

*Friends of*  
**ZEEKOEVLEI  
& RONDEVLEI**



CAPE TOWN SOUTH AFRICA

# FoZR

## Newsletter

October 2016

# About FoZR

**FoZR is an apolitical, community-based, non-profit organisation that aims to assist the nature reserve authorities to protect the much-threatened flora and fauna that make this corner of the Cape Flats their home.**



## Contacts

**Friends of Zeekoevlei & Rondevlei (Dee Cranswick): 083 2525 680**

**False Bay Nature Reserve Office: 021 396 4283 / 81**

**Reserve's emergency response number: 083 499 1717**

# Environment

## *Gladiolus angustus*

### Painted lady

And Pollinator

## *Moegistorhynchus longirostris*

### Long-tongued Fly

The Painted Lady is probably one of the most beautiful flowers I have seen, and it has one of the most amazing pollinators.

*Gladiolus angustus*, has two main distinctive characteristics – its very long perianth tube, measuring approximately 70-100mm long, and its cream/ivory coloured flowers with the lower tepals much shorter than the upper ones, with dark pink/red diamond-shaped markings.

Endemic to the Western Cape, this beautiful flower is found along the Cape Peninsula, up the West Coast as far north as Vredenburg, and from there inland to Piketberg and the Cedarberg. The preferred habitat is streams and marches on sandstone soils (Manning *et al.* 2002; as cited in Robertson, n.d.). Currently a number of *Gladiolus angustus* can be seen at Rondevlei in the open field opposite ZEEP on Peninsula Road (which underwent a controlled ecological burn in April). The Painted Lady flowers in the months of October and November, when there is not as much wind as the summer months, assisting its pollinator, *Moegistorhynchus longirostris* (Long-tongued Fly).



I have been fortunate to see the Long-tongued Fly at work, using its extremely long proboscis (up to 80mm – five times the length of its body!), to access the nectar at the base of the long tube of the Painted Lady. While in flight and resting, it tucks its proboscis back, which appears similar to a tail. Not much is known about this Fly's life cycle, however it is thought to be extinct in many parts of the lowlands of Cape Town.



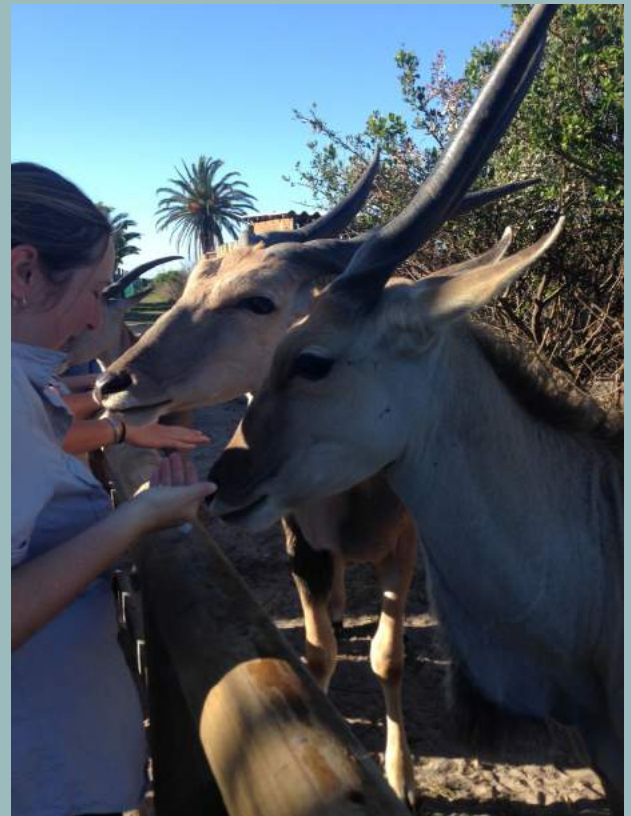
The long-proboscid fly (*Moegistorhynchus longirostris*) pollinating a flower of *Gladiolus angustus* in late spring in the Rondeberg Reserve on the Cape Peninsula, South Africa. [photo Colin Paterson-Jones ©] (Robertson, n.d.).



# Eland Anniversary!

Happy one-year arrival anniversary to the Eland – 28 October 2016!

The Eland thoroughly enjoyed their anniversary carrots, while the humans enjoyed some delicious carrot cake!



