



Kleinmond

Natuurbewaringsvereniging Nature Conservation Society

NPO 005-622

PBO 930013742

info@kleinmondnbv.co.za

Nedbank current account no 1032445297

Branch code 198765

Annual Report

2025/6



1. Introduction

– Vic Brink

The year 2025 was a major milestone in the history of the Kleinmond Nature Conservation Society. Fifty years of protecting and conserving our precious natural environment were celebrated.

In this report you can read more about this, as well as the wide variety of activities in which the society is involved. All these activities were possible because many residents voluntarily made their expertise, manpower and time available. The great common factor among these volunteers is their passion for and love of our natural environment, and a strong sense of urgency that it must be preserved for future generations.

Why is this important?

Kleinmond is not just another town. Our town lies in the transition area of the Kogelberg Biosphere, part of a UNESCO-declared protected area in the Cape Floral Region. Surrounding the

town is the buffer zone — the natural or semi-natural areas used mainly for recreation (hiking, mountain biking), conservation and sustainable use. Large parts of this form part of the Kleinmond Nature Reserve. Then there is the core area. This is the highly sensitive, pristine statutory conservation area of the Kogelberg Nature Reserve, where human access is strictly controlled.

It is a privilege to live in the transition area, but it also places a great responsibility on the shoulders of everyone who has made this place their home. This is what KNCS focuses on, and we do what we can to promote and inspire appreciation, conservation and protection of our environment among residents and visitors alike.

2. KNCS Celebrates 50 Years with Fynbos Festival

– Carl Swart

The Kleinmond Fynbos Festival was held from 3 to 11 October 2025 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Kleinmond Nature Conservation Society.

The festival was opened at a gala event where Leon Kluge spoke about the fascinating world of fynbos and its pollinators. The Kleinmond Fynbos website was also launched at this event.

The festival programme revolved around the theme:

Biosphere living in Kleinmond. A variety of morning talks were presented on topics such as fynbos, the conservation importance of the Kogelberg Biosphere, moths and butterflies, birds, and the wild horses of Rooisand.

A special exhibition was hosted in the boardroom of the local library, featuring fynbos species that were flowering in the veld during the festival period, displays of children's art projects, exhibits on the activities of other nature conservation organisations, and photographic images from the Kogelberg Biosphere by members of the Kleinmond Photography Club.

Members of the public could join guided walks to Kasteelkop, gather on Jean's Hill to watch the full moon rise, or go birdwatching in Rooiels in search of the Cape rock thrush and other bird species.

Art and photography competitions were organised for young people and children. During the festival they could, among other things, take part in an excursion to the rock pools of Betty's Bay and participate in activities illustrating the wonders of wetlands.

The festival emblem, shown on the right, was specially designed for the festival year.



3. Die KNCS committee and membership

KNCS members who served in the committee are Vic Brink (chairperson), Carl Swart (vice-chairperson, hacking group and BREF), Thea Brink (secretary, newsletter and flower exhibitions), Justin van den Hoven (treasurer), Gerrit van den Dool (hiking club and hiking trails), Jan Stander (environmental health, KSRA, plankiespad-project, website), Botha Maree (OM Ward committee,

networks), Christa van Schalkwyk (flower exhibitions, liaison with schools). Coopted members are Carin Malan (birding activities) and Gawie Winterbach (Eco Ministry).

The current membership number is 218.

4. Appreciating our habitat

4.1 Kleinmond Hiking Club

– Gerrit van den Dool

The Kleinmond Hiking Club is a very active part of KNCS and offers hiking opportunities for different needs. On Thursdays, hikers can tackle the more challenging routes, while shorter walks are offered on Tuesdays. On Thursdays, the group known as the Happy Ramblers enjoys leisurely walks focused on appreciating nature.

