

PRINCESS VLEI FORUM



ANNUAL REPORT 2019



HANS HOHEISEN
charitable trust

MANAGED BY KEDDANK PRIVATE WEALTH

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2018/19 Management Committee

Gary Stewart	Chairperson
	Technical and Planning Subcommittee Chair
Malcolm Campbell	Deputy Chairperson
	Heritage Subcommittee Chair
Bridget Pitt	Secretary
	Schools Outreach Subcommittee Chair
Emma Oliver	Assistant Secretary
	Environmental Subcommittee Chair
Philip Bam	Treasurer
Vilma Maritz	Deputy Treasurer

Auditors: DCA Chartered Accountants

Cover pic: Sarah Oliver

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1 Introduction

The Forum continues to grow, and to benefit from the substantial grant provided by the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust. The deployment of a full time manager for the Greater Princess Vlei Conservation Area (GPVCA) has brought massive benefits for the site, as well as for our organization. It has enabled the deployment of EPWP workers, and has enabled us to promote the Princess Vlei on various conservation platforms. These funds also enabled us to contract an expert to work with Denisha in mapping the site; drawing up a fynbos restoration plan and propagating suitable species for planting. Community planting efforts have consequently been targeted far more specifically to promote a healthy restored ecosystem.

Denisha's work has been greatly enabled by our collaborative relationship with the City. Councillor Southgate has been instrumental in leveraging City resources towards the project, and has allocated significant ward funding to improving the infrastructure. The City has continued with the project to upgrade the braai areas, and the councilors ward funding has enabled the creation of a children's play park – this has long been on the community wish list for improvements at Princess Vlei. The technical and Planning committee has been responsible for liaising with the City on many of these developments, and our engineering and design professional volunteers have put in many hours to develop planning proposals and comment on City proposals.

The City has also deployed a security team of Park Rangers, which

patrols the area 24/7. Together with the deployment of EPWP workers, this has helped to substantially reduce litter, dumping and vagrancy on site, and make the area more attractive for families and other visitors. City funds are, however limited, and subject to many competing demands, so it remains a challenge to fund the remaining projects.

The Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust Grant has also enabled our very active youth outreach program, which have been busy with clean ups and planting, as well as other events. Learners are offered many creative ways to grow a passion for and knowledge about nature. We have involved older community members in planting and clean up events as well.

The Heritage Committee was constituted earlier this year, and has been active in discussing ways to document and deepen the GPVCA's heritage value to the local community, as well as to tourists and visitors. A major project this year has been collecting oral histories, and assisting in a process to have the site declared a Heritage Site.



2 Protecting Princess Vlei: Heritage, Community and Environment

2.1 Manager's report

This has proved a busy year with many challenges, much learning and some valuable gains.

The site manager has been overseeing 3 Park buddies and 5 EPWP contract workers on site.

The staff on site have been trained to remove alien species, do shoreline maintenance, take care of fynbos and planted trees and do general maintenance and litter picking on site. Unfortunately, a high turnover of EPWP workers has limited the effectiveness of training.

To date, under management, the following has been achieved:

- In 2019 we more than doubled the area of habitat under active restoration from 699m² to 2341m².
- Two planting events were held at Princess Vlei, in two areas – south and east of the vlei.
- A total of 1025 plant units, and 16 trays were planted on 18 May and 11 June.
- Mixed seed were broadcast in the 2019 restoration areas.
- 26 species were planted or broadcast, of which 4 are on the Red

List.

- 34 indigenous trees were planted
- Princess Vlei Eco Guardians Club: Citizen Science Project collecting baseline data for the WLT population on site

Management has been prioritising the following categories on site with regard to conservation and recreational outputs:

Habitat on site continues to improve through the removal of dumping, fuel load management, pruning and cutting back of vegetation to mimic herbivory. Alien removal has been key in rehabilitating indigenous vegetation and soil. Eucalyptus and Port Jackson have been cleared on the Southern shore of the vlei to plant indigenous vegetation. The planting was successful and the area is being maintained to ensure that alien species do not encroach on the indigenous revegetation process. Green jobs along with the invasive alien species unit continues to remove alien vegetation from the site, this includes both terrestrial and aquatic habitat.

Biodiversity: Delayed mowing has allowed the vegetation along the Briana drive boundary of the Vlei to improve. *Satyrium odorum* observed in 2018, has been added to the plant species list as a result thereof. Litter clearing and the removal of dumping has contributed to a large amount of annuals being present on site as predicted. Fork tailed drongos were added to the species list and have been spotted on site for the first time in April 2019. Cape dwarf chameleons have been observed in the northern and southern parts of the Vlei. The areas where the chameleons were spotted seem to be least disturbed by recreational activities. The

carp in the greater Princess Vlei appear to have contracted Carp Herpes. The outbreak has been reported to the appropriate officials and is being monitored by the manager. The virus should help stabilise the alien fish numbers in the Greater Princess Vlei water body. An increase in plant species diversity has been achieved through the restoration planting done on site.

