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Regional Events / Streeksgebeure

Saturday 15th June To mark the 100th birthday of BotSoc and Kirstenbosch with a special celebration Kogelberg Branch has invited Dr Brian Huntley to talk about Kirstenbosch. Dr Huntley is the author of the book Kirstenbosch, the most beautiful garden in Africa. 6pm in the Nivenia Hall. In addition to the liquid refreshments, after the talk all attendees are invited to stay for a light supper.

Art: 7-16 June Hermanus FynArts. Ten days packed with ceramics and culpture, painting and photography, music – classical and jazz, illustrated lectures, food and wine, vintage films, high teas, courses and workshops and the National Arts Competition. Visit www.hermanusfynarts.co.za to see the full programme, send mail to bookings@hermanusfynarts.co.za or phone 028 312 2629 for info.

Fishing: 22-23 June, WP Fishing Competition, Gansbaai South League. Venue: Overberg Boat Club. Contact Stephen (083 285 6478) for info.

Notices / Kennisgewings

Web site: Our website www.bettysbay.info is re-instated. It's a very simple start but will gradually grow into something more useful over time. Thank you for your patience. –Ed.



Shop 7, Village Centre
P.O. Box 426, Betty's Bay, 7141
Tel: (028) 272 9015
Fax: (028) 272 9068
Cell: 082 770 2783 / 083 500 5036
Email: sandcastle@xsinet.co.za
Website: www.sandcastle-estates.co.za

Contact Us

Buzz
P O Box 48
Betty's Bay
7141

thebuzz@bettysbay.info

Deadline for submissions:
20th of each month

<http://www.bettysbay.info/>

Please send us your comments, suggestions, events and news.

Subscribing to the BBRA

R55 per person per year, payable to:

BBRA Current Account

ABSA Hermanus

Branch Code 632005

Account No 4066 6164 39

NB! Reference must include your surname and Erf Number. *Please do not send cash.*

Contact: Adrian de Kock 028 272 9998

Obtaining the BUZZ

The following options are available:

1. Get a copy at the Village Centre Café or Penguin Place, normally first week of each month.
2. Download a PDF version from our web page. Go to link 'The Buzz' at <http://www.bettysbay.info>
3. We also leave a number of copies at the Betty's Bay Library.

Advertising and Crassula Hall payments

Payable to:

BBRA Current Account

ABSA Hermanus

Branch Code 632005

Account No 4066 6164 39

NB! Reference must include your business name. *Please do not send cash.*

Contact: Liz Fick 028 272 9800

Disclaimer: The views expressed by the Buzz contributors are the authors' own and do not necessarily represent the views of the Editor of the Buzz.

Notice: The Buzz is a private newsletter, administered, financed and published by the BBRA so as to communicate important issues with its members. The committee reserves the right not to publish letters or articles it may receive.

SAPS Emergency Contact Numbers

Charge Office **028 271 8219**

028 271 8200

Capt Marthinus **082 778 6793**

Additional Cell Nos. **079 894 1624**

079 894 1622

082 443 6069

082 522 1831

Sea Rescue, Betty's Bay

2 men found drifting at sea, one missing....

At 15:30 on Sunday 28 April 2013, I was informed that a boat had capsized in the Marine Protected Area (MPA) and that they suspected that two men were overboard.

NSRI Hermanus and Gordon's Bay duty crews were activated following reports from Letitia Singleton that her husband, Hannes, and his friend Frikkie, both from Kleinmond, had launched a rubber-duck from Kleinmond to go fishing at 08h00 the morning and were missing. Paul Fourie, who was out in the same area reported finding their boat going around in circles at full throttle off Betty's Bay with neither men on board. The boat was found between De Wets Bay and Stony Point. Paul gave NSRI the coordinates of where he had found the boat.

NSRI Hermanus responded to the scene towing their rigid inflatable to be launched on-scene and Gordon's Bay launched a sea rescue boat to respond while the Red Cross AMS Skymed Helicopter also responded. SAPS Kleinmond, Overstrand Fire and Rescue Services and WC Government Health EMS responded.

On arrival on-scene the sea rescue boats began to search from each end of the given coordinates and while searching they came across the two men in the water. They were rescued and brought to shore. They were treated on shore by paramedics and were transported to Hospital in Hermanus by EMS ambulance. The one man had severe lacerations to his leg and ankle caused by the boats propeller reportedly caused when they fell out of the moving boat and he also had suspected fractured ribs. Both men were suffering severe hypothermia. The one man was wearing a wetsuit that was severely damaged by the propeller and the other man was wearing only PT shorts. Neither of the men had life jackets on.

The two men reported that there was a third person onboard with them, a local 37 year old man who helped them when they went fishing, but according to the men he had disappeared under water soon after they had fallen out of the boat. Despite an extensive air, sea and shore search for the missing man he could not be found and a Police Dive Unit was activated to continue the search.

Deon Langenhoven, NSRI Hermanus Deputy Station commander, said: "It was by coincidence that the men had been found so quickly into the search after their Hermanus sea rescue boat changed direction to head towards the Gordon's Bay sea rescue boat – to give them a message after we could not raise them by VHF radio – by changing direction and heading towards the Gordon's Bay Sea Rescue boat we came across them waving frantically from the water. If they had not changed direction at that point NSRI may only have found them much later as they had drifted well out of the initial search area."

