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New Trail for Brave Hikers

The long-awaited 800m stretch reconnects the iconic 12km cliff path route, offering uninterrupted views and access from the Hermanus New Harbour to Grotto Beach. With the Cliff Path Action Group (CPAG) working tirelessly for more than eight years to join the two sections of cliff path along the seafront at Hermanus, the final results are a rewarding moment for Hermanus, as well as a satisfying moment for the members of CPAG - tourists can now walk on the 12km paved cliff path from Hermanus New Harbour to Grotto Beach. Since the building of the cliff path, which started in the 1960's, walkers were forced to divert onto Main Road for about 1km.

CPAG chairperson, Jobre Stassen, is known as the hardest-working freelance ambassador for Hermanus. She has been supported by the committee and volunteers, as well as the valuable legal input from the CPAG founding member, Adv Johan de Waal and Marius van Staden. "I also give credit to the wealth of skills we have here in Hermanus, and everyone employed to work on the path was from Hermanus," she said.

follow on page 2



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The team of Jaco Rabe, Colan Pretorius and Ansley Arendse ensured craftsmanship over the entire 820m new path. Walker Bay Decking was responsible for the on site concrete moulding, proving to be a challenge in the intertidal zone. Jobre also highlighted the expertise and professionalism of Principal Agent Andre van der Merwe, who previously designed, built and sourced the funds for the Hermanus Sports Centre and who has specific experience with coastal work.

The civil engineer, Eward Grobler was praised for his work on the path's design and implementation, as well as the input from engineer Bernard Steyn. A highly technical process was involved in moulding the concrete pillars supporting cantilevered and the suspended sections of the new path. Jobre said they wanted an environmentally friendly look and feel, not a statement, and a continuation of the current path. More than 300 wire cages filled with natural stone were placed along the lower parts of the new path to prevent flooding at high tide, to add stability and to protect the path from erosion. Tourists, as well as locals, can look forward in enjoying the 12km cliff path in future.

Hardus Botha

Grootbos Pofadder

The Grootbos Rangers have all learned to love the animals they work to protect, even the ones they used to fear most. Here, a slow puff adder was safely removed from a bush that was being cut back as part of ongoing reserve and road management. Noticing the beauty in diversity and understanding the roles within an ecosystem motivates us to all become protectors of our planet.



Toeka se Afrikaanse Idiome, Spreekwoorde en Segswyses

Ons vertrou daar is lesers wat hierdie reeks in die Gans-Berg Nuus oor 'Toeka se Afrikaanse Idiome, Spreekwoorde en Segswyses' geniet. Die inligting is in 'n dokument wat in 1975, sowat 50 jaar gelede, opgespoor en die skrywers daarvan verwys na hulself bloot as 'Die Samestellers'. Idiome wat algemeen bekend is, word oorgeslaan. Kommentaar deur ons lesers is steeds welkom: WhatsApp aan 082 786 0494, of stuur 'n epos aan info2@gansberg.co.za. Ons hoor graag van julle.

Hier is nog 'n paar:

- *Dis somaar alles kerriekruie: alles onsin;
- *In die kers vlieg: hom vasloop;
- *So nimmer as ketang: 'n verskerpte vorm van die negatief, byvoorbeeld: Ek sal dit so nimmer as ketang glo nie;
- *In iemand se kielsorg vaar: hom volg;
- *Moenie 'kiep-kiep' roep nie: moenie somaar almal beskuldig nie;

- *Geen kik gee nie: geen geluid laat hoor nie; sonder teëstribbel;
- *'n Kind op 'n boodskap stuur: werk laat doen deur 'n persoon wat nie daartoe bevoeg is nie;
- *So klaar soos 'n klontjie: baie duidelik;
- *Die klap van die sweep ken: weet hoe hy moet te werk gaan;
- *Erens klawer: daar vry; daar hoed ophang;
- *in die klem wees: in die moeilikheid wees;
- *Nie sonder klereskeur gaan nie: met groot moeite en nie sonder gevaar nie;
- *Oor die kling jaag: om die lewe bring;
- *Die klok sal by hom lui: hy sal insolvent raak;
- *'n Man van die klok wees: alles op die gesette tyd doen;
- *Dit is 'n groot klomp vir 'n klein potjie: dis moeilik om te glo;
- *Hy het nie aan sy eerste kluitjie verstik nie: hy lieg alweer

