels Boat Club for their ongoing support. These contributions enable us to continue our efforts to keep Rooiels safe. While we currently have a significant majority of the village contributing to RESA, the greater the number the more we can achieve, so if you are not yet a member, please join.

## Poaching – a problem that won't go away

Regrettably, one type of crime that continues to be very visible in the village is the ongoing blatant poaching.

This activity is regularly reported to the relevant authorities when it happens in the hope that something will be done.

As much as it is frustrating to watch poachers rape our ocean with seeming impunity, RESA maintains its stance of not engaging with or confronting poachers at any time.

The simple reason for that is to avoid any retribution against members of the Rooiels community or their property. It is well organised crime syndicates who are behind the poaching and our best approach is to report and inform the relevant authorities.

– Mark Butler

*Chinese mafia groups, in alliance with South African drug cartels, have taken control of the abalone market, sometimes exchanging abalone for chemicals like ephedrine, used to manufacture crystal meth (Tik).*

## STROPERY

*RESA se beleid is om stropery te rapporteer, maar inwoners moet nie self die stropers aanvat nie. Dit is uit vrees vir vergelding teenoor Rooielsers en ons eiendom.*

*Onder: Die verwoesting is skokkend waar stropers op 'n perlemoenbank toegesak het. Die foto is in Valsbaai geneem.*







*Peter Köning  
Neighbourhood Watch  
Operations Coordinator*

*Wees voorbereid,  
wees oplettend en  
rapporteer. En  
dink voor jy op  
Blockwatch pos.*

## Rooiels Patrol and Block Watch

The Block Watch WhatsApp group operated well in 2020 despite a number of posting incidents that were completely out of place and needed to be dealt with offline. This led to the raising of a number of other issues, including the role and responsibilities of Forum Administrators.

Many of us have only a rudimentary understanding of how the law applies to posts on forums and groups.

Administrators have neither legal standing nor the means to investigate, but need to apply the rules of the group and give the offender an opportunity to retract and apologise once they are made aware of a post that breaches the rules.

Block Watch continues to be the main pillar of the village Safety & Security network and its success is due to compliance by 95% of the residents. We are grateful for their active and positive participation.

### Rooiels Patrol Group

Once again “so much is owed by so many to so few”. The patrollers are a remarkable group of people that go out week after week to keep the RESA strategy of high visibility working.

In Rooiels we are fully aware that we will not be able to stop all crime. Our objective is for potential criminals to

see that we have an active and efficient security group backed up by ASK Security.

Our high visibility strategy has more than proved itself, with a dramatic decline in crime incidents (from 30-odd break-ins in 2016 to four currently).

Once again, I would like to thank all the active and reserve patrollers for their selfless work. COVID-19 provided a well-deserved break from patrolling.

### Radio & CCTV Group

This group plays a key part behind the scenes in keeping the communications network active via weekly radio checks. Remote CCTV watchers go in to do CCTV patrols and to track and trace persons and vehicles of interest in the village.

The current CCTV system is currently operating at around 80% efficiency and will need replacements and additional maintenance as the system gets older and the weather takes its toll on electronics and wireless directional antennas.

The village’s generous donations make this system of remote CCTV monitoring possible and we thank you for the contributions above the normal RESA funding.



*Die stroop van perlemoen bly ’n groot probleem in Rooiels en die omgewing. In ’n stadium is die Suid-Afrikaanse Weermag na die Overstrand gestuur en was daar geen stropers nie. Nadat die Casspirs onttrek het, het die stropers weer die see ingevaar.*



## Crime Projections

Unfortunately, with unemployment skyrocketing and all the positive steps that took place in 2019 and early 2020 to curb poaching, we have seen a surge in the number of poachers – even in bad weather.

The military has been partially withdrawn from their anti-poaching role to deal with unrest.

Law enforcement is also tied up with protest action and land invasions. This could escalate.

Rooiels will not escape the effects of high unemployment related to COVID-19 and we can expect petty and other types of crime to pick up.

We thus call for more volunteer patrollers to join the ranks, be certified and take some pressure off the current patrollers.

Be prepared, be vigilant and report.

And think before you post.

– Peter Köning

## The Rooiels libraries

### *The Book Thief*

*The desperation of lockdown with all the municipal libraries closed led to a call for books to be donated to the Rooiels Village Shop. A bookcase soon followed, which was filled with all sorts of books freely available to be taken, borrowed or replaced. Venus de Milo (without arms) is there to welcome you.*



### *The Reader*

*Right: As restaurants finally reopened after lockdown, Something Els launched a separate reading room where guests can relax with a drink and a snack while they page through a curated range of coffee table and other books. Here Anita Veldman samples what Rooiels has to offer.*



## Memories

*Ral and Fay Meredith have this beautiful print hanging in their house. On the back there is a note from the photographer, Joan Watchan. She took the photograph at 19h00 in 1966.*

*"Friends and I were on our way back from Betty's Bay and as we approached Rooiels, I spotted fishermen on the beach, pulling in their nets.*

*"I asked my friends to stop, so I could take a photograph of these men."*



*Do you have any memories of wonderful Rooiels? Please share it with us to enjoy and preserve. Contact Graham McClelland 082 900 7631 or send text and photographs to gmccllelland@gmail.com.*





*Hilgard Müller is the fire co-ordinator registered with the Overstrand Fire Services and Disaster Management Division, which serves the village and surrounding plots.*

### *The REDI team:*

*Hilgard Müller, Ernst Thompson, Kevin Philips, Leigh Elves, Linda Hiles, Mark Butler, Peter Koning, Riel Buys, Rina Thompson, Wolf Steinbach, David van der Merwe. If you want to be on the REDI team, please contact Hilgard Müller.*

# Rooiels Disaster Incident Management (REDI)



Following the Rooiels wildfire of March 2017, a task team supported by RESA, RERA and REC was established to develop a co-ordinated response and action strategy in case of repeat fire incidents. It soon became evident that the plan should also encompass all disaster incidents that might pose a risk to Rooiels.

During the year an initial group of six volunteers gathered under the banner of REDI held regular meetings to map out plans, with the main focus on wildfires (fire load reduction and creating a support system for the community).

Data was gathered from multiple sources, including the Overstrand fire service and other fire services, published guidelines, accounts of previous Rooiels fires and the reports and assessments of other wildfires in the region.

A check list was created, policies and procedures were drafted, and roles and responsibilities were decided.

## Plans in place

In 2018 key maps of the Village were created to show fire lines, water points and access and evacuation routes.

Fuel breaks in our red zone were established on Klein Hangklip and along the estuary.

Fire hydrants and electrical points were cleared for access and hydrant covers brightly painted for identification.

With fire equipment needs identified and quotes obtained thanks to generous donations, it all started to become a reality.

## Plans in action

By 2019 the group had grown to 13 enthusiastic volunteers. During the tragic wildfires of Betty's Bay and surrounds in early January, teams assisted the fire and police authorities by providing valuable communication support. The volunteers also manned a road block and saved a home on a plot off the R44.





## A firewise community

A drive to communicate and promote the concept of Rooiels as a firewise community then commenced.

Rooiels held a successful "Firewise Day," with notable speakers and a display of equipment.

Verge clearing of hazardous combustible and alien growth commenced in line with municipal policies (while ensuring protection of our precious fynbos).

Community members were assisted with plot clearing and the removal of all cuttings was arranged with the municipality.

By now REDI had 80% of the desired fire equipment on hand. Coupling-up and testing commenced and protective clothing and equipment requirements were finalised.

## Coping with Covid

Covid-19 restrictions in 2020 caused the testing of fire equipment and team training to be placed on hold.

The REDI group remains in contact with the village and has facilitated a community WhatsApp group (RECA) for the reliable dissemination of important information regarding the pandemic. It has also undertaken to assist vulnerable people in the village by implementing care-groups and food and donation programmes.

## Disaster Risk Reduction Plan

What has become increasingly evident is the need for a Disaster Risk Reduction plan. Climate change has increased the risk of fires, droughts, mudslides, hunger, human disasters and catastrophes.

The aim of REDI is to be the first respondent in a crisis. Items currently being worked on include preparation for the next wildfire season, ongoing first responder training and equipment testing, extending our understanding of our role, and constantly re-evaluating our processes.

