



JUNE 2015

P.O. Box 20
Hermanus 7200

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| | Telephone | Fax |
| Hermanus | 028 313 8000 | 028 312 1894 |
| Gansbaai | 028 384 8300 | 028 384 0241 |
| Kleinmond | 028 271 8400 | 028 271 4100 |
| Stanford | 028 341 8500 | 028 341 0445 |

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 24 Hour Emergency | 028 313 8000/8111 |
| Fire Brigade | 028 312 2400 |

Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

LITTLE ONES THE BENEFICIARIES OF THE NICOLETTE-TRUST

The *Overstrand Classic Golf Day*, held in December last year, directly benefited up to 120 children enrolled in the Flower Valley early childhood development (ECD) programme. The proceeds of the golf day were handed over to the Flower Valley Conservation Trust by Overstrand's Executive Mayor, Nicolette Botha-Guthrie, during a ceremony held on Wednesday 6 May in Masakhane.

The golf day was organised by Overstrand's tourism ambassador, Bob Skinstad, and sponsored by Seartec, the distributor of Sharp. On the day, R35 000 was raised for the Flower Valley ECD programme through the Nicolette-Trust. The proceeds are to be used to equip five ECD centres in the Gansbaai area with essential items.

According to the Mayor, "the Nicolette-Trust is being used to establish a safe, healthy and stimulating learning environment". She added that the golf day's success can be ascribed to partnerships and offered a special word of thanks to Bob Skinstad and his team.

Gabrielle Jonker, coordinator of the Flower Valley ECD programme called "Nurture", said the programme currently reaches around 120 children and 18 practitioners. By 2018, the trust hopes to reach up

to 700 children at centres throughout Overstrand as well as through home-based care in rural areas.

Jonker said, "This project is primarily about children. But seeing that the ECD sector is historically extremely marginalised, it's also about women. As a project, we therefore also work towards the economic emancipation of the women who work as practitioners."

Flower Valley Conservation Trust, a non-profit organisation based in the Gansbaai area, has supported ECD for the past 16 years and has been receiving financial support from the Pprovincial Department of Social Development since 2013 to support five centres in the area.

The handover ceremony was held at the Good Hope ECD Centre. Previously housed in an informal dwelling, this centre now operates from a municipal building in Masakhane with five practitioners caring for 43 children.



Children at the Good Hope ECD Centre doing a dance to thank the Mayor, Overstrand and other contributors for the proceeds generated by the Overstrand Classic.

The Mayor confirmed that a second *Overstrand Classic Golf Day* will be hosted on 20 November this year at Arabella, adding that "I can now show those involved in the day what we have done, and will continue doing, with the money we raise".

AUDIT COMMITTEE RECONSTITUTED



In recognition of their tremendous contribution towards ensuring that Overstrand remains on the financial "straight and narrow", outgoing Audit Committee members Jacobs and Lawrence each received a small token of appreciation from Executive Mayor Botha-Guthrie.

Following the expiring of the term of office of two of its members, Overstrand's Audit Committee will in future be comprised of Mrs KE Montgomery (Chair), Mr H Liebenberg (who will also chair Overstrand's Performance Audit Committee), Mr HPA Beekman and Mr B van Staaden (who will serve on both the Audit and the Performance Audit Committee).

On wishing the outgoing members well, Executive Mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie remarked that both Mr Wollie Jacobs and Mr Graham Lawrence have remarkable service records stretching over many years: Lawrence served since 2005 and Jacobs since 2007.

CASHIER AT ADDITIONAL COURT OPEN FOR BUSINESS

As from the beginning of May, all traffic and municipal-related court fines can be settled at the Additional Court in Hermanus. Fines can be paid between the hours of 08:00 to 13:00 and 13:45 to 15:00 on weekdays and must be accompanied by the fine issued or the ID document of the offender.

The Additional Court is situated at Harmony House to the west of Overstrand's offices in Hermanus.

Please direct any enquiries in this regard to the Court Supervisor, Ynanda Lemmer, on 028 313 8924.



WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS GO TO GANSBAAI who was recently crowned as overall winner in 2015's African Responsible Tourism Awards and, to top it all, walked off with three golds in individual categories. Judging by this picture, Gansbaai's tourism manager Glenda Kitley (centre) and the CEO of Wesgro, Tim Harris, as well as the managing director of Better Tourism Africa, Heidi van der Watt, have every reason to believe Overstranders ought to be pleased with the way tourism in this neck of the woods is practised in a sustainable and responsible manner.

