



## Newsletter 12/2018

### *SCT's social responsibility*

Stanford Conservation Trust (SCT) runs a number of programmes in line with its aim to protect Stanford's environment and the village's historical character. The drivers are the unsung heroes/volunteers who give their time and energy to make this village a desirable place for people to live in.



### *Wandelpad and green belts*

A volunteer group of 5 are the driving forces behind keeping the Wandelpad clean of litter, mowing the walkways, cutting branches, keeping invasive species under control and cleaning the dog poo bins. Read more about their work on page 3. They also keep an eye on the entrance to Stanford, and will often cut the sidewalk, clean the entrance garden etc. At present they contract one worker twice a week to assist with the above, although additional contracts are awarded as necessary.

### *Stanford Community Recycling Project (SCORE)*

A group of 16 volunteers man the swop shop every second Monday and also purchase the goods sold, sort donated goods, manage the stall at Junktique every last Saturday of the month and raise funds. On swop shop days, duties include weighing all the recyclable material brought, handing out tokens with which goods can be 'bought', selling the goods and being responsible for people control. Read more about their activities on page 3.

Please join Stanford Conservation and follow us on Facebook for updates and news relating to the Village of Stanford.

[Also visit the Stanford Conservation Trust website](#)

### *CCTV Cameras*



The municipality is busy drawing up specifications for the tender process to place CCTV cameras in strategic places by March 2019. It is done in close collaboration with the Community Police Forum. The operational room will be stationed at the Hermanus Fire Brigade, as it is the only public municipal service that operates 24/7.

# Aims, actions, achievements and challenges

## Stanford Heritage Committee Encouraging recycling

This committee is registered with Heritage Western Cape and mandated to be the first of many committees to scrutinise plans for renovations, additions and new build within the proclaimed heritage area, as well to any dwelling older than 60 years in the Stanford administration's area of jurisdiction (including the rural area). Once the SHC is happy with the plans, they are submitted to the Overstrand Heritage Advisory Committee for approval, and then to Heritage Western Cape for the final heritage approval. Only then will plans be scrutinised by the Overstrand Municipality for adherence to municipal regulations. Again there is a group of 8 individuals who volunteer their professional knowledge (heritage architects, practitioners, engineers, land surveyors etc) and time to scrutinise plans every second week, as and when necessary.

The committee also identifies restoration projects and raises the funds for these. The St Thomas Anglican Church, for example, was renovated 10 years ago by means of a SCT funding application, and an application is at present in the pipeline for renovating the historical Buzzy Beez building at Okkie Smuts.



## Funding

All SCT projects require funding. Funds are raised by a R100/year SCT membership fee, grant applications and donations. The bottom line is that the more support it receives, the more the SCT can do for Stanford. If you wish to become a member and contribute towards the benefit you reap from living in Stanford, or wish to make a monthly or once-off donation, please contact Linda Strydom on [stanfordconservationtrust@gmail.com](mailto:stanfordconservationtrust@gmail.com) for SCT's banking details. You are welcome to specify the programme you would like to support.

Instead of recycling at home, residents of Stanford South, Thembelihle and Die Kop are encouraged to bring their recyclable materials to the Swop Shop every second week. In return they receive tokens which they exchange for school supplies and toiletries, household goods and clothing. The Swop Shop is manned by the Stanford Community Recycling (SCORE) volunteers.

## Saving Buzzy Beez



Until about 4 years ago, the Buzzy Beez building served as the preschool for the adjacent Okkie Smuts Primary School. Originally a *nagmaalhuisie* dating back to

the 1860s, it is one of Stanford's few Heritage Grade IIIA buildings. Due to its state of decay, the Department of Education declared it unfit for human use and wanted to demolish it in 2016 when new classrooms were built. This was not allowed by Heritage Western Cape because of its heritage significance.

Although the building does belong to the Department of Education and it is the department's responsibility to maintain the building, no funds have been forthcoming for the past few years. The SCT's Stanford Heritage Committee has taken it upon themselves to assist the school in raising funds (estimated cost R250 000) to make the building structurally safe so it can be used as a library. The SCT has recently submitted a grant application. However, if successful, this will only cover the cost of fixing and re-thatching the roof.

Ex pupils and anyone else wishing to contribute are welcome to make a donation via the SCT.

## Wandelpad

The Municipality's 'green team' support was terminated at the end of August 2018. Despite much ongoing discussion, nothing has been finalised as to when they will be available to continue with this important task.

Stanford Municipality is further hamstrung due to municipal challenges such as weeks/ months turnaround for equipment repairs and on-going theft of equipment from stores. Despite this there is a good relationship between the Wandelpad team and the municipal foreman, Shaheed. For example, his workforce did an excellent job in assisting the SCT in the clearing of the Wandelpad 7 km route for the PURA SODA triathlon that took place in November.

Currently the Wandelpad from the R43 bridge to the top of the new cemetery and the Mill Stream section/Vlei road is being maintained by the SCT volunteers and our workman Ernest Ganga. The Willem Appel dam has however had limited focus and attention due to the lack of clear information regarding the 'green team'.