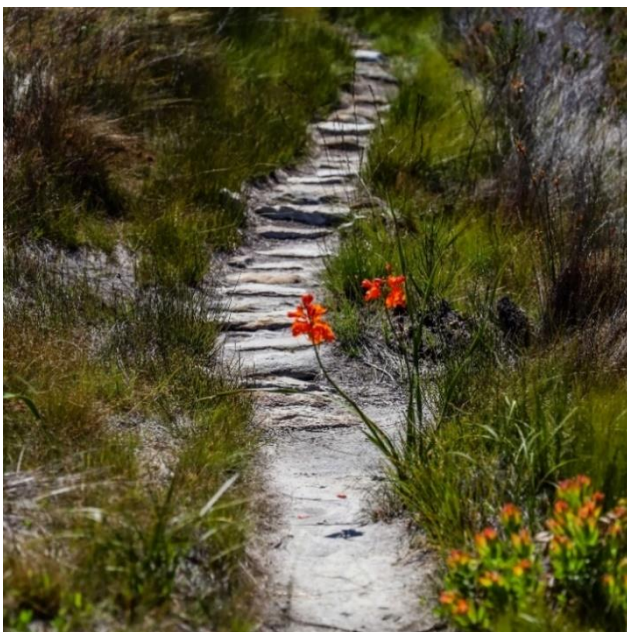


The club had 160 members as of 28 February 2026.

The 2025/26 hiking season was “normal” again after several years of floods and fires. Hangklip was closed for part of the year but is now once again open for hiking. CapeNature is currently restoring the Rooisand boardwalk, and it is hoped that the reserve will soon reopen for hiking.

Hikes

- The weather allowed most of the planned Tuesday and Thursday hikes to continue as planned. We are grateful that we that we can appreciate and enjoy our beautiful environment in this way.
- The Hiking Club visited the West Coast National Park with 39 hikers and did two wonderful day hikes.



Management

A new management committee was elected at our recent annual general meeting. Many thanks to Gerhard and Louié Booyesen who led the club for eight years.

4.2 Hiking Trails

With more than 30 km of hiking trails around Kleinmond, there is a wide variety to choose from for hikers of all fitness levels. KNCS volunteers, in cooperation with the Overstrand Municipality, help maintain the paths. The municipality assisted with clearing all the routes and carried out upgrading work on the coastal path.

During the course of the year KNCS members made sure that all the trails were clearly marked.

The well-known Slingsby hiking map, *Kleinmond Walks*, was revised by KNCS members and the updated instructions were sent to Tracks4Africa who has taken over Slingsby Maps. We hope to have printed maps available again soon.



4.3 Palmiet Boardwalk

— Jan Stander

During the past year we made significant progress with upgrading the Palmiet Boardwalk.

Large sections of the pathway have now been replaced with concrete blocks.

However, the use of blocks is now coming to an end. In the sections where blocks are not practically possible as

the area is either too wet or too rocky, the old planks are being replaced with new planks resting on poles as a foundation. Where the existing foundation is still in good condition, the planks only require new screws.

This is, however, a time-consuming project. Between 8 and 10 metres are replaced at a time.

The Overstrand Municipality kindly donated old street light poles. These will soon be used as foundation poles for the walkway. It represents a major cost saving.

We hope to complete work on the boardwalk during the coming year, with additional screws being fitted to all the planks to ensure extra stability.



4.4 Birdwatching Activities

– Carin Malan

4.4.1 Coordinated Waterbird Counts (CWAC)

Members of BirdLife Overberg continued with the quarterly CWAC surveys (Coordinated Waterbird Counts) from the Palmiet River mouth to the Uilenkraalsmond during 2025.

Counts have been conducted for 34 years, resulting in a valuable long-term dataset. The data are made available to the Animal Demography Unit (ADU) and BirdLife South Africa, and play an important role in helping to guide decisions regarding our estuaries and surrounding areas.

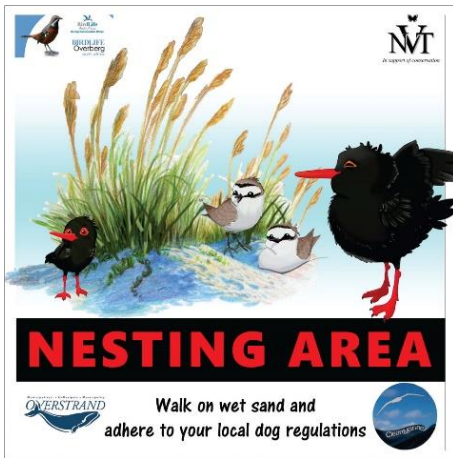
The Bot River and Kleinmond estuaries remained open for a large part of the year. Unfortunately, the damage caused by the devastating storms in September 2023 continued to have a significant impact on the birds' feeding areas.

In February 2026 BirdLife Overberg also participated in the International Waterbird Census which takes place every three years. The year 2026 marks the 60th anniversary of the census.



