

Fynbos

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NATURBEWARINGSVERENIGING
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Voël van die Jaar 2021 op ons voorstoep

Birdlife SA het aan Kleinmond 'n groot guns bewys deur die Kaapse berglyster (*Chaetops frenatus*) as Voël van die Jaar vir 2021 aan te wys aangesien dié berglyster endemies is tot die bergfynbos van die Wes- en Oos-Kaap en op ons voorstoep voorkom.

Die berglyster kom hoofsaaklik teen hoër hellings, tot 2300m bo seespieël, in die berge voor. In die Kleinmond omgewing kan hulle op Kasteelkop en by Rooiels gesien word. By Rooiels is dit nie nodig om bergop te loop om die voël te sien nie. Hulle gebied is binne stapafstand laag teen die berghange.



Die mannetjie berglyster kan maklik uitgeken word aan sy kastaiingbruin bors en kruis, sy swart stert met wit punte en sy swart en grys kop met 'n wit streep bo die oog en wit snor. Die wyfie is ligter van kleur met 'n gestreepte bors. Hulle kan nie baie goed vlieg nie, maar spring eerder van rots na rots. Daarom die Engelse naam Rockjumper.

Hulle kom gewoonlik in klein groepe van twee tot vyf voëls voor, maar daar is slegs een broeipaar in so 'n groep. 'n Nes word op die grond van grasse, wortels en mos gebou en word veral met rooiklipkonynhare (*Pronolagus rupestris*) uitgevoer. Die nes is altyd baie goed versteek.

Twee of drie eiers word tussen Julie en Januarie gelê en broei na 20 dae uit. As die eerste broei-poging misluk kan 'n paar tot vyf maal per seisoen weer probeer. Die mannetjie en wyfie sal om die beurt op die nes sit en broei. Wanneer die kuikens gevoer word, sal die voël wat kos aanbring die

laaste 10m na die nes baie versigtig benader. Dit kan tot 15 minute neem – net om seker te maak dat roofdiere nie die nes opspoor nie.

Ongelukkig is broeisukses van die Kaapse berglyster baie laag. Met 'n studie van jare gelede is bevind die broeisukses oor drie jaar wissel tussen 19% en 67%. 'n Studie in 2017 het egter gevind dit is so laag as 5%. Slegs een kuiken uit 20 neste het dit gemaak.

Daar is minstens twee redes vir die lae broeisukses. Die eiers word deur muishonde, ratels en slange veral die boomslang geroof. 'n Tweede rede is klimaatsverandering aangesien hierdie voël hitte sensitief is. Die berglyster is veel meer hitte sensitief as ander endemiese fynbos spesies.

Die Kaapse berglyster eet hoofsaaklik geleedpotiges soos sprinkane, maar ook ander goggas soos geitjies, akkedisse en spinnekoppe.

In Suider-Afrika is daar 'n tweede berglyster, nl die oranjeborsberglyster wat in die Lesotho-hoogland en die berggebiede suid daarvan voorkom. Dié voël se bors en kruis is ligter en meer oranje van kleur. Hierdie voël kan op die Sanipas gesien word. Die gebiede waar hierdie twee spesies voorkom oorvleuel nie.

Daar word geskat dat die bevolking van die Kaapse berglyster tussen 30 000 en 60 000 is en word op die IUCN se Rooi Lys van bedreigde spesies as “Near Threatened” gelys.

Inligtingsplakkate oor die Kaapse berglyster is op die Birdlife SA se webtuiste: www.birdlifesa.org.za beskikbaar.

Bronne: Birdlife SA, Roberts VII Multimedia Birds of Southern Africa en Sasol Birds of Southern Africa

Carl Swart

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Berzelia stokoei Rooistompie - not like anything else

Berzelia foliage reminds me of heather (*Erica spp*), the low-growing shrubs which are one of the most prevalent and diverse plants in this wild fynbos landscape. We have been seeing the ropey needle-clad stems of heather everywhere. Because of that and the various other plants it reminds me of my first impress of berzelia is that I have seen it before. Still in spite of the similarity to so many familiar plants, berzelia isn't quite like anything else. As with robots of the creepy uncanny valley, so human and yet lacking some inscrutable human quality which exposes them for what they are, so it

is with berzelia. They so nearly achieve abject normalcy, but walking closer it becomes clear there is something bizarre about this plant.

