



JUNE eBULLETIN

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Restcamp News

In addition to the Guesthouse, the Restcamp Complex comprises the Reception building and Chalets.

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



Shell middens found along the Cape Agulhas coastline

Historical value: Archaeological research has shown that people have occupied the Cape Agulhas area for well over a million years. Middle Stone Age (MSA) and Early Stone Age (ESA) tools occur locally, and large numbers of Later Stone Age (LSA) sites have been recorded. Sites have been identified at different places of which Cape Agulhas is one. Substantial concentrations of shellfish remains (shell middens) are densely clustered inshore of the rocky shoreline and well-preserved tidal fish traps occur at Cape Agulhas and other places in the immediate area. This links Cape Agulhas with Klipgat cave in Gansbaai and Blombos near Stilbaai.



Chalets

Chalets: 8 Self-catering double (4) and single cottages (4) with 24 beds in total.

Activities: Swimming, angling, diving, hiking, birding, visiting the Lighthouse Museum in L’Agulhas and the Shipwreck Museum in Bredasdorp, Elim Village, the Hotagterklip Padstal in Struisbaai, and wine tasting.

Hiking trail

At present the Agulhas Honorary Rangers are developing an 11km circular hiking trail for visitors to the camp. The hiking trail can be walked either as an 11km circular route or as two smaller circular routes for the less adventurous. The 11km circular route will take approximately five hours to walk and will offer visitors the most spectacular views of the Agulhas Plain, sand dunes and the meeting place of the Two Oceans.



Strandveld Tree of the Year

Wit peer - *Apodytes dimidiata*

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OFFICIAL OPENING OF SOUTHERN TIP BOARDWALK



The Official ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday 16-04-2010

The official opening of the Boardwalk to the Southern Tip was held on Friday, 16th April 2010. The opening was attended by various interested parties, including MEC Alan Winde, W Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism, the Khoi Chiefs Jacobus Jooste and Raymond Josephs and Gary De Kock (SANParks Cape Cluster Area Manager).

Fauna Volstruis - *Struthio camelus*



Ostrich and Big Bird Count

Wild ostriches normally only occur in game parks. The ostriches in the Park most probably escaped from neighbouring farms and are now free roaming. Ostriches

in general are not very kind to veld and are called *Gifbekke* (poison-mouths) in the vernacular.

As part of the 8 May 2010 Big Bird Count, 77 ostriches were counted – mostly in the wetlands (59). Thirteen persons took part in the Big Bird Count in three areas: Soutbos/Salt pans, Bergplaas/Hangnes/Rietfontein and Ratelrivier. Although they can be seen throughout these areas, the exact number of ostriches in the Agulhas National Park is unknown.

Flora Bergpalmiet - *Tetradlea thermalis*



Bergpalmiet grows on flats and slopes in relatively moist areas. This picture was taken on Soetanyberg, which shows that Soetanyberg is actually one big spongy area.



International Year of Biodiversity

Biodiversity is Security

Give a thought to how biodiversity keeps the planet's life-supporting ecosystems functioning and protects us against floods, erosion and climate change.

World Environmental Week, 31 May – 5 June

World Environment Day (5 June) is an attempt by the Global Community, to which you belong, to raise awareness about the critical problems Planet Earth is facing. Everyone within the environment arena would surely honour the day one way or another and not let it pass by without a thought. The theme usually aptly connects our souls to the impact of our anthropocentric

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activities which have today destabilized World Peace and Human Sanity. Every individual should pause a moment to reflect to assess his/her footprint on the ethereal glory.

The THEME of 2010 in honour of the International Year of Biodiversity is: *“Many Species. One Planet. One Future.”* It echoes the urgent call to conserve the diversity of life on our planet. A world without biodiversity is a very bleak prospect. Millions of people and millions of species all share the same planet, and only together can we enjoy a safer and more prosperous future.

I feel honoured to be tasked to remind colleagues and friends of our responsibilities towards Planet Earth. Our sustainable livelihoods are crafted within the limitations of the earth’s natural resources. We are often reminded of this by the eruptions of turmoil around the world which can be traced to the stress the physical environment is feeling and its strive for a state of equilibrium.

Your survival has to be negotiated within set boundaries Live Sustainably! You, too, can make a difference.

(Message from Maria Moate, Environmental Educational Manager, People & Conservation, SANParks, Groenkloof)

DID YOU KNOW....

Magnetiese Meetstasies aan die Suidpunt

Ooit gewonder oor die magnetiese meetstasies naby aan die Suidpunt? Hier is ‘n paar feite wat dalk jou vrae sal beantwoord.