Hardus Botha

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Van Vaders en Vlugteling

*Vrolike Gansbaai Leeskringlede.
Inlas: Anita Botha*



“Dit was 'n moeilike en ietwat ingewikkelde boek om met die lede van Gansbaai Leeskring te bespreek, maar ek het die voorbereiding vir die aanbieding daarvan baie geniet,” vertel Arista Bouwer van Gansbaai Leeskring oor hulle byeenkoms van Dinsdag, 17 Junie 2025. Die boek wat bespreek is, *Van Vaders en Vlugteling*, is deur SJ (Fanie) Naude geskryf. Die byeenkoms is met smaaklike sop en sjerrie, egte winter-versings, afgesluit.

Ietsie oor die boek:
“'n Predatoriese

pampoenplant het die ander groente verswelg, die werf oorgeneem. Dit begin by deure en vensters inrank, sal mettertyd die murasie self verwurg en plattrek.” Die natuur word in die roman aangebied as 'n soort ewige toevlug - iets wat sal bly voortbestaan lank na die mens se afsterwe en vernietiging. SJ Naudé se skryfwerk spreek die tema van modernewêreldvervreemding aan. In hierdie

boek sit SJ sy ondersoek na die aard van wêreldvervreemding voort via die wel en weë van die hoofkarakter, Daniël.

In sy boek kom aardse

vervreemding (en dan veral verset daarteen) as 'n aspek van modernewêreldvervreemding telkens aan boord. In die eerste plek is daar die mate waartoe die Vrystaatse landskap as 'n soort ewige teenvoeter funksioneer in die latere gedeeltes van die roman, veral in die gedeeltes waarin SJ herhaaldelik die beskrywing van die Vrystaatse gras so mooi verwoord. Dit is asof die roman te kenne wil gee dat die natuur die enigste konstantheid bied, die enigste element is wat nié sal vergaan nie, maar alle menslike handeling daaruit uiteindelik sal absorbeer en omvorm tot die groter planetêre geheel.

Naudé as skrywer verwoord nie bloot die toestand van modernewêreldvervreemding nie - hy laat sy karakters ook toe om in opstand daarteen te kom. In die roman bied Naudé vir ons 'n wêreld aan wat nie meer 'n wêreld is nie, waarin dinge soos gemeenskap, intimiteit, solidariteit en empatie ontbreek. Dit is 'n somber prentjie, maar 'n akkurate portret van die luim waarin so baie van ons vandag moet voortleef.
(Foto's: Anita Botha)

Hardus Botha

Marina van Dyk, Petro Pretorius, Annamarie Vermeulen, Vea Tredoux en Arista Bouwer.



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World Travel Award for... Grootbos Private Nature Reserve



with a negative carbon footprint and more than 2,500 hectares is an orchard (889 plant species, some recovered). Its owner, Michael Lutzeyer, hired important entomologists and botanists, and its architecture of contemporary aesthetics merges with an ancient forest that will make you feel like you dream. Most of the food they serve has been grown on the property and, among the plans they propose,

Once again, the awards for excellence in the world of travel have their winners. The various Condé Nast Traveler Awards 2025 were presented recently, and Grootbos Private Nature Reserve received the *Award Africa Hotel 2025*.

Condé Nast Traveler Awards 2025 described Grootbos Private Nature Reserve, South Africa as follows: "In a very remote place, just around the corner from the Cape of Good Hope, there is an Eden where you can discover what a flower safari is, see the big five of the sea and enjoy one of the most beautiful landscapes on the planet. This private reserve

horseback riding through sea caverns, seeing the calf of the southern right whale."

At Grootbos, the management create unforgettable experiences that inspire guests to connect with nature, their loved ones and themselves, leaving a lasting impression long after their stay. They concluded: "We are incredibly proud to share that these values have earned us the honour of being named 'Best Hotel in Africa' by Condé Nast Traveler Spain."

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Blue Cranes uplisted to Vulnerable...



South Africa's national bird, the iconic Blue Crane, has officially been uplisted from Near Threatened to Vulnerable in the newly published Regional Red Data Book of Birds. This change reflects growing concern about the species' future - and it underscores the critical role of the Overberg region in the renewed effort to protect these elegant birds.