REDI operates as a volunteer group affiliated to RESA. REDI is now the proud owner of a large trailer, skid, water tank, water pumps, hoses, couplings, siren, strobes, traffic cones and a tool box.

Good progress has been made thanks to the support of the tremendous Rooiels community spirit and – to name a few – the RERA, REC, RESA structures, the Rooiels Boat Club, the No 1 Ladies Social Club, and local businesses.

– Hilgard Müller

**REDI bestaan uit 'n groep vrywilligers wat geaffilieer is met RESA.**

**Die doel van REDI is om eerste te wees in tye van nood en as 'n krisis dreig.**



Ernst Thompson



Mark Butler

Opposite page far left:  
Leigh Elves and David  
van der Merwe.

Left: Hilgard Müller and  
Graham McClelland.

This page: Riël Buys and  
Willie Boltmann.



The TLC team:

Linda Hiles, Rina  
Thompson and  
Stephanie Milne.





Gavin Lundie

## Rooiels Conservancy (REC)

### Chairman's report

Over the years many great people have served on the REC committee and worked wonders to make Rooiels a beautifully natural and environmentally friendly village.

The "Rooiels Vision" was created way back, when folks realized how important it was to keep our region and village in harmony with nature. The Cape Floral Kingdom in which we live is unique, and has UNESCO backing. We are in the transition zone of the Kogelberg Biosphere, a proclaimed World Heritage site.

Our region remains home to many wild animals such as leopard, caracal, klipspringer, grysbok, porcupine, mongoose, baboon, seal, otter, rabbit, reptiles and many more species too numerous to list here. We have a wide variety of birds, some very rare, that live in the region.

REC serves to be the custodian of our natural environment.

### REC projects and tasks for 2020:



*Padtekens is aangebring om reisigers se aandag op die wilde diere van ons omgewing te vestig.*

#### RENr legal status

The legal status of the Rooiels Nature Reserve (RENr) in the village was in jeopardy. The founding documents were lost in the archives in Caledon, so resident Eldie Brink very kindly went to great lengths to find old evidence and has resurrected the legal status of the RENr once more.

#### RENr rejuvenation

The Nature Reserve has been assessed by Heather Hartwig for possible rejuvenation. Unfortunately Heather left, but we are thrilled that Dine van Zyl has taken on the project. Mapping out the current plant species is underway and botanists will be asked to advise once the results are available.

#### Poles of contention

The telephone poles, which spoil all of our stunning photographs and views, are going to be removed.

This requires legal approval from Telkom and, once received, we will have a Poles Must Fall team outing.

#### Get cracking on hacking

Hacking of alien trees is an ongoing REC activity, kindly orchestrated by Dick

Lockley and executed by enthusiastic Rooiels residents. On average we have around 15 to 20 volunteers who do amazing work in keeping our village and environs alien plant free. This hack takes place on the first Saturday of every month.

#### Good and clean and fresh

Beach clean-ups are arranged on a regular basis to remove washed up kelp as well as an extraordinary amount of plastic in various forms from our beaches and river estuary.

#### A good cage

A baboon cage was purchased by REC, to aid in rendering medical care to wounded baboons. To date the cage has served Rooiels and also Pringle Bay and Bettys Bay communities.

#### Road of destruction

Many animals get killed on the R44 that runs through the Kogelberg Biosphere and Nature Reserve. REC has been sending photographs and statistics of road kills to National Roads, and the Overstrand Municipality. Following our input, Council has finally given the go-ahead to erect wildlife warning signs between Gordons Bay and Kleinmond.



## Maintenance

A comprehensive list of maintenance activities such as repairing of garbage bins, slipway clean-up, repair of public toilets, pathways, signage and many other activities has been compiled and are being executed in due course.

## Keep on smiling

Camera traps in two locations near the village are maintained and serviced by dedicated REC members, providing excellent images of leopards, porcupines, honey badgers and other wildlife. Thanks to Duncan Hiles, Jill Lockley, Wolfgang Steinbach and helpers for your dedication.

Holiday activities and fund-raising

events are arranged to encourage residents both young and old to get out and meet each other and enjoy our beautiful place in the sun.

I would like to thank all our REC members, the committee, and residents of Rooiels for their dedication and efforts in keeping our village so special.

– *Gavin Lundie*



*Daar is ses mannetjies in die Rooiels groep van 26 bobbejane.*

## A Rooiels Love story

*I heard baboon "wahoos" and I just knew that the big boys were fighting. Cliff came staggering up along Clarence Drive and collapsed on the road verge. He was drenched in blood. I went to see him. Then Cali, a female baboon, followed and sat down beside him.*

*Cliff lay motionless for ten minutes. I thought his time had come. Then he managed to sit up and rested his hand on Cali. She was swelling and was thus sexually receptive.*

*After a while they walked along Porter Drive, Cliff clearly in pain, but he had won his girl.*

- Gavin Lundie



*Cali het 'n manier om vir Cliff baie beter te laat voel.*



## Endemiese dwergverkleurmannetjie

*Die dwergverkleurmannetjie (Bradypodion pumilum) kom vanaf die Kaap tot De Hoop Natuurreservaat voor en sluit Rooiels in.*

*Die wyfie dra haar eiers tot volkome ontwikkeling van die embrio. Sy gee geboorte aan tot vyftien kleintjies wat dadelik vir hulself sorg.*

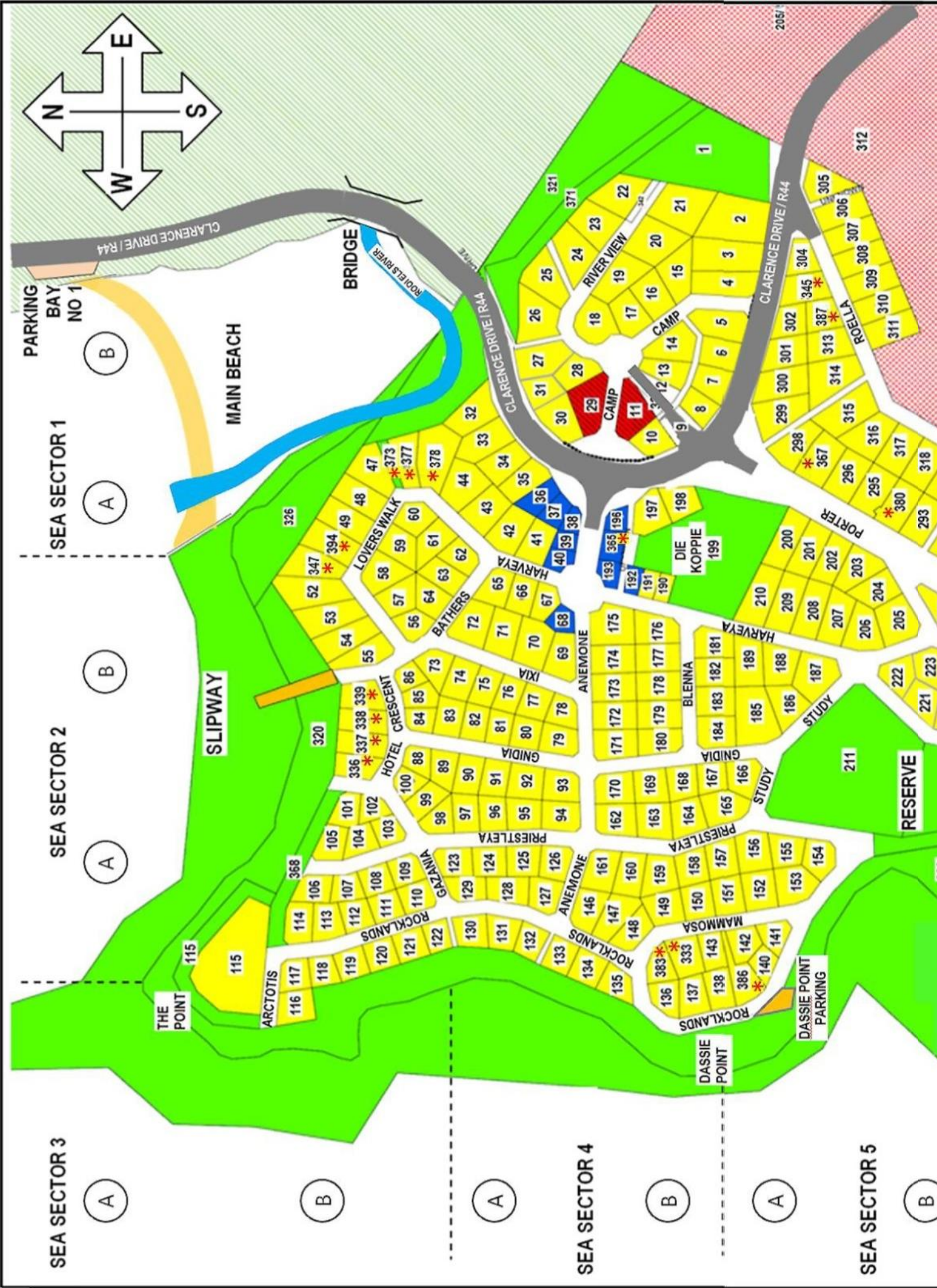
*Die spesie word tans geklassifiseer as Byna Bedreig weens dorps- en landbouontwikkeling. Boonop kom dit in fynbos voor en as die veld te dikwels brand, kan dit die bevolkingsgetalle benadeel.*

