



# KRUGER2CANYON

## NEWS

August 2022

The Farm House, R527, Zandspruit, Hoedspruit, Limpopo Tel 078 979 6486 email: editor@kruger2canyon.

### Celebrating our wonderful women this month



Some of our fabulous women of Hoedspruit : Louise Worthington, Dan'le Bredenkamp, Antonia Hoddinott and Dudu Mametja

Now there was a time when they used to say  
That behind every great man there had to be a great woman.  
But in these times of change  
You know that it's no longer true.  
So we're coming out of the kitchen  
'Cause there's something we forgot to say to you

We say:  
Sisters are doin' it for themselves  
Standin' on their own two feet  
an  
ringin' on their own bells.  
Sisters are doin' it for themselves  
Now this is a song to celebrate  
The conscious liberation of the female state.  
Mothers daughters and their daughters too  
Woman to woman  
We're singing with you.  
The inferior sex has got a new exterior  
We got doctors lawyers politicians too.  
Everybody take a look around  
Can you see, can you see  
Can you see there's a woman right next to you  
We say:  
Sisters are doin' it for themselves  
Now we ain't makin' stories and we  
ain't laying plans  
'Cause a man still loves a woman and  
A woman still loves a man  
Just the same though –  
Sisters are doin' it for themselves  
Now there was a time when they used to say  
Sisters are doin' it for themselves

*Sisters are doin' it for themselves*  
Eurythmics 1985

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# Letters to the editor

Dear Ed

Reading the 'Letters to the Editor' in the July addition of the Kruger2Canyon newspaper I can only second the comments about the positive change with the focus on wildlife issues in the newspaper. The July edition is full of interesting articles about wildlife and relevant information.

However there is one article that I find completely out of place, and that is the article on Page 12 titled "Utterly Confusing". The title "utterly without nuance" or "utterly ludicrous" or "racist rant" would have been more appropriate.

It's a political statement by someone who has obviously never lived in either Europe or the US. I don't pretend to be an expert on world politics, yet I have lived for years in both regions and the comments made are so ignorant and unfounded that it's embarrassing to read.

However, whether someone agrees or not with the content, I fail to understand what an article like this is doing in this local newspaper other than to provoke. It's not researched but simply copied from another newspaper without any fact checking. This makes it an opinion piece and not a news article of any value to the local audience.

I really hope that K2C will stay away from these ignorant opinion pieces in the future. It will only hurt your credibility if you don't.

Thank you for reading this.  
Christina V

Ed: Dear Christina V,  
Thank you for your letter and compliments – it's always great to hear from our readers.

One cannot condone the tirade vented forth by our Minister of Police in any way or circumstance, with

no accountability for that at all.

Naturally it generated a vast "sub press" outcry from people across the country, not to mention some within our community in the Hoedspruit surrounds, and many people asked me for personal comment.

As a publisher, and by no means a political animal or expert, I searched for comment on the incident. The one I did find was this one, and what I did find interesting was the idea that the author's bags were not yet packed. The reason why we included this article in the publication was purely from the perspective of "the grass might not be greener on the other side of the fence", which in the country that we live in today we believe to be very important and pertinent. I did get another letter on this piece that stated "...a very interesting article, the defence mechanism of incompetence is attack. Whilst the coffers are being looted we should expect that. But I suppose it might be a case of better the devil you know than the devil you don't."

As our disclaimer states, the opinions of articles published are strictly those of the authors and we as the Kruger2Canyon News will remain neutral. We always like to offer opposing viewpoints, and as long as it initiates a level of contemplation and possibly in some cases alternative thought, then I believe we have achieved something, rather than just feeding our audience what they want to hear.

Your points are well noted and thank you for taking the time to correspond with us. I hope and trust that you will continue to enjoy the publication going forward.



Dear Editor

Hoedspruit is a town known for its tourism influence which automatically brings job creation and money into the area, creating new opportunities for growth and development. Driving around town and seeing just how many tourists have returned to our shores and "going on safari in Africa", it is so easy to take things like this for granted.

With this said it is embarrassing to see the state of the road leading towards Eastgate Airport (Argyle Road / Timbavati Road). Having to travel this road daily, I have seen numerous close calls with vehicles swerving to dodge potholes – some of which are so big that they literally take up an entire lane. One needs to keep in mind that most of the vehicles that travel on these roads are carrying tourists - should there be an accident or even death occurring due to the condition of a road, which should have been maintained long before reaching this state which it is currently in. This would be the last thing South African Tourism needs right now after struggling to recover from the "Covid pandemic".

Not too long-ago Hoedspruit was in contention for "Town of the Year" with roads and infrastructure being on par, and obviously with the influx of tourists in our area. I find the current situation to be totally unacceptable and can't believe that on this road, which has so many animals on it already, that one still needs to swerve and weave around to miss the potholes.

It is of utmost importance that this matter receives the attention required in order to restore Hoedspruit to its full potential and in welcoming back all its International tourists.

The paper is amazing and

you and your team are doing a great job.

Kind regards  
Nico Pretorius -  
**Exquisite African Gifts and Curios**

Ed: Dear Nico

Thank you for your letter and kind words. I couldn't agree with you more. It's a disgrace that one of our prime routes in this area is in the condition that it is. What impression does that give to the eager and excited tourists arriving from (primarily) first-world countries? And you are right, it's only a matter of time before there is a tragedy on that road.

I will question the Mayor when I get to speak to him.



Dear Editor,

I just read the article about elephants that you guys published on the front page and I just wanted to thank you. What a great article, debunking myths, educating people about the importance these magnificent animals and for once, just saying positive things about their role, their presence and their amazing personality. Thank you for them!

Emi  
Ed: Thank you for the compliment, much appreciated.

Dear Ed

It's all very well wanting to put low-cost housing in our town, but let's just think about that – if we cannot keep a clean town now (just look at

the mess) without conservatively another 2000 people, how are we going to look then? Not to mention the increase in traffic, taxis hooting all over town, pressure on the infrastructure, light pollution, and possibly an increase in crime. Has ANYONE thought of that? I think it's a very bad idea and will only lead to a degradation of the town – and then what? And I can tell you the next properties to go will be the adjoining property next to that one on both sides – check that out Mr Mayor and the rest. What do you say to that?  
Anon

Ed: A very vociferous letter – such a pity you are 'Anon'. I think these issues need to be addressed with the Mayor, the Ward Councillor and anyone else that may enlighten us all as to the future plans. I certainly can ask the Mayor and the Councillor for their comments and let's see what we get.



Dear Ed

My husband and I have recently relocated from Johannesburg to Hoedspruit, and I am shocked at the cost of living here! I think that restaurants are overpriced and certainly the cost of fresh produce is through the roof, and it's from just down the road. I am flabbergasted to say the least and I think we are being taken for a ride because of the number of foreigners that reside in our town and come in with Dollars, Euros or Pounds – for them it's cheap. It's really not cool.  
Berny

Ed: Berny, most people (as I understand) around town totally agree with you – I have been asked on numerous occasions to do a survey on this. Maybe it is now time. I think that most people are feeling the pinch.

## Sudoku

6			7	3		5		
		7		1	2			
		4		6				
	8				6		1	
1			2			7	6	
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# Tyrian purple: The colour that changed the world

Don Pinnock

The writing you are now reading is largely due to the mucus glands near the anus of a Mediterranean sea snail, the spiny dye-murex. Small beginnings sometimes seed surprising outcomes.

Though the stories vary, all agree that it began with a dog. The Greek version is that the demigod Heracles and his dog were walking along a beach to visit a nymph. The dog gnawed on a snail and ended up with a purple mouth. When the nymph saw the colour she begged for a garment of the same colour.

In the Phoenician version, the dog belonged to Tyro, the mistress of the god Melqart who, on seeing the colour, requested a shawl of that colour.

Whoever it was who noticed the colour – and the dog on the beach story seems plausible – boiled a bucket of the snails and ended up with the finest dye the world had ever seen. In it, cloth turned an astonishing colour that didn't fade but deepened in sunlight. It would lay the foundations of the world we now live in.

The beach was on the eastern coastline of the Mediterranean, and the date probably around 1200 BC. The area consisted of a number of insignificant city-states surrounded by forest and wedged between high mountains and the sea. They had wood to trade but not much else.

The Bronze Age was falling apart for various reasons and the future of the Mediterranean cultures looked bleak. The anal secretion of the spiny dye-murex, used as a defence, would change all that. It would produce what became known as Tyrian Purple.

Extracting enough dye from the small gland of a moderate-sized mollusc required a lot of snails and a good deal of fortitude. It's said to have taken 10 000 snails to yield one gram of pure dye, enough to colour only the trim of a single garment. These numbers are supported by the quantity of discarded shells which, at Sidon in Lebanon for example, created a mountain 40 metres high.

The dye could be collected by "milking" the snails through irritating them,



'The Discovery of Purple', the 1636 painting by Theodor van Thulden housed at Museo del Prado. Image: Wikimedia



Murex shell. Image: Supplied / Thames & Hudson Australia / Adrian Lander

which was labour intensive. But, as demand grew, the preferred method was to crush them and leave them to rot.

This produced a hideous stench, which might explain why the dye works were 14 kilometres south of the city at Sarepta. So pervasive was this smell that the Jewish Talmud specifically granted women the right to divorce any husband who became a dyer after marriage.

News of beautiful purple Phoenician cloth began to spread. Its rarity ensured high value and on its trade the Phoenician empire began to emerge.

The dye was so sought after it would become more valuable, weight for weight, than silver or gold. Tyrian purple became a status symbol representing power, prestige and wealth. Only royalty was permitted to wear the colour and their children were said to be "born in the purple".

Being clad in purple was a statement – and an affront. Julius Caesar is named as the first person to wear an all-purple toga purpurea. King Ptolemy of Mauretania wore one and it cost him his life. According to the Ro-

man historian Suetonius, Ptolemy's sartorial decision to wear purple on a visit to the Emperor Caligula, was interpreted as an act of imperial aggression and he had his guest killed. Purple, it seems, was also to die for.



The silk shroud of Charlemagne made with gold and Tyrian purple. Image: Supplied / Musée National du Moyen Âge



Last Judgement by Michelangelo with Christ in royal purple. Image: Supplied



A "fleet" of Greek triremes is shown in a multiple image of the reconstructed ship "Olympias," a faithful recreation of the Ancient Greek trireme which enabled the rise of Athens as a great power. Image: Supplied / ED-SITEMent-reconstructed



Phoenician trade routes. Image: Wikipedia

It's a colour so subtle that, even today, it cannot be accurately rendered on a standard RGB computer monitor.

The Phoenicians were quick to use their discovery to advantage. With their

plentiful cedar trees and a product more valuable than gold, they built magnificent ships for trading and war. Their vessels were faster than any other, with an ingenious underwater "beak" that cut water ahead of the hull and spiked enemies.

They invented the trireme, which was regarded as the most advanced and powerful vessel in the ancient Mediterranean world, and was eventually adopted by the Greeks. They also developed the keel and pegged mortice, and tenon joints which served as a construction standard until late into the Roman Empire.

The amphora, a type of container used for both dry and liquid goods, was a Phoenician invention and became a standardised measurement of volume for close to 2000 years.

Braving the seas beyond the sight of land, they advanced westwards, establishing trading ports at Cyrene (Libya), Carthage (Tunisia), Tingi (Morocco), Sardinia, Crete and Sicily, powered by the sale of Tyrian purple.

For more than 1000 years they were lords of the Mediterranean, and the greatest

traders the world had seen, growing immensely rich. They helped to facilitate the exchange of cultures, ideas and knowledge between major cradles of civilization such as Greece, Egypt and Mesopotamia.

Such complex trade needed records and their merchants adapted a clunky Canaanite script into a simple, 22-letter alphabet to do the job. Its system was phonetic, based on sounds and not objects, unlike the more cumbersome Chinese.

The world's oldest verified alphabet, it spread across the Mediterranean, giving rise to Greek, Italic, Anatolian, Paleohispanic and the script you're reading. But for that lowly snail on a Tyrian beach, you might be reading this in complex hieroglyphics.

Under threat from envious, warlike neighbours, the people of the seafaring city states relocated to Carthage where, in 146 BC, they were crushed by Rome. They are remembered today by the name given to them by the Greeks: Phoenicians – meaning People of Purple.

