

WESSA at Work

September
2011

Deputy Minister:
Rejoice Mabudafhasi;
CEO Mumsie Gumede;
Chairman of the
Board: Richard Lewis;
Greenpeace Regional
Campaign Director:
Ms Olivia Langhoff;
WESSA GOLD MEDAL
AWARD recipient:
Dr Robbie Robertson



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WESSA IN ACTION!

Celebrating People caring for the Earth

In celebrating WESSA's 85th anniversary, one realisation that has consistently come to the fore is that it is the relationships and partnerships that have enabled our greatest successes. This is fitting for an organisation that is committed to working collaboratively. What is remarkable is how productive and long lasting these partnerships and relationships have been.

At our birthday celebrations many individuals and organisations have been recognised for their contributions to supporting our mission of promoting public participation in caring for the Earth. Although it is almost impossible to single out particular contributions, it is possible to acknowledge a few organisations and individuals who have made an outstanding and sustained contribution to conservation and environmental education. Some of the organisations that have supported WESSA's work directly and consistently for over 15 years include:

- **ESKOM HOLDINGS LIMITED** for their support and collaboration in the Energy and Sustainability Programme which has received a number of eta Awards, the international Volvo Adventure Awards, and the Globe Energy Award.
- **MONDI** for their support of Share-Net in development of learning and teaching support materials; the Mondri Wetlands Programme; the National Enviro-Quiz for schools; and the Twinstreams Centre at Mthunzini.
- **RHODES UNIVERSITY** for their longstanding support in conceptualising and implementing a number of environmental courses and education materials, ongoing support and collaboration in implementing the

SADC Regional Environmental Education Programme and ongoing cutting edge research and methodologies in environmental education.

- **ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY** for working with WESSA collaboratively in projects like the world-renowned Durban Metropolitan Open Space System, development of environmental support materials and posters, Local Agenda 21 training and awareness raising, Working for Ecosystems, and Biodiversity Training.
- **AFRISAM** for support for our publications from the African Wildlife magazine to the current publication, Environment, as well as support for the buildings at uMngeni Valley Project.
- **USAID** for their support of WESSA projects over the years including the SADC Networking and Capacity Building Project in the 90s and currently the Stepping up to Sustainability Project.
- **FEE** for ongoing support in the development and monitoring of the Blue Flag and Eco-Schools programmes in South Africa, the first FEE country outside Europe.
- **MAZDA WILDLIFE FUND** for many, many years of supporting WESSA and its projects with vehicles.
- **Sida** for longstanding support of the WESSA implemented SADC Regional Environmental Education Programme and many International Training Programmes.



THE WESSA GOLD MEDAL AWARD recipient: Dr Robbie Robertson; Deputy Minister: Rejoice Mabudafhasi; CEO Mumsie Gumede

This year, WESSA's Gold Medal Award, our highest accolade for an individual, was given to Dr Robbie Robertson for his contribution to the establishment of

the Richtersveld National Park, the West Coast National Park, Table Mountain National Park and Wilderness National Park, among others. He is also recognised for his development of the now world famous Otter Trail and for establishing coastal parks, at a time when the Big Five was all one associated with protected areas. Perhaps most significantly, he led the then National Parks Board into a process of transformation that set the platform on which SANParks is today not only a fully representative, but also a stable and thriving conservation agency.

It is however the final award made at our birthday celebration that is closest to the very heart of WESSA. The CEO Award was presented to the North Coast Branch in recognition of the way in which they have worked with and on behalf of local communities. In addition, they have taken



CEO'S SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD recipient: North Coast Branch represented by Mr Teddy Perumal

issues to the highest levels in national government.

In presenting the awards it was noted that all WESSA volunteer groups deserve an award for the work they do with such passion and commitment. While outstanding examples such as those listed above inspire and motivate us, it is the consistent everyday commitment and actions of literally thousands of WESSA members and supporters that preserve and regenerate the beauty of our planet. We would like to take this opportunity on the occasion of our 85th anniversary to THANK EVERY ONE OF YOU for your contribution to our shared vision.