*Bradypodion pumilum se vyande is o.a. spinnekoppe, slange, voëls, huishoudelike katte en die mens, wat dit as 'n troeteldier probeer aanhou en nie daarvoor kan sorg nie. Bron: SANBI*

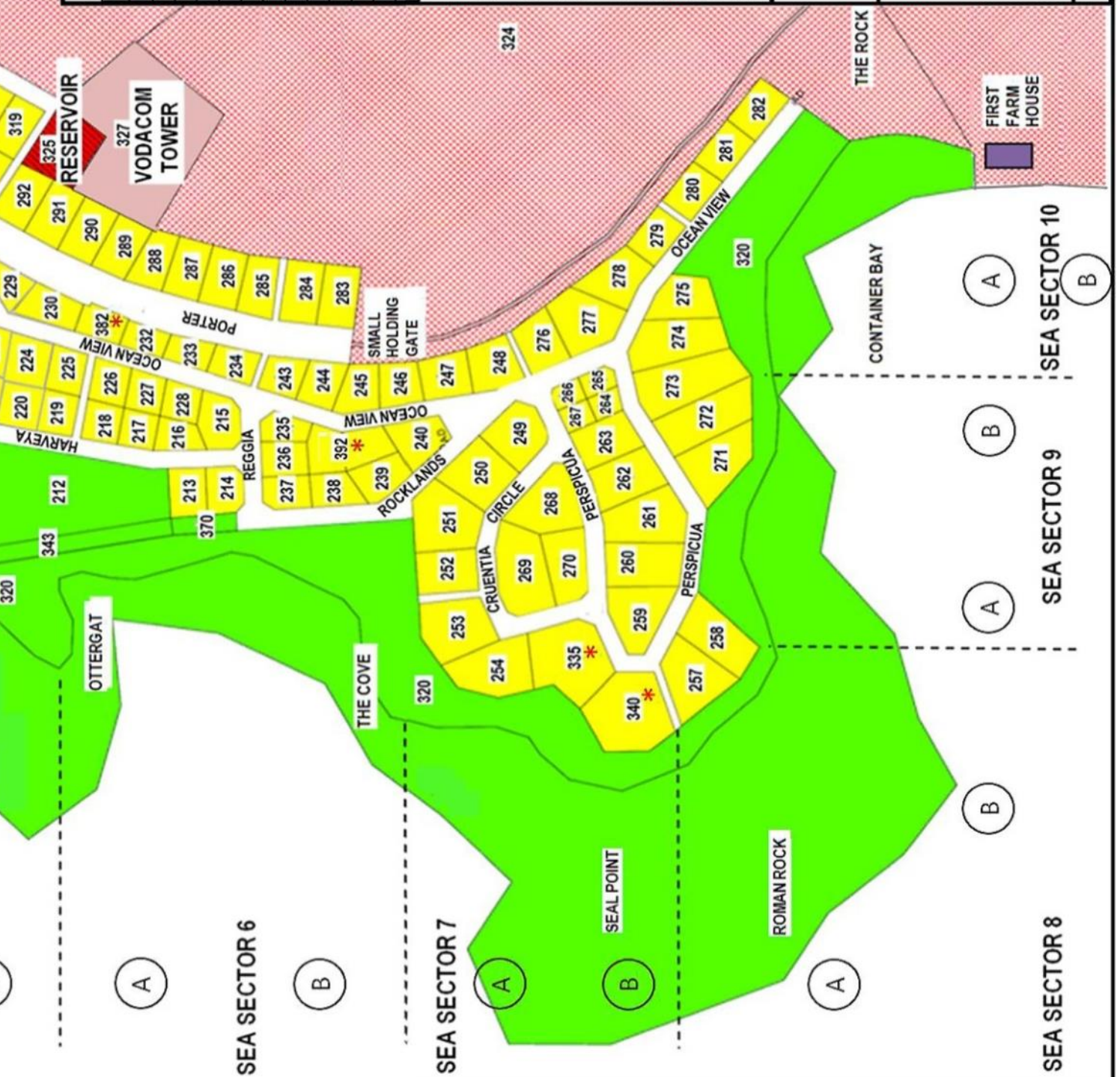


*Is jy vol, of is jy vrugbaar?*









**\* = Erf No. Changed**

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



## Mandela Day beach clean up

What an amazing turnout we had for the Mandela day beach clean-up on 18th July 2020.

Fifty seven Rooielsers, young and old, took advantage of the opportunity to leave lockdown for a while to fill bags with litter and move the huge mounds of smelly, slippery, bug-infested kelp to the dunes where they will help to stabilise the shifting sands.

Sand dunes are our first line of defence against coastal storms and beach erosion and support an array of organisms and provide a nesting habitat for coastal and migratory bird species. The ongoing and effective Rooiels dune stabilisation programme uses kelp and other binding techniques to prevent “blow holes” and maintain the shape and position of the dunes.

This year’s clean-up netted around 25 bags of plastic off the beach near the slipway and at Ottergat. Job done, the village shop sponsored cooldrinks and chips for all after the morning’s labour.

## Rooielser nets a shark net



*Die duine word gestabiliseer met seebamboes.*

On the same day, a washed up shark net was recovered from the rocks by Wolfgang Steinbach and Ivan Becker.

Probably dislodged by the recent storm, the bagged net was found amongst the rocks near the seals. Sadly, entangled in the net was a dead penguin.

Estimated catches by these illegal shark-gillnet operations are about 200 tons per annum in False Bay. To escape detection, they are deployed permanently to catch shark and never brought to shore.

Fish swim into the net and are entangled by their gills, fins and spines. The nets are kept vertical by floats along the top and weights along the bottom.

The net was more than 100 meters long and had to be cut up into 4 sections to remove it off the rocks.

Finding these nets in time and removing them from the sea prevented a lot of unnecessary entanglement and death of sea life.

*– Ivan Becker*



*Hoe om 'n Wolf te vang*

*Wolfgang Steinbach is heeltemal verswelg in die haainet wat hulle van die rotse af verwyder het.*





# International Beach Clean-up Day

The Rooielsers pulled together on International beach clean-up day on 19 September and did our village proud, cleaning approximately 1.5 km of coastline from the point all the way to the estuary and with Geoff Harris and team doing their bit at Ottergat.

Thanks to SA Plastics, we had plenty of bags and some snazzy new gloves to help do the job. With morning coffee graciously provided by Wolfgang at the slipway, we were all set.

As the tides would have it, the main beach looked deceptively cleared, but those who waded across to the bridge found the banks of the estuary below the road full of tangled bits and pieces of rubbish that kept five of us busy until it was time to call it a day and meet the others back at the slipway.

As the aerial shot from Gavin's flyover proved, we were all well spread out, with

the dunes at Rocky Point getting a good clean up.

Thanks to Wimpie's contribution of snacks and juices, the gathered workers could celebrate the many bags that piled Hilgard's bakkie to capacity. Thanks to Hilgard Müller for dropping it all off in Kleinmond.

## **The Covid contribution**

The never-ending challenge is to continue picking up what one can every day, as the flow of tiny pop sticks, juice packets, sweets papers, straws, styrofoam, plastic bottles, bottle tops, fishing line and 'pairless' shoes continues to wash up on our shores – now with the unwelcome addition of disposable masks too.