This incident has highlighted the need to raise the issue of safety precautions when going to sea:

Basic rules for safe boating

- Consult others about local conditions and check the weather forecast and sea conditions
- Operate with care, courtesy and common sense – never take chances

- Carry proper equipment and know how to use it
- Maintain the boat and equipment in good condition
- Always keep your boat under complete control
- Never overload your boat
- Use up-to-date charts
- Trim your craft and adjust speed to suit the conditions
- Know the emergency signals and boating regulations
- The skipper should have a skipper's certificate and should know his own and the crew's capabilities and limitations

Safety equipment for small boats

Small boats, inflatables and yachts require specific safety equipment and are restricted to maximum distances from the shore according to their size and engine power. Apart from suitable buoyancy, engine size and sufficient fuel for the intended voyage plus 25%, the essential equipment includes:

- A life jacket for each person (close at hand)
- Distress flares (stored in a waterproof container)
- For signaling: a mirror, a waterproof torch, spare batteries, a spare bulb and a sound device
- Compass
- Bailing device
- Paddles or oars
- Grab line
- Anchors and ropes
- Knife
- Survival blanket ('space' blanket) for each person on board
- Identification sheet of highly visible material (orange plastic with the boat's name) – for identification from the air, that can also be converted into a makeshift sail or sea anchor
- First aid kit (including bandages, plaster, antiseptic ointment, sea sickness pills approved for diving and sunburn lotion)
- Fresh water and food
- Tool kit suitable for the boat
- Air-bellows for inflatable boats
- Radio (in larger boats)

Wendy Tawse

The sky is not for sale

There are billions of stars in our Milky Way galaxy. Some bright stars have ancient traditional names like Sirius, the brightest star in the constellation Canis Major, Antares in Scorpius, Betelgeuse and Rigel in Orion, Canopus in Carina and Achernar at the end of the heavenly river. Some have crazy names like Zubenelgenubi in Libra but most stars merely have a catalogue number.

Some shrewd business people have pounced on an opportunity - why not put all these

numbered stars up for sale?

The Bayer and Flamsteed catalogues are quite familiar so I would suggest do not put those up for sale and also stay clear of the stars of the Henry Draper catalogue. The SAO (Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory) catalogue seems like a plausible possibility but Rio Theresa Calaunan Capistrano - you have wasted money that could have gone for a good KAWS (oh sorry - I meant cause). The International Astronomical Union (IAU) will recognise 'your star' as no other than SAO#13268. Oh no, don't tell me you have wasted paper and money to print your certificate as well.

Star Register, Name a Star South Africa, Buy a Star, International Star Registry, Name a Star for free! Universal Star Registry, Star Foundation, Name a Star Live have all generated a nice income for themselves with advertisements like "The most original gift for 2013". Their computers are working 24/7 generating online "certificates" which in real fact mean zero.

Just like all the very best things in life the sky is not for sale.

Who is legally responsible for naming objects in the sky? "The IAU is the internationally recognized authority for naming celestial bodies and surface features on them. Names are not sold, but assigned according to internationally accepted rules"

Okay, so you say you actually own a piece of the Moon. Be warned. Just like Shania Twain, the IAU will respond: That don't impress me much!

http://www.iau.org/public/buying_star_names/

Carol Botha

History of Betty's Bay Ratepayers' Association

Kindly compiled by Avril Nunn

Oil was very important as a fuel, and the cheapest source of oil was from the considerable amount of fat necessary for whales to maintain their temperature in the cold sea, especially in winter.

A Whaling Station was established on the shore in Betty's Bay where whales hunted in the Southern Seas were towed by boats, and where their fat was rendered to provide oil for many parts of the world, especially as more and more machines were coming into use, and oil was used for lubrication for these machines. Due to the discoveries of sources of oil in geological layers in places on the earth, oil became cheaper, so the demand for whale oil fell, and simultaneously the number of whales available fell, so it was no longer profitable to hunt whales. The Whaling Station was then closed down.

The Walsh brothers subsequently bought the land, but could not make a living from it. Three men having seen this wonderful part of our coast formed the Hangklip Beach Estates. These three were Clarence, Porter and Youldon, and they bought the land from the Walsh brothers. They then divided the first part of the area from the Whaling Station to what is now the Harold Porter Gardens into Erven, and advertised them for sale, in Johannesburg. They sold the Erven and slowly the new owners built small holiday cottages. They were supplied with piped water and certain rubbish removal services by Hangklip Beach Estates.

As the Beach Estates were not in the business of supplying houses, they finally gave the management of the area over to the Residents. The business was then sold to Mr Wallers, Denis Wallers' father who was the secretary of Hangklip Beach Estates.

In 1964 Province decided that the area would become a Village, and be governed by a Village Management Board under the guidance of the Provincial Council. A firm in Cape Town, Field and Munroe with the three elected Councillors organised the affairs of the Village. These Village Councillors travelled to Cape Town once a month to decide jointly with Field and Munroe officials, what needed to be done in the Village. These Councillors were not paid a salary or S and T for their work.