# Eland Spring Wish List

The Eland project is still in need of all items on the wish list (except an external hard drive). If you wish to donate something / contribute in any way please contact Petro ([Petrob@cteet.co.za](mailto:Petrob@cteet.co.za)).

## Eland's Spring Wish List Meet our Eland!

Your opportunity to support the Gantouw Project by contributing any of the items on the wish list.

Bring in your item to the Gantouw office on Peninsula Road, Zeekoevlei and get an opportunity to meet an eland!

Please confirm a date and time with the Gantouw Team ([petrob@cteet.co.za](mailto:petrob@cteet.co.za))

***Thank you for your support!***

Item	Purpose	Qty.
External hard drive	For backing up research data	1 TB
Extension cord (30 m)	Gantouw office electricity supply	1
Clip boards	For holding data recording sheets	5
CLIX Target stick	Training eland	1
Hay nets (hanging feeders)	Feeding lusern to eland off the ground	5
Fly off spray/Quadrepel (1L)	Control flies (& ticks) on eland	4
Red top BAIT for fly trap	Trap flies around the eland boma	6
Hard brooms (without stick)	Eland enrichment – in the boma	5
Cable ties (30cm)	Tie brooms to poles for eland enrichment	30
Hoove file	Trim eland hooves	1
Hoof clipper	Trim eland hooves	1
Hair brush	Groom eland	5
Concrete pavers	For boma (wearing of eland hooves)	50
Horse type 40 mm, grade 316	For temporarily fencing off the channel (exclude eland from control site)	200 m roll x 9
Intermediate Insulators for horse type	To run the horse type	900
Game trailer (take a load of 3.5 ton) Or any financial donation towards one	Transporting eland to various reserves	1
Round wooden poles 3m (80-100mm)	Fence of channel	80



# Cape Flats Waste Water Treatment Plant – Meeting Report Back

## **Notes from a meeting at the CFWWTP on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016**

Present: Michael Toll (Head of Operations – South, City of Cape Town), Nizaam Henry (Plant Manager), Richard Cammell, Andy Chisholm, Jocelyn van Eeden, Stewart Penney.

### **Incoming sewerage**

- a) The prep work is being done for No 3 screw pump, new screw to be made. Planned to be in place December 2016.
- b) The other 3 screw pumps to be scheduled but priorities have to be established with the other sites e.g. Mitchell's Plain.
- c) There is sufficient capacity without needing submersible pumps.
- d) Work on the primary and secondary settling tanks complete.

### **Incoming sewerage odour control**

- a) The plan is to cover up the incoming sewerage sump, screw pumps, channels to the primary settling tanks and extract the gas (hydrogen sulphide) and utilise a bio filtering system to de-odourise.
- b) Target date March 2017.
- c) The contractor is on site.
- d) One hiccup was the damage to one of the bio filters, which got knocked off a truck en route from the docks.
- e) Leaks in the pipeline along the Zeekoevlei eastern shore (by the security gate at the entrance) have been fixed.
- f) It is believed this will remove the main odour problem affecting Zeekoevlei peninsula.

## **Sludge**

- a) The repaired/balanced centrifuges are on site with their control system, but the tender is still out for the balance of the peripheral controls and equipment. Planned date is December 2017. But given the time consuming tender process this could take longer.
- b) At present ALL sludge is being dumped on the sewerage beds, as there are no belt presses on site.
- c) The Athlone sludge is still being piped to the CFWWTP where it could be managed when the CFWWTP is functioning to design capacity but now is just adding to the sludge-dumping problem.
- d) There are 2 belt presses on order; 1 on a ship due in  $\pm$  6 weeks (second week of November), and 1 being fabricated due December.
- e) The 2 belt presses will not handle 100% of the sludge.
- f) There are belt presses at Athlone not being used.
- g) The primary phase of the digesters is working but not the second – methane producing – phase. The heating (steam) contractor is on site and the heating cycle and control needs to be up and running to get the generation of methane which will be sufficient to power the heating of the digesters replacing the pasteurization process.
- h) 1 sludge bed has been isolated and drying out for rehabilitation.
- i) In due course the other beds will also have to be rehabilitated.
- j) Unfortunately (?) the new operating license, which has now been finalised, permits the CFWWTP to utilise sludge beds in the course of its operation not just in an emergency. Given that the belt presses can't handle 100% of the sludge, and the centrifuges are not yet working and proven, this dumping of sludge will continue indefinitely.