One has to wonder how many years it will take for humans to totally free the world of our plastic waste.

Fifty people managed to fill 30 combined bin bags estimated at 100-150 kg, so well done to everyone for your commitment to keeping our coastline and village free of litter. Never lose hope, and keep showing your love.

– Allison Scott

*Some interesting statistics by Ocean Conservancy of breakdown time: abandoned fishing line takes 600 years, plastic grocery bags take 1-20 years; plastic bottles take 450 years.*



*Hilgard Müller en Gilbert Mampanda laai die plastiek op wat op een oggend op die strand opgetel is.*



*'n Paar van die vrolike strandkoonmakers.*





*We are proud of the Hack Store and of the equipment we have procured and maintained in good condition. Riel Buys has put in a great deal of work and initiative in constructing the store so that equipment can easily be maintained and displayed. We now have sufficient bottles to apply the poison and extra bottles in reserve. Thanks are extended to Koos and Jenny and also Wolfgang and Karen for donating these bottles. — Dick Lockley*





# A Record Hack Attack

## Message by the Hack convener

As with most of South Africa our hacks have been hammered by the Covid-19 lockdowns, and so far this year we have only managed to hold four proper hacks. These were held on 1 February, 7 March, 4 July and 1 August.

Nevertheless, a considerable amount of alien vegetation was removed from the Rooiels environs and our aim of clearing this conservancy village and it's surrounds of alien vegetation continues to drive the activities of the Hack Group.

A pleasant start to each hack has been the provision of fresh coffee by Hilgard, Wolfgang and Karen. All hackers are most appreciative of this voluntary effort. We all look forward to them being reinstituted once the lockdown period ends and Covid-19 becomes a thing of the past.

---

***"Jill and I have been members of the Hack Group since 1985 and we have participated in all the hacks that occurred since that date apart from when we were away travelling. I certainly feel that I have "done my bit" and would like to "retire".***

---

The hack in August set a new attendance record of 21 hackers and a fine spirit was shown throughout the few hours of hard work.

This year saw some new faces at the hacks and also the re-appearance of some from previous hacks over the years. September and October hacking days were cancelled due to bad weather.

The following have lent a hand at one or more hacks: Geoff Harris, Riel Buys, Gavin Lundie (known as Chemical Allie due to all the help he gives in mixing and distributing the poison mixtures) Anuta Scholtz, Geoff Titley, Paul and Heather Hartwig, Koos Smit, Andries Brink, John Charalambous, Alison Scott, Ian Milne, Wolfgang Steinbach, Mark and Linda Butler, Jill and Dick Lockley, Duncan, Barry and Jack Hiles, David Blake, Herbert Voigt, Ian and Alison Lewis, Kevin and Heidi Andersson, Dave de Klerk, Ivan Becker, Fiona Christelis, Rory Williams, Gordon McIntyre and Briony Denny, Bob and Carolyn Baigrie and last but not least, as he is a regular attendee, Diarmuid Baigrie.

– Dick Lockley

*"Dick Lockley has reluctantly retired from being the Hack Group convener. The village is a far better place thanks to his and Jill's generous dedication and efforts, along with all of the hack members over the years. We would like to say a huge thank you to the Lockleys for all that they have done over many years, and to Dick for leading the Hack Group on around 60 to 70 hacks." – Gavin Lundie*



Dick Lockley



Dick and Jill Lockley are laying down their hacking tools.



# Rooiels Nature Reserve Project

REC and RERA began 2020 with a serious concern about the legal status of our Rooiels Nature Reserve, the wonderful portion of lowland 'sand' fynbos that is an oasis of wild-ness between Rooiels village and the sea.

The reserve contributes enormously to the aesthetic appeal of our village and is home to a fascinating variety of red listed plants, small animals, insects and birds. If you are lucky you may spot Cape clawless otters at the pool enjoying a shellfish meal or see an orange breasted sunbird dipping into a pink Erica mammosa.

Lowland fynbos is becoming scarce as a result of increasing development and invasion by exotic plants. The Rooiels Nature Reserve effectively provides a core area for conservation in a conservation-conscious village. It is also set to play a motivating role in our application (as per the mandate

given by stakeholders at the 2018 RERA AGM and 2019 Cascades meeting) for Rooiels to be designated as a buffer zone adjacent to core areas of the Kogelberg Biosphere.

## The path of progress

Consequently, a small work group was formed with the following mandate:

- Secure the legal status of the RENR. This task has been completed by Eldie Brink who tracked down the founding document and secured the reserve's protected status, despite the challenge of completing this task amid lockdown restrictions.
- Update the management plan and reignite regular monitoring, care and reporting on the conditions in the reserve.

Heather Hartwig is correlating a proposed management and rehabilitation document with the original general by-laws and management plan in the founding documents. The Overstrand Municipality requires the submission of such a document and evidence that it is being implemented. This is a key element in retaining the legal status of the reserve.

The management plan provides a more comprehensive description of the curatorship protocols:

1. Maintain and restore natural functioning of ecosystems;
2. Preserve any unspoilt ecosystem in its natural state;
3. Protect flora and fauna species;
4. Preserve the natural characteristics of the landscape.

## Mapping the way

Monitoring has begun with a small plant mapping team who started taking location linked photographs of the plants in the reserve when level 3 restrictions allowed longer explorations in suitable light. This is a time consuming, long term project due to the seasonal nature of plant growth. These labours are carried out by husband and wife team Graham McClelland and Dine van Zyl and checked by experts.

## The birds and the bees

In addition to the existing small mammal and bird lists, there is a RENR log book to record unusual fauna sightings and observations.

Sightings include otter activity at the pool, an early morning beak-to-nose encounter with an owl (also down at the pool) and porcupines.

If you come across anything of interest in the reserve, please email a brief description (and picture if possible) with date and time to [dinevzyl@iafrica.com](mailto:dinevzyl@iafrica.com).

Dine van Zyl and her maintenance team is currently rejuvenating the reserve. They started by removing dead and dry plant material and by pruning old plants according to guidelines given by experts.

The reserve is a magical place. What might appear to be a dry, colourless patch, hides shy violets, minute orchids, rare Erica brachialis, tortoise, mongoose, red rock rabbit, frogs, snakes, prolific birdlife and an unexplored insect world.

This is a place for residents to appreciate and conserve as we prepare to hand the baton of curatorship on to the next generation of Rooielsers.

– Heather Hartwig



*Viola decumbens* (African violet)



# Some plants growing in the Rooiels Nature Reserve

Photographs by Graham McClelland and Dine van Zyl  
on their data collecting visits to the Reserve.



*Brunsvigia orientalis* (koningskandelaar)



*Helichrysum foetidum* (muishondblaar)



*Erica mammosa* (rooiklossieheide)



*Erica brachialis* (groenheide)



*Orphium frutescens* (sea rose)



*Carpobrotus acinaciformis* (suurvy)



*Babiana ambigua*. (bobbejaantjie)







*Sundew is a carnivorous plant growing amongst fynbos during winter and spring. Traditionally disorders such as tuberculosis, asthma, coughs, liver pain, morning sickness, stomach conditions, syphilis, toothache, intestinal problems, eye and ear infections were treated internally with teas or extracts made from the leaves.*



*The white milkwood's bark and roots have medicinal value and are traditionally used to cure broken bones, to treat fevers and to dispel bad dreams.*

*The wood was used as timber for building boats, bridges and mills. Bats, baboons and porcupines eat the ripe purple fruit. In Rooiels paradise flycatchers have been seen catching insects visiting the flowers.*

**Traditional remedies are provided for the sake of interest only and should not be used.**

## Die betowering van plante in die Rooiels Natuurreservaat

**Drosera trinervia; familie: Droseraceae**

**Volksname: small sundew (Eng.); klein sonnedou**

Droseria kry sy naam van die Griekse woord *droseros*, wat dou beteken.

Die sonnedou is 'n klein, inseketende plant. Die rosetvormige blare is teen die grond, gewoonlik in 'n moerasagtige gebied. Die blare het 'n klomp tentakels waardeur glinsterende, taai, helder vloeistof afgeskei word wat insekte aanlok. Die tentakels is sensitief en kan aanvoel as daar 'n insek in die nabyheid is. Dan word daar ekstra dou afgeskei sodat dit onweerstaanbaar vir die insek is.

