



**BETTY'S BAY CONSERVANCY**

**SPRING NEWSLETTER 2021**

This is the first of our quarterly newsletters to keep you informed of events, task teams and activities that the members of the BBC are involved in and can participate in that contribute towards conserving the biodiversity in our unique spot in the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**September is National Arbor Month**

<https://www.environment.gov.za/sites/default/files/docs/nationalarbormonth2021.pdf>



Overstrand Municipality has 20 trees available for Arbor Month for Betty's Bay, Pringle Bay and Rooiels. The dates and provisional sites for planting will be confirmed once we hear exactly which type and how many trees Betty's Bay will be allocated. We will need "hands on deck" to help with the planting. If you would like to be involved in this Arbor Month tree planting project, please

email the BBC. We will also need residents to volunteer to water and "keep an eye" on the trees after planting.

#### **BBC Task Team: "Ways with Waste"**

Barbara Jenman, who has many years of experience in waste management, is calling for interested people to create a group for "Minimising ways in waste". National Clean-up week is from September 18, so to coincide with this there will be a **clean-up on Sunday 19 September from 10:30 – 11:30am. Meet at "end of Watsonia Road /end of Dune Road" at Silversands.** Bring a supermarket bag for those "ubiquitous small pieces". There will be a quick chat afterwards on the way forward for this task team. Contact Barbara on 082 338 4109 if you would like to participate. Please wear your mask.



## International Coastal Clean-up Day

**SANBI**  **HAROLD PORTER**  
Biodiversity for Life South African National Biodiversity Institute National Botanical Garden

The Harold Porter National Botanical Garden  
**Invites you to take part in the  
International Coastal Clean-up Day**

**Date: 18 September 2021**  
**Venue: Dawidskraal Beach**  
**Time: 09:30 to 12:00**

Please wear your mask and adhere to  
Covid-19 protocols. Bring along your own  
gloves, the garden would supply the  
refuse bags.

Anyone is welcome, please join us!



Another clean up in Betty's Bay has been arranged by the  
Harold Porter Gardens for **18 September at Dawidskraal Beach**.

## The Great Southern Bioblitz (GSB): October 22 – 25 2021



Thanks to the BBC and with the very kind help of Tony Rebelo, the Overstrand is now included in the Great Southern Bioblitz 2021! The GSB is an international period of intense biological surveying in an attempt to record all the living species across the Southern Hemisphere in Spring. The aim is to highlight both the immense biodiversity spread across the Southern Hemisphere in the flourishing springtime, as well as to engage the greater public in science and nature learning. Whatever your interest in nature is, whether flora, insects, birds, reptiles, mammals, marine life or other, please join up and let's show the world how diverse our corner of the world is here in the Overberg!

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/great-southern-bioblitz-2021-overberg>

For more information: <https://greatsouthernbiobl.wixsite.com/website/faq>

## SANBI Online Training for iNaturalist

In preparation for the GSB, SANBI is offering an online training Course on iNaturalist. See the schedule below. You can join all the sessions or select specific topics:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/249610753687980>. These are run by CREW and the content will be pre-recorded and made available on the CREW Programme's YouTube channel (@CREWCitSciZA).



1 September	Signing up and Setting up
8 September	Using Explore to discover your area
15 September	Uploading observations on your computer
22 September	Uploading observations on your smartphone
29 September	Planning your GS Bioblitz

06 October	Using the ID curation tool
13 October	CREW programme specific session
20 October	Contributing to Habitats, VegMap, Invasive Alien Species, RedList projects

MS Teams virtual sessions  
Wednesdays @ 19:00 – 19:30 followed by 30 mins Q&A  
Follow this [link](#) to register for the session

**Workshop on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** – to be led by Tim Attwell (COVID-19 permitting)

### **The Big Picture – Seeing the Betty's Bay Landscape as a whole.**

In order to understand our task as a Conservancy, come and see the broad sweep of the area. There is no better vantage point than a high point on Rod's Trail from which we can see, spread out before us, the various vegetation types that make up our slice of the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve, get an idea of their special features, their possibilities and the challenges each of them face. We will hike to the high point from the village centre, take out our refreshments and talk about the splendours spread out beneath us.

As the workshop falls within the 22-25 October of the GSB, bring your camera or phone with the iNaturalist app installed on it to take photos to contribute to the Overstrand GSB.



## FEEDBACK ON PAST EVENTS:

### Betty's Bay Baboon Management Program: Feedback from the Independent Assessor

On 23 August representatives of the BBC attended Dr Dave Gaynor's presentation to the Western Baboon Liaison Group. He is the Independent Assessor appointed by Overstrand Municipality to assess the current baboon monitoring program in Betty's Bay. . If you would like a copy of Dr Gaynor's report, please email the BBC.



The Betty's Bay troop is currently on their annual migration to the Kleinmond area.

The BBC thanks the Betty's Bay Baboon Action Group (BBBAG) for all their work in educating residents regarding waste management, baboon proofing and the Betty's Bay troop. BBBAG recently coordinated a community project to install animal proofing on four municipal bins. The animal proof lid/locks were made by Marco, a Betty's Bay resident. The Farr family from Jocks Bay sponsored lids

for two bins on Marine Drive in Jocks Bay. A family in Silversands sponsored lids for two bins in their area. The BBC logo is on these signs too, thanks to BBBAG.