Mumsie and Mike



Deputy Minister with learners from Dumani Primary (an Eco-School in Port Elizabeth) and their teacher Ms Xoliswa Mambalu

Special dates in October:

3 October
World Habitat Day

4 October
World Animal Day

8 October
African Penguin Awareness Day

16 October
World Food Day

21 October
National Marine Day

Newsflash

• Mondi Wetlands Programme receives award

The Mondi Wetlands Programme was recognised as the winning entry in the Sustainable Development category of the Mondi Diamond Awards in August. These awards celebrate outstanding achievements and recognise people and teams throughout the group who have made excellent contributions towards us achieving our goals. They provide examples of best practice and allow teams across Mondi to learn and benefit from successes already achieved by their colleagues. Winners of the Mondi South Africa awards will be amongst the entries for Mondi Group awards in 2012. This is the first time that external partners have been recognised with our own staff for their combined contribution.



Mondi Wetlands Programme receives award

In the photograph from left to right is Ron Traill, CEO of Mondi South Africa, Chris Burchmore, Environmental Manager Mondi Forests and David Lindley, Manager Mondi Wetlands Programme.

• WESSA actively teaching in Stockholm, Sweden!



Nokuthula Dubazane (WESSA: Energy and Sustainability Project), Melikaya Buti (WESSA: Africa Coordinator: International Training Programme) and Jim Taylor (WESSA EE Director)

Melikaya Buti (WESSA: Border-Kei) is the Africa Coordinator for the International Training programme in Education for Sustainable Development. This year he was joined by Nokuthula Dubazane (WESSA: Energy and Sustainability Project) and Jim Taylor (WESSA EE Director) to support the programme. This five-phase programme supports participants and their institutions to undertake a "change project" that really makes a difference in their work-places. It involves home based assignments as well as a three week course in Sweden and a follow up programme at Umngeni Valley in Howick. The programme is conducted in partnership with Ramboll Natura and is funded by Swedish Sida. This year participants attended from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Malawi, Bangladesh, India, Cambodia, Indonesia and Afghanistan.



In support of National Clean-up Week in September, a group of staff from WESSA National Office at uMngeni Valley in Howick took time out to pick up litter along a stretch of the neighbouring Karkloof Road. Pictured here is the clean-up team with COO Mike Ward (far right).

News from the Regions

Urban school helps rural school

Whilst at the Eco-Schools Conference, held in the Limpopo Province in June, Alison Jennings, a teacher from Brescia House School, visited Mugwazeni Secondary School. This rural school near Letsitele no longer has access to adequate running water as they are at the end of the municipal pipeline. Since 2007 this school has successfully grown vegetables that have provided food for the learners and their families as well as an income for the school. They have also managed a successful tree nursery that has provided an income for the school and the local community, in an area which has an 80% unemployment rate. At the end of August Alison returned with Peter Marks and his team, from Marley Pipe Systems who have put up gutters at the school in the first phase of harvesting rainwater and making the school more sustainable.



Urban school helps rural school



Arbor Day activities - EXarro

WESSA Northern Areas assists EXarro with arbor day activities

John Wesson of Northern areas did a presentation and display on what WESSA does for the staff of the company during their Arbor day activities on 2 September in Pretoria. Part of the activities was also casual day dress where some staff members excelled. The day concluded with a walk through their extensive grounds planted with indigenous plants and trees. It was gratifying to see all were correctly labelled even with new name changes.

Upperdeck Vulture Viewpoint opens

On Saturday afternoon on International Vulture Awareness day "The Upperdeck" viewpoint at the Nyoka Ridge Cape Vulture Restaurant project in Skeerpoort was officially opened. Members of all groups and sponsors involved in the project attended including the Farm owners, Brits-Hartbeespoort Rotary Club, WESSA and Birdlife Harties.

The major part of the viewpoint was sponsored by one of the Rotarians and owner of Upperdeck restaurant Ian Weldhagen hence the name. Information posters on the Cape Vultures were displayed at three restaurants on Saturday as part of the awareness campaign part of which is to stop aircraft approaching too closely to the breeding colony. All present witnessed close to a 100 birds coming to feed in the mid afternoon providing amazing fly pasts close to the viewpoint. When completed the facilities will be open to group bookings and funds from fees will go to Birdlife Harties for developing the project further. The focus of this project is the Conservation of the Magaliesbergs endangered Cape Vultures and the Magaliesberg itself as well as monitoring the birds for numbered wing tags. These numbers will be passed on to the Vulture program (Vulpro) and EWT for further processing. This data is important to establish the movements of these birds around Southern Africa.