Litter continues to be cleared from the site on a weekly basis by EPWP staff. The Quemic rangers conduct regular operations through the site to ensure that vagrancy remains under control and informal structures are dismantled as soon as they are erected. Dumping areas have been identified on site – the areas least patrolled by the rangers are being used as illegal sites to dump domestic and garden waste. One very destructive dumping incident where fluorescent light tubes were left along the M5 boundary of the site has been cleared. The Forum is in discussion with the CoCT to erect fencing to limit access points.



Pic 1 Litter clearing is an ongoing management challenge

On site activities: The amount of people using Princess Vlei is increasing with diverse activities being encouraged by site management and by the presence of visible park rangers.

The kayaks stored at the eco-centre are used by school learners, and members of the public bring their own to canoe on the vlei.

The newly created BMX track is a popular resource, which is visited daily by enthusiastic young bikers.

Plans are going ahead for a track around the vlei to enable a weekly Park Run. There have been some problems in leveling the ground near the M5, but it is hoped that this issue will be resolved soon.



Activity type	Frequency	No. individuals 2018/2019	No. individuals 2017/2018	Season
Fishermen	Daily	4 to 8	4-6	All year
Kayaking	Random intervals	10-15	4	Weather dependent
Rowing boat	Random intervals	6	6	Weather dependent
Bird watching	Random	5	3	Weather dependent
Holiday programs	Quarterly	20 per quarter	20 per quarter	All year
Walking club	Twice a week	8 twice a week	8 twice a week	All year
Science club	Random	15	15	All year
Baptisms	Weekly	12 + every Sunday	12 + every Sunday	Weather dependent
Braaing/ Picnicking	Daily	20-45 daily	12-35 daily	Weather dependent
Dog walking	Daily	8-10	6-8	Weather dependent

The manager has presented papers at two important events this year, the Fynbos Forum and the National Wetlands Indaba. Her presentation was voted the best at the Wetlands Indaba. This has greatly assisted in promoting the work done at the GPVCA amongst conservation circles, and in enabling a sharing of expertise and experience in the restoration field.

Denisha Anand, GPVCA site manager and education officer

2.2 Restoration report

RE: Restoration Planting and Conservation Services Report (Q2 2019)

In 2019 we more than doubled the area of habitat under active restoration from 699m² to 2341m², as detailed in the manager's report above. Two successful planting events were held in three areas in 2019: South of the Vlei behind the Jolly Carp a rehabilitated meadow was planted. On the Eastern Shore, the previous restoration area was extended southwards, and a Fibonacci spiral was planted. The previous restoration area was extended along the water gradient towards the vlei.

These functional and structural species, if established, will create habitat for threatened species to be restored at the vlei in the following seasons.

The following notable species have been reintroduced:

Protea scolymocephala (VU) | Witskollie

This lowland protea species is a functional species: it forms an overstorey canopy and is serotinous (stores seeds in canopy). This species has been locally extinct from the southern suburbs of Cape Town since circa 1940.

Leucadendron floridum (CR) | Cape Flats Conebush

This critically endangered conebrush would have occurred widely in wet areas across the Cape Flats. Now only an extant meta-population exists at Ocean View and Cape Point. This species will hopefully establish and become a dominant wetland species on the vlei margins.

Lessertia frutescens | Kankerbossie

This highly medicinal species was found in small numbers between the two vleis. It would have gone locally extinct from degraded areas in the conservation area due to habitat transformation. We have successfully 'bulked up' this population by planting it in all three restoration areas.

Future Plans

Next year we plan on restoring the habitat of and reintroducing *Serruria foeniculacea* – the critically endangered Rondevlei spiderhead – with the long term goal of creating the largest global population.

From: Alex Lansdowne, Consultant: Plant Conservation and Restoration Horticulture



The medicinal Sutherlandia or Kankerbos is planted in all three restoration areas.

2.3 Environmental sub-committee

The work of the environmental sub-committee has been to support the project to restore the ecosystems at Princess Vlei, which is being led by our manager Denisha Anand and restoration consultant Alex Lansdowne.

The Environmental sub committee hosted three events where community members were involved in working for the environment at Princess Vlei.

March Clean Up

On March 2, community members were called on to help clean up litter at Princess Vlei.. Although sparsely attended, 20 bags of litter were cleared.



Volunteers from South Peninsula High School at the May planting

May Planting

On May 18, about 30 including local residents, students from Stellenbosch university, and members of local Lion's clubs came together to plant. The plants included five hundred Cape Flats fynbos and dune Strandveld plants that had been propagated locally from plants that are known to have occurred naturally around the Vlei. The group also sowed seeds of rain daisies to create a Strandveld meadow, which sure enough was a delight to behold this spring time. Plants were provided by Alex Lansdowne and were grown specifically for the restoration process at Princess Vlei.



Denisha Anand and Alex Lansdowne plant a sapling of the Treaty Tree which was donated by Lansdowne

Strong Trees for Strong Women.

