

OSTRICH CARPACCIO WITH SPEKBOOM SALSA RECIPE

The young leaves of the Spekboom can be used in summer in salads with tomatoes and cucumber. It gives a wonderful type of lemon flavour to the dish. In winter you can use it in a lentil stew with mutton.

500g ostrich fillet
olive oil
coarsely ground black pepper

Vinaigrette:

100ml white wine vinegar
50ml olive oil
15ml barbecue spice
10 ml brown sugar

Spekboom and Caper Salsa:

45ml chopped Spekboom leaves
30ml chopped capers
15 ml lemon juice
5 ml sugar (optional)

black pepper

Serve with fresh rocket leaves, parmesan cheese shavings, 'fingers' of good quality whole-wheat bread

Method:

Grease the fillet well with olive oil and roll it into coarsely ground black pepper. Heat a cast iron pan until hot. Brown the whole fillet around, but keep the meat as close as possible to the raw in the middle. Set meat aside to cool completely and then refrigerate for 20 minutes.

Salsa

Mix the ingredients for the salsa until all the spices and sugar are completely dissolved, before mixing in the oil.

Mix together the chopped Spekboom leaves and chopped capers. Sprinkle with sugar and lemon juice and let it rest until use.

Assembly

Cut the meat into 2mm thick slices and arrange on serving plates. Lightly sprinkle with the spice sauce and place a pile of Spekboom salsa in the middle. Place parmesan cheese shavings and rocket leaves over the dish. Serve with whole-wheat bread fingers to dip into all the tasty sauce.

Recipe by Renette Vosloo



July 2019

NEWSLETTER THE ISLANDER



IN THIS ISSUE

REPORTS

- Page 2 Editorial Comment
Page 3 Chairman's Report

ARTICLES

- Page 5 A Juvenile in Distress
Page 8 Policing Update
Page 9 Important Numbers
Page 10 Replanting of Aloes
Page 12 What to do in Winter
Page 15 Goslings 2019
Page 19 Photographic Competition
Page 20 Meet the Neighbours
Page 22 The Humble Spekboom
Page 24 Ostrich Carpaccio with Spekboom Salsa Recipe

EDITORIAL COMMENT

First and foremost, please accept apologies for this issue being a bit late. Life interfered. It also appears as if this is a bird edition. This wasn't deliberate, but winter is when our birdlife is so prolific and it just worked out that way!

We've got an exciting photographic competition, which is two fold. One to show off your skills and the other is to save our Deputy Editor having to search for a great cover photo each issue. See page 19 on how to enter.

It looks as if the flowers are going to be spectacular this year, which will hopefully result in many visitors to our town. The river is running brown which is great news as it means the dams have been opened upriver which bodes well for summer. Having said that, water is a precious resource and should be treated as such.

Stay warm.

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...continued from page 22

5. Spekboom is edible with a very high nutritional value

It is a favoured food of black rhinos, elephants and kudus. The good news is that we can eat it too. With a slightly lemony taste, Spekboom leaves are juicy and full of moisture, making them the perfect 'pick-me-up' during a long day's hiking in the arid Karoo. Popular Cape Town restaurants like the Pot Luck Club use this succulent as accents to their beautifully crafted dishes.

Niki Anderson



Man's best friend goes supping

Convivial:

The Latin word *convivium* means "a feast," and when convivial was first coined in the 1660s, its meaning related to the excess of food and drink during such celebrations. You can also see convivial in *convivere*, meaning "to carouse together." Just when it seemed all convivial could ever do was describe people who overindulge, a new shade of meaning emerged: loving to be around people. After all, a big part of feasting is being with people you care about.



THE HUMBLE SPEKBOOM

Also known as Pork Bush or Elephant's Food, this indigenous evergreen is an environmental miracle worker, with the potential to tackle carbon emissions like no other plant can. Whether you're a succulent fan or have yet to hear about this magnificent tree, here are 5 things you probably didn't know about this wonder plant.

