



Ed's Line.....

Sometimes there is such overwhelming evidence of evil - doing in the world that a blanket of hopelessness falls over me. One such day was Tuesday 23 May 2017 when I woke to the news of not one but two atrocious bombing incidents. One at the military owned Phramongkutkiao Hospital in Bangkok. Twenty four people, mostly elderly, pensioners and family members were wounded when a nail bomb was detonated in the room where they waited for medication. Although owned by the military they also treat civilians. It was the 3rd anniversary of a military coup that overturned a populist movement that had won several national elections over more than a decade. Thailand has had at least twelve military takeovers since absolute monarchy was abolished in 1932.

The second incident was, for me, much closer to home.

The nail bomb blast at Manchester Arena at the conclusion of the Ariana Grande concert. Manchester is my home city so I have family there. Twenty two people were killed and one hundred and sixteen injured. Of the dead, ten were under twenty years of age, the youngest just eight years old.

Both blasts were cowardly attacks on unarmed, defenceless people going about their daily lives. I cannot think of a single excuse for any such actions perpetrated by any one for any "reason".

Thankfully there are also a great many wonderful people who show love and respect. Take the emergency services who responded to both attacks, the volunteers and strangers who assisted in any way they could.

On a personal front I have experienced the kindness of

paramedics from Netcare 082 911 and a male nurse at Mulbarton Accident and Emergency Department. My father who suffers from Alzheimer's was transported by Netcare 911 to Mulbarton Hospital on Sunday. One paramedic smiled and told me to take care before he left on the next call. His colleague came back later to check on my Dad in I.C.U. and the A & E nurse, when I shook his hand and thanked him, also told me to take care, accompanied by a hug.....small gestures that went a long way to not only reassuring me they cared for me in that moment but also that there are far more loving, caring people in the world than there are cold blooded killers.

Let's pay it forward with a kind word, smile or hug. (CN)

The Month Ahead.....

After the Long Walk held last month we will be switching gears and warming things up a bit. Don't worry we won't be working up a sweat with a "Long Run".....come and enjoy a leisurely walk, stories and a hot cup of soup. Full details

on the notice board. The inimitable Kevin Lavery will be hosting his monthly Bird Walk - regardless of the dropping temperatures - and for those at a loose end on Sunday 25 June book your guided walk to loosen up the muscles and chase

away the workday blues....
(see noticeboard for details) (CN)



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Grateful Thanks to the Following

Donations:

Individuals:

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Banking Details:

Kilpriviersberg Nature Reserve
 Standard Bank Southdale
 006405
 Account Number:
 201047284

“Your most unhappy customers are your greatest source of learning”

Bill Gates III (6-28.10.1955) Business Magnate

**Schedule of
 Events**

Bird Walks

Kevin Lavery

083 267 3494

Guided Walks:

See Notice Board

General:

084 804 4073

Please note that these dates are subject to change.

Please confirm dates with the relevant persons listed above.

***For Full Details On
 All Calendar
 Events Please
 Refer To The No-
 tice Boards***

June 2017

(information subject to change)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 18h00 Walk and Soup Evening
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 08h00 Bird Walk
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 08h00 Guided Walk	26	27	28	29	30	

GPS Co-Ordinates:

Slent Pool 26° 16' 59.57 "S / 28° 00' 34.34"E **Entrance Precinct** 26° 18' 13.50"S / 28° 00'39.34"E

Walk Tips:

We recommend that you wear a hat, good walking shoes and sun block. Bring snacks and water (**water is a must!**) Binoculars are recommended for the bird walks.

June : Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Marilyn Monroe (1926) Actress	2	3
4	5	6	7 "Prince" Rogers Nelson (1958)	8	9	10
11	12 Bryan Habana (1983) Rugby Player	13	14 Che Guevara (1928) Revolutionary	15	16 Arnold Vosloo (1962) Actor	17
18 Thabo Mbeki (1942) Politician	19	20 Nicole Kidman (1967) Actress	21	22	23	24 Lionel Messi (1987) Soccer
25	26	27 Dale Steyn (1983) Cricketer	28 Elon Musk (1971) Entrepreneur	29	30	

June : Religious and Cultural

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Pentecost	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 All Saint's Day Race Unity Day	12	13	14	15	16 Youth Day	17
18 Father's Day	19	20	21 Laila Al-Qadr	22	23	24
25	26 Eid Al-Fitr	27 Eid Al-Fitr	28 Eid Al-Fitr	29	30	

Colour Key: Birthdays Non South African South African

Colour Key: Holidays Public Holidays Buddhist Hindu Sikh Christian Jewish Islamic Bahá'í Zoroastrian SA Public Holidays / Special Days

Spotlight On.....Southern Masked-Weaver

The Southern Masked Weaver (*Plicaeus velatus*) - a common and widespread weaver in Southern Africa. It is also known as:

Ihobo-hobo (generic term for weaver) [Xhosa]

iHlokoHloko (generic term for weaver) [Zulu]

Kambara (generic term for weaver and also applied to Yellow-crowned bishop)

[Kwangali]

Letolopje, Thaha (also applied to Cape weaver) [South Sotho]

Jesa (generic name for weaver) [Shona]

Ndzheyana (generic term for weaver or quelea) [Tsonga]

Talê, Thaga, Thaga-talê [Tswana]

To the untrained eye the Southern Masked and Lesser Masked-Weavers are similar in appearance (see table right).

The vibrant yellow and black colouration in the breeding males makes for a striking bird of 11-14.5cm in length and weighing 37g. They live in savanna and grasslands breeding in colonies overhanging water. They do, however, breed further

from water in thornveld and suburbia.

The males construct the nests in trees or reeds. If the nest is acceptable to the female she will line it with leaves, grass, inflorescences and feathers. Males will breed with up to 12 females who may breed multiple times per season. Up to 9 males will inhabit the colony. 1- 6 eggs are laid and the weaver, although less aggressive than others weavers, will attack the Didericks cuckoo if it intrudes on their territory. This is because the Didericks cuckoo uses their nests, and the weaver parents, to raise their young.

Their diet consists of: seeds, fruit, flower parts, nectar, insects and human food

	Southern Masked	Lesser Masked
Legs	Brown	Grey
Eyes	Red	White
Mask	Ends forehead	Ends mid crown
Mask	Ends pointed throat	Ends rounded throat
Females/ Juveniles	No mask , buff underparts	No mask, pale yellow underparts

such as bread and porridge.

Depending on the area they are inhabiting they are preyed upon by:

- Adults:** Ovambo sparrowhawk
Little sparrowhawk
Peregrine falcon
Lanner falcon

Eggs and Chicks:

- Boomslang
- Purple heron
- Gabar goshawk
- Black kite
- Common fiscal
- African grey hornbill
- Vervet monkey

Information from:
Sasol Birds of Southern Africa
Thekruger.com
Wikipedia.org
Biodiversity Explorer

Weaver Illustrations



Male constructing his nest from grass and reeds
Photo - Wikipedia.org



Male constructing his nest from grass and reeds
Photo - Wikipedia.org



Female showing the buff underparts
Photo - Wikipedia.org

Please feel free to submit any suggestions, comments or articles to editixcn@gmail.com

Alien Invasion : Alien Bird Species in South Africa

It must be noted that not all of these species will be found within the confines of the KNR.

Indian Mynah (*Acridotheres tristis*)

This species is native to Southern and South-eastern Asia. A few individuals were introduced into South Africa around 1900 and have multiplied into the millions. They are considered amongst the top 100 worst invasive species in the world (Global Invasive Species Specialist Group). They are extremely aggressive towards indigenous species and do not warrant protection.

They are 25cm long, chocolate brown with a darker head, black eyes surrounded by a bare yellow patch, yellow legs and white wing patches and wing tips.