This article was first published in the Daily Maverick

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# Shaping Southern Africa's greatest sanctuary for transfrontier vultures

Peace Parks Foundation

*In an innovative partnership with BirdLife South Africa, Peace Park Foundation's progress in restoring Zinave National Park shows how nature nurtures vultures when given a chance.*

Ask any global citizen – from any rural or urban part of the world – what they value highly in their lives and homes: security and resources. The freedom to exist in a safe, abundant space. This survival drive and right is common to all species, but those with a history of acute persecution need protecting and providing for more than most, and now more than ever.

This reality is making for a powerful match between a famously misunderstood bird and one of Mozambique's lesser known but flourishing wild spaces. Zinave National Park, that owns precious shares in the greater space of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area (GLTFCA), has been a biodiversity work-in-progress, and inspiration since 2016 when Mozambique's National Administration for Conservation Areas and Peace Parks' long-term agreement to co-manage the 408 000 ha open system, came about. So began an intensive programme to operationally rebuild and ecologically restore the park. Following transformative infrastructure, conservation management and law enforcement enhancements, more than 2300 game animals representing 14 different species were reintroduced into the park. And now it is ready to safely embrace vultures, numbering at least 2 endangered species - hopefully more in time.

To do so effectively, Zinave has become a Vulture Safe Zone (VSZ) – now the largest of its kind in southern Africa. This collaborative project between Peace Parks and BirdLife South Africa is the latest adventure for an emerging park in fulfilling its rich potential; an especially challenging and exciting opportunity for a number of reasons.

**Persecuted and underestimated**

As raptors go, vultures have had a seriously bad rap. Branded bottom-feeders, poachers' whistle-blowers and totems of muthi-power, they have been intentionally used and abused,

and exposed to incidental risk. Each of the nine species existing across southern Africa have suffered to varying degrees. Of these, four are considered Critically Endangered by the IUCN's Red List and BirdLife International, but no species is secure: the net loss is deeply significant. Because removing vultures from the picture, as humans have been with fierce consistency, leaves a debt of 'ecosystem services' that we can't afford.

In short, if vultures disappeared from the landscape, more than the mighty scavengers would fall. Unprocessed, turned rotting meat would fall prey to disease-causing agents, becoming a serious health risk to other animals as well as to humans.

Compounding the consequences of this, the absence of vultures could see the guild of scavenging mammals, such as jackal and feral dogs, exploit the new abundance of carrion, proliferate and further amplify disease risk. The viruses they transmit could bust populations of certain endangered species, and impact humans too. These checks and balances, or 'nature contributions', will be impossible or enormously costly to replace once they are lost.

Wild spaces are fed by food webs of unimaginable complexity. Ecosystems maintain equilibrium because of nutrients traveling back and forth from one state to another – these elements and their momentum play the most vital role in keeping the ecosystem functioning. This process is known as nutrient cycling and it is fundamental in powering up the parks and every dependent species. The 'nutrient potential' of bodies on the ground can't be accessed without the broader scavenger system in place.

Predators have always held a prominent – iconic – place in the food hierarchy. Scavengers less so, with lowly detritivores the lowest of the low. Throughout southern African habitats, vultures sweep into the feeding system's pecking order and work it uniquely – but never in isolation.

The subtleties of these interactions between elements – and species – are so ingenious that they're often overlooked and undervalued. Scavengers are opportunists all-round – they ex-

plot carrion, and each other, so conserving one (or not) naturally impacts another.

Case in point, vultures have a reciprocal relationship with hyenas: not a close symbiotic association, and certainly not friends, but scavengers with mutual benefits. Bone-crushing, a characteristic feeding behaviour of hyenas, feeds directly into vultures' systems – making carcasses more accessible, therefore nutrients more available. Teeth and jaws beat beaks when it comes to making the first move on a kill: tearing through tough skin to expose the buffet but also breaking whole bones into fragments, fit for a raptor designed to do things slightly differently. A good thing then, that just two years ago, Peace Parks and ANAC successfully brought back hyena to the Zinave after decades of absence, with cubs added to the troop recently. A vulture exposé recently published in the Journal of Animal Ecology, revealed how these dynamics play out in the hyenas' favour in return: how ground-based scavengers use soaring birds of prey as their eyes in the sky to find their next dining spot. The study revealed that both jackals and hyenas were spying on vultures, gaining valuable information about carrion resources: how to find the bigger spoils, faster. Impressively, they could differentiate between vultures, signalling relatively large dead animals, and eagles, which look similar but prefer smaller prey.

Each to their niche, which makes a powerful case for an abundance of different species in any given space. Logically these vital gains, on all sides, grow in step with biological diversity. The incoming vultures stand to benefit from all the hard restoration and rewilding work, whilst the park's pre-existing wildlife will reap rewards from vultures in return.

**Paving the way to safety and beyond**

In essence, the value of any wild space is far more than the sum of its parts. With vultures alone being so precious to an ecosystem, this gives impressive context to Zinave's net biodiversity worth, and valuable role it has to play as part of something even greater.

The philosophy sitting right at

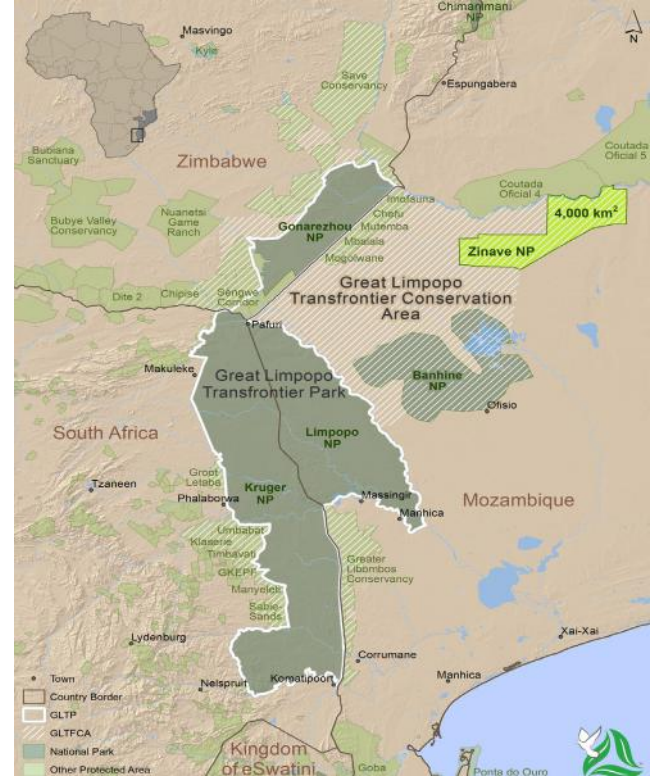
the heart of Peace Parks Foundation, and the partners it is fortunate to collaborate with, is essentially one of 'breathing space'. Working to connect – reconnect, rewild – Africa's wilderness areas, seeing frontiers as gateways as opposed to barriers to nature. Transfrontier Conservation Areas seek to replace disparity and instability, amongst wildlife and people, with harmony; by definition, it is a process which goes with the flow – of expanded ecosystems and unconstrained species.

Wildlife corridors, on the ground and in the air, exemplify this need for flow, and data collected by the Endangered Wildlife Trust on vulture movements proves it: a vital identifiable flight path from Kruger National Park in South Africa, into Zinave across the GLTFCA.

The White-backed Vulture and the White-headed Vulture, both listed as 'critically endangered', are the two best-known species to run this gauntlet. Within 2 days individuals can traverse a cross-border route to Mozambique that also includes stopovers in Zululand and Zambia, flying over a heavily fragmented landscape. This is a notable detail since, to protect vultures urgently, effective initiatives must cover not only great spaces, parks and reserves, but also pockets of privately-owned land. With multiple landowners under their flight path, this doesn't make negotiations, monitoring or impact control – all core facets of VSZs – straightforward.

The vast flight corridor is littered with threats such as targeted poisoning, secondary poisoning (via carcasses of assumed livestock predators killed by illegally laced meat) and death by poachers for 'belief-use' body parts, and to eliminate the 'tell' posed by vultures flocking to poaching sites.

Faced with so many geographical and criminal challenges, BirdLife's task is as expansive as the vultures' range itself, particularly given its more inaccessible areas. The recovery of sick and injured birds is compromised by immense challenges of covering the ground, which lends significance to the support of conservation allies, such as Peace Parks Foundation that not only operates in, but also along, the other safe ha-



GLTFCA Zinave Map Images: Zinave

vens and corridors on the flight-path into Zinave.

This partnership is especially central to the overarching concept of VSZs - which in theory and reality must both complement and amplify national and international efforts to reduce risk and impact, and thereby stabilise – revitalise – existing vulture populations. It is a formal partnership that extends to protecting and strengthening Key Biodiversity Areas, collaborating on policy issues, and developing birding tourism routes, which all collectively serve to increase the protection of bird species within transfrontier conservation areas across southern Africa. With a scarcity of data on vulture numbers and dynamics across the GLTFCA to date, this new collaboration is a precious chance to observe, and measure, how the protection of crucial raptors in safe havens like Zinave can contribute to healthy populations and balanced ecosystems across the region.

**Putting the 'Safe' into a Vulture Safe Zone**

There are 15 current criteria having to be met in order to qualify as a VSZ. Of primary importance is the banning of illegal use of poison in any way that infiltrates vulture food webs, accompanied by training in poison response and protocol amongst staff. Added to this is increased awareness of monitoring and protective measures around power lines to prevent electrocution.

Then there's feeding (supplementary) and breeding (undisturbed), and fitting water reservoirs with escape ladders to prevent birds from drowning. Ensuring that lead-free ammunition is used (or removing lead poison from carcasses) to cull or hunt game or livestock and, as an ongoing effort, monitoring of populations and reporting of injuries and mortalities. The latter is known to be a particular challenge, but it is a vital condition for vulture safety, and one which BirdLife is determined to enable all along the vulture 'flyway'.

Certain VSZ conditions aren't entirely relevant to the park: the threat of water troughs or power lines for example. And there is no commercial hunting in Zinave, although lead ammunition is used for game management and law enforcement purposes.

In terms of fulfilling other criteria, Zinave is on top of their game, and the training of staff and supporting of standards is making great progress with the invaluable help and expertise of the Endangered Wildlife Trust.

The commitment to protect such a boundless species is a complex and overwhelming but, above all, an exciting big picture for these tragically underestimated raptors. It is more than just a story of birds, or the cycle of nutrients, or the reputation of an emerging park. It's about the safety of a uniquely special place which sits right at the heart of a much broader circle of life.

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SOLE MANDATE

**HOEDSPRUIT WILDLIFE ESTATE** R 4 250 000  
Bedroom 4 | Bathroom 2 | Floor: 267 m<sup>2</sup>

This home has a spacious patio area overlooking the wilderness area; making it very private. The home comprises 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and an open plan lounge and kitchen area with guest toilet, with the potential for B&B operation.

Mike Dodds - 082 906 7004 Ref: 1323091



SOLE MANDATE

**KHAYA NDLOVU RESERVE** R 8 850 000  
3 Bedrooms | 3.5 Bathrooms | Floor size: 340 m<sup>2</sup>

This modern, elegant bush home has been built on the banks of a dry riverbed in this sought-after reserve. It offers spectacular views with loads of entertainment space. The reserve is 1,307 ha in size with only 35 stands. Home is sold furnished.

Yvette Thompson - 083 655 7176 Ref: 2028774



SOLE MANDATE

**LISSATABA** R 2 200 000  
Bedrooms 3 | Bathrooms 2 | Floor size: 180 m<sup>2</sup>

This unfenced well-maintained camp has a true bush feel. The buildings are built with solid rock and thatch which keeps them insulated and cool in summer. The thatch patio has spectacular views of the Drakensberg Mountains.

Rob Severin - 083 469 3820 Ref: 1408817



SOLE MANDATE

**NDLOPFU, UMBABAT** R6 800 000  
Vacant stand in Big 5 reserve | Greater Kruger

Only 32 member sites and 2,864 hectares of traverse across pristine bushveld. The building regulations give you the freedom to create your own private bushveld home within a 50m radius from the allocated building peg.

Yvette Thompson - 083 655 7176 Ref: 2055214



SOLE MANDATE

**OLIFANTS RIVER PROPERTY** R 4 500 000  
Bedrooms 4 | Bathrooms 4 | 50% share

By purchasing this 50% share in Parsons Nature Reserve you will have access to 2080 ha of prime Big 5 game viewing in Greater Kruger. This quaint bush home also has a lapa, pool and lush garden. The sale includes the use of a game view vehicle.