1. Spekboom is proudly South African

It is found predominantly in the Eastern Cape, and especially in the semi-arid Karoo region, where growing conditions are ideal for this resilient plant. It favours North-facing slopes where it is exposed to maximum sunlight. Thriving in poor soils, it tolerates both drought and frost.

2. Spekboom is one of the best carbon sequestrators in the world

Hectare for hectare, Spekboom thicket is ten times more effective than the Amazon rainforest at removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. One hectare of Spekboom can sequester between 4 and 10 tonnes of carbon per year. This makes it a powerful tool in the fight against climate change and the move towards a zero-carbon world.



*Spekboom in flower on the Island
Picture: Lisa van Zyl*

3. Spekboom can live up to 200 years

And Spekboom trees can grow as tall as 5 metres. Prior to the advent of large-scale livestock farming, some areas of the Eastern Cape had Spekboom forests so thick that it was said a grown human could walk across the top as if walking on a carpet. Spekboom propagates very easily, and a broken-off branch can quickly grow roots and create a whole new plant.

4. Spekboom are equipped with a unique mechanism for adapting to their surroundings

In the wet, cool months, Spekboom photosynthesises like other plants, opening its stomata during the day to absorb carbon dioxide. During drier times, the plant has the ability to open its stomata at night in order to prevent water loss during the heat of the day.

Continued on page 23...

ADMIRAL ISLAND & PELICAN BAY HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER JULY 2019

Dear property owners,

Welcome to the 15th issue of our Islander magazine.

Our Chairman is away in the Netherlands after having taken a long-anticipated trip from Cape Town to Amsterdam on board a tall ship, the Bark Europa. After spending 77 days at sea, both he and Inge were pretty happy to be on terra firma again! We look forward to an article in the Islander from them when they return home.



On to matters slightly more mundane, but important to all of us who are fortunate enough to own a piece of our own paradise!

NEW OFFICE BUILDING

All the milestones were achieved to enable us to start building – registration at Deeds office, approval from Bergrivier Municipality, and building contractor appointed by 28 May!

The chosen building contractor, Thys Boonzaaier of Brighton Alteration/Renovation, has done well and is on schedule for completion before the end of the year. The current status is that the foundations done, foundation walls completed, under-floor electrical and plumbing installed, reinforcing laid, engineer's sign-off achieved, and walls to roof height.

SECURITY

The exit boom decided to stop working. It turned out to be a faulty controller which has been replaced.

Continued on page 4...

...continued from page 3

One concern we have is the high number of break-ins occurring in Port Owen - we need to remember to remain vigilant.

DESIGN GUIDELINES AND BUILDING

Activity on the building front has increased and new building plans are submitted on a regular basis.

Linda Stoffberg, Excom member responsible for this portfolio, has been kept extremely busy and is making great progress in resolving challenges with adherence to the guidelines. This included a meeting with the controlling architects, to fine-tune a few items which can be defined better.

This has been incorporated into guidelines and is published on the website where you will find a schedule of revisions on the last page which will guide you to the changes.

CONDUCTING A BUSINESS FROM HOME

Excom has completed the investigation on how to proceed with managing home businesses and the result will be communicated once formalised.

GARDENS AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE

In our previous issue we reported that we are making good progress with creating a water-friendly garden

One big change you'll notice is the removal of the aloes on the middle of the road islands. This is the result of severe infection that killed most of the plants and the recommendation was to remove these and, in time, plant new plants. Those that were still healthy have been planted on the slope to the right hand side as you come over the bridge.

Our garden staff have made this their own and found some creative ways to do this – please visit the doggy park and look for the “doggy” to see the fruits of their labour.

Continued on page 5...

THE RAINBOW GUIDE TO DOG TEMPREMENTS

Not many people are aware that there is an international colour coding system to alert people on what to expect when they come across dogs being walked by their owners. Often people will rush up to a dog wanting to say hello, but that particular dog might be very timid. It's a solution that could tell you if a dog's bark is worse than its bite.