Habitat includes trees, bridges and roof eaves where they roost in large numbers. They are ground feeders eating insects, seeds and nectar.

Their presence adversely affects the biodiversity of the area they inhabit. In Hawaii they were introduced to control pest insects on sugarcane crops. Unfortunately they facilitated the spread of the invasive plant species *Lantana camara*.

It is clear that they can have a catastrophic effect on indigenous species of

both plants and birds .

Mallard Duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*)

The Mallard is the ancestor of the domestic duck should be reported to the local park authorities as it has the ability to interbreed with indigenous species such as the Yellow-billed and African Black ducks. Resulting offspring are infertile which risks the complete dilution of the species. The Mallard is found in national parks in the Western and Eastern Cape but increasing reports of sighting elsewhere pose an increasing problem.

The Mallard is native to North America and Europe.

House Crow (*Corvus splendens*)

Found in the Durban since 1972 and the Cape Flats since the late 1980s they can also be found in Mozambique. It is a grey bodied bird measuring 34 - 38 cm. The head, wings and tail are glossy black

This crow is native to Southern Asia. It is associated with human settlements and as a scavenger can be found alongside rural and city settlements. No populations are known to exist independently of humans.

They are aggressive towards indigenous

species. Found particularly at Table Mountain NP.

Common (European) Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*)

Measuring in at 20-22cm this bird is identifiable by its yellow beak and glossy black plumage speckled with white. Non breeding adults and juveniles have a dark not yellow bill. Females have paler abdomens and more speckling. Juveniles are uniformly grey. Found from farmlands to cities they, like the House Crow are always found close to humans. Found in all parks western and eastern cape.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)

Found in most parks and indeed very widespread within our borders the House sparrow is considered undesirable though not much of a threat.

The male has a grey crown and rump with a reddish back, black throat and white cheeks. The females and juveniles are a dull grey brown with an off-white eye-stripe. They are similar in size to the local sparrows at 14cm. Again they are found near human settlements.

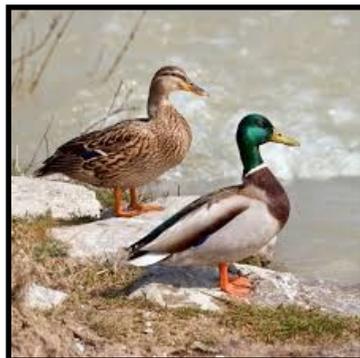
Information from: Sasol Birds of Southern Africa, Sanparks.org, Wikipedia.org and Biodiversity Explorer

Alien Species Illustrations



Above Top : Female House Sparrow

Above Bottom : Male House Sparrow



Left : Beautifully deadly - The Mallard Duck



Right Top : House Crow

Right Middle : Common (European) Starling

Right Bottom : Indian Mynah

Photographs from Wikipedia.org

Except :

Common Starling (Pinterest.com)

Indian Mynah (mynahbirdtraps.com.au)

Regular Events - NOTICE BOARD

Sunday Walks

Do you want to walk in the reserve but are unsure where to go? Would you prefer to be accompanied by a knowledgeable guide? Experience the beauty of the local flora and fauna right here on your own doorstep.

When: Every 4th Sunday of the month

Where: Entrance Precinct, Peggy Vera Rd, Kibler Park

Time: 08h00

Contact: Lea Brash on lea@kolisa.co.za

Cost: R20-00pp (Booking and advance payment essential)

Payment: Deposit into bank account and email proof of payment to lea@kolisa.co.za (Ref = Name and number of attendees)

Catering: Bring your own snacks and don't forget sufficient water, walking shoes, hat and sun-block



Bird Walks with Kevin Lavery

Discover the abundance of bird life in the KNR with Kevin every third Saturday of the month. Check the Events Calendar for times as they vary throughout the year.

Remember to bring along your binoculars, hat, sunscreen and water.

Happy Twitching.....



"Not yet. Don't fly off until the moment they raise their binoculars."