The environmental sub committee partnered with the Heritage sub committee for an event to celebrate Women's day and the International day for the World's Indigenous People. Eighty people came together to plant more than 30 trees in honour of strong women in their lives, past and present. Some of the trees were a donation from Francois Krige of Platbos Forest and some were contributed by the City of Cape Town.

One particularly unique tree was the White Milkwood propagated by Alex Lansdowne from the tree known as the Treaty Tree in Woodstock. This 500 year old tree was witness to the first battle between the Khoe and Portuguese sailors in 1509. Later, slaves were sold under the tree, and a Treaty was signed between the British and the Dutch. In a moving ceremony on a cold windy day, indigenous trees were planted and words spoken to honour and remember the heritage of the place, the past and strong women from history and the present day.

I have continued as a member of the Ward 72 committee with the environmental seat, for Cllr Southgate, and the Forum remains hugely grateful to him for all his support to Princess Vlei.

We hope to grow the environmental committee, and host regular opportunities for the community to get involved in restoring the natural beauty of Princess Vlei in the coming year.

Emma Oliver - Environmental Sub-Committee Chairperson

2.4 Culture and Heritage Sub-committee

The following members of the Committee are thanked for their dedication and regular attendance at meetings which are held regularly once a month, with meetings twice a month being the norm during the period leading up to the Heritage Western Cape submission:

Mary Jansen, Chief John Jansen, Tony Jantjies, Joan Campbell, Mrs Skosan, Desiree Damon , Robin Oakes, Joe Damons, Willie Leith , Faiza Leith, Cedric Daniels , Charlene Houston, Clarina de Freitas, Jean de Freitas, Cheslin de Freitas, John de Freitas, Toni Erasmus, Andre Naidoo, Henri Meyer, Denis Josephs, Carmen de Freitas, Desray van Rensberg, Patricia Madden, Bernadette Langeveldt, Veronica Reed.

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

- Project was initiated in 2013 as part of Campaign against Shopping mall. Series of interviews conducted , of which two have survived (Philip Bam, Bradlox)
- Project revived by Committee at the beginning of 2019. 16 people have since been interviewed (Kelvin Cochrane, Willie Leith, Pastor AJ Jansen, Pastor Lewis, Bishop XX, Mrs Jacobs, Mr Lewis, Mrs Cupido, Mr Strong, Loretta du Plooy, Dr Bill Nasson, Dr farieda Khan, Emile Jansen, Mea Leashbrooke, Mak One, The Jacobs family). Many more interviews have still to be

concluded, and further suggestions here are welcomed.

- All Oral History interviews have been transcribed thanks to the diligent work of Desiree Damon and Faiza Leith. They are also administering the collection of Consent forms
- Interviews have all been conducted with the assistance of Willie Leith and Robin Oakes and video compilations have been made around various themes. A media and filmmaking student, Sarah van Wyk has been engaged to edit the video compilations.
- The goal is to document the heritage value of Princess Vlei and to use the material gathered for educational and awareness purposes. The heritage areas have been categorised as follows:
 - Cultural Heritage (historic links to indigenous Khoe and San who occupied land around water bodies prior to colonisation, primarily as reflected in the Legend of the Princess story. Also the fruit & vegetable trading and fishmongery traditions associated with the Vlei)
 - Spiritual Heritage (rituals around baptisms involving Pentecostal church branches)
 - Recreational Heritage (braaing, picnicking, fishing, recreational walking)
 - Biodiversity Heritage (links between humans and ecology in an urban setting)
- Aesthetic Heritage (the landmark nature of the setting of the vlei and the Mountain backdrop)



Above- Trees were planted in honour of Women's Day and the International Day of the World's Indigenous People, an event organised jointly by the Environmental and Heritage Sub-committees



Left: Tanyan Gradwell, an indigenous revivalist and social activist, planted a tree in honour of Krotoa

PROVINCIAL HERITAGE SITE STATUS:

As part of the resistance campaign against the Mall in 2013, work was done to apply for Provincial Heritage status for Princess Vlei, as one of the strategies to prevent the Mall development. The idea of pursuing the application for Heritage status was revived after it was community members expressed concern that the vlei remained vulnerable to insensitive development.

In October 2018, Charlene Houston, then Deputy Director for Museums at PGWC, facilitated a meeting with Heritage Western Cape, CEO, Mxolisi Dlamuka, who expressed enthusiasm at supporting the application for Provincial status, based largely on the story of the Legend of the Princess. He promised to explore ways in which HWC could support the application

In June 2019, we were advised that HWC had appointed a Consultancy, Vidamemoria, to assist in preparing the Provincial Heritage Status Application. This involved the following:

Stage 1: Preparing a Motivation and Statement of Significance for consideration and in principal approval by the HWC Board on 14 August 2019. [This was achieved]

Stage 2: Upon granting in principal approval, allowing the landowners 30 days in which to comment.

