



BBC STONY POINT PENGUIN-PALS PROJECTS

PROJECTS to help the AFRICAN PENGUINS at STONY POINT

A “LOAD and TRANSPORT” PROJECT on Monday 5 FEBRUARY

Providing nesting material for the penguin colony

On Saturday 3 February the industrious Hackers cut down a large quantity of alien invasive rooikrans in Crassula Crescent. Being close to Stony Point, this was an ideal opportunity for a BBC “Load and Transport” Penguin-Pals project to transport the freshly cut material to the Penguin colony. The staff use this as nesting material for the endangered African Penguins.



On Monday morning 5 February, vehicles and trailers or skip were provided by volunteers Robbie Geugis from Rainbow Handyman Services, Jan Briers (BBC), Paddy Hall, Lorette and Taryn from Bay Skips, and CapeNature, They were helped by BBC volunteers Astrid Twomey and Lenore Watermeyer as well as Winnray Oncker, Gavin Petersen, Marclin Barry, Vathiswa Bafo, Sheldon August and Isak Kalmeyer from CapeNature .



From about 10:30 -12:30, this group worked hard and efficiently to load and offload the trailers and skip many times. Thankfully the skip has a tipping mechanism so it “off-loaded” itself which saved a lot of time

Most of the big load of fresh rooikrans was taken to Stony Point to give them a large “easily available” pile of nesting material. The remaining cut rooikrans left in Crassula Crescent was mostly dead and Hack Co-coordinator Dave Mourant notifies the Parks section of the Overstrand Municipality who help to remove this.

This was another successful Penguin-Pals Project with the “**BBC – CapeNature – The Hackers**” and help from **OM Parks**.

A super example of “**Every day do one small (or BIG) act for biodiversity**”.

Every willing pair of hands or vehicle/trailer helps!

We are also looking for volunteers to help CapeNature staff to “**bundle**” the material on site in the week following a Hack and “Load and Transport” event. The “bundling” project is flexible and can be done when and for how long it suites a volunteer.



“PENGUIN DRIVERS”

A group of 10 volunteers will soon be doing their day of training with SANCCOB at Stony Point to become “drivers”

Drivers will help to transport penguin eggs, chicks of different ages, injured seabirds or oiled birds to SANCCOB when needed. The day of training will cover practical issues such as basic handling of seabirds and identification, how to make up a box correctly, safe positioning of boxes in vehicles and safe positioning of egg incubators into vehicles. Volunteers will use their own vehicles and most likely be required to drive to Somerset West and be met there by someone who will take the precious cargo to SANCCOB.

If you have a vehicle, some spare time and would like to help the African Penguins in this way when needed, maybe you would like to do this training too?

If you would like to be part of future “load and transport”, “bundling” or “Penguin Driving” Penguin-Pals Projects, please email bettysbayconservancy@gmail.com.



Carol Clark

Chair, Betty's Bay Conservancy