Data from the long-running Coordinated Avian Roadcounts (CAR) shows that the Overberg has seen an alarming 44% decline in Blue Crane numbers between 2011 and 2025. These figures, collated and shared by Dr Christie Craig of the Endangered Wildlife Trust/International Crane Foundation (EWT/ICF), a partner of the Overberg Crane Group (OCG), are particularly concerning given that this region supports more than half of the country's remaining Blue Crane population.

The Red Data Book of Birds of South Africa is a comprehensive scientific assessment of the conservation status of bird species, identifying those most at risk of extinction. Compiled by BirdLife South Africa in partnership with the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) and expert organisations, such as the OCG and the EWT/ICF, the Red Data Book now lists the Blue Crane as Vulnerable - meaning it faces a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future.

A suite of threats

The Overberg once had a thriving Blue Crane population, with numbers increasing by 261% between 1994 and 2010, as per CAR data. Since 1991, the OCG along with partners such as CapeNature and EWT/ICF have driven Blue Crane conservation efforts in the Overberg, engaging actively with landowners to raise awareness and ensure that farming and cranes coexist peacefully. These interventions worked so well that in the mid 2010s the regional red list status was downlisted from Vulnerable to Near Threatened. However, at this time, these conservation efforts driven by conservation organisations were reduced, as a result of limited resources.

Blue Cranes also faced an additional suite of threats over the past 14 years. These include

disturbance during the breeding season, collisions with powerlines, entanglement in farm fencing and baling twine and poisoning - often from substances intended for other species. In addition, shifts in agricultural practices over the past decade, including minimum till and increased canola production, have altered the landscape, which might have reduced the availability of suitable feeding and breeding areas for cranes, although more research is needed.

Recent research by Dr Craig into the species' long-term viability revealed that breeding success in the Overberg has halved over the past 10 years. On average, pairs now raise just 0.55 fledglings - far below what's needed to sustain the population. MSc student, Michelle Boucher found that the key drivers of nest failure in the Overberg are disturbance and high temperatures. This is concerning given that climate change models predict significant drying and warming in the Western Cape. For media queries contact: Eleanor Momborg, Endangered Wildlife Trust at eleanorm@ewt.org or on 083 400 5741, and Heather D'Alton, Overberg Crane Group at heather@lovegreen.co.za or on 076 627 1576.

Heather D'Alton, Overberg Crane Group
(Continue on page 14 as: 'A wake-up call for the Overberg')

Emergency Numbers:

- Gansbaai Municipality: 028 384 8300
- Overstrand Municipality: 24hour control room 028 313 8111 / 028 313 8000 / 028 313 8013
- Law Enforcement: 028 313 8996 / 028 313 8111
- Disaster Risk Management: 028 313 8980 / 028 312 2400 / 028 313 8122
- Fire Department: 028 313 8980 / 028 312 2400
- Marine & Coastal Management: 028 313 2703
- Ambulans Service Toll free number: 10177
- 1LifeRescue: Mark Robson - 082 414 9335 / 0861 13 13 11
- CMC Critical Medical Care: 066 222 7219
- Gansbaai Police Station: 028 384 0201 / 10111
- OMR Community Medix 078 699 6995



Your Neighbourhood Watch is here for you

- De Kelders NHW: Mark Robson - 082 414 9335
- Franskraal NHW: Lizzy - 081 419 0180
- Franskraal Afriforum NHW: Robbie Nelson - 083 455 0946
- Gansbaai NHW: Hugh-Daniel Grobler - 072 352 7776
- Kleinbaai NHW: Anthony Melly - 079 523 8478
- Pearly Beach NHW: Christa Binedell - 072 731 8972
- Pearly Beach Resort NHW: Maggie Coetzee - 083 245 1207
- Perlemoenbaai NHW: Johan Pieterse - 072 749 1510
- Baardskeerdersbos Plaaswag: Flippie Groenewald - 072 413 9718
- Masakhane NHW: Mziwenkosi (Magic) Ngewu - 071 355 3555
- Blompark/Beverly Hills: Pastor Ivan Cornelius - 076 504 6744 / 082 472 0877



Brood en aartappels vir Beverley Hills

Beverley Hills se kinders (±50) en Blompark se kinders (±50) en hulle ma's het breed op Jeugdag, 16 Junie 2025, geglimlag. Dit was tydens 'n besoek aan hulle deur die Sea Gulls Netbalklub onder leiding van Sylvia Jacobs. Die bedrywige netbalspelers het smaaklike broodjies aan die kinders uitgedeel en die ma's het elk 'n plastieksakkie met

aartappels ontvang, waarvoor hulle baie dankbaar was. "Ons bedank graag die gemeenskap en borge wat ons in hierdie projek ondersteun het, dit word opreg waardeer," het Sylvia gesê.