Mike Dodds - 082 906 7004 Ref: 2048251



SOLE MANDATE

**HOEDSPRUIT WILDLIFE ESTATE** R 2 300 000  
Bedrooms 2 | Bathrooms 1

This home is tucked away on a 4900m<sup>2</sup> stand with lovely big trees. The home has a living room, kitchen, bathroom with outside shower, as well as an outside dining area on the patio with a built-in braai. A single carport completes the property.

Delaine Muller - 072 117 1133 Ref: 2052166

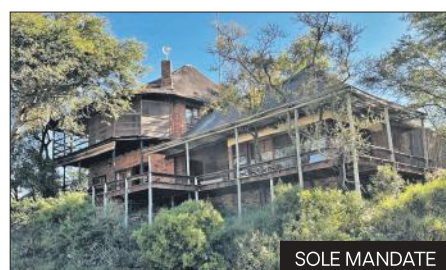


SOLE MANDATE

**GREATER MAKALALI** R 20 000 000  
Bedrooms 5 | Bathrooms 5 | Farm size: 640 ha

This farm within Greater Makalali Nature Reserve, which has the Big 5 with 20,000 ha of traverse. Approvals in place for 10 commercial beds. There is a main 2-bedroom home and 3 guest chalets. Ideal for syndication, families, or convert to boutique commercial lodge.

Jason Jones - 083 267 4794 Ref: 1459112



SOLE MANDATE

**NDLOPFU, UMBABAT** R 11 500 000  
Bedrooms 4 | Bathrooms 3.5 | Floor size: 240 m<sup>2</sup>

The house is privately situated on the banks of the seasonal 'Tsiri river. Ndlopfu is a share block in the heart of a Big 5 Greater Kruger, with only 32 member sites on 2,500 ha of pristine bushveld in the sought-after Umbabat Private Nature Reserve.

Yvette Thompson - 083 655 7176 Ref: 2032793



SOLE MANDATE

**N'TSIRI NATURE RESERVE** R 7 000 000  
Bedrooms 4 | Bathrooms 2.5 | Traverse: 2651 ha

N'tsiri Nature Reserve is an exclusive, private use, Big 5 reserve where wildlife roam freely across the unfenced borders with the Kruger National Park, Klaserie & Timbavati Private Nature Reserves. Membership is limited to 65 homes.

Yvette Thompson - 083 655 7176 Ref: 1450349



SOLE MANDATE

**SILONQUE, PHALABORWA** R2 950 000  
Bedrooms 2 | Bathrooms 2 | Floor size: 160 m<sup>2</sup>

Easy to maintain bush home located on a 21 ha farm portion within a conservancy and 3 kms from the Kruger Park fence. It's located 7 km from the town of Phalaborwa and within a conservancy with a boomed security gate & a large variety of game.

Mike Dodds - 082 906 7004 Ref: 1317289



SOLE MANDATE

**LISSATABA** R 1 500 000  
Bedrooms 2 | Bathroom 1 | Floor size: 107 m<sup>2</sup>

This lock up and go two-bedroom bush home has a lot of potential! The perfect spot where you can come & relax, away from the stresses of city life. The reserve is 2,500ha in size & has only 54 sites. There is an excellent network of game drive roads.

Rob Severin - 083 469 3820 Ref: 1449027



SOLE MANDATE

**LISSATABA** R 3 500 000  
Bedrooms 3 | Bathrooms 3 | Floor size: 220 m<sup>2</sup>

Stunning Olifants river views! This newer home has been well constructed, is in good condition and is perched on the hillside overlooking the river. There is an open plan kitchen, dining room & lounge, leading out to a patio with gorgeous views.

Rob Severin - 083 469 3820 Ref: 1458608



SOLE MANDATE

**WILD FIG APARTMENTS** R 780 000  
Bedrooms 2 | Bathroom 2 | Floor size: 96 m<sup>2</sup>

This 3rd floor apartment is in good condition and well maintained. The comfortable living area comprises kitchen, lounge & dining area. Both bedrooms have built-in cupboards and ceiling fans. Great investment potential from rental income.

Michelle Severin - 083 469 3821 Ref: 2059235



SOLE MANDATE

**MAFUNYANE, KARONGWE** R 15 000 000  
Bedrooms 4 | Bathrooms 4 | Traverse: 8,000 ha

This property is stunning and has a wow factor that will take your breath away! Very exclusive, modern bush home, overlooking a seasonal river bed, located in a Big 5 reserve with 8,000 ha traverse. Sold furnished & including game viewer.

Rob Severin - 083 469 3820 Ref: 1443333



SOLE MANDATE

**NDLOVUMZI** R 3 950 000  
Bedrooms 4 | Bathrooms 3 | Floor size: 380 m<sup>2</sup>

This 21-ha Olifants river property has a 2 bedroom main home and a separate 2-bedroom cottage, all located under large indigenous riverine trees. The outdoor entertainment area has captivating views of the garden, pool & river.

Jason Jones - 083 267 4794 Ref: 1459005



SOLE MANDATE

**GRIETJIE, GREATER KRUGER** R 8 800 000  
Big 5 | Floor size: 400 m<sup>2</sup> | Stand size: 21.4 ha

This property offers elevated views of the surrounding bushveld, with peace and quiet only the bushveld can provide. This beautifully maintained property offers 3 dwellings - a 3-bedroom main home, a 2-bedroom cottage and a rondavel.

Yvette Thompson - 083 655 7176 Ref: 2050020

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# A tribute to Anton Mazimba-ranger

Mark Bishop

There are very few people in the world that make such an impression on you, that you will remember them for the rest of your life.

Anton Mzimba was one of these people. Born on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 1980, here was a man that believed he had a God-given talent to protect and conserve wild-life.

As a young boy he remembered always being in awe of soldiers, their uniform, their pride their strength and their energy, and he wanted that for his life. He never did get to be a conventional soldier, but rather viewed his duty as similar but in a completely different way – a unique blend of passion, empathy, sincerity,

and desire to look after the planet’s natural resources. And so he became a Field Ranger, uniformed, armed, strong, proud, humble and with an energy that was forever giving. This was Anton Mzimba – a person that followed his dream, inspired the youth and elderly, and a person that dedicated his life to protect the animals and wildlife around him, that had no voice of their own.

Throughout his life Anton was passionate about what he did, and he had an insatiable willingness to learn and do more. He never shied away from responsibility and his beliefs that at the end of the day mankind had been given the power to rule the land but had to protect it all.



John Jurko II - Anton Mzimba - Matt Lindenberg by Global Conservation Corps



## Property Portfolio

Hoedspruit & Surrounding Areas. The Property Market is booming and is considered a great investment. Listed below are a few of this areas incredible homes.



Ref# 1hs1572488

**R3.8 million**  
Hoedspruit Wildlife Estate  
3 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms / 2 Garages  
Set on a quiet area of the estate with beautiful, treed garden. Large patio, pool, laundry, scullery and storeroom.

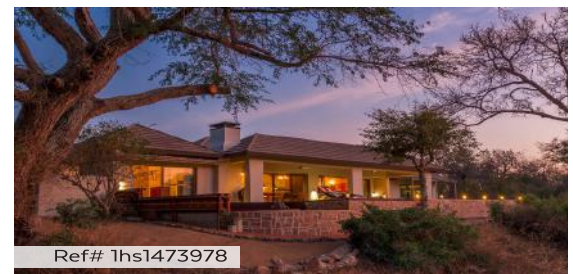
Belinda +27 (0)76 479 8906



Ref# 1hs1577130

**R3.35 million**  
Hoedspruit Wildlife Estate  
3 Bedrooms / 1 Bathrooms / 2 Carports  
Neat home set in lovely fenced garden on a bigger than normal stand in a quiet area of the estate. Lovely mountain views

Engela +27 (0)82 565 3611  
Tracy +27 (0)72 223 0520



Ref# 1hs1473978

**R8.9 million**  
Moditlo Big Game Estate  
3 Bedrooms / 3 Bathrooms / 3 Carports  
This exceptional home is set on 1.85ha, offering total privacy. Overlooking a dry riverbed and the bush beyond

Engela +27 (0)82 565 3611



Ref# 1hs1573040

**R4.95 million**  
Blyde Wildlife Estate  
4 Bedrooms / 3 Bathrooms / 3 Carport  
In a quiet area of the etstate. Separate Cottage, scullery, office, storeroom, loft. This home offers so much.

Tracy +27 (0)72 223 0520



Ref# 1hs1580808

**R3.75 million**  
Blyde Wildlife Estate  
3 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms / Pool  
This modern newly built house has everything a homeowner will need. Lovely open plan living room with lots of space

Erich +27 (0)73 502 0407  
Tracy +27 (0)72 223 0520

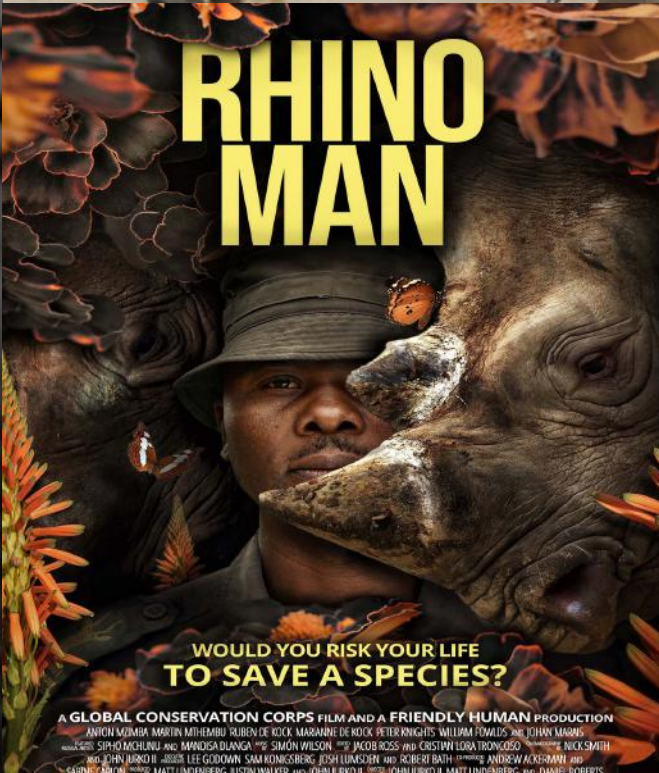
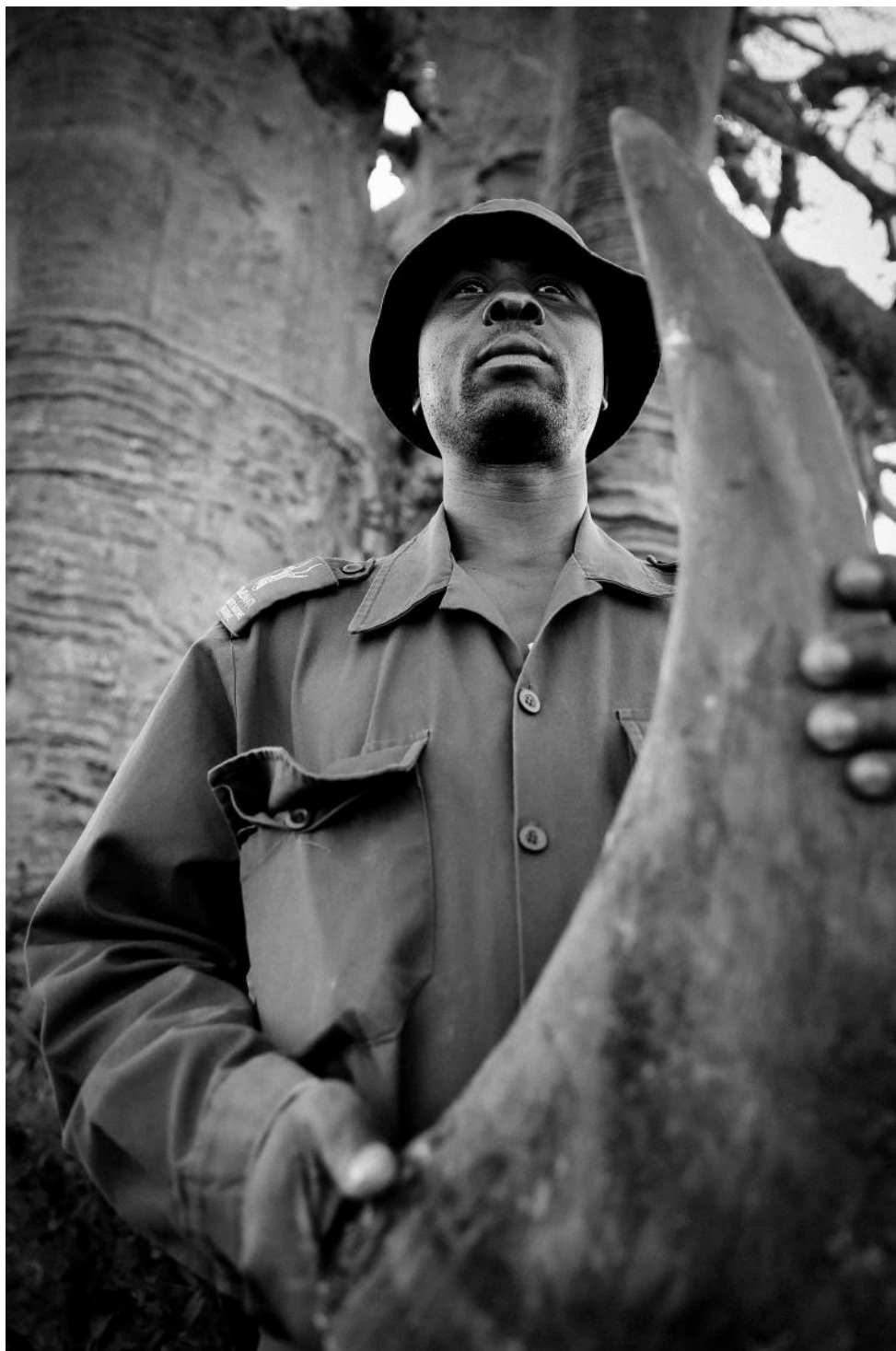