Bright red means you should steer clear of an aggressive pooch, while bright green shows that the dog is friendly – even if it's from a breed with an fierce reputation. Yellow for nervous pooches, orange for those that don't mix well with other dogs, blue to show dogs being trained, white for deaf or blind pets, and purple for dogs on diets who shouldn't be fed. I think it's a brilliant idea! So if you see a dog with these colours, now you know why.

Niki Anderson

THE MEANING BEHIND COLOUR-CODED DOG LEASHES AND COLLARS

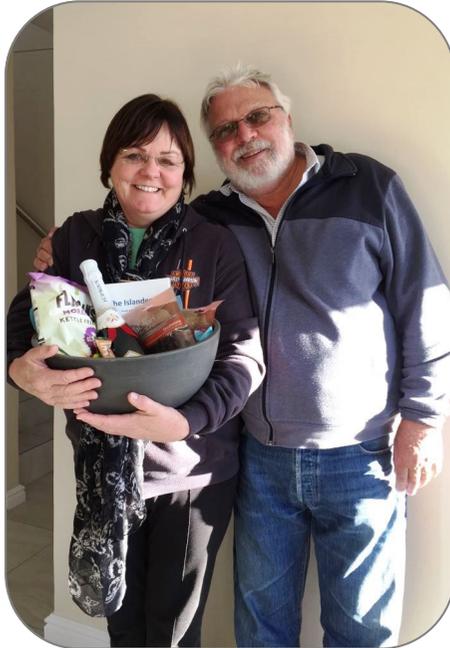


MEET THE NEIGHBOURS

Having lived in the same owner-built house in Port Elizabeth for 30 years and then to move onto an island on the West Coast must be quite daunting. That is exactly what Patrick and Shelley Hill did in July 2018. As Shelley says, one should never follow ones children, but obviously she's not one to follow her own advice! It wasn't only because of the children; Patrick travels a great deal which left Shelley alone on a smallholding in the Eastern Cape.

Patrick works for Cerebos so frequently came to Velddrif, but Shelley knew absolutely nothing about the West Coast. There was no doubt in their mind that Admiral Island was where they wanted to live. Her friends were totally disbelieving when she told them she was moving to an island! Shelley works as an enrolled nurse at Vredenburg Life Hospital and after working 12-hour shifts loves the peace and security that the Island offers.

They bought on Admiral Boulevard knowing that the house would be too small for their furniture having moved from a huge house, but they couldn't find anywhere pet-friendly to rent for their two dogs. Shortly after they arrived they found their ideal plot a few erfs down, and on the water. They started building in January 2019 and are looking forward to moving in to their brand new house soonest.



Niki Anderson

Quotable Quotes

They say marriages are made in heaven. But so is thunder and lightning.

Clint Eastwood

Procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday.

Don Marquis

...continued from page 4

This will remain a main focus for us. Please contact Lisa van Zyl with any ideas.

POMA

POMA has launched a new website and invited everybody to visit it and subscribe to their newsletter - <https://poma.co.za/>.

David de Bruyn
Acting Chairman

A JUVENILE IN DISTRESS

The 27th June started as most of our days begin - coffee on the patio. This particular morning our friend, Gideon Reyneke, had joined us and I pointed out to him a young darter who I thought had caught a crab. On closer inspection it wasn't a crab, his whole beak had become entangled in fishing line! Gideon and I tried to catch him with the pool net, but he swam to the other side of the canal.



I phoned Lisa, a very useful person in all sorts of situations, who told me that they'd seen the juvenile two days prior. She phoned the Marina Manager, Riaan Adendorff and the four of us then very slowly approached the poor, young bird who by this time had been chased away by the geese and was again on the Island side of the canal.

Riaan managed to catch him by gently throwing a towel over him and Gideon carefully took the fishing line from his beak. The line was not only holding his beak together, but was also wrapped through his beak. He was very weak as he'd not been able to eat or drink for at least two days.

Continued on page 6...

...continued from page 5

We left him to recover a bit and Riaan went to get some tinned sardines to try to get him to eat something. The two male rescuers then went about their daily business.



