# Bries Breeze

Maart 2000

Rooiels Belastingbetalersvereniging

Posbus 89 Bettysbaai 7141

## Redaksioneel Editorial

*The day we die*
*A soft breeze will wipe out*
*Our footprints in the sand.*
*Who will tell the timelessness,*
*That once we walked this way*
*In the dawn of time?*
(From a Khoi San song)

TEN MIDDE VAN HITTE golwe,veldbrande, ongekende kalm see en 'n tjoepstil Suid-ooster, het ons oorgeglip in die nuwe millennium. Oujaarsaand hier rond was meestal gevier deur groepies vriende en familie wat saam gekuier het. Die groot jolyt was in die stad en die vuurwerke het op die horison geskitter en dan verdwyn in die Afrika-nag. Hier rond was die vuurwerke kortstondig en die muskeljaatkatte, muis-hondjies en bobbejane het skaars 'n oog geknip.

The New Year brought several new faces to the RERA EXCO. All voiced their willingness to contribute to this beautiful and relatively unspoiled town of ours and we know they will bring new vigour to the group. The majority of RERA members have supported the Rooiels Vision that outlines our dream for the area A copy is included in this issue of the Breeze. This is an important document, for not only does it identify specific objectives to be considered during decision making, but it also offers philosophical continuity to successive EXCOs.

Baie Dankie aan die uit-tredenes, Gerard, Anuta en Elida wat toegewyd gewerk het aan die Kapdae, die Bries, vakansie programme, ens. Gerard's outsize editorial shoes have been filled by a Breeze Committee, under leadership of Dr Jenny Stark, and we look forward to keeping you all abreast of the important happenings in Rooiels.
In hierdie eerste uitgawe wil ons konsentreer op die Rooiels Visie en die droom dat hierdie 'n 'Groen Millen-nium' sal wees. Baie wildernis plekke het in die laaste eeu vinnig verdwyn. Stel julle voor dat ons nou daardie skade ongedaan kon maak: vooruit-gang wat bewaring koester.

The reason most of us come to Rooiels is because we enjoy its natural beauty, marine life, birds, wildlife and unique flora. Let us honour the spirit of the Khoi San song quoted above and protect our little space from damage and destruction. May we tread softly on this beautiful place and leave its wild beauty intact to enchant future generations.

*Evette Weyers*

**Our Vision......**

***An ecologically well balanced area Where man and nature thrive in harmony***

# From the Chair

A new millennium - a new Rooiels EXCO and big changes in local government. The dark cloud of municipal demarcation still hangs over us, with proposed municipal boundaries stretching from Rooiels to beyond Pearly Beach. We attend lots of meetings, keep our finger on the pulse, and continue to wait and see..........

The new EXCO has had 2 meetings this year and it is already clear that members are keen and prepared to work hard to make Rooiels an even better place in which to reside and relax. We are planning a beautiful entrance to our village, professionally landscaped and planted with clusters of indigenous trees and fynbos. Beyond this will be road circles to control speeding. Signage will be tasteful and not allowed to clutter our village in uncontrolled abandon. There is no shortage of ideas and energy. Financing these is a little harder. But we are enthusiastic and confident that during this year we will accelerate the process of *creating and maintaining an ecologically well balanced area in which indigenous flora, fauna, marine life and humans can co-exist and thrive in harmony.*

We appeal to all of you who love Rooiels to help us achieve this dream.

*Basil Moss*
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skoonsig@mweb.co.za

# Van ons Raadslid
# From our Councillor

Die tweede fase van die verbeterings van die Rooiels ingang sal voor die Paasnaweek voltooi word. Die REBV is tans besig om voor te berei vir die aanplant van bome sodra die water-toevoer stelsel deur die Munisipaliteit aangelê is.

Omdat hierdie verslag dan ook die verwydering van indringerbome aanspreek, wil ek graag voorstel dat u 'n kopie van Darrelle Snyman se verslag "A guide to Indigenous replacements of removed alien trees and shrubs at Rooiels" bekom. Darrelle se plantkunde behels die uitdaging om die Rooiels-omgewing met die regte bome te beplant. Prof Tony Hall was die promotor vir hierdie mini-tesis wat as 'n vereiste vir Darrelle se Diploma in Natuurbewaring gedien het.

Ek wens u almal 'n gesonde, gesellige en geestelike Paasnaweek toe.