The team's scope at present is path clearing, branch cutting, litter removal, poo bag replacement and bin clearing. Some localised ring-barking of the invasive grey poplar took place on Vlei Street. There was also a major big clean-up at the school rugby field, which has resulted in more locals being able to safely use the area.

The SCT, in conjunction with bee expert Antonio de Silva, tried to move the wild beehive along the Wandelpad in the Sillery area, humanely. We are extremely saddened to report that this effort was thwarted twice by destructive youngsters! The catch box for the queen bee was destroyed, honey frames stolen and the one-way bee outlet was damaged in spite of the fact that Antonio spent over 5 hours prior to the triathlon to reduce the risk of the bees harming the athletes. Please support these efforts to safely remove wild bee hives in our area.

## SCORE

The SCORE Swop Shop is proving to be a happy and congenial place to shop, with the ambience of the Ou Krale park area and brightly decorated containers adding to the atmosphere of excitement at the thought of what might be for 'sale'.



At present there are 16 volunteers who make up the Swop Shop team. They are to be thanked for their enthusiasm and willingness to help with the various tasks.

The big demand for school stationery, sanitary pads, toiletries and household goods is on-going and this month we have added small bars of Sunlight laundry soap from the regular Junktique takings. Thank you to the Andersons for running this each month. The Swop Shop continues to support Sister Benita at the Clinic with items for the special needs children with whom she deals. The children are learning that they 'get

nothing for nothing' and that they need to work by collecting recyclables to obtain Swop Shop tickets to pay for items in the swop shop. Benita is well pleased to be able to instil this ethic into children and agrees wholeheartedly with the principle.

Thank you too to READ for a constant supply of stationery and colouring pages. The stationery department continues to buy essential school items with funds received from the Grant-in-Aid from the Municipality and other donors.

The Swop Shop operates every second Monday from 14:00 – 16:00. All goods in the Swop Shop are bought from grants and donations received; but there always is a need for donations of soap, toothpaste, deodorant and clothing. A big thanks to the villagers who have made donations and anyone willing to contribute goods can drop them off at the Tourism Bureau – even a bar of soap will be welcome.

People wishing to make monetary contributions (once-off or monthly) can contact Linda Strydom on [stanfordconservationtrust@gmail.com](mailto:stanfordconservationtrust@gmail.com) for SCT's banking details. The Swop Shop is the SCT's contribution to keep Stanford South and Die Kop as litter-free as possible, as no municipal recycling programme is in place in these areas.

# Klein River Estuary woes

A recent study by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) on the future quality objectives for rivers and estuaries to prevent any further decline in the health of the systems has provided some interesting facts about the Klein river estuary.

**One:** The estuary stretches up to the R43 bridge in Stanford and every property owner along the river is bound to all the environmental rules and regulations applicable to an estuary. In Stanford the municipality owns all riparian land, hence used by every Stanford resident.

**Two:** From a biodiversity perspective, the estuary is the 5<sup>th</sup> most important estuary in South Africa due to it being an important fish spawning area, therefore vital to increase the depleting fish stock in our oceans.

**Three:** The quality of the water is deteriorating because of continuously decreasing fresh water inflow into the river. This is not due to less rainfall, but because mountain streams are being diverted, small dams are built in mountain valleys etc. Even in Stanford the leiwater, a major contributor to the freshwater inflow (after all, we live on the estuary) is being diverted and dammed to be used for our own personal satisfaction of a green lawn in summer when it naturally should be brown.

**Four:** A healthy system is achieved by means of regular floods that scour the muck in the estuary out to the sea and allow fresh seawater to enter the system. Unfortunately this is not achieved when the mouth is opened mechanically and hence no more allowed.

**Five:** The only way to increase flow under the present climate change conditions is for everyone to understand that water that flows into the estuary has an extremely important ecological function and is not wasted at all.

And this, as said above, includes Stanford's leiwater. Time for a mind shift!

The resource quality objectives for the Klein River and the estuary is part the Proposed Classes of Water Resource and Resource Quality Objectives for the Breede -Gouritz Water Management Area which was published for comment in Government Gazette No. 42053 on 23 November 2018. A more detailed study [Determination of the Ecological Water Requirements for the Klein Estuary](#), was published in September 2015.



Note how the silt and other debris in the estuary is pulled out to sea during a natural breaching/ flood situation.

## Boating rules and regulations on the Klein River

Safety is always important, and especially so with the festive season that is upon us. Please be reminded of the annual river rules .

The Klein River Association of Boating (KRAB), in collaboration with Overstrand Municipality, is tasked with the management of the Du Toit Street slipway, the issuing of annual and day permits, and the control of behaviour on the river, up to the "DEAD SLOW – NO WAKE" proclaimed bird sanctuary area, which will be clearly marked . This will be strictly enforced - as usual - and transgressions will result in the withdrawal of permits.



Click on the following link for more information:

<http://www.overstrand.gov.za/en/documents/bylaws/estuaries-5>