Each orb-shaped inflorescence is held by a long peduncle that brought to my mind, ridiculously, elongated strawberries, fleshy red with tightly clasp scale leaves reminiscent of the hundred achenes dotting the outside of a strawberry. These bright red candelabra would stand out on any plant, and they certainly do against wispy but tightly-packed foliage surrounding them, a solid backdrop of completely ordinary green.



Interesting as the red peduncles are, it's the little floral orbs that are true weird looking. White and faintly downy, like Bizarro World thimbleberries (*Rubus parviflorus*), or little golf balls placed on a tee, the inflorescences look unreal. Small red dots spaced equally around are the individual flowers, so each orb is a collection of many small flowers. As the flowers mature and open, little red filaments, the pollen-bearing stamen, snake out. At first ringing only part of the orb, like a punk monk, a floral tonsure, they eventually encase it completely with small red tendrils. The little fuzzy red spheres are then ready to be pollinated.

Will Clausen - Plant in Place

Die rooistompie is tans aan die blom op Perdeberg en op pad na die Drie Susters toe. Hulle hou veral van steil, rotsagtige berghellings van Kleinmond en Bettiesbaai; en is ongelukkig gewild in fynbosruikers.

Ons het onlangs gesien hoe stropers vragte fynbos van Perdeberg af wegdra.

By aanskoue daarvan kan dit aan die volgende gerapporteer word:

1. Overstrand munisipaliteit 24 uur bystandnommer 028 313 8111 en vra dat dit aan die Omgewingsbestuur Veldwagter aan diens gerapporteer word. Vra 'n verwysingsnommer.



Further alien clearing in fynbos area along R44 provincial road

Attendees of our AGM held in April 2016 were taken on a visual tour of some of the scenes in “beautiful Kleinmond”. Aided with ca 30 pictures; Peter Muller showed and reminded us of the dominant role invasive species were playing in our local landscape; amongst others the green desert at and near the Botrivier-Hermanus-Kleinmond junction and the significant areas of resprouted eucalypts, myrtle and several acacia spp between Arabella and Kleinmond.

We have since, with much appreciation and formal recognition took note of a massive alien-clearing project on Craig Saunders’ part of the Lamloch farm; eventually restoring it to a much desired diverse natural habitat. We are also only too aware of the valuable work Chris Potgieter has done on his Lamloch farm to preserve such a beautiful stretch of fynbos lying along the R44 and the valley leading up to Highlands.

Observant members, and even the not so observant tourist passing through Kleinmond, will no doubt have noticed a relative new, similar development just outside of Kleinmond town.

The owner of this farm engaged the services of a contractor to fell a large number of pine regrowth, myrtle and acacia species that have invaded an area stretching over more than a km along the R44.

This applaudable development was preceded by an as applaudable joint operational visit of officials from two Government Departments (DEFF and DEA and DP), CapeNature, Overstrand Municipality, and the Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Authority (BGCMA). The purpose of the Joint Operation was to report on and remedy illegal activities in the Bot-Kleinmond Estuary such as: illegal water uses and abstraction, waste disposal and fishing as well as infestation of alien and invasive plants and effluent discharge into the wetland

It was decided that the DEA will i.t.o an existing legislation, engage with the land owners to clear and further control the alien plant species that have invaded areas on their farms.

We are hopeful that this initiative will provide more durable results than the one which saw this farm cleared by state organised contracts (Working for

Water) in 2015 - 2017 but which have since returned to the heavily infested state it was in prior to this clearing.

Tamzyn Zweig & BM

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Algemene Jaarvergadering

Die Algemene Jaarvergadering van ons Vereniging is belê vir Woensdaand

28 April om 7 nm

in die Kleinmond Gereformeerde kerk. Alle lede word vriendelik versoek om die vergadering by te woon. Ook besoekers is hartlik welkom.