Soos voorheen gemeld is Vrydagoggende veral my Rooiels oggend - skakel gerus

*Julia Aalbers*
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N.S. Kopiëe van Darrelle se verslag kan teen 'n koste van R10 by Hettie verkry word.
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028 273-8472

**Stash your trash - Use the igloos**

# WHAT HAS RERA DONE FOR US?

**1999**

- Organized and ran a fun-filled, festive season holiday programme
- cleared 47,000m$^2$ of Rooirans, reducing fire hazard
- organised two beach clean-up days and participated in the international beach clean-up day in September
- published the Breeze
- initiated the Nature Reserve boardwalk
- obtained 3 recycling igloos
- attractive wooden screen built around waste station
- repaired wooden bins
- management plan for the Rooiels Nature Reserve
- speedcalming traffic circle
- great progress with the Herbarium - 100 species collected and identified
- sponsored Carols by Candlelight, Harold Porter
- represented Rooiels interests at various meetings: Kobio; BCCC; Federation of Ratepayers; Seawatch; Hangklip Heritage Trust; Hangklip-Kleinmond Tourism Bureau; Council meetings

**VORIGE MYLPALE**

- die REBV het verhoed dat die hoofdeurpad met Porterrylaan seelangs Pringlebaai toe loop
- het die Rooiels skool-terrein tot natuurreservaat laat verklaar en dus bygedra tot die Kogelberg Biosfeer se oorgangsone beleid van kleiner reservate

- die Rooiels Visie opgestel wat 'n ideaal vir die dorp daarstel. Dit word deur die Munisipaliteit en ander respekteer
- het groot hoeveelhede Rooikrans verwyder
- het estetiese houtvullis-blikke opgerig
- het verkeerseilande ingestel en beplant
- het verskeie praatjies oor die natuur en seelewe vir inwoners gehou
- Somchem ondersoek en hofsaak van stapel gestuur
- Het die ingang tot Rooiels plavei

# New Committee

**Basil Moss (Chairman)**
*Portfolios: Roads, Fire, Water*
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I was born on the Wirral in Cheshire, and attended St Columbus College in Dublin, Ireland. On completion of my studies, I came to South Africa to help run the family farm and decided to stay. I farmed for 44 years and only left 'Skoongesig' in 1998.
Elisabeth and I found our special retirement place in Rooiels - a place we had searched for, with unspoilt beaches, mountains and wide open spaces, away from the bright city lights and crowds, where we could be at one with nature. Both of us would like to see Rooiels remain unspoilt, and safe for all - with our flora, fauna, marine life and open spaces protected for next generations to enjoy.

**Bill Rabie (Vice Chairman)**
*Portfolios: Security, Builders/plans/aesthetics, Financial advisory committee*
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I matriculated at Boys High School, Paarl and obtained my medical degree at the University of Edinburgh. I practiced medicine in Port Elizabeth for 9 years and played an active roll in the local community. Thereafter I joined the Air Force, obtained my pilots wings and open commercial licence. I qualified in areo-space medicine at the School of Aero-Space Medicine in San Antonio Texas and was presented with the United States Air Force Flight Surgeon Award and granted the freedom of San Antonio.
I gained Springbok colours in game fishing and represented South Africa on numerous occasions.
I was elected to the Municipal council of Modderfontein and served two terms as Mayor.
I was Director of the Medical Bureau for Occupational Diseases and was appointed by the Minister to various statutory committees in the field of mining health and safety. Presently I spend most of my time in Rooiels but also have a house in S/West.

> **Love your dogs and help us love them too**
> **Pick up their packages!**

**Estelle Raymond (Secretary/Treasurer)**
*Portefeulje: Duine*
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Ek het reeds as student op Rooiels verlief geraak, toe ek en my (toekomstige) man, Frank, eendag hier kom piekniek hou het - toevallig regvoor die huis wat ons later in Rooiels gekoop het. Rooiels is vir my 'n plek waar die natuur met my praat, 'n plek waar ek kan asemskep en saans onder 'n ongeloof-like sterrehemel kan wonder oor die skepping. Ek het in Pretoria groot-geword en op

> **Keep Rooiels clean**

Stellenbosch Bcom LLB studeer. Ek is 'n prokureur van beroep en is groep-regsadviseur by KWV. My verbintenis met Rooiels het my inspireer om 'n meesters-graad in die Regte met die fokus op Omgewingsreg te doen. 'n Saak wat my baie na aan die hart lê is die bewaring van die wonderlike bio-diversiteit van hierdie Plant-koningkryk. Ek geniet dit om nuwe dinge te leer en is tans besig met 'n MPhil-graad en leer ook Duits praat. Maar op Rooiels leer ek wat werklik belangrik is: dat hier onskat-bare dinge is (soos die roep van die otters in die nag) wat nie in geldwaarde gemeet kan word nie; en dat hier klein wonderwerke daagliks om 'n mens geskied.