This left Lisa and I to try to get this young fellow to eat! Fortunately, Lisa is very experienced in rehabilitating wildlife. We managed to catch him again using a towel and brought him indoors to a sheltered environment.



By this time, he was already feeling a great deal better. So much so that he managed to peck both my lips and my nose. We calmed him down and Lisa explained to me why he wouldn't accept the tinned oysters I'd tried to get him to eat while he was still outside. All long-necked birds have what we'd call a gag reflex. To swallow, birds tip their heads back to move the fish to the back of the throat, and their tongues help manoeuvre the food into a good swallowing position. Obviously therefore he wasn't going to pick up an it'sy bitsy dead oyster which smelled of cottonseed oil!

I gently held him, wearing sunglasses to protect my eyes from his beak, and Lisa stroked his neck then opened his beak and dropped a sardine in. The reflex took over and he started eating. It was a tremendous feeling of relief to know that he was feeling well enough to swallow. After feeding a couple to him we left him to rest and then fed a few more.



Continued on page 7...

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

You may or may not have noticed that since we've changed the cover of The Islander to have a different photograph each edition, we've tried to match the cover photograph to reflect the season of that issue. We've also tried to have a combination of beauty and activities.

We now have a challenge for all homeowners! We'd like you to submit a photograph that you've taken reflecting one of the four seasons in landscape format. The competition will take place over a year and the first photograph should be indicative of spring. One photograph per family/household. The winning entry for each of the seasons will not only have their photograph depicted on the cover of the newsletter, but will also receive a beautiful basketed of delicious goodies! The judge will be Lisa van Zyl, who is a published, award-winning photographer. Judges decision is final. See below examples of the past four covers to give you inspiration.



August 2018



December 2018 © Niki Anderson



March 2019 © Eddie Stofberg



July 2019 © David Lane

...continued from page 17

their nests in a wide variety of spots, using the grasses and leaves of the plants in their local habitat. They line the nest with soft feathers to ensure that the tiny chicks are warm and comfortable. The male and the female both take turns in incubating the eggs (generally ranging from five to eight eggs), and then in caring for the chicks once they have hatched. Although they will usually choose spring in which to breed, these geese are known to lay their eggs all year round.



After 28 to 30 days the chicks hatch and they will be cared for by both of their parents. They learn to fly at around 11 weeks of age, but continue to stick close to their parents for a few months.

Predators

Due to the intrusive nature and loud noise of these birds, as well as their feeding on crops, they continue to face some threat by the humans in whose

Almost adults and testing out their wings, but not yet flying - 29 July 2019

vicinity they intrude. In addition, they face some challenges in terms of the loss of suitable habitat, thanks to pollution and urbanisation. However, they are not endangered in any way, and there remain massive numbers of Egyptian geese all over the continent.

Niki Anderson

References

RSPB; Birding Information; Arkive

Have a laugh!

Constable van der Merwe stopped a jalopie that had smoke pouring out of the windows, he couldn't even see inside. Out stepped a rasta.

"How high are you?" the Constable asked.

Rasta replied, "No mon, you've got it wrong, it's 'Hi, how are you?'"

...continued from page 6

Tucked snugly in a large cardboard box we took him back to the place where we'd originally caught him to release him. He now had a bit of food in his tummy and was very pleased to be back in his own environment. I kept an eye on him from our patio and it seemed to me that he'd also injured his wing. This hadn't been apparent at first because we were so intent on freeing his beak. In hindsight though, he hadn't flown at all throughout this ordeal so he must have injured his wing previously.

Lisa then got hold of Etienne Buys who is the resident snake catcher and standing in until a new Cape Nature Ranger is appointed. He phoned SANCOB and our darter is now recuperating with them. We don't expect to hear more, but if there's an update we'll let you know.



Niki Anderson

Every animal has his or her story, his or her thoughts, daydreams, and interests. All feel joy and love, pain and fear, as we now know beyond any shadow of a doubt. All deserve that the human animal afford them the respect of being cared for with great consideration for those interests or left in peace.