Hardus Botha



Grootbos mushrooms

Picture of the mushrooms and fun guys popping up everywhere at Grootbos. Winter in the Cape is mushroom season. Here are some amazing finds on the reserve including toxic, edible, medicinal and some that'll let you see into the future. We stick to photographing them, as they are some of the most photogenic organisms.



Grootbos forest where beautiful epiphytic ferns are in spore as the winter rains prepare the landscape for the growing season.



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Sea Gulls onthaal vroue

Die op-en-wakker lede van die Sea Gulls Netbalklub, onder leiding van Sylvia Jacobs, het op Sondag, 22 Junie 2025 'n gesellige Vrouedag in Silwerjare Dienssentrum se saal aangebied. Sowat 40 vroue het opgedaag en heerlik saamgekuier en 'n smaaklike maaltyd geniet.

Twee sprekers, Juffrou Bosman van Kleinmond en Liza Felix van Blompark het opgetree. Die tema's was 'Hoe om vrou te wees' en 'Wat is jou waarde as vrou?'. Die netbalspan se pragtige trofee wat hulle verower het, is ook uitgestal. "Die gemeenskap en borge het ons wonderlik ondersteun en ons bedank hulle graag van harte," het Sylvia gesê.

Sylvia nooi alle belangstellende netbalspelers uit om Dinsdae en Donderdae om 18:00 saam by die netbalbane by Blompark Sportgronde te kom oefen.

Hardus Botha



Vrolike, maar hardwerkende vrouens.



Sylvia Jacobs by Sea Gulls se trofee.

Weather Forecast / Weer Voorspelling

Friday 27/06/2025	Saturday 28/06/2025	Sunday 29/06/2025	Monday 30/06/2025	Tuesday 01/07/2025	Wednesday 02/07/2025
14°	15°	17°	18°	17°	15°
Fresh Breeze 9 m/s from north-west 0.1 mm precipitation.	Fresh Breeze 8 m/s from north-west 0.1 mm precipitation.	Light Breeze 2 m/s from south 0 mm precipitation.	Light Air 1 m/s from south-west 0 mm precipitation.	Moderate Breeze 6 m/s from north-west 0 mm precipitation.	Fresh Breeze 10 m/s from west 0.8 mm precipitation.

Gety tafels / Tide Tables

Dag / Day	High	High	Low	Low
27 June	0423	1654	1035	2305
28 June	0507	1737	1116	2351
29 June	0550	1820	1156	0037
30 June	0634	1905	1238	0126
01 July	0721	1952	1322	0200
02 July	0813	2044	0220	1412
03 July	0916	2144	0320	1512
04 July	1029	2249	0425	1620
05 July	1142	2350	0528	1729
06 July	1242	0043	0623	1828
07 July	1330	0128	0709	1919
08 July	1411	0200	0750	2003
09 July	0209	1447	0827	2042
10 July	0247	1522	0902	2120

Langasem-Gansies

Laerskool Gansbaai se 'Langasem-Gansies' se 'asems' en prestasies op die gebied van landlope raak net al beter en beter. (Een van die dae hardloop hulle sommer na die byeenkomste toe!) Die Landloop-distriksbyeenkoms is op 21 Junie 2025 by Laerskool Overberg aangebied - met trotse en pragtige uitslae deur die Gansies.

Uitslae om mee te spog:

Dogters o/9 - Mieke Groenewald 2de en Pippa Pretorius 6de; Dogters o/10 - Liëtte Kotze 3de en Isabella Beets 6de; Seuns o/10 - Micah Fisher 6de; Dogters o/11 - Lucadin Jansen 5de; Dogters o/12 - Skylar Beyers 6de;

Dogters o/13 - Esmé Collins 4de en Ninke Kotze 5de; Seuns o/13 - Chris du Toit 5de; Dogters o/14 - Janica du Toit 2de.

“n Paar van ons atlete het die Top 6-posisie net-net gemis,” vertel Annette Wessels van Laerskool Gansbaai. “Ons het groot waardering vir elke atleet wat dwarsdeur die toetsreeks getrou geoefen het om hul kant te bring - aanhouer wen en julle maak ons trots!”