### Evette Weyers

*Portefeuljes: Bewaring Natuur Reservaat, Seebewaring/Seewag, Bootklub*
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My ouers het eers hier gebly en ek besoek Rooiels al sedert 1973. Die fynbos-wêreld kruip diep onder mens se vel in. Ek en Marius het op Rooiels kom woon om die vrye natuur te geniet, te duik en ek om ook beelde te maak. (Ons het so wydsbeen oor die wêreld gewerk; die pre-historiese strandloper kus hier en die kitsblink dol spoed van Amerika daar oorkant.)
Ons harte het egter diep gewortel in Afrika gebly en met my passie vir die see het ek noodwendig meer en meer hier betrokke geraak. So het die gedagte by drie van ons opgekom om SEEWAG te stig, wat gou momentum op-getel het! Nou is ek op 4 komitees, hou vergaderings met van adjunkministers tot stropers en gee Seewerks-winkels - so tussen die beelde maak en duik deur. In hierdie proses het ek ons gemeen-skap, die see en die natuur baie beter leer ken en is dit vir my wonderlik om te kan bydra tot die beskerming en instand-houding van hierdie unieke, asemrowende stukkie Kaapse kus en die groot blou moeder see.

Protect the wild cat gene pool
Neuter/spay your kitty-cat

Wees lig-bewus en sien sterre

### Jenny Stark

*Portfolios: Publications, Waste management*
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I was born in Johannesburg and spent my childhood in Central Africa where my father was a missionary doctor. I did a PhD in immunology at Wits and worked at the Medical School for 15 years, mainly research into kidney transplantation. From 1995 I was Assistant Director at the National Centre for Occupational Health in Johannesburg and Head of Immunology, where I focused on diagnosis and research into work-related diseases of the immune system. It was on a perfect, windless day in 1997, that my husband and I happened upon Rooiels. For both of us it was love at first sight, and within an hour our 3-year search for our own patch of unspoilt earth had ended. We moved here in 1998 and, despite having survived a black South Easter or two, continue to think of Rooiels as one of the most beautiful spots in the world. We are learning to be gentle with nature and enjoy sharing what we learn with others, particularly guests who come to our B+B.

### Hettie Claassens

*Portefeuljes: Openbare betrekkinge, Signage/Tekens*
Tel: 021 424-4644
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Ek het in Namibië groot geword, in Bloemfontein skoolgegaan en in Pretoria B.A. en H.O.D. studeer. Ek woon al jarelank in Kaapstad waar ek aktief betrokke was by die skole en gemeen-skapsdiens. My groot belang-stelling in ons argitektoniese erfenis het gelei tot 'n jarelange betrokkenheid by die Stigting Simon van der Stel.
Op die REBV hoop ek om 'n bydrae te maak tot die behoud van Rooiels se natuurlike skoonheid. My portefeulje op REBV is díe van skakeling. Ek verneem graag van enige sake wat u as inwoner na aan die hart lê.

## RERA's 27th AGM

RERA's 27th Annual General Meeting took place on 29 December 1999 - a sweltering day. It was chaired by Basil Moss and attended by more than 65 ratepayers and a substantial number of interest-ed parties. Mr Roche de Jager, the Town Clerk, and Mr Fanie Krige, the Town Secretary were also present.

It was unanimously agreed that access to Rooiels had to be managed in order to improve security of residents and law-enforcement. The response-time of the SAP from Kleinmond to Rooiels is at least 45 minutes. The Executive Committee was

mandated to approach the municipality urgently and to develop detailed proposals to be submitted to all residents and discussed at a special meeting called for this purpose. The meeting also resolved that Rooiels be allocated a full-time law enforcement officer.

Eldie Brink addressed the meeting on his resignation from the municipality's Financial Advisory Committee. He expressed his frustration with the limited progress made by the committee and its use as a *"rubber stamp"* for council decisions.

Problems with light pollution at Rooiels were discussed. In terms of the municipal by-law light must not intrude beyond the boundaries of a property - the meeting applauded.

Satisfaction regarding the progress made by Seawatch with proposals for a marine reserve was expressed.

Several people expressed their dissatisfaction with the haphazard and unpredictable manner in which refuse was removed and this will be discussed with the relevant authorities. If improvements are not evident, a protest of non-payment will be considered.

There was some heated debate regarding the alleged use of Erf 108 as a self-catering establishment and Julia Aalbers clarified the applicable regulations.

At various occasions during the meeting regret was expressed at the divisive and personal nature of recent letters to the press by certain Rooiels residents.

Mr Diarmuid Baigrie asked members of the RERA to appraise themselves of the nature of the Arctotis dune path. Council would soon hold a meeting of interested parties and affected land-owners in an attempt to reach consensus on the final placement of this access route.

Mr Geoff Harris requested that the RERA adopt a vote of thanks to Mr Leon Kirkinis and family for the positive way in which the rezoning of erf 115, which was formerly zoned for hotel purposes, was handled.

The following persons were elected to the Executive Committee for 2000: Evette Weyers, Basil Moss, Bill Rabie, Estelle Raymond and Jenny Stark. All candidates pledged their support for the Rooiels Vision.

