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Regional Events / Streeksgebeure

A public Ward Committee meeting will be held on 14 April 2014 at 18H00 in Crassula Hall to discuss the 2014/15 OM budget. Also see p3.

11 April KAWS Golf Day, Kleinmond: KAWS is hosting a Golf Day as fundraising event at the Kleinmond Golf Course with lots of great prizes. 4 Ball Alliance. Shotgun start at 10h00. R250 per player. Contact Manda Malan (082 781 4597, 028 272 9251 or fishingcat@sonicmail.co.za) for further details.

BotSoc Talk: Saturday 19th April Tessa Oliver, whose talk scheduled for November was cancelled due to the flood will speak of the GEF Fynbos Fire project, on "Reducing the risk of future fire disasters in the face of climate change in the fynbos biome". In Nivenia Hall at 6p.m. Very pertinent as it is the fire season.

10 May Harmonic Brass from Munich, Hermanus: This Brass Ensemble (trumpets, French horn, trombone and tuba) is sure to 'wow' the audience yet again! Book your tickets early at BELLINI GALLERY on 028 312 4988 so that you don't miss out on this extraordinary experience! The concert will be held on Saturday, 10 May, in the Civic Auditorium in Hermanus and starts at 19h00. Phone Secretary René du Plooy on 082 940 4238 for further enquiries.



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Deadline for submissions:
20th of each month

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

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

Subscribing to the BBRA

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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:

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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

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SAPS Emergency Contact Numbers

Charge Office **028 271 8219**

028 271 8200

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Additional Cell Nos. **079 894 1624**

079 894 1622

082 443 6069

082 522 1831

Overstrand Municipality Proposed Draft Budget 2014/15

The Association attended an OMAF meeting on Wednesday, 19 February for a presentation by the Municipality on the Adjustment Budget for 2013/14 and the proposed Draft Budget for 2014/15. The Adjustment Budget was tabled before Council on 25 February and the Draft Budget is to be tabled on 26 March.

We were left with a level of uncertainty as regards some issues of the new Draft Budget. A great deal still needs to be clarified. There remain many unanswered questions. We have been called upon to submit proposals for the Draft Budget by no later than the end of March. Any contributions will be appreciated.

Another OMAF Meeting will be held in April when the Budget will be discussed in detail before being open for Public Comment. A public Ward Committee meeting will be held on 14 April 2014 at 18H00 in Crassula Hall to discuss the 2014/15 budget.

The municipality once again reiterated that it had been a difficult Budget to compile, especially since SA has over the past four years experienced the worst global recession in decades. The OM claims to be aware of the continuing impact it is having on the *'affordability and subsequent ability of consumers to pay for services'*.

The heavy downpours of rain in November and January have affected the OM's finances pretty badly. Damage to infrastructure amounted to R4.5mil while other repair work after the rains also meant that money on the operational budget had to be used for unplanned maintenance. Furthermore, it affected income from water usage negatively to some R5.5mil below budget. To counter the additional expenses and reduced income, the OM intends freezing the filling of certain senior vacant positions for the remainder of the financial year.

Consequently the OM has adopted a more conservative approach in preparing the Budget. Particular attention has been given to cost-containing measures and controlling unnecessary spending, such as:

- Human resources capacity;
- Sponsorship of festivals;
- Donations that are not made in terms of the municipalities indigent policy;
- Utilization of consultants; and
- Limitation of overtime.

The baboon monitoring system is also to be abolished as from July – saving of R1.3mil.

Amounts allocated to Ward specific projects are also to be reduced – saving of R600,000.

OM is considering outsourcing the operation and maintenance of sewerage and water purification plants. Not certain how or if this will affect our area.

The price of electricity, fuel and chemicals has a huge negative impact on the financial affairs of the municipality. This is likely to impact on service delivery. The municipality anticipates an **8.5%** increase in service charges. They are now conceding, despite our previous protestations, that the property rates levied on vacant land in the previous budget was *'out of line'* and will thus not be increasing the property rates for vacant land in the

coming budget.

