



Newsletter of the Betty's Bay Ratepayers' Association Nuusbrief van die Bettysbaaise Belastingbetalersvereniging

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Regional Events / Streeksgebeure

Friends of the Library

25 to 28 March: Our Library celebrates Public Library Week. For this there will be special programmes for the children on 25 and 28 March.

Talk, 26 March 10:30: Tema: Onder die Suiderkruis/ Under the Southern Cross. Die Suiderkruis is een van die eerste konstellasies wat ons leer ken. Watter een is die Suiderkruis? It lies next to the Diamond Cross & False Cross. Guest speaker: Carol Botha, who gives us the interesting article in the BUZZ every month. Come & meet her, find out about this hobby she has taken so far as to receive various awards.

16-24 March Hangklip Art Week (HAWK), Betty's Bay A week-long art exhibition, HAWK2013 will be opened at the Harold Porter National Botanical Gardens in Betty's Bay on Saturday 16 March at 11am and will last until Sunday 24 March. This is the second Hangklip Art Week (HAWK), organised by artist and local resident, Lien Botha, which is an ensemble collaboration between various well-known local artists.

For more information please contact Lien Botha on 082 926 9005 / info@lienbotha.co.za or visit the HAWK facebook page.



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.

Obtaining the BUZZ

The following options are available:

- Get a copy at the Village Centre Cafè or Penguin Place, normally first week of each month.
- 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.

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

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.

Water Charges

Overstrand Municipality – Bettys Bay Water Meter Readings

As you are perhaps aware the water meter reading function was outsourced by the Overstrand Municipality for the Bettys Bay region with effect from September/October 2012 due to the previous water meter reader leaving the area.

Unfortunately this change resulted in many problems some of which are as follows:

- 1) Meter Readers not being able to identify the whereabouts of meters and therefore found wandering around properties.
- 2) Meter Readers wearing no uniforms or carrying identification.
- 3) Meters being read during weekends instead of during the week.
- 4) On occasions up to four Meter Readers operating together.
- 5) Meter Readers not bothering to lock the lids protecting meters.

Some of these issues have now been attended too but the results have affected the pockets of residents in the following ways:

- In many cases meters have not been read for anything from one to three or four months.
- 2) This has resulted in each such case of the property owner not receiving the six free K/litres of water per month to which they are entitled.
- 3) In addition to this as water is charged at a sliding escalating scale the property owner has been overcharged for the months where the meter does eventually get read and the usage is bulked into a particular month instead of being averaged over the period inclusive of the time when the meters are not read.
- 4) There is no regular reading of meters at a particular time during the month resulting in times where the period is less than a month and at others is considerably more than a month. This practice obviously impacts on your account whereby there is increased cost in longer periods between readings due to the sliding scale charge levied.

In discussions with the authorities it has come to light that their systems are unable to identify or deal with all these overcharges. They have stated that they will deal with each of these excess charges as brought to their attention by property owners.

In the light of the above property owners are urged to examine their municipal accounts for the last four to five months and should they find that any of the above scenarios as numerated in items 2) to 4) above apply in their case they should telephone the accounts department at Kleinmond at 028 271 8400 and request them to adjust their accounts.

Adrian de Kock

Hack Group - Celebrating 50 years of battling the aliens

On Sunday, 3 February 2013, the Betty's Bay alien hack group celebrated 50 years of ridding the area of alien vegetation. The end of monthly hack number 598 was celebrated at the Harold Porter Botanical Garden, honouring those who brave all weather conditions on the first Sunday of every month to protect the biodiversity of this area.

Size for size, the 100 000 hectare United Nations' Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) registered Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve is home to the most complex biodiversity on our planet with some 1 880 different plant species. The first and only Biosphere in South Africa to be proclaimed by UNESCO, this area is a testament to the diversity and large number of its flowering plants, many of which are found nowhere else in the fynbos biome.

