

NewsLetter



GROTTO BAY PRIVATE NATURE RESERVE

Beautiful One Day - Perfect The Next

April 2022 Newsletter

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM will be held at the Atlantic Beach Golf Club, Clubhouse, on Saturday the 14th of May at 9am. Please arrive timeously.

You may also attend via Zoom, the link will be sent to you via email. Linked here is a document about why companies have a Memorandum of Incorporation (MOI). (PDF 12MB)

We encourage everyone to attend and to have a look at this document before the AGM.



Grotto Bay

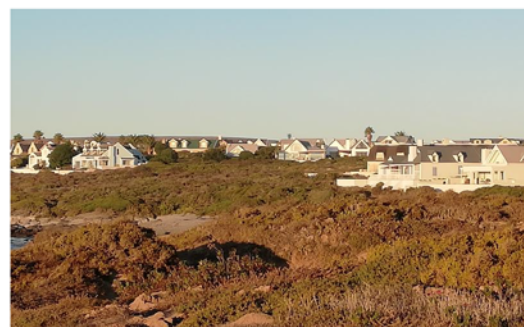
MEMORANDUM OF INCORPORATION

[CLICK HERE](#)

30 YEAR AESTHETICAL REPORT & REVIEW LANGEBAAN TO BOKPUNT

Our Aesthetics director Karien Collins-Odendal researched and wrote a very interesting report on the above subject which was sent out to all members recently.

It depicts the history of how the West Coast Private Nature Reserve housing estates like Grotto Bay came into being. If you have not already read it, [please click here](#) to follow the link to read it. (PDF 2.8MB)



THE SEARCH FOR ALTERNATIVE POWER

The board is working on alternative renewable energy solutions that will fit in with our design manual. We have also engaged with Swartland Municipality to ask what they would allow.

More on this at the upcoming AGM.



YOUR 12-POINT GUIDE TO FIRE SAFETY IN THE HOME

As the days become shorter and the nights colder, Adriaan Marais (Director Fire Safety) offers some practical advice on how to stay safe this winter.

Hundreds of people are either killed or maimed in domestic fires across the country each year as people attempt to heat their homes to ward off the wintry weather. A house fire can start unexpectedly at any time, and we need to be particularly careful at this time of year as we make use of additional heating. Thousands of homes each year suffer some form of fire, and for many the consequences can be devastating in both loss of life and property. What is really staggering is the number of homes still without any form of basic fire or smoke alarm.



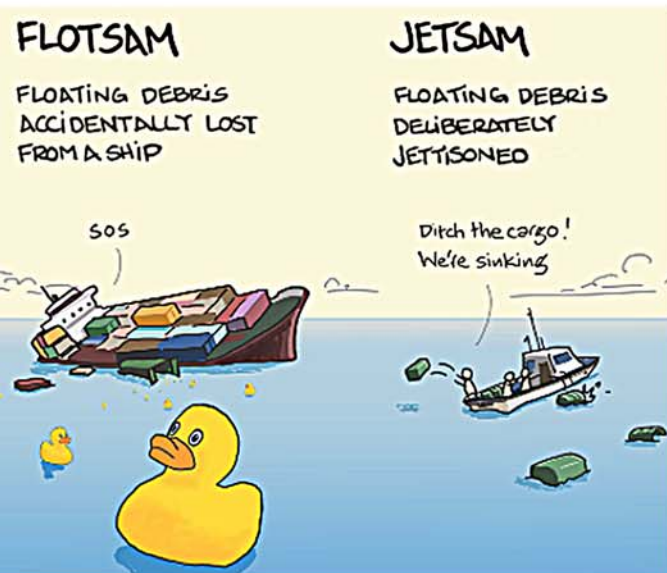
For just a few Rands this can mean the difference between life and death.