Waterbirds counted from February 2025 to February 2026:

	Botriver estuary		Kleinmond estuary		Palmiet river	
	Species	Count	Species	Count	Species	Count
02-2025	24	655	18	118	15	90
04-2025	21	288	24	120	9	103
07-2025	23	300	25	342	8	98
11-2025	34	250	25	69	10	126
02-2026	23	472	19	115	18	276



4.4.2 Warning Signs for African Black Oystercatcher and White-fronted Plover Nests

In 2025, BirdLife Overberg facilitated the printing of 160 signs to warn the public that waterbirds were nesting in the area. The signs were distributed from Rooi-Els to Pearly Beach.

The campaign was launched in October 2025. A short questionnaire accompanied the signs, requesting basic feedback. Project coordinator Carin Malan reports that the breeding season was not very successful for African Black Oystercatcher and White-fronted Plover.

African Oystercatcher data:

Pairs monitored	Breeding Pairs	Chilling pairs	Breeding Attempts	Eggs	Hatched	Fledged
63	16	2	38	91	20	7

- *Very little data were submitted on White-fronted Plover*

4.4.3 Kogelberg Biosphere Rehabilitation Centre

The centre is a major asset from a birdwatching perspective. More than 80% of the patients admitted are birds, and many are later successfully released back into the wild. In 2025 Coerie Badenhorst, a registered bird ringer and member of BirdLife Overberg, ringed 37 birds at the centre. These included blue crane, raptors and owls.



4.4.4 Rooisand Nature Reserve

It is disappointing that one of the region’s most important tourist attractions has been closed for almost three years. The initial completion date for repairs to the boardwalk to the bird hide was the end of March 2026.

4.4.5 Condition of Botvlei on the Fisherhaven Side

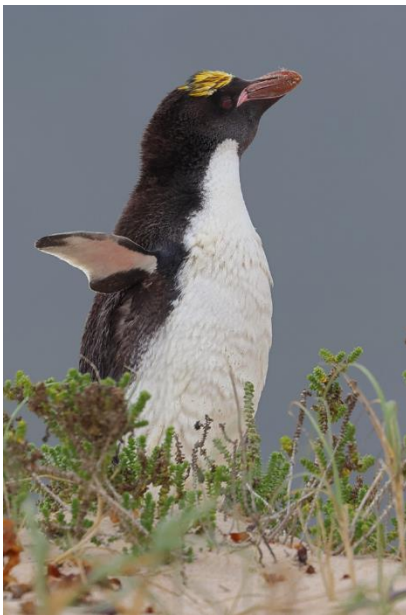
The current misuse of the Fisherhaven side of Botvlei is a matter of serious concern and should be brought to the attention of the Overstrand Municipality.

4.4.6 Bird Flu

South Africa experienced a renewed and severe outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1 during the winter of 2025. Seabird populations in the Western Cape were severely affected. In the Overberg region gulls, Cape cormorants and common terns were hardest hit, while the outbreak on Marion Island devastated albatross and penguin populations.

4.4.7 General Birdwatching in the Area

BirdLife Overberg has recorded confirmed sightings of more than 400 bird species since April 2020. The organisation's 408th confirmed sighting of a new species, a Black-bellied Starling, took place at De Mond. This data illustrates the positive birdwatching potential of the region.



4.4.8 Rare Birds and Birds Outside Their Normal Distribution Range

Although several noteworthy species outside their normal distribution range were recorded in the area this year, including the African Crake, Sooty Tern and Gull-billed Tern, it was the Macaroni penguin that attracted the most attention.

The Kleinmond area is especially fortunate to have hosted Macaroni Penguins for two consecutive years. A fully moulted individual was found on 5 March 2025 on the beach between Meer-en-See and the Hawston picnic site, and another individual on 22 February 2026 on Kleinmond Beach. This bird had not yet completed moulting.

Photos: Carin Malan

4.4.9 People

Sanjo Rose was appointed as BirdLife South Africa's Waterbird Census Coordinator, with the task of assisting Dr Giselle Murison with data and establishing a new website.

A new team was assembled for the quarterly CWAC surveys (Coordinated Waterbird Counts) at the Palmiet River mouth. Many thanks to Joan Wurr and Maaïke Murphy who served as volunteers for many years.

5. Conservation of Our Habitat

5.1 Fynbos Exhibitions

— Thea Brink

Exhibitions of local flowers began shortly after KNCS was established in 1975. Exhibitions are currently hosted at the library, the tourism office and the local golf club.