Ref# 1hs1573196

**R5.499 million**  
Hoedspruit Wildlife Estate  
4 Bedrooms / 4 Bathrooms / 2 Garages  
This 600m<sup>2</sup> home includes extras such as, entertainment area with media room, kitchenette, solarium, workshop and more

Tom +27 (0)79 069 7700

# leader, motivator, husband, father, friend



Anton Mzimba with rhino horn by Nick Smith Global Conservation Corps (above left) RHINO MAN Poster by Marcel van Luit and Emma Gatland (above)

“I’m protecting the natural resources from those that want to loot it” he once said.

Anton began his career as a ranger mid 1997, passed his basic field ranger training in 1998 and by 2003 had been promoted to full Corporal and an instructor within the Field Ranger program in the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve. He was intricately involved in maintaining a level of physical and mental fitness. This came together with ensuring good, motivation, morale and work ethics that are all essential in making a professional, capable, and effective unit. Five years later in 2008 he was appointed as the head of ranger services in the reserve. Later Anton was also appointed as technical advisor to Global Conservation Corporation (GCC), keeping them up to date with challenges the people and animals were facing inside and outside of the park. Anton also played a leading role in a forthcoming documentary film ‘RHINO MAN’, which highlights the trials and tribulations of field rangers in South Africa, in their fight to protect the rhinos from poachers.

Anton believed that the life

of a ranger needed heart and passion – it’s was a calling fraught with danger in the field and at home in the community. As a ranger one must be on a state of alertness 24/7. At home with his family, he was well aware that there were, in his opinion three groups of people within the community. Firstly, those that viewed the field rangers as good. Then there were those that believe that they are being excluded from access to the natural resources like game meat, firewood, grass, and soil. The last group are neutral and are not interested in anything regarding wildlife and poaching.

The problem group for rangers and for Anton, was the second group, because rangers are perceived by this group as being bad people – and this group will go out of their way to harm rangers, be it physically or emotionally – all in the quest that the rangers will lose the passion for what they do, which will open up the chances (or floodgates) for poaching and illegal wildlife trade.

Anton goes on to make the point that rangers spend long periods of time out of their comfort zone and away

from families and friends. When they enter back into their communities, they must set up boundaries and almost place themselves in a bubble, on an island with a degree of isolation within their own community. One never knows what the people within the community are thinking or perceiving – is a very emotive and emotional journey – to the point where rangers almost feel disregarded by the community that they live in, because of the job that they do.

Being a ranger requires a person to be strong with a strong heart, otherwise they will never overcome the pressures and responsibilities and they will ultimately crumble. “I know from my heart that this is not just for me, but for the whole world and in the end for the human race. What I do will have an effect on the world for generations to come – well after I am gone”, said Anton. He continues “what we would really like to know is that we are appreciated – small acknowledgements keep us going”.

Anton explains that there are reasons for poaching, it’s not done for fun. The

challenges in the communities are there, and poverty is the main one. In fact, it could almost be credited for all the other misdemeanours in the community. Poverty is brought on by overpopulation and the coupled effect on the level of unemployment.

If there is nothing to eat what should people do? They will do whatever it takes to survive, and the multimillion-dollar crime syndicates know this. Poverty makes people vulnerable, and these are the people targeted by the syndicates and recruited to poach. These people have no real future and finding something to eat is as simple as it gets. These people are not inherent poachers, but when offered relatively small money to get a rhino horn, which potentially means food on the table, they become easy pickings. These people have no alternative and that’s the biggest challenge going forward.

In an attempt at bettering the lot of the communities in the vicinity of the reserve, Timbavati has an ‘Outreach’ program that endeavours to deal with some of the problems in the communities around the reserve. One of

the things they do, is trying to target employment in the lodges in the Timbavati from the local communities. This has an indirect aim of also getting communities to understand that wildlife and conservation is vital to their survival and getting them to buy into conservation activities. At the end of the day preservation and conservation will lead to tourism, which in turn will lead to employment which will lead to income and food on the plate!

Sadly, the dream, dedication and passion did not last – this ranger, Anton Mzimba, a person that totally grasped the natural and economic dynamic of conservation, who was absolutely incorruptible, and who gave 25 years of service to the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve, all in a fight for a better future for us all, was brutally murdered in his own home and in front of his family, on the evening of July 26<sup>th</sup>. A unique soul that through the injustices of fate, has been lost to the world forever.

The GCC released a statement which in part reads: “This tragic loss serves as a painful and sobering re-

minder of the danger that Anton and other brave wildlife defenders face every day. Over 150 rangers around the world have lost their lives in the past 12 months. It is perhaps poetic that Anton’s memorial service is on World Ranger Day 2022. We chose this day to launch the ‘Anton Mzimba Education Trust’ - a trust that will help support his children’s education and immediate future while supporting his life’s passion in the long-term; inspiring youth to love wildlife as he did. Our goal is \$100,000 to immediately establish a sustainable endowment fund.

All funds raised in Anton’s Legacy will go directly to GCC and then wholly transferred into the newly forming “Anton Mzimba Education Trust”. Founding trustee’s include the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve, Southern African Wildlife College, Elephants Alive and GCC - all of whom were extremely close with Anton and his community.

It is also imperative to know that the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve is spearheading a parallel fundraising campaign to ensure the family’s immediate needs are met. Funds are dedicated to trauma counselling for the entire family, and ensuring the basic cost of living support is provided.

Anton, we love you. We miss you. We promise to honour you by carrying on your legacy and protecting the vulnerable wildlife you sacrificed your life to save. We will never forget you...”

*Note: We strongly urge people, businesses and corporates to donate. A convenient link has been set up on [www.antonmzimba.com](http://www.antonmzimba.com) for donations. GCC are happy to announce that they have secured a ‘double impact’ donor that will match anyone’s donation to the trust. The site also has a link to the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve’s campaign.*



Mark Bishop

Kruger2Canyon News would like all its readers to celebrate Women's Month (August) and give acknowledgement and credit to the wonderful people in our lives that are women, grandmothers, aunts, mothers, wives, friends, lovers, partners, teachers, whoever they may be. Thank you for being in our lives as support, comfort and guidance – we admire and love you all.

To celebrate this women's month, we had randomly chosen six outstanding women (from a pack of 50+) that are 'doing it for themselves' and making dust in Hoedspruit. We appreciate their honest answers to our questions, and we introduce them to you, as amazing women all within their own fields, that have got down and made it happen. Unfortunately two of the ladies had urgent matters to deal with and missed the photo shoot, so maybe next time for them.

#### Louise Worthington

Born and bred in Johannesburg, Louise is a 26 ... (sorry small typo!) 53 year old single mother of two children, a daughter of 22 and a son of 12. She did live in Europe for eight years but the pull of South Africa was always there and eventually won out, and she returned. Louise owns Chickshack Interiors.

Louise is the quintessential entrepreneur having started her first business whilst at school making matric dance dresses! This led on to her creating her own clothing range.

Leaving school she really



Louise Worthington

wanted to be a lawyer but her entrepreneurial yearnings were stronger and got the better of her, and she was eager to go out and start her own business. She did do a short stint in advertising (2 years) where she learnt a tremendous amount about marketing and production. And then she got involved in the exhibition industry, which was a fabulous ride for about 25 years. But that industry changed and Louise's passion for creation got the better of her and she moved into interior design. Here she has focussed largely on lodges, new homes and specialised spaces.

The exhibition industry was/is a very male dominated space and at times this was tedious. The nature of exhibition design, and production of custom stands was predominantly

construction, and many hours spent on site. Louise had the impression that a lot of men felt that a young blond women simply didn't understand what needed to be done, and couldn't possibly engage with carpenters, joiners and builders. That was where the male dominance factor came into play. But now she doesn't have those experiences in the interior design game, possibly because she views it as a combination of being a women dominated industry, and over the years her development of the confidence and skills to navigate around any male dominance issue.

Her solution to deal with male dominance was to simply put her head down and succeed in the industry. It took time but her male colleagues came to respect and acknowledge her success.



Dani'le Bredenkamp

Louise is of the belief that handling adversity is something one gets better at as one gets older and has more experience under one's belt. She is not afraid of confrontation, so has never shied away from confronting difficult situations or people. Louise is a person that always tries to get to an outcome that benefits both parties.

She believes that being a women most definitely has its advantages, but then so does being a man in different situations. In her view her greatest achievements are without a doubt her two beautiful children followed closely by the very special friendship I have cultivated with her ex-husband.

Louise's life quote comes from Clarissa Pinkola Estés: "She is clothed in strength and dignity and she laughs without fear of the future"

#### Dani'le Bredenkamp

Dani'le is the co-owner of the Hoedspruit Spar. She is 40 years old, married and has two children, Marko (13) and Emilie (9)

Dani'le hails from the northern Cape, Warrenton to be more specific. This is almost midway between Vryburg and Kimberley, for those that have no clue where it is!

The dreams were big for her as a child, she wanted to be the next Charlize Theron! At a point in time, she decided that being the next Charlize was not for her - although she has managed to keep hold of that 'dramatic streak'!

Dani'le did a graphic design course through University of Cape Town, completed the SPAR Management Induction Program in 2006 and is currently busy with a Group Exercise Instructor course.

She's been in her own

business for the last 16 years before which she obtained her grounding as PA and Administration Clerk at Lebombo Bananas, in Komatipoort. Dani'le is very lucky to not have been subjected to any male domination. Being part of a family business now, she is very fortunate to work alongside some amazing men. All opinions matter, and all decisions are taken with the input from everyone. She also has great men on her team at the workplace, all of whom are very respectful and courteous.

In terms of handling adversity, Dani'le tries to bring in some humor and then will always try and look at a situation from all sides before making any decisions. She has always tried to look at adversity not as problem but rather as a challenge.

Like others in the group, Dani'le does believe that being a woman in retail has its advantages. Women know what other women want and buy, what products they use and that they as the fairer sex like beautiful things. She is always trying to source interesting, beautiful products for her store – that's the part of the job that she loves the most.

Without any shadow of doubt Dani'le views her two children, Marko and Emilie, as her biggest achievement. Seeing them grow into being kind-hearted youngsters, overcoming obstacles, handling challenges, growing and being happy makes her the happiest, and is for her, the most important thing.