In 1963, under the leadership of Denys Heesom. a group of residents and weekenders decided to tackle the problem of encroaching alien vegetation and started a 'hacking' group - volunteers prepared to brave all weather and, armed with chainsaws and loppers, hack them out. Ranging in age from around six to 90-something, the hackers put their efforts into clearing the public open spaces in and around Betty's Bay. Invasive plants that are targeted include New Zealand Christmas trees, Rooikrans, Myrtle, Pittosporum, Black Wattle, Port Jackson, Spider Gum, Stinkboon and Acacia Elata.

The Betty's Bay hack group is the oldest continuously active hack group in the Western Cape and averages 25 attendees per month. Since its inception it has only had five conveners: Denys Heesom (founder) Rod Smitheman, Malcolm Pollard, Dickin Silberbauer and Edward Silberbauer, who is the longest serving convener at 23 years.

The hack's commitment to the environment has been recognised several times - in 1987 with a Keep South Africa Beautiful certificate and in 1999 by the Cape Times Centenary special commendation for conservation. In 1988 the Botanical Society of South Africa (BotSoc) awarded the group the Denys Heesom gold medal for conservation and in 2004 awarded the same to the convenor, Edward Silberbauer. In April 2010 Edward received from the Mayor of Overstrand an Award for Excellence in recognition for his service to the Betty's Bay community as convener of the hack group.

The group was especially honoured when in 2006 Hans Huyssen dedicated his composition "Proteus Variations" - a musical representation of South Africa's Proteaceae – to the Betty's Bay hack group. Commissioned by Radio Deutsche Welle, it was first performed by the SA National Youth Orchestra in Germany. The South African premiere in Cape Town was attended by several members of the hack group.

The Betty's Bay hack group is a part of the Kogelberg branch of the Botanical Society of South Africa but attendance is open to any volunteer.

Contact: The Convener, Edward Silberbauer on (028) 272 9096.

See same article with photos on our web page, www.bettysbay.info. –Ed.

The Dunes

Beaches are fascinating places and are ever-changing. Sand, which comes down in the rivers and streams, is constantly being brought on shore in each breaking wave. The dunes nearer the water line, the primary ones, are at the mercy of wind storms and high tides, and after one of our South-easterly gales that coincide with a Spring tide, one can see radical changes along a long stretch of beach. Many acid streams and rivers cross our beaches and colour the sea water over a large area, thus creating an estuarine environment in the surf. The Dawidskraal river, the outlets from Bass Lake and from Grootwitvlei, , all cross the beaches and change them radically, depending on how much water they bring down. During heavy rain, there are other streams that break through to the sea, an example being the Crystal River the flows under the western end of Porter Drive. All this freshwater has a marked effect on the land plants that usually grow in this otherwise alkaline sand. Some of this water is caught in the slacks between the rows of dunes, and here the sedges and other fresh water loving plants thrive. The courses of the lake outlets are easy to follow because of their unmistakable vegetation. Under the dunes are huge lakes of water that seep down from the mountains, on several occasions after a heavy fall of rain, there were large fresh-water lakes at the western end of Silver Sands beach. The presence of permanent underground water supports a mass of plants as well as the sedges that need a permanent supply.

The riverine plant community supports a variety of creatures from dragon flies, frogs, vlei rats to Black Crake and Gallinules – (which we now have to call African Purple Swamp Hens), and of course our Cape Clawless Otters. These animals have adapted totally to the sea and judging from the many spraints(droppings) found, live almost entirely off crayfish. This is a huge change from D J Verwoerd's research results which yielded the following prey; octopus – by far the favourite food, followed by bony fish, shore crabs *Cyclograpsus punctatus*, and lastly crayfish.

Slightly further away from the water line are the secondary dunes. These vary in shape and size and are also subject to wind carving activity, but the scattering of very tough

vegetation gradually makes enough cover to stabilise the sand. The most notable plants here are the exotic Marram Grass – *Ammophila arenaria.*, the Sea Pumpkin- *Arctotheca populifolia* with its large woolly leaves and beautiful yellow daisies, Sea Parsley – *Dasispermum suffruticosum*, and the sprawling *Cineraria geifolia*, with its masses of yellow flowers.