To meet the increase in salaries, negotiated at National level, of some 9.4% which is above the inflation rate, we can anticipate a property rates increase of **15%**.

The Municipality's expressed concern about their financial sustainability over the long term does not bode well for us. We can expect increased rates to provide for surpluses to replace old vehicles and aging infrastructure.

Whilst the municipality is mindful of the fact that a minimum level of repairs and maintenance is required to ensure the continued provision of services, what is not all together clear is the *'operational repairs and maintenance of existing asset infrastructure which remain a huge challenge'*. It is hoped this will be addressed in the budget. The municipality's answer to the dilemma perhaps lies in **Special Rating Areas**. Reference is being made to non-income generated infrastructure such as the provision of new tarred roads and new storm water systems but it is being proposed that the whole of the Overstrand would now need to shoulder the burden for the provision of new storm water drainage systems and tarred roads.

In principle the municipality can in addition to the normal rates on properties, impose an additional rate on properties in a designated area to improve and/or upgrade in that area. However, before this can be imposed by the municipality the majority of the ratepayers in the proposed area would have to agree to the proposal.

The likelihood exists that undeveloped areas in BB will face more costs should we require new infrastructure.

International Fire Fighters' Day

International Fire Fighters' Day (IFFD) – 4 May 2014. We need to spread the word and pass on to your friends as it's time to get the word out there – “Say thanks to the Fireys!”

Shout out to your friends and families, and ask them to join us and spread the word because we need to thank fire-fighters for their passion, dedication, time and commitment that they give every day, right across the world, to protect our lives and property.

We honour all fire fighters be they career or volunteer, urban or rural, environmental, industrial, aviation, motor sport fire fighters or the operational and support personnel that ensure that we are all protected from the ravages of fire.

We in Betty's Bay know just how important it is to have both our Volunteer Fire Fighters and the Municipal Fire Fighters on the scene of a fire as soon as possible. We have seen some devastating fires over the last few years and were it not for the quick reaction of our volunteers and professional fire fighters, who don't hesitate to venture into the most dangerous areas; a lot more damage could have been caused. We are all very quick to criticise BUT do we say thank you often enough.

The Betty's Bay Ratepayers' Association would like to say a huge thank you to all our Volunteers and Fire Fighters throughout the area for their dedication and commitment.

WELL DONE GUYS AND GIRLS WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU, YOU HAVE ALL DONE US PROUD!!

Betty's Bay - Where Whales Play And Wild Flowers Bloom

Betty's Bay is a beautiful small holiday town situated on the Overberg coast of South Africa's Western Cape Province. Just an hour's drive from Cape Town it sits beneath the rugged Kogelberg Mountains on the scenic R44 ocean drive between Pringle Bay and Kleinmond. Tourism plays a large role in the town's economy due to its popularity with holiday makers from across the Western Cape and Cape Town in particular. This village is the longest in South Africa at over 13 km.

Betty's Bay is situated in an area known as the "Heart of the Cape Fynbos Floral Kingdom". The area is considered to be of such ecological importance that in November 1998 it became the first UNESCO-declared Biosphere Reserve in Southern Africa. Its historical background is rich with wild and romantic stories of shipwrecks, pirates, runaway slaves, cattle-thieves and Strandlopers.

In fact the area became the stronghold of outlaws and the remnants of Khoisan tribes for almost two centuries. Although hunting was possible they lived mainly from the sea, collecting shellfish and trapping fish. William Paterson, who travelled the region between Somerset West and Bot River in 1771, gave accounts of wild life such as zebra, bontebok, buffalo, eland and even hyena.

However, man's roots in this area go back even further. At De Kelders, the only fresh water caves on the coast of Africa, archaeological digs uncovered artefacts of a civilisation dating back 80 000 years ago. At Hangklip stone hand-axes from the Neanderthal era about 20 000 years ago have been unearthed.