Die insek word vasgevang in die dou, die ander tentakels vou toe en die plant verteer die voedingstowwe uit die insek. Dit is baie lekker vir die sonnedou, maar minder lekker vir die insek.

Die tentakels kan onderskei tussen moontlike prooi en blare of waterdruppels.

Daar is plantkolonies van die sonnedou in die klam gedeelte van die reservaat, waar water van die berg af deursy.

Tradisioneel is die sap van die blaar gebruik op vratte en liddorings. 'n Tee van die blare is getrek vir toring, asma, infeksies, lewerpyn, sifilis, naarheid tydens swangerskap en tandpyn. Tee is ook gebruik as 'n opkikmiddel, as die meneer verstaan wat ek bedoel.

**Sideroxylon inerme; Family: Sapotaceae**

**Volksnaam white milkwood ( Eng. ); witmelkhout, melkhout (Afr.)**

Daar is drie melkhoutbome in Suid-Afrika wat as Nasionale Monumente verklaar is.

1. Portugese seevaarders het in 1500 'n skoen by 'n melkhoutboom gelos, met 'n brief daarin waar van die dood van Bartholomeus Dias vertel is. Dit heet die Poskantoorboom en is in Mosselbaai.
2. Die Verdragboom (Treaty Tree) in Woodstock is ook ongeveer 500 jaar oud. Hier is die verdrag in 1806 onderteken na die Slag van Blouberg, waartydens die Tweede Britse Okkupasie begin het. Dit het gelei tot anneksasie en het die geskiedenis van Suid-Afrika in 'n ander rigting gestuur. Tot 1834 was dit die plek waar slawe verkoop is.
3. By die Fingo Melkhoutboom naby Peddie het die Fingo's hul lojaliteit teenoor God en die Britse Kroon bevestig toe Hintza se vegters hulle wou aanval.

*Die melkhoutbome in die reservaat is nog jonk en klein. Dit is belangrik dat ons dit bewaar vir ons nageslag om oor 500 jaar te geniet.*



Colpoon compressum; family: Santalaceae  
Cape sumach, wild plum, coast tannin bush  
(Eng.); wildepruim, basbessie, rooi kersiehout .

Die wildepruim groei oral op Rooiels. Die pruime is eetbaar, helderrooi en dan donkerpers tot swart. Die vrugte word nie almal gelyk ryp nie, sodat dit 'n tyd lank kos aan diere voorsien. Dit is 'n belangrike voedselbron vir die larwes van die voëlwitjieskoenlapper (op die voorblad.)

Die blare en bas van die wildepruim is gebruik om leer te looi. 'n Pulp is van die blare gemaak en met osbloed gemeng om vislyne en nette langer te laat hou. Dit moes aardig geruk het.

Die vrugte is eetbaar vir mense. Vroeë inwoners aan die Kaap het die pit verwyder, die vrug saamgepers in 'n houer en gebêre vir hongertye.

## Die opwinding van orgideë

Ons het reeds drie orgideë in die reservaat geïdentifiseer, maar is oortuig daarvan dat daar meer moet wees. Elkeen het sy eie bekoring en jy moet laag buk om hulle raak te sien.

### Satyrium odorum; family Orchidaceae Reuktrewwa, soettrewwa (foto regs).

Hierdie groenkleurige orgidee groei op Rooiels tot hoogstens 10 cm, maar dit kan groter word. Die blomme is groen-geel, soms is daar 'n perserige kleur op die punte. Dit is een van die min orgideë met geur, maar om dit te ervaar, moet mens plat op jou maag lê. Saans is die geur skerper om motjies te lok.

Die blomme word geëet deur dassies en skilpaaie en ons het al dopgehou hoe 'n fisant die jong plant pik dat daar niks oorbly nie. Die bolletjie bly agter en die bobbejane en ystervarke hou daarvan.

*Niks kan mens voorberei op die wonder van die Rooiels Natuurreservaat nie. Sommige plante blom net een dag lank en as jy wegbly, mag jy dit mis. Neem vir jou koffie saam, gaan sit op 'n bank en ontspan.*



*Luister na die paddas, hou die interaksie tussen die plante en die voëls of insekte dop .*

*Net voor donker swiep die swaels en vlermuise bo die Noordwestekant, waar dit moerasagtig is. As jy mooi luister, kan jy die swaeltjies se bekke hoor klap.*

*Boonop kan die mooiste foto's en die beste natuurprogram nie vir jou die koel seebries en die geur van reuktrewwa in die skemeraand gee nie. Gaan ervaar dit self.*



*The fruit of the Cape wild plum tree don't ripen all at once and is an important food source for the larvae of the common dotted border butterfly (see frontpage). Baboons love the plums.*



*The smell of the Satyrium odorum (reuktrewwa) is stronger at night. They are moth pollinated.*



**Holothrix villosa (thread orchid (Eng.) bobbejaanoortjie .**

**Pterygodium catholicum (cowl bonnet (Eng.), oumakappie Afr.)**

– Dine van Zyl





John Biesman-Simons  
Chairman

# Rooiels Boat Club Report



## Slipways and sunny days

Somewhere, buried deep in South Africa's bureaucratic bungling, there lives a saint; one who gave consideration to the impact the Covid-19 pandemic was having on the lives of recreational crayfishermen.

"Wait a moment" the saint thought, "were there not 2 days over the Easter weekend when the crayfishing season was open?" The saint checked the original schedule and discovered that indeed this was the case.

Lo and behold, the saint ordained that Saturday and Sunday 20 & 21 June could pretend to be Good Friday and Easter Saturday. That the re-jigged Good Friday was now on a Saturday proved of little concern as a beaut of a day dawned, to make the saint's kindness even more notable. Sunday was blown away, but hey, one day is better than none. May the saint live happily ever after.

On the other hand, the wheels of local government can turn far too slowly and there has been no change in the status of the "endangered slipway." This scribe has been informed that, while the slipway remains on the agenda and is bubbling under, there are bigger fish to fry right now. We shall remain patient and engage further when called upon to do so.

The Boat Club has erected a new "Boat Club members parking only" sign (the previous one was overgrown by

bush) as well as a NSRI "pink buoy" at the slipway. More buoys have been purchased and will soon be installed at strategic points in Rooiels.

## The Crayfish Derby

The fact that the slipway remains open meant we could hold our annual crayfish derby. With the club having 32 Rooiels members and nine outside members, it was disappointing that only a measly 9 boats entered the competition. Given that there are five category winners, each entrant had a better than even chance of winning a trophy.

Despite the small field a lot of fun was had. These things do not happen per chance and thanks are due to Piet Uys for all the planning and much of the execution and again hosting the prize giving, the lovely ladies who handle the entries and Competition Master Dick Lockley. Once again Western Province Caterers donated gifts for all the skippers thanks to the generosity of club member Kevin Douglas.

Until next season.

*– John Biesman-Simons*



## Uitslae van die kreefkompetisie

Verlede jaar het ons die laagste gewig ooit in elke kategorie aangeteken. Vanjaar is die tendens voortgesit, soos mens in die uitslae kan sien.