Further from the sea the dunes support thickets that are made up of an amazing collection of plants, some of which are specialists in that they thrive in alkali, nutrient poor sand, suffer the full blast of the Summer and Winter gales, sea spray, sand blasting and damage by the ignorant property owners who do not know their worth. Were it not for this thick band of vegetation along our coastline, many of the valuable mansions built on coastal dunes, would have ended up in the sea, after the wind had blown away all the sand supporting the building, or worse still, smothered them under the dunes.

This vegetation binds the soil, and provides food and shelter for many creatures. Boucher describes it as complex and deserving of a study on its own.

In some places these thickets are only a few centimetres high, blown flat by the wind. These plants never the less, still provide protection for the sand and some reach several meters in length.

The more obvious species in these thicket are four species of Rhus, Milkwood-Sideroxylon inerme, (tree number 579) Olea exasperata (619)- dune olive, Osyrys compressa, (99)- pruimbas, Olea capensis subsp capensus (618)- vals-ysterhout, Euclea racemosa (599)- Kus-ghwarrie, Pterocelastrus tricuspidatus (409) -kershout, Cassine peragua (414)- Bos-lepelhout, and Robsonodendron maritimum (was Cassine maritima) (413.1)- duin-valssybas. Regrettable rare are fascinating trees such as the Maurocenia frangula (417)- aasvoëlbessie, which is confined to this area, Its leaves are almost round, thick and leathery and male and female flowers are borne on different trees. Chionanthus foveolatus subsp tomentellus(615) -Kaapse pokysterhout, a member of the Oleaceae, has a double row of deep pits alongside the mid vein on the underside of the leaves. It is however, the smaller less visible plants that are so fascinating. Starting with a bewildering variety of sedges, that need water all year round, there are the bright yellow Cineraria geifolia with its bright yellow flowers, the dark pink Senecio elegans which in places is an almost succulent form, a fascinating Helychrysum niveum that looks like an erica with millions of tiny white flowers that cover its round cushion-like surface. Then there is the strange Galium tomentosum which produces masses of tiny flowers with an impossibly long corolla with the stigmas and anthers all crowded at their ends. The leaves and flowers are very sticky and the Afrikaans name is kleefgras.

Quite recently it was discovered that our *Tarchonanthus camphoratus* is actually T littoralis, whatever it is, this is a most amazing tree, particularly at Rooiels, where it grows among the rocks almost at the sea's edge.

Creepers play their part in this mixture. The *Cynanchum africanum* – bobbejaantou, *Asparagus asparagoides* - krulkransie and *Kedrostis nana* - ystervarkpatats, all add to the seemingly chaotic mix of plants.

The under story is also remarkable as the density of the bush in many places, shuts out sunlight, yet plants such as *Knowltonia vesicatoria* - brandblaar, *Satyrium carneum* -ewwatrewwa, and *Ferreria crispa* – spinnekopblom and the shade-loving orchid *Bonitea speciosa*, seem to flourish. There is a very specialised Erica - *E brachialis*, which is a

specialist in that it can resist sea spray and develops a sturdy trunk and thick branches. It can keep its ovaries on the plant for a long time. Presumably, to shed them when the environment is conducive to their survival.

Anyone taking a good look at this vegetation will realise what a tough lot these trees and bushes are. In the more sheltered areas, such as Access Road, Betty's Bay, and near the eastern- most bridge over the Kleinmond lagoon, some of the trees grow tall and straight, while in the more exposed areas, they sprawl along the sand and rocks and intertwine to form an impenetrable thicket, giving shelter to many creatures from beetles to birds.

Most of the plants are fruit-bearing and are host to many species, the most noticeable being the Cape Bulbul and Red Winged Starling, Southern Boubou Shrikes, Cape White-eyes, Olive Thrush and Karoo Prinias are also often seen, as are the Speckled Mouse Bird and the Ramaron Pidgeon, now known as the African Olive Pigeon.