John Wesson & Paul Bartels

Pictured here is John Wesson from WESSA and Birdlife Harties, and farm owner Dr Paul Bartels thanking those that were involved and giving a bit of background to the project.

WESSA-run EIA course builds Cape Town conservation capacity

The three-day Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Law course run in September was a great success. Twenty four participants from a range of organisations and civil society attended, and the feedback has been very positive.

Guest subject-specialists included Andy Gubb who gave an inspiring talk on public participation and its importance in our democracy. His colleague from the Centre for Environmental Rights (CER), Junaid Francis, followed up with a case study describing their facilitation of public participation in the Karoo around the proposed fracking by Shell. Wetlands specialist Nancy Job provided insight into the requirements for a wetlands specialist report for an EIA and Claire Blanche of Knight Piesold Consulting presented a case study of biodiversity best practice in a development application in KZN. For the sessions on environmental law we were fortunate to have Richard Summers of Smith Ndlovu Summers; Melissa Fourie of the CER and Gregory Daniels and Lia Kleynhans of Cullinan and Associates. We thank all our guest lecturers for their time and for sharing their expertise.

The course was organised by WESSA's Chris Galliers (national office) and Philippa Huntly (Western Cape) and another session is planned for next year.



EIA course participants at WESSA in Kirstenhof, Cape Town



Final day of National Cleanup Week programme

WESSA partners with City for International Coastal Cleanup Week

WESSA and AfriOceans Conservation Alliance partnered with the City of Cape Town during this year's National Cleanup Week, leading up to International Coastal Cleanup Day, to deliver an Environmental Education Programme to grade 7 and 8 learners at ten schools in the Kuils River area. Funding for this was received from the City after facilitation by a Kuils River ward councillor.

The successful collaboration saw WESSA and AfriOceans sharing resources, co-developing support materials and then developing and delivering interactive lessons around catchments, water and waste. The objective was to help learners to understand their role in the catchment area, their societal impact within the community and their connection with the coastline despite their distance from the sea. Learners on the programme also completed a cleanup at a local water course. A lunch, completely free of packaging, was provided for the children by WESSA to encourage them to reduce their utilisation of over packaged foods.

Two of the ten schools were selected to participate on the final day of the programme, which took place at Strandfontein Beach on the False Bay coast on 16 September, where they were able to enjoy an educational coastal walk on an idyllic day where even the tides played along! The final activity saw them creating a wall mural depicting sea creatures, and this short-term message (created entirely from soluble food colouring) served to further emphasise the important link between the land and the sea.

Energy Workshop delivers creative solutions for saving!

In early September the Western Cape region held a successful workshop in the WESSA Barn on Practical Energy Tips, Technologies and Solutions. In addition to highlighting the environmental benefits of lowering coal-generated energy consumption in the home and business environment, WESSA's Patrick Dowling introduced the group to some innovative energy generating mechanisms. Practical demonstrations included the use of photovoltaic panels and cooking with a parabolic dish! Topics like insulation, solar heating and solar generation, energy consumption monitoring and biodigestion (the use of organic waste to produce fertilizer, as well as methane gas for cooking) were also covered with presentations by guest experts from each field. The workshop formed part of the region's Sustainable Living Workshop series for 2011.



Practical Energy Solutions workshop at WESSA - PV panel and converter demonstration

Ackermans join WESSA to 'clean up their act'!

Staff from WESSA Western Cape recently joined a group of employees from Ackermans for a beach cleanup activity at Strand Beach. Aply taking place on the 2nd of September Casual Day the activity was also part of the corporate group's 95th anniversary celebratory activities, which saw their head-office staff lending support to a variety of different organisations and causes on the day.

After a brief overview of biggest challenges in beach and ocean pollution, the group split into smaller teams, was equipped with the tools required for an effective beach cleanup and then spent a symbolic '95 minutes' clearing the beach of debris. The teams were also required to do an audit of their collected waste and complete a worksheet on the surrounding environment and the impact of their lifestyle on the wider environment.



Ackermans Beach Cleanup

This activity was part of a much greater initiative towards global ocean conservation and the information gathered from the completed audit cards will be sent to the Ocean Conservancy group (USA) who monitor international marine pollution. The local data will be included in the group's annual International Coastal Cleanup audit.

Despite the day's wet and blustery weather the group enthusiastically tackled the task at hand and it was clear that they genuinely enjoyed trading in their office hours to participate in this outdoor activity for the benefit of the environment. WESSA would like to thank the City of Cape Town's Nature Conservation programme for supporting the initiative.