To help people prepare for winter, herewith a 12-point guide to fire safety:

1. Fit a fire or smoke alarm. Test your alarm and change the batteries at least once a year.
2. Never leave fires, candles, or any form of naked flame in the home unattended and ensure candles are secure before lighting.
3. Never leave children around fires, candles, or matches unsupervised.
4. Keep a fire blanket and suitable extinguisher handy in the kitchen. A fire blanket can smother flames either on a person or on a stove. Most reputable fire companies sell home safety fire-fighting kits.
5. Avoid wearing baggy clothes while cooking and around heaters and open fires.
6. Never smoke in bed and ensure that all cigarettes are extinguished before retiring for the night.
7. In case of a fire, have a plan. Make sure you have more than one escape route should your route become blocked.
8. If you have gas, oil or wood burning appliances be aware of carbon monoxide. Ensure your home is properly ventilated and equipment is regularly serviced and maintained.
9. Turn off portable heaters, as well as gas and electric fires and ensure that your fireplace is safe before going to bed.
10. If you have an open fire, make sure the fire guard is secure and in place.
11. Keep heaters away from furniture and curtains.
12. Use your common sense.

We are all guilty of bringing out the extra heater, dusting it down and turning it on without rechecking that it is fully safe, and it is all too easy for people not to take adequate precautions to prevent a fire in the home, the consequences of which can be devastating.

It is important for all of us to be extra vigilant, particularly in the coming months as it gets colder and as we go to extra lengths to keep ourselves and our homes warm. Additionally, it is important to educate those that work for us, either in our homes or in our gardens, to ensure that they also apply safe practices throughout the cold months of winter.



BEACHCOMBING

Flotsam & Jetsam are terms commonly used to describe "junk at sea". However, there are legal meanings to the terms. Both infer a relationship with shipping. Flotsam (derived from floater) is debris in the water that is not deliberately discarded, but perhaps from an accident or shipwreck. Jetsam, on the other hand (derived from jettison) is debris deliberately discarded, usually jettisoned, or thrown overboard. Under maritime law, the distinction is important. Flotsam may be claimed by the original owner, whereas jetsam may be claimed as the property of whoever discovers it. If the jetsam is valuable, the finder may collect the proceeds received through the sale of the salvaged objects.

Seaweed Drifts. It is not uncommon to find huge concentrations of dislodged seaweed aggregated in a large drift, often wedged against a reef edge. Such drifts occur after strong wave and wind conditions. Seaweed drifts may stay in place for many days during which time this mass of algae is progressively broken down by wave action, sand scouring and especially by organisms ranging from bacteria to shrimps and fish. In doing so, the nutrients inherent in the seaweed are released into the environment, making them available to filter-feeding animals such as rock mussels and red bait. Research shows that close to river mouths, such drifts may contain high proportions of land-based vegetation. While these seaweed drifts may not please beachgoers, they represent an important ecological driver that provides energy to the marine and coastal environment.



Microalgae. As a beachcomber, you are likely to be unaware to notice the innumerable microscopic algae that occur in our seas. However, you may have detected some of the effects of their presence. Microalgae are unicellular plants such as phytoplankton that drift around the oceans wherever sunlight penetrates the water. These plants can photosynthesise and convert inorganic compounds into proteins, fats, and carbohydrates. This provides the foundation of many important ecosystems, providing food for marine creatures, including small crustaceans, jellyfish and many fish species. This is especially common in cooler regions where upwelling brings nutrients from the depths to surface waters – a process that stimulates prolific plankton growth, evidenced by the greenish or milky colour of the seas off the Cape. High concentrations of phytoplankton and nutrients subjected to strong wave action may lead to excessive surface foam which sometimes lands up on the beach.



It's unfortunate, but now we know why we should put up with the smelly seaweed and brown foam on Grotto Beach from time to time.

HOW TO EXPLAIN EASTER TO KIDS



With Easter egg hunts, a bunny mascot and chocolate aplenty, it's easy to see why Easter is an exciting time for kids! Yet how many of them know why we celebrate Easter or where our Easter traditions come from? These fun facts should help you discover how to explain Easter to Kids!