Many of the trees found in these thickets, will grow further inland, and will provide an effective wind break, and if watered during the Summer will grow fast enough to become shade trees after a few years. Among the suitable species are Milkwoods, the various Rhus species and *Chrysanthemoides monilifera* (736.1) - bietou, this is classified as a tree and there are several huge old specimens in our region, that have been sheltered from fire for years and have been shaped into shade trees.

As can be imagined there is an incredibly delicate balance of all the factors that make up this amazing vegetation. The ph is vital and this is seriously disrupted when aliens such as the Australian acacias such as Rooikrans and Port Jackson are allowed to spread. They also upset the delicate balance in the event of a fire in that they increase the temperature significantly. Their ability to shoot down a strong tap root to water, almost before the first leaves appear, makes them very competitive and they can easily overwhelm the slower-growing natural plants. Their worst offence however is that they pump Nitrogen into the ground, which is naturally almost bereft of any nutrients as most of the local plants have a mechanism for taking nitrogen from the air in the exact amounts that they need.

Once again I am indebted to that super sleuth Caroline Joubert, who has the uncanny knack of identifying obscure plants which try to disguise themselves as something completely different.

Penny Palmer

Membership Fees & Contact Details

As you are no doubt aware the financial year of your association begins on 1 November and ends on 31 October annually.

The annual membership fee therefore becomes payable for the current year on 1 November 2012.

Fees for the current year are R55-00 per member per year and should be paid in one of the following ways:

- 1) Electronically paid to our account as follows:
 - a. Bettys Bay Ratepayers Association
 - b. ABSA Hermanus
 - c. Branch Code 632005

- d. Cheque Account 4066 6164 39
- 2) Deposited by cash into our account as in 1) above.
- 3) Post a cheque to us at P O Box 48, Bettys Bay 7141.

Remember to quote your surname and erf number in the reference field on your deposit for identification purposes.

In the interests of cost saving we would prefer electronic payments to our account as they do not cost your association any bank charges. Should this not be possible please utilize methods 3) or 2) in that order. Please do not deposit individual cheques to our account as each such deposit costs your association R12-50 or 22.7% of your fee for individual membership.

Lastly should you have changed any of your contact details and in particular your E-Mail address please advise us so we can keep in contact.

Adrian de Kock

Awesome Lifeguards

Melissa Petersen writes as follows:

In October 2012 my uncle suffered a heart attack, from which he recovered but was put off work for 6 months to rest, de-stress and recuperate.

On the 26 December 2012 we had our annual family day at Betty's Bay beach and while swimming my uncle overexerted himself and a blood clot, which he didn't know he had, ruptured and he started coughing up blood.

I would like to commend the lifeguards on duty that day for their compassion, quick response and professionalism; it was really awesome to have that kind of assistance on hand. They arranged for an ambulance which arrived very quickly and even after my uncle had gone off to hospital, they kept on enquiring about his progress through some of the family members that had remained at the beach.

On behalf of my whole family, I would like to thank them and let them know that we really appreciated their assistance that day.

From the Petersen, Schouw, Lategan, Walters and America Families

The Wind bloweth...

Remember that really cute song "Multiplication"? One verse stated: "Two butterflies, casting their eyes, both in the same direction... Who would have guessed – one little "yes" would start a butterfly collection?" The little ditty runs through my mind every time the pairs of dragonflies zoom past my window and peripheral vision, so fast that the mind tends to confuse the identity of the little characters. But when one thinks about it, with their comparatively short lifespan, they have limited time to stop and consider their next move or their consent.

Then there is the Mongoose – a delightful little character, who has just discovered our dog's dish of veterinary-prescribed gourmet food and helps itself at every opportunity. Now, the only thing our Abigail cannot tolerate is a mongoose, but due to the comparative sizes the canine team always wins, foodwise. Mongoose, of course, has a strategy and an escape route through bushy terrain where no larger animal has ever been before, and I can imagine it having a secret chuckle as the dog crashes into the bushes in pursuit – yet

again.

Baboons... love 'em or hate 'em... have discovered that the garden at the Green's residence is the place to drop in for a drink en route to other neighbourhood visits. If we are stupid enough to leave the front door wide open they avail themselves of a snack or two from the fridge and stroll out to picnic on the steps or verandah. After all, the mat at the front door bids them welcome.

