



GRASSHOPPER COUNTRY

## The Great Brak River Museum News Letter

2 Amy Searle Street  
Great Brak River

February 2007

Phone 044-620-3338

Fax 044-620-3176

Email: [gbrmuseum@intekom.co.za](mailto:gbrmuseum@intekom.co.za)

Compiled by Ina Stoffberg

Editor Rene' de Kock

### Dear Friends

Many of our readers have written in expressing their thanks for our new news letter. The museum AGM was held in late January and last years committee consisting of chairman Rene' de Kock, secretary Hope de Kock, heritage Paula Grimbeek, treasurer Rodney McRobert have been reelected. Pat MacGregor has also joined the team. Visitors included councilor Gibo and Ansie Gerber and long time supporter Dotsy Searle.

Our curator Nisde Mc Robert will be attending the regional museum meeting in Oudtshoorn early in March.

To celebrate the 150 birthday of Great Brak River, Hope is initiating a very exciting project with some of the ladies of the Hands on Crafts Workshop. They are putting together a large heritage quilt wall hanging which will depict the important landmarks of Great Brak River. If you want to be part of the team contact Hope at 044-620-5124 or 083-378-1232.

Ons hoop al ons lesers het die **PDF stelsel** vir die ontvangs van die nuusbrieff verstaan en dat u die eerste uitgawe geniet het. Ons wil graag die nuusbrieff relevant hou en vra dat u asseblief enige bydraes wat na u oordeel gebruik kan word aan ons sal stuur. Onthou – alle bydraes is baie welkom. Ons ontvang ook graag kommentaar en voorstelle.

We are delighted to see how many email addresses that we are sending out to. If you would like to receive our **News letter** by post please contact us and ensure that your museum membership is up to date. If you would like to contribute or advertise in our monthly news letter, please contact Ina.

The **Museum** is looking for glass fronted show cases preferably with some historic significance. If anyone can help please contact the museum.

The **Museum & Information Office** is open every day from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm and our three ladies will show you around or provide you with visitor information and what's on in the town and surrounding areas.

We have some very exciting news for our readers in next month's issue.

In the coming months we will also be doing features on the historic houses of Great Brak River and our local accommodation establishments.

Laastens maar nie die minste nie, moenie vergeet dis die maand van die liefde nie. Sorg mooi vir al die spesiale mense in jul lewens.

HAVE YOU VISITED  
ANY OF OUR LOCAL  
RESTAURANTS?

#### Stonehill

in Little Brak River for  
exceptional dining.

[Phone 044-696-6501](tel:044-696-6501)

#### Whispering Waves

in Beach Boulevard.

Dias Beach  
Small & intimate.

[Phone 044-692-8600](tel:044-692-8600)

#### De Dekke

on the R 102,  
Great Brak River.

Variety restaurant & Bar.

[Phone 044-620-2531](tel:044-620-2531)

#### Pepper Tree

Long Street,  
Great Brak River.  
Coffee Shop and light  
meals.

[Phone 044-620-3081](tel:044-620-3081)

#### Odditea Garden

Old George Road,  
Little Brak River.

Tea Garden and light meals.

[Phone 082-829-8587](tel:082-829-8587)

#### De Katte

De Dekke extension, R 102,  
Great Brak River.

Coffee Shop and light  
meals.

[Phone 044-620-2230](tel:044-620-2230)

**Great Brak River is in the News** Pasella has just completed a three day visit to Great Brak River. See the results on TV 2 on Sunday.

Besoek van die SABC TV 2 se Pasella program om 'n insetsel oor ons dorp te maak. Hou die program dop op Sondag middag om 16.30.

### **THIS MONTH'S EVENTS**

**Hope's Hands on Crafts Workshop** will this month be held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30 am in the museum. The class will be making a "Cambodian Hold All"  
Contact Hope at 044-620-5124 or 083-378-1232.

The **Great Brak River Forum** which has been in recess during the Christmas break will be meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> February at the museum. The Forums news letter can be found at [forum@greatbrakriver.co.za](mailto:forum@greatbrakriver.co.za)  
Please remember that you can read any of the **Great Brak River Forum** documentation at our office. This includes the Great Brak Revival plans and minutes of all meetings.

### **Future Events**

Remember **15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> May 2007** The biannual craft display at the museum. We will be looking for local arts and crafts. Contact Hope at 044-620-5124. The 18<sup>th</sup> of May is Museum day.