Stage 3: On conclusion of the 30 day period, and after considering comments from landowners, allowing for a 60 day public consultation process.

Stage 4: Presenting the Outcomes of the Public Consultation process

to the HWC Board, after which the final Declaration as a Provincial Heritage site would be made. [HWC had proposed that Stages 2 and 3 run concurrently so that the approval is achieved at the HWC board Meeting in mid November 2019]

Stage 5: Preparing a Conservation Management Plan, to guide the use and development of the Vlei as a Provincial Heritage site.

Current Status: Since the City of Cape Town requested more time to consult internally, it was decided by HWC to have the 60 day Public Consultation period after the conclusion of the 30 day comment period. We await confirmation as to when the 60 day period will commence, but indications are that it will be early in 2020.

The Heritage Committee had been working intensively to meet the tight timelines as initially proposed. Apart from considerable work and input to support the Consultants in framing the Motivation and Statement of Significance, the committee developed a strategy for the 60 day Public Consultation period comprising two major initiatives:

- A **social media campaign** using the video material prepared by the Oral history Group, which may require an upgrading of the Princess Vlei Forum website. A marketing and media Committee has been established, comprising, Clarina de Freitas and Toni Erasmus (both with considerable experience in this area), Charlene Houston, Andrea Couvert, a social activist and website designer, Willie Leith, Faiza Leith and Desiree Damon.

- A **Food Festival & Fresh produce Market** to be hosted at the Vlei, to be used as to build community support and to generate a festive spirit around the Declaration. This is being driven by members of the de Freitas and Jacobs families who will enter into an agreement with the PVF to serve as Operators for this as a once- off event.

ABLUTION BLOCK MURAL

This Mural by local Graffiti Artist, Mak One, was commissioned by the PVF in 2014 and depicts a representation of the legend of the Princess and of bird life at the Vlei. On the 22 August, the PVF Manager advised of plans to paint over the mural, and was advised that this be put on hold until the Artist had been consulted and PVF had time to review it. On the 29 August, the day prior to a scheduled meeting with Mak One on site, I was advised that the mural had been painted over. Mancom delegated me to ask for a complete Report on what transpired. This is still being awaited.

Malcolm Campbell - Heritage Group Convener



3 Growing New Conservators

3.1 Guardian schools

We have continued to deepen our work with our champion schools, and to reach out to new schools. Our goal is to awaken excitement, creativity and passion around nature, and in this way foster young Guardians to take responsibility for protecting nature at Princess Vlei.

The term Guardian was coined by the Lotus High learners, who have formed an eco-club called the Lotus Princess Ge !ga ao | - the Nama word for Guardians. This year the Lotus eco club has been very active, and has broadened their scope beyond Princess Vlei. At Princess Vlei, they have been involved in clean ups and planting, and are currently busy with a monitoring project to provide valuable data on leopard toad breeding in and around Princess Vlei. A workbook was created by the Forum for this purpose

Fifteen Guardian Club members were sent to the Greenpop Reforest fest at Platbos in March. There they learnt much about forest ecology, tree planting, and other topics. Three learners presented poems at the Fest.

The Princess Vlei Forum has also facilitated the involvement of the eco-club in the global movement against climate change. Princess Vlei, like all natural ecosystems, faces a very serious threat from the climate crisis resulting from the burning of fossil fuels.

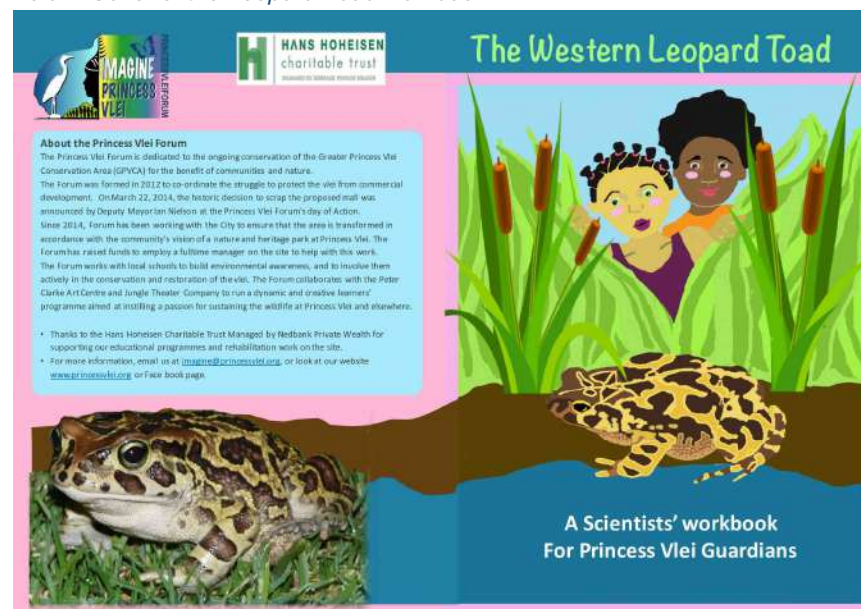
Efforts to get Heathfield High involved have not been successful, however we hope to find teachers at this and other local high schools to join our

Senior guardian programme.