Kategorie	Skipper	Gewig (kg) Desember 2019	Gewig (kg) Desember 2018
Grootste kreef	Wimpie Stals	0.56	0.59
Grootste 4 krewes	Trevor Hoeben	1.89	2.07
Grootste 8 krewes	Derek Esterhuyse	3.28	3.76
Grootste 12 krewes	Mark Butler	4.53	5.41
Grootste 16 krewes	John Biesman-Simons	5.27	5.86

## EET KREEF

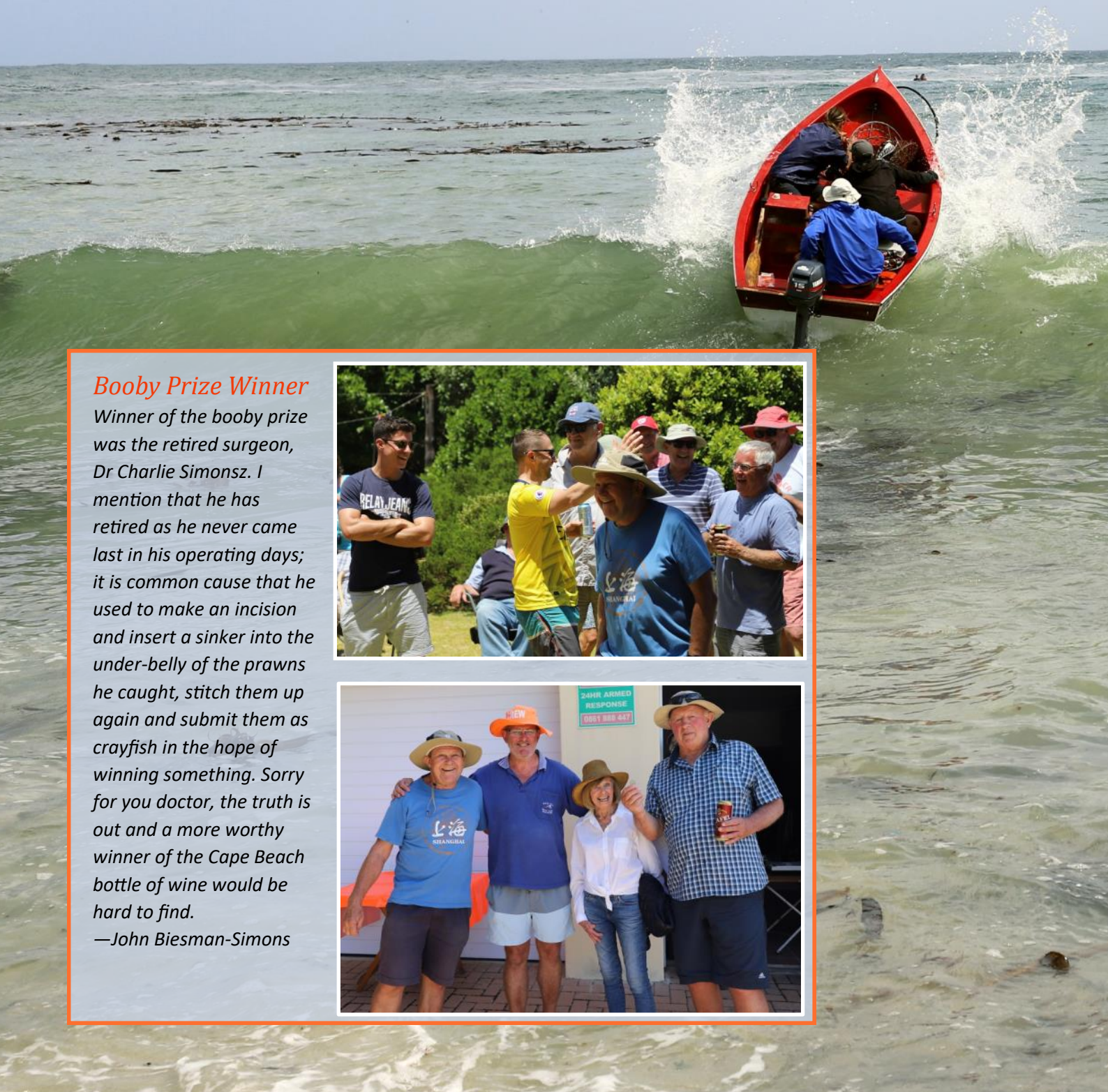


*Last year Wimpie Stals (right) had a few mishaps cross his bow, but that is water under the bridge (vs in his boat). He bounced back stronger than ever and he and his crew claimed the title of the Crayfish King of Rooiels. Well done Wimpie! Hannes du Plessis (left) shares the glory.*



*Trevor Hoeben en sy span het die Chris Gilmore-beker gewen vir die 4 grootste krewes van die dag.*





### *Booby Prize Winner*

Winner of the booby prize was the retired surgeon, Dr Charlie Simonsz. I mention that he has retired as he never came last in his operating days; it is common cause that he used to make an incision and insert a sinker into the under-belly of the prawns he caught, stitch them up again and submit them as crayfish in the hope of winning something. Sorry for you doctor, the truth is out and a more worthy winner of the Cape Beach bottle of wine would be hard to find.

—John Biesman-Simons





# The Crayfish Derby



*Links bo: Derek Esterhuyse het die prys vir die grootste agt krewes van Stephanie Bisschop ontvang.*



*Links : Andrew Butler en sy pa, Mark Butler kies die 12 krewes uit waarmee hulle die beker gewen het.*

*Links onder: John Biesman-Simons en Hilgard Müller het die grootste 16 krewes uitgetrek. Stephanie Bisschop staan in die middel.*



*Onder: Anneke Uys het soos altyd die weegskaal dopgehou as die spanne hul vangs kom weeg.*





## Chats (and other bird tails) 2020



It's almost impossible to condense the birding year of Rooiels into the space allotted, but try we must. Wilfred Wagtail is happily bobbing by my side, checking my spelling and accuracy of reporting, and adding news from his compatriots at the bird bath.

Our year started with the annual oystercatcher "let's see how many nests we can make and eggs we can lay" outings on the beaches of the village, the answer to which is at least 20, but of these to our knowledge only one chick survived.

Time and tide wait for no man as we know. Tidal inundations and foul weather accounted for many of them, and that's before we include predation!

Our once common sand plovers are increasingly rare on all Western Cape beaches, though we still have a number in Rooiels. In January we had the very unusual experience of seeing the 2 species nesting less than a metre apart. This was reported to Prof Peter Ryan at Percy Fitzpatrick as the two don't like each other, but neither nest survived a spring tide and bad weather.

The Egyptian geese, another prolific egg laying machine, made several attempts before finally settling for the safer lagoon. Once hatched, the surfing goslings were brought to the safety of the Point end of the beach.



*Ina en Gert Coetzee moes hulle vakansie uitstel tot die fisantkuikens op die balkon uitgebroei het.*



*Die rooiborsjakkalsvoël het 'n gereëld besoeker aan Rooiels geword. (Jackal buzzard.)*



*Gert scored a megatrick in May when he excitedly phoned with tales of a white-fronted bee-eater in his garden. Other than wondering if he'd been enjoying a glass or two, I hurriedly rushed over and saw the proof – the bird avidly hawking from a favoured perch! This is indeed an astonishing record for the village as it was way out of its normal range. Added to this was that Dine & Graham had also seen, not one but three of the same, earlier in the month, but sadly no photograph was available for a positive ID. For once Covid-19 did the village a favour by stopping what would have been droves of twitchers arriving to see it. We have now had three bee-eater species over the years in Rooiels.*



Gert Coetzee had the pleasure of finding a spurfowl nest in a plastic herb trough on their stoep, with eight eggs and eight successfully hatched precocial chicks. (For those wondering if this is a spelling error, precocial means “of a young bird or other animal hatched or born in an advanced state and able to feed itself almost immediately. Also called nidifugous. Often contrasted with altricial. Now you know!”)

Birding does grip one – the Coetzees promptly postponed their December trip to the Kgalagadi, collected the eight, and transported them to ground level, only to be greeted by a pair of very irritated parents who whisked them away into the undergrowth. They did, however, make regular visits back to show them off. Half didn’t make adulthood, which is about average for this type of bird.

Guess I’ll be out of a job next year and Wilfred Wagtail is a newbie so he’ll be out too! This is precisely why we ask you all to keep us up to date with your spots – your individual habitats and eyes fill in the gaps we can’t see and a photo speaks a 1000 words.

Gert seems to have entrenched his title of Bird Spotter of the Year when he photographed a jackal buzzard and then, in September, added a spotted eagle owl to his area.

The Lundie household is a great perch for our raptor sightings and we receive excellent info from them.

Early September saw the welcome return of swifts and white-throated swallows, always a sign that finally the north-west dragon may be running out of fire.

Sooty shearwaters, gannets and petrels briefly braved – as they do – atrocious weather and came close to shore before returning to the stormy southern seas.

Olive thrush, more at home in leafy suburbs than Rooiels has been heard and seen more frequently as has the “willie” or “piet” call of the sombre greenbul especially in the stand of dense trees near the slipway.

Rooielsers commented on nightjars’ daytime roosting in leaf litter in gardens, Cape batis, the array of sunbirds and the prima donnas of Clarence Drive: Cape rockjumper, ground woodpecker, Cape siskin and Victorin’s warbler.

Not such good news was the sight of a pair of pied crows again – still “rare” in the area and most unwelcome. The ravens are bad enough, with their vulture like tendencies and opportunistic thieving of eggs and youngsters. Still, like the refuse collectors, they have a necessary job to do!