After a while Province decided that the Village was large enough, and should be responsible for managing its own affairs. It became a Municipality. Four people were elected as Councillors of the Municipality, and a Mayor was elected from among them. A Town Clerk was employed to run the Municipal office, and to carry out the decisions of the Municipal Councillors, and for many years Brenda Klue was the Secretary and Organiser of the office, and affairs of the Municipality. She was able to inform each succeeding Town Clerk what had been decided in the past. These Councillors were also unpaid, and they checked that the work specified was done and done satisfactorily.

During all this time every house that was built was supplied with piped water, if wanted. Lighting was by means of paraffin as was cooking to a large extent. Some people did try to use electricity by various means. Solar power to water heating, pelton wheels, wind generators which were primitive from present standards, and could not manage our strong winds, and increasingly petrol or diesel generators were used.

Rubbish was collected from each house, at no extra charge, to ensure that no one felt tempted to throw the rubbish onto the nearest unoccupied Erf. Some people did dig deep holes into which they threw their rubbish.

The first Mayor was Denis Heesom. The first man in charge of the Infrastructure was Mr. West, and later Mr. Wilson. A committee of residents was elected to see to it that the Councillors DID look after the affairs of the Municipality according to the wishes of the majority of the property owners. This committee was the Management Committee of the Betty's Bay Ratepayers' Association. The Association developed a Constitution of the Ratepayers' Association which was accepted by the Municipal Council.

The Councillors were not paid, nor for any expenses they had, in connection with their duties, unless they applied for them, which was often not worth the bother. Rubbish collection was available, and free, that is, nothing extra was paid for it, so that no one felt a need to illegally dump refuse on the nearest empty Erf. And, of course, no electricity therefore the fuel used was paraffin, for cooking and lighting. Some rubbish was dumped into a hole dug to receive this rubbish. Later the paraffin was largely replaced by gas, and one of the residents started dealing in gas, which came from Caledon.

Some residents did have electricity, using wind generators. The wind generators available were not built to withstand our violent winds, and one saw some of these with the blades hanging broken, and useless, only an eyesore. Others had Petrol or Diesel generators - noisy and the gas fumes were objectionable to those who lived near them.

When Kleinmond had become bigger, the Kleinmond Municipality asked Eskom to supply

them with more electricity, which they agreed to do. The Municipality then sold the electricity to the Kleinmond residents. Eskom then offered electricity to Betty's Bay, as it would be financially advantageous to them to supply both Townships at the same time.

Most of the Betty's Bay Councillors were weekenders or holiday residents only, and could not appreciate the advantage of having electricity. When the weather was bad, they could simply pack up and go home (to electricity, of course). The permanent ratepayers, in general, disliked the smell and fumes of the polluting, and dangerous gas, and the disturbing noise of generators, also the rather primitive wind generators which could not survive the strong winds of this region. They mostly wanted electricity, and formed a society to rally support for electricity.

Finally the pro electricity group forced the council to have a referendum on the issue. There was much lobbying among the "for" and the "against" electricity groups and the pro electricity group won by a very small margin. For a while there was much bad blood between the two groups, which was strange when most people had bought here because of the peace and quiet, as well as the natural feel of the area.

There was a meeting in Caledon to discuss terms, with Eskom. The group that wanted electricity informed Eskom under what terms they would accept Electricity.

1. They would not accept wires all over the residential area. The cables had to be placed underground to those Erven which had accepted it. The channel for the cables had to be dug by the owner from the boundary of his Erf to the entry point of the house, where the meter for the supply would be installed.
2. The cables were not to go overhead in the Harold Porter Botanical Garden, and so spoil the natural feel of the Garden.
3. There was to be no disfiguring road on the mountain slopes as is normally the requirement for installing electricity, for ease of working, and for future maintenance of the line. This remark pleased the committee, as it was in line with their requirements.
4. There were to be no street lights. At this stage of the negotiations the residents were warned that the Eskom supply would not have the capacity, if at a later stage the community wanted street lights.

Our Municipal Council was not happy about the outcome, and there were further estrangements between them and those who wanted electricity. Eskom supplied terms of payment for each Erf owner who accepted, terms under which they could pay for the installation, with an interest rate for those who felt that they could not pay the full cost right away, but ensured that all those costs would be repaid within 20 years.

Eskom kept to their side of the bargain. On the mountain slopes they had the holes for the poles to carry the cable dug by hand. Then they brought a helicopter from George to lift each pole in turn, carry the pole to its hole, and let it down gently to the hole, where the waiting men could help guide it into the hole and then immediately fill the hole with stone and soil stamping it in until it was firm. Many people watched the maneuver with awe. It was an amazing sight, and the job was incredibly well done. Later the wires were strung from the electricity supply station in Kleinmond to Betty's Bay. What joy and excitement from those who wanted the supply. What disgust from some others. However hard

feelings died in time and only some few do not have electricity today. Peace finally reigned in our little bit of Paradise, where we bought for peace and quiet. No more smelly rowdy generators to disturb everyone. During this time outlying places such as Sunny Seas, Silversands, and Stony Point were separate villages, who joined Betty's Bay Municipality much later.

There are still some people who give up much time and energy to serve inhabitants of Betty's Bay, as they have in the past. We are reaping the reward of their efforts in the past. Let us keep that aim in sight for our heirs to inherit what we leave. We need everyone's help and co-operation. Let us not forget.

