

FROK AUGUST 2017 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends of Kloofendal

Welcome again to those who have recently signed on for newsletters.

[Kloofendal buck under serious threat](#)

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Kloofendal buck under serious threat

Buck being chased and killed by dogs and by people. Some of you may have read the Roodepoort Record article, [front page](#), on the threat placed on the buck by dogs which come in through holes in the fencing. Recently remains of a young buck was found, just the 4 legs and head, suggesting that the body was consumed as "bush meat.

A buck was found yesterday 15th August, screaming in pain and terror, drawing Chad da Costa, one of the regular Kloofendal joggers' attention to it. He found it in the river bed near Kloofendal's western border, upstream of Wilgespruit, with a snare around its neck. Chad took the little buck to the reserve office. When he found no one there at that time, he phoned FroK and I recommended him to take the buck to the nearest vet, the Florida Veterinary Hospital, who, in the recent past, have been very supportive on treating injured buck from Kloofendal. The JCPZ manager subsequently took the buck to the Johannesburg Zoo instead. On phoning the Zoo in the afternoon, I was told that the buck was alive, looked alright, but it would, as with its predecessors, have been sedated against pain and put on anti-inflammatory drugs. I do hope to be able to speak to the doctor who treated it, when he/ she is available.



August 2017 - remains of duiker found in stream bed above dam



Yesterday - duiker snared around the neck. Chad da Costa, with the aid of two EPWP workers managed to free the little buck - see comments above



September 2016 - buck got out of reserve, very stressed!
[Luckily community action and JCPZ follow up, buck put back into reserve](#)



+/- May 2017
Bloody remains of hind quarter of buck found in reserve



15 July 2017 - [dogs attacking buck in Kloofendal parking area](#), baby buck crashed into fence, had to be euthanized

Snare Hunt, Saturday 19th August, 9-11 am

Meeting at the Kloofendal Ecological Centre. Every Hunter welcome! Please bring wire and pliers so that snares can be removed and holes in fences can be repaired - temporary repair until JCPZ can do a more permanent repair. As we aim to spread out over the whole reserve, do bring something to drink and a snack? The reserve is big!

Star Gazing and Planet walk event with the [West Rand Astronomy Club](#) on Saturday 29th July



Doryn Jolly from West Rand Astronomy Club with Saturn on of the Planet Walk



Viewing through these big telescopes is an interesting experience for all ages!

Kenny Nevil presented a fascinating video on life on a space station, it must be so strange to live with no gravity holding you down.

Once it was dark, Saturn with its rings was beautifully visible through the astronomers' telescopes. There were about ten telescopes out, manned by their owners, all members of the West Rand Astronomy Club, focussing on a new moon, interesting planets and stars in the evening sky.

Just over 200 people enjoyed this annual Star Gazing event. Thank you again to the West Rand Astronomy Club for coming to Kloofendal again this year. Watch out for another astronomy event at Kloofendal in winter 2018.

Orienteering in Kloofendal, Saturday 8th July, 9-12am

Despite the rainy weather, this turned out to be a lovely event enjoyed by young and old! Big thanks to Nick Cooper from the Rand Orienteering Club. We do hope to be having more orienteering events in Kloofendal. Do look at www.roc.org.za for other orienteering events in and around Gauteng. It is a sport that is fun for all ages!

Forthcoming August and September events - Please meet at the Ecological Centre

Bookings with me please on cell 079-693-5608, tel 011-674-2980?

Saturday 19th August, 9h00 - 11h00 Snare Hunt. No cost.

Saturday 26th August, 09h00 - 11h00. Nature Adventure Walk (Ecology) with Karin Spottiswoode R70 adults, R60 pensioners, R50 children

Saturday 2nd September, 09h00 - 11h00. Introductory walk through Kloofendal - Long walk with Steve Spottiswoode. R40 adults, R30 children

Sunday 3rd September, 14h00 - 16h00 Goldmine Tour R70 adults, R60 pensioners, R50 children

Saturday 9th September, 09h30 - 11h30 Alien Invasive Plant Control. Please contact me for more information?

Saturday 16th September, 10h00. FroK AGM, agenda to follow. Please come? The nature reserve needs your support!

Sunday 17th September, 07h00 - 9h00 Bird Spotting. R70 adults, R60 pensioners, R50 children

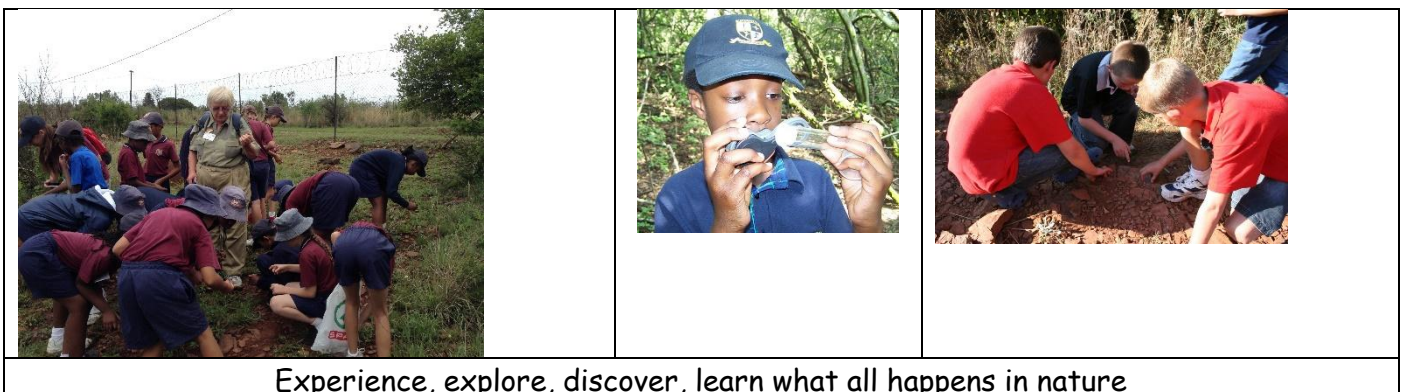
Saturday 30th September, 09h00 - 16h00. Arachnid Course with Jonathan Leeming - info. on www.scorpions.co.za, email: info@jonathanleeming.com

Sunday 1st October, 09h00 - 11h00. Scorpion Walk. While looking for scorpions, we will also look for snares! R70 adults, R60 pensioners, R50 children. [Book with Quicket](#)

Hands-on Environmental Education for schools, grade 0 to grade 12

Curriculum based, with qualified nature guides. Kloofendal is ideal for environmental education in the field, allowing learners to experience, explore, discover and learn how ecosystems work. Information on our [web site](#).

For bookings, please phone me on the FroK cell - see below?



Experience, explore, discover, learn what all happens in nature

Kloofendal Ecological Centre

Now open on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays 09h00 - 15h00. Do come and see our ecological displays - all real specimen with information on each one, also information on the Confidence Reef Goldmine with its early goldmining history. Thank you [Johannesburg City Parks and Zoo](#) environmental education team for providing a person to look after the Centre for the three days per week.



Kind regards,
Karin Spottiswoode
Committee member of Friends of Kloofendal
Cell 079-693-5608, tel 011-674-2980