Two teams take turns every Friday to manage the exhibition at the golf club. Miemie Strydom, Yvonne van Dyk, Christa van Schalkwyk and Esmé Engelbrecht are the exhibitors. The team responsible for the library and tourism office exhibitions consists of Thea Brink, Magriet Brink, Louie Booysen and Patrys van der Walt. Unfortunately Patrys recently had to step down. We greatly miss her keen eye and enthusiasm.



People viewing the exhibitions at the three venues often express their appreciation and also ask many questions. The visitors' book at the library is used regularly. The golf club also attracts overseas visitors with an interest in the displays.

Approximately 230 different species are exhibited during the course of the year. Esmé Engelbrecht keeps a record of all the species displayed.

Unfortunately, the annual renewal of the KNCS permits to pick flowers in the Kleinmond Reserve is an extremely slow process. The Overstrand Municipality must sign the forms and CapeNature must issue the permits. The forms containing the required information have been with the municipality since January 2026.

5.2 *Erica pillansii* Project

— Christa van Schalkwyk

Many residents of Kleinmond are probably unaware of the illegal harvesting of *Erica pillansii pillansii*, which has increased over the past few years. There is even concern about the survival of this beautiful species.

In 2025 KNCS decided that action had become necessary and at the beginning of 2026 a comprehensive report was compiled on the following:

- The conservation status of *Erica pillansii pillansii*. It is regarded as threatened because it has a very limited distribution area and is endemic to the Kogelberg.
- *Erica pillansii pillansii* reproduces through seed, which usually germinates after a fire. There is concern that the illegal harvesting of flowers removes too much seed from the habitat. The reproduction of the plant may therefore come under severe pressure when the next fire occurs.



Request for Assistance Directed to CapeNature

A request was made to Mr Pierre de Villiers of CapeNature to activate Operation Phakisa, which consists of a team of all the relevant law-enforcement agencies in the relevant region with the aim of combating poaching. We were delighted when they agreed to assist us.

The initial illegal harvesting of plants during the weeks of 8 to 21 March 2026 was very noticeable. Two observers were deployed and thereafter we no longer observed as many signs of harvesting activities. Mr de Villiers stated that a team of pickers in Grabouw had been exposed, although no arrests were made. This nevertheless disrupted their activities and made them aware that they were being monitored. After that, there were no further signs of illegal harvesting activities.

Conclusion

Illegal picking did take place, but the presence of law-enforcement officials had a positive effect, and we thank Mr de Villiers and his team for making this possible.



5.3 Mimetes Park

— Magdaleen Brits

The rehabilitation of Mimetes Park is now in its seventh year and continues to produce beauty and colour in different stages and forms throughout the year.

Over time, the flowerbeds and plants have become well established, thanks to the team of hardworking volunteers who water sensitive plants throughout the

hot summer months.

Vicky Kotze (Betty's Bay Gardens) and her diligent team, sponsored by KNCS, work hard every month on the general maintenance of the park.

In March 2026, we replaced all the poles in the pathway network with stronger treated poles and crossbars. This was made possible through financial donations and the hard work of KNCS hacking-group members, volunteers and a BBGardens team.

The Overstrand Municipality's "Mowing Paused, August to November" policy, together with the signs designed, produced and installed by KNCS, yielded beautiful results. Threatened species are protected, pollinators flourish, wildflowers thrive and are given the opportunity to produce seed. It is truly a colourful success story that we would like to repeat annually.

Homeless people sleeping in the park continue to create challenges with litter. The recent storm winds also broke many shrubs and branches and caused our large information board to disappear.

Mimetes Park is increasingly succeeding in offering residents and visitors a piece of urban fynbos parkland to enjoy.