Pikkewyntjie Nuus

Helloo aan al julle se mense. Ai myse juffrou seg elke dag “waa gaat die tyd heen” Nou wonner ek eintlik wat sy bedoel. Tyd kan mosie vlieg, rynie of wegloop nie, hoe nou? As ek dalk toilet toe gaat, vra sy “waar gaat jy heen” en dan seg ek vir haar, en sy sien my terugkom. Maar die tyd storie is n anner ding, ek het hom nog nooit sien gaan nie en oki terugkom nie. Nou wie van julle se slim mense kan vir my vertel hoe die ding werk, juffrou seg sy sal verdydelik tot sy omval ek sal tog nie verstaan nie! Die tyd is “missing” en almal soek daarna, ek sweer die een wat dit kry, kry n moeviese persent!

Onse klassie vorder nou mooi, oih juffrou seg sy gaat dronk word. Jislaaik ek weetie mooi hoe gaat sy lyk as sy dronk isie. Onse juffrou is nogals n groot antie, sy sal seker nogals n paar bottles moet down voor sy omval en ek is sieker sy val n helse gat inie grond. Mag juffrouens dronk word? Wel as sy mag, wil ek maar vir die mislike paliteit vra om maar asseblief nie onse klassie klaar te maak nie want daarie gesig sal al te vreeesssslik wees om te aanskou!

Onse juffrou en antie Martetha is nou biesig om geld te soek by al die ryk mense solat ons skool kan aangaat. Ek hoor hulle seg dat ons budget in sy se !@#\$ is, en as ons nie gou geld kry nie gaat niemand pay nie. Sjieeeeeee, ek wiet wat daardie pay woord is. Myse ma seg altyd vir myse pa dat sy g!@#vol is vir hom wat nooit pay hys toe bring nie, dan skel sy, myse pa loop weg en ons suffer oorlat daar nie kos inie hys isie. Miskien salit n goeie ding wies as juffrou en antie Maretha nie pay nie, solat hulle biejie suffer en biekie maer word. Ha ha ha van arme ouma Netta salie eers n bloedkolletjie oorbly nie want sy is so maer ons hoor elke dag die wind deur haar ribbes waa! Sjieeee myse ma sal nou weer vir my seg ek gaat draai in Kairo om in Mooi Uitsig te kom, wat ek eintlik wil vra is, as daar iemand is wat kinnners het wat nie meer met hulse poppe, bycykels of skooters wil speeie, kan hulle dit groot seblief tog maar vir onse skool gee dat onse kinnners daarmee te speel.

Ek moet nou baai seg want myse juffrou seg ek moet 8uur gaat slaap anners is ek n zombie inie klas. Nog n woord wat ek nie verstaan nie, maar ek gaat liewer slaap voor ek vra, want seg nou net dis iets vrieslik lelik. Mooi slaap alie mooi mense en mag al die diewens julle se goete uitlos en en as hulle nie wil lysterie sal Jeus hulle hard straf.

Zaan Cilliers

Minutes of meeting held on 23 April 2013

In attendance Cecile Jonkheid, Lisel Krige, Dan Fick, Hanie Hanekom and Peter Berrisford

Minutes follow the headings on the circulated agenda.

Water

It was noted that permanent residents experience extremely high water consumption readings from time to time that appear to be unrelated to any unusual actual excessive water usage.

Two possible explanations were discussed. Excessive usage might possibly relate to meter malfunctioning when high incidences of water stoppages have been noted. The question was asked, "Are the meters affected by stop-start situations accompanied by water hammer, displaced air bubbles, and rapid pressure changes associated with switching the water back on again?"

Secondly, there has been a change over in meter reading staff who were initially untrained. "Was it possible that incorrect meter readings were being sent through to the accounts department, either because of incompetence, unreliable estimates, or possibly retrospective feeding of false readings to the office to cover for not actually reading meters regularly and correctly?"

In particular it was noted that if a low (possibly incorrect) is fed through, followed later by an actual reading, then the monthly invoice for water would be extremely high. It was also noted that readings are taken at irregular intervals, which could also distort calculations of the cost of water. The position is complicated by the routine calculation of the monthly charge on a monthly basis when one monthly invoice would be calculated on readings between say 70 days and say 20 days.

It was suggested that consideration should be given to charging for water on a moving average basis, still using the same scale of charges. This would smooth out consumption; reduce the impact of incorrect readings distorting consumption calculations. It was noted that Louise van Eeden had been very helpful in providing statistics

The following actions were suggested.

1. Check whether meters are susceptible to giving incorrect readings when slugs of water mixed with air often at high pressure occur. This typically happens when there has been a succession of interruptions in supply, as occurs with burst pipes and maintenance.
2. Audit the meter readers on a regular basis i.e. supervisors must do random checks on readings on a regular basis.

However the biggest benefit will occur if water invoices are calculated on a moving average basis. This requires a modification to Municipal software which should be relatively easy since all the information is available at present. The use of a moving average will render the system much less sensitive to unreliable meter readings. In fact the intervals between readings could be increased, saving labour. The errors arising from reliance on unreliable readings by unsophisticated meter readers can be greatly reduced.

Refuse

It was noted that refuse is being collected and transported on a wide variety of vehicles.

Bakkies, expensive refuse compacting vehicles, rigid trucks with expanded mesh bodies and occasionally by draw-bar trailers.