Ingrid Newkirk

POLICING UPDATE

Velddrif has had a low crime rate for May and June 2019. June 2019's statistics were much lower than those for the previous year.

Recently an arrest was made of a person suspected of many thefts from houses in Port Owen and Velddrif over the past 18 months, and a large collection of items was found.

Our neighbouring towns of Vredenburg and Saldanha have had significant increases in all types of crimes, and Langebaan is also a source of concern. A worry to the police is that criminals appear to be looking for firearms to steal: the police are warning people to keep their firearms in approved safes, and to keep the keys safe. When a firearm is stolen that owner will never be granted a license again.

We are fortunate in that the neighbourhood watches are functioning well. The Port Owen E-Watch has been patrolling at frequent irregular hours (so as not to be predictable) during both the day and night. The Velddrif Neighbourhood Watch is supporting them and also patrolling in Laaiplek and Velddrif.

A new Watch started in Fisherman's Village a few months ago and has several enthusiastic members. Noordhoek 's Watch has been slow in gaining momentum but there has been a recent upswing of concern, so we hope that this will bear fruit. All of these form a deterrent to both casual petty crime and also to members of syndicates from the city who look for easy targets. There is close liaison between the Watches and the police, and all act in unity to keep our communities safe.

Continued on page 9...

...continued from page 16

Diet

As they walk, the Egyptian geese pick up and eat a range of seeds and grasses. They are also known to eat the grain that has spilled from crops (such as wheat, maize and barley). Since they favour wet conditions, a fair portion of their diet comprises aquatic plants and the grasses that can be found on the banks of a dam or river. But, their diet is not limited to vegetation. They will eat earthworms, moths, termites, ants, and beetles; if they happen to come across these. This is especially the case with the juvenile geese.



Goslings growing! 04 July 2019

Socialization

This bird is known for its loud, honking call, which it uses to attract its mate. They feed both day and night, sticking to a small flock (also known as a family group) for most of the year. However, during breeding season, both males and females become particularly aggressive; both with members of their own species and with other types of birds. They have even been known to kill the chicks of fellow Egyptian geese to ensure that their own chicks have the best living conditions possible. Because of the noisy nature of their aggression, these birds are often unpopular amongst their human neighbours.

Communication

The voice of the Egyptian goose is recognised as being loud and course to those who share their habitat. The male tends to be quieter and hoarser, sounding more like a quack. The female, on the other hand, emits a loud squawk that can continue incessantly, particularly when caring for her young. When trying to attract his mate, the male will use honking, together with a feather display to impress the female.

Reproduction

Once the Egyptian goose has found a mate, it generally pairs for life. They make

...continued from page 15



Papa Egyptian goose

on the wings, complemented by an intense emerald on the secondary feathers of the males. There is also a well-defined brown patch right in the centre of the chest. The female of the species is slightly smaller than her male counterparts. Apart from this, there are few to no clear differences between the sexes.

Size

Range mass: 1.1 – 3.5kg
 Range length: 63cm – 73cm
 Range wing span: 134cm – 154cm.

Habitat

The Egyptian goose favours a habitat that offers plenty of water, as well as some dry spots. So, they can usually be found in inland regions (even open plains) that have wetlands, lagoons or lakes nearby. They are also partial to ornamental water features (like ponds). They enjoy perching in trees and exploring long grasses for food.



Goslings huddled - 02 July 2019

Distribution

These birds are endemic to Africa, south of the Sahara Desert. In South Africa, they can be found almost everywhere, with the exception of desert or arid places. It can also be found in the southern part of Israel and in limited areas through the United States of America.



Mama chasing a dove away

Continued on page 17...

...continued from page 8

Laaiplek SAPS remains understaffed: this is a province-wide phenomenon: we need to face the reality that until the province is allocated sufficient posts, our situation will remain as it is. The police continue to ask people to join the Reservists: interested parties are invited to contact Constable Mornè Denton at (022) 783 8020.