Cape Town Eco-Schools get Waste-Wise

In September WESSA Western Cape teamed up with the Department of Solid Waste and the Eco-schools Waste-Wise project, headed up by Michelle Sholto-Douglas from 'Footprints', to run a two week Waste-Wise Education programme with ten Eco-Schools from the townships of Khayelitsha and Mitchell's Plain in Cape Town. The programme was designed for grades 6, 7 and 11, orienting them to their roles in their catchment, highlighting issues of waste in densely developed areas with a Drains to Oceans theme and teaching them about sustainable choices. Approximately 1,040 enthusiastic school learners participated in the programme and over 93 bags of waste were sorted and collected during cleanups in the surrounding community as well as within the school grounds. The two-week programme with the schools is part of a larger initiative of the Waste-Wise Eco-Schools three-year project. The core objective of the project is to encourage waste-wise attitudes and practices in selected Eco-Schools within the Cape Metropole.



Waste Wise Eco Schools Education Programme



Learners from Mzoxolo Primary School with the trees they planted in the Garden Route Botanical Garden

Southern Cape Eco-Schools and conscientious local groups 'green and clean' the Garden Route

Eco-Schools in George planted 400 indigenous trees in the Garden Route Botanical Garden during National Arbor Week. The garden has recently been entrusted with the management of a neighbouring section of almost 7 hectares, and a first step was the clearing of alien vegetation. The planting of these trees will now make a big difference in the recovery of this land.

As part of the National Cleanup Week initiative, at least 200kg of litter was picked up in a matter of hours at two venues in George. Participants from Men at the Side of the Road, the NMMU local campus, the George Lifesavers Club and local residents collected just less than 100kg around the Garden Route Dam, which is the water supply for the city. A group of fit ladies from the Berg-en-Dal Stappers hiking group astounded us with the 115kg of litter they picked up along a short stretch of the narrow Rooirivier, which flows through the centre of town passing between the hospitals. WESSA will be reporting on the cleanups to John Kieser who will pass on the South African campaign statistics to the International Coastal Conservancy statisticians.

WESSA Friends Groups

WESSA has over 50 active Friends Groups throughout South Africa. These are groups of volunteers that band together to conserve, rehabilitate and protect a natural area or space of special interest, and are guided by the mission statement, policies and position statements of WESSA. In this section WESSA would like to pay tribute to these groups of committed individuals who embody and encourage WESSA's mission of building public participation in caring for the Earth.

For more information on getting involved in or establishing a Friends Group, please contact Nina on 033 330 3931.



Friends of Bracken Nature Area

Friends of Bracken Nature Reserve - Western Cape

Our Friends group held their annual Spring Event on the 10 September. They were a bit concerned about it being a success due to the rain but, never the less, trading stands and tables were put up and by 10am the skies cleared, much to their delight! The public turnout was quite good but our flowers failed to give the spectacular show they were hoping for. There were various competitions to raise funds for the Friends group which included raffles and a potjiekos competition.

Friends of Doringkloof Spruit - Northern Areas

For some time the committee has had a desire to involve the children of our area in activities in the spruit and this dream has finally come to fruition. We joined hands with Nature Conservation and invited the Doringkloof Primary School to attend an environmental education program in the Spruit. They accepted the invitation and said that they would be sending 560 children over a period of 4 days --- a big challenge!

The program started on the 1st September, Arbour Day, when our Councillor, Christa Spoelstra, and members of the Friends group, planted trees between the Glover and Zambezi Ave bridges. On that day and on the following three school days, groups of children from the school attended a well run program which was facilitated by guides from Rietvlei. Using a pyramid made of tins, the children were shown how all life depends on four non-living things, (water, air, soil and sun) and how plants, animals and people rely on each other for survival. The guides then discussed the importance of trees and helped each class to plant their own tree.



Friends of Doringkloof Spruit

The mornings ended with a picnic and it was wonderful to hear the buzz of children's voices in the Spruit. We supplied them all with a packet of popcorn and a cold drink. The contractor who built our birding platform, kindly sponsored the drinks. Many of the children spoke of bringing their parents to see the trees that they had planted, and some of the teachers showed a great interest in being involved in other activities in the Spruit. Nature Conservation also had very good feedback from the school and we are hoping that this kind of activity will cause more people, and especially the young, to appreciate the natural area that we have on our doorsteps.