Hardus Botha



'Treindorp' emosievol besoek

“Sjoe, maar dis só mooi, ek voel skoon lam!”, was emerituspredikant, ds Franna Herselman, se impakwoorde tydens 'n besoek deur homself en sy eggenote, Charlotte, aan Johan en Anfra Penz se huis - waar Johan 'n volledige 'Treindorp / Rangeerwerf', wat sy dubbelmotorhuis volstaan, gebou het.



Franna en Charlotte Herselman.

Franna het vir 'n paar sekondes verstom gestaan en alles net eers bekyk, voordat 'n stortvloed van vrae aan Johan sy ore byna laat tuit het, met Charlotte wat net so intensief en verstom rondgekyk het. Wat hulle aanskou het, was absolute professionele werk wat Johan met presisie beplan en gebou het - alles volgens skaal. 'n Volledige rangeerwerf, met geboutjies, mense, voertuie, parkeerareas en wat-nie-nog-alles-nie was te sien. Die 'treindorp' is in 'n U-vorm gebou, met die rangeerwerf regs. Links en reg rondom, is spoorlyne, 'berge' met bome, gras en plaasdiere wat wei, asook tunnels waardeur die treine beweeg. Dan is daar 'n volstruisplaas, 'n wynplaas met wingerde, ander plase en baie meer - sonder twyfel 'n 'stokperdjie' duisend.

Die gedagte om Franna na Johan se treindorp te nooi, het ontstaan na aanleiding van 'n berig wat in die Gans-Berg Nuus (Vrydag, 13 Junie 2025: 'Predikant-poppakas met humor én boodskappe') geplaas is. Tydens daardie onderhoud het Franna 'n krat vol lokomotiewe en treinwaens gaan haal, wat emosievol aan die joernalis vertoon is. By hom het lokomotiewe en treinwaens van kindsbeen af 'n groot rol gespeel, maar hy het net nooit die spasio en tyd gehad om 'n groot projek daarvan te maak nie. Daar-en-dan is stilweg besluit om 'n verrassingsbesoek aan Johan vir hom te reël.

Kindsbeen-droom verwesentlik Johan, 'n afgetrede Hoof Uitvoerende Finansiële Bestuurder van 'n Vervoermaatskappy, en Anfra het ná Johan se aftrede sowat 13 jaar gelede na 'n huis gesoek met 'n adisionele dubbelmotorhuis om sy kindsbeen-droom te verwesentlik. In 2014 is dié regte huis gekoop en die egpaar het ingetrek.



Johan Penz by die kontrolebord.

Johan versamel al lokomotiewe en treinwaens van kindsbeen af. “Ek glo ek het hierdie liefde by my pa



geërf, wat dit ook gedoen het,” vertel Johan. “Drie van my kosbaarste besittings is my pa se diesel- en stoomlokomotiewe, asook 'n kerk-geboutjie en pastorie wat 65 jaar oud is.” Hy fokus hoofsaaklik op Suid-Afrikaanse treine, asook Union Pacific lokomotiewe en treinwaens wat hy uit Amerika aangekoop het.

Die houtstellasie waarop die uitleg staan, het hy self gebou. Die projek is in verskillende fases gebou, wat hom 8 jaar lank besig gehou het en nou voltooi is, behalwe vir kleinighede wat steeds kan bykom. In die middel is 'n volledige kontrolebord vanwaar Johan die treindorp elektronies beheer. Hy het selfs 'n 'koolstof-uitveër' waarmee die treinspoore so twee-weekliks gevryf word om te verhoed dat die treine vassteek. Pragtige, geraamde legkaarte (*puzzels*) wat soos skilderye lyk, pryk teen die mure - vanselfsprekend hoofsaaklik lokomotiewe en treinwaens!

Terug by Franna: “Ons het voorheen al iets soos hierdie gesien, maar hierdie was die wonderlikste besoek wat ek in jare beleef het en dit sal my altyd bybly!”

Hardus Botha

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Sluitingsdatum: 09 Julie 2025

Gesondheid-bewusmaking vir Jeugdag

Jeugdag op 16 Junie 2025 by Ikamva in Blompark het veral op die bewusmaking van gesondheid gefokus. "Ons het spesifiek op die bewusmaking van gesondheid, Jeugbemaatting en Gesinsbeplanning gefokus," vertel Jolandé Sauls, Bestuurder: Ikamva Jeugontwikkeling en Rekenaarsentrum.