Above: Lotus Guardians attended two global climate actions this year

Below: Cover of the Leopard Toad workbook



We are also working to create Junior Guardians at primary schools. A total number of **15** schools and **429** learners were involved in events in the past year. In addition, an exhibition held at the library to showcase creative work attracted a number of visitors and school learners. Five new schools joined our programme in the past year.

Work with these schools has included:

A Boats and Toads event where 37 learners from two schools had an opportunity to take to the water in canoes while learning about leopard toads.



Wetland Wonder: In March, 44 children from 4 schools came to the Vlei to observe the flora and fauna of a wetland habitat, and they then created Totem poles representing this.

Planting Festival: In June, 123 learners from four schools planted more than 700 indigenous strandveld and Cape Flats Sand Fynbos plants, as well as four kilograms of seed. This was part of the five year fynbos restoration plan for Princess Vlei.

The children were informed about the importance of restoring wild ecosystems, and about how these plants would support ecosystems. They were asked to write their names on a wooden stick, and plant this with their plants. This planting has contributed to the rehabilitation and introduction of fynbos species that until recently did not exist on site.

We have printed T-shirts which will be donated to reward our more committed guardians. These can also be purchased by our supporters.

Two teacher workshops were held this year, exploring creative ways to teach children curriculum based lessons on wetlands, foodwebs and ecosystems.



3.2 Flight of Dreams

This dynamic project was organised in collaboration with the Peter Clarke Art Centre, the Jungle Theatre Company, eMzantsi Carnival and Heal the Hood.

The project aims to

- Raise awareness about the importance of conserving and rehabilitating Princess Vlei and other natural areas.
- Celebrate the natural systems and flora and fauna in our city, in particular the birds.
- Enable children to express their appreciation of nature through creative projects.

In June, learners from the various schools came to Princess Vlei for a simulation game. In the game, the learners pretended to be time travelers returning to Princess Vlei from a future without birds. Their task was to observe the birds at the vlei, identify threats to their survival, and identify steps that could be taken to ensure their continued existence.

Further activities leading up to the parade in September included :

- A number of workshops to create totem poles and nature guardian figures conducted by Fabian Hartzenberg of the Peter Clarke Art Centre, with help from the Forum Team. These involved learners from Lotus High Levana Primary, Steenberg Primary and Primrose Park Primary. The children created their own small guardian figures, then worked together on the three large figures installed at Princess Vlei.

- Two teachers' workshops were, held at the Peter Clarke Art Centre, where teachers were given demonstration lessons in creating Totem poles and nature guardian figures, and linking these to the arts and natural sciences curriculum
- Interactive workshops to research different bird species commonly found at Princess Vlei, and to identify their habitat, diet, and other features were held at four primary schools.
- The Heal the Hood team worked with Pelican Park Primary learners to create a rap around nature and Princess Vlei.

The Flight of Dreams Parade

The parade took place on 21 September. We woke up to a steady down pour, and for a while it seemed that for once we would have to cancel. However, the Jolly Carp Team stepped in, and a new plan was made – to scrap the street parade, meet at Jolly Carp and do a short parade across the eastern shore of the vlei.

This worked very well, and a short gap in the rain gave us enough time to parade to the parking lot, conduct a ceremony to install the guardian figures, and return to the Jolly Carp. The parade was lively and colourful, enhanced by the masks, puppets, totem poles and giant guardian figures created by the children, a wonderfully vibrant team of young performers from Jungle Theatre, eMzantsi, and the 7784 Dancers, and eMzantsi's blokka band band supplied by eMzantsi Carnival.

A short ceremony was held to install the three guardian figures, on high poles installed at Princess Vlei. It is hoped that these poles will serve as raptor perches, as the Vlei has few tall trees. There are three figures – an

eland to protect earth linked plants and animals; a fish for water ecosystems; and a bird for flying creatures. They were introduced by children from Harmony Primary and Lotus High. All participants were given a strip of cloth to tie around the poles, to symbolise their commitment to protecting nature at Princess Vlei and elsewhere.

The parade was followed by performances at the Jolly Carp. These included a rap song by Quan Manuels from Grassdale High, the 7784 traditional dancers from Khayalitsha, and the Jungle Theatre Company's production of the Mantis and the bee - a retelling of an ancient Khoe creation legend. Also performing were Hip Hop artists Emile Jansen and Mixed Mense, with a message to be proud of our Khoe heritage.



Looking ahead

Next year we plan to consolidate and advance both the Guardian Schools projects, and the Flight of Dreams project. We would like to reach out to more schools, and will be visiting several schools at the beginning of the year to encourage them to come on board. An ongoing challenge is to find teachers willing to bring children to extra mural events – the work we have done so far has been enabled by the passionate and dedicated teachers whom we have been fortunate to engage with at these schools.