Khoisan Strandlopers used to leave their fish traps and middens along the coastline. Close to Betty's Bay stone-packed fish-traps are still visible at low tide. Shell middens are found all along the coast. During Colonial times Betty's Bay was a favourite place for runaway slaves.

According to a brochure of the Tourism Board a whaling station was established in 1913, at Stony Point on land belonging to a Mr. Walsh who leased 60 acres to Mr. Frank Cook who employed a small group of Norwegians. They built the station and managed the factories. In 1917 Irvin & Johnson Ltd. took over the whaling station, which they operated till 1930 when the price of whale oil had fallen to such an extent that the whaling station finally closed.

Remains of the whaling station can still be seen at Stony Point. Of the large constructions like the boiler shed, the blubber house (the old building that served as a whale-oil warehouse.) the oil storage tanks, the employees' quarters, meat house, guano factory and pump house, not much is to be seen.

The land was later sold to a consortium consisting of Arthur Youldon, Jack Clarence and Harold Porter, who called this the Hangklip Beach Estate. Three towns were established namely, Rooiels, Pringle Bay and Betty's Bay.

Harold Porter laid out the present Botanical Gardens and the street plans for the towns in the mid 30's. Arthur Youldon's daughter, Betty, gave her name to Betty's Bay. During the Second World War the Hangklip Hotel was the barracks for personnel manning the (still visible) radar station high on the slopes of Hangklip Mountain, watching out for German U-boats. Italian prisoners of war did construction and worked on the road from Gordon's Bay,

which is now known as Clarence Drive. Prior to this the area had been accessed via Sir Lowry's Pass and Kleinmond with a pontoon crossing the Palmiet River.

To a large extent the Overstrand is the result of a forced marriage brought about by the municipal demarcation process some thirteen years ago. The four diverse municipalities of Gansbaai, Stanford, Hermanus and Hangklip-Kleinmond, each with their own character, are now united and share a common destiny. It is difficult to find a common historical link but perhaps it lies in the fact that despite its close proximity to Cape Town, the area has remained isolated for many years. Topography played a role in this isolation because the rugged Hottentots-Holland Mountain range inhibited the expansion of European settlement around the coast.

Colin Chaplin.

In view of the fact that we all at some time or another experience problems with our baboon troops, we thought this would be a very interesting and thought provoking article to publish.

Baboons:- Chacma Baboon (Papio Ursinus)

Since troops of baboons have started to come down from their mountain habitat to raid town gardens and homes looking for an easy meal, many residents have been getting extremely upset with their visits. I thought it may be a good idea to get to know more about our inevitable neighbours, as they are here to stay.

The Chacma Baboon male has a body weight of between 21 to 45kg, and the female considerably smaller, weighs between 12 to 25kg. They are generally dark brown to grey in colour with a patch of rough hair on the nape of the neck, with a long downward sloping face. The canine teeth of the male grow to a length of $\pm 3.86 - 4\text{cm}$. Baboons are omnivorous with preference of fruit but will also eat insects, seeds, grass and smaller vertebrate animals. They are generally scavengers when it comes to meat, and will rarely engage in killing large animals. In the wild Chacma baboons will flee at the approach of humans, though this is changing due to the easily availability of food near human dwellings.

Troops are led by a dominant alpha male who will mate with all females in the troop, which are sexually receptive and will be very tender and patient fathers playing with their offspring. The female ranking in the troop is inherited through the mother and remains fixed. The strongest social bonds are often between unrelated males and females, especially when there is an infant, in an effort to protect her baby against infanticide – the alpha male baboon will attempt to kill babies that are not his offspring. The young orphaned baboon whose mother disappeared or is killed will be adopted by the troop and both males and females will care for the infant, usually by pre-productive caregivers. The core of the troop is made up of females: mothers with their babies, juveniles, grandmothers and sisters.