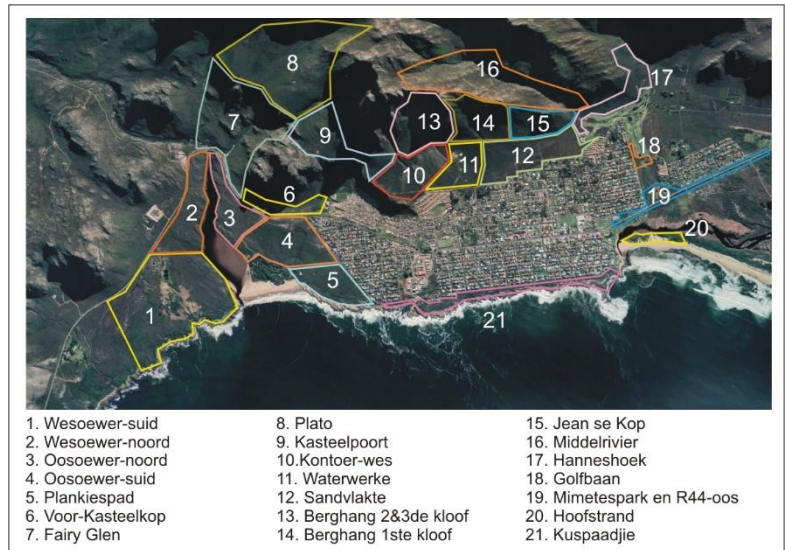


6. Control of Invasive Species

6.1 Hacking Group

— Carel Swart

The hacking group normally works on the third Tuesday of every month. A number of the volunteers also do additional ad hoc clearing on their own. This group of approximately 15 men and women removed or cut down and treated no fewer than 37,000 invasive plants with herbicide during 2025. More than 9,500 invasives have already been cleared in 2026.



The area where the hacking group works is divided into blocks, and the work is planned accordingly. Records are also kept on this basis.

Invasive vegetation is one of the greatest threats to fynbos, and ongoing vigilance and action are required to control its spread.

KNCS works closely with municipal officials (under the leadership of Timothy Europa) to combat invasive plants. The municipality appointed contractors to do follow-up work in areas near Hanneshoek, along the eastern boundary of the golf course, east of Middelriver Road, and in the coastal reserve.

It remains a problem that many of these invasive plants (especially Australian myrtle) thrive in gardens in the town and spread their seeds into the natural environment surrounding the town. Residents have repeatedly been requested either to keep their myrtle hedges trimmed to prevent seed formation or, preferably, to remove them entirely.

6.2 Arabella Golf Day 2025

Following discussions with the former general manager of Arabella Hotel, Golf & Spa, Michael Phillipson, regarding their invasive plant control along the R44, he offered KNCS the opportunity to host a sponsored golf day on their course to raise funds for the hacking group.

The event took place on 5 June 2025 with 40 players participating. Civils2000 and PSG were the



main sponsors. We are also very appreciative of several other sponsors for contributions which could be auctioned or awarded as prizes.

Fortunately the weather cooperated and the players thoroughly enjoyed the occasion.

The profit from the event was used to purchase new equipment and reflective jackets that make the work of the hacking group easier.

7. Networks

7.1 BREF (Bot River Estuary Forum)

— Carl Swart

The Bot River Estuary Forum fulfils advisory and oversight functions relating to the management of the Bot River estuary. In addition to general input, KNCS remains focused on the important role that the Kleinmond lagoon should play in estuary management.

Apart from regular matters such as water quality and quantity, several other issues were discussed:

- The establishment of riparian buffer zones around the Bot/Kleinmond system.
- The establishment of marine zones for the protection of marine resources against exploitation and disturbance.
- The extension of the Ramsar wetland to include the Kleinmond section.

The mouth of the Botvlei was artificially breached on 10 October 2025, as the criteria of the mouth management plan had been met.

CapeNature informed the forum that the Rooisand boardwalk would be repaired during the first quarter of 2025. Unfortunately, this goal was not achieved. Rooisand remains closed to the public.

7.2 Overstrand Municipality: Ward 9 Committee

— Botha Maree

Through continued representation on the ward committee, we were able to ensure that nature and environmental matters remained under the attention of municipal officials and fellow residents. These included the following issues:



7.2.1 Management Plan for the Kleinmond Coastal and Mountain Nature Reserve

Budget funding and related planning for this were requested in good time. Unfortunately, the municipal funds earmarked for this purpose were redirected during the year to essential firefighting operations within the municipal area. All preparatory actions and arrangements have since been made to enable the management plan to proceed during the coming year.

7.2.2 Illegal Housing Structures

Our ongoing concern regarding the impact of illegal structures in the Overhills community on the natural environment — such as the associated untimely fires, soil disturbance and shifting on the steep slopes above the area, and littering and other pollution — was included in the written comments and proposals we submitted as part of the public participation process linked to a comprehensive environmental impact study.

7.2.3 Plastic and Other Waste Recycling in Kleinmond

White-bag recycling in Kleinmond continues to receive support only in certain parts of our community. Attention was given to this matter through the ward committee and related municipal discussions, but there has unfortunately, been no noticeable success.

7.2.4 Invasive Plant Control by the Overstrand Municipality on Private Properties

An appropriate by-law that would enable the Overstrand Municipality to effectively control invasive plant seed sources on private properties is still lacking, partly because of constraints caused by vacant posts in the municipality's Environmental Management Department. Appropriate municipal notices to property owners requesting them, in the meantime, to remove invasive plants from their properties have had limited success.