Keep safe!



From the desk of:
Captain P. L. Ackeer
Station Commander
SAPS LAAIPEK

Police	022 783 8020
Ambulance (Vredenburg)	022 713 4590
Hospital Life Private (Vredenburg)	022 719 1030
Hospital Provincial	022 709 7200
Dr N Vermeulen	022 783 0027
Mobile	083 658 4056
Dr S Annandale	022 783 0040
Mobile	083 233 1098
Dr Raubenheimer (dentist)	022 783 0289
NSRI Port Control	022 714 1726
NSRI Direct Emergency	082 990 5966
Municipality Velddrif	022 783 1112
Municipality Piketberg	022 913 6000
Municipality Electricity	083 272 4117
Municipality Water	083 272 4136
Municipality Sewage	083 272 4135

REPLANTING OF ALOES

As was mentioned in our Acting Chairman’s report the *Aloe Arborescens* plants were removed from the third middle island as they unfortunately succumbed to root rot which I suspect was as a result of being planted too close together and had to compete for limited space. They also, unfortunately, contributed to poor visibility for cars when turning right at the base of the bridge.

Fortunately, there were enough healthy plants for us to replant cuttings on the steep bank to the right of the bridge coming on to the Island. This steep bank needed some serious stabilization and the aloes seem to be doing their job superbly.



This is considered a low maintenance plant. However drainage is very important as they are not happy to sit in water. They have a vicious root system, which makes it a tough physical job to get them out.

This evergreen perennial plant produces nectar that attracts pollinating insects like bees, butterflies and birds. We often see the sunbirds around them.



Star-of-Bethlehem

Not only is it an attractive ever green plant, but it also has medicinal uses. The leaf sap can be used for allergic reactions to *Ornithogalum* (also known as Star-of -Bethlehem and Chinchinchee) leaf sap.

The leaves can be cut in half length wise, and made into bandages. This can also be used to treat burns. The leaves are anti-bacterial, anti-ulcer, anti-inflammatory, anti-carcinogenic and hypoglycaemic. This is the aloe that was used to treat irradiation burn victims from the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings.

GOSLINGS 2019

Each year a pair of Egyptian geese breeds and raises a clutch of goslings in our area on the north side of the Island and this year they’ve had a record of nine goslings. The parents, who mate for life, are extremely protective of their young and actively chase away any creature who dares to come too close. We love sitting on our patio in sun greeting the geese each morning, ensuring that they’ve all survived the night and commenting on how quickly they’ve grown.

Alopochen Aegyptiacus—The Egyptian Goose

The beauty of the Egyptian goose is sometimes taken for granted, thanks to its proliferation all over South Africa, and stretching right up to the north of the African continent. It is endemic to the Nile Valley and the entire area south of the Sahara Desert.



Mama goose with nine goslings under her wings! 05 June 2019

Egyptian geese were considered sacred by the Ancient Egyptians and appear in much of their artwork.



Geese & goslings taken on 07 June 2019

The Egyptian Goose is related to the shelduck, and is a cross between a duck and a goose. A shelduck is defined as being semi-terrestrial, and they are found in areas that have an abundant water supply as well as dry, safe places in which to feed, breed and nest. The Egyptian goose has vivid markings that are striking and impressive.

This bird is pale brown and grey, with rich brown or chestnut markings around the eyes, around the neck (resembling a collar), on a portion of the wings, and under the otherwise black tail. In stark contrast, there are crisp white markings

Continued on page 16...

...continued from page 13

After a wonderful braai with very convivial company we packed up, leaving our rubbish in the creature-proof bins and went to the beach area to explore.

I can honestly say this was one of the very best outings we've had in the past five years and a wonderful way to spend a warm, winter's day. The whole time we were there, about four hours, we saw only one other couple. Oh, and by the way, there are ramps to the braai areas and the bird hides which is completely wheelchair friendly. If you go in August/September not only will you see the magnificent flowers, but there's a good chance of seeing whales in the bay as well.