- k) The lining of sludge beds is not ideal as it limits the drying out process (it does reduce the risk of waste water contamination).
- l) The new operating license does impose stricter conditions on the outflow water quality
- m) The new license has been received.

Next meeting to be scheduled for February 2017.

**Stewart Penney.**

# Recent Events

## Bridge Refurbishment

On Saturday, 15 October 2016, two very dedicated and hard-working individuals from FoZR (Richard Cammell & Tom Schwerdtfeger), a dedicated Regional Reserve Manager (Dalton Gibbs), and myself tackled the task of refurbishing the bridge at the Zeekoevlei weir.

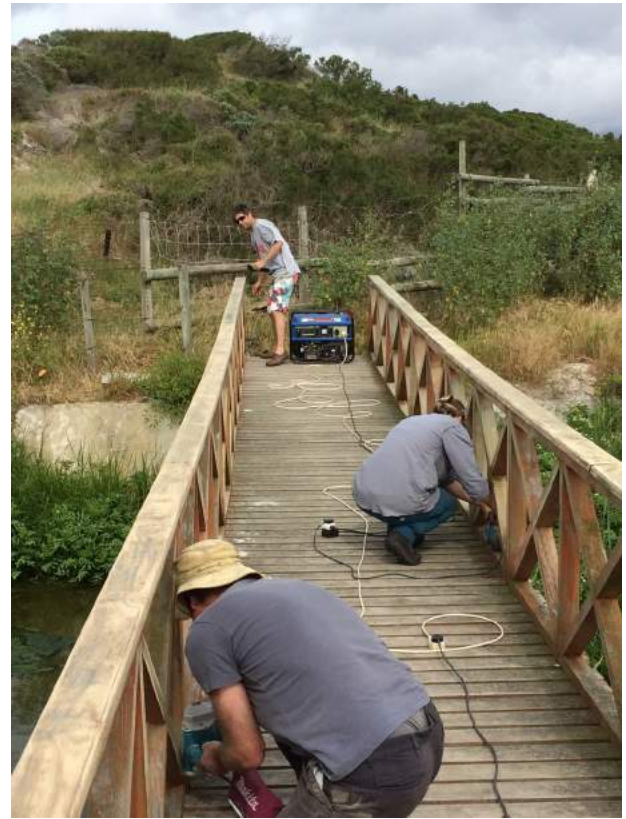
A task that seemed like it would take several days to complete, quickly became something far more manageable, with most of the sanding and a coat of varnish done all in 5 hours! This speedy process was all due to the generosity of Tom and Richard. Tom kindly donated his generator (along with petrol), an electric sander, and copious amounts of sand paper; and Richard brought along his electric sanders and sanding belts.

After a quick lunch break (thanks to Dalton's generosity) we completed the sanding of the floor and followed with a quick coat of varnish, supplied by Dalton.

The job is yet to be completed, so if you love to paint or even just want to give back to the nature reserve in some way, I invite you to join us on Saturday 12 November 2016, where we will be completing the job.

A huge Thank you to Tom for supplying the bulk of the equipment and his commitment to anything FoZR!





Just imagine how much more we could have done if we had more hands to help!!

Photos: R. Cammell (2016)

# Coming up soon...

- Bridge Refurbishment – (12 November, 8:30 am)
- Fish Ladder Update – Dalton Gibbs (TBC)

## Reference:

Robertson, H. n.d. *Gladiolus angustus* (Marsh painted lady). [online] Biodiversityexplorer.org. Available at: [http://www.biodiversityexplorer.org/plants/iridaceae/gladiolus\\_angustus.htm](http://www.biodiversityexplorer.org/plants/iridaceae/gladiolus_angustus.htm) [Accessed 28 Oct. 2016].

Manning J., Goldblatt P. and Snijman D. 2002. *The Color Encyclopedia of Cape Bulbs*. Timber Press, Portland.

# FoZR Committee

Chair – Dee Cranswick (083 2525 680)

Treasurer – Tracy Gibbs

Secretary – Nicky Stock

Fundraising – Tom Schwerdtfeger

Activities – Neil Major

Reserve Liaison – Liz Day



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Compiled & Designed by Jocelyn van Eeden