Ons gasspreker is

Dr Anina Lee van Whale Coast Conservation met tema: **What a Wonderful World**

'n Nuwe komitee sal tydens die AJV verkies word. Nominasievorms is beskikbaar by die Sekretaresse Marel de Jager 083 450 5237 en/of mareldejager@gmail.com. Die voltooide vorms moet asb. minstens 24 uur voor die vergadering by haar ingelewer word.

Covid19-maatreëls sal by die vergadering van toepassing wees.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of our Society has been set for Wednesday evening

28 April at 7 pm

in the Kleinmond Reformed church. All members are cordially requested to attend. Visitors are also most welcome.

Our guest speaker is

Dr Anina Lee of Whale Coast Conservation with theme: **What a Wonderful World**

A new committee will be elected at the AGM. Nomination forms are available from our Secretary Marel de Jager 083 450 5237 and/or mareldejager@gmail.com. Completed forms should please be handed back to her not later than 24 hours before the meeting.

Covid19- regulations will be applicable to the meeting.

Nuwe uitdaging met herwinning van afval in Kleinmond

Ons het na die afbrand van Overstrand munisipaliteit se herwinningsaanleg in Hermanus in 2018 (*Fynbos no 156 Sept 2018*) met soveel waardering kennis geneem, van die NG Kerk se Eko-bediening se inisiatiewe om te verseker dat herwinbare materiaal nie saam met al die ander onbruikbare afval, te Karwyderskraal gestort word nie.

Terwyl daar gewag is op die munisipaliteit se beplande vervanging van die uitgebrande herwinningsaanleg, is 'n sentrale aflaaipunt danksy 'n goedgegunstige aanbod van BD Hub, daargestel. 'n Beraamde 15% van die gebruiklike sowat 2 000 sakke wat voor die afbrand van die munisipale herwinningsaanleg, vanaf Kleinmond herwin is, is toe weekliks só deur Walker Bay Recycling afgehaal (*Fynbos 163 Jul 2020*). 'n Tweemaandelange onderbreking (deels deur die Covid-19 inperkende maatreëls teweeggebring) is deur onderhandeling oorkom; asook 'n verdere tydelike onderbreking wat daarna voorgekom het toe die aflaaipunt verskuif moes word na Hoofweg 127 waar sortering kon plaasvind en waarvandaan wesentlik groter volumes gehanteer kon word.



“Talle Kleinmond inwoners het die afgelope 6 maande gewoon geraak aan hierdie herwinningspunt, die aksie getrou ondersteun en baie gereeld hulle herwinbare afval daar gaan plaas” sê Jan Momsen wat Voorsitter is van die Eko-bediening. Daar het ongelukkig klagtes ingekom oor die herwinning op hierdie perseel en is die perseel asgevolg daarvan gesluit.

Dié verwikkeling het Eko-bediening genoop om 'n gesprek met die burgemeester aan te vra. Hul suksesvolle vertoë het daartoe gelei dat 'n houer waarin afval geplaas kan word, by op die munisipaliteit se oorlaaistatie (na aan die ingangshek) gehuisves gaan word.

Skoon herwinbare afval soos glas, papier, plastiek, metaal en karton (alles in een sak of apart gesorteer) kan daarin geplaas word. As die houer op 'n gegewe dag nie daar sou mag wees nie, óf vol sou mag wees, mag sakke nie daar afgelaai word nie. Die oorlaaistatie is daagliks oop tussen 6vm en 6nm en naweke en vakansiedae tussen 6vm en 4:30nm.

Hartlike dank aan Eko-bediening vir hul vinnige voetwerk en onvermoeide toewyding om te keer dat bruikbare afval nie op Karwyderskraal se stortingsterrein beland nie.

Intussen sien ons uit na die dag wanneer die munisipaliteit weer die afhaal van herwinbare afval wat in deurskynende sakke geplaas is, kan hervat.

