



## MAY eBULLETIN

June eBulletin, Vol 3 will have the details of the **Southern Tip Icon competition** with a description of the winning entries. If you would like to view the entries beforehand come and join us for the [Southern Tip Day](#) celebrations on 14 to 16 May and see the display at the Agulhas Park Office (at the foot of the Cape Agulhas Lighthouse).

If you would like to be added to our email list please send an email with the subject **“SUBSCRIBE”** to [emmerentiad@sanparks.org](mailto:emmerentiad@sanparks.org)

### SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SOUTHERNMOST TIP OF AFRICA S34°49’59” E20°00’12”



The Agulhas National Park acquired a 4 ha portion of land at the southernmost tip of the African continent on 14 September 1998. Today the Park falls within the wider Agulhas Plain (AP), which is part of the Overberg Region. The AP has been identified as an area of high conservation significance with the inclusion of the Southernmost Tip. The cultural and historical value of the area are of considerable significance and value, not only locally but also globally.

### Rest Camp News

#### Guesthouse:

The house is situated on the historical farm Paapekuilfontein, which was part of the farm Zoetendals Vallei owned by the Van Breda family since before 1853. In 1898 P.K. Albertyn bought ± 80 hectares, including the

point (known as Pietie se Punt), from Mike Van Breda. This promontary was also known as Sand Knoll Point. A cottage was built as a birthday gift for Mr. Albertyn’s wife. The property reminded her of the book she had read – the well-known story called *The Blue Lagoon* and she called the property The Lagoon. When the children started to marry, rooms were added on both sides of the original cottage. SANParks bought the land in 2001 to consolidate the coastline.



**Type of Accommodation:** Self-catering; 8 beds.  
**Activities:** Swimming; angling; diving; hiking; birding; visiting the Lighthouse Museum in L’Agulhas, the Shipwreck Museum in Bredasdorp, Elim Village, Hotagterklip Padstal in Struisbaai; wine tasting.

### 2010 BirdlifeSA Bird of the Year Lesser Flamingo - *Phoenicopterus minor*



The Lesser Flamingo can be seen at the saltpan close to Springfield as well as Melkpan on your way to Rietfontein depending on the water level in the pans.

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## Fauna

Angulate  
Tortoise -  
*Chersina angulata*

Endemic to southern Africa, the angulated tortoise is unique

as it has an undivided gular at the front plastron.

Badly burnt, this angulated tortoise survived the Dec 2009 fires.

It was spotted in the vicinity of Uitkyk turn-off. Currently the tortoises can be seen all around the park.

## Flora King Protea

*Protea cynaroides*



The King Protea can be found on Soetanytsberg. The flower has a reddish white flowerhead and blooms during April and May. With the first rain showers the evidence of new growth can be spotted across the park (see the first green leaves at base of plant).

## SPECIAL THANKS FOR DONATIONS TO THE HERITAGE COLLECTION

We would like to thank **Dr R Orpen** from Bethlehem for sharing her memories in a warm letter. She also shared some photographs of L'Agulhas and Struisbaai which will be added to the collection for the Heritage Centre. Below are a few of the pictures donated by her:



*Losieshuis in Struisbaai, 1940's*



*New Year Day Coons in Struisbaai, 1947*

## A GREEN TIP

Rubber Mulch - good for green gardens

When we see all the rubber tyres polluting our environment, the fact that rubber mulch can help nature is vastly appealing.

Rubber mulch is obtained by recycling old tyres. The impurities and chemicals contained in the tyres are removed using procedures involving high temperatures and pressure.

Rubber mulch can prevent weed growth and soil erosion. Gardeners sometimes use coloured rubber mulch to enhance the appearance of their gardens. It is often used in playgrounds and equestrian centres to provide sure footing for the children and horses. This useful recycled product can also prevent environment degradation.

It is non toxic, odour free, dries quickly and is non abrasive. Maintenance is low and it is fungus resistant. For further information, go to [www.satyrerecyclers.com](http://www.satyrerecyclers.com)

If you would like to contribute documentation, photos or interesting stories please email [emmerentia@sanparks.org](mailto:emmerentia@sanparks.org) or call Emmerentia De Kock at 028 435 6078 to make the necessary arrangements. ANP will arrange the scanning and ensure that all documentation is returned undamaged.

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## BIODIVERSITY IS WEALTH

Give a thought to the economic value of biodiversity and how it benefits economies.

Elsabe Brits skryf: "Vanjaar is die Internasionale Jaar van Biodiversiteit. Wat dit in wese beteken, is hoeveel fauna- en floraspesies is op die Aarde oor? Hoe word hulle bedreig (veral deur menslike optrede), en wat kan ons daaraan doen? Sonder biodiversiteit en die balans wat dit op die Aarde bring, is lewe soos ons dit tans ken iets van die verlede. Weer staar 'n massa-uitwissing die Aarde in die gesig, maar die verskil is dat die mens hierdie keer teenwoordig is. By die vorige vyf massa-uitwissings in die Aarde se bestaan was die mens nog nie hier nie. Geen politiek en kwellings oor misdaad of die ekonomie gaan saak maak indien ons nie biologiese bestuur en beter kennis van die Aarde deel van ons daaglikse bestaan maak nie." (April 2010).

## SOUTHERN TIP PROGRAMME

14-16 May 2010



A week-end of festivities to commemorate Bartolomeu Dias' sailing round the southern tip and all the shipwreck victims that lost their lives along the Agulhas Coastline.

Last year's Shipwreck presentations by Martin van der Merwe and Jeannette Grobbelaar combined with the delicious meal catered for by the Suiderlig Dienssentrum is still being discussed. This year we are fortunate enough to have talks by:

**Dr Matilda Burden** - 'The impact of shipwrecks on the intangible heritage of the Strandveld' (Afrikaans).

**Yvonne (Mosie) Hope** – 'Saving Graves and Acknowledging Lifetimes' (the Hotagterklip graves).

**Bookings are now open!!** please make your booking well in advance to avoid disappointment: (19h00, R60,00 pp, bring own drinks)

Contact:

Emmerentia De Kock 028 435 6078

Truida Groenewald 028 435 6340

This year we have additional events and displays not to mention the delicious Food & Wine.

- Southern Tip Fun Walk/Run (Sat)
- Spesiale Suidpuntpannekoek (Sat)
- Southern Tip Coastal Tours
- Strandveld wine tasting, Picnic baskets
- Lighthouse Display
- Elim Heritage exhibition
- Southern Tip maps exhibition
- "Spirit of Place" Art exhibition,
- Shipwreck exhibition,
- Marine and Seascape Art exhibition

A complete programme will be sent out shortly. For further details please contact:

Emmerentia De Kock at 028 435 6078 (8am – 4pm)

Esna Swart at 071 011 8044 (8am – 4pm)

## EVENTS

### MAY

- 4 – 8 Birding Week
- 8 Ostrich and Big Bird count
- 13 – 16 Hartklop Christusweek
- 14 – 16 Southern Tip Day
- 18 International Museum Day
- 22 Biodiversity day (Special Programme)

### JUNE

- 1 – 5 National Environment Week

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