Her life quote is by Andy Andrews: "Life itself is a privilege, but to live life to the fullest - well, that is a choice".





Antonia Alexandra Hoddinott

**Antonia Alexandra Hoddinott**

Antonia is a multifaceted entrepreneur. She is the owner and founder of The Farmery, The Farm House, Antonia's Botanicals, and Après Pre-loved Clothing and Home-ware.

Antonia is 37 years old, married and mother of two children, Elijah (4) and Alessia (2). She was brought up on a farm in Muldersdrift outside of Johannesburg. Growing up she always wanted to be an entrepreneur in hospitality.

Antonia did two years of study at Stellenbosch University before completing a BComm in Business, Marketing and Entrepreneurship and finally an MBA at Bond University Gold Coast in Australia. She then went to chef school in the United States.

She started her first business, Leafy Greens Café and Shop (vegan) in 2010.

Antonia is quite candid in revealing that she experienced male domination from her father when they were in business together. This they managed through therapy,

the power of family and at the end of the day, love prevailed. Antonia has never entertained and worried about adversity, or what people have thought of her. She has followed her heart and stayed true to her goals and dreams.

She believes that being a woman has always been an advantage – "I was born that way, I have celebrated it and never questioned it. I have been lucky to have had two fabulous grandmothers, aunts and a mother who were all wonderful role models!"

Antonia believes that her



Duduzile Mamejja – 'Dudu'

achievements have been being a good wife and mother, authoring two recipe books, and empowering other women in the workplace.

Her life quote is: "Be the change you wish to see in the world".

**Duduzile Mamejja – 'Dudu'**

Dudu is a 32-year-old Building Inspector, working within the Public Sector. She has what she lightly terms a 'complicated relationship' (as she giggles), and has a 3-month-old baby boy with the energy

level of ten babies!

Due to her studies Dudu grew up in a variety of places but acknowledges that it is safe to say that she grew up most of the time in a small village 37 km from Hoedspruit known as The Oaks Village.

On leaving school she was not entirely sure what to study, save for the fact that she wanted to get into the building and construction industry. She took a gap year to clear the head and figure out which field of study she was going to follow, either Civil Engineering or Architectural

Studies or Quantity Surveying. She ended up completing an NDip in Building and a BTech in Quantity Surveying – both done at Tshwane University of Technology.

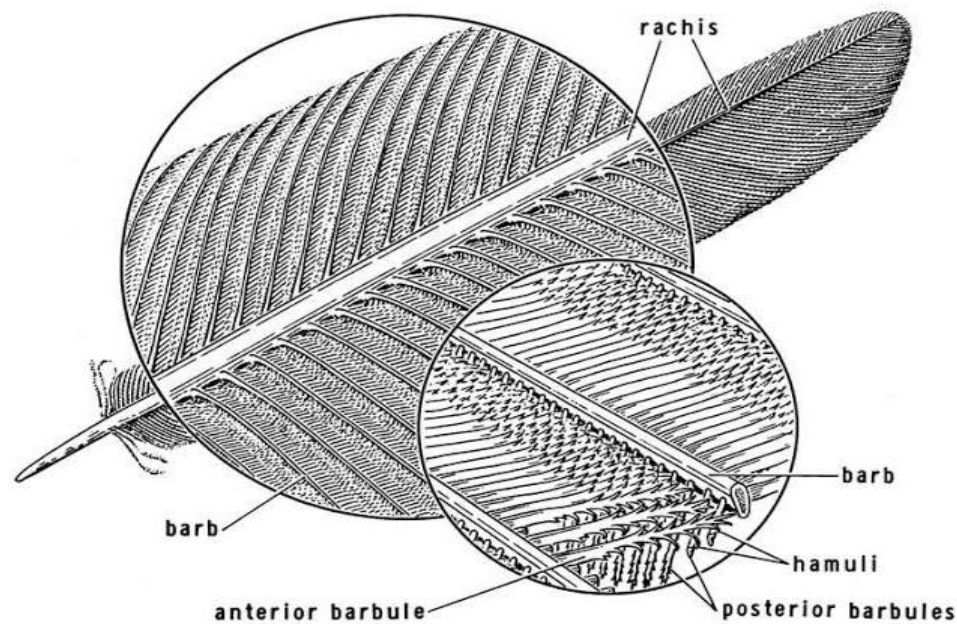
She disputes being a businesswoman and rather labels herself as Public Servant. She started working in the private sector as an Assistant Quantity Surveyor and progressed through the ranks until becoming a Site Agent, and finally a Project Manager. She says that sadly, before she became a Building Inspector she encountered 'male domination' daily, where she was continually driven to pull out the 'job-title card'. This generally worked, but where it failed, she had to fight her cause and ensure that she stood her ground. Making sure that she was well informed, and aware of what was happening on site, allowed her to develop and grow good relationships with the males on site, and that diffused the fact that she was a female. In cases where there was staunch opposition, she adopted a 'my way of the highway' attitude. In her line of work there is always the balance to try and find a good ratio of men to women.

Not scared of adversity she generally couples humour with solving problems, and she believes that at times compromise is a good alternative to reaching a successful conclusion.

Dudu does believe that being a woman is an advantage – she states playfully, "I mean aren't all women superhumans"!

She views her greatest achievement as becoming a mother – "everything that once seemed to be an achievement has faded". Her life quote is "Dance, even if the others can't hear the music".

# Understanding the features of birds



The internal structure of feathers

Image: The Birds of Seabrook Island

Mike Meidlinger

This month, we shift in gears, taking a momentary break from the commentary of our annual cycles and its wealth of local and national wonders. In this piece, the aim is to hone in on, pontificate at length about, and hopefully better appreciate, one fundamental aspect which make birds, birds.

As a dive into the deep end, let's turn our attention to the most unique and recognizable feature of all those in the class *Aves*. Think of one feature that is shared by all birds, and you've probably already guessed it spot on, the possession of feathers!

## Feathers

Feathers are unique to all birds and all birds have feathers of some form or another. Their famed structure has long been recognized for their ability to allow their owners the rare gift of self-propelled flight. Oddly however, this is not the major reason for their germination.

In reality, feathers evolved from the scales of dinosaurs, in order to better insulate them, and thus their descendants, from the cold. Having puffed up feathers traps a large, static layer of air between the body and the external world. This trapped air is easily warmed and is, in fact, the same reason why our clothing keeps us warm. It is not the jacket staving off the cold, but the air inside and trapped in the jacket. Thus interestingly enough, flight is simply a happy by-product of the shape and design of the structures intended for, and used in, thermoregulation.

Despite these humble origins, the benefits and adaptations various families and species have developed for flight today, cannot be overestimated.

The original birds arose 150 million years ago from their ancestors the *Therapods*. This was a group of dino-



European Bee-eater, an example of a species that moults only once having undergone the 13,000km journey from the Mediterranean

saur that persisted over millions of years, and whose famous members include *Velociraptor*, *Allosaurus* and *Tyrannosaurus*. As mentioned, feathers originally developed from reptilian-like scales, similar to those that cover birds feet and facial areas today, whose function is primarily for controlling body temperature. However, due to their aerofoil shape, those species that were bold enough to glide between trees, found feathers to have a much greater purpose and potential. This is how flight began in those original species that included the earliest known true bird, *Archeopteryx lithographica*, and its contemporaries that have been lost to the sands of time.

## Flight feathers

From these almost accidental origins, flight has allowed birds to radiate, adapt, colonize, specify and diversify beyond the scale of all other vertebrates. This is what makes birding such an action-packed and exciting hobby. There are many types of birds, while at least some form of birds or other, can be found almost anywhere on the planet. In other words, there is always a reason to be on the look out.

Today there are many types of feathers that are shared between most or all birds, as well as others that have been developed for more specific reasons by species or families.

The bodies of birds are covered in contour feathers and these piece together

in specific groupings or at specific places. Most contour feathers are named as per their region, terms like vent, throat and rump are all synonymous with areas of the body that one needs to look for colour or pattern changes. When it comes to the wing on the other hand, feathers are grouped according to what shape they are. The most important wing feathers are those along its bottom edge. These are the most important for flying, and which are collectively known as "the flight feathers".

There are three groups of flight feathers; the tertiaries, the secondaries, and most importantly, the primaries. If a bird loses its primaries, then it will be unable to sustain flight for more than a few seconds. The shafts of these flight feathers are covered by roof-tile like bands of coverts, which "cover" the rest of the wing. They do this in horizontal rows, getting smaller and smaller towards the front edge. This layering creates a solid unit, and forms the wind-surfing-sail-like of what we recognize as a birds wing.

Despite the mosaic of feather groups, and locations sounding complex and rudimentary, the truth is far from it. With a relatively small amount of input, an understanding of these locations becomes highly useful, in knowing what to look for when identifying a bird.

Some species have unique feathers that have evolved as a result of sexual selection, or which stem from



Once familiar with feather groups, breaking down the parts of this Golden-breasted Bunting will aid in its identification - Image supplied



New fossils reveal what the Velociraptor really looked like Image : Popular Science

adaptations to environment. Some common examples of these include crests, streamers, pennants and forks. Many species adorn fantastic and highly flamboyant feathers in order to attract mates. In many cases these are held for a short time, and then exchanged for more clandestine attire when the breeding season is over.

Feathers, due to their vital and pivotal role in the lives of their bearers, often become worn through stress, and use and damage, and thus require regular replacement. The process of using, losing, growing and replenishing of feathers is known as moult.

## Mouling

Mouling is something that all birds do, but each species or family may have their own way of going about it. Some species moult in small amounts, but they do this all of the time, and here individuals regenerate without too much change being shown as a whole. Others, will use one set of feathers to breed, raise chick's, and even migrate with, and only once the hard work is done, do they change into shiny new gear. Some species moult all flight feathers at once, such as

many ducks and geese, who become relatively grounded for a few weeks during late summer. Most small birds will moult at least twice a year, for example in and out of breeding plumage.

Large birds such as *Aquila* eagles, other large raptors and big seabirds moult slowly over years and years. In this case, us as observers can age these larger species at any one time, according to which feathers are old, worn or being replaced and are thus missing. More advanced still, is when it comes to cryptic species or difficult clades. Some species moult at specific times of year and thus differ in their timings when compared to others. Often, in the case of very similar or related species, even a few months of difference in moult and wear shown by an individual, can help identify it safely and correctly.

## Replacing feathers

The process of replacing feathers, and the nature of feathers themselves, can lead down a complex but fascinating path. However, even for the average birder and avid beginner, an appreciation for the nature of feathers, as well as their ar-

rangements, groupings and locations, is a vital tool for empowerment. Having a working knowledge of these features, very rapidly offers quicker and more confident identification.

In order to master the use of feathers and overall morphology while out birding, a little but persistent effort is needed. Diagrams found, usually in the first pages of field guides, label the parts of a bird. It is these labelled feather groups that add huge value when committed to memory. These are the mapping points upon which the separation of one species from another, is pinned and defined.

This month, while snuggled in at night, perhaps glance at, or redraw, and then label those images at the beginning of your bird book. Being familiar with the features labelled, and which areas of plumage they apply to, will undoubtedly help in filling in the gaps when approaching field-guide texts, or unknown species encountered out in the field.

Mike Meidlinger is currently the Head Trainer at the NJ More Wildlife College in Marataba.

# Constellation of the Month: LYRA - The Lyre

Ben Coley

## Mythology

Lyra represents the lyre of Orpheus, a musical instrument that was made from an old tortoise shell and strands of cow gut, given to him by his father, Apollo. Orpheus was the greatest musician of his time, and his songs were fabled to charm even the stones themselves. He joined Jason and the other Argonauts on the great voyage of the Argo Nevis, as his song was loud enough to drown out the song of the Sirens: beautiful mermaids whose hypnotic song caused sailors to venture too close to the rocks and sink.

Orpheus married Eurydice, but she was killed by a venomous snake bite, and lost to the underworld. Orpheus was devastated by the loss, and managed to arrange an audience with Hades, to bargain for his wife's return. Hades was charmed by Orpheus' music, and agreed, as long as neither of them looked back before emerging into sunlight.

Orpheus led Eurydice through the dark caverns, but once he reached daylight, he turned back to check on his wife too soon, and she was lost to the underworld forever. Orpheus roamed the land in sorrow until his death, but his Lyre was preserved for eternity in the stars. Some mythologies have Orpheus repre-

sented by Cygnus.