And then there are the Francolins and Robins who cannot read the welcome mat and would ignore a "Right of Admission reserved" sign if we erected it. They simply enjoy our interior. And we've given up trying to fill in the holes dug in the garden for their overnight sojourns; they will simply redig or relocate twenty four hours or so later, anyway. The Robins don't dig, just stroll in nonchalantly, visit for a season and if not frightened never leave a calling card.

In a moment of reflection, aren't the animals and birds so human, sometimes? As in dragonflies, chasing our own tails (or others') as if tomorrow isn't coming? Aren't we all, let's admit it, opportunists with pre-planned routes of escape when things get tough? Sometimes I know my behaviour is as bad, if not worse than the baboons' – they at least only act upon instinct. Then, as the francolins, we dig holes in people's reputations and motives then leave the damage and continue to cause havoc elsewhere. And the Robins? Ah, those are they who enter our lives and bring joy to them while they occupy our space, the ones we look forward to welcoming back often.

It is simple, really, the secret of living together – man with nature, man with man – My Bible says so, anyway. In Romans 12:18 it reads: "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone." I reckon it boils down to your heart condition...

Beverley Green

Baboob Issues - The Saga Continues

The following reply was received to our last letter which was published in the February issue of The Buzz and which appeared on our web site.

We are still dissatisfied with most of the answers given and have brought the matter up at the last Ward Committee meeting.

Flowing from their reply and the meeting we will shortly reply to the Overstrand Municipality and will then publish our response.

The Chairperson

Betty's Bay Ratepayers Association

P O Box 48

BETTY'S BAY

7141

For the attention of Mr Adrian de Kock

Sir.

Betty's Bay - Baboon Problems

I wish to respond to your letter dated 16 January 2013, as follows:

Paragraph 1:

I read the comments contained in paragraph 1 as merely comments on which you do not require any response.

2010, ao 10110W

Enquiries: C Jonkheid

Date: 23 January 2013

ADMINISTRATION

HANGKLIP-KLEINMOND

Paragraph 2:

- a. Our experience is that none of the locking devices which have been fitted at the dropoff facility seemed to be effective. Users of the facility damaged the devices, left the lid open or merely left the bags outside the cage saying that they would not like their hands to be contaminated. You should have noticed that a municipal worker has been placed on duty at the facility seven days a week. This practice seems to have a positive result.
- b. Denovan van Rhodie was responsible for the arrangements relating to the circulation of the notices. Denovan will resume duty after his annual leave on Monday 28 January 2013. I will then take the matter up with him.
- c. I will be in a position to give feedback with possible time frames after my meeting with Denovan.
- d. I do not have a database of home-owners who rent out houses. I am of the opinion that home-owners are responsible for the conduct of persons to whom they make their houses available. They may use the method of communicating so-called house rules in any way they deem fit.
- e. The officials of the municipality are confident that the 'wheely bins' which are sold to residents conform to the definition of 'problem animal proof bins'. The responsibility however rests with residents to maintain the bins, and they must please feel free to convert the containers, should they feel the need to fit additional locking devices etc.
- f. The erection of signs at the entrances to Betty's Bay will be looked into. This is a matter to be discussed with the Manager: Solid Waste.
- g. I can unfortunately not yet report progress on the spreading out of refuse collections. I will follow the matter up with the Manager: Solid Waste. The character and composition of our different towns are of such a nature, being partially holiday towns that it is necessary to do solid waste collection as soon as possible after each and every weekend. Apart from this the availability of trucks and human resources will also have to be taken into account.
- h. Fines can only be issued once the notices have been circulated. Complaints regarding non-compliance of the contents of the abovementioned by-law will furthermore have to be one hundred percent accurate. Action cannot be taken against home owners who allegedly did not comply with the conditions of the By-Law. Proof will have to be given that a refuse bag left outside a specific property constitutes a transgression by the owner/resident of the said property.
- I refer to paragraph h. above.
- j. I can unfortunately not provide a copy of the letter to Mr Nick Vorster as I did not deal with the municipality's response regarding the matter he raised. I suggest that you obtain a copy from Mr Nick Vorster.