They form an integral part of the Cape Floristic Kingdom, foraging from the coastline to the tops of our highest mountain ranges dispersing seeds and bulbs as they go along.

Humans have encroached on natural areas as towns have expanded. With urban sprawl comes animal conflict as the animals are displaced and become uneasy 'neighbours'.

Some valuable and useful tips from Cape Nature on how to deal with baboons in urban areas where baboons can cause extensive damage at properties:

Keep rubbish secure in a baboon-proof bin, this also applies to compost bins;

The easiest way to get them off your property is to turn the hose on them, they hate getting wet;

Do not leave dog food out;

Unfortunately having fruit trees and vegetable gardens will attract baboons;

Feeding wild birds and other small wild animals will also attract them;

Ensure that your home is burglar proof with bars ± 10-11cm apart so that juveniles cannot 'break' in, also ensure that the cat flap can lock;

Do not leave food on display e.g. fruit;

Once they have gained access to your home – it is important to remain calm and not to block their exit. Panicking will also cause panic in the baboons who will run frantically around the house creating havoc and causing much damage

Do not show fear, remain confident and make it obvious that you are serious in getting them out of your house;

Never try to take food back from a baboon, he will fight to keep it;

Back off slowly and identify the baboons shortest escape route – open windows and doors to assist escape;

To coax stubborn baboons out of your house use a spray bottle filled with only water, nothing stronger as they may react negatively.

Never feed baboons – if baboons know that they are going to get easy rewards, they will return to the source over and over again – be it a village, a camp site, or the roadside which tourists frequent. If baboons do not forage naturally, the balance of the relationships between baboons and nature is disturbed and it disrupts their social relationships in the troops as they learn to rely on human food.

Feeding a baboon is a death sentence, because some may become problem animals and a danger to humans and have to be euthanized.

Important: According to Cape Nature, baboons are a protected species in the Western Cape (Cape Nature Conservation Laws Amendment Act, 2000 Ordinance 19 of 1974). It is therefore illegal to feed, poison, trap, hurt or kill a baboon, or even shoot it with a pellet gun, a catapult, bow and arrow, stoning, setting your dog on them, or using a weapon of any kind in order to injure a baboon, or to keep a baboon in captivity without a permit. These offences are punishable by law and carry stiff penalties. Hurting animals solves nothing. Pain deterrents are ineffective if animals can still secure the rich rewards of easy food.

“Living wild species are like a library of books still unread. Our heedless destruction of them is akin to burning the library without ever having read its books.” (David Attenborough)

Retha Visser

Are Penguins Planning On Taking Over The World

Spooof article written by Colin Chaplin.

I spent Christmas at a little sea side town called Betty's Bay this year. While I was there I visited the local penguin colony. There must have been thousands of these smelly dodgy looking penguins there and it got me thinking - what if penguins are planning on taking over the world? Think about it for a moment. While a lot of people are awaiting the overthrow of the human race by zombies, robots or aliens, they would never expect this. While we continue gawking at them with wide, admiring eyes at the aquarium, we might be doing so without knowing that we are admiring our own downfall. What we refer to as their so called cuteness is probably just the penguins' way of masking their master plan of world domination. They're cute and they know it. They've also been boxed into zoos and aquariums long enough to know that cuteness is a human's weakness. So while we're distracted by their adorableness, their little penguin brains continue to ruminate...and plot... and scheme.

Egyptian pictures used to be just things that I looked at to admire their artistry and craftsmanship. Now I am taking the time to think about what some of these pictures might actually mean. Take this picture on the left for example. What it looks like to me is a penguin like creature sitting on the shoulders of a man with its flippers hanging over the guy's chest. The man's face is covered by the penguins. This would probably mean that the penguin is more important than the man. Only the man's body is important, that is why one sees his body. The man's body is important to the penguin for mobility. The man has a hat on that holds a white bottle.