## Notable Stars - Vega

Vega is the brightest star in the constellation and is also the 5<sup>th</sup> brightest star in the sky. It is a white main sequence star residing around 25 light years from Earth.

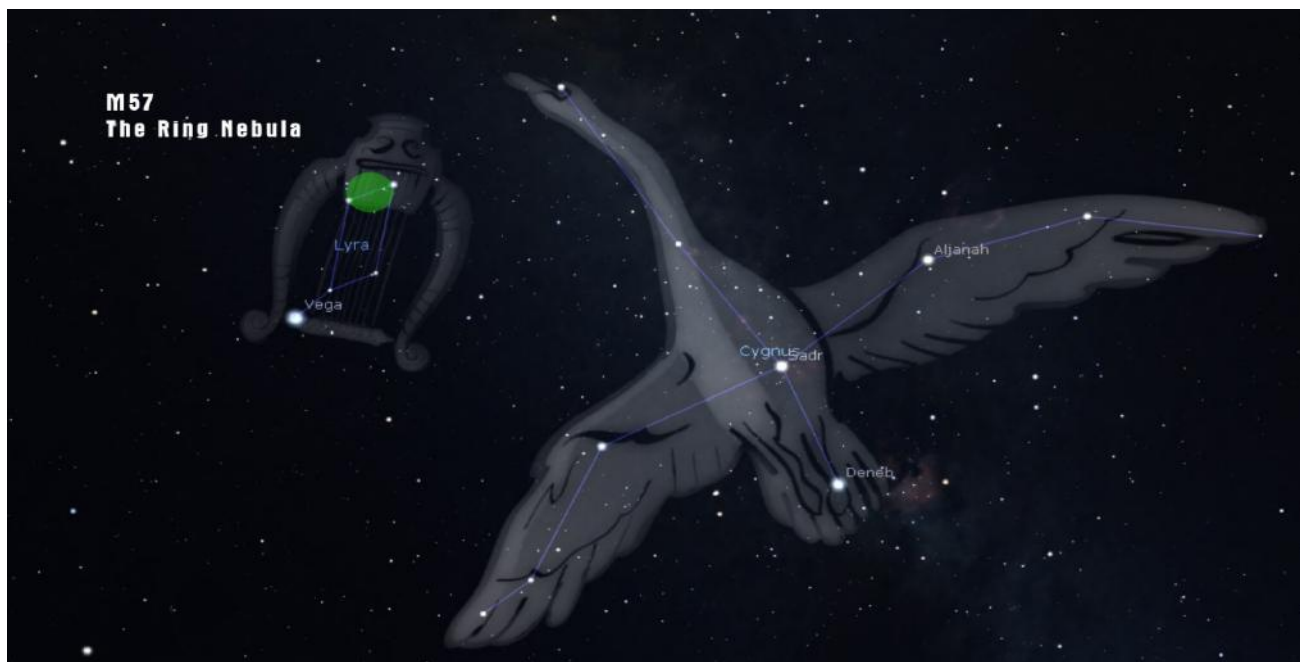
Being close to Earth, Vega was the first star to be measured by parallax, and to be photographed and have its spectrum recorded. Vega is therefore the benchmark star, against which all other star colours are compared to.

Polaris is currently the 'North Star', but due to the Earth's procession, Vega will hold this honour in approximately 14 000 AD, as the Earth continues its cyclical 'wobble' over a 25 000 year period. It also makes up part of the Spring Triangle along with Altair (Aquila) and Deneb (Cygnus).

## Deep Sky Objects – M57, The Ring Nebula

The Ring Nebula is probably the most famous Planetary Nebula in the sky, and is situated 2,300 light years away. It can be viewed with binoculars under good conditions, but a moderate telescope will clearly show its circular structure.

M57 is the remnants of a deceased star that has run out of fuel, and is now slowly bleeding its atmosphere off into space. The core of the star (white dwarf) is left behind and resides at the centre of the disc. Long ex-



posure photography shows distinct colours in the ring, each of which represent specific elements that were fused within the star, and

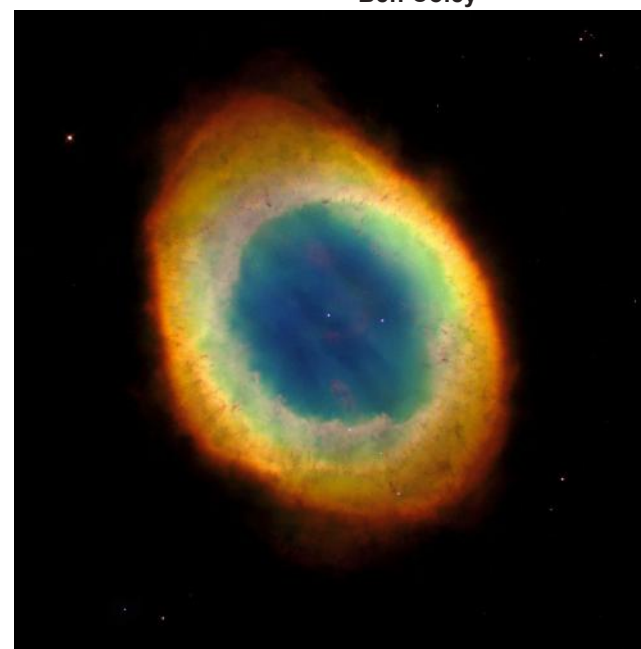
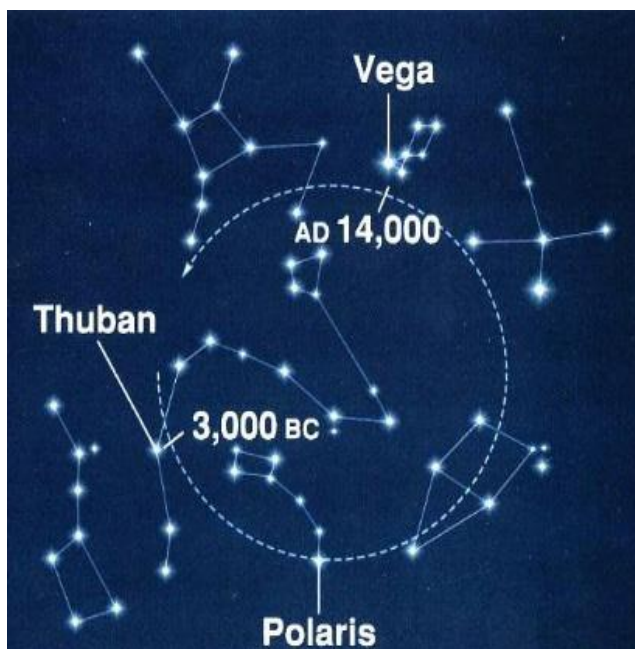
will now be added into the interstellar medium for the next generations of stars to use. Currently the ring has a diameter of between 2 and

3 light years.

See *Celestial Events SA* advert for contact details

Lyra (above), Vega (below left) and the Ring Nebula (below)

Images supplied Ben Coley



# The fever tree - *Vachellia xanthophloea*

Brett Heasman

For the last two weeks, I have had the privilege of walking between the forests of these beautiful specimens in the Makuleke in the north eastern parts of Kruger. Its hair-raising stuff - no picture can describe the emersed feeling of being deep in the wilderness when walking this part of the world.

These lime green trees that look like a health smoothie, have a unique luminous flare. This makes it one of my favourite trees. It is commonly known in English as the fever tree. The tree is native to eastern and southern Africa.

Courtesy of the early pioneers that moved through our beloved land, this tree was given a very negative connotation because they believed that this tree caused fevers. This belief originated from the people living in the areas that contracted bad fevers.

This however was far from reality, the fever tree

occurs mainly near pans, dams and where you find underground water or surface water. It is also found in low-lying swampy areas, all of which, as we know, is the ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes, which carry malaria – and these were the real culprits for the occurrence of fevers, as locals battled malaria infections.

This tree was previously called *Acacia xanthophloea*. but thanks to our Australian friends down under, we have had to remove the name *Acacia* from our reference books and have had to rename all genuses to either *Vachellia* or *Senegalia*. The *Vachellia xanthophloea* is named after George Harvey Vachell. The species name *xanthophloea* is derived from the Greek word *xanthos*, meaning yellow and *phloios* meaning bark.

Not to worry South Africa, we are used to name changes, so they can have the name but we have the trophy, go Bokke!!!

Flowers are produced in

scented pale cream spherical inflorescences, clustered at the nodes and towards the ends of the branches. The leaves and pods provide food for livestock. Young branches and leaves are eaten by elephants, giraffe and monkeys.

The magic of this tree is from the smallest bee that pollinates it, to the largest mammal that devours it. The biodiversity of animals and birds that I got to see in and around these forests was just super impressive - bushbabies, bushpigs, Eland to name a few. Other than a food source for many, it is also part of the Fabaceae family, which is critical to the recycling of nutrients. The lime green bark that occurs on this tree is full of chlorophyll, so the tree is one of the few that is able to photosynthesise through its bark. Incredible.

The wood is hard, heavy and is suitable for general purpose timber, but here is the power boost from our lime green toxic machine.



Fever trees

Image : Canva

Medicinally the bark is used for treating fevers, in fact as a prophylactic to cure malaria, the complete opposite to what our forefathers believed! This tree has also been used for thousands of

years by African tribes as a divination tool.

Even the writer Rudyard Kipling was taken aback by the beauty of these trees, as he refers to them in one of the stories in his "Just

So Stories", "The Elephants Child". He repeatedly makes mention of these trees along the "... great grey-green, greasy Limpopo". Long live the fever trees!

# Welcome to the wonderful 'macro-world' of lepidopterists!



Mark Bishop

We may have wondered who they are ... those sometimes viewed, crazy people running around the bush, in the veld, across dunes and in forests, with nets above their shoulders poised to capture little butterflies and moths. Who are these people?

Welcome to the world of a lepidopterist. A lepidopterist is a person that studies butterflies and moths. The name lepidopterist is derived from the name of the Order of butterflies and moths, Lepidoptera.

Possibly one of the most famous lepidopterists was an English woman by the name of Margaret Fountaine (1862–1940). She was a Victorian lepidopterist, an accomplished natural history illustrator, diarist, and traveller. She had a great love and knowledge of butterflies, travelling and collecting extensively through Europe, South Africa, west and east Africa, India, Tibet, northern America, Australia, Indo-China, Hong Kong, Malay States and the West Indies. She published numerous papers on her work and raised many of the butterflies from eggs or caterpillars.

Over her lifespan Fountaine collected more than 22 000 butterflies. Her collection is now housed at the Norwich Castle Museum and is known as the Fountaine-Neimy Collection. Her four sketch books of butterfly life cycles are housed at the Natural History Museum in London. Interestingly, the butter-

fly genus *Fountainea* was named in her honour.

She had in her lifetime written twelve large volumes of cloth-bound diaries with more than a million words. These diaries revealed her own blend of Victorian reserve and startling frankness and sincerity. The diaries were later edited by the Assistant Editor of the Sunday Times, Mr W F Cater. These were abridged into two books, published under the titles *Love among the Butterflies* and *Butterflies and Late Loves* in 1980 and 1987 respectively.

I had the opportunity, and was absolutely fascinated, to be introduced to this wonderful 'macro-world' by Mr Ian Sharp. He revealed that in fact this area of natural history is a very active one. It is so because of the vast array of butterflies and moths that occur everywhere – many of which have yet to be classified! There are some 17 500 butterfly species (660 in South Africa) and some 160 000 moth species (7 000 in South Africa) worldwide – and there are more to find. There are thousands that have not been identified or classified.

An ingenious project to gather information on the life histories of Afrotropical Lepidoptera, with the initial focus on the moth group, was launched by Drs Hermann Staude and Douglas Kroon in 2012, when they initiated The Great Moth Caterpillar-hunt Challenge. Presently this project - the CRG – is known as the Cat-

terpillar Rearing Group. It combines the efforts of both expert lepidopterists and citizen scientists, to discover the life histories of all Lepidoptera occurring in Africa. This project is also especially important for discovering histories and possible undescribed (unnamed) Lepidoptera species.

The world of Lepidoptera does not only consist of the flying adult moths and butterflies that we see on a daily basis. These, oftentimes beautiful flying wonders have gone through the magical process of metamorphosis, transforming from crawling, hungry caterpillars to the flying adult moths or butterflies we know so well.