During 1999 RERA had a membership exceeding 50% of property owners in Rooiels – certainly a record for any ratepayers' association.

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### *Voter Registration*

*A voter registration form has been included in this issue of the Breeze. If you have not yet registered to vote in our area, please do so. The local election is important as it will affect our quality of life in the village. In 1995, Rooiels had a much higher proportion of voters than Betty's Bay and Pringle Bay.*

*PS. The form plus ID must personally be delivered to the municipality.*

# Portfolio Reports

## Roads

### Clarence Drive

A serious accident occurred on Clarence Drive on 7 February. A Combi carrying Swiss soccer players left the road near the crest of Rooiels hill and 7 players were injured - some seriously. Fortunately the Kleinmond police and ambulance, Somerset West Accident Response Unit, a Metro team with doctor and paramedics and the Medical Team attached to the Rescue Helicopter were on the scene very quickly. It was most reassuring to watch them working as a team, all knowing exactly what was expected of them and doing it. They are well trained and efficient. Local help came from Mr & Mrs Clausen of Clarence Drive. Mrs Clausen was invaluable in overcoming the language problem. Johan Lambrechts of the Helderberg Farm Watch control room co-ordinated messages, dispatched help and kept us generally informed.

Signage has now been erected on the downhill - specifically aimed at heavy vehicles.

### Internal roads

Many of our roads have been upgraded and the potholes filled. Hopefully some more work will be done before the winter rains begin. Unfortunately, better roads also mean that people tend to drive faster, though so far, no people or animals have been hurt in inner Rooiels. We would like to keep our streets a place where children,

pedestrians, cyclists, baboons and the occasional mongoose have right of way. Please encourage friends and visitors to stick to the 20km/h speed limit in Rooiels. It is amazing how little dust is generated when driving at this speed.
The provision of parking at the Rooiels "Central Business District" will be completed soon, as will the circle at the 4-way stop, including paving. Watering points will be supplied for plants used in natural fynbos landscaping, which will also be done in the area around the rubbish disposal area.

**Fire**
The threat of run-away fires has been reduced due to the fact that a great deal of rooikrans has been cleared. A fire fighting box has also been located in the CBD. Fire hydrants throughout Rooiels have been checked and marked. A map depicting fire hydrants will be put up at the CBD

**Fire hydrants in Rooiels**

| Street | Erf |
|---|---|
| Camp | 14 |
| River View | 22/23 |
| Roella | 317/318 |
| Roella | 303 |
| Porter/Roella | 293/319 |
| Porter | 283 |
| Porter | 288 |
| Oceanview | 248/276 |
| Rocklands | 238/239 |
| Rocklands/Arctotis | 114 |
| Priestleya/Gazania | 98 |
| Priestleya | 164 |
| Study/Gnidia | 185 |
| Hotel Crescent | 84/85 |
| Harveya | 193 |

One of the main asbestos lines was recently broken by heavy construction vehicles, leaving parts of Rooiels without water for awhile. Repair time was fast – thanks to Carl Muller of the municipality. The water pressure seemed better over the holiday season than in previous years.

*Basil Moss*

# SEAWATCH SEEWAG

*Please help protect our sea resources*

Thanks to all of you who replied to the survey on the marine reserve. The majority were in favour of a part of Rooiels being included in a reserve that goes all the way to the river at Pringlebay. I presented this to Dr Colin Attwood and it was accepted in the preliminary demarcation of the reserves.
Verlede Kersfees seisoen het ons 'n ongekende aantal duikers en kreeftrekkers gehad. Gelukkig is kreef steeds volop. Die perlemoen het egter kwaai deurgeloop en heelwat is gestroop. Piere du Toit het hard gewerk om vangste te kontroleer. So ook Frank en Estelle Raymond. Daar was ongelukkig 'n toename in kinders wat stroop. Twee kinders was 6 keer gevang in die Bettysbaai gebied. In twee gevalle het die Pa of die Pa en die Ma saam gestroop. Laat ons asseblief weet as u weet van skoolkinders wat perlemoen of kreef verkoop.

SEEWAG/SEAWATCH IS LAUNCHING A BIG EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN

We will be covering the area from Gordons Bay to Bot River. We are hoping that the President's Award Youth Empowerment Programme will take over the project from phase 3.

HELP ASSEBLIEF VIR SEEWAG OM STROPERY TE VOORKOM.

