



FRIENDS OF FAERIE GLEN NATURE RESERVE (FFGNR) VRIENDE VAN FAERIE GLEN NATUURRESERVAAT (VFGNR)

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Winter Newsletter 2015

Winter was slow to arrive this year in the Faerie Glen Nature Reserve (FGNR). Trees kept their foliage for longer and some trees even sprouted new leaves due to the abnormal weather. Most plants use this time of the year to rest, before rejuvenating at the start of spring. Although winter has been generally mild, some of the early morning visitors to the reserve would have experienced a few cold mornings.



Frost clings to grass and other vegetation early in the morning, as photographed by Martinus Cronjé.

At the crack of dawn on Saturday 9 May, bird watchers arrived at the FGNR to attend the bird walk, guided by Stephan Terblanche from BirdLife Northern Gauteng. There were so many eager bird watchers, that Philip Calinikos (also from BirdLife) had to assist from the back of the convoy. Approximately sixty bird species were identified during the course of the morning. The full list of bird species is available at the back of the electronic version of the newsletter, and can also be downloaded from our website (www.fgnr.co.za).

Winter Nuusbrief 2015

Op Saterdag 16 Mei is die boonste dele van die Moreletaspruit oopgestel vir 'n begeleide stap langs die spruit, aangebied deur lede van die Neem Moreletaspruit Aan Forum (Adopt Moreletaspruit Forum). Hierdie wandelroete was twintig jaar gelede redelik populêr, voor die oostelike dele van Pretoria bebou en omhein was. Sedertdien is dele van die spruit afgekamp en oor die algemeen moeilik bereikbaar of onbegaanbaar vir lede van die publiek.



Hikers crossing the Constantia Spruit in Garsfontein in the Serene Valley green belt.

Dertig plaaslike inwoners het deelgeneem aan die stap, met 'n paar mense wat van so vêr as Centurion, Kempton Park en Pretoria-Noord af gekom het vir die geleentheid. Die 12km vanaf Moreletakloof Natuurreservaat tot by Murrayfield het vlot verloop, danksy Tshwane Natuurbewaring wat spesiaal paadjies langs die spruit oopgesny het om 'n gerieflike stap moontlik te maak. Vriendegroepe langs die spruit het ook gehelp om oorgange oor die spruit te vergemaklik deur eksta klippe te pak en verversings aan die einde van die stap te voorsien.



Proudly affiliated to the Wildlife
and Environment Society of
South Africa and Adopt
Moreletaspruit Forum



Daar sal weer 'n geleentheid wees later in die jaar om die Moreletaspruit wandelroete te stap saam met die Neem Moreletaspruit Aan Forum. Ons doen 'n beroep op inwoners om aan te sluit by die Forum of hulle naaste Vriendegroep langs die Moreletaspruit. Besoek gerus die Forum se webtuiste (www.riv.co.za/ms) vir meer inligting.

The Friends of the Faerie Glen Nature Reserve (FFGNR) have been busy with regular invasive alien plants hacks during May and July. The main focus has been on *Lantana camara*, as this is one of the most prolific invasive species within the reserve. Again, we would like to encourage members of FFGNR and the public to join us during these hacks. Not only are you making a meaningful contribution to the ecology of the reserve, but it is also good exercise.



From left to right: Vincent, Edwin and Louise clearing *Lantana camara*, using loppers, herbicide and the FFGNR's tree poppers.

Vordering is ook gemaak in die rotstui by die ingangsaan van die reservaat. Die klipmuur is verlede jaar gebou met 'n klipskenking van die Moreleta Outfall Sewer projek. Die res van die klippe word nou gebruik vir die uitleg van die buitenste en binneste beddings van die reservaat ter voorbereiding van die inheemse veldblomtuint.

People who regularly travel along the roads adjacent to the FGNR, would have noticed that the rusty fence has a new coat of green paint. The paint for this project was funded by the FFGNR, while Tshwane Nature Conservation has been providing the labour to paint the fence. Maintenance of the fence is important, as it has to keep the animals in and the bad elements out. If you notice a break in the fence, please report it to us immediately.



Simon, wat deur Vriende van die Faerie Glen Natuurresewaat (VFGNR) en Tony en Beverley Moore geborg word, help met die verskuiwing van groot klippe.



A painter from Tshwane Nature Conservation busy painting the fence along Manitoba Avenue with paint sponsored by FFGNR.



An internet example of a wire snare in the veld, often found along fencing and trees.

Ons wil dit ook onder lesers se aandag bring dat die pallisade heining ook ongelukkig dien as 'n stuktuur waarteen strikke vir die reservaat se wild gestel

word. Hierdie strikke is gewoonlik van draad gemaak en word nie maklik raakgesien nie. Die stikke is nie selektief nie en enige dier of voël kan daarin verstrengel raak. Bome en struike word soms ook gebruik om strikke teen te stel en besoekers moet asseblief op die uitkyk wees hiervoor. As dit lyk of 'n dier (groot of klein) beseer is, rapporteer dit asseblief dadelik.