- Eerste magnetiese meetstasies in Suid Afrika is opgerig in 1947. Die magnetiese stasie, geleë net oos van die Suidpunt is waarskynlik van die eerstes wat gebou is.
- Daar is ‘n netwerk van 75 bakens wat regoor Suid Afrika versprei is.
- Van die 74 bakens word 40 jaarliks besoek om die aarde se magnetiese veld te meet en te monitor.

‘n Groen Wenk

Volgens NASA navorsing verhoog lewende groen en blommende plante in jou huis of kantoor die gehalte van die lug. Plante kan formaldehyd, benseen en koolstofmonoksied uit die lug verwyder.

- Die bakens word altyd in twee opgerig om die instrumente te akkommodeer.
- Een word gebruik om die deklinasie en inklinasie van die aarde te meet.
- Die ander word gebruik om die kleiner veranderinge in die magnetiese veld te

monitor oor ‘n kort periode van een dag.

- Die bakens word opgerig en opgemeet sodat die posisie ‘n vasgestelde punt is en hulle dus die metings elke keer op presies dieselfde punt as vantevore meet.
- Tans is ons ongeveer op 25 grade wes van ware noord.

EVENTS

JUNE	
1 - 5	National Environment Week
5	World Environment Day
JULY	
Jul	Winter CWAC
17	Sweet Potato Baking Day in Elim
18	Mandela Day Celebrations at Elim Heritage Centre

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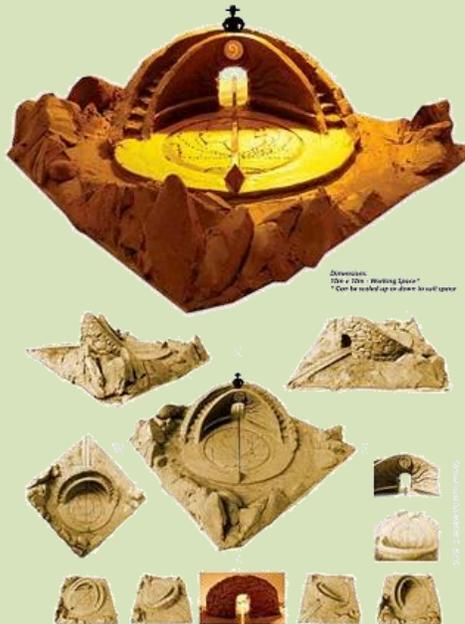


SOUTHERN TIP ICON WINNERS

As one clear winner could not be chosen, the decision was taken to use a combination of these four designs, each of which has something unique to offer, and will allow us to build a spectacular icon for the Tip of Africa.

You can view the full descriptions of each entry at www.agulhas.org.za or visit the Agulhas National Park Offices.

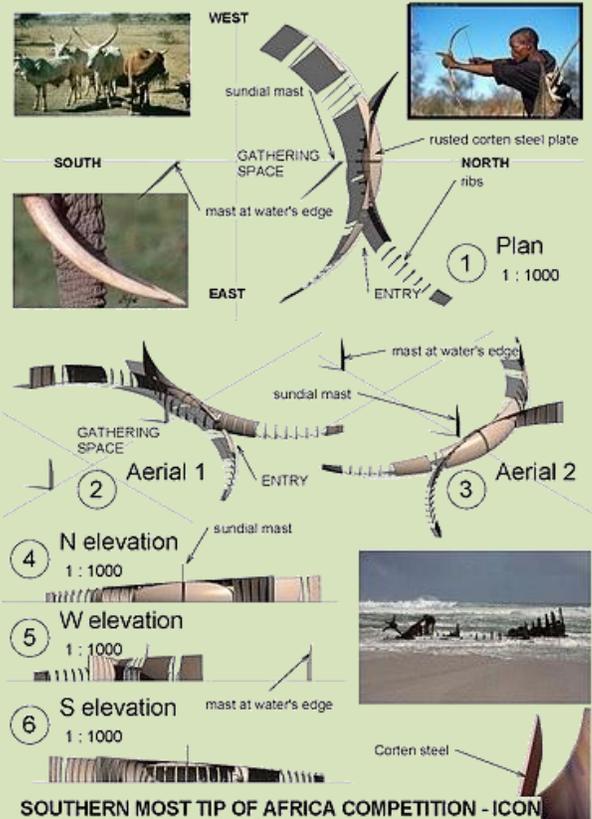
Entry 15



Entry 20



Entry 19



Entry 22
Division South



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