LOGGERHEAD TURTLES ARE WASHING UP ON OUR SHORE LINE

The public is asked to actively be on the lookout for any turtles that have washed up on our shores. Between April and June every year, juvenile loggerhead turtles wash up onto beaches in and around Cape Town, due to rough seas and strong winds.



What to do:

- Remove the turtle from the beach.
- Keep it dry and at room temperature - DO NOT place the turtle in water.
- Place the turtle in a container that has ample air holes. DO NOT put water or sand in the container, rather use a small towel.
- Make a note of exactly where, when and at what time the turtle was found.
- Contact Overstrand's Environmental Management Section on **028 316 3724** or call the Control Room on **028 313 8111**.
- Afterhours, please drop it off at your local Fire Department who will contact an environmental officer.

The turtles' fate

Overstrand Municipality and CapeNature, in collaboration with the South African Shark Conservancy, will ensure that the turtles are temporarily housed until they can be moved to the Two Oceans Aquarium where they will be rehabilitated until they are strong and healthy. They will then be sent to uShaka Sea World in Durban where they will be released into the warmer waters off the Kwa-Zulu-Natal coast.

EVERY DESERVING EFFORT REWARDED

How swap shops bring joy to the hearts of Overstrand's most valiant recyclers



This may not be a commonly known fact, but the concept of "Recycle Swap Shops" had its origins in Zwelihle. In 2003, local resident Marilyn van der Velden came up with the idea that children could be helped to help themselves through recycling, and today this concept, which entrenches the principle "reward for effort", is practised throughout South Africa with no fewer than 29 swap shops in the Western Cape alone.

The concept works as follows: Children gather recyclables (glass bottles, tins, paper and plastic) during the week and, once a week when the swap shop opens its doors, exchange these for all sorts of tradable goodies such as stationary, books, toys and clothes. The bags containing the recyclables delivered by the children are weighed and, based on the weight, awarded a certain number of points. These points can then either be claimed immediately in exchange for a particular article, or they can be "banked" to claim a bigger article next time.

All round, the swap-shop concept serves to entrench the principle that a little effort can earn big rewards, and that keeping the environment clean of unsightly, recyclable waste could benefit all.

Swap shops are run by volunteers while the municipality assists with the transporting of recyclables to the respective recycling depots. According to estimates, the efforts of these valiant recyclers have resulted in a considerable diversion of waste that would otherwise have been destined for landfill sites. In fact, through the contribution of around 120 kids, around 15 tons of waste is being diverted annually from the Gansbaai landfill site alone.

Anyone wishing to contribute to our children's efforts to keep our streets, beaches and oceans clean can do so by donating goods such as toys, clothes and basic foodstuffs such as tinned food, maize meal, samp, et cetera. Even the odd "white elephant" you no longer have any use for would be welcomed!

To learn more about the swap shops operated in Zwelihle, Stanford and Gansbaai, contact Narina Howard on 084 339 5768 (narina@wol.co.za), Elma Hunter on 082 892 9507 (elmahunter@gmail.com) or Charmaine Beukes on 083 728 4833 (charmaine@whitesharkprojects.co.za).



With buttons galore to choose from, the ladies can really go creative - as these examples of the end product attest to.

BLINKIES BUTTON SHOES ADD A LITTLE COLOUR TO THE LIVES OF MANY, IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE

With job creation at its core to alleviate the unemployment problem that plagues many in our country, the Hermanus-based Blinkies project was born in October 2014.

Formerly unemployed ladies from Zwelihle were engaged to sew buttons on shoes, which in essence is what the project is about. Since employing the first two ladies, over 45 000 buttons have been hand sewn on a variety of shoes, mostly Tomy Takkies, earning the ladies a reasonable living to support their families.

Each pair of Blinkies is unique and is produced in a variety of base colours, ranging in size from Infants 3 to Adults 7.

The intention is to grow the project and to provide more employment opportunities, especially since founder and coordinator, John Cowan, is currently exploring possibilities to introduce these one-of-a-kind shoes to the global

market. Seeing that Blinkies also enjoy the endorsement of Mayor Botha-Guthrie in the form of a letter of commendation to prospective buyers, the project is bound to go from strength to strength.

Blinkies are stocked at outlets at the Hermanus Country Market, and anyone who would like to learn more are

welcome to visit the web portal <https://hellopretty.co.za/> or the Facebook page "Blinkies Button Shoes". Should you wish to offer support for the Blinkies project in any way, feel free to contact the project coordinator via the contact details provided on these sites.