### **2009 is om die draai**

Grootbrak is in 2009 150 jaar oud. [ Charles in Pamela Searle en hul kinders het in 1859 in Grootbrak aangeland en die tolhuis bewoon vir die eerste paar jaar.]  
Ons beplan 'n groot herdenkingsfees en wil graag u idees hoor. Ons verwelkom u voorstelle en deelname.  
Kontakpersoon: Ina 044 620- 3338

**Exciting News** Botlierskop Game Farm is expanding its luxury accommodation supply. Originally only offering upscale tented accommodation, Botlierskop has instituted a public participation process to allow them to build twenty four self-catering units in the Kleinzorgfontein portion of the property, two guest houses below the Lion camp and thirteen loose standing holiday houses which will be available in a rental pool. This is "Die Eiland" on the banks of the Moordkuil river. We wish them every success.



Just around the corner  
[info@botlierskop.co.za](mailto:info@botlierskop.co.za)

Phone 044-696-6055

## **NUWE BOEK TE KOOP!!**

### **Terblanche-land Stamvader –Ettiene Terblanche Sy nasate en hulle grondbesit 1701 – 1880**

Die boek poog – in die skryfster se eie woorde: "...om 'n deeglike weergawe van die geskiedenis van die vroeë Terblanche familie, woonagtig in Suid-Afrika (vanaf 1701 tot en met 1880) , te gee". Haar navorsingsveld is beperk tot die streek Ooswaarts van 'de Kaap' tot by die die Grootbrakrivier, en noordwaarts na die Outeniquas. Met behulp van gesaghebbendes het die outeur 'n hele aantal jare deeglike navorsing gedoen. Die inhoudsopgawe is duidelik uiteengesit, daar is pragtige foto's en sketse wat histories korrek is en op bladsye 59 – 70 is daar 'n volledige inventaris (met 'n VOC merk in die boonste regterhoek) van "Wylen" Petronella Stevense Terblanche wat "met die dood ontruimd het" se besittings wat op vendusie verkoop moes word sodat die erfgename geld kon erf. (\* Slawe word so terloops tussen beitels en hoekkaste ingesluit). 'n Goed nagevorsde, pragtige boek wat 'n paar plaaslike mites blootlê (soos die een van die slawehuis in Friemersheim) en wat tot enigeen wat in (Afrikaner) geskiedenis belangstel, sal spreek. Terblanche afstammeling kan ook inligting kry oor waarheen 'n paar lede van die nageslag uitgewyk het.



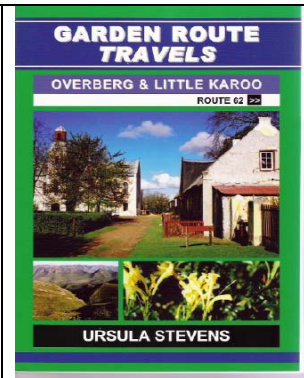
**Slegs R235.00**

## GARDEN ROUTE TRAVELS

### Overberg & Little Karoo Route 62

by *Ursula Stevens*

An easy-to-use travel guide to our area. Very contemporary with beautiful photos, sketches and written from first hand experience. So often guides just update and copy information. This guide is truly different! Excellent for foreign and local visitors and a must-have for those who want more detail on visiting even the smallest village on the Garden Route.



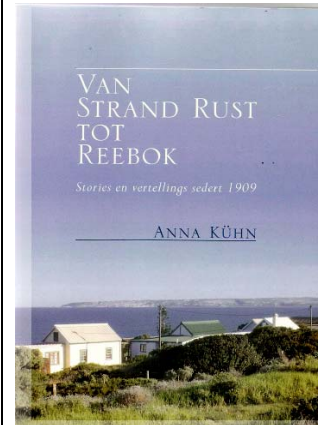
Only R145.00

## VAN STRAND RUST TOT REEBOK

### Stories en vertellings sedert 1909

Deur *Anna Kühn*

'n Pragtige boek met 'n gelamineerde voorblad wat sal hou as die boek oor en oor gelees word. 'n Kleinood vir enigiemand wat bekend is met Reebok, die geliefde stranddorpie van talle Karoo en binnelandse families. So ook die van Anna Kühn. Die boek word in 17 hoofstukke verdeel met 'n vooraf vertelling en 'n nawoord. Dan is daar ook 'n aanhegsel van dokumente en briewe. Hier en daar is sketse en blokkies met boere resepte en resepte. Die boek boei die leser vanaf die eerste bladsy. As jy iets van die kultuur van strandhou in Desember weet, moet jy hierdie boek aanskaf. Jy sal saam met die skrywer nostalgies raak oor die ou dae en ure se genot uit hierdie heerlike boek put.