### Our first Facilitated Workshop for BBC members on 29 May ... led by Rosalind Bush



Our first membership workshop entitled "From Paper to Practice" was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> May. It was an opportunity for members to engage and jointly move towards making our Conservancy vision a reality by applying our mission and objectives to identified conservation issues. In spite of the restraints of Covid regulations and realities, 18 members participated in a facilitated process of

small group discussion. This involved the scoping of conservation issues, hitherto raised by members through the membership application process, and the prioritising of these with a view to launching conservation-in-action task groups. Habitat Conservation emerged as a key focus area with a particular emphasis on the urgent need to address indiscriminate plot clearing and environmentally inappropriate development practices. If you have not received the May Workshop report back and would like to review it please email the BBC.

## OUR TASK TEAMS:

**Task Team: Habitat Conservation**



In follow up to the May workshop, one area of emphasis for the Habitat Conservation task team is plot clearance and influencing Betty's Bay Estate Agents to the role they could play with new buyers. An initial introductory BBC letter has been sent out to the main Bettys Bay Estate Agents which will be followed up with face to face meetings. The intention of these meetings will be to encourage and elevate the environmental responsibilities that come with owning a Betty's Bay property. Various material is being gathered and developed to assist Estate Agents in this regard.

Contact with the local building inspectorate has been ongoing with regard to the distribution and use of Overstrand Municipality leaflet material such as "Building in the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve". This encourages sensitivity with regard to plot development and discourages strip clearing such as shown below.



If you would like to be part of the current Habitat Conservation or Ways with Waste Task Teams, or if you have other ideas of Task Teams that you would like to initiate, please email the BBC. We are concerned about the impact of drainage projects on our wetlands and streams and the flora and fauna. The BBC is looking for people to help with a new Task Team on Wetlands.

## BBWild



BBWild is the second of the new quarterly "Wild" magazines from the Conservation groups of the three Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve coastal villages - the first being REWild that was published in April by the Rooiels Wild group. The next edition will be brought out by Pringle Bay Rewilding (PBWild).

BBWild is a great magazine that contains many interesting articles and beautiful photos by our local experts to showcase our unique flora and fauna. It was compiled by Pete Oxford on behalf of the Betty's Bay Conservancy.

The BBC thanks Pete, all those who contributed articles and photographs, as well as the Van Rensburg, Lippai-Sekhran, Watson, Jacobs, Urbaniak, Joubert, Haalpap, Lundie, Homan, Holmes, Twomey, Jenman, Lubbe-Smart, Watermeyer, Immelman, Elliot, Clark families and one anonymous donor who together donated the printing finances for this Betty's Bay edition.

Pop into Coffee on Clarence or Sitar and purchase your copy for R30 cash. Also available in Southern Suburbs Cape Town (email BBC for info). The proceeds will go towards printing future editions. We

hope that increased awareness of our environment will be key to fomenting a stronger public attitude towards its conservation.

## Membership

To-date the young BBC has nearly 60 paid up members. Some are now engaged in the first Task Team on Habitat Conservation. Our Facebook page and BBWild are helping to spread the news and we would appreciate your help in this too.

## Our Facebook page

Since the launch of our Facebook page on 25 April this year, **we have grown to 504 followers!** Well done to Sandy Immelman who does such a great work in managing our Facebook group and thanks to all of you who post. Topics cover all aspects of conservation and are largely kept focused on Betty's Bay. We encourage all members of BBC to join our Facebook group and to share any interesting observations, information or photographs etc. of our beautiful flora, fauna and environment. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/188173089692496>.



## COMING SOON...our BBC website!

Work is currently underway to establish our website. This will be an exciting tool for the BBC to showcase our beautiful area and to help with education about, for example, how to live and build with a conservation ethos within a conservancy village in the Kogelberg Biosphere. If you would like to get involved in helping with content for the website, please email us.

## POPIA

The Protection of Personal Information Act (aka POPIA) came into effect on 1 July 2021 - the purpose of the POPIA is essentially to protect people from harm by protecting their personal information. The act requires that we obtain your consent to communicate with you in the future.

You are on this BBC email list because you are a paid up member of the Bettys' Bay Conservancy. If you are happy to keep receiving our emails and newsletters regarding the various activities of the

BBC, there is no need for you to do anything. By remaining on this email list it will be accepted that you have consented to continue to be a part of the group.

If you change your mind at any time in the future, please use the unsubscribe button to remove yourself from the list or email the BBC. Please be assured that we treat your personal information with the utmost care and security and it is not shared with third parties. We hope that all our BBC members will choose to remain a part of the BBC so that we can stay in touch and together make a positive difference to the conservation in Betty's Bay. We appreciate your support and your being an active part of the BBC.

We hope there is something of interest to everyone to get involved in. If not, please send us your ideas of other projects/task teams in your area of interest that you would like to initiate and partner with the BBC and other residents.

Best wishes

BBC Team

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