Die gemeenskapsaal was so volgepak dat besoekers selfs aan die agterkant teen die mure en ook buite moes staan. Besoekers het van ooral opgedaag: Gansbaai, Stanford, Pearly Beach en Buffeljachts, met sowat 320 kinders, jongmense en volwassenes wat teenwoordig was.

'n Sinvolle program is aangebied, met onder andere beskikbare gesondheidsdienste by Ikamva wat bekendgestel is. Die spesiale geleentheid was bedoel vir Stanford, Gansbaai, Blompark, Pearly Beach en Buffeljachts. Die vol en lewendige program, onder leiding

van Ikamva se Bestuurder, Jolandé Sauls, het almal behoorlik aan die gang gehou. Die program is afgewissel met pragtige sangitems, voordrag en dansvertonings. Dan was daar motiveringsprekers oor Gesondheidsondersoeke en -bevordering, Gesinsbeplanning, MIV-toetsing en berading, inligting oor noodvoorbehoeding, TB-sifting en meer.

Die hoof-motiveringspreker, Michael Palmer, het veral op Jeugbemaatting en verwante aspekte gefokus. Die suksesvolle en leersame Jeugdag is met heerlike versiersings afgesluit, met Jolandé met haar dank en waardering teenoor I & J uitgespreek het vir die kos en lekkergoedpakkies. "Ons wil graag dat die gemeenskap kennis neem van die waardevolle werk wat ons vir die jeug doen en donasies en ondersteuning sal baie welkom wees," het Jolandé afgesluit.

Hardus Botha



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A win for Renosterveld



It was a 'win' for renosterveld conservation as Haarwegskloof declared a provincial nature reserve. In a major victory for biodiversity conservation, Haarwegskloof, which includes the largest remaining connected stretch of renosterveld left on Earth has officially been declared a provincial nature reserve. The reserve is owned by WWF South Africa and managed by the Overberg Renosterveld Trust (ORT), a non-profit organisation dedicated to protecting and restoring the fragile renosterveld ecosystem that once covered large parts of the Overberg.

Located between Swellendam and Bredasdorp in the Overberg region, Haarwegskloof Renosterveld Nature Reserve spans 547 ha of Critically Endangered Eastern Rûens Shale Renosterveld. It's home to a remarkable diversity of endemic and rare plant species. Threatened bird species such as Black Harrier and Cape Vulture have been recorded here, as well as secretive mammals, including Aardwolf and Aardvark.

The declaration, made in April 2025 by Western Cape Provincial Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Anton Bredell, cements the site's status as a vital stronghold for one of South Africa's most threatened ecosystems. Minister Bredell congratulated the different stakeholders for working together to

make this conservation initiative a reality.

CapeNature CEO Dr Ashley Naidoo said CapeNature, the ORT, and WWF South Africa have a long-standing relationship with each other. "This declaration is an acknowledgement of the ongoing and admirable conservation efforts that the ORT is carrying out in the Overberg. CapeNature supports these efforts through assessing and reviewing the biodiversity value of these important biodiversity areas. Through stewardship facilitation, legal support and on-the-ground collaboration, CapeNature continues to assist in securing the future of some of the Western Cape's most vulnerable ecosystems."



For Dr Odette Curtis-Scott, CEO and founder of the ORT, the declaration marks a milestone in the journey to protect this irreplaceable landscape. "Renosterveld is one of the most threatened vegetation types in South Africa, with an estimated 5% of its original extent intact. Much of it has been ploughed for agriculture, and what little remains is highly fragmented,

making the formal protection of Haarwegskloof as a nature reserve really important."

The declaration provides the highest level of legal protection under the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act. It ensures that the Haarwegskloof Renosterveld Nature Reserve will remain dedicated to conservation efforts, while allowing for scientific research, habitat restoration and low-impact eco-tourism activities. Renosterveld is part of the Cape Floristic Region, which is a global biodiversity hotspot and one of only six floral kingdoms in the world. Curtis-Scott added the declaration of Haarwegskloof as a nature reserve is the key to these efforts and not just a win for conservation

but also science and the countless species that call this extraordinary landscape home. The declaration also serves as inspiration for a globally unique vegetation type facing functional extinction.