The secret lives of caterpillars may well be more fascinating than the adults they transform into. With so much to study and understand, our current knowledge has yet to scrape the surface of this world, but the small glimpses we have seen have sparked the interest of lepidopterists, both expert and amateur, far and wide.

Tens of thousands of moth species and about 4 000 butterfly species occur in Africa. No one person could ever determine the caterpillar – adult – host-plant associations for all these species. A few of these associations have been uncovered, but the amount of information that still has to be discovered is staggering. This is what inspired Dr Staude, later under the banner of LepSoc, to create the CRG. The CRG's

main purpose is to increase knowledge on the life histories of all Lepidoptera in Africa, especially those for which nothing is known.

The project asks that caterpillars of both moths and butterflies (lepis) be reared through to adulthood, with the undaunted 'foster parents' taking notes and photographs of the various life-stages, host-plants and other interesting behavioural phenomena. This knowledge contributes significantly to the conservation of this group of insects on the African continent. The project combines the efforts of both expert lepidopterists and citizen scientists, and all notes, photographs and interesting details are sent through to Dr Staude to collate and investigate.

Anyone can take part, and anyone who is willing to look after a caterpillar and rear it through to adulthood, is welcome to join and help discover the life histories of more species. Together the efforts of all involved, can help solve the many unknowns in the life histories of these fascinating creatures.

Interesting facts, pictures and information, can be seen on the Facebook group 'Caterpillar Rearing Group – Africa'. This site is only for posts regarding caterpillar rearing! As of October 2020, Dr Hermann Staude writing the preface to *Metamorphosis* Volume 31(3): i, stated that "...we have 98 036 files and photographs relating to African caterpillars in storage. It would be almost

impossible to publish all of this information, but with these CRG publications we at least let the world know what we are doing, albeit in an abbreviated form". That is seriously impressive.

Speaking to someone as enthralled, passionate and dedicated to this wonderful and beautiful world of butterflies and moths, as is Ian Sharp, is nothing short of amazing and mind-blowing. Once you get them started on the adaptations, peculiarities and intricacies of these creatures, brace yourselves for at least a couple of cups of coffee or tea!

The Kruger2Canyon News is going to run a series of articles on these very special creatures in the months to come. The aim is to get us all interested, and some involved in this amazing world. This short article is merely to introduce and hopefully get you excited about the subject. We also hope to get many more citizen scientists involved in this important project (the CRG).

So keep your eyes peeled, get involved, and let's explore this wonderful, often ignored, part of the natural world together.



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# Stories in the stones

John Roff  
Nature and Geology Guide

Rocks and landscapes are the magnificent setting for our rich diversity of animals and plants. More than a setting though, rocks have remarkable stories of their own - what they are made of, how they are formed, and how our lives connect with them. In this series going forward we'll explore many different rock types found in the Kruger to Canyon area, and learn the stories in the stones.

Our first rock of the month is granitic Gneiss. This is the main rock type around Hoedspruit. There are several kinds of Gneiss, and this one is called granitic Gneiss as it is made of the same minerals that makes up granite, but in a very al-

tered form. These minerals are mainly quartz, feldspar and mica.

Gneiss is a metamorphic rock, which means it formed from other rocks which were heated and/or pressurised so much, that they started to change into something new, much like baking bread or firing a piece of clay. This change happened deep under the Earth's surface, at temperatures of at least 700°C, and pressure so high that solid rock becomes soft and squashy.

This semi-liquid rock separated into layers of different minerals, which were pushed, bent and squeezed - rather like squeezing different kinds of toothpaste into one bowl and a stirring them up a bit. This mixture then cooled down, far be-

low ground, and over time has been exposed. Gneiss with light and dark bands is often called migmatite.

Look at the picture for the examples of granitic migmatite Gneiss from Hoedspruit. The dark mineral is Mica, and the pale bands are Quartz and Feldspar, in various combinations.

The hardest mineral in this Gneiss is quartz, which breaks down into grains of sand. That is why most soils in this area are pale, sandy and well-drained.

Next month we'll look at Dolerite, the other main rock type found in and around Hoedspruit.

John offers regular guided Geology walks and Geology guide training in Limpopo, Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal, [www.johnroff.co.za](http://www.johnroff.co.za)



Granitic migmatite Gneiss Image: John Roff

# What makes holes in the ground?

Holes are a universal form of shelter, as either a temporary or permanent residence. Some animals only use holes for specific purposes, such as sleeping, breeding or pupating. Holes are not, however, with the intention of using them as shelters. Many are linked to feeding. Some are made when a predator digs out its prey, while others are made in the food-source itself - this is typical of many insects boring into things that they consume. Many holes are subsequently utilised by other animals that renovate them to suit their needs. The existence of holes offers visitors to wilderness areas a great opportunity to identify species in the area. Although holes take on myriad shapes, sizes and locations, they can generally be categorised as follows:

### Round holes in earth-banks.

These holes are usually along watercourses (both wet and dry) and are generally made by birds, rodents or reptiles:

**Small holes of less than 10cm** are commonly excavated by nesting kingfishers, bee-eaters and pied starlings, sometimes with many holes in close proximity for colonial species.

**Holes that are 10 – 15cm** in size usually belong to large rodents, such as vlei rats and cane rats. Bigger holes in earth-banks are made by reptiles, namely water monitors and crocodiles, and are often oblong or egg-shaped.

### Holes in the ground or in the sides of termite mounds

These are excavated by an array of mammals and invertebrates:

**Very small, mostly round holes** are usually made by ants, termites or other small insects and are often accompanied by small piles of sand.

**Larger holes up to 10 cm** can either be termite vents (used for regulating temperature) or rodent, toad or lizard holes.

**Oblong, almost rectangular, holes** a few centimetres wide are made by scorpions.

**Holes that are bigger than just a few centimetres** are generally made by a host of mammals ranging in size from mongooses to hyenas. The aardvark is one of the most prodigious diggers, and creates many of the larger holes seen in the sides of termite mounds where it is in search of food. It also makes large holes for temporary shelter away from these mounds. They can be identified by the deep gouge marks on the walls of the tunnel made by the powerful claws of the forefeet. Pangolins, honey badgers, wild dogs and hyenas are also capable of excavations of this size, whereas those of the jackals and foxes tend to be smaller. In the northern parts of southern Africa, springhares also make impressive excavations. The holes are roughly 20cm across, bear numerous marks made by sharp claws on the inner walls, and are often clustered in groups.

**Very neat round holes of about 1 – 5 cm** across, often lined with or surrounded by silken strands, are the resting holes of terrestrial spiders. Baboon spiders, in particular, can easily be observed as they

cling to the walls of these burrows about 5cm below the surface, with their legs bunched up and their fearsome fangs clearly visible. They emerge at night to hunt or search for mates. These 'spider' holes are worth observation as sometimes the trapdoor to the tunnel is left open (in those species that use a trapdoor to conceal the tunnel), with the neat, superbly crafted and camouflaged lid lying to one side. These trapdoor nests can most easily be found at night when the hunting spider's eyes reflect light from a spotlight, much like other mammals. When approached, they will often scurry away to their tunnels - revealing the location - in such a hurry that they will not pull the lid closed. The lids are then easily identified as white circular silken

patches, which went flipped closed, have sand grains embedded in the upper surface for camouflage.

**Dung balls** of dung beetles are often seen lying next to an excavation from which they were dug. The balls of dung that these beetles comically push along are either food balls that are eaten by the adults, or brood balls that are buried with an egg. The dung beetle larvae, while eating and hollowing out the inside of the ball below ground before pupation, are often heard by honey badgers, foxes, jackals or hyenas, and the ball is dug up and broken open, and the grub consumed. Investigation of the ball reveals compacted dung still covering the inside of the sphere with an outside layer consisting of

a combination of soil and a hard resinous substance excreted (in a liquid form) by the female to protect the dung ball. Sometimes balls can be found with only a small hole. This indicates that the adult beetle had already chewed its way out before the ball was dug up. A number of balls are often buried together close to dung pads with their larvae emerging at different times. The size of the ball can vary from that of a marble to one bigger than an orange (depending on the species), but regardless of size there is always only one egg deposited per ball. Depending on the rainfall, eggs can take more than a year to hatch.

**Small round or oblong holes in wood** are extremely varied but are usually the result of invertebrate activity (most wood boring beetles) and indicate feeding, egg-laying or pupation sites.

**Round holes 5 – 10 cm** across the upright trunks of trees, branches or stumps are nests excavated by hole-

nesting and roosting birds such as woodpeckers and barbets. These holes, often on the bottom side of sloping branches, possibly make entry for enemies more difficult and prevent rain entering.

An excerpt from 'Beat about the Bush – Mammals and Birds' by Trevor Carnaby, Published by Jacana Media, Second Edition reprint 2018.

Purchase for a discount of 30% at <https://jacana.co.za/product/beat-about-the-bush-mammals/>

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7	9	2	6	4	5	8	3	1
4	6	8	1	9	3	2	7	5
3	1	5	8	2	7	4	9	6

# j&h Studio on Olifants - well worth a visit



## Three Bridges Restaurant, Pub and B&B

Local Correspondant

The restaurant is located in one of the oldest buildings in the region with a fascinating historical background dating back to Paul Kruger's time. Situated on the banks of the Olifants River, on the R40, it's a short 22km from Hoedspruit travelling towards Phalaborwa.

The restaurant has been successfully operating since 2010 and in 2016 a Bed and Breakfast was added. One sits and enjoys the setting next to the historical railway bridge, low level crossing and the new R40 Bridge crossing the Olifants River. This is right at the point where the river enters the Greater Kruger National Park. The trees around the building have all been planted by the original Indian settlers. The moringa and curry leaves planted by those settlers are still used in the restaurant's dishes.

At night you can hear the hyenas in the distance, and during the day you regularly hear the hippos snorting and see crocodiles on the sand banks, and the elephants bathing right in front of the restaurant in the waters of the mighty Olifants River.

On Sundays there is a three-course roast menu - which is to die for - and once

a month there is live music from 12:00 through to 15:00. This adds to the restaurant's great atmosphere. On a hot summer's day, all our restaurant guests including Bed and Breakfast customers are welcome to make use of the outside swimming pool and the children's play area.

The restaurant is waiting to welcome you to enjoy one of their lovely homemade dishes. The menu has a large variety of salads, wraps, steaks, schnitzels, burgers, pastas, and pizzas. The thin crust pizza bases are homemade in the wood fired pizza oven. There are also vegetarian and vegan dishes offered for those that are so inclined.

While waiting for your food (or afterwards) browse through the nearby boutique, j&h on Olifants, for

lovely ladies clothing, home decor and bronze sculptures, or one can wind your way through the art and the crafts centre, which has top quality locally manufactured art, curios, crafts and furniture.

A bonus is that if one cycles or runs from Hoedspruit, Phalaborwa or Tzaneen(!) you qualify for a 10% discount on your bill! Now there's an incentive to get you going! Added to that - all motor cyclists take note - you get a 10% discount! Well worth the trip.

Look out for the advertisements of the live music events on Facebook and Instagram. Alternatively, one can call to find out what's on the go at this wonderful spot. Check the advert on page 15 for more details.



Three Bridges B&B overlooking one of the bridges (top) Images supplied



Beautifully appointed j&h Studio



Local Correspondent

I was fortunate enough to have to stop at the Outpost at 3 Bridges for a bite to eat, and was surprised to see that there was an extra addition to the shopping offering here - and what a surprise.

Beautifully laid out, fresh, clean and spacious ... it was almost like entering a spa, with a melody of Fank Sinatra filtering through this amazing space. But spa it is not.

I was fortunate to meet Helga Meintjes, the owner, who has created this beautiful boutique - j&h Studio on Olifants. The boutique crosses many divides, from clothing, to décor, to health and sculpture. What a wonderful eclectic mix!

The boutique was opened on the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2022, and it has been quite a journey into the unknown.

Helga expected some traction at the shop but nothing like it has been. She openly states that she is

very blessed by the welcome and support of the people around the area and has not looked back from the get-go. Weekends and holidays are the busiest, and of course coupled with a restaurant close by, trade booms on these days.

