



STEENBOK NEWS

Spur Rotary Knysna Children's Tour 2014

The kiddies cycle races will take place in Steenbok Park on Sunday 6th July with the start at the lawn opposite the boat club entrance.

Rotary raises lots of money during the Momentum Weekend Argus Rotary Knysna Cycle Tour. The Spur Rotary Knysna Children's Tour is officially linked to this event. What is raised goes back into the community where it is needed most.

The rides will be:

2-4yrs at 10h00 in Steenbok Park.

5-6yrs at 10h30 in Steenbok Park and Links Drive.

7 - 9yrs at 11h00 in Steenbok Park, Links Drive and the grass opposite the Security Hut.

The Links Drive loop from the Leisure Isle entrance to the main Steenbok Park entrance will be closed for the duration of the last two rides.

The event has become a favourite for our little ones. Please come and watch.

Restoration of Salt Marsh

At the meeting of the Management Committee of the Reserve held on 26 May it was unanimously decided that, subject to availability of finance and compliance with environmental regulations, the Salt Marsh Restoration Project should be implemented. As previously reported this will involve introducing another four pipes under the seawall to allow sea water tidal inundation of the area of Steenbok Park west of the board walks.

Following discussion with SANParks it seems that we will now need to employ an environmental consultant to prepare and submit to the environmental authorities a "Basic Assessment" application and we are currently considering the most efficient manner of

doing this. What is clear however is that the commencement of the Restoration Project is still many months way. With this in mind our new Planning Committee will be asked to consider any other major and expensive projects that should be considered in the future three year period. This will then enable the preparation of a three year financial plan incorporating, if necessary, fund raising possibilities.

Flooding of Steenbok Park

Late on the afternoon of Monday 16 June visitors to Steenbok Park were treated to a rare occurrence of a particularly high tide flowing over the seawall near the inlet/outlet pipes and flooding into the Park.

This phenomena happens occasionally as a result of a high spring tide accompanied by high seas, strong westerly winds and low atmospheric pressure. The highest recorded flooding occurred 31 August 2008 whilst the last flooding was in July 2009. The recent high tide level is estimated to be about 300mm below the 2008 record high. As the sun rose on the Tuesday morning visitors were greeted with the amazing sight of a lake stretching onto sections of the brick pathway with hundreds of water birds enjoying the rich feeding waters. The main flood level abated over the next few days but evidence of the flood was still visible for another week.

Our records show that previous floodings occurred in March 2008 and then in 2006, 2005, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000 and 1996 and prior to that no recorded flooding for 10 years until the early eighties when flooding occurred five times.

Leisure Isle Festival

The next Festival will be held over the weekend of 1 and 2 November and will again feature the Plant Sale that is organised each year by Gardening at Leisure to raise funds for new developments in the Reserve. Organisation of the Festival is already under way and includes a number of new innovations including

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Trustees

Keith Hollis (Chairman), James Botha,
Peter Godsell, Myles Ruck, Brian Steele,
Esther Townsend and Roger Voysey.

Management Committee

Councillor Lizwani, Councillor Hart & Jonathan
Mabula nominated by Knysna Municipality,
Ricky Maskew and Roger Voysey by LIRA,
Peter Godsell by Friends of Steenbok,
Maretha Alant by SANParks
and James Botha and Dave Edge
co-opted by MANCOM.

Operations committee

Roger Voysey (Chairman & Manager),
Alix Coxon, Peter Godsell, Andrew Campbell,
Esther Townsend and Leonie Twentyman Jones.

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June 2014

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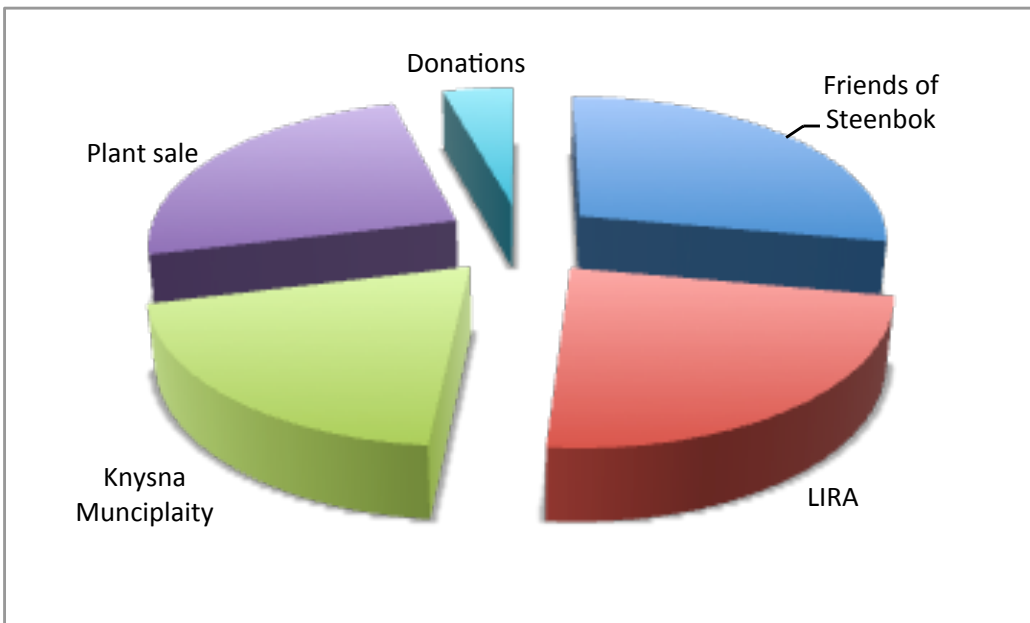
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