



## Adopt Moreletaspruit/ Neem Moreletaspruit Aan

### Newsletter/Nuusbrief 3, Aug 2012

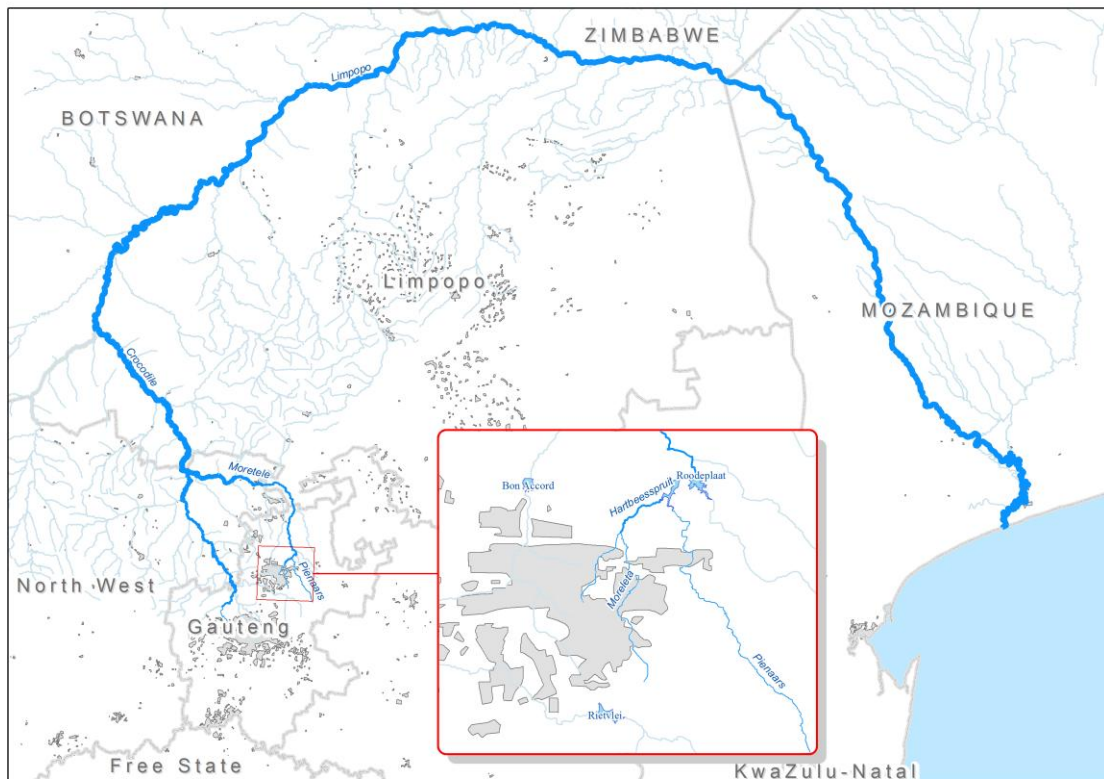
#### **The course of the river/Vloei van die rivier**

Have you ever wondered where the water in the Moreletaspruit comes from and where it goes to? The answer is that it rises in the south east of Pretoria. The water coming from the Malmani Dolomite found there, is fed by many tributaries such as the Rademeyer, Philadelphia, Constantia, Waterkloof, Wolwe and Garsfontein Spruits and then joins the Hartbeesspruit which flows through Colbyn. Below is a map supplied by Mike Silberbauer which shows the long curving path a drop of water would follow. The shaded areas are towns and villages.

*Die naam van die rivier verander as volg op sy roete na die see tot waar dit in Mosambiek naby Xai-Xai in die Indiese oseaan vloei:*

*0 – 23 km Moreleta; 23 – 31 km Hartbees; 31 – 137 km Pienaars; 137 – 168 km Moretele; 168 – 215 km Pienaars; 215 – 393 km Krokodil Wes/Crocodile West; 393 – 1734 km Limpopo.*

*Soos jy kan sien is ons rivier deel van die baie groter Krokodilrivier Wes opvanggebied en kan ons aktiwiteite in die Moreletaspruit 'n impak op baie stroom-af gebruikers hê.*



**Map showing path of a drop water from the Moreletaspruit to the Indian Ocean**

### **Good News about new volunteer groups along the Moreletaspruit and tributaries**

During the first half of 2012 some new groups started and some dormant ones were restarted. They are listed below with their contact persons and hopefully many more people will support and join them.

Friends of Waterkloof Ridge Nature Valley – Wilhelm van Zyl – [vanz@mweb.co.za](mailto:vanz@mweb.co.za)

Friends of Moreletaspruit Lynnwood to N4 – P. Kesting – [Philip.kesting.pk@gmail.com](mailto:Philip.kesting.pk@gmail.com)

Friends of the Colbyn Valley – Elizabeth Mokotong – [emokotong@gmail.com](mailto:emokotong@gmail.com)

Friends of Skuilkrans Kopje – Niel van Wyk – [vanwykn@dwaf.gov.za](mailto:vanwykn@dwaf.gov.za) have included

Meyerspark Bird Sanctuary – Jeff Morris – [jeffwmorris@gmail.com](mailto:jeffwmorris@gmail.com) in their group.

### **Students trained in biomonitoring**

First year ecology students from the Centurion Academy were trained in biomonitoring in the Moreletaspruit on 24th July by Fulufhelo Mbedzi from the DWA. She demonstrated the SASS method and the students then divided into groups, took samples from the river and were shown how to identify the different aquatic invertebrates and obtain a score to determine the ecological condition of that section of river, which was found to be “largely modified”. They also sampled the water for chemical and other variables and were taught how to identify the variables that need to be tested, based on activities in the surrounding area such as a golf course and recent construction upstream and the impact of the surrounding residential area.



### **Arbour Month**

September is Arbour Month when thoughts turn to planting trees. These trees are indigenous to the Moreletaspruit and many of them provide food for birds:

*Acacia caffra* – Common hook thorn, Gewone haakdoring; *Acacia karoo* – Sweet thorn, Soetdoring; *Acacia sieberiana* – Paperbark thorn, Papierbasdoring; *Carissa bispinosa* – Num-num, Noemnoembessie; *Celtis africana* – White stinkwood, witstinkhout; *Combretum erythrophyllum* – River bushwillow, Riviervaderlandswilg; *Diospyros lycioides* – Blue bush, Bloubos; *Dombeya rotundifolia* – Wild pear, Drolpeer; *Grewia occidentalis* – Cross berry, Kruisbessie; *Searsia lancea* – Karee; *Olea europea* – African olive, Olienhout; *Ziziphus mucronata* – Buffalo thorn, Blinkblaar-wag-‘n-bietjie.

### **Contact Details/ Kontak-besonderhede**

DWA: Gauteng Region – Tel 012 392 1362. Email: [RakgothoT@dwa.gov.za](mailto:RakgothoT@dwa.gov.za)

CoT: Nature Conservation – Tel: 012 358 1510. Email: [AdeleneL@TSHWANE.GOV.ZA](mailto:AdeleneL@TSHWANE.GOV.ZA)

Facilitation Team – Email: [anneli@global.co.za](mailto:anneli@global.co.za), Tel 012 361 3190, or 083 750 2873

Facebook Group – **Adopt-a-River Moreleta**

The Facilitation Team/Die Fasiliteringspan