Nicolette Frank from Lotus High introduces the Fish, Guardian of the water creatures. This is one of three Nature Guardian figures made from biodegradable materials and installed at Princess Vlei.

Acknowledgements

The schools outreach has been made possible by huge effort from Princess Vlei Forum volunteers and individuals on our sub-committee – in particular Emma Oliver, Fabian Hartzenburg, Paul Hendricks, Bridget Pitt, Vincent Meyburgh, Liesl Hartman, Tanswell Jansen, Alice Ashwell, and Brendon Bussy for master-minding and conducting an awesome game. A special thanks to Shafiek Isaacs, Curtley Fortuin, Hayley Robertson, Faddiah Abbas, Alletta de la Cruz, Kristi Jooste, and Priscilla de Wet, and all other teachers who have made our school programme possible. Thanks to CTEET for providing volunteers and support to big planting event. And thanks to Denisha for always being willing to give up weekends to inspire a passion for nature amongst the kids.

We would also like to thank our very generous sponsors, the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust, managed by Nedbank Private Wealth. Thanks to Pick & Pay for donating food to our young conservationists, and to Cllr Kevin Southgate for supporting all our activities.



4 Negotiating the Transformation-Technical and Planning committee

The last year has produced some minor interventions on site and also highlighted some significant challenges.

Liaison with the City

This year we've continued having regular liaison and operational meetings with the City, facilitated and chaired by Councillor Southgate from Ward 72, the ward in which Princess Vlei resides. These meetings are attended all the relevant city officials including from City Planning, Parks and Recreation and Biodiversity departments. The security company which oversees the Princess Vlei precinct has also been included in these meetings. This forum has been fairly productive in discussing and resolving issues related to developing Princess Vlei.

Open-Day

In April we invited community members to an Open Day where developments and proposals were show-cased. Community members then discussed and formulated key proposals around suggestions for a market at Princess Vlei; and suggestions for how we can best safeguard the ecosystem restoration work and vision for Princess Vlei as a community and nature park in the future.

Memorandum of Agreement

We're in the process of finalising our revised Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the city which formalizes our relationship as a "friends" group. These revisions include income generation rights at Princess Vlei, allowing the Forum have activities like a market, with the aim of sustainably raising funds for all its initiatives.

Princess Vlei Manager

This is the second year we've had fulltime Princess Vlei manager, Denisha Anand, on site. She has certainly done exceptional work, which will be detailed in her report, and has been crucial to establishing a more productive working relationship with the city.

This post has been funded externally by the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust managed by Nedbank Private Wealth, with the funding coming to the end at the end of August next year. As the value and crucial necessity of a full time manager has been very clearly demonstrated, we've motivated the city to create a permanent post. This proposal has been is currently working its way through the city's administrative channels.

Extended Public Works Programme and Park Buddies

Over the last two years we've had a few cohorts of Extended Public Works Programme workers, recruited locally, who've assisted the Princess Vlei manager with general maintenance and restoration work at the vlei.

Park Buddies have also been recently introduced on site to ensure a safer environment on the eastern precinct.

These workers have come with many HR challenges and have placed a burden on the manager's work. We're in ongoing discussions with the city to alleviate some of this burden.

Security

Security has been a general issue of concern around the vlei and in response the city has appointed Quemic Security to patrol and help secure the area for the last two years.

They have been of great assistance and have worked with the Princess Vlei manager and local law enforcement to proactively make Princess Vlei more secure.

There have been a few incidents which have also highlighted the need to strengthen communication channels with the local residents' associations and neighbourhood watches.

Play Park

An eco-friendly play park was installed in earlier this year on the eastern precinct - this has also been a high priority item for the local community.

Way Forward

Projects planned for the upcoming year include:

- * Funding of two million rand for further development around the vlei has come online this year. Much of this funding will likely be used to create sections of the proposed walkway around the vlei.

- * Councillor Southgate has also made some of his ward allocation budget available, which will likely be used for picnic tables on the eastern precinct.

The past year has allowed us to make good progress in making Princess Vlei a family friendly space which the community can be proud of.



Children enjoy the new play structures

Acknowledgements

A special word of thanks needs to go to the Councillor Kevin Southgate, without whose financial and political support, many of the achievements this year would not have been possible.

Committee members Bridget Pitt, Terrence Smith, Malcolm Campbell, John Prince and Andrea Couvert also deserve a great deal thanks for their often unglamorous but essential work in determining and articulating the community's vision.

The Cape Town Environmental Education Trust, for providing Human Resources and administrative assistance for employing the Princess Vlei manager.

Finally, a huge thank you to the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust, Managed by Nedbank Private Wealth for their generous grant, enabling us to employ the Princess Vlei manager.