I did not give time frames as you requested, as I am dependent on colleagues for feedback on some of the matters you raised in your letter.

In conclusion I would like to state that, to my opinion, the baboon problem in Betty's Bay is a direct result of human behaviour. Residents in the neighbouring towns of Pringle Bay and Rooiels have taken the initiative of forming residents' structures and putting measures in place to manage the baboons in their respective villages. These measures seemed to be successful.

'Baboon matters' will be placed on the agenda of forthcoming ward committee agendas as a standing matter for discussion.

Regards

Cecile Jonkheid, AREA MANAGER

Emergency Contact Numbers

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 071 135 9029 Sandown Bay Security 028 271 5633 028 271 3306 028 271 3306 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	Overstrand Emergency	24 Hours	028 313 8111
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		Tourism Bureau	028 271 5657
Fire Extinguisher Service 083 741 9914		Fynbos Service Centre	082 719 6200
		Fire Extinguisher Service	083 741 9914

Vriende van die Biblioteek

Local History Collection

The Hangklip Library serves Rooiels, Pringle Bay & Betty's Bay. This Library celebrates its 20th Birthday in April 2013. To this end, our theme for March & April will be "Hangklip- past & present/hede & verlede".

- 1. Invitation to all: come & view posters created by various organizations in this area at the Library from 25 March through to April.
- 2. If you have any photos/articles dealing with Hangklip area, please may we ask you to bring them to the Library, either to keep or take copies.

The Library in Betty's Bay would like to compile these photos/articles into a 'Local Library Collection.

Library hours: Mon to Fri 9h00 – 16h00

JOIN the Library/ Sluit aan by die Vriende van die Biblioteek!

Annual fee of R25 per person, R30 per family, R50 per Organization. This may be paid at the Library. Your membership, ideas, suggestions and talents are necessary to keep us working for the communities of Rooiels, Pringle Bay & Betty's Bay.

PUZZLES

Come and see the many puzzles you may borrow on your Library card.

BOOKS, GREETING cards for Sale.

EVENT for March 2013:

25 – 28 March National Library Week/Nasionale Biblioteek Week

25 March PRESCHOOL children in morning for Stories/crafts.

26 March 10:30 THEME/ TEMA: Onder die Suiderkruis/ Under the Southern Cross

Die Suiderkruis is een van die eerste konstellasies wat ons leer ken.

Watter een is die Suiderkruis? It lies next to the Diamond Cross & False Cross.

Guest speaker: Carol Botha, who gives us the interesting article in the BUZZ every month. Come & meet her, find out about this hobby she has taken so far as to receive various awards.

Sy behoort aan die Sterrekunde Vereniging van Suider Afrika (ASSA) asook die Orion Observasie Groep (OOG).

Sy bring haar teleskope saam, sal ook oor ligbesoedeling gesels.

Come & be inspired to learn more!

Venue/plek: Betty's Bay Library.

27 March Die bejaardes van die gemeenskap sal `n TEE in Biblioteek geniet.

28 March PRESCHOOL children I morning for Stories/crafts.

No Dope, No Hope

Did the term DOPE come from 'dop' – alcohol taken in 18th century South Africa as a stimulant in ceremonial dances?

Alcohol, called a 'dop', was also used as payment after work by indentured wine-farm labourers?

Is the use of banned performance-enhancing drugs in sport unethical?

Why not allow everyone to use them?

The use of new materials in the construction of suits and sporting equipment is accepted, why not drugs?

Athletes on medication for certain illnesses are allowed to take approved chemicals after medical scrutiny.

Athletes take dope to win because they get kudos and money – lots of it – TV and other media encourage this, because ditto and criminals get into the act for the same reason.

Pharmaceutical companies find the research and development of substances in demand very lucrative.

The cost of the activities of anti-doping agencies must be enormous.

Are they also in on the act? --- Is all just about money?