It was felt that a massive improvement in efficiency with commensurate cost savings can be achieved by standardising on draw-bar trailers with expanded mesh bodies, drawn by bakkies.

For example, a draw-bar trailer placed at the Betty's Bay Municipal offices, once full, can simply be towed to the transfer station where the contents can be simply transferred to a waiting container for onward movement to the applicable dump. Double and triple handling of refuse can be eliminated. The same standard draw-bar trailer design can be used to collect refuse and re-cycling from residents.

Betty's bay (and other local villages) has a particular problem in that some 80% of homes are owned by absentee landlords who are only in residence irregularly and for relatively short periods. Refuse collection routines should be designed to collect refuse taking into account this characteristic. Some simple way of alerting the refuse collecting vehicle that refuse must be collected from a particular residence should be considered, so that unnecessary stops to check empty bins can be eliminated.. This will speed up refuse collection rounds enormously, since the collecting vehicle will only have to stop at say 20% of houses, instead of stopping at every house to check bins.

A suggestion that wheelie bins might become mandatory, lead to the suggestion that they could be designed to have some kind of flag to indicate they are full. Alternatively, as happens in other residential areas, the wheelie bin, when ready for collection, is wheeled out by the resident on previously regularly agreed collection days.

The whole question of improving the procedures for refuse collection needs to be reviewed.

The following actions were agreed.

1. A specialist refuse management consultant should be appointed to standardise on and recommend an improved refuse management system. The benefits are enormous.
2. Once an approved standard design for refuse handling/collection has been agreed, all additional / replacement vehicles should take the standard design into account.
3. The standard draw-bar trailer must be designed to incorporate a baboon proof counterweighted hatch so that once a refuse bag is loaded into the trailer, baboons cannot gain entry.

Roads

It was noted that road width standards are such that many roads, in particular minor ones, are unnecessarily wide. A reduction in road width standards would lead to reduced maintenance costs.

The question of maintaining verges particularly in respect of low traffic minor roads was discussed. It was noted that the Botanical Society is studying the question of when to mow verges.

It was agreed that:

A review of standard road widths and the need for mown verges should be conducted road

by road over the whole village. A significant reduction in road maintenance costs can be expected without any serious disadvantages.

Fire

Some discussions regarding the role of volunteer fire fighters took place. The terrible risks associated with uncontrolled fires were noted. The discussion of various practical aspects of such things as remuneration, and insurance of volunteer fire fighters has taken the attention off the paramount issue, which is that whatever is decided, the emphasis must be on very quick response. Volunteer fire fighters must be given encouragement and recognition.

Action: The Municipality must develop a plan to ensure very rapid response to any outbreak of fire as its overriding consideration. Some of the other practical problems must not be allowed to hinder this process.

Dawidskraal River and the Otter Close Bridge

It was noted that substantial and promising repairs have been affected to the bridge. This bridge however remains vulnerable to intermittent flash floods.

During the last major flood a few years ago, the river changed course below the R44 Bridge. The main reason for this was that palmiets have largely blocked the flow down the previous river course. If these palmiets can be trimmed back, it should be possible for a significant portion of the water flowing down under the bridge to flow down the course it used before. To this end, it was suggested that a study of this proposal be done, perhaps by Municipal engineers and the Environmental Manager in Hermanus, to determine on the applicability of this proposal. It was noted that SANBI has some responsibility for the environmental aspects of the area below the bridge, and would need to be involved. Also, some flooding of properties downstream of the bridge has been reported in the past, so Palmiet clearing further downstream might also be desirable.

Action: The municipality must initiate a study of the various factors to be taken into account to re-channel some part of the water down the old river course. This should substantially reduce the risk of a repeat collapse of the Otter Close Bridge

Communications with the Municipality

The 24 hour emergency number, 0283138111 is available. Cecile Jonkheid said in the event of a serious problem, she is available at all times where assistance is needed. Should residents wish to receive a SMS when water supply interruptions occur, their cell phone numbers must be phoned through to the emergency number.

Follow Up

It was noted that many of the above items have been on the Ratepayer and Ward Committee agendas. However the above were intended to be recorded as recommendations, rather than complaints.

It was agreed that a follow up of these points is desirable. A review of progress will be made.

Peter Berrisford

Emergency Contact Numbers

Overstrand Emergency	24 Hours	028 313 8111
Fire Department	Control Room	028 312 2400
	Marlu Rust	082 776 9287
	Wendy Tawse	082 442 8005
	Fires in Reserves	082 783 8585
Police	Emergencies	10111
	Charge Office	028 271 8219
	Capt. Marthinus	082 778 6793
	Sector Policing Officer	082 522 1831
Security Providers	Safe Security	028 272 9110
	Response	082 410 7845
	ASK Security (Office)	028 272 9500
	24 Hour Emergency	082 951 1892
		071 135 9029
	Sandown Bay Security	028 271 5633
		028 271 3306
		028 272 9575
Ambulances	Provincial	10177
	ER24	084 124
Doctors	Dr Du Plessis	028 271 4227
	Dr Van Niekerk	028 271 4227
	Dr Morkel	028 271 4227
	After Hours	082 653 6355
	Dr Greeff	028 272 9999
	After Hours	082 659 9437
	Dr Moses	028 271 3152
	After Hours	078 417 5628
Dentists	Dr Duvenhage	028 271 3467
	After Hours	082 861 0616
	Dr Engelbrecht	028 271 3662
	Dr Visser	028 271 5321