Gary Stewart - Technical and Planning Subcommittee Chairperson



5 Media

The Forum continues to make itself known through various media platforms. Our data base has grown from 750 to 1179 subscribers, with 24 notices and newsletters sent out in the past year. The Website is updated regularly and has a blog recording events, as well as providing general information. Our Facebook page has 779 followers, and features photo albums of all our events. We have been interviewed on the radio and have been featured several times in the pages of the Southern Mail and the People's post, and Cape Times



6 Finances and fund-raising

The Audited Annual Financial Statements for the year ending 41 March 2019 is laid upon the table and presented for adoption. I am pleased to announce that once again the PVF received a clean audit.

The Forum accepted a huge responsibility to co- manage the Princess Vlei Park with the City of Cape Town. Infrastructure development is largely funded by the City, much of which comes from the ward allocation of Cllr Kevin Southgate.

A total of R310 873 was received for the 2018/2019 financial year. The bulk of this come from the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust Managed by Nedbank Private Wealth, and has been used to fund the manager's salary, to contract a book keeper to assist with administration, as well as outreach projects. We ae now in the final year of the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust multi-year grant. Our financial resources are thus limited and we are working to generate mass-based and local corporate funding.

Operating expenditure increased by 58% largely due to the cost of full time management of the park. This is funded by HHCT. We hope that funding this position will be taken on by the City of Cape Town, and have motivated for this. We are pleased to note an increase of R57,567.00 on social aspects such as citizen conservation; Environmental education and community awareness. We place on record our profound appreciation of the support received from the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust and other donors.


The balance of funds at the end of the financial year was R231,9099.


Vilma Maritz, Treasurer

PRINCESS VLEI FORUM
NPO 142-542
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 MARCH 2019

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First National Bank Grassy Park	SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULE Detailed statement of receipts and payments	9

The annual financial statements set out on pages 4 to 8 are approved by the executive committee and are signed on their behalf by:


Chairperson
18 July 2019


Treasurer

QUALIFIED REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PRINCESS VLEI FORUM

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the annual financial statements of the Princess Vlei Forum (the Forum) set out on pages 4 to 8, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2019, and the statement of financial performance, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In common with many entities of a similar nature, it is not feasible for the Forum to institute accounting controls over cash collections prior to the initial entry of the collections in the accounting records. Accordingly it was impractical to extend our examination beyond the receipts actually recorded.

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter stated in the preceding paragraph, the Forum's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Forum as at 31 March 2019, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Forum in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice to satisfy the financial information needs of its members. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other Information

The executive committee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Supplementary Schedule set out on page 9, but is not included in the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. We therefore do not express an opinion on those schedules.

Responsibilities of Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

In preparing the financial statements, the executive committee is responsible for assessing the Forum's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the Forum or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Forum's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

DCA CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS (SA)

Registered Auditor

18 July 2019

PRINCESS VLEI FORUM
NPO 142-542

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Your committee has pleasure in submitting the financial statements of the organisation for the year ended 31 March 2019.

RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

The Executive Committee is responsible for the selecting and adopting of sound accounting practices for maintaining an adequate and effective system of accounting records, for safekeeping of assets, and for developing and maintaining a system of internal control that, among other things, will ensure the preparation of financial statements that achieve fair presentation.

After conducting appropriate procedures the executive committee is satisfied that the centre will be a going concern for the foreseeable future and has continued to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

GENERAL REVIEW

There were no changes to the executive committee during the year. The results of the operations for the year ended 31 MARCH 2019 and the financial position at that date are adequately reflected in the financial statements.

POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

No material facts or circumstances have occurred between the accounting date and the date of this report.

PRINCESS VLEI FORUM
NPO 142-542

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT 31 MARCH 2019

	2019 R	2018 R
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash at bank	235 221	231 949
Trade and other receivables	500	-
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>235 721</u>	<u>231 949</u>
Equity and liabilities		
Equity		
Accumulated Funds	235 721	20 619
Balance at beginning of year	20 619	16 547
Movement for the year	3 772	215 402
Restricted funds	211 330	(211 330)
Current liabilities	-	211 330
Unspent Funds		
NLDTF Project	-	27 819
Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust	-	183 511
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	<u>235 721</u>	<u>231 949</u>

PRINCESS VLEI FORUM
NPO 142-542

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

	2019	2018
	R	R
Income	299 612	401 100
Expenses	307 101	193 953
Net operating surplus (deficit)	(7 489)	207 147
Other income		
Interest received	11 261	8 255
	<u>3 772</u>	<u>215 402</u>

PRINCESS VLEI FORUM
NPO 142-542

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

	2019	2018
	R	R
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash receipts from donors	299 612	401 100
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	307 101	193 953
Cash (absorbed) generated from operations	(7 489)	207 147
Interest received	11 261	8 255
Increase in accounts receivable	(500)	
Net cash flow for the year	<u>3 272</u>	<u>215 402</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	231 949	16 547
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u>235 221</u>	<u>231 949</u>

PRINCESS VLEI FORUM
NPO 142-542

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Annual Financial Statements have been prepared on the cash basis and incorporate the following principal accounting policies, which unless stated otherwise, comply in all material aspects with generally accepted accounting practice and are consistent with those applied in previous years.