What is the **Ethical difference** between taking dope and being able to afford a \$ 50,000 bicycle – they both give you and edge on someone who can only afford a \$ 10,000 bicycle.

Anti-doping efforts are largely ineffective due to both testing limitations and lack of enforcement.

So why not just stop testing and level the playing field?

All human endeavours have rules

Formula One motor racing cars have to be built to exacting specifications, and are checked after a race, any violations result in disqualification or some other sanction.

In competition cycling, bicycles cannot be lighter than a certain figure.

Soccer/Football dimensions are fixed.

Tennis courts are all the same size and nets are kept to regulation heights

American Gridiron football is played with a pig-skin ball shaped as a prolate spheroid and controlled by seven referees/officials.

And so on.

Breaking a rule carries a sanction, and trying to do it secretly is cheating.

But there must be an organisation to police, monitor and control.

The **World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)** is an independent foundation created through a collective initiative led by the International Olympic committee (IOC). It was set up on November 10, 1999 in Switzerland.

It is responsible for the **World Anti-Doping Code**, adopted by more than 600 sports organizations, including international sports federations, national anti-doping organizations, and the IOC.

It is half funded by the IOC, with the other half coming from various governments throughout the world.

Its governing bodies are also composed in equal parts by representatives from the

sporting movement (including athletes) and governments of the world.

The agency's key activities include scientific research, education, development of anti-doping capacities and monitoring of the World Anti-Doping Code – the document harmonizing regulations regarding anti-doping in all sports and countries.

It also produces an annual list of **prohibited substances** and methods that sportspersons are not allowed to take or use.

Progression in pharmacology has always outstripped the ability of sports regulators to implement rigorous testing procedures but since the creation of WADA, more and more athletes are being caught.

Some commentators maintain that, because complete prevention of doping is an impossibility, all doping should be legalised.

Most disagree with this assertion, claiming health problems. Some argue that 'caveat emptor' (Latin for 'Let the buyer beware.'), should apply.

This may have a measure of acceptability **except** that the ubiquitous availability of drugs and the irresponsible actions in schools, that do not police their sports adequately, produces a situation where children can access these substances to their definite hazard.

SO DON'T BE A DOPE, DON'T DOPE

Peter Joubert

Friends Of The Hangklip Library - Newsletter March 2013

Dear Friends

Welcome to a new year full of exciting activities. We anticipate it to be a busy year and we are very grateful for your support and anticipated assistance in coming months.

One of our staunch supporters, Jill Attwell ,turned 90 on 17 February 2013 and was presented with a special gift by the Friends.

Annual General meeting

As per notice to members, as well as notices put up at the regular public venues, the AGM took place on 31.01.2013. The attendance was very disappointing, and inclusive of the outgoing Executive Committee, members attending just made up the required 20% quorum. The meeting expressed its concern in this regard.

Committee for 2013

Pip Prinsloo 028-272 9949 (Hon. Chairperson)
Thommy Jacobsen 028-273 8334
Elsie Utton 084 6530158 (Hon. Treasurer)
Shirley Hansen 083 7872211
Johan Swiegelaar 028-272 9134 (Hon. Secretary)
Rosaline Matthews (Ex officio)

Membership

Annual fee of R 25.00 per person, R 30.00 per family and R 50.00 per institution. Fees are due as of from the date of our Annual General Meeting on 31 January 2013. Thank you to all who have already renewed their membership. We appreciate it and depend on your talent and input. Outstanding membership fees can still be paid.

Constitution

The Constitution was referred back to us by SARS and the Department of Social Services

with suggested additions. The Executive Committee met with Adrian de Kock on the matter and expects to finalise it well within the deadline set by SARS.

Administrative tasks

+ Shelve reading and the preparation of books for circulation and sales.

At 09h00 provisionally on 20 February, 7 March, 24 April, 29 May, 26 June, 24 July, 28 August, 25 September, 23 October, 27 November.

+ Purchase of new books and sale of redundant books.

Newsletters

March, May, August and November.

From June all paid-up members will receive newsletters.

Knitting for the winter: Anyone to knit Beanies (kids and adults). To be handed in to Rosaline at the library who will give out from there.