**Convivial - see page 23*



Miles of nothingness



Perspective

Niki Anderson

<https://www.capenature.co.za/reserves/rocherpan-nature-reserve/3/>

Continued on page 11...

...continued from page 10

The name aloe is from the Greek *alsos* and refers to the bitter juice from the leaves of these plants. It is probably derived from the earlier Arabic word *alloeh* or the Hebrew word *allal*, both meaning bitter. The Latin word *arborescens* means tree-forming or tree-like, and is a bit misleading in that this aloe is not really tree-like, but the name was originally applied to this species in reference to the stem-forming habit. The common name Krantz Aloe refers to its habitat, a krantz being a rocky ridge or cliff.



<http://www.plantbook.co.za/aloe-arborescens/>
<http://growwild.co.za/trees/aloe-arborescens>
<http://pza.sanbi.org/aloe-arborescens>

Lisa van Zyl

Limerick time!

It's summer. It's winter. It's fall;
 In the course of one week we've had all
 Of those seasons and more.
 What's a calendar for?
 I once knew, but no longer recall.
Author: Mad Kane

The weatherman forecast clear skies.
 But I wasn't surprised by the cries
 And the shrieks and the bawling
 When rain started falling;
 I've weathered the weather guys' lies.
Author: Mad Kane



WHAT TO DO IN WINTER

Well, it appears as if no-one is prepared to spill the beans on their secret spaces as we've had absolutely no shares of what our fellow homeowners consider a hidden gem. Ah well, I suppose I'll have to let another cat out of the bag!

On a beautiful winter's day a couple of weeks ago four of us decided to make the most of the wonderful weather and find a perfect braai spot. Just a 20-minute drive on the road from

Laaiplek to Elands Bay you'll find the superb Cape Nature Rocherpan Nature Reserve.

Rocherpan is a coastal nature reserve teeming with birds and colourful wildflowers. The reserve, which lies 25km north of Velddrif on the Cape West Coast, consists largely of a seasonal vlei that is usually dry between March and June. Rocherpan was established as a nature reserve (930 hectares in size) in 1966, and the adjacent section of the Atlantic Ocean was declared a marine reserve in 1988 (150 hectares in size).



Black Oystercatcher © Peter Chadwick

the local species have thrived ever since. Along the coast you'll see the rare and endangered black oystercatcher, the kelp gull and one of the largest populations of the Cape shoveler.

Continued on page 13...

...continued from page 12

Two rivers, the Papkuils and the Sout, flow into the reserve. Although Rocherpan Nature Reserve was originally established because of the conservation value of this seasonal vlei and its importance for birds, the reserve also offers protection to several other species. It is one of only two locations where the critically endangered aquatic plant, the Cape horned pondweed, is known to survive.

Rocherpan is dominated by the large central vlei and a 4.7km stretch of sandy Atlantic coastline, of which the southern 3km, and the area 500m seaward is a marine protected area. It offers protection to diverse marine, freshwater and terrestrial habitats.



Back to our outing... Wood? Check. Blitz? Check. Meat? Check. Spar salads? Check. Implements? Check. Beverages and other most important items? Check! Off north we set.

Being a nature reserve, there is a conservation fee of R50/adult and R30/child which is well worth the money to visit this pristine slice of sandveld. You go to reception for this and then drive back to a different entrance for the braai areas and hikes.

Everything is so beautifully well maintained from the eco-toilets, the braai areas, the hikes and the bird hides. We weren't very lucky bird-wise as it was the middle of a fairly warm day, but we're definitely planning on doing an overnight stay in the near future to experience waking up to the birdsong and going to sleep with a roaring fire and a starlit sky.

After choosing the braaiplek and unpacking the victuals (hee, hee, use your dictionary!) kindling was collected and the fire started by Andrew. Now, the thing about our friend Andrew is that he's a great ideas man, but the implementation not so much. He's a very good delegator without actually saying a thing. Needless to say, Kevin then took over the poking of the fire and the actual braaing once the coals were ready.

Continued on page 14...