Slegs R 120.00

## SA Tourism Snippets

- ❖ Hotels and guesthouses belonging to formerly disadvantage groups will be prioritized by a new central booking system the government intends to establish ahead of ... 2012...  
Cape Argus 06 09 06
- ❖ More than half the people in rural communities don't know that SA is to host soccer's 2010 World Cup.  
Cape Times 22.06.06
- ❖ Indonesian business is already producing 2010 Soccer souvenirs – outsmarting South African  
Cape Times 15.06.06



THE QUIVER TREE. NOTE THE STRAIGHT BRANCHES WHICH THE BUSHMEN USED TO MANUFACTURE ARROWS.

## Funnies for February

- A humorous & sceptical look at love, marriage and housework
- My second favourite household chore is ironing. My first being hitting my head on the top bunk bed until I faint. - Erma Bombeck
  - The trouble with some women is they get all excited about nothing, and then they marry him. – Cher
  - I'd marry again if I found a man who had fifteen million dollars, would sign over half to me, and guarantee that he'd be dead within a year. - Bette Davis
  - My idea of housework is to sweep the room with a glance.
  - No man has ever been shot while doing the dishes.



THE BUSHMEN USED BERRIES FROM THE ABOVE TREE TO MANUFACTURE ARROWHEAD POISON

## BOOKS FOR SALE

We have approximately 200 paperback-and hard cover books (2nd hand) for sale at the Museum.

*Authors include:* **Arthur Hailey**

**James Clavell**

**John Grisham**

**Jack Higgins**

**Ian Flemming – James Bond books**

## MUSEUM HOURS

MONDAYS to FRIDAYS:

9.00 AM– 4.00 PM

SATURDAYS:

9.30 – 12.00

## THE CURATOR'S CORNER

Did you know that the founder of the motorcar battery in South Africa was born in July 1902 in Great Brak River? His name was Alfred Honiball.

At a young age Alfred could be seen playing between the machinery in the shoe factory and the power plant. His father Tom Honiball was the first engineer employed by the Searle's Company and later the Hydro power station was under his supervision.

In 1918 somebody was diverting water out of the furrow meant for the power plant. Young Alfred decided to make an alarm system that would ring in his bedroom at night if the culprit tampered with the water from the water furrow and the water flow stopped. One night the alarm rang and the thief was caught red - handed. Alfred was considered exceptional for his age in those years and rewarded by having his further education paid for by Charles Searle.

After being educated he worked in the shoe factory as a maintenance engineer but enjoyed dabbling with electricity as a hobby. In 1928 batteries for motorcars and lighting plants were imported at great expense. Alfred was determined to produce a car battery. He precision built the moulds to cast the grids for the batteries in a workshop in Station Street.

Alfred later established his own engineering business and bought a piece of ground just outside George, a part of Victoria Street, for the price of two batteries. The battery was called the "Alphon" battery. Today his son is still running the engineering firm. Unfortunately the Second World War intervened making lead scarce as it was used for making ammunition so the production of batteries was halted.

Mr. Honiball presented the plates and battery forms to the Museum where they can be seen today.

## The Great Brak River to Glentana Accommodation Portfolio

[gbrtourism@intekom.co.za](mailto:gbrtourism@intekom.co.za)

We have many more accommodation providers; e-mail or telephone the Great Brak River Information office at the above address or click on one of the following email addresses:-

ESTABLISHMENT	ACCOMMODATION TYPE	E-MAIL ADDRESS	AREA
AMBIENCE	4 Star Guest House	<a href="mailto:jcsteyn@mweb.co.za">jcsteyn@mweb.co.za</a>	Outeniqua Strand
AT GOLFERS BAY	Guest House	<a href="mailto:stay@golfersbay.co.za">stay@golfersbay.co.za</a>	Tergniet
BOTLIERSKOP	4 Star Game Farm	<a href="mailto:botlierskop@mweb.co.za">botlierskop@mweb.co.za</a>	Little Brak River
CALLASEKAIA	Self Catering	<a href="mailto:pogi@mweb.co.za">pogi@mweb.co.za</a>	Great Brak River
CARPE DIEM	Accom. Seeker	<a href="mailto:paulag@mweb.co.za">paulag@mweb.co.za</a>	Great Brak River
CORRIEVALE	Self Catering	<a href="mailto:corrievale@mweb.co.za">corrievale@mweb.co.za</a>	Great Brak River
EVERGREEN	Self Catering	<a href="mailto:evergreeng@telkomsa.co.za">evergreeng@telkomsa.co.za</a>	Great Brak River
KIA-ORA	Guest House	<a href="mailto:kiaora@kia-ora.co.za">kiaora@kia-ora.co.za</a>	The Heights, GBR



© The content of this newsletter is copyright and it may only be reprinted by request from the Great Brak River Museum Association.  
Compiled & Distributed by the Great Brak River Museum.

If you no longer wish to receive this e-newsletter, please will you reply to this email address with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject box.