Happy birding!

*Alison Ayre* (assisted by Wilfred Wagtail)  
Rooiels Birders

*Foto’s deur Gert Coetzee, tensy anders vermeld.*



*Die gevlekte ooruil kuier in die omgewing van die Koppie. (Spotted eagle owl.)*



*Bo: Graham McClelland  
het die Kaapse bontrokkie (Cape batis) en die donkervlieëvanger (African dusky flycatcher) in sy tuin afgeneem (onder.)*







*Wolfgang Steinbach will take you to visit our seal colony and other places of interest.*



*Fur seals have two thick layers of fur – a soft inner layer and a bristly outer layer. They eat pilchards, anchovies, crayfish and shrimps and will grab a seagull or penguin if possible. They also eat octopus and are often seen throwing octopus around on the surf.*



## Die robkolonie by Robbeklip

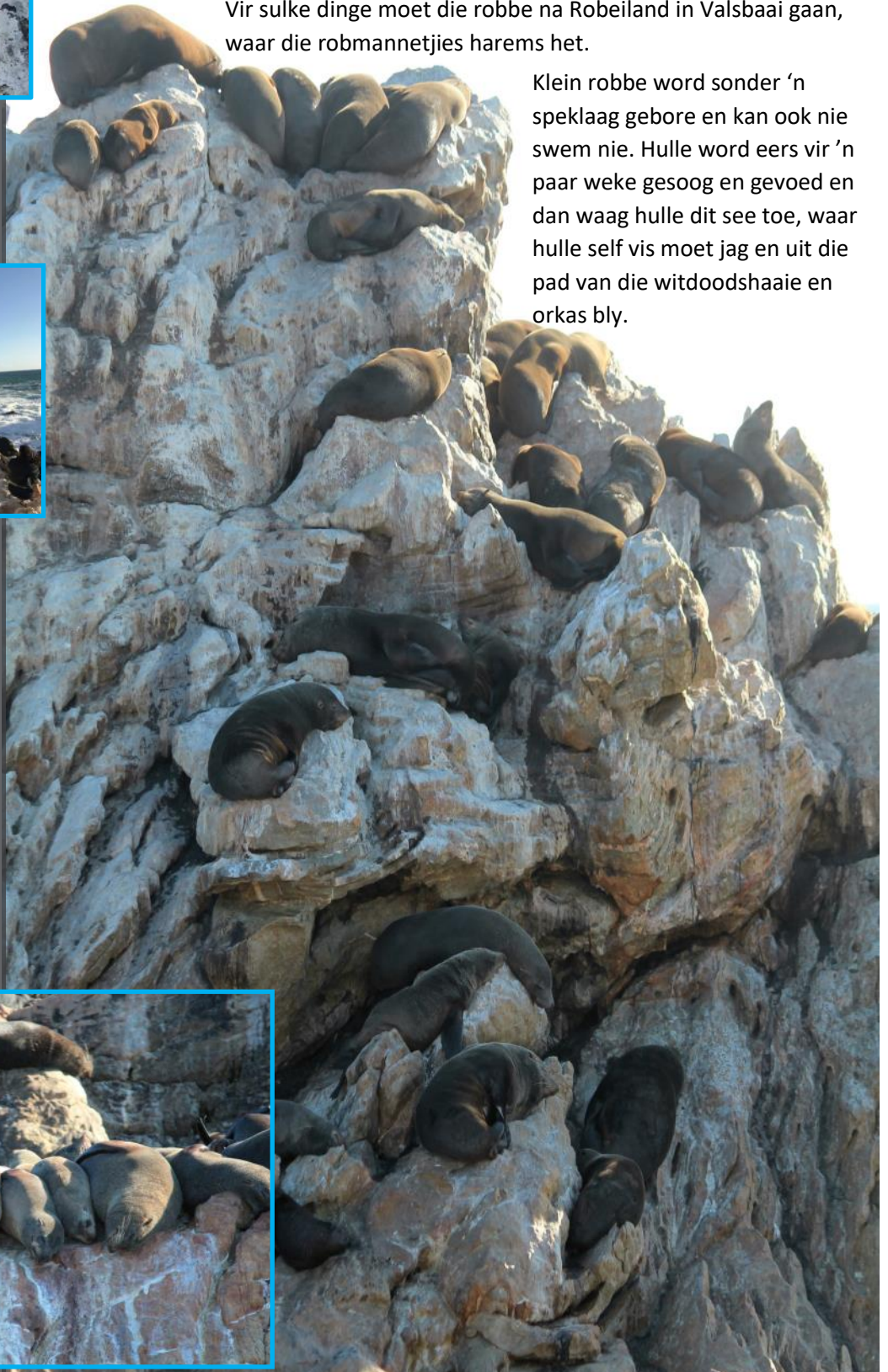
Rooiels het 'n kolonie pelsrobbe wat Robbeklip gebruik om te rus en bietjie in die son te lê. Hulle is Kaapse pelsrobbe, wat endemies is aan Suider-Afrika en vanaf Suid-Angola al om die kus voorkom, tot by Algoabaai.

Die mannetjies is groter as die wyfies en weeg tot 350 kg, terwyl die wyfies die skaal op 'n frisse 150 kg trek.

Die klomp op Robbeklip is nie 'n teelkolonie nie. Die terrein is nie geskik daarvoor nie.

Vir sulke dinge moet die robbe na Robeiland in Valsbaai gaan, waar die robmannetjies harems het.

Klein robbe word sonder 'n speklaag gebore en kan ook nie swem nie. Hulle word eers vir 'n paar weke gesoog en gevoed en dan waag hulle dit see toe, waar hulle self vis moet jag en uit die pad van die witdoodshaai en orkas bly.





# Die Mangaanmyn



Die mangaanmyn bokant Clarence-pad net anderkant Rooiels, is in 1930 gesink om te kyk of dit lewensvatbaar was.

Dit was nie en planne is laat vaar om daar te myn.

Toe die Clarence-pad tydens die Tweede Wêreldoorlog deur Italiaanse krygsgevangenes gebou is, is 'n gedeelte van die myn weggeskiet om plek te maak vir die pad.

Al wat oorbly, is 'n interessante plek met 'n lieflike uitsig vir Rooielsers om te besoek.

Daar was 'n ander myn nader aan Gordonsbaai wat deur die Boerekrygsgevangenes gemyn is. Die Britte het die mangaan nodig gehad om staal te vervaardig.

Naweke het die krygsgevangenes teruggekeer Gordonsbaai toe, waar hulle saam met hulle vroue tennis gespeel het teen die plaaslike inwoners.

*Bron: Rooiels, a history and other stories deur Rita Blake*





# Paddling with a pod

It was late summer in the days before lockdown. The air was fine and warm, the sea cool and calm. Having enjoyed a quick dive, Ivan Becker was wading ashore when his wife Lee-Ann suddenly rushed down to say she had spotted a pod of six dolphins a short distance away, acting unusually.

Deciding to take the double kayak for a closer look, Ivan called Gavin Lundie to join them, and before long the three were out on the water with Gavin and Ivan paddling hard, and Lee-Ann and her camera perched precariously between them.

Cautiously approaching, they saw the pod feasting on a small bloom of jellyfish. After a short while, presumably with tummies full, the dolphins turned their attention to the three enthralled terrestrials in their midst. Swimming alongside the kayak, they appraised the crew through all-knowing, sentient eyes. Then, as if choreographed, they began playfully swimming in circles, rolling on their sides, and splashing about like kids in a pool. Time and again, with effortless grace they swept under and around the kayak, enchanting their audience over an hour that felt like mere minutes.



Albertus de Wet

## The sounds of silence

Barely a word was spoken in all that time, so as not to break the precious spell. The only sounds were the lapping of water on the kayak's hull, the mechanical clicks of the camera, and the haunting, sighing breaths from the dolphins' blowholes.

Finally the pod decided it was time to move on. With a final nod they drifted off and away to sea in search of something only they could know, leaving the three to return home having participated in a remarkable communion that will remain a cherished memory forever.