Now I was thinking to myself, that isn't a penguin, but it sure looks like one and it is kind of coloured like one too. It got me thinking that maybe the ancient Egyptians worshiped these penguins, and since I was schooled by nuns, or penguins as we kids called them, I wondered if the worship of these penguins might have been carried over into the Christian faith.

Anyway, it's not a penguin from earth. And if it's not a penguin from earth than what is it? And why is it making the man carry a bottle of something above the penguin, sort of like a gravity fed IV bottle. Which leads me to conclude, the bottle probably contains haemoglobin, which is oxygen rich blood? The penguin needs that because its not from our planet, it needs more oxygen than we do. And since the guy is carrying it around on his shoulders, and his face is not shown, he is not as important as the penguin, and the penguin is in charge.

So my theory is that the pyramids were built for and designed by outer space penguins as some sort of outer space penguin nesting, brooding, or hatchery area in what was their initial invasion.

Perhaps a second invasion is now underway. I mean think about it people they already control one whole continent Antarctica! Does anyone really know what these penguins get up to in Antarctica? For all we know they are building secret weapons there. And now that I think about it didn't global warming start in Antarctica? The penguins are probably deliberately melting the ice to raise the sea level.

As if that wasn't bad enough they have now started spreading and taking over another three continents in South America, Africa and Australasia. To top it off they now seem to have started infiltrating the media. The last few years have seen penguins popping up in

numerous movies such as March of the Penguins, Happy Feet and Mr. Popper's Penguins. It is highly likely that they are using the media to brainwash us. If they carry on like this who knows what language we'll be speaking in 20 years time.

I suspect that penguins may also be involved in numerous mysterious disasters like the Crash of the Hindenburg, the Pearl Harbour attack and the sinking of the Titanic.

So far their plan for world domination seems to have been a bloodless affair with most humans sub consciously accepting them as their new masters. There can be no doubt about it; penguins are going to take over the world! It's just a matter of time before their reinforcements from space arrive and they conquer the rest of earth.

Pikkewyntjienuus

Shjeeeee..... wa was tjulle gewies laaste wiek? Myse juffrou loep deesdae soos iemand rond wat n vrieslike groot moerby het en baja pyn . Sy worry mos oor onse skool, maar laaste wiek het sy gelag latie snot en trane so loep. Siet die ding staat sooo... hier by onse skool het ons n klontjie wat baja baja stout is, even stouter as eke, en dis baja bad. Die klontjie byt almal, slat, spoeg, skop en vloek ok dat jouse ore ytlik tyt! Vrydag more vroeg beginne die klontjie met sy streke.....juffrou Christin siet ek is moeg vir hom, sy het al geraas, gestraf, met homse ma geprat maar niks wil werk. Sy gee vir hom net eense kyk en seg, boetie kom ek en tjy gaat om die hoekie en gaat bid biekie vir tjou. Die klontjie volg haar so ewe , shame hy is eintlik net 2 tjjaar oud, en sy bebid die klontjie dat tjy net dywels siet spat. Myse juffrou belyster die storie en ek siet sy wil net lag, en toe die klontjie klaar bebid is seg hy so ewe AMEN! en stap weg soos n prekant. Net daar begin almal te lag, en lag! Shieeee..... ek wiet sowaar as parramanel dra nie of dit baja gehelp het nie, of anners moet onse juffrou Christin hom elke dag bebid!

Sooo het ons ok laaste wiek die eerste keer met onse scooters in onse speelpark gery. Juffrou seg moetie die lang stryt afdraand ry nie, maar neeeeeee..... onse kinnere het mos blompotte vir ore, hulle vat die stryt.....en daar siet tjy net hoe Anwa en Ciara soos voels aan die draat hang, hulle kon nie hulle se brieke kry nie. So wat n geskreee met bekke wat soos baberbekke lyk, hang hulle aanie draad en skree. Waa wa tjulle? Onse kinnere het net gestaot en gekyk, kon nie onse oge glo nie, maar sowaar toe hetie blompotte wier terig veranner in ore en niemand hetie stryt weer gery nie!