1. **The date of Easter changes every year.** This is because Easter falls on the first Sunday after the full moon following the March equinox. However, this always occurs on or between 22nd March and 25th April.
2. **Easter is the Christian celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.** It is the oldest Christian tradition. It is also considered to be the most important date on the Christian calendar.
3. **Easter marks the end of the 40-day period of Lent,** which is a traditional time of fasting that begins on Ash Wednesday.
4. **The week before Easter is known as Holy Week.** This begins on Palm Sunday and includes Maundy Thursday (the day of the Last Supper), Good Friday (the day of Christ's crucifixion) and Holy Saturday (the time between the crucifixion and resurrection).
5. **Eggs are associated with Easter because eggs (along with milk and meat) were forbidden during Lent.** Any remaining eggs would be used up on the day before Lent, Shrove Tuesday, which is also known as Pancake Tuesday. The eggs accumulated during Lent would then be eaten at Easter.
6. **Hot cross buns were one of the earliest Easter treats** and were made by European monks to be given out to the poor during Lent. They have become less traditional over time with many supermarkets selling them all year round.
7. **The first chocolate Easter eggs were made in France and Germany as far back as the early 19th century.** The first Cadbury Easter eggs were made in 1875.
8. **The idea of the Easter Bunny originated among German Lutherans as the Easter Hare,** which was said to judge whether children had been good or bad, to determine if they deserved Easter eggs. The first mention of this character in literature appeared in a story in 1682.

Activity Sheet

Help The Easter Bunny Find His Basket

Happy Easter!



Colour Me In



Easter Word Hunt

Directions: Look for the ten words in the list hidden in the puzzle. The words can be forwards or backwards.



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



- | | | |
|--------|-------|--------|
| basket | chick | hunt |
| bonnet | dye | lily |
| bunny | egg | parade |
| candy | | |



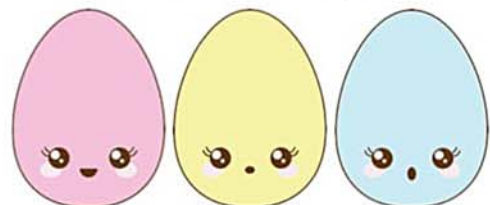
Easter Surprise!



Easter eggs,
 Yellow and blue.
 Easter eggs,
 For me and you.

Easter eggs,
 Candy sweet.
 Easter eggs,
 Are good to eat.

Easter eggs,
 Pretty and Funny.
 But ... where oh where is the
 Easter bunny?



LITTLE BAKER



Easy Easter Nest Cupcakes for the little bakers - Makes 12

Soft vanilla sponge cupcakes topped with chocolate buttercream and decorated with speckled mini eggs

INGREDIENTS - For the cupcakes

100 grams soft butter
100 grams caster sugar
100 grams self-raising flour
2 eggs
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

INGREDIENTS - For the buttercream

1 tablespoon cocoa
2 tablespoons hot water
75 grams soft butter
225 grams icing sugar – sieved

To Decorate – 44 mini speckled eggs

Method:

Preheat oven to 180 C

Place paper cases in a cupcake pan

Place all ingredients together in a bowl and beat well for 2-3 minutes until well blended.

Divide equally into the paper cases and bake for about 15 minutes until light golden brown.

Lift out of the baking pan onto a cooling rack.

Blend the cocoa with the hot water in a bowl and leave to cool.

Put the butter, icing sugar and the cooled cocoa in a bowl and mix for 2-3 minutes, until light and fluffy. Pipe the buttercream onto the cooled cupcakes and decorate with the speckled eggs.

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 15 minutes

For those of you who are new to Grotto Bay, here are a few interesting outings to try in the area.



Contact - theboard@grottobay.org

www.grottobay.org