Monthly activities 2013 (10h30 at the Library except if stated otherwise)

25 to 28 March our Library celebrates Public Library Week. For this there will be special programmes for the children on 25 and 28 March, as well as a presentation by Carol Botha on "STARS" on 26 March.

On 25 April there will be a very special celebration of the **20th Birthday of the Hangklip Public Library.** This will be an evening celebration "Hangklip: Past and Present". There will be posters on the "past and present" by different organisations. The programme will include a photo presentation by Alan Clegg of the "past and present", stories and poems (Christene Dreyer approached to do this), presentation by an author or artist, as well as the DAISEES to sing. Tickets will be sold and everyone attending bring their own finger supper.

23 May: Riaan Manser will give a talk on "Around Iceland an Inspiration".

13 June: The French part of the Camino Walk will be covered by Willem and Hildegard Malherbe.

18 July: A talk by an author still to be finalised and 15 August will see a talk on Namibia.

17 October: La Femmetique with Chantal Witthuhn (Specific theme to be announced) November will again be the time for our End of Year outing and lunch. Elgin Open

Gardens and Harold Porter are considered as venues.

Special Project

The Committee intends to start a Local History Collection to extend and strengthen the information function of the library. This would include books and other printed material, documents, photos and all other relevant items of significance to the Hangklip area. Any assistance in this regard will be much appreciated.

Excursions 2013 (still under consideration)

10 April: Babylonstoren in Franschhoek/Hillcrest Berry Farm

June: Hemel en Aarde

October: Helderberg Strawberry Farm November: Elgin Open Gardens

REMEMBER TO WATCH OUT FOR NOTICES PUT UP AT THE LIBRARY



Harold Porter Garden

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DISA SENTRUM WINKEL NR. 1

BETTY'S BAAI, TEL: (028) 2729549



Disa Centre • Clarence Drive Tel: 028 272 9249 / 028 272 Fax: 028 272 9293 Cell: 082 484 1279

Tierkloof Centre Clarence Drive

Betty 's Bay

Prokureur & Aktebesorger Attorney & Conveyancer

Tel: 028 272 9151 Fax: 028 272 9906 Cell: 082 576 9990 PO Box 404 Betty 's Bay

E-mail: ronelswart@telkomsa.net

Albertyn Apteek/Pharmacy

Spar Sentrum / Centre Kleinmond

Tel.: 028 271 4666(w) Fax: 028 271 4665

Cell: Karlien 082 868 4267

Mr Fryhoff Albertyn 082 927 5240

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- light meals 8 tapas
- desserts and pastries
 - artisan confectionery
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sweet!

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Karon Scholefield PPRE IEASA

BETTY'S BAY EXECUTIVE

Cell: +27 (0)82 322 6722 Fax: +27 (0)866 200 606 karon@sprop.co.za www.sprop.co.za

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Chairman / Ward Committee / Federation / Security

Dan Fick djfick@mweb.co.za 028 272 9800

Treasurer / Membership / Database

Adrian de Kock adrian25@telkomsa.net 082 940 4619

Secretary / Advertising / Conservancy

Liz Fick djfick@mweb.co.za 028 272 9800

Property, Planning & Development

Colin Chaplin pdmcape@gmail.com 082 878 1042

Water, Waste and Sanitation

Avril Nunn nunnaj@telkomsa.net 028 272 9404

Crassula Hall

Cheryl Broom cheryl@fairbro.co.za 082 052 5854

Firewise / Conservancy

Christine van Vuren bleshoender@telkomsa.net 028 272 9976

Fire / Emergency Support Services

Wendy Tawse wtawse@capenature.co.za 082 442 8005

Roads and Stormwater

Wilna Rademeyer wilna@meridianrealty.co.za 076 868 1535

Beaches and Amenities / Sand Dune Management

Fred Broom frbroom@fairbro.co.za 082 469 3414

The Buzz / Internet & Data Management

www.raymondsmith.co.za

Nic Swart thebuzz@bettysbay.info 072 984 2589