Nou tjja, ek gaat wier seg goodbye tot next time! Tjulle vrinne moet tog maar bid vir onse kinnere en vir onse juffroue, ha ha ha ek siet hulle word almal bietjie wit inie koppe!



"One Hundred Years from now It will not matter what kind of car I drove, what kind of house I lived in, how much money was in my bank account nor what my clothes looked like, but the world may be a better place because I was important in the life of a child."

- Forest Witcraft

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
		028 271 8466
	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 God Said, 'No'

I asked God to take away my pride and God said, 'No'. He said it was not for Him to take away but for me to give up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole and God said, 'No'. He said the body is only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience and God said, 'No'. He said patience is a by-product of tribulation. It isn't granted, it's earned.

I asked God to give me happiness and God said, 'No'. He said He gives His blessing. Happiness is up to me.

I asked God to spare me from pain and God said, 'No'. He said sufferings draw you apart from worldly cares and bring you closer to Him.

I asked God to make my spirit grow and God said, 'No'. He said I must grow on my own, but He will prune me to make me fruitful.

I asked God if He loved me and God said, 'Yes'. He gave His only Son who died for me and I will be in heaven someday because I believe.

I asked God to help me love others as much as He loves me and God said,
'Ah, finally, you have the idea!'

Unknown

Concept Document: Re-zoning The Betty's Bay MPA As A Fully No-take MPA

Background

The Betty's Bay Marine Protected Area, originally proclaimed as the H.F. Verwoerd marine reserve in terms of the Sea Fisheries Act (1973), lies between Stony Point and Jock's Bay, extending two nautical miles to sea. Initially, no fishing of any kind was allowed, but representations by recreational anglers brought about an amendment to exempt shore angling from the prohibition. In Government Notice No. 21948, 29 December 2000, the H.F. Verwoerd Marine Reserve was re-proclaimed in terms of the Marine Living Resources Act ("MLRA"), Act 18 of 1998. In the process the name was changed to the Betty's Bay Marine Protected Area, in line with the new practise of naming MPAs after geographical features.

The Betty's Bay Marine Protected Area, was originally proclaimed in order to address the progressively declining trends in the availability of line-caught fish and to protect abalone – *Haliotis midae* from over exploitation. The Betty's Bay Marine Protected Area furthermore forms part of the core zone of the United Nations Educational and Scientific Organisation ("UNESCO") designated Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve, with the adjacent marine area from Steenbras Mouth to the Bot River vlei zoned as part of the buffer zone. A core zone of a Biosphere Reserve is intended for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation purposes, where no consumptive utilization should be allowed.

The Betty's Bay MPA is on the western end of the warm temperate south coast. It is a productive and biologically diverse area, supporting substantial fish, invertebrate and algal fisheries. The environment is diverse, with rocky headlands, wave-cut platforms, high ener-

gy sandy beaches, pocket beaches, kelp forests, estuaries and extensive sub-tidal reefs and pelagic habitat.

The proclamation and management of marine protected areas is now tending towards ecological functioning where the systems are managed as a whole, aiming for a pristine functioning system as opposed to the preservation of one or two token species. It has been widely recognised that protection of the habitat, and its associated functional processes, is a key element of ensuring ecological sustainability and is therefore a key element of the application of an 'ecosystem approach' (Frid et al. 2008). Historically, marine protected areas were selected based on the presence of a specific species or habitat which was the case with Betty's Bay MPA. However, it is now accepted that the preservation of the entire ecosystem and its individual components is more

valuable as it aims for pristine ecosystem functioning providing more opportunity for sustainable protection (Lubchenco et al. 2003; Frid et al. 2008).