REPORT POACHING BEFORE THE POACHERS LEAVE THE AREA!
SEAWATCH: 083 212 2252/3
EVETTE: 083 212 5650

# NATURE CONSERVATION

I have been on the Nature Reserve Advisory Committee for 4 years and have taken over the portfolio of Nature Conservation. The nature reserve is well established and I see many people walking in it. Even the otters enjoy sitting on the bench close to the water! They have a den in the reserve.
"Stray domestic cats are a real problem", says Craig Spencer "as they kill a lot of young birds, rodents, lizards and geckos. They compete for food with the genets and mongooses and pose a threat to the gene pool of wild cats (the black footed wildcats)".
Ons leef hier tussen die otters, muishondjies, bokkies, muskeljaatkatte en 'n menigte voëls. Dis egter die bobbejane wat die meeste onmiddellike impak op ons lewens het, soms skade aangerig het en

honde te lyf gegaan het. Ons moet egter 'n oplossing vind om in vrede saam te leef. Permanente inwoners het uiteenlopende maniere gevind om die bobbejaan huis-besoeke te beperk. Sommige meer of minder geslaagd

As we are the ones who moved into the baboon's territory, it is only right that we should take their needs into account. I have asked Charlie how he sees humans and how we impact on the lives of local baboons. We welcome ideas from this perspective and would like to make this a regular column in the Breeze.

*Evette Weyers*

Stretch your mind
Think like a baboon

## Waste Management

**Littering**

Keeping Rooi Els clean is a task that, like the rooikrans, just keeps growing. There is a worrying increase in the litter left on the beach, along Clarence Drive and around the CBD. The South Easter helps every now and then by picking up plastic bags and relocating them on the other side of False Bay, but things like disposable nappies and packets of left-over take-aways tend to stay put. If we are to succeed, we require the cooperation of residents, visitors and passers-by alike. We must start by creating an awareness. *To keep Rooiels green, keep it clean.* Practically, this means that you never litter, and if you see someone else doing so, go over and politely ask him/her to put their rubbish in a bin, or take it away with them. This needn't be confrontational - see it as an opportunity to *'Clean-up and Green-up together'*. Businesses supply-ing take-away food should consider printing their containers or serviettes with a "*Keep Rooiels Clean*" or "*Stash your trash*" message.

**Dogs**

Dog lovers in Europe have no problem accepting the responsibility of picking up packages their dogs may leave in shared spaces. There is no reason why we can't do the same. Dogs and their owner's delight in frolicking on Rooiels beach - we enjoy watching them. But, make sure those that follow you can confidently stretch out on the sand without any nasty surprises. We hear grumblings, so I appeal to dog owners to be pro-active and forestall confrontation with a growing number of disgusted beach users. Your 'Walkies Kit' should include a leash, a couple of plastic bags (no holes in them!) and a hand spade. Pick up your dog's parcels and we'll welcome you back anytime!

**Garbage**

Though close to bursting over the Christmas period, the three recycling igloos have been working well. The bright blue colour jars a bit, so we have decided to repaint them a fynbos green and paint has been donated by Prominent Paints (Pty) Ltd. A wooden fence has been erected to screen off the area from view, and an enclosed trailer placed behind the screen. Residents are reminded to place their garbage bags INSIDE the trailer, not on the ground around it. Remember, this is where you can make a huge contribution to the Greening of Rooiels. *Stash your trash*, never leave it exposed for our fellow residents (baboons, birds and mongooses) to pilfer. Don't place your bags out on the road for collection. I suspect our baboons are smart enough to know what day of the week it is! We have been assured that municipal workers will collect all garbage from bins. If this is not happening, please inform me so that I can follow it up. The wooden structures dotted around the village are for the benefit of the public and cannot accommodate refuse bags.
Keeping Rooiels clean is one area where even a small action can have a large impact. *Gallant Greening*!

*Jenny Stark*

Rooielsers
do it together!
Clean-up and
Green-up

## Vakansieprogram

Die vakansieprogram het letterlik "afgeskop" met oggendbries oefeninge by die boot inlaat. Met 'n energieke

jong fisioterapeut aan die voorpunt is gerek-en-gestrek, gewikkel en verneuk, vars seelug diep ingetrek en asem stadig en hard (saam met al die fisiese en psigiese goggas in die sisteem) uitgeblaas - groot pret vir die wat hul naweek-lywe betyds uit die bed kon kry. Herbert, wat sy gereelde gym in Kaapstad gemis het, en fiks moes bly vir Kilimanjaro, het met kenmerkende sjarme nog 'n sessie by Lizelle afgebedel.

'n Immergroen program bly Evette se seewerkswinkels vir kinders en volwassenes onderskeidelik, die gratis bootritte deur die manne van die bootklub (met die krefie of twee daarby getrek!), en MARIUS EN VRIEND. MARIUS EN VRIEND het hierdie keer 'n nuwe dimensie aangeneem deurdat 'n paar van die sketse deur ons eie Evette geskryf was oor dinge wat sommer hier by ons gebeur, as't ware op ons voorstoep. Dinge wat binne in ons harte kom wriemel het van lekkerte.