1.1 Revenue

Gross revenue represents funds raised, members' subscriptions and donations received.

2 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

All related party transactions are concluded, in the ordinary course of business, at arm's length. Transactions between the forum and these entities have occurred under terms and conditions that are no more favourable than those entered into with third parties in arm's length transactions.

	2019 R	2018 R
3 NATIONAL LOTTERY		
Grant received	-	124 000
Less: Expenditure	30 105	96 181
Auditing and accounting	3 365	-
Bank charges	1 163	1 092
Beneficiary travel	2 700	6 800
Development fee	-	3 000
Drama project	4 000	6 000
First aid	-	2 000
Materials	1 287	1 035
Media	-	6 881
Performances	2 300	15 000
Project coordination	-	8 207
Refreshments	2 406	7 626
Sound	-	11 654
Tent	3 600	6 886
Workshop - Drama	5 483	10 000
Workshop - Puppet making	3 801	10 000
Net (deficit) surplus	(30 105)	27 819
4 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
FNB - Current account	4 736	8 659
FNB - Current account (Lotto)	14	27 819
FNB - Money Market account	230 471	195 471
	235 221	231 949

PRINCESS VLEI FORUM
NPO 142-542

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

	2019 R	2018 R
Receipts	310 873	409 355
Donations	500	2 500
Grant - Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust	298 112	264 600
Grant - NLDTF (Note 3)	-	124 000
Membership fees	300	-
Table Mountain Trust Fund	-	10 000
Interest received	11 261	8 255
Fundraising - sale of cards	200	-
- sale of plants	500	-
Payments	307 101	193 953
Accounting fees	3 300	-
Bank charges	1 847	1 486
Computer expenses	2 954	-
Events expenses	-	-
- Environmental education	350	5 558
Expenditure - NLDTF (note 3)	30 105	96 181
General expenses	1 151	-
Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust - expenses	-	-
- HHCT Admin	8 025	-
- HHCT Citizens Conservation	2 882	-
- HHCT1 Manager	201 186	80 678
- HHCT2 Environmental education / guardian schools	35 456	411
- HHCT3 Flight of dreams / Community awareness	19 690	1 050
Training and workshops	-	3 119
Plant material	-	4 932
Webhosting	156	538
NET SURPLUS	3 772	215 402

7 The Road ahead

This has been a significant year for the Forum, bringing changes to the organisation and to Princess Vlei. Receiving funds from donor organisations has greatly expanded our effectiveness, but it also brings challenges, and the new management committee will need to give serious thought as to what organizational changes may be needed to enable us to best manage this transformation.

We continue to rely on our individual members and member organisations to keep us in touch with our community. A priority remains to involve local communities in a vibrant partnership with the City, thus ensuring that the Princess Vlei serves the needs of nature and of the community. We would like to see the community play a more proactive role in taking custodianship of this site.

As the amenities, management, and security at Princess Vlei improve, we would like to see a greatly expanded use of the vlei, and hope to make the park run a regular feature. We also plan to get our kayaking project off the ground in the near future. We are looking for suitable organisations and groups to partner with us in this.

Another priority is establishing a market at Princess Vlei to raise funds to help cover running costs such as the Park Rangers.

We look forward to another exciting year, and with the help of our members, champions and sponsors we hope to grow from strength to strength.



8 Acknowledgements

A huge thanks to:

Donors

Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust managed by
Nedbank Private Wealth
The National Lotteries Commission
ARD Athletics Club
Schools Environmental Education Project

And the many members who have given donations.

Partner Organisations

Cape Town Environmental Education Trust
Peter Clarke Art Centre
Jungle Theatre Company
eMzantsi Carnival
The Lions Club

Cllr Kevin Southgate for unflagging support and championing our cause in the City.

LOFOB for their generous sharing of meeting space and other resources.

Anthony Roberts from CTEET, for helping us take the organisation to a new level, and to all the CTEET staff for administering the employment of our manager and assistance with our reach events.

Francois Krige of Platbos Forest for donating trees and good advice

The Neighbourhood Watch and **Grassy Park Community Policing Forum** for assisting in marshalling and providing security at events.

Pick n Pay in Grassy Park for supplying snacks to our learners, and to **Mr Roomaney** for donating juice

Tony Klein from the Jolly Carp for making his venue available, often at short notice.

The City officials who work behind the scenes to make Princess Vlei fabulous, and are always willing to listen to our concerns – Alexander Dykes, Dinesh Isaacs, Bradley Burger, Zeenat Arieff, Leon Swartz, Luyanda Mjulen, Trudy-lee Gibbons, Sabelo Lindani, Sihle Jonas, David Dunn, Richard White and many others.

Sarah Oliver for her fabulous photographs

Our committee members, volunteers, teachers and members who make this all possible.