Special Events - NOTICE BOARD

Trails, Tales and Tasty Soup



Warm yourselves with a short and easy stroll in the reserve, a bowl of home-made vegetable soup and tales by our very own Herman Charles Bosman. Banish the weekday blues with like-minded connoisseurs of nature, story telling and relaxation.....all here in our magical nature reserve!

Bring the kids, granny and grandpa too.....

When: Saturday 10 June 2017

Where: Entrance Precinct, Peggy Vera Rd, Kibler Park

Time: 18h00

Cost: R30-00 per person (Booking and advance payment essential)

Payment: Deposit into bank account and email proof of payment to lea@kolisa.co.za (Ref = Name, Soup and number of attendees)

Bank details on pages 2 and 9

Catering: Bring your own water, walking shoes, blanket, chairs and a torch.

Soup supplied

Experience Level: Easy

For further information please contact Lea Brash :

lea@kolisa.co.za



Directions



Directions to "Silent Pool" Entrance (North):

Coming South from N1 or N3:

1. From N12, either via Western Bypass (N1) or Eastern Bypass (N3) get onto the Southern Bypass (N12)
2. Take Kliprivier Drive off ramp (R556) and travel South until you get to the traffic lights cnr Vorster/Columbine Ave
3. Turn right into Columbine, go under bridge and follow Columbine until the Ormonde Drive lights (Engen to the left and Dischem to the right)
4. Turn left into Ormonde Drive
5. Pass Devereux Ave on your left and just before the bridge turn left into Frandolph
6. Proceed to the end of Frandolph to the "Silent Pool" gate. Parking is outside the Reserve.

Coming from M1 South:

1. Pass Gold Reef City and Nasrec off-ramp. Look for Vereeniging—R82 (don't continue to N12 -Bloemfontein!!!) You need the correct lane here unless you want the scenic route.
2. Take Columbine off-ramp and turn left into Columbine
3. Travel down until the lights at a small shopping centre. (Dischem on your left, Steers and Engen on your right)
4. Turn right into Ormonde Drive
5. Pass Devereux Ave on your left and just before the bridge turn left into Frandolph
6. Proceed to the end of Frandolph to the "Silent Pool" gate. Parking is outside the Reserve.

Directions to Peggy Vera Entrance (South):

Coming from South N1 or N3:

1. Take the (N12) and travel to the Kliprivier Drive off-ramp (R556)
2. Travelling South turn right into Impala Rd
3. Travel 4km and turn right into Springbok Rd
4. Turn first right just before Engen into Silver Lane
5. At the T-junction turn right into Peggy Vera
6. Pass the Klipriviersberg Recreation Centre which will be on your right, the Reserve entrance is the next turn right (Parking in grounds)

7. Coming from M1 South:

8. Pass Gold Reef City and Nasrec off-ramp. Look for Vereeniging—R82 (don't continue to N12 -Bloemfontein!!!) You need the correct lane here unless you want the scenic route.
9. Continue on the on the R82 passing Columbine Rd off-ramp with Southgate Shopping Centre on your right
10. Travel 3km and turn left at the first traffic light into Pierpont Drive
11. Travel about 1km to the fork in the road
12. Continue to the left (Pierpont) and take an almost immediate right fork to the end of the road (T-junction—Peggy Vera)
13. Pass the recreation centre on your right, the next entrance is to the Reserve (Parking in grounds)

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Find Us on Face Book
Jewel of the South

Website: www.klipriviersberg.org.za

KNRA invites all interested parties to submit articles, letters and / or photographs for publication. Any suggestions for regular features are welcome.

Newsletters will be published monthly and contributions need to be submitted no later than the 20th of the month for inclusion in the next publication. Late submissions will be considered for the next publication if they are not time sensitive.

All contributions to be sent via email please.

Editor: Cathy Naude

editrixcn@gmail.com

Disclaimer:

All contributions are the opinion of the contributor and not that of the KNRA Committee or Editor

No racism, foul language or personal insults will be permitted. Please be respectful of others opinions .

Spill-Over Notice Board