7.2.5 Invasive Plant Control by the Overstrand Municipality on Municipal Land

Important invasive plant control work was once again carried out on municipal land by a contractor appointed and funded by the Overstrand Municipality. Planning of the areas to be covered was again done in cooperation with our society to avoid overlap and contribute to cost-effectiveness. An area of 170 hectares has already been covered this year — the largest area in the past six years — for which we are very grateful to the municipality.

7.2.6 Litter Trapping Nets

Two of the six nets installed by KNCS in 2021 were still in active use this year and were cleaned through teamwork involving KNCS members, municipal employees and members of the Strandlopers, and recyclable material was separated from the rest.

Heavy rainfall in February this year caused damage to all the nets, including those replaced and additionally installed by the Overstrand Municipality last year. The sock net in the Coastal Reserve (photo alongside) was completely washed away. Reinstallation has been requested and improvements to the system are under consideration.



7.3 Kogelberg Biosphere

Corli Hogo represented the Kogelberg Biosphere on the KNCS committee. Early in 2026 she requested to step down as a co-opted member because of her demanding schedule. We continue to keep her informed about KNCS activities and frequently consult her on matters affecting the biosphere.

A healthy relationship exists between KNCS and the Kogelberg Biosphere, and this relationship will continue to be strengthened.

7.4 Eco Ministry

— Gawie Winterbach

KNCS supports the work of the local Eco Ministry — a church-based movement — in helping to keep our environment clean.

7.4.1 Activities

Four gatherings were held during the past year, featuring the following speakers:

- Braam Hanekom on SAFCEI (South African Faith Communities Environment Institute).

- Fay van Eeden on persevering with earth care despite major challenges.
- Karen Farrel on making compost.
- Matthew Arendse on the work of the Cape Leopard Trust.

7.4.2 Information

Information about local environmental matters and interesting natural phenomena is regularly shared on the ECO WhatsApp group.

7.4.3 Clean-ups and Recycling

The Eco Ministry organises a monthly clean-up day in our town environment. During the past year 178 bags of litter (1 017 kg) and 163 bags of recyclable material (862 kg) were collected.

The *Proppies en Doppies* Project collect these items and delivers them to the Sweethearts Foundation to raise funds for wheelchairs.



7.4.4 Youth

The Eco Ministry involves young people in various activities to promote awareness and help ensure sustainable environmental conservation. The Strandlopers are a group of children who meet regularly to participate in all kinds of interesting projects.

7.4.5 General

Ministers involved in the ministry also organise church services and other events to promote environmental awareness.

The Eco Ministry gladly joins hands with organisations that are likewise committed to nature appreciation and conservation.

7.5 Outreach Programmes for Children and Young People

– Christa van Schalkwyk

World Water Day is an annual United Nations observance focusing on the importance of fresh water. The theme for 2026 was “Where water flows, equality grows”.

To celebrate the day, KNCS and the Eco Youth Ministry worked together to present programmes for 15 members of the Strandloper Eco Club and 15 Grade 7 learners from Kleinmond Primary School. The programmes were funded by KNCS and Stonefly Environmental Education and form part of KNCS’s ongoing outreach to children and young people.

The programmes were presented by Louine Boothway le Roux of Stonefly Environmental Education. She told the children about aquatic life in freshwater streams and focused



on the stonefly nymph. This nymph can survive only in very clean water and therefore serves as an indicator of good water quality.

The children then had the opportunity to find some of the organisms in the Middle River and study them through a field microscope. Because the children found the stonefly nymph (together with other organisms), they now know that the water in the stream is of excellent quality.

7.6 CREW

In 2025, the KNCS committee decided to include Kogelberg CREW (Custodians of Rare and Endangered Wildflowers) among the organisations in our network.

The CREW programme is a citizen-science initiative that involves members of the South African public in the surveying, monitoring and conservation of especially rare and threatened plants. CREW was established in 2003 as a collaborative initiative between the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) and the Botanical Society of South Africa, and operates in priority areas of the South African landscape.



The CREW programme focuses particularly on monitoring and documenting threatened plant species (ToCC), and also determines which endemic plants require conservation action.

The programme connects citizen scientists with their local conservation agencies, and especially with local stewardship groups to help ensure the conservation of key areas for threatened plant species. The detailed data collected by CREW members is widely used for national and international reporting on the status of biodiversity through the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List. In addition, occurrence records of threatened plants help to support ongoing land-use decision-making and the prioritisation of the expansion of protected areas.