The beauty of the holiday programme is that most items are designed for family participation, with emphasis on the fun aspect. All are winners! This was at first a difficult concept for young Paul, with his natural competitive spirit - he did all 3 legs of the triathlon!! His competitors were the Harris team with Grandpa Geoff, athlete son in-law, and 5 year-old granddaughter, Shanon. There was an all-adult team and even the Voigt's dog joined in the swimming leg! Great fun! Thanks to Nico Saayman for convening this very successful item and to Drummond Arms, Sea Horse Inn, Seaside Village Shop and Ticklemouse for the prizes.

The sand sculpture competition, organized by Gail, was delightful. So much talent and ingenuity in the choice of themes - Evette was ingenious in the allocation of prizes. The Y2K bug was a popular theme. There was the beautifully sculpted boat with the symbolic fish inside; the giant's foot across the body of a sleeping sunbather; fairytale castles. Many holidaymakers could orientate themselves, looking at the marvellous miniature Rooiels, with (of all things!) Rooikrans depicting our fynbos! Jan and Allen again proved to be winners in their own right. And so were numerous others, not all of them known to me, but yes, we were really surprised and happy about the enthusiastic participation in this happy and creative event.

Dankie weer, Joan en Werner, dat die skemermark by Bonny Banks kon plaasvind. Herbert het weer plek ingeneem agter die braaier; Joan het pannekoek gebak en Lida sangria geskink. Nuut op die mark was Anuta se heerlike spinasie-en-feta en roosmaryn brode. Die mark het nou 'n instelling geword, 'n plek waar vakansiegangers en permanentes bymekaar kom vir saamspeel en saamgesels.

*Lida van Dyk*

## Hoot at litterbugs

## Wees Verlig Skakel Af

Pla te veel lig jou? Jy's nie alleen nie. 80% Plaaslike Rade in Brittanje kry klagtes hieroor. Ligbesoedeling is oral 'n groter wordende probleem. "National Geographic" en "Time" het gewys op die ernstige invloed van onnodige lig. Migrerende voëls kan probleme kry met hul navigasie omdat die sterre nie gesien kan word nie. In te skerp lig, lê seeskilpaaie nie meer eiers op land nie en hul kleintjies verloor koers terug see toe. Waar is die dae toe ons kerse en lampolie op die inkopielys vir Rooiels gehad het? Nou sê talle mense hulle sou nie hier permanent kon kom bly het sonder elektrisiteit nie. Vanaf 1993 toe ons heerlike CD-spelers, wasmasjiene, regte yskaste, leeslampe, die Internet, d.w.s. KRAG gekry het, het dinge vinnig verander. Daar is gereeld meer mense, meer huise, baie meer ligte wat brand, asook buiteligte. Min dinge op Rooiels is so irriterend as jou buurman se lig wat jou huis binnedring, veral dwarsdeur die nag. Soms kom die bure eers slaaptyd op dreef met die buiteligte! In my eie huis moet ek onthou om gordyne in die bovertrek toe te trek, want die plafonligte skyn so ver buite dat dit die veld wyd verlig. Heel onnodig. Onthou die naglewende muskeljaat- en vaalboskat saam met hasies en dassies se leefwêreld word bedreig deur onnadenkende mense.

*Louise du Toit*

**Municipal By-Law**

A light installed on the inside or outside of any Premises shall be so positioned and screened if necessary, as will ensure that it does not shine directly onto any other premises or street ...
Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with any Provision of this by-law shall be guilty of an offence and Liable on conviction to a fine or imprisonment or both as Determinied in Section 213 of the Municipal Ordinance 1974 *(Ordinance 20 of 1974).*

# Baboons

Historically, man has tended to control his environment for the sole purpose of making it immediately more comfortable for himself - usually paying little or no attention to the longterm consequences of his actions. Having caused irreparable damage to our planet and many of its species over the past 100 years, we enter the new millennium with a sense that if we are to save what is left, we must begin doing things differently. Part of this process is learning how to live in harmony with all our fellow creatures, even those large, hairy ones that mostly amuse us, but sometimes inconvenience or infuriate us! If you consider that people are the problem, not baboons, then **we** are the ones that need to come up with ways to reduce friction with our (sometimes) boisterous neighbours. Others may argue that people are more intelligent (?hmm), so the challenge of conflict resolution rests with us.
Here are some guidelines for promoting harmonious co-existence:

- **Never feed baboons**
  To do so is highly irresponsible and begins a process which will rapidly escalate out of control. There are bylaws that prohibit the feeding of baboons and allow for the prosecution of offenders.
  Make sure that food is not accessible and is kept out of sight. Secure your rubbish bins (it's quite fun to pit your wits against theirs!) and watch your bird feeding tray. Bird and baboon feeding times do not coincide. (Birds feed in the early morning and late afternoon, baboons from mid-morning to mid-afternoon). If you put just enough out for the birds, they will have their fill and leave nothing for the baboons. Baboons have been known to break a window behind which stood a tempting fruit bowl, or a bucket of honey, and once they have discovered where you keep your fruit, bread etc they will come back for more.
- **Make sure your property is not baboon-friendly**
  Prevent baboons entering your home. Whether you use burglar proofing or a latch system, all openings should be less than 85mm. It's a good idea to put a reminder note by the front door - no, not for the baboons, but for you and members of your household! Baboons are not that different from other burglars - most gain access through a door or window that has inadvertently been left open.
- **If you find a baboon in your home remember,**
  - Never turn your back
  - Keep his exit clear
  - However much you are trembling inside, show no fear
  - Having made sure he has a clear exit, move slowly and deliberately towards him making a sharp noise (e.g. clap your hands) and ask him very politely, but firmly, to leave! If you scream or panic, or throw things at him you will frighten him. Baboons have an unpleasant gut reaction to fear, and you will spend the rest of your day cleaning up!
  - When he has left, sit down, look at the funny side and remind yourself how lucky we are that intruders in Rooiels don't carry AK47's.

**One last thing**. If you let your home, make sure your guests are informed beforehand about how to interact with baboons and what precautions to take. We have been called to release terrified baboons trapped inside bedrooms and even locked in built-in cupboards, leaving a mess that defies description.

*Jenny Stark*

**Baboon-proof your Compost heap**

## *OP HIERDIE OOMBLIK*

*Dis al donker nag hier op
Rooiels…
en die temperatuur daal
onopsigtelik om ons.
Terwyl ons rustig lees
groei ons hare 'n fraksie van
'n milimeter langer…*

*Op hierdie oomblik
hernu ons selle ons liggame,
stukkie vir stukkie.
Op 'n stoep hier buite,
trek iemand sy longe vol
van die koel, skoon,
Rooiels aandlug.*

*Op hierdie oomblik
maak 'n insek sy luide,
skril klank in die donker.
'n Muskeljaatkat spring op 'n
motorkap,
agter die einste insek aan,
en laat blompatroontjie
voetspore op die vooruit na.*

*Op hierdie oomblik
sny 'n man 'n klam,
dun snytjie biltong
en gee dit aan sy klein, wit
hond wat op sy agterpote
staan en bedel.
'n Ma neurie,
terwyl sy glase was
en haar kind op die mat met 'n
kat speel.*

*Op hierdie oomblik
hou 'n huiskat 'n geitjie dop,
wat insekte beloer.
Op hierdie oomblik
fluit 'n otter vir sy maat,
waar hulle tussen die kelp
vir krappe duik.*

*Aan die voet van Klein
Hangklip rek die luiperd sy
gespikkelde lyf uit en maak
gereed vir die nag se jag.
'n Ligte Suidooster
waai oor die bergreeks
en dra die reuk
van die luiperd saam.
'n Hond hier naby
sit penorent,
as die reuk van die luiperd
haar neusvleuls bereik.*

*Onder die bakkrans,
hier op Klein Hangklip,
ruk Charlie, die leier van die
bobbejaantrop, in sy slaap,
terwyl hy droom
van nog 'n pakkie beskuit
wat hy uit Joe Henson se
kantoor vaslê.
'n Honger vlooi
hardloop deur 'n oerwoud
van hare,
tot in die linker kieliebak
van Charlie, waar die vel
warm en oop lê vir 'n maaltyd.
'n Kind dryf weg in die slaap,
terwyl sy ma vir hom voorlees
uit 'n storie oor 'n vlooi*

*Op hierdie oomblik
groei 'n haarwortel
van 'n jong blombos
om 'n klip
op soek na water.
Onder ons
beweeg die grondwater
teen 'n slakkepas
nader na die magnetiese hart
van die aarde.*

*Op hierdie oomblik
breek 'n groot kreef in die baai
'n swart mossel oop
met sy knypers.
'n Jong seebamboes
ruk los van sy rots
en dryf na die oppervlakte
van die see*

*Op hierdie oomblik
flits die lighuis by Kaappunt
stroke lig oor die water.
'n Oumens sterf in sy slaap
en êrens word 'n kind gebore.
Op hierdie oomblik
kom die son op
aan die anderkant van die
wêreld.*

*Op hierdie oomblik
waai die Suidooster
oor Marion Eiland
en die Suidpool.
'n Weerballon
dryf tussen die wolke deur,
in die donker stilte
van die nag.
'n Klein meteor
val deur die stratosfeer
en slaan helder
rooi aan die brand
tot dit uitbrand.
Erens word 'n ster gebore.*

*Op hierdie oomblik
trek ons melkweg
verder en verder
weg van ander sterrestelsels,
terwyl ons heelal
groter en wyer word.*