BM

Illegal snare-hunting in the Kogelberg and Boland mountains

The Cape Leopard Trust (CLT) has in a recent Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve (KBR) newsletter requested nature lovers to “be on the lookout for illegal wire snares, while enjoying time out in nature. Cut and disarm these snares and report them to the CLT - using a handy online reporting tool “ (*which is provided down below*) They also requested members of hiking clubs, mountain bike clubs, neighbourhood watches and casual strollers on mountain footpaths and hiking trails to also report other suspicious activities like other types of traps and sightings of feral dogs.

This request by the CLT and KBR for “more feet and eyes on the ground” resulted from an official Snare Patrol Project conducted in 2020 to assess the prevalence of illegal snare-hunting on private properties bordering the four major provincial nature reserves (Limietberg, Jonkershoek, Hottentots-Holland and Kogelberg),

A snare patrol officer carried out more than 215 patrols; covering 1400km of mountain side on foot. “During the 12 month survey period he removed a total of 673 illegal animal traps, of which 642 were snare traps. The vast majority of snares was made from wire, with discarded cable and nylon also featuring as snare materials. Most of the snares he uncovered were anchored to trees and fence posts, primarily along game trails and fence lines and in stands of alien and disturbed natural vegetation”.

“The snare patrol project confirmed that hunting with snares is a very real and prevalent problem in the greater Boland region and quite possibly also in the wider Western Cape; a region not traditionally associated with snaring”

CLT's on line snare reporting platform for members of the public to upload their snare finds can be found at app.capeleopard.org.za. Your report accompanied by a picture of your find will contribute to general awareness as well as the CLT's research into the extent of this very undesirable practice.

A downloadable information sheet about snares, created in collaboration with CapeNature, and a short 2.5min video about snares and what to look out for can be found at bit.ly/CLTSnareAwareResources and bit.ly/CLTBeSnareAware respectively.

The Cape Leopard Trust (CLT) is a non-governmental organisation that strives to ensure the long-term survival of leopards, their prey and their habitat through scientific research, applied conservation and environmental education.

BM

Strandmeer- en kusreservaatopruiming

Die pandemieveroorsaakte inperkings het verhoed dat ons vanjaar die Wêreld Vleilandedag in Februarie kon herdenk met o.a. die gebruikelike skoonmaak van die Kleinmondstrandmeer.

Die projek is die laaste paar jaar mooi ondersteun deur o.a. 60 vrywilligers wat aan verlede jaar se opruiming deelgeneem het (*Fynbos 162 Maart 2020*) Die landswyse inperking is eind Februarie verslap en die NG Kerk Eko-bediening het die geleentheid benut deur op 13 Maart 'n skoonmaakdag te reël; net 'n paar dae nadat 58mm reën geval het en groot getalle afval met die stormwaterdreineringskanale en -pype na die hawe en ons kusreservaat afgevoer het.

'n Groep het rondom die strandmeer opgeruim en o.a. gebruikte maskers opgetel. Meer as twaalf rommelsakke is gevul met plastiek- en glasbottels, plastieksakke, polistireen-houers, suigstokkies, sigaretstompies en lekkergoedverpakkingmateriaal en na die oorlaaistase geneem.



Die Strandlopers eko-jeuggroep (*sien foto hierbo*) wat ook aan verlede jaar se Internasionale Kusskoonmaakdag deelgeneem het, (*Fynbos 164 Sep 2020*) het by die hawe kom help met opruiming. Die groot getal kinders (meer as 60) is nog verder versterk met lede van die kerkgroep "Footsteps to Good Hope" van Kaapstad wat ook hand bygesit het (*sien foto*). Carl Swart wat saam met die kinders daar doenig was, sê dit was 'n wonderlike ervaring om hul entoesiasme en gedissiplineerdheid gade te slaan. Die kinders is na die tyd getrukkeer op verversings en die versamelplek is met hul vertrek, silwerskoon agtergelaat. **BM**

Nuusbrief saamgestel deur die Redaksionele Komitee

☎ 028 271 4109 ✉ Posbus/ 2, Kleinmond, 7195 e-pos bothamarce@gmail.com/.

Die opinie van die outeurs is nie noodwendig die opinie van die Vereniging nie.