Kogelberg CREW volunteers assisted KNCS during the past year by:

- Recording species in the Kleinmond Harbour area.
- Monitoring the threatened *Erica pillansii pillansii* on the plateau near Dot's Dash.
- Monitoring and recording species on the sandy plain directly north of Kleinmond.
- Meeting with CapeNature at Rooisand in response to concerns about the impact of cattle frequently seen in the area.
- Negotiations with the Overstrand Municipality that led to the identification of areas where a grass-mowing pause between August and November should be maintained to allow wildflowers and threatened plants to flower and set seed. A pause between August and February was also requested, depending on the location and target species, but with limited success.
- Monitoring work for Arabella's project where invasive plants had been removed and the veld is recovering.
- Surveys in Kleinmond's coastal reserve that directly enabled CREW, together with KNCS, to advise the municipality's team regarding the long list of invasive species emerging there.

7.7 Kleinmond Special Rating Area

KNCS works together with the Kleinmond Special Rating Area in terms of monitoring and reporting issues related to environmental wellbeing.



Until the end of October 2026 representatives of the Kleinmond Special Rating Area and KNCS met monthly with Councillor Grant Cohen and municipal officials to discuss issues relating to environmental wellbeing and to make recommendations.

Thereafter, most of the issues were reported by one of the KSRA directors, Jan Stander (also a member of the KNCS committee), by means of the Collab Citizen application or discussed directly with the relevant officials.

7.8 Overstrand Eco-Indaba

Christa van Schalkwyk represented KNCS at the Overstrand Eco-Indaba, which was held on 28 March 2026 in Pringle Bay. Approximately 45 participants from 23 organisations attended. The Indaba was organised by a steering committee consisting of Coastal Rewilding, the Rooiels Conservancy, Stonefly Environmental Education, KNCS and the De Kelders and Perlemoen Bay Ratepayers Association. Coordination and secretarial services were provided by Coastal Rewilding.

The workshop was opened by Jan Crafford of Coastal Rewilding. He emphasised the urgency of strengthening cooperation between local environmental initiatives. He pointed out that, in the absence of a unified representative body, the fragmented nature of environmental advocacy and activism in the Overstrand has contributed to environmental issues being marginalised by government authorities.

It is still early in the process for the proposed alliance, and the KNCS committee will follow developments and make decisions accordingly.

8. Media

8.1 Fynbos newsletter

Three full-colour editions of the KNCS *Fynbos* newsletter appeared in 2025 and, so far, one edition in 2026. Thea Brink is the editor. Vic Brink handled the layout until Klara Skinner took over the task from him this year. The aim is to create a balance between Afrikaans and English articles, as well as between local conservation news and news on broader conservation matters.

Fynbos is distributed by email to all KNCS members, and a link to it is also posted on social media (the Facebook pages of KNCS, Kleinmond Fynbos and Kleinmond Community), where it can be downloaded and made available to a wider readership.



8.2 Kleinmond Fynbos on Facebook

The Facebook page **Kleinmond Fynbos** was established during the COVID-19 period and since then a photograph and short description of a species flowering in the area during the relevant month has been posted every day.

The group has now grown organically to 4,367 members plus 896 visitors.



Kleinmond Fynbos

Publiek groep · 4,4 k lede



+ Nool Deel



Vic Brink

Bekyk insigte

72,2 k plasingreikwydte >

Douwina Boshoff, Sarie van Rooyen en 2,2 k ander

138 opmerkings 231 delings

Hou van

Opmerking

Deel

The most popular post since the page was created appeared on 5 February 2026 and featured the beautiful *Berzelia stokoei*. The post reach exceeded 72,000.

Berzelia stokoei occurs in the Hottentots Holland and Kogelberg mountains, and in our area one needs to put on hiking boots and tackle the trail to Drie Susters or the summit of Perdeberg during summer to find it.

The page makes a major contribution towards making people aware of the exceptional fynbos treasure in our area.

8.3 Kleinmondfynbos Website

Work began in 2022 on a website focusing on plant species in the Kleinmond area. The design was done by LoveGreen.



TUIS
SOEK
IN BLOM
BRONNELYS
KONTAK



Die Kogelberg Biosfeer bied 'n tuiste aan meer as 1 880 plantspesies waarvan 77 op geen ander plek op aarde voorkom nie.