Glossa Nature Area established - Northern Areas

The closing of the WESSA Glossa Estate Nature Area between the Church and Glossa Estate is now complete with only a minor section underneath De Ville Bois Ave that needs to be secured.

The closure of this area means that we as members of Glossa Estate managed to establish our own little Nature Reserve on our doorstep that will be managed by all the residents and members of the Glossa Estate Community Initiative. What is truly amazing is that shortly after the closure we have already noticed wild rabbits, Egyptian Geese and various other species moving into this now undisturbed area. During the first week of September, University students under guidance of Tshwane

Nature Conservation planted 100 trees indigenous to the Gauteng Highveld region. A further clean up of the area, by residents of Glossa Estate, is planned for later in the year. Details will be communicated shortly.

We are absolutely delighted to see residents utilizing this area by taking their dogs for a walk or just taking a stroll through the area. We have to however inform all residents that although there is absolutely no objection to utilising the area to walk your dog you have to, by law, have your dog on a leash at ALL TIMES. We unfortunately had incidents where dogs that were not on a leash attacked another dog as well as incidents of dogs chasing the birds in the area.

We are trying our very best to make our own little Nature Reserve a place that can be enjoyed by all residents of Glossa Estate and therefore we have to have certain rules pertaining to the use of the area. We will also be introducing game to the area very shortly. Less than 3 months ago this exact same area was utilized as a criminal hideout, and the spruit was seriously polluted. We want to thank those people who contributed their monthly levies in not only making Glossa Estate a safer environment but also a more pleasurable one. Your contributions are invaluable not only to our cause but also to those now enjoying the benefits which they are not contributing towards.

Friends of Tygerberg Hills - Western Cape

The Friends of Tygerberg Hills hold regular hikes in the reserve. There is a nominal entrance fee for non-members; Friends free. All welcome! Friends may also enter the reserve during opening hours and hike any of the six existing hiking trails.

Bill Wilson leads a regular Wednesday morning hike starting at 06h00.

Contact Bill on 021 913 5190 or by e-mail bill@zeusfinance.co.za

Saturday hikes are lead by Eddie Warring. Contact Eddie on 084 245 2761.

October 1 at 06h00, October 15 at 16h00, October 29 at 06h00, November 12 at 16h00, November 26 at 06h00

Please also check the calendar details on our website www.tygerberghills.co.za as, from time to time, longer hikes, sunset/moonlight hikes and wine hikes are arranged.



Friends of Nylsvley

Friends of Nylsvley - Northern Areas

On Thursday 1 September a runaway fire hit Nylsvley and burnt much of the section facing Deelkraal. Fortunately no serious damage occurred and it was in Natasha's plan to burn that section anyway this season. The stream that flows through there is still busy so the walk to the Bittern Bridge is wet. Andy Gubb and Junaid Francis from the Centre for Environmental Rights based in the Cape visited the Nyl floodplain with a view to becoming involved with solving the platinum mining problem. We do hope they will take up the challenge and assist us.

Marekele is hosting a Birding weekend 14-16 October please contact Leonore vd Merwe 083 305 2783 or leonorevdm@telkomsa.net for more information.

We welcome new members Mary and Alex Stuart and were sorry to hear that Peter Taylor died in July. Carol and Peter were regulars at our work parties a few years ago and were previously committee members.

This picture taken by Alan Thomson at about 06h30 on Saturday 17 September. Seeing the mist drift away was so special. The odour of rank grass added to the experience!



Friends of Jack Muller Park - Western Cape

Three years ago a couple of friends, residing in the Boston neighborhood of Bellville, noted that a natural jewel, that was dearly created by a former nature icon, Prof Christo Pienaar, was sadly neglected by the authorities responsible for the keeping and maintenance of this once “little Kirstenbosch” in the Northern suburbs of Cape Town. A motivated and dedicated Friends group was established and with sound interaction with the local parks officials and councilor, the gears were set to motion. A few years later and we are still going very strong. Regular messages of support are received and spontaneous support often shows up.