In order for Betty's Bay MPA to reach a state of ideal ecological functioning, all aspects of the ecosystem need to be protected. As it stands, the MPA offers protection to the highly threatened abalone, their habitat and the West Coast rock lobster (WCRL) but offers little protection to the line fish species found in the area. In order for the MPA to function effectively line fish species need to be protected as well.

As a result of the ecological shift in the range of the WCRL there has been added pressure on the already struggling abalone population. The WCRL are threatening the abalone population indirectly by preying on the sea urchins which offer protection to the juvenile abalone (Parker 2012) and adult abalone are under threat by illegal harvesting. The explosion of the rock lobster population is of concern and needs to be addressed. The functioning of the MPA as a no-take will go a long way to rectifying the already dysfunctional ecosystem function.

The Betty's Bay MPA has no defined zones such as Restricted or Controlled zones in terms of Marine Protected Area legislation; however it is managed as a Controlled zone by definition in that certain activities are allowed, whilst others are prohibited. In this case shore-angling is allowed.

Within the boundaries of the MPA, all marine organisms are protected and no fishing is allowed, with the exception of shore angling between Stony Point and to the east of Jockse-baai, extending two nautical miles seawards from the high-water mark. The latter includes shore angling competitions which are held on a regular basis in the Betty's Bay MPA.

The surrounding area is intensively utilised for recreational rock and surf fishing, rock lobster fishing, boat fishing and bait collecting. The area is also a very popular holiday area and experiences increased fishing pressure during long weekends, school holidays and public holidays. Fish stocks have been heavily exploited by continuous angling with little regard for size and bag limits.

The Betty's Bay MPA has been at the centre of discussions for at least fifteen years over illegal harvesting of abalone and the impact of recreational fishing on the fish stocks in the region. No concrete actions have been taken by the Department of Environmental affairs to revise the MPA despite:

1. Presentations made to the Consultative Advisory Forum (2000), the Deputy Director-General (Pretoria, 2000), and the Director-General (Plein Street, 2003) recommending that the MPA be closed to all forms of exploitation. The CAF endorsed the proposal;
2. A broad stakeholder meeting attended by the Provincial Minister of Economic Affairs, where MCM was represented by, among others, the Deputy Director-General to discuss the MPA and related problems (Kleinmond, May 2002);
3. A WWF-funded project to establish a Business Plan for a revised Bettys Bay MPA (2003 -2004);
4. Representations by commercial fishers to the Department to implement the revised plan as the existing MPA is detrimental to their operations;
5. Repeated proposals by concerned residents through the coastal committee of the Cape Action for People and the Environment (CAPE) Programme and the Kogelberg Marine Working Group; and
6. The implementation of the WWF C.A.P.E. Marine Programme which focussed on the Kogelberg area, with the objective of ensuring socio-economic benefits while also securing the biodiversity estate. A proposal from this programme suggested that 20% of the project area be set aside as a no-take MPA. Bettys Bay MPA was highlighted as a priority for re-zonation within this programme of work.

These attempts did not come to fruition, primarily because of a lack of a suitable management agency and funding at the time. These obstacles have now largely been removed. Funding is available and CapeNature is managing the MPA. The proposed Kogelberg Integrated Coastal and Marine Management Plan also sets out clear guidelines for operational management of the area.

RATIONALE FOR RE-ALIGNMENT:

Clark & Lombard (2007) in the Agulhas Bioregional Plan identified re-zonation of the Bettys Bay MPA to a full no-take MPA as a priority for meeting national targets to protect intertidal habitats and to assist in linefish conservation. The Agulhas Bio-Regional Plan also stressed that more important than expanding the existing MPA network, was the need to improve management within existing MPAs and for upgrading the levels of protection in those MPAs that allow for the exploitation of living resources. In other words, this further supports the proposal towards rezoning the Bettys Bay MPA to include no-take areas from the shore.