*Op hierdie oomblik
ryk ons drome
verby die verste grense
van ons heelal… .*

*Op hierdie oomblik………*

*Evette Weyers*

## Charlie's Corner

"Die gladde lywe het ook hier tussen ons kom bly en wil nou kwansuis hoor wat ons van hulle dink…

Wel, dit lyk my hulle is baie erg oor hulle lêplekke, maar weet glad nie hoe om hulle gebiede af te merk nie.
Ons bobbejane doen dit ORDENTLIK, met uriene en mis - hulle steek hulle mis weg. Maar dan oor naweke kom ander troppe gladdelywe hiernatoe, en merk die hele gebied af soos bobbejane - veral daar om Pierre du Toit

se lêplek. Pierre en sy wyfie hou blykbaar niks daarvan nie en probeer hulle gebied afmerk met sulke plakate wat sê "Geen Toilet hier".
Laat 'n bobbejaan dink!"

*Charlie*

## Die 'Ginger and Brandy' storie - 'n jaar later

Op 'n Sondag in Februarie 1999 het die 'Ginger and Brandy' op die rotse geloop in Bakkiesbaai. Almal het asem opgehou. Die grootste vrees was grootskaalse oliebesoedeling. Die vroëe en vinnige optrede van veral die REBV-komitee, en Craig Spencer se reëlings met die Munisipaliteit dat die olie met spoed uitgepomp moes word, was van kardinale belang. Daarna is die rommel wat nie deur die laaigraaf van die Munisipaliteit se kontrakteur verwyder is nie, deur inwoners opgetel en die spore toegepak met klippe. Al die mense wat 'n keerwal teen reënskade veld-in kom pak het, omdat die padmasjien die natuurlike wal platgery het, se harde werk in stormwind was 'n wonderlike reddingspoging. Almal het gesien hoe 'n horde aasvoëls in motors op die bootwrak toegesak het. Dink net wat van die veld tussen die pad en die see sou geword het as die paadjies nie daar was nie! Interessantheidshalwe, het daar binne 4 maande, 'n vreemde groen strook in die poeletjies van die laaigraaf-spore verskyn - die wier *Ulva rigida* wat al hoe weliger daar groei. Die verskynsel kan aan beperkte oliestorting toegeskryf word wat sekere alge bevoordeel. Nou na nog 'n klompie maande is dit 'n digte stand wat lyk of dit uitbrei.
Ons is grotendeels gered van 'n katastrofe. Die les op die lang duur is: met vinnige optrede en samewerking kan 'n mens red wat te redde is.
*Louise du Toit*

## Bird Chat

Over the past twelve years we have kept a monthly record of bird sightings in Rooiels and vicinity. What changes have occurred?
*Rockjumpers* have increased and spread southwards. They are generally uncommon in the Cape with the nearest group in Sir Lowry's Pass.
*Sugarbirds*, once confined to the protea growing areas of Rooiels, have spread their wings and turned their attention to nectar rich plants - not always fynbos. In our own garden, one defended territory that included a New Zealand christmas tree, a bottlebrush and a clump of agapanthus. We have also noticed various sunbirds in the same vicinity.
With increased human settlement of the area *House sparrows are* flourishing. Two pairs of the endangered *Oystercatcher are* regularly seen around Rooiels. Unfortunately their breeding season coincides with the Christmas holidays when the beach is frequented by an ever-increasing human flock!
More people in Rooiels have meant more pets, the biggest problem for birds being cats. Chicks and adult birds have always had enemies in the fynbos - mongooses, genets, snakes and other birds. Increased demand for space has put pressure on the fast diminishing fynbos and consequently also the fauna it supports. A sad illustration of this is the decline in *Bokmakieries*. Once common all over Rooiels, they are now confined to the higher ground and the smallholdings. The species is happy with human company and is a welcome garden regular in suburbia. So, why has it declined in Rooiels? As I write, three dogs without owners or leashes, and a large black cat are roaming about freely. Could this be forcing some of our birds to find safer options?
The vocal *Grassbird* may be another victim, as it's nest is very close to the ground and altricial chicks have little chance of survival even with watchful parents.
The decrease in the dassie population has possibly contributed to the less frequent appearance of the *Black Eagle* but as they have more than one nest site in their territory, we shouldn't be overly concerned.
Remember, we're always interested in your sightings! Phone/fax us on 273-8528.
*Alison Ayre*

## Hulle is terug!

Albei arende is Saterdag 20 Februarie by Klein-Hangklip opgemerk. Een is na die nuwer nes toe en albei het vir langer as 'n halfuur op die tweede kop, met hul koppe Suid-Oos gedraai, die wêreld bekyk en hulself getooi. Die Bries sal verslag bly doen!
**Laat berig:** weer gesien op Saterday 4 Maart!

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