"We hope our ongoing work with incredible partners and landowners will inspire further protection of renosterveld remnants throughout

the region," said Curtis-Scott. Haarwegskloof stands as an example of what is possible when government and private organisations work together in conservation of our South African and Western Cape biodiversity. *(Article shortened: Hardus Botha)*

**CapeNature General Manager:
Advocacy Petro van Rhyn**



A wake-up call for the Overberg...

Renewed efforts to protect the Blue Crane's survival

(From page 5)

This new listing of the Blue Cranes' survival makes the vital role of farmers clear: the Overberg is central to the Blue Crane's survival. What's more, it has demonstrated that this species is dependent on ongoing conservation efforts, especially as they occur almost entirely outside of protected areas. Conservation success will depend on collective action - from landowners and farmers to local municipalities, researchers and town residents. Encouragingly, many farmers in the region have already embraced their role as custodians of these birds, showing that agricultural productivity and biodiversity conservation can go hand in hand. Their commitment forms the backbone of South Africa's Blue Crane conservation efforts.

While the new Red Data Book status is a sobering call to action, it also provides momentum to strengthen existing work. By formally acknowledging the increased threat to Blue Cranes, the listing opens doors for more support - from policy changes to increased collaboration in farming with nature. Crucially, it shines a spotlight on

regions like the Overberg, where urgent interventions can have the greatest impact on securing a future for our national bird.

What are we doing about it?

Blue Cranes have a strong association with agriculture across their range in South Africa, where they face several different threats. This means that to conserve them, we need to draw on many different types of expertise. With the help of the Conservation Planning Specialist Group, the EWT/ICF partnership coordinated a multistakeholder conservation planning process for Blue Crane. Several stakeholders put their best thinking together to co-create a conservation plan, including members from EWT/ICF, Overberg Crane Group, CapeNature, Wool Growers Association, Kogelberg Biosphere Wildlife Rescue and Training Centre, Ezemvelo KZN

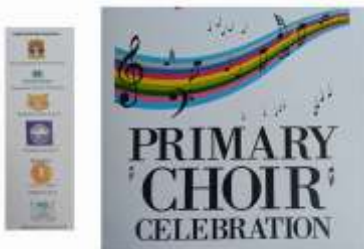


Wildlife, Eskom and Birdlife South Africa. This conservation plan specifies several actions that will be implemented in the coming years. Together we are confident that with coordinated conservation action we can turn the trend around for Blue Crane.

(For media queries contact: *Eleanor Momberg*, Endangered Wildlife Trust at eleannorm@ewt.org or on 083 400 5741, and *Heather D'Alton*, Overberg Crane Group at heather@lovegreen.co.za or on 076 627 1576.

Heather D'Alton, Overberg Crane Group

Jeugdagvieringe by 'Fine Arts Festival'



Die uitstekende Junior- en Seniorskoor van Laerskool Gansbaai (LSG) het op Jeugdag, 16 Junie 2025, aan die 'Fine Arts Choir Festival' in Hermanus deelgeneem. Die Koorfees was ter afsluiting van die afgelope tien dae se 'Fine Arts Festival' wat in Hermanus aangebied is. Die doel van die fees was om die kunste en kunstenaars in die groter Hermanus-area blootstelling te

gee en die vertroue is uitgespreek dat dit in die toekoms sal uitbrei.

LSG se deelname was een van 'n hele paar skole wat opgetree het. Hulle was ook bevoorreg om deel te kon wees van die massakoor wat onder Marimba-begeleiding 'Shoshaloza' as die finale gesing het.

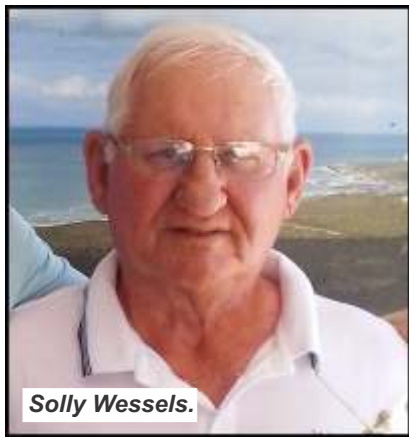
Die koorfees het in geen opsig op kompetisie gefokus nie, maar dit het die koorlede uitstekende



blootstelling vir Eisteddfod, asook ander optredes gegee wat nog hierdie jaar vir hul voorlê. Dit was ook 'n goeie ondervinding vir die Gansies om in 'n groot saal, met 'n groot verskeidenheid mense, op te tree en ook na ander kore te kon luister.