The clothing offered is at very reasonable prices and is both locally and internationally sourced. The health items are by the brand, Lopo Botanicals - who are local, from Politsi - and these consist primarily of essential oils, room sprays and beautiful candles. The sculptures are by her Husband, Jean, an internationally renowned sculptor from the Gravelot area! The shop décor was done by Xyza Savanna, who has some of her décor items, candle holders, cushions, and skins (to name a few), for sale. Helga believes the attraction of clients to her boutique comes from the fact that her products are unique, reasonably priced and of good quality.

But that's not all - Helga



is also present at markets around the area under the brand 'Olga Bolga' - some items of which are sold in the boutique, and Jean, her Husband, often comes on a Sunday and works outside the shop, to give people an insight to sculpture.

Helga has always wanted to open a shop, and when the property contacted her saying that there was space, it was as if a sign had been sent, and Helga was immediately committed herself to open, and trade. The stresses of opening a shop, getting the right stock mix, as well as the correct alternative product choices for sale, have been well rewarded. The boutique is open every day of the week (Monday to Sunday) from 09h00 to 17h00.

Do yourself a favour and get here to sample the wonderful offerings in a beautiful environment, and after you have finished, have a bite or a drink at the 3 Bridges Restaurant.

Happy shopping!

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# Swan Lake

Local Correspondant

On Saturday, 13th August the Papillion Dance Academy and pianist Mark Baker presented Swan Lake, a classical ballet with music by Tchaikovsky.

This classical ballet tells the story of Odette, a beautiful princess and all her friends, who have been captured by the evil magician, von Rothbart. Only true love can break the spell, and, as it happens, the handsome Prince Siegfried meets Odette while she is briefly allowed to appear in her human form. They dance in the enchanted forest and he is smitten.

The next day, at the Prince's birthday ball, where he is to choose his bride, von Rothbart presents his daughter Odile, and weaves another spell to trick Prince Siegfried into believing she is his beloved Odette.

There are several different versions of how this story

of true love ends, some happy, some tragic. We chose to celebrate love and loyalty in adversity.

After von Rothbart's demise in the Lake of Tears, Prince Siegfried became the guardian of the swans, unable to break the spell, but still protecting his lovely Princess Odette from harm for the rest of their days.

The roles of Odette was danced by aspiring ballerina Elizmari van der Berg, with Nadia Prinsloo as Odile. A handful of brave adult dancers and seasoned teenagers, together with the up and coming young corps de ballet, rounded out the story.

The presentation delighted the audience with its grace and beauty. Thanks to all those that participated and attended.

**Cygnets (right)**  
**Sophia Swemmer,**  
**Sune Scheepers,**  
**Savanna Owtram**  
 Images supplied



Odette Elizmari van den Berg



Swan Bono Mmbadi

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Sky-Way Trails	013 737 8374
Three Bridges Restaurant, Pub & B&B	079 912 9416

### VEHICLES. SPARES & REPAIRS

Otto's Diesel Centre	087 550 1252/ 082 801 0141
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## THREE BRIDGES

Tel: 079 912 9416



EST 2010  
**RESTAURANT**  
**PUB AND B&B**

Opening Times  
 Mo-Fr: 9am - 9pm  
 Sa & Su: 8.30am - 9pm

Live Music 12-3pm  
 Sunday 4 Sept.  
 Billy & Angi  
 Sunday 18 Sept.  
 Elme & Ben Churr

Tel: 015 793 1014  
 EST 1997  
**SLEEPERS**  
**Restaurant & Pub**

Opening Times Restaurant  
 Su-Th: 9am - 9pm  
 Fr & Sa: 9am - 10pm

Opening Times Bar  
 Mo-Sa: 11am - Late  
 Su: 11am - 5pm

Wine Tasting  
 Wed. 7 Sept.  
 6.30pm  
 Live Music  
 Friday 16 Sept.  
 7-10pm  
 Elme & Ben Churr

### Position available - Maruleng Motor Spares

#### Counter Sales Person

Maruleng Motor Spares CC is a well-established motor spares retail enterprise in Hoedspruit. We are seeking another full-time employee with strong retail motor spares and sales experience. If you have good people skills and can operate under pressure, we would like to hear from you.

Duties and responsibilities:

- Retail sale of motor spares over counter
- Continuous liaison with customers, stock controller for special requests from customers
- Maintain a courteous and professional attitude with difficult customers over the counter and telephonically

Desired experience and qualification:

- Matric/Grade 12 certificate, Valid driver's licence and own reliable transport
- Minimum of 1 year counter sales experience in a motor spares retail environment
- General knowledge of motor spares
- Ability to function independently with high levels of responsibility and accountability
- Good communication skills in English (oral and written)
- Good understanding of mathematics
- Computer literate (especially Microsoft Excel)
- Excellent interpersonal skills and team player
- Self-motivated and excellent attention to detail

Package and remuneration:

- Attractive above-market related basic, based on experience
- Provident fund
- Annual performance bonus based on management discretion

Disclaimer:

Please consider your application as unsuccessful should you not hear from us within 2 weeks. Send detailed CV including reference contact details and copy of matric certificate to: **finance.marulengmotorspares@gmail.com**

**AGRI BOX**  
 PACKAGING SPECIALISTS  
 On R527 next to Snake Park  
 Janey 082 888 0520  
 Citrus & PET Strapping & Tools | Palletwrap & Palletnet | Toiletpaper | Lug Boxes | Filing & Stock boxes | Fruit & Veg boxes | Agribags & Netlon

**SKYWAY TRAILS**  
 HAZY VIEW  
 Experience the thrill of Africa's longest aerial cable trail!  
**082 825 0209**  
**013 737 8374**

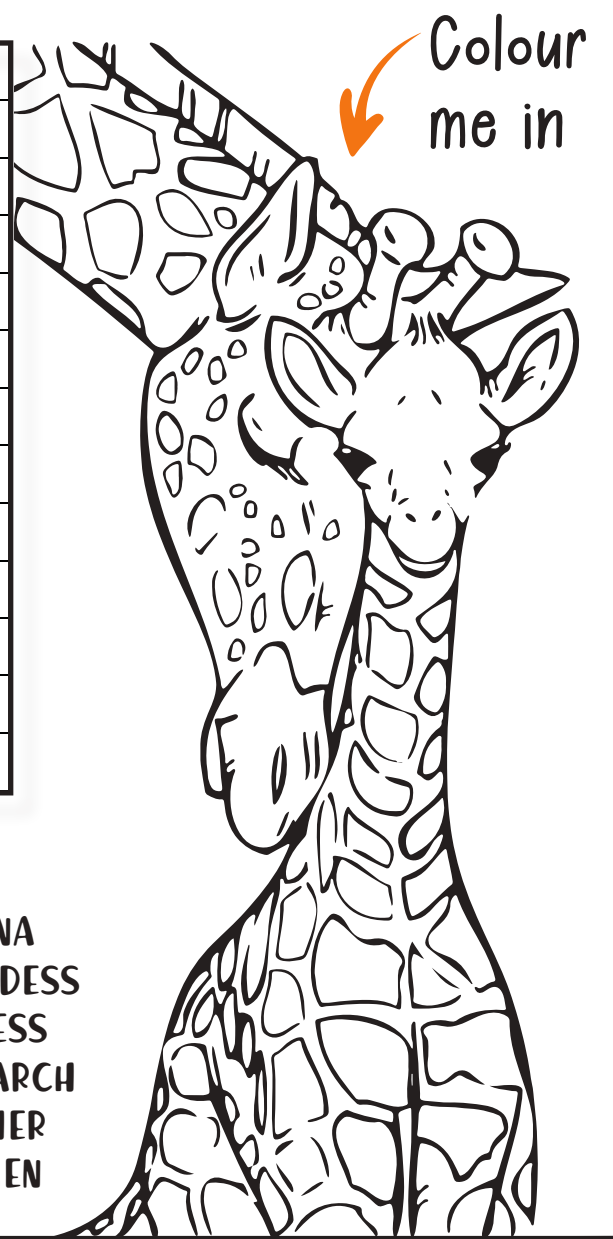
**Niche Cleaning Services**  
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 info@nichecleaning.co.za  
 Sophie: 083 233 9852

**CELESTIAL EVENTS SA**  
 www.CelestialEventsSA.com CelestialEventsSA@gmail.com

# Junior FGASA & Kids In The Wild

Can you find all the words in the wildlife word search?

B	A	E	L	E	P	H	A	N	T	F	T	H	K	J	U	D	C
R	I	S	Q	F	T	C	V	G	L	X	D	I	E	V	G	T	E
O	S	L	C	A	Q	W	E	I	Y	C	G	E	Y	G	B	N	L
C	A	M	A	T	R	I	A	R	C	H	E	R	E	F	G	D	E
I	H	W	E	E	B	L	D	A	T	G	S	A	Y	E	V	S	O
E	Y	D	B	R	N	T	W	F	E	T	T	R	D	M	S	T	P
P	E	T	T	E	C	R	E	F	T	H	A	C	F	A	R	N	A
D	N	A	W	M	O	T	H	E	R	R	T	H	A	L	W	A	R
R	A	I	N	I	R	C	L	K	E	R	I	Y	S	E	F	R	D
M	R	L	B	I	R	T	H	E	N	T	O	E	B	E	L	T	E
I	C	O	F	G	E	A	E	L	I	O	N	E	S	S	I	V	S
G	F	P	V	I	W	L	C	E	P	B	R	N	E	X	G	H	S
R	G	W	O	M	E	N	I	H	A	T	R	I	E	E	H	U	H



## AUGUST IS WOMEN'S MONTH.

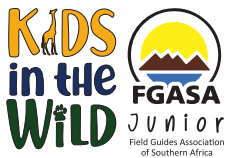
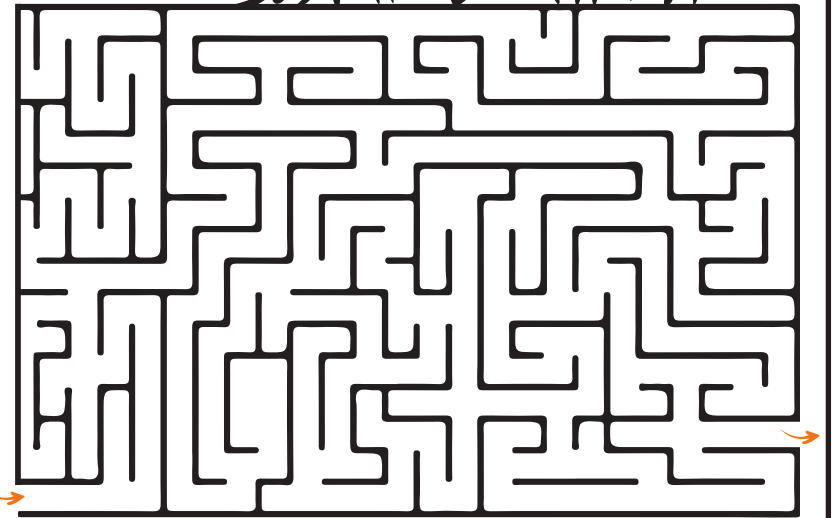
Let's celebrate all the ladies of the wild

Giraffes are social animals that live in unstable herds of 10 to 20 individuals, although they can be up to 50 members.

However, they do not have strong social ties like other animal species, except the mothers with their offspring.

### WORDS:

- |           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| BIRTH     | HYENA      |
| ELEPHANT  | LEOPARDESS |
| FEMALE    | LIONESS    |
| GESTATION | MATRIARCH  |
| GIRAFFE   | MOTHER     |
| HIERARCHY | WOMEN      |



If you love the wilderness, and are passionate about conservation, then we have the perfect thing for you. Junior FGASA in partnership with Kids In The Wild bring you the new and improved Pangolin Course. The Pangolin Course includes an interactive platform for kids to reconnect with nature and the incredible wilderness that surrounds us on a daily basis. Kids In The Wild will also be offering live lectures as well as on-demand courses that will encompass many different modules and will also include games, quizzes, homework and so much more. Sign up today!

www.fgasa.co.za | +27 (0) 11 886 8245 | admin@fgasa.org.za | www.kidsinthewild.co.za | +27 (0) 66 485 1956 | info@kidsinthewild.co.za



# CPC

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## Creek Plumbing and Construction

- |                      |                 |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
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| 02 Drain Cleaning    | 05 Sewerage     | 08 Maintenance  |
| 03 Emergency Repairs | 06 Stormwater   | 09 TLB For Hire |



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