Hospitals	Hermanus Provincial	028 312 1166
	Hermanus Medi-Clinic	028 313 0168
	Vergelegen Medi-Clinic	021 850 9000
Child Welfare	Kleinmond	028 271 4044
Veterinarian	Dr Dave	028 271 4183
	After Hours	083 440 5191
KAWS	Animal Welfare	028 271 5004
Pharmacies	Albertyn Pharmacy	028 271 4666
	After Hours	082 927 5240
	After Hours	082 868 4267
	Kleinmond Pharmacy	028 271 3320
	After Hours	082 652 4309
Optometrists	Obermeyer	028 271 3119
	Optical Eyes	028 271 5684
Municipality	Betty's Bay	028 272 9263
	Kleinmond	028 271 8400
	Fire & Water	028 313 8111
	Law Enforcement	028 313 8111
	Traffic	028 313 8111
	Sewerage Removal	028 271 8435
	Hermanus	028 313 8000
Seawatch	Betty's Bay	028 272 9532
	Mike Tannett	082 994 9300
NSRI	Gordons Bay	021 856 1992
	Hermanus	028 312 3180
Electricity (Eskom)	Electricity	021 859 5304
	Emergencies	08600 37 566
General	Councillor Lisel Krige	028 272 9533
	Betty's Bay Post Office	028 272 9363
	Centre Shop	028 272 9230
	Penguin Place	028 272 9257
	Tourism Bureau	028 271 5657
	Fynbos Service Centre	082 719 6200
	Fire Extinguisher Service	083 741 9914

And then it was winter

You know . . . time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years. It seems just yesterday that I was young, just married and embarking on my new life with my mate. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all the years went. I know that I lived them all. I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams.

But, here it is... the winter of my life and it catches me by surprise... How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my youth go? I remember well seeing older people through the years and thinking that those older people were years away from me and that winter was so far off that I could not fathom it or imagine fully what it would be like.

But, here it is ... my friends are retired and getting grey ... they move slower and I see an older person now. Some are in better and some worse shape than me ... but, I see the great change ... Not like the ones that I remember who were young and vibrant ... but, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd be.

Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day! And taking a nap is not a treat anymore ... it's mandatory! Cause if I don't ... I just fall asleep where I sit!

And so ... now I enter into this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did!! But, at least I know, that though the winter has come, and I'm not sure how long it will last ... this I know, that when it's over on this earth ... it's over. And then a new adventure will begin!

Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done ... things I should have done, but indeed, there are many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime.

So, if you're not in your winter yet ... let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think.

So, whatever you would like to accomplish in your life please do it quickly!

Don't put things off too long!!

Life goes by quickly. So, do what you can today, as you can never be sure whether this is your winter or not!

You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of your life ... so, live for today and say all the things that you want your loved ones to remember ... and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the years past!!

"Life" is a gift to you. The way you live your life is your gift to those who come after. Make it a fantastic one.

LIVE IT WELL!

ENJOY TODAY!

DO SOMETHING FUN!

BE HAPPY!

HAVE A GREAT DAY

Remember "It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver".

LIVE HAPPY IN 2013!

LASTLY, CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

TODAY IS THE OLDEST YOU'VE EVER BEEN,

YET THE YOUNGEST YOU'LL EVER BE

SO - ENJOY THIS DAY WHILE IT LASTS.

~ Your kids are becoming you but your grandchildren are perfect!

~ Going out is good ... Coming home is better!

~ You forget names But it's OK because other people forgot they even knew you!!!

~ You realize you're never going to be really good at anything especially golf.

~ The things you used to care to do, you no longer care to do, but you really do care that you don't care to do them anymore.

~ You sleep better on a lounge chair with the TV blaring than in bed. It's called "pre-sleep".

~ You miss the days when everything worked with just an "ON" and "OFF" switch

~ You tend to use more 4 letter words ... "what?"... "when?" ... ???

~ Now that you can afford expensive jewelry, it's not safe to wear it anywhere.

~ You notice everything they sell in stores is "sleeveless"?!!!

~ What used to be freckles are now liver spots.

~ Everybody whispers.

~ You have 3 sizes of clothes in your closet 2 of which you will never wear.

~ But Old is good in some things:

Old Songs,

Old movies, and best of all,

OLD FRIENDS!!

Stay well, "OLD FRIEND!"

It's Not What You Gather,

But What You Scatter That Tells What Kind Of Life You Have Lived.

BE SURE YOU HAVE GODS' HAND ON YOUR STEERING WHEEL OF LIFE, BECAUSE LIVING RIGHT IS HARD WORK.

Anonymous

The Wind Bloweth...

Our local Fynbos community centre has found itself to be in urgent need of funds to keep the meals coming (and going), and the clinic services functioning well. Therefore members of the organization were approached to offer an hour of their time on a Saturday morning, and to stand at various points in Pringle Bay or Kleinmond with a wooden box to solicit donations from generous people. So many volunteered that hoards had to be turned away. We wish.