As part of the broader proposal for a Kogelberg Marine Area within the Kogelberg Biosphere, Clark et al. (2007) proposed three no-take zones within the boundaries, including the re-zonation of the current Bettys Bay MPA to a fully restricted zone. This is suggested to allow areas where stocks of

commercially valuable species can recover, breed and provide spill-over benefits to the surrounding area and thereby ensure long-term sustainability.

According to the Bettys Bay MPA management plan (Du Toit; 2009), the Kogelberg was proclaimed as South Africa's first Biosphere Reserve in 1998. Marine and Coastal Management, who was the management authority at the time (Now DEA: Branch Oceans & Coasts) was a signatory to the agreement, and pledged to include the marine area into the

Biosphere Reserve. Preservation of natural resources and sustainable utilisation of those resources are the objectives around which Biosphere Reserves are designed. Biosphere Reserves are always zoned into areas of varying levels of human activity. It was proposed that the existing marine reserve be used as the core area (zone of highest protection where no consumptive utilisation is allowed), while the other areas would be classed as buffer zones (zones where controlled exploitation would occur).

The National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (2008) sets protected area targets for the inshore marine bioregions and recommends an increase of fifteen additional kilometres of No-Take MPA within the Agulhas region (Table 1). Closure of the Bettys Bay MPA to shore-based angling will go a long way to meeting these minimum targets.

Read the rest of the document on our web page www.bettysbay.info -Ed

A Parable About A Parable

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

And God made the beast of the earth after his kind and cattle after their kind, and everything that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Even the ants and the grasshoppers dwelt together in harmony in the garden.

Now the ant Serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field. And he said to the ants, why share this bounty with lesser creatures like the grasshoppers? And he tempted the ants and they were suborned.

With the help of other ant serpents, the ants did grasp unto themselves the power and the wealth and the means to grow food and the education and banished the grasshoppers to the nether regions.

The grasshoppers had neither power nor wealth nor education nor water nor fruitful land and they gnashed their teeth and suffered.

And the whole world did vilify the ants and cast them out of the garden of nations.

The ant Serpents did practice affirmative action for all ants and excluded all grasshoppers. The OTHER ants mostly accepted the privileges that the ant serpents did give them.

The OTHER ants were suborned and believed the ant Serpents that grasshoppers were lesser creatures and incapable of attaining the heights of antdom.

In the fullness of time and with the help of all the other creatures of the earth, the grasshoppers did rise up and smote the ants and threw the ant Serpents out of power and it was good.

When the grasshoppers tried to share the resources of the land fairly, lo there was not enough to go around, because the ant Serpents had grabbed all the wealth.

The OTHER ants again allowed themselves to be suborned by the ant Serpents and believed the lies that the ant Serpents whispered. Grasshoppers are inferior; they cannot harvest the bounty of the land.

And the OTHER ants started writing parables about grasshoppers and ants.

Dr Peter Joubert

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EVENT in April 2014

Date Wed./Woensdag 2 April 2014

Time 10h30

Venue Betty's Bay Library

THEME: **"Ons Fluweelberge" / "Our Velvet Mountains"**: a Talk & Powerpoint presentation by Peter Joubert about walks he & Caroline have done in our mountain range from Hangklip to Perdebos. Exciting, things unexpected, breathtaking views. Do not miss this morning! A Booklet with this information is on Sale @ R100 & Poetry "Verse or Worse" @ R60. All most welcome! U is almal baie welkom!

Date Friday /Vrydag 4 April

Time 9h00 – 13h00

Venue Betty's Bay Library

PANNEKOEK & BOEK Verkoop / PANCAKE & BOOK Sale.

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- ▶ We would appreciate any donations of any articles, newspaper clippings, photos, past editions of BUZZ or Pringle Post etc to expand this Collection.
 - ▶ Your help & expertise in maintaining this Collection; dates for working on the Collection will be advertised on the notice board at the Library. You are very welcome to join us!
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