Lee-Ann Becker





*Jill Lockley*

## Our leopard-spotting spots

As all those who visit our little village will agree, Rooiels is an amazingly unique and special place. Situated where we are, with spectacular sea views all around and backed by such majestic mountains, residents are more than happy to tolerate the vagaries of the weather. In addition to indescribable views, Rooiels is spoiled with a plethora of wildlife, including the elusive leopards that frequent a number of caves in the area.

Over the years we have collected an incredible amount of photographic evidence of these leopards (and many, many other

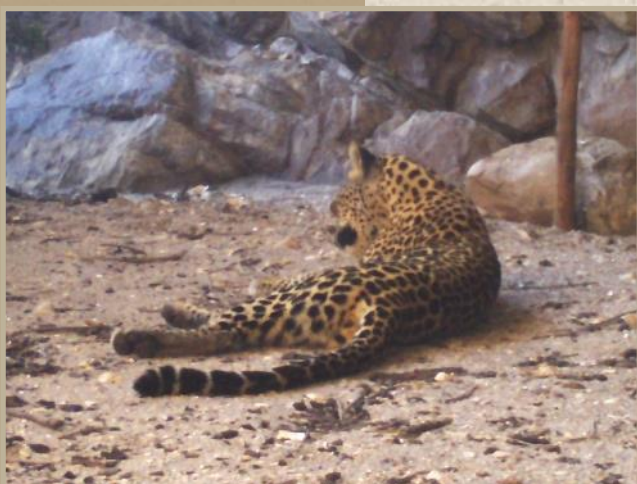


animals) from the two caves we monitor using motion sensor field cameras. In the past year, we have identified three individuals from our photos; two females, Ruby and Rose, and one male, Diego. Whereas Ruby and Rose, both photographed over ten times each, seem to be visiting both our caves, Diego's wanderings have only taken him through one of them (at least four times). As yet, we haven't been able to work out the leopards' preferred routes, as there doesn't seem to be an obvious pattern to their visits.



### Expert input

We were recently very excited to be visited here in Rooiels by Jeannie Hayward of the Cape Leopard Trust (CLT). She gave us an update on the various projects that CLT is currently busy with and joined an expedition to retrieve photos from our cameras. We were grateful for her guidance and support of our amateur efforts, allowing us to tap into her leopard knowledge and expertise, particularly when it comes to the challenging task of identifying the animals from their unique spot-patterns. The CLT has just begun large-scale monitoring of leopards in the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve and we are very interested to see what findings emerge!



Rooiels and Pringle Bay are currently working together to monitor our leopards, and we are excited and hopeful that Betty's Bay will soon be joining our monitoring efforts.

### Lucky us

Every day we are reminded of the privilege it is to live in this wonderful place. I believe it is our responsibility to continue living in harmony with nature in this peaceful paradise.

*– Jill Lockley and James Burns*







## Getting to know you

In November 2019 Gordon, Briony, son Kyle and daughter Heath, cats and dog, packed up and moved from Midrand to Rooiels, a journey that started 30 long years before. Gordon tells the tale:

On a visit way back in 1990, Briony and I drove along the R44 and stopped off in Rooiels, attracted by the pretty little town in its spectacular setting. Purely out of curiosity, for we had no intention to buy, we popped into Harriet Walls' estate agency and enquired about available land. A week later we were the proud and slightly bemused owners of 186 Study Road.

Over the years we visited Rooiels on and off to holiday and weed the plot and plan the house we'd build when our ship came in. Unfortunately, it became apparent that our ship was probably terminally delayed, and so Briony floated the idea that if we were able to sell the plot, we might be able to buy an existing house.

I agreed – purely out of curiosity for I had no intention of selling what we had. A week later we were the proud new owners of 63 Bathers Road.

After a few years of fixing up the house and renting it out the decision to move down permanently was made



easier when we found that, thanks to a fast and reliable internet, we could work from here without the need to be anywhere else. Although Kyle had to get back to Johannesburg to work, his heart is in Rooiels. Heath lives with us for now, happy to work online.

Now the only thing that remains for us, is to get over the strange feeling that we're on an endless holiday.

– *Gordon McIntyre*

*Gordon made a valuable contribution to the Breeze by editing the English text. Thank you, Gordon. – Editor.*

## 90 Years Old

*Marie Philip celebrated her 90th birthday this year.*

*Marie and husband David Philip bought their share in a plot and built the house in partnership with Marie's brother, Clive van Ryneveld and wife Verity in 1968.*

*The Van Rynevelds later sold most of their share to the Philips, so Marie has been a regular and consistent owner/visitor ever since.*

*That is over 50 years! Marie is a real Rooiels veteran. What memories she must have to share with us.*

*Congratulations on turning 90 – a great achievement.*

*– With love and respect*

*from the Rooiels Community.*





# In memoriam

Willie Pienaar 29.04.1942 – 15.05.2020

Met die heengaan van Willie (Pine) Pienaar is 'n groot deel van die kollektiewe geskiedenis van Rooiels daarmee heen. Willie was vir 45 jaar deel van Rooiels en die joviale, maar beskeie man het 'n baie groot rol agter die skerms gespeel sodat ons dorp bewaar gebly het teen groot aanslae.

Hy het in talle komitees gedien en was deel van die afvaardiging wat betyds gekeer het dat die besige R44 dwarsdeur ons dorp sny. Willie was ook intens by die Somchem-saga betrokke terwyl hy in verskeie portefeuljes op die REBV gedien het.

Vir Martie was hy 'n byna lewenslange geliefde. Hulle was al van skooldae gekys en hulle het tot aan die einde bemindes gebly.

Wat ek van Willie Pienaar sal onthou, is sy wye arms as jy by hulle huis instap en hoe hy jou hartlik omhels met: My vriend! Ek is so bly jy is hier!

Só sal ek vir Willie onthou. Arms wyd oop om jou in sy wêreld te verwelkom.

– *Gerard Scholtz*

## Robert Baumann

Robert Baumann is in Maart vanjaar dood in sy huis aangetref. Ons weet nie hoe oud hy was nie.

Robert was so deel van Rooiels soos die rotse en die see. Hy het reeds in die jare sestig hier kom bly.

Robert was sterk en fiks. Volgens Delicia Preiss het sy hande vir niks verkeerd gestaan nie. Hy het sy huis met sy eie hande gebou, kon goed kosmaak en was 'n harde werker.

Robert was 'n kranige visserman en duiker en was 'n lid van die Rooiels Bootklub tot 2014. Rooiels het een van sy ware karakters verloor; sy afsterwe laat beslis 'n leemte.

## Mike Levett 06.06.1939—30.08.2020

Mike Levett who had a holiday home in Rooiels for many decades, passed away after a sudden heart attack on the 30th August. He was 81. His wife Jill unfortunately passed away the previous year.

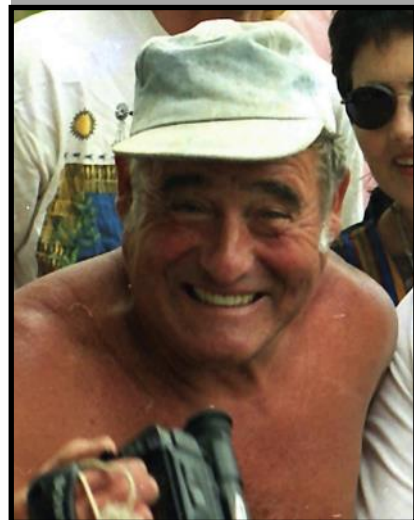
Mike was an actuary by profession and had an extremely successful career in the life assurance industry, eventually holding the position of Executive Chairman of Old Mutual for many years. He also found time to do an MBA at UCT in the late 1970's and won the gold medal for the best student of his year. He was involved in many charities and NGO's and was also awarded an honorary doctorate by his Alma Mater, UCT.

Mike acquired a holiday home in Lovers Walk in the 1960's and subsequently built a beautiful new house on the same plot a few years ago. From all the many Rooielsers who would have gotten to know him over the years our deepest condolences to his children and grandchildren.

– *Dave de Klerk*



*Willie en Martie Pienaar*



*Robert Baumann*



*Mike Levett*



## 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.

*Die opvangsgebied van die Rooiels Eko-deurgang is in die ongerepte kloof aan die oostekant van die brug. Hier vloei onbesoedelde water na die strandmeer met sy eie interessante ekologie. Dit is hier waar visse teel, voëls broei en otters op die strand baljaar.*

## 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.