In die kern van hierdie fynbosparadys lê Kleinmond met 'n netwerk van toeganklike voetslaanpaadjies langs die kus, langs rivieroewers, deur vleiende, oor sandvlaktes, in klowe, teen berghellings, oor plato's en tot bo-op hoe pieke. Dit bied vir natuurleefhebbers van byna enige fiksheidsgraad ongewenaarde geleenthede om die rykdom en biodiversiteit van die inheemse fynbos in sy natuurlike omgewing waar te neem.

Photographs and information from the following families have already been uploaded:

- Family *Proteaceae* (9 genera, 39 species, 156 photographs)
- Family *Ericaceae* (1 genus, 67 species, 268 photographs)
- Family *Iridaceae* (19 genera, 67 species, 268 photographs)
- Family *Bruniaceae* (3 genera, 11 species, 44 photographs)
- Family *Orchidaceae* (10 genera, 43 species, 172 photographs)

In progress:

- Family *Asteraceae* (the text for this family has been developed and suitable photographs are now being selected)

The website was officially launched during the gala opening of the KNCS 50th anniversary festival in October. From the beginning of October to the end of December 2025 it was visited by 212 users, and since the beginning of 2026 by 308 users. Visit www.kleinmondfynbos.org.za.

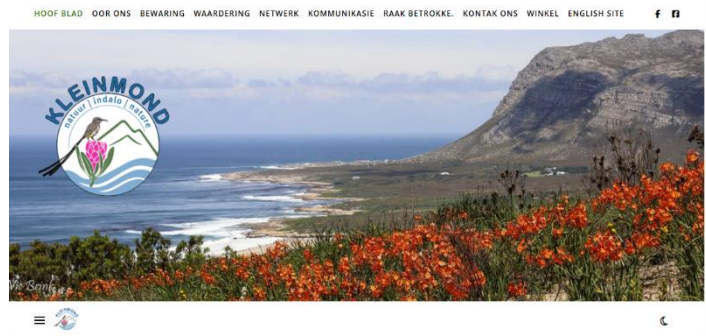
8.4 KNCS on Facebook

KNCS also has its own Facebook page, administered by Jan Stander.

The group currently has 75 members.

8.5 KNCS Website

Jan Stander also created a website (in Afrikaans and English) for KNCS. In addition to the landing page, there are various pages on which information about the activities of KNCS has been published. The latest newsletter and previous newsletters are also available for easy download and reading.



Klara Skinner made suggestions regarding upgrading the website and Facebook page to make them more accessible to the broader public. This will be done shortly.

8.6 Great Southern Bioblitz 2025

From 24 to 27 October 2025 Kleinmond residents once again participated with great enthusiasm in iNaturalist.org's "Great Southern Bioblitz". A total of 217 regions in the Southern Hemisphere took part, and the Overstrand finished first in terms of the number of observations (15,293). After the Coffs Harbour Region (Australia) and Cape Town, Overstrand placed third in terms of the number of species recorded (2,016) after the Coffs Harbour Region (Australia) and Cape Town. There were 175 observers in the Overstrand.



9. Acknowledgements

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the following:

- The members of the KNCS committee for each person's significant contribution in making the wide range of KNCS activities a success.

- The members of the Kleinmond Hiking Club who maintain the trails, and the Palmiet Boardwalk team for their work in upgrading and maintaining the boardwalk.
- The members of the KNCS hacking group for their work in keeping invasive plants under control.
- Magdaleen Brits and the Friends of Mimetes Park for their work on the restoration and upgrading of this fynbos garden.
- The volunteers who maintain the flower exhibitions.
- The volunteers involved in bird conservation activities in our area.
- The volunteers responsible for newsletters, Facebook pages, and website development.
- The representatives of the Kogelberg Biosphere, the Eco Ministry, and CREW for their continued cooperation.
- Our councillors and Overstrand Municipality officials for their support and collaboration.
- Other volunteers such as the Strandlopers, Kleinmond Primary School, and Kleinmond Laerskool who contributed to the conservation and cleanliness of Kleinmond's natural environment.
- The Kleinmond Photography Club for their contribution to the success of the KNCS 50-year celebration.
- Finally, a sincere thank you to our donors, the Frank Robb Trust and Rowland & Leta Hill Trust, the management of Arabella Hotel, Golf & Spa, organisers, sponsors and participants in the golf day, as well as various individuals and local businesses for their support.

Vic Brink

Chairperson

May 2026