Hardus Botha

Gansbaai Gholfklub: Swak weer kortwiek gholf



Solly Wessels.

Swak weersomstandighede het hierdie week die gholfkompetisies behoortlik in die wiele gery - die manne en vroue het net op Saterdag, 21 Junie 2025

geleentheid gehad om die balle te moker, waar Solly Wessels die Enkel Stableford gewen het. Gelukkig het Gansbaai Gholfklub die Brodie Liga teen Kleinmond gewen.

Woensdag 18 Junie:

Geen gholf as gevolg van die weer.

Vrydag, 20 Junie:

Geen gholf as gevolg van die weer.

Saterdag, 21 Junie:

Solly Wessels wen die Enkel Stableford kompetisie met 42 punte, gevolg deur Bev Swart 36, Daan Victor 33, Jacques Louw 33, Wally van Coller 33, Gerhardus Lotter 33, Neil Harrison 32, Rene Myburgh 32, Marietjie de Villiers 32 en Stephen

Brown 30.

Brodie Liga:

Gansbaai wen Kleinmond 5.5/0.5. Baie geluk aan die Brodie-span! Hulle is Pieter Loubser, Berty Sassman, Francois van der Merwe, Andre Hage, JP Laubscher en Melvin Tobias.

Saterdag, 28 Junie:

Kompetisie is 'n Enkel Stableford.

Verjaarsdae:

Francois Klopper 23ste, Francois Myburgh 24ste en Jenna-Leigh de Klerk 29ste.

Groete,

Johan Coetzee 082 878 0534

Ete Oak Grove

Die heerlike geure van bobotie en geel rys, pampoenkoekies en boontjies het die maagsappe aan die roer gesit in Silwerjare Dienssentrum se saal tydens 'n besoek aldaar - om nie eens van die warm nagereg te praat nie! Elcine Hulme en Susan Moolman van die NGK se Bediening Gasvryheid, het daarvoor gesorg - met Oak Grove se inwoners wat skaars kon wag dat die foto-nemery agter die rug moes kom - die etery was belangriker. "As Bestuurder van Silwerjare Dienssentrum en Oak Grove Nasorgdiens wil ek die dames van harte bedank - hierdie smaaklike ete word opreg deur die inwoners en personeel waardeur," het Suzanne Hans gesê.

Hardus Botha



'Ons ry in styl'

Laerskool Gansbaai is somer baie trots om hulle twee splinternuwe skoolbussies aan die ouers en gemeenskap bekend te stel en hulle 'ry nou in styl'. "Ons glo in belegging in ons kinders se toekoms - dit beteken veilige, betroubare vervoer vir elke uitstappie, sportgeleentheid en skoolaktiwiteit," het Devin Sauls, skoolhoof gesê. "Dankie aan elkeen wat hierdie mylpaal moontlik gemaak het - ons is opgewonde oor die pad vorentoe!"

Hardus Botha



Devin Sauls en Lyndri Kotze staan trots by die nuwe skoolbussies.



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Flugvoetige Daniël de Villiers



Gansies se drie skaaksterre



Laerskool Gansbaai se Gansies beskik oor 'n verskeidenheid van sportsterre, waarby 'skaaksterre' beslis ingesluit is. So het drie Gansies op Saterdag, 21 Junie 2025, aan die Queens Skaaktoernooi te Stellenbosch deelgeneem.

So het hulle geëindig: Isabelle de Villiers (o/9), 3de; Anneke du Preez (o/11), 6de; Alet du Preez (o/13), 3de. Baie geluk aan hierdie Skaak-Gansies met julle puik prestasies - julle is skaaksterre!

Hardus Botha

Die 'flugvoetige' Daniël de Villiers van Laerskool Gansbaai, het op Saterdag, 21 Junie 2025 sy tenniskoene behoorlik laat werk. Hy het aan die Worcester ProKennex-toernooi deelgeneem en 3de by die seuns o/11 geëindig.

Op Sondag, 22 Junie 2025 het Daniël aan die eerste rondte van die Overberg Tennisproewe te Bredasdorp deelgeneem en 4de geëindig - knappedaan, Daniël, doen so voort! Nou wag daar nog 2 rondtes proewe vir hom - na afloop van al 3 proewe, sal die Top 8 Tennisspelers vir die Overbergspan gekies word - sterkte daarmee, Daniël, ook van die Gans-Berg Nuus se redaksiespan!

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