The following have been achieved:

- A large area of this park was properly fenced
- 24hour security was appointed
- All protected areas in the park was properly barricaded
- Benches and rubbish bins were placed in the park
- A huge “unauthorized” gravel heap in the middle of the park have been removed and beautifully landscaped
- a open air stage area was created
- All walkways were redone and approximately 1km of paving was laid
- Trees were planted
- Large scale intruder plants removal projects launched

The following projects are scheduled to start in due course:

- The re-exposure of the Elsie kraal river that runs through the park
- Further upgrading of roads in the park
- Implementation of watering projects
- Interaction by the City’s department of Biodiversity

The following projects are also planned and are due for implementation:

- Upgrading of the existing amphitheatre
- Relocation of the existing depot and the establishment of a teagarden/conference facility.

We are very exciting about the second change been given to this beautiful park and is it also a privilege to be associated with WESSA and great work they are doing.



Friends of van Stadens - Eastern Cape

The appeal to come and help us prepare for the plant sale fell on deaf ears. Granted, the weather in PE wasn’t that great but in the Reserve it actually was very pleasant and the few people who did turn up had a great time. Many plants which were collected near Addo got planted and the nursery is looking neat and tidy. During the month we also had help from students from Woodridge, as part of their outreach and community service they hacked and potted and had fun. We enjoyed their company and hope they will join us on our regular meetings as well.

Plant Sale—Saturday, October 1!

We have been working hard all year to build up the nursery and we are confident that we are able to offer a wide variety of plants at our annual major fundraising event. Now we hope that you and your friends will come out and buy and by the afternoon we will not have a single plant left. Thanks to Riana Muire, Bob and Louise Reed for especially growing and donating plants to us for the sale. The sale starts promptly at the Van Stadens Reserve’s nursery at 9:00 am (not before!) and lasts till 2:00 pm.



Friends of van Stadens - our nice new sprinklers working overtime

Flowering news

Beautiful shrubs from the Polygala family are flowering all over our area and seem more abundant and colourful this year. Pictured here is the *Polygala myrtifolia* (September bush) is best known and is found in many garden. It is an attractive shrub with dense foliage of light green, small leaves. The "pea-shaped" purple flowers are borne in clusters. The large side petals are lobed with the lower lobe much longer than the upper, the protruding stamens are very characteristic of the polygalas .



Polygala myrtifolia

We need your old icecream containers or similar. We cut them in strips to label our seedlings and we use lots. Also still wanted are your old coke, fruit juice etc. bottles which we use for seedlings.

Contact Friends of Van Stadens: Tel: 041-9560155 or Cell: 082 659 2715
Chair Jenny Eldridge - eldridge.j@vodamail.co.za

Friends of Moreleta Kloof



Friends of Moreleta Kloof - Northern Areas

Even though the Kloof has not received a lot of rain, it is beautifully green and has seen the arrival of seven baby ostriches (and very proud parents). Every new day surprises visitors with more wild flowers and orchids blossoming among the dry grass.

In the months of August and September FMK arranged two very successful fundraising activities for differently abled children and students from Pathway Studios in Moreleta Park. The first was a Walk-and-Roll Challenge held at the end of August. This challenge took the students along the Rademeyerspruit to the dam and back, a distance of nearly 3 kilometres.



Moreleta Kloof

On Casual Day (2 September), 54 differently abled children between the ages of 2 and 17 visited the Kloof for a picnic in the Meditation Sanctuary. FMK received a donation of lintels which enabled us to build a bridge, making the Meditation Sanctuary accessible for wheelchairs. It also forms part of our proposed Discovery and Sensory Trail (total distance of 4 kilometres), which we plan to build on existing pathways as soon as the required funds have been raised. We have received enough donations to start on the wheelchair friendly toilet and we've requested permission from Nature Conservation to build the toilet near the planned bird hide and decks, close to the Spruit. This is currently our most important project. Some parts of our current trail can accommodate wheelchairs, but visitors need to be accompanied by a friend. Mathys Roets and a group of friends in wheelchairs meet in the Kloof every Tuesday to exercise.

The Kloof does not have allocated picnic spots, but you are welcome to pack refreshments when you come for a walk among the trees and Sugar bush ridges. Please note that, due to limited facilities, no more than 10 persons per group are allowed, unless special arrangements have been made and approval received from Nature Conservation. No dogs or mountain bikes are allowed in the Reserve.

Please visit our website (www.moreletakloof.co.za) if you are interested in bird-, scorpion- or tree walks, as well as special night walks.



Picnic in the Meditation Sanctuary