At the outset, I insist on quashing rumours you may have heard that the feminine collectors outdid their male counterparts because they shook a leg instead of the box. Not true. Endowed with natural poise and irresistible charm, who needs to resort to such desperate measures? Yours truly took over the 10-11am. slot from a friend who was not feeling very well, but honoured his commitment anyway. Bless you, Jos.

The box didn't rattle. It wasn't empty, but there was plenty of room to fill. My apportioned spot was at the sunny entrance to the Spar shopping centre, just outside the bottle store. I planned my strategy. Born the most introverted of introverts, "hail-fellow-well-met" certainly not my style, a sunny smile and cheerful "good morning" or "goeiemôre" was going to have to do. Part of the collector's kit was a set of cute smiley faces to remove and attach to each donor, and I braced myself for the onslaught.

They came. They saw. They looked away. They suddenly became very interested in the wares displayed in the bottle store's window. Some of them ducked into the bottle store. Then, all alone and resolutely pushing her grocery trolley in the direction of my box, came a dear little elderly lady wearing a smile that lit up the dark passage between the shops. She informed me, as she dropped the coins into the chasm, that she goes to Fynbos for some of her meals, and as she left, urged me to look after "die ou mense." What a start! My heart sang.

Then came our friends, who stopped to chat, to laugh, to donate. Others passed, resplendent in smiley faces received at the opposite entrance where my husband did his share of smiling. I was pleased for him. Some people apologised for only having a card, but it was heart warming to know that they would have contributed if they had had cash. Many asked questions about Fynbos and were pleased to help, but we all marveled at the number of underprivileged folk who literally dug deep and gave as much as they could. In 2 Corinthians 9:7 we read: "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." And He must have smiled as the little children dropped the coins into our boxes.

Shortly before my shift ended, something happened, the memory of which will live on forever. A very short, very thin almost toothless, poorly but cleanly dressed gentleman slowly passed, then stopped, and reached deeply into his trouser pockets. With his back to me, he slowly drew out as much as he had, turned, and shyly deposited the coins into the box. Thanking him, I deposited a smiling face onto his pullover, and with a broad smile that would melt the coldest heart, he turned and moved on. If you would like to share the feeling from this fleeting but unforgettable exchange, read Luke 21:1-4; Jesus' reaction to the poor widow's gift to the treasury. Wow. It was as if He were there to share the experience.

We all realised that some give out of an attitude of gratitude. There are compulsive givers, impulsive givers, generous givers, but no one gave grudgingly... those who decided against making a contribution were honest about their reluctance for whatever reason, and

one respects that, too. But I still suspect that they rejoiced in heaven over the people who are forced to live off the goodwill of charitable shoppers, who returned several times to “give back” from the goodness people had shown them. Such an experience makes one see human nature and human need in a completely different light. In a letter to Christians living in Corinth centuries ago, we read: “...see that you also excel in this grace of giving.” Makes one think, doesn't it? Sometimes squirm, too.

Bev Green

Saving The Oystercatchers

Another interesting summary by Penny Palmer of a talk given by Richard and Sarah Starke

An illustrated talk by the Starke's drew a record crowd to the Nivenia Hall. Sara Starke's skill in raising orphaned Oystercatcher chicks is legendary. Her patience and fortitude when dealing with a small ball of feathers with attitude, is fascinating. Sara also rescued a young Kelp gull which appeared to have been abandoned on the beach, and a Cape weaver that needed succor.

Richard Starke's skill with a technology which baffles and frustrates many is remarkable. The video clips of these large birds gently guiding and encouraging their small chicks to brave the surf and to paddle madly with one web per small foot, to get to safety, choked up many of us. If there are people or dogs anywhere near the chicks when they attempt this difficult journey, they often drown when the tide comes in.

Richard's photos of the rocks at low tide at Dawidskraal were amazing as were the video clips of the parent birds teaching a chick how to pick limpets and other molluscs off the rocks and remove them from their shells.

About thirty years ago, the African Black Oystercatcher *Haematopus moquini* (Red foot) was considered to be facing a conservation crisis. There were many threats. The fact that the breeding period coincided with the Christmas holidays which meant off-road vehicles, masses of trampling feet and uncontrolled dogs. Then what appears to be almost a miracle happened. In many places along our coastline, groups took up the cudgels on these bird's behalf and the danger is over for the present. For example, the Mossel Bay Municipality closed a large part of the coast line to all, despite the fact that it was a regular and well used fishing area. The result was that Oyster Catchers, for the first time in years managed to rear their chicks and watch them fly away. At several other places along our coast, great efforts were made to protect the birds and in most instances there was a positive reaction by the public. The late Dr Phil Hockey considered that if each pair of Oyster Catchers successfully raises one chick in three years, the population numbers would remain stable.

It is due to the persistence and knowledge of people like the Starke's and their many helpers, that the beach-going public has been made aware of the various shore birds and their needs. This has resulted in the Silver Sands flock of Oyster Catchers scoring four successful breeding efforts out of four this past season. This appears to be a record.

Many thanks are due to not only the resident helpers, but also the visitors who joined us locals in the protection of our birds. Long may this last.

Penny Palmer

My Mountain Of The Moon

Seemingly Constant,
Unchanging,
Timeless.

Your layers
squeezed by incredible forces
into zig-zags.

Dropping bits to lie like pearls
on your olive,
fynbos flanks.

Grey-haired pate,
weeping winter tears,
to nourish all below.

Fierce waters eroding
into wooded gullies.
Yet you hide your treasures:

Simonsbos - hidden trees,
tall as houses,
relicts of Yesteryear.

Strange, stately plants, meters tall,
hanging their rosy heads
like streetlamps.

Mountain Champagne
in underground channels.
Sweeter than any spring.

Catholic gems shelter under stiff stems,
stunning in variety and colour.
Kneel to pray to them.

Acupuncture frogs
singing winter songs
needle-deep with joy.

The bokkie, frozen
in headlight's glare,
hides amongst your velvet hair.

Kieppies shout
their cry to Allah
at threatened rout.

Dawn birdsong
Inspires the gentle Robin's
decrescendo call.

And crepuscular
Thrush
heralds nightfall.

Willie exhorts
all namesakes,
to hide behind the bush.

Dot-marked geese
Lead their children to shore
to shelter and to feed

Autumn brown butterflies
flit around the legs
of men too blind to see.

Joyous Otters
live in day-time holts,
but frolic onshore at eventide.

You stare in
elegant patience,
at the people on your plains,
polluting the pristine waters.

At the ugly, expensive houses
crouching at your feet.
You can destroy them all,
with one shrug of shoulders.

Few have heard the Organ,
Your deep voice
sounding on the wind,
that plays the convoluted cliffs.

Or marveled at the fireflies
dancing in the kloof,
on a still, soft, November evening.

Nineteen years to wait.
Every nineteen.
The moon enticed to shine brightly through
your Loergat cleft,
like a lost climber seeking succour.

The silent sea
washing feet,
only disturber of the peace.

Persist for millennia.
Unchanging.
Timeless.

Peter Joubert

'Baboon' Reminder

Residents are once again reminded to keep doors and windows closed to keep the baboons out, especially now that food is becoming scarce in the mountains – we just finished cleaning up the garage which was raided by a troop of baboons because the door was left open. They even raided the toiletries cupboard and tried out the toothpaste.

Liz Fick

Friends of the Library / Vriende van die Biblioteek

Library hours: Mon to Fri 9h00 – 16h00

Events for June 2013

Date: 13 June 2013

Guest speakers: Willem & Hildegard Malherbe

Theme: Talk & photos on Chemin de St Jacques de Compostelle; their experience of the "Camino" in France.

Venue: Betty's Bay Library

Time: 10h30

Tea & refreshments.

All most welcome! Almal baie welkom!

Local History Collection

The Friends of the Hangklip Library are committed to an ongoing collection & preservation of information/ documents/photographs etc pertaining to the Hangklip past & present history. The Collection will be housed in the Library, Betty's Bay.

Our requirements:

- Documents/ photographs & other information
- Your help in collection & preservation of this information.

PLEASE CONTACT: Rosaline Matthews at the Library 028 272 9263 / Pip Prinsloo 028 272 9949 / Johan Swiegelaar 028 272 9134.

Join the Friends of the Library / Sluit aan by die Vriende van die Biblioteek

Your ideas, suggestions & talents make this organization a successful group of people coming together, sharing ideas and offering cheerful fellowship. We support the Library & librarian by helping to maintain an efficient service to the community.

Annual fee of R25 pp or R30 per family. This can be paid at the Library.

Laatmiddag in Bettysbaai

Hoe gaan dit, vra ek my ou vriend.

Nee wat, sê hy, met hom gaan dit sommer baie goed en dis hoekom dit altyd so goed gaan met hom.

Ek is bly, sê ek, dat daar darem nog in hierdie ou lewe iemand is met wie dit in so 'n mate goed gaan dat dit met hom goed gaan.

Dis nes jy daar sê, sê my ou vriend. Hy is werklik gelukkig dat dit met hom goed gaan, maar hy sê weer, dis vandat dit so goed gaan met hom dat dit so goed gaan met hom. Geen keer aan die goed gaan daarso nie, sê hy.

Jip, se ek toe maar vir hom, want daar is ander mense met wie dit nie so goed gaan nie, en ek kry hulle jammer want dis omdat dit nie so goed gaan met hulle nie dat dit nie so goed gaan met hulle nie.

Nogtans, sê hy, as dit eers weer met hulle goed gaan, sal dit sommer weer goed gaan met hulle. Hulle sal net sien.

En so gesels ons, ek en my ou vriend, terwyl ons op die dak sit, met die see wat eenkant ruis, die suidoostertjie wat ons hare liggies roer en terwyl die son sy oranje verwe doen in die weste. En die purper van die wyntjie, waar ons dit ophou teen die laaste strale van die son, dit alles komplimenteer. En 'n rukkie later, met die knipoog van die aandster, kyk ons na mekaar, kyk weer weg, en sê niks verder nie. Dit sou onnodig gewees het.

Nic Swart

(ek het my vrou Petro hier versinnebeeld as my 'ou vriend')

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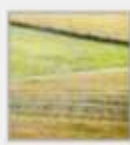
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 (soil, rocks, plants etc)
our empty canvas



2. the water
 different inputs
 (water, fertilizer, man made etc)
our skill and added value



3. the new leaf
 growth and prosperity
our success



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 Fax: 028 272 9906
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