It was inspiring to see a younger generation of nature lovers that volunteered to do their part in protecting nature in the FGNR. On Saturday 25 July, the Junior Rangers from St Paulus School showed up in their numbers, despite the dreadful weather, to pick up plastic and other rubbish along the banks of the Moreletaspruit. The children did not seem to mind the wet weather and thorny bushes to get to the endless amount of rubbish that is washed down the Moreletaspruit during the rainy season. Some of the more interesting finds for the day was a shopping trolley and sleeping bag. Most of the rubbish ended up in the reserve via the storm water system that is connected to the Moreletaspruit. Therefore, even the tiniest bit of scrap material will make it all the way to the river, which is the only source of water for birds and animals in the reserve, as well as users downstream.



Enthusiastic team members of St Paulus' Junior Rangers pulling a rusted shopping trolley from the banks of the Moreletaspruit, which runs through the FGNR.



St Paulus' Junior Rangers posing with their teacher, Melanie de Kock.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Geology walk with Prof Adam Bumby:

When: Saturday 22 August at 08:30.

Where: Meet on the lawn in front of the entrance building

Bring along: Hat, comfortable shoes, water.

Cost: FFGNR members free

R50.00 for non-members

Arbour Day with the Dendrological Society:

When: Saturday 5 September at 09:00

Where: Meet on the lawn in front of the entrance building

Bring along: Hat, comfortable shoes, water.

Cost: Free

We would like to thank **Jetline Printers**, located in Glenwood Avenue, Faerie Glen, for sponsoring the printing of this newsletter and our posters.

To view this newsletter in colour/electronically, please visit our website: **www.fgnr.co.za**

Faerie Glen Nature Reserve

Record of Bird Sightings - 9 May 2015

With Birdlife Northern Gauteng

- Stephan Terblanche (leader)

- Philip Calinikos

Count	English	Afrikaans
1	African Black Duck	Swarteend
2	African Olive Pigeon	Geelbekbosduif
3	African Palm Swift	Palmwindswael
4	African Sacred Ibis	Skoorsteenveër
5	Amethyst Sunbird	Swartsuikerbekkie
6	Arrow-marked Babbler	Pylvlekkatlagter
7	Bar-throated Apalis	Bandkeelkleinjantjie
8	Black Cuckooshrike	Swartkatakoeroe
9	Black-chested Prinia	Swartbandlangstertjie
10	Black-collared Barbet	Rooikophoutkapper
11	Black-throated Canary	Bergkanarie
12	Bronze Mannikin	Gewone Fret
13	Brown-crowned Tchagra	Rooivlerktjagra
14	Brown-hooded Kingfisher	Bruinkopvisvanger
15	Cape Glossy Starling	Kleinglansspreeu
16	Cape Grassbird	Grasvoël
17	Cape Robin-Chat	Gewone Janfrederik
18	Cape Sparrow	Gewone Mossie
19	Cape Turtle-Dove	Gewone Tortelduif
20	Cape White-eye	Kaapse Glasogie
21	Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler	Bosveldtjerik
22	Chinspot Batis	Witliesbosbontrokkie
23	Common Fiscal (Southern Fiscal)	Fiskaallaksman
24	Common Myna	Indiese Spreeu
25	Crested Barbet	Kuifkophoutkapper
26	Crested Francolin	Bospatrys
27	Crowned Lapwing	Kroonkiewiet
28	Dark-capped Bulbul	Swartoogtiptol
29	Fiscal Flycatcher	Fiskaalvlieëvanger
30	Greater Striped Swallow	Grootstreepswael
31	Green Wood-Hoopoe	Rooibekkekelaar
32	Grey Go-away-bird	Kwêvoël
33	Hadeda Ibis	Hadeda
34	Helmeted Guineafowl	Gewone Tarentaal
35	Jameson's Firefinch	Jamesonse Vuurvinkie
36	Karoo Thrush	Geelbeklyster
37	Laughing Dove	Rooiborsduifie
38	Long-billed Crombec	Bosveldstopmstert
39	Orange-breasted Bushshrike	Oranjeborslaksman

40	Red-billed Quelea	Rooibekkwelea
41	Red-eyed Dove	Grootringduif
42	Red-faced Mousebird	Rooiwangmuisvoël
43	Reed Cormorant	Rietduiker
44	Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)	Tuinduif
45	Southern Boubou	Suidelike Waterfiskaal
46	Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	Gryskopmossie
47	Southern Masked Weaver	Swartkeelvink
48	Southern Red Bishop	Rooivink
49	Speckled (Rock) Pigeon	Kransduif
50	Speckled Mousebird	Gevelekte Muisvoël
51	Streaky-Headed Seedeater	Streepkopkanarie
52	Swainson's Spurfowl	Bosveldfisant
53	Tawny-flanked Prinia	Bruinsylangstertjie
54	Thick-billed Weaver	Dikbekwewer
55	Village Weaver	Bonrugwever
56	Violet-backed Starling	Witborsspreu
57	White-bellied Sunbird	Witpensuikerbekkie
58	White-breasted Cormorant	Witborsduiker
59	Yellow-fronted Canary	